

# GO TO UNUSUAL PLACES



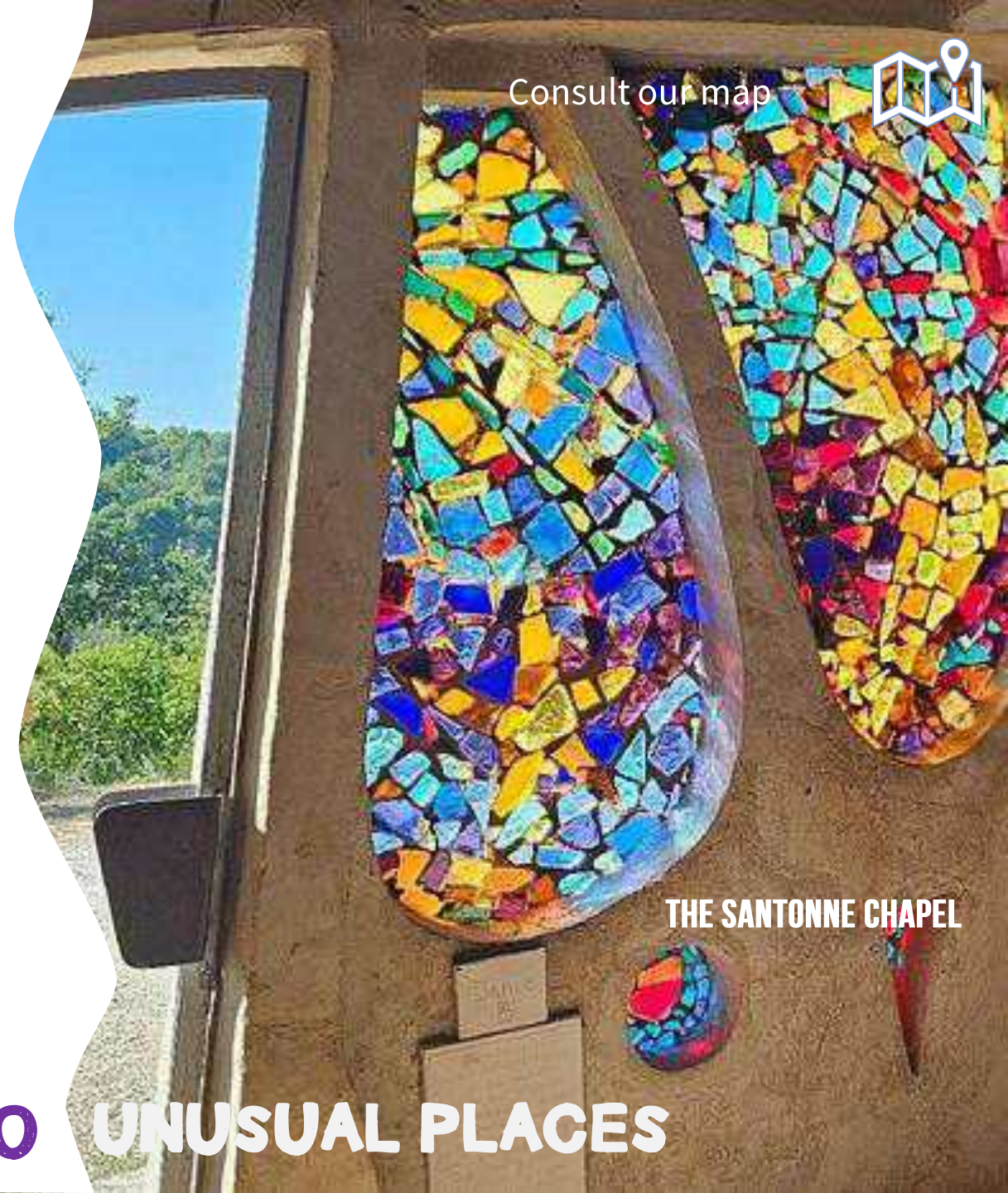
*WhatToDoWhen*



# Our Opinion

The 13 places or activities we are going to talk about are not the best known. They are not usually highlighted in tourist guides. And inevitably, you don't put them in your visit priorities. And yet they promise to give you some memorable moments. Isn't that what we're looking for when we travel? By discovering these unusual activities, you're bound to experience a different kind of holiday. Take a look at the map (next page), and see if any of the places are not on your route. For example, if you decide to go to the summit of the Ventoux, why not make a detour to the Demoiselles Coiffées or the haunted house of Pré-Fantasti? Your holiday is sure to take on a whole new dimension. Get off the beaten track...

