



Port Grimaud– Venice of the Côte

Port Grimaud began to rise out of the sand dunes on the north shore of the Golfe de Saint-Tropez in 1966. It is six kilometres from the original village of **Grimaud**, built inland as was the tradition to be safer from pirate attacks from the sea. This extraordinary architectural experiment was the idea of Alsatian architect, François Spoerry, he wanted to create a completely new Venetian style lagoon village where each house had its personal boat parking space at the end of the garden.

The houses, all of them different, are painted in traditional pastels, ochre, pink and turquoise and adorned with shutters and wrought iron balconies.

The village is arranged into four little islands, each joined by canals and bridges of wood or stone. There are now over 2000 residences and **Port Grimaud** is a highly desirable address.

There is even a pastiche church, the **Eglise St-Francois-d'Assise**, a modern version of the local Romanesque style, with a pure, plain interior, exposed wooden roof beams and stained glass by Victor Vasarély. The belltower gives an excellent view of **Port Grimaud**, **St Tropez** and the **Maures** hills beyond. **Port Grimaud** has its own large sandy beach with a variety of water sports facilities. The beach faces **St Tropez** and the view is particularly stunning at sunset.

Every Thursday, Friday, Sunday there is a local market.



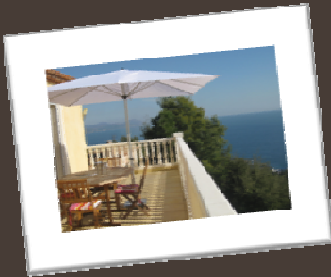
Today 12° Celsius in Les Issambres

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Route de Mimosa

Till the end of March, millions of downy yellow flowers with a heady fragrance cover the hills and dales of the Côte d'Azur. From Bormes-les-Mimosas to Grasse, this itinerary will allow you to discover all the aspects of mimosa so typical of the Belle Époque. The mimosa was imported in 1850 from Australia. Now it's the symbol of the Côte d'Azur. There is a 130 kilometer route, which you can drive to see all beautiful places with the Mimosa. The periode January until May is wonderful to drive this route between Bormes les Mimosas and Grasse. On the website of the Office de Tourisme of Mandelieu la Napoule you can download the brochure with the route to drive: www.mandelieu.com/Leisure/mimosa-road/road-mimosa.htm

Event calender Côte d'Azur

21 April until 24 April 2011

Shopping festival Cannes
www.cannessoppingfestival.com

11 May until 22 May 2011

Filmfestival Cannes
www.festival-cannes.com

26 May until 29 May 2011

Formula 1 Grand Prix of Monaco
www.grand-prix-monaco.com

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