



On the Artists' Trail

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Provence®

AIX-EN-PROVENCE
PAUL CÉZANNE'S STUDIO AND PABLO PICASSO'S CHATEAU

The starting point here is Aix-en-Provence. Like many of the towns in the area, Aix-en-Provence's historic part is almost round in shape. Founded in Roman times, it still has many remains of its founders architecture.



In addition there is a huge market dedicated to flowers, another for food and meat items and a third for apparel. All are within a few minutes walking distance from each other and best reached from the "Pasteur" parking garage, which is located just north of the ring road tracing the old city walls.

The parking garage is at GPS: **43° 32' 00.97" N 5° 26' 45.44" E**

It is a pay and display facility and the access ramp is quite narrow.

Visit the markets, which are south of there and in the heart of the historic part. Bi-secting the old part of town in an east-west direction is the Cours Mirabeau, a beautifully tree-lined avenue. This is where you find a large number of very good restaurants, on the north side of the Cours, catering to all tastes and price ranges and all extremely eager to separate you from your Euros. Just off the Cours, on the Rue de la Masse, is the **Hôtel des Augustins**, a small hostellery, where, as local legend has it, Martin Luther, the German reformer, stayed on his way from or to Rome. Also well worth a visit is the town's cathedral, which is on your left as you walk from the parking garage to the market area.

Paul Cézanne, the famous painter, lived and worked in Aix-en-Provence for many years and his atelier is now a museum.

Located, quite appropriately on the Rue Paul Cézanne, it is open to the public. It is a ten minute walk from the “Pasteur” parking facility, starting from the middle of the north wall of the building.

The GPS co-ordinates are: **43° 32' 18.08" N 5° 26' 46.43" E**

Pablo Picasso, whose full name was Pablo Diego José Francisco de Paula Juan Nepomuceno María de los Remedios Cipriano de la Santísima Trinidad Ruiz y Picasso, spent the years from 1959 to 1962 at his Château in **Vauvenargues**, a small village in the back of Montagne Sainte- Victoire, the mountain dominating the area. The Château is still owned by the Picasso family and is a private residence. Pablo Picasso and his wife are buried in the grounds of the Château. It can be seen across a small valley from one of Vauvenargues main attractions, the restaurant “**Le Couscoussier**”. This is the place where, as legend has it, the best couscous outside of North Africa is made. You be the judge, since tastes in food are so very individual.



In order to get there, you will take the ring road in Aix-en-Provence, the one that follows the old city walls. It is a one way street, going counter-clockwise. Look towards your right until you see the signs pointing to the **D10**.

Follow the D10 and just when you think you may be on the wrong road because you have not reached your destination, you will actually arrive.

To make sure, this is the GPS co-ordinate:

43° 33' 19.52" N 5° 36' 02.79" E

Near the foot of the chateau is a parking lot where you can hike up the back of St. Victoire.

Later on you might want to return the way you came, or you could carry on, on the D10 which will eventually become the D223 in the direction of **Le Puits de Rians**.

When you arrive at the T-junction with the D23, turn right on the D23 in the direction of **Pourrières**.

Continue on the D23 until it crosses the D7N, where you need to turn right in the direction of **Châteaneuf-le-Rouge** and eventually **Aix-en-Provence**. You would then have circled Montagne Sainte-Victoire.