

EXPLORE

NICE 
CÔTE
D'AZUR

DESTINATION

NICE

Press kit 2020

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3 information offices in Nice

- 5, Promenade des Anglais

- Gare SNCF - Avenue Thiers

- Port (in season)



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KEY FIGURES

NICE CITY

 **10** KM OF COASTLINE
With 7.5km of beaches

 **5th**

LARGEST CITY IN FRANCE

2nd 
LARGEST AIRPORT AFTER PARIS
LARGEST CRUISE PORT AFTER MARSEILLE

2nd LARGEST CONVENTION HUB IN FRANCE AFTER PARIS

 **97%**
OF VISITORS SATISFIED WITH THEIR STAY

 **5** MILLION VISITORS PER YEAR

 **ONE OF FRANCE'S LEADING NETWORKS**
OF HOTELS FACILITIES both in terms of quality and capacity

 **300** DAYS OF SUN PER YEAR
HECTARES OF GREEN SPACE


 **A STRONG CONCENTRATION OF MUSEUMS LABELLED «MUSÉE DE FRANCE»**

1st  FRENCH CITY TO HAVE BEEN GRANTED A WINE-PRODUCING AOP

NICE CÔTE D'AZUR METROPOLIS

 **80%**
MADE UP OF MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN

49 MUNICIPALITIES 

 **563 000** INHABITANTS



NICE IN FIGURES

A multi-faceted city

The Nice Côte d'Azur Metropolitan Area draws on its geography and history, a special identity shared between the coastline, the hills, the valleys and the mountains. This essence, this very identity, is that of the Comté de Nice. Without boasting, Nice Côte

d'Azur is an ideal taster to the discovery of France due to the variation the area offers. Mountains, rurality, plain, rivers, urban areas, borders, ski resorts, nature parks, beaches, leisure and business tourism.... A heritage unlike any other!!

As the Côte d'Azur's capital city and France's second largest tourist destination behind Paris, Nice is a modern, bustling city that serves as the economic heart of the department.

Elegant and hugely popular, the charm of Nice city lies in its easy-going, **idyllic lifestyle** and pace that stems from the beauty of Nice itself as well as its **exceptional microclimate**. A Mediterranean city overlooking the sea and sheltered from blustering winds by the neighbouring mountains, Nice offers mild winters and roughly 300 days of sun per year. The light and luminosity of the region never fail to draw in the greatest painters and artists.

With its **shops, beaches** and **vibrant nightlife**, the capital of the Côte d'Azur is a little piece of heaven on earth. Major cultural venues (museums, National Theatre, Opera House, etc.) lie at the heart of Nice's cultural reputation and influence throughout Europe.

Nice also belongs to the Nice Côte d'Azur metropolitan area, established on 1 January 2012, made up of 80% mountainous terrain, as it stretches from the Mediterranean beaches to the ski resorts in Mercantour national park. Since January 1st 2019, The Nice convention & visitors bureau has become Nice Côte d'Azur Tourism and covers 49 towns and villages.

Did you know?

Nice is the only city in France to have won IBM's "Smart City" award. It has also been recognized as one of Europe's 10 most innovative cities, as it was designated «Innovation Ambassador City of Europe» at Lisbon Web Summit 2017.

The first city in Europe to have rolled out an array of services based on Mobile Near Field Communication, Nice can count itself among the tight circle of connected 21st century cities. It is aiming to become one of the world leaders in regionally applied digital projects: many experiments are currently underway across the area, spearheaded by world leaders (Cisco, IBM, Orange, EDF, Schneider Electric etc.) around the concept of the smart city, as well as e-health and silver economy.





TOURISM

The gateway to large-scale projects and the city's dynamism

Authentic and buzzing, Nice is currently undergoing a real cultural, economic, artistic and architectural revolution. The main areas of development have already been defined for the upcoming months and years, with new facilities to be added to boost the Côte d'Azur's MICE tourism offer.

The Eco-vallée

The Eco-Vallée is a National Interest Operation contributing to sustainable development with a perimeter over 10 000 hectares. This zone, situated in the West of the City, is aimed to host many businesses as well as a teaching center linked to this sector among the Grand Arenas district which is an area that has the advantage of being located opposite the Nice Côte d'Azur International Airport.