Consult our map

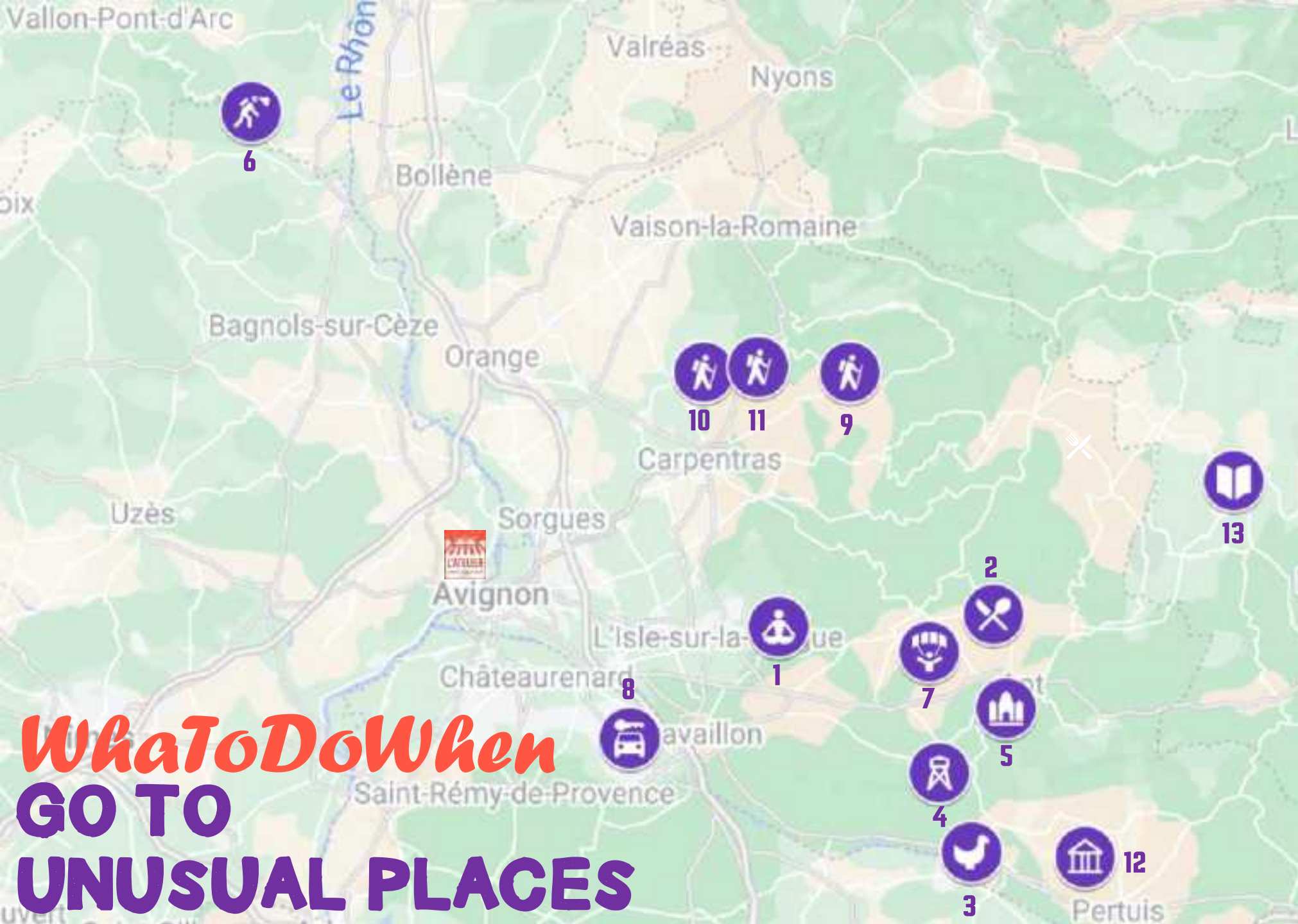


THE SANTONNE CHAPEL



**WhatToDoWhen** GO TO UNUSUAL PLACES





## UNUSUAL PLACES

1. La Maison Rose
2. Le Platane du Domaine des Andéols (restaurant)
3. Puyvert dovecote
4. Philippe Tower
5. The Santonne Chapel
6. Grotte St-Marcel (wine and caving)
7. Hot-air balloon flight
8. Hire a legendary car (Yes Provence)
9. Les Demoiselles Coiffées
10. Le Rocher de Rocalinaud
11. The Pré-Fantasti Manor Trail
12. The Extraordinary Museum
13. Le Bleuet Bookshop

**WhatToDoWhen**  
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# WhatToDoWhen GOING TO UNUSUAL PLACES

La Baptistine



**Roseline Giorgis** has created 2 unique places around the Rose: a laboratory/shop in a 17th-century town house in La Fontaine-de-Vaucluse and a garden in L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue. She gave a second birth to the Centifolia Baptistine Rose, made up of 108 petals. An enchanting visit thanks to a passionate woman and the very special fragrance of this rose!



## IDEA 1: THE HOUSE OF THE ROSE

The Laboratory / Showroom





# WhatToDoWhen GOING TO UNUSUAL PLACES



La Baptistine



**IDEA 2:  
EAT AT  
FEET OF A 400-  
YEAR-OLD PLANE  
TREE**



At the **Domaine des Andéols** in **St-Saturnin-lès-Apt**, an unforgettable experience awaits you: lunch or dinner in a green setting at the foot of a **plane tree** that once belonged to Louis XIV. The cuisine, combining Provençal and Italian flavours, will delight gourmets and add to the experience. Of course, as with all exceptional places, and as this is a gastronomic restaurant, prices are relatively high.

# WhatToDoWhen GOING TO UNUSUAL PLACES

## IDEA 3: THREE ASTONISHING MONUMENTS



1. **The Puyvert dovecote:** 3,000 nests in a dovecote of impressive height. Renovated in 1989, this dovecote is one of the most remarkable in France.

2. **The Philippe Tower:** If you go to Bonnieux or the Cedar Forest, you're bound to come across this tower. Philippe Audibert, a bit of a madman, decided to build a tower to give himself a view of the sea. He never saw it, but the monument is there, worthy of the region's most eccentric stories.

3. **La Chapelle de la Santonne:** Roger Petit, another "madman" who came back alive from the Algerian War, wanted to thank fate and built this strange chapel. It's full of surprises: a tin roof, oddly curved stone walls, stained-glass windows depicting a fish, a wooden Christ, and so on.





# WhatToDoWhen GOING TO UNUