

JCI Senator's Pre-Tour

From Sunday 5th May to Wednesday 8th May, 2019

It is a tradition to propose a pre-tour to the Senators to discover the region of the European Conference site. This year, we propose to discover the south part of the region, called "**Drôme-Provençale**". It's located 100 kilometres south from Lyon in the Rhône Valley and it's the beginning of the **Provence**.

The pre-tour starts from Lyon city centre on Sunday 5th May 2019 morning and it finishes in Lyon, just in front of the conference site on Wednesday 8th May (end of morning).

The price we propose is "All inclusive":

- 3 nights and breakfast (Su, Mo, Tu), it means you don't have to pack and unpack your luggage every day.
- All lunches and dinners from Sunday to Tuesday.
- Transport from Sunday morning to Wednesday morning in a comfortable coach.
- Visits and guides.
- And... surprises!

The Senators and the members of *Jeune Chambre Economique de Valence* will be very happy to welcome you for a unique experience!



JCI Senators
of
Auvergne Rhône-Alpes



Discover Drôme

From the cliffs of the **Vercors** to the plains of **Provence**, from the sun-drenched vineyards to the upland villages, **Drôme** is both shadow and light, spacious yet intimate. From one end to the other, **Drôme** is a mosaic of scenery with breath-taking panoramas, perfumed with the fragrances of the South.



Valence, our base-camp

Situated astride the greatest European North-South route, **Valence-sur-Rhône**, the main city of **Drôme**, is a staging post par excellence and also an attractive place for a longer stay.



The old city, with its pedestrianised shopping centre, its shady squares and welcoming terraces, its attractive buildings with its pastel colours, has retained its old-world charm in the centre of a city which is resolutely turned towards the future. As you ramble through the city which cries out « art and history », you will discover the Cathedral St-Apollinaire, the oldest monument in the city.



Eight parks account for 10% of the city's surface area – the largest being the **Parc Jovet** with its 7 hectares of grass and mature trees from all over the world. This park is much loved by families and university students (over 10,000 in number). Hard by, the Champ de Mars contains the famous **Kiosque Peynet** (part of the city heritage) immortalised on a glossy paper, one evening in 1942, by the celebrated illustrator, Mr Raymond Peynet. Valence is criss-crossed by 17 kilometres of open canals, a place for family strolls and trout fishing. Conscious of its strategic position on the banks of the Rhône, Valence with its **Port de l'Épervière**, contains the number one river port in France. This place, boasting many services, attracts a good many strollers and Sunday joggers too. Valence also boasts its **Art and Archaeology Museum**.

Our hotel in Valence

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Vassieux-en-Vercors, historic top-place

"**Le Vercors**", located in south-west France between Grenoble and Valence, is a range of medium-altitude mountains made up of 8 natural regions.

This range is in the transition zone between the Alps to the south and those to the north. It enjoys spectacular scenery consisting of gorges, cliffs, passes and plateaus which are home to an exceptional range of flora and fauna.

South of Vercors, the 5 villages of Vercors Drôme nestling in the folds of small valleys or spread out across the wide plateaus live in tune with the seasons and farming and forest life.

History is still present today in this region, from prehistoric times to the Resistance. The vertiginous roads, cave explorations and country skills are also characteristic of Le Vercors.



The **Vercors Resistance Memorial**, above Vassieux, is the centre piece of a circuit which encourages the discovery of sites of events involving Resistance fighters took place, and to understand what occurred here 65 years ago.

City of Die and its sparkling wine: the Clairette



Fruity, sugary, sweet, sparkling ... the tasting of the **Clairette** is a delight for your senses and your palate ... it is unavoidable ... and when you have tasted it, you will never forget it...



Clairette is of course the jewel of Die and everyone is proud of it! But how is it made? An answer is given to the Cave de Die **Jaillance** with the staging entitled "**The Legend of Jaillance**"

More concretely, here are in a few lines the secret of this sparkling wine. **Clairette de Die** actually comes from two grapes varieties: **Clairette** and **Muscat à petits grains** (75% min.). After they have been pressed, the juice is cooled and filtered, then the half-fermented wort is bottled. Fermentation continues due to the sugar content of the grapes, giving a naturally sparkling wine without any added sugar.

This is THE wine for the desserts!

Around Valence

In Drôme Provençale are to be found perfumed hills, covered with lavender fields, olive orchards and the Côtes du Rhône vineyards. There are **Montélimar** of nougat fame, truffles, castle of **Grignan**, and the pure Romanesque Provençal style of architecture.



On approaching Tain-l'Hermitage, from the left bank of the Rhône, you can make out, fully exposed to the sun, the vines growing on the steep slopes. This is the centre of the two great vineyards of **Côtes du Rhône Septentrional** : **L'Hermitage** and **Crozes-Hermitage**, whose AOC wines are produced with the same grapes: Marsanne and Roussanne for white wines and Syrah for the red wines. Wine-tasting is a must with the two main producers of these outstanding wines : **La maison M. Chapoutier** and **La Maison Paul Jaboulet Aîné**. The celebrated chocolate maker, **Valrhona** is another star of Tain-l'Hermitage. The brand new **Cité du Chocolat** offers us a journey of discovery into the heart of chocolate-making which appeals to all the senses.

All successful visits benefit from patience and love. Idle in the villages, discover castles, churches, chapels and abbeys along the way. Each of these monuments, large or small is worthy of a halt.

Take the byways and meet some of the men and women who live here: craft potters, wood carvers, glass blowers, upholsterers, blacksmiths; many are those who will open their doors to share their craft with you.

Take a seat now at one of the terraces of the many shaded cafés. Under a lime tree, with a glass of rosé (chilled and to be drunk in moderation), it may look like a postcard scene but it is real enough.

La Drôme Provençale is without a doubt a land of '*l'art de vivre*', a small corner of paradise.



Here the climate is more Mediterranean and the lilting accents of the people follow suit. In the 'garrigues' (Mediterranean vegetation) you can hear the cicadas and the bells on the herds of goats and flocks of sheep.



Programme

All schedules are given with a margin that includes the time needed to gather the participants and provide the necessary information for the different visits.

Day #1 – Sunday 5th May, 2019

Discovering Vercors

7:15	Departure from Lyon (Place Bellecour)
10:00 to 12:00	Visit of the Mémorial de la Résistance in Vassieux-en-Vercors
12:15 to 14:00	Lunch in Vassieux-en-Vercors
14:15	Departure from Vassieux-en-Vercors
15:00	Arrival in Die
15:00 to 16:30	Visit of " Cave de Jaillance " and Clairette tasting
16:45	Departure from Die
18:00	Arrival in Valence and installation in Hotel de France
20:00 to ...	Welcome Dinner in Valence

Note : The departure from Lyon is very early because we have a schedule constraint with the visit of the Mémorial de la Résistance in Vassieux-en-Vercors. The private guided visit in English we propose starts at 10:30 and we need to be 10 minutes before.

Day #2 – Monday 6th May, 2019

In the heart of the vineyards of the Côtes du Rhône

9:15	Departure from Valence
10:00 to 12:00	Visit of the Cave de Tain L'hermitage and Côtes-du-Rhône tasting
12:30 to 14:30	Lunch in Tournon-sur-Rhône
15:00 to 17:30	Afternoon in the Cité du Chocolat Visit of the factory Chocolate tasting Chocolate Workshop " From cacao bean to chocolate bean"
18:00	Back to the hotel in Valence
20:00 to ...	Dinner in Valence

Day #3 – Tuesday 7th May, 2019

La Drôme Provençale

9:30	Departure from Valence
10:30 to 12:30	Visit of the Chateau de Grignan
13:00 to 14:30	Lunch in Grignan
15:30 to 17:00	Visit of a traditional nougat factory in Montboucher sur Jabron and nougat tasting. That factory is owned by the parents of a Jaycee from Valence
18:00	Back to the hotel in Valence
20:00 to ...	Farewell Dinner in Valence

Day #4 – Wednesday 8th May, 2019

Back to Lyon for the JCI European Conference

10:00	Departure from Valence
11:30	Arrival to the Conference site in Lyon to check in.