Spread over 51 hectares of building land, this district is given over to business and will include accommodation – 6 new hotel developments representing some 1 000 rooms have already been announced – shops, and a multimodal transport exchange. Nice will also be treated to a **new international Exhibition Centre** within the Eco-Vallée, spanning 65 000m² and due to become the new place to be for large MICE events. This facility will be complimentary to the current Acropolis congress centre located in the city centre. **The aim is to host the largest trade fairs and shows**, with a capacity of up to 35 000 participants whose needs in terms of exhibition space continue to rise, and who will also benefit from the hotels currently under construction in the district - 750 000 m² of potentiel building land.

Additional projects for the city's development

Tram lines 2 and 3 will ensure increased mobility and access. Line 2 connects **the port district to Nice Côte d'Azur International Airport** and the administrative centre in under 30 minutes, while line 3 serve the Plaine du Var, including the stadium. An overhaul of the bus network will take place in parallel to these developments in order to make connections between trams and buses smoother and easier.

Cultural and sporting components have been supplemented with major works, renovations and the provision of cultural and sporting infrastructure where needed. And finally, **«les Abattoirs» (former slaughterhouse) are being renovated** and transformed into artists' studios, creating a 40 000 m² space that is to become the city's new creative hub.

The tone has been set, with tourism taking the leading role in Nice's future as the city is transformed into a pole of expertise.



INFRASTRUCTURES

Nice Côte d'Azur International Airport

Nice-Côte d'Azur airport is **France's second largest** after the Paris airports combined, **with more than 14 million passengers in 2019**. It is a privileged gateway to Southern Europe: during the summer of 2019, 59 airlines fly to **121 destinations** whose major European capitals, with more than 1,452 weekly frequencies to 43 countries. Over 1/3 of the traffic is covered by low-cost airlines.

Also the only French airport, except those of Paris, to offer a daily connection to Dubai as well than Doha and two seasonal connections on New-York (April to October). He was also appointed, in 2017, the 2nd European airport for business aviation with 35,000 private jet movements.

Nice Côte d'Azur Airport is very committed to **Sustainable Development**. Since 2015, 100% of the electricity consumed at the airport is provided from renewable energy sources. It is also **the first Carbon Neutral airport in France, achieving level 3+ Carbon Accreditation**.

Nice Côte d'Azur Airport is regularly listed among the world's most beautiful airport approaches. In January 2018, it was awarded «Client Service of the year» by market research agency BVA Group.

Lastly, the airport is certified "Famille Plus", granting a wide range of services for families, from reserved car parks to family areas in the departure lounges.

The port

Along with Cannes, Nice is home to **one of the Côte d'Azur's oldest** ports. Made up of a 10-hectare harbour, **7,5 hectares of platform and around 10 quays**, the port is ideally located close to the **city's tourist centre** and has developed around key activities such as cruises, yachting, ferry transport to and from Corsica, cement shipping, as well as traditional activities. The Bassin Lympia Marina is nestled in the heart of the red ochre **Place de l'Île de Beauté, one of the city's three listed squares**.

The international cruise market is currently thriving, with **Nice-Villefranche serving as France's second largest cruise port** with 367 201 passengers in 2018.





The Acropolis Congress and Exhibition Centre

The Acropolis International Congress and Exhibition Centre is **Nice's leading light in the development of MICE tourism**. The Congress and Exhibition Centre underwent extensive renovation under the management of architect Jean-Michel Wilmotte.

This complex, made up of **Acropolis-Congrès and Acropolis-Expositions**, provides 5 auditoriums of 250 to 2 500 seats, 50 meeting rooms of 20 to 800 seats and 26 000 m² of exhibition space making Nice one of the only cities in France which can host large-scale conferences and exhibitions.

Awards and Labels Nice Acropolis bears the "Disabled Tourism" label.

Acropolis was elected "Best International Provider" in 2015 by the International Association of Professional Congress Organizers.

Nice is positioned in the Top 5 French cities in the ICCA tables (International Congress and Convention Association) that rank the international rotating congresses.

Hotel facilities

Boasting one of France's biggest hotel networks, Nice is home to some **200 hotels and tourism residences**, with a total of around **10 000 rooms**, ranging from 1-star hotels to 5-star luxury establishments. Youth hostels, holiday rentals and guest houses also add to an extensive array of different accommodation offers.

Nice's hospitality sector has experienced a **renewal and revival** over the last decade with new establishments ranging from boutique hotels to resolutely innovative accommodation concepts. Between creation and complete renovations, the Nice hotels are in full expansion and see a real progression in quality.

The online booking system set up by the Convention & Visitors Bureau was the very first of its kind. It allows **visitors to book tours**, day-trips and excursions in addition to accommodation. en.nicetourisme.com



As France's second biggest international MICE tourism destination with one trip out of every five made to Nice for international business purposes, the city is equipped with infrastructure recognised for the quality of its services across approximately thirty hotels (meetings, seminars and conventions to seat between 15 to 500 participants). Many sites are perfectly suited to hosting gala dinners and large-scale events: outdoor venues such as the port, quai des Etats-Unis, the Roman arenas in Cimiez, vineyards, museums, and many more.

+ en.meet-in-nice.com

Transport

The « Lignes d'Azur » network

Lignes d'Azur is the Nice Côte d'Azur public transport network. Thanks to its **100 buses regular lines**, it serves 45 municipalities in the Metropolis. **The tramline** has been designed to improve quality of life for locals, and has changed the face of Nice, particularly with respect to its artistic component. Since it has been up and running, **this sustainable mode of transportation accounts for 40% of all journeys made, allowing for great flexibility with respect to times as well as a single-price, highly appealing fare system.** All city and inter-city public transport tickets are sold at €1.50 each. In addition, 5 **"Parcazur" parkings** allow drivers to leave their cars and travel into town by tram or bus.

+ lignesdazur.com

« Vélo Bleu » and others networks

The **"vélos bleus"** (blue bikes) are an **automated bike hire service accessible** via **175 terminals** equipped with **1 750 bikes** available all year round, 24/7. The city plans a network of tracks important cycling routes, **over 155 km** of which have already been books. Its extension is planned on each new road development.

+ velobleu.org

The **"Renault Mobility"** : Nice is a pioneer tourist destination for electric car sharing. With a network of over **60 stations** spread across local towns and cities and up to **200 fully electric vehicles**, Renault Mobility provides a practical and accessible way of transport.

+ renault-mobility.com

« Cityscoot »

The **first self-service electric scooter** rental service was installed in Nice in 2018. Here, no specific station, scooters park on all public sites in the city and are then geolocated through the application.

+ cityscoot.eu/nice/

Other means of transportation that allow you to get around and **to explore the city from an original angle** include: electric tricycles, Segways, e-bikes (electric bicycles), classic car hire...

+ en.nicetourisme.com/discovery-tours-of-nice

In addition, **the French Riviera Pass** gets you free offers on the Nice Tourist Train, the hop-on hop-off bus Nice Le Grand Tour, Segways by Mobilboard Nice and Nice Car.

+ en.frenchrivierapass.com

Thiers Train Station

Central train station Gare Thiers and surroundings have been vastly **renovated in order to improve the user experience** of the 8 million annual users.

In order to reshape the station district and to connect the train station with the city's main street Avenue Jean Médecin for pedestrians, **the impressive architectural project « Iconic »**, designed by star architect Daniel Libeskind, is currently under way. It involves the design of 18,300m2 high-end commercial space featuring shops, restaurants with panoramic views of the city, as well as a Hilton Garden Inn hotel, a 600-seat auditorium, co-working spaces and terraced cafes. This project is due for 2020.





CULTURE AND HERITAGE

CULTURE ART

Rich in history whose first traces date back to 400,000 BC, Nice has managed to preserve and develop its architectural heritage. The light, all the particular features of the city, its privileged geographical situation, between sea and mountains has always attracted and inspired artists. It remains today a place of creation.

A panorama of heritage

Nice is characterised by a wide variety of architectural styles from different periods. Down through the centuries of a very tumultuous history, Nice bears the imprint of every period in its walls...

Prehistory & Antiquity

In Antiquity, the Greeks and Romans came, leaving sites like Cimiez, with its arenas, its bathhouse... Greek and medieval remains can be found on the Castle hill and under Garibaldi square, where a major archaeological dig has brought to light a site of 2 000 m² in an exceptional state of preservation, looking back 700 years into history.

Visit: The 2 sites of the Archaeology Museum: Nice-Cimiez –the museum is near the ruins of the Roman town and Terra Amata– the museum of prehistory where the oldest dwelling found in Europe on a nearby site has been reconstructed. Close to the museum, the

Grotte du Lazaret is also a place of importance for the Stone Age period. The Archaeological Crypt beneath Garibaldi square has been a registered Historical Monument since 2012.

Baroque art

Baroque art, along with classical art, was the first style to leave a genuine heritage in the city which is a perfect example of this dramatic architecture.

Palais Lascaris (17th Century), the Hall of Justice, Palais de la Préfecture (former palace of the Kings of Piedmont-Sardinia), the former town hall, Palais Communal Masséna, and the former Senate illustrate **the richness and diversity of buildings in the old town**. Religious architecture is well represented with such exceptional structures as Cathédrale Sainte-Réparate and Chapelle de la Miséricorde - a little jewel - typifying the baroque art of Nice with its specificity from the 17th to the 19th centuries.

Belle époque

The most creative period remains, today, **the Belle Époque**, when the hills were occupied by winter visitors, «hivernants», members of the European aristocracy or bourgeoisie, who gave free rein to their whims and imagination. This resulted in châteaux and palaces nestled in gardens as elaborate as the homes : Château de l'Anglais, baroque with oriental inspiration, the Fine Arts Museum, Château de Valrose, home today of the University's Science Division, one of Europe's finest campuses...

Another jewel of the city, the Russian Orthodox Cathedral Saint Nicolas, is testimony to the Tsars' interest in Nice. Built at the foot of the Parc Impérial, one of the finest secondary schools in France today, it is reputedly the most important Russian Orthodox church in all Western Europe with its wealth of exceptional icons, wood panels and murals.

Of course, **Hôtel Negresco**, a listed historic building and selected by the American press as **one of the world's ten finest luxury hotels**, as well as the Régina, former Grand Hotel, are witnesses of this privileged winter holiday resort at the turn of the 19th century that survive in many parts of the city.

What they said about Nice ...

W *"When I realised that every morning I would see this light, I could not believe my luck... I decided not to leave Nice and I stayed there practically my entire existence."*
Henri Matisse (20th century painter).

"I never found anything more beautiful than this inspired hill, neither Capri, nor the radiant bay of Salamine could compare with it. I have found my city, it's Nice."

Hector Berlioz (20th century composer).

"Nice has all the amenities of a capital without its inconveniences."

Paul Valéry (late 19th – early 20th century writer).

Art deco

The period between the two world wars showed the need for a revolution in town planning... The Cornudet plan and the iron will of Jean Médecin combined to make **Nice a big, modern city**. The Art Deco style was in fashion and met the requirements of the time: **use of modern materials and techniques**, mass-production methods, taking an overview of the entire way of life. The main thoroughfares were laid out, **the Promenade des Anglais was redesigned**, large buildings replaced villas. A new style for a new life.

A heritage of more than 4 000 buildings remains. Its flagships: **the Palais de la Méditerranée** (façade), **the Gloria Mansions, the Rotonde, the Palladium...** The churches Jeanne d'Arc and Notre-Dame de l'Auxiliatrice, two very different examples of art deco, each of which is a product of the art of the time, showing that art deco was not just about geometric lines...

A tour: Guided tour of the Promenade des Anglais, Jeanne d'Arc Church, Association Gloria Mansions.



Contemporary Art

Contemporary art has always been at the **heart of life and culture** in Nice. It is in **the city's DNA**.

Architecture -

In the late 20th and early 21st centuries, new districts have changed the face of the city. L'Arénas, a business district near the airport is currently being redeveloped into «Grand Arénas,» with many new mixed developments around the multi-modal hub that will soon connect the airport, the train station Saint-Augustin, the terminal station of the tramlines number 2 and 3, as well as buses. It will feature many new hotels and the new exhibition centre, dedicated to very large events. In the Var Plain, north of Nice airport, the «Eco-Vallée» is a new district still in construction, dedicated to sustainable development, featuring in its heart the **New Allianz Riviera Stadium**. In the city centre, some remarkable buildings provide further evidence:

- **The Chagall Museum** by André Hermant
- **The MAMAC**, Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, and the National Theatre of Nice by Yves Bayard & Henri Vidal
- **The villa Arson**, an almost brutalist 20th century heritage, by Michel Marot
- **The museum of Asian Arts** by Kenzo Tange
- **The Louis Nucéra Library** with the Square Head by Sacha Sosno.

The wealth of modern architecture selected above shows the same vigour as other art forms in Nice.

Art -

Early 20th century artists such as **Matisse and Chagall** found a warm welcome for their art. The famous "**Nice School**," which spanned several artistic movements, was a dynamic and inspiring art trend from the mid-20th century.

Nowadays, contemporary art is very much in evidence throughout the city. Artists' studios, galleries, collectives and institutions are open to the public. Most of those involved are members of BOTOX(S), an organization that promotes contemporary art in the city, and now also beyond Nice itself.

This list of pictorial and visual arts is obviously incomplete. However, the same applies to music, writing, cinema... all fields of artistic expression. Every area is here. Many places and events are evidence of this, for example: the **20 museums and institutional galleries** and all the Botox(S) contemporary art galleries with their Saturday or evening visitors, as well as **artworks throughout the city**, those adorning the tramway development at the forefront.

Music -

- **The CIRM** (International Centre for Musical Research) and its Manca festival
- **the baroque music festivals**
- **Nice Jazz Festival** – the first jazz festival in the world launched in Nice in 1948
- **CrossOver** festival for electronic music,
- **the Summer Academy and concerts at the franciscan monastery in Cimiez**, a must for more than 50 years
- **The Opera house** of Nice.

Literature -

The city has inspired **many writers** such as these natives: **Le Clézio, Van Cauwelaert, Nucéra, Gallo; others like: G. Apollinaire, L. Aragon, J. Romain, R. Gary, R. Martin du Gard, F. Nietzsche...** a particular mention for **Tobias Smollett**, a Scotsman whose writings drew the city to the attention of the English; nowadays they are of ethnological value, so precise are his descriptions.





Nice enjoys highlighting the charm of its difference and specificity. The cuisine of Nice is unique with Lyon in being known by the name of the city. The Nice Convention and Visitors Bureau has reinforced its approach of labelling, in order to, in all areas, to observe a level of excellence and quality... To this end, a Technical Committee, rules and an evaluation grid were created.

+ en.nicetourisme.com/nice-s-cuisine

CULTURE AND HERITAGE

ART OF LIVING

Gastronomy

Nice's cuisine reflects **the art of living and respect for regional products**, especially the reputed olive oil that accommodates every dish, along with many aromatic herbs.

Nice's cuisine even has its own label «**Cuisine Nissarde**».

Many young chefs have set up their restaurants and have become essential addresses.

Ways of life change and with them does the gastronomic offer. Menus are more accessible, local seasonal produce takes the spotlight. The trend for **organic, vegetarian, even vegan restaurants**, but also healthy take-aways and «fast foods» is strong.

A cosmopolitan city, Nice has seen many cooks arrive from abroad. A mix of styles have created combination of flavours that have to be tried.

A little-known fact about Nice is that it is an agricultural city with **2 AOPs (protected-origin labels) on its territory. The olives -AOP on the Nice olive, its oil and paste- and the wine -AOP for the Bellet wines, white, rosé and red-**; Citrus fruit and other locally grown produce have always been part of the local economy and have shaped the terraced landscape. The number of farms that use no chemical pesticides or fertilisers in the Alpes-Maritimes is 2.5 times the national rate.

Picturesque Markets

The markets remain very busy places in the city. They also reflect local farming and changing ways of life: organic food, sustainable production, reduced food miles and seasonality are now essential features.

Cours Saleya is one of the busiest places in Old Nice. A «must» for tourists, it is above all a favourite meeting point for the local population.

The Flower Market is held there every day, except Monday, with its plants and flowers, many grown in the greenhouses on Nice's hills. The subtle fragrance is dominated by mimosa in winter.

The Fruit and Vegetable Market was selected by the National Council of Culinary Arts as one of the most exceptional markets in France. On Mondays, a market for antiques replaces the food stands. Arts and crafts draw crowd to the Cours at night-time from June to September.

The biggest market in the city, Libération market, is located in a district north of the central train station that is currently becoming **the new 'place to be'** in town. There is still an old covered market hall. **The market** takes place every morning from Tuesday to Sunday.

Note worthy:

NA salade niçoise with cooked vegetables is not a true "niçoise". It should not contain potatoes, green beans or rice in the real recipe...

La socca, a chickpea flour pancake, is eaten hot as it emerges from the oven with lots of pepper. It is the typical "merenda" (the Niçois word for snack).



NICE CÔTE D'AZUR

49 TERRITORIES OF CULTURE AND NATURE

Stretching from the sea to the mountains, Nice Côte d'Azur proposes a great diversity of landscapes and unique activities. In this area, 49 towns and villages offer all the allure of cultural and sporting opportunities for all.

Coastal Area

Here, the Alps drop into the sea. The **alpine arc** ends its path in the Mediterranean. From the edge of these cliffs and eagle's nests, our gaze is absorbed in the contemplation of the immensity of the sea. Natural splendours, **richness of a history several thousand years old**, prehistoric sites, roman remnants, monuments from the Middle Ages, the Renaissance and from the baroque era...

The **millions of travellers** who visit this coastline every year are equally seduced by its urbanity and its artistic modernity, and the greatest artists have made and still make a lasting impression. By the sea, with the International Marine Mammal Reserve for fauna and all water sports for relaxation.

Mid-Country

Between **the sea and the summits**, nature has created and converted a space made from highlands and hills. The landscapes are those of a pleasant Arcadia. Here, the 'countryside' can be read in its **Virgilian version**. In this country between two worlds, everything seems calm. From these tranquil peninsulas the view is far and high. The **beauty of the hilltop villages** adds to this, as well as the legacy left through the works of numerous artists illustrating how this 'middle' ground is the centre of everything. **Perched villages** offer a chance to visit famous perfumeries, pottery and ceramics studios, glass blowing factories or oil mills, thereby discovering the region's typical arts and crafts.

High Land

With its massive mountain range peaking **at 3.143 metres at the Gelas summit**, the high land is the citadel of the region, its natural fortress and its water fortress. The thriving of the Alps, alternating cooler and temperate periods, has sculpted the magnificent landscapes. Consequently, man completed this creation by building villages on the rock or spreading them harmoniously through the valleys. More and more visitors come to discover the **700 kilometers of ski slopes**, lakes and peaks, cross valleys, the highest road in Europe, as well as its artistic heritage and baroque churches for example. It's an ideal training ground for cyclists either on a road or mountain bike. Via ferratas, rock climbing, canyoning as well as Europe's longest zipline also make for very popular leisure excursions. **The Mercantour National Park** who celebrate its 40th anniversary, this year, features wonderful hiking opportunities to discover groundhogs, eagles, chamois and even wolves.

In the last two areas, via ferratas, rock climbing, canyoning as well as Europe's longest zipline also make for very popular leisure excursions.



NICE'S ADVANTAGES

The Convention and Visitors Bureau website has been completely redesigned. It is structured around the main website en.nicetourisme.com available in 8 languages (French, English, German, Italian, Spanish, Russian, Japanese and Chinese) and four dedicated websites: for the city card French Riviera Pass – en.frenchrivierapass.com, for business tourism – en.meet-in-nice.com, for Nice's famous Carnival – en.nicecarnaval.com, for the greeters, a collaborative tourism approach – en.nice-greeters.com.

en.nicetourisme.com

Prepare your journey

More intuitive, adapted to all media — smartphone, tablet, laptop, etc.— it is an **efficient facilitator for preparing stays** and provides a comprehensive solution for structuring your stay. It includes complete information on everything you need for a perfect experience, from accommodation to restaurants, cultural and sports activities, as well as transportation. To store the selected options, it can **create a travel plan**.

A truly integrated booking platform

A basket is created for the services booked from providers. It is so much **easier to make travel plans** with a broad range of attractive activities and services.



French Riviera Pass

Visit more, spend less...

This pass offers visitors the opportunity to experience the Nice Côte d'Azur Metropolis and its surrounding area to the fullest, combining the vast majority of must-see sites with plenty of leisure activities, such as the **«Nice, le Grand Tour»** tourist bus as well as entry to numerous sites and guided tours of both museums and the city itself. Cardholders can also enjoy offers and **deals from a number of carefully selected service providers** (shops, leisure activities, restaurants).

Available in **three versions** (24 hrs, 48 hrs or 72 hrs), the pass also features an extra add-on option that includes a city transport package... Keeping up-to-date with new technologies and client behaviours, the French Riviera Pass comes as an NFC-card and can also be bought online, with an e-ticket version of the pass.

+ en.frenchrivierapass.com



NICE'S ADVANTAGES

Exploring Nice

Greeters

Greeters are locals who are passionate about their city and who want to engage with visitors and to give them a tour of their own favorite places.

In June 2013, the Nice Convention & Visitors Bureau launched the «Nice Greeters» scheme in order to **develop participative tourism in the area**. This free service relies **on the work of volunteers**. Over the course of a 2-hour walk, all 38 greeters provide visitors with a unique and original perspective on the city, sharing their experience and insider knowledge along the way. Themes, shops, markets, cuisine and neighbourhoods take a back seat as **the focus lies on human experience**, communication and exchange. In 2017, over 440 visitors have called on the services of the city's greeters.

Practical info: Bookings online, appointments to be made within three weeks before your trip. Greeters are selected based on availability, language (9 languages are available) and the chosen theme.

+ nice-greeters.com

Guided tour of Old Nice

The birthplace of Nice is representative of the city's soul and history. A bustling area by both day and night, visitors will enjoy wandering down its narrow streets, discovering its beautiful piazzettas and Baroque churches, popping into its various markets...

The walk lasts 2.5 hours and is a concise introduction to Nice from the Hellenistic period to the present day via the height of the Baroque and Belle Epoque period.

Information and booking at the reception desks of the tourist office.

Departure Saturdays at 9.30 am from the Information office all year round for commentary in French and English.

From May to September: departure Thursdays from 9.30 am with commentary in German and Russian.

Price: €12 for adults, €6 for children under 10, free for children under 5.



NICE, THE NATURAL EXCELLENCE

The labels

Nice has been a renowned tourism destination for 200 years. It is the stated objective of the Convention Visitors Bureau to keep improving the visitors' experience throughout the city, to keep up with clients' expectations in regards to a welcoming, safe, attractive and authentic destination.

By subscribing to national quality labels or by creating its own, the CVB wished to offer a real legibility on the assets of the city and for the dedicated clientele. This choice of labels **allows a better structuring** of the offer and a **permanent quality control**.



«Famille Plus» Label

This national label provides a **list of specialised quality products** and services dedicated to family clients, **offering a personalised experience for families** as well as events and **activities suitable for all ages**. It features support materials such as educational booklets, colouring books, card games and a comprehensive guide available in French and English from the Convention & Visitors Bureau
+ en.nicetourisme.com/family-friendly-nice.



«Nice, a natural iridescence» Label

Nice is the first city in France to have been granted the «Gay Comfort» label established by Travel Out Now and awarded

by the IGLTA (International Gay and Lesbian Travel Association), of which the Convention & Visitors Bureau is a member. A jam-packed line-up (beaches, museums, night life, colourful events, etc.) and gay-friendly establishments are listed in the guide, available from the welcome desks at the Nice CVB.

+ en.nicetourisme.com/gay-friendly-nice



«Cuisine nissarde» Label

This label aims to promote authentic Nice cuisine as well as its history and unique recipes. In doing so, it ensures that visitors enjoy certified quality Nice cuisine served at restaurants that have been awarded the label.

26 selected recipes are online to pass on this cuisine to an even wider audience.

+ en.nicetourisme.com/nice-s-cuisine

NICE CELEBRATIONS

More than 2,000 cultural, festive and sporting events take place every year in Nice. Some of them are listed below.

FEBRUARY - MARCH

Carnival - 15 to 29 February 2020

Since the end of the 19th century, this popular event has become internationally renowned. Each year around Mardi-Gras, the Nice Carnival attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors from all over the world.

Lasting a fortnight, the Carnival's highlights are the Carnival Parades by day or by night and the famous "Batailles de fleurs" – Flower Parades. The parades, whether burlesque or poetic, are characterized by floats made of pasteboard or decked with flowers and accompanied by street artists and musicians. Since 1996, the Convention and Visitors Bureau of Nice has been organizing these festivities with even greater diversity and dynamism and the support of regional socio-professionals. Over 1 500 people are mobilized for each parade accompanying His Majesty King Carnival, whose short-lived reign has a different theme each year.

In 2020, Carnival celebrates the «King of Fashion».

+ nicedcarnaval.com/en

Paris-Nice Cycle Race - 8 to 15 March 2020

The famous cycle race Paris-Nice, the first major European stage race in the year, takes place every year and ends on the Promenade des Anglais in Nice on a Sunday in March.

On the previous day, amateur cyclists can participate in the Paris-Nice Challenge, a 110km parcours that starts and ends in Nice, with an ascending elevation of 1 940m.

+ paris-nice.fr/en/

MARCH - APRIL

The Festin des Cougourtons (Gourds festival) - early April

In Cimiez, the Cougourdon festival is the first traditional festival. It celebrates the Annunciation and the return of spring. Cougourtons are gourds grown in the region which are turned into multi-purpose receptacles or ornaments.

+ nice.fr

Nice Running Day - 19 April 2020

The second largest foot race meeting of the Côte d'Azur, it offers 6 different types of races, ranging from family and children races to semi-marathon.

+ nicerunningday.com/AN/index.htm

MAY

The «Fête des Mai» - every weekend and on public holidays in May

This festival celebrates nature's renewal with local traditions: folk dances and music, introductions to typical games as well as food every Sunday and public holidays in the month of May in the gardens of Cimiez.

+ nice.fr



JUNE

The Book Festival - early June

The essential event for book lovers in the Albert 1^{er} Gardens. This is a chance to meet the writers who are in the news, the big names and local publishers...

+ lefestivaldulivredenice.com

Ironman France – Nice Triathlon - 14 June

The legendary and essential triathlon challenge in Europe, the Ironman invades the Promenade des Anglais and the Nice hinterland every year to the great delight of triathletes. This competition counts towards the World Championship.

+ eu.ironman.com/triathlon/events/emea/ironman/france-nice

Top 14 semi final - 19 to 20 June

A reference championship in international rugby, the weekend of the semi-finals of the TOP 14 is the unmissable event for rugby fans.

+ <https://www.allianz-riviera.fr>

Tour de France – 27 to 29 June

In June 2020, the Nice Côte d'Azur Metropolis will be in the spotlight as it will host the start and finish of the first two stages of the 107th edition of the legendary Tour de France. The third will also leave Nice on July 5th.

+ <https://www.letour.fr/fr/galerie-video/grand-depart-2020-nice>



JULY - AUGUST

Nice Jazz Festival - 17 to 21 July

Established in 1948, it was the first Jazz Festival in France and the world.

It welcomes world famous musicians to Nice's city gardens in the heart of the city and kicks off the music festival season on the Côte d'Azur. A fringe festival supports the main festival in the suburbs.

+ nicejazzfestival.fr/en

Concerts at the Cloister - July and August

Under the starry sky overlooking the Cloister of the Cimiez Monastery, the Nice Classic Festival is deeply associated with the history of the International Summer Academy, Nice.

The quality of musical programming, combined with the charm of the Cloister with its unique acoustics, offers some precious moments to many privileged music lovers, in the romantic environment of its rose garden.

+ concerts-cimiez.com/index.php

SEPTEMBER

Ironman 70.3 Nice - 13 September

Also known as a Half Ironman, this race covers a total distance of 113 km (70.3 miles).

+ eu.ironman.com/fr-fr/triathlon/events/emea/ironman-70-3/nice



OCTOBER

« Un Festival c'est trop court ! » - One Festival is too short ! - October

The Nice short film festival highlights the creativity of European cinema and is open to all forms of cinema: fiction, animation, documentary, experimental, from 1 to 59 minutes. It advocates auteur cinema and supports first productions.

+ nicefilmfestival.com

NOVEMBER

Alpes-Maritimes Marathon Nice/Cannes - 8 November

The Marathon of the Alpes-Maritimes Nice/Cannes is the second marathon in France after the one in Paris. This race has the benefit of a unique seaside route of 42 195 km on the Côte d'Azur between the sea and mountains. Three types of route are on offer so everyone can take part.

+ marathon06.com/2018/AN/index.htm

Festival OVNI (Objectif Vidéo Nice) - end of November

It consists of two events. The Video Art Festival is held in Nice in different programming venues for 10 days and the CAMERA CAMERA exhibition hosts thirty contemporary, regional and international art galleries for few days at the Windsor Hotel.

+ ovni-festival.fr

Manca Festival - end of November -December

This festival is organised by the CIRM -Centre International de Recherche Musicale (International Centre for Musical Research). It presents a wide repertoire of works, electronic music or other, provides an opportunity to discover but also meet those involved in contemporary music and their work. Children can have an introduction to music in the workshops. The festival takes place in various places with a programme which includes a place for research. It is a must for contemporary musical art!

+ cirm-manca.org

DECEMBER

The « Christmas Village » - All December

In a winter decor setting, the tone for the festivities, around sixty chalets provide a wide a range of craft products. The ice-rink, children's playgrounds and rides are situated in the city centre, around Massena square. The house of Santa Claus and surroundings provide games and animation for toddlers. The illuminations on the Paillon Promenade are also a major attraction.

+ en.nicetourisme.com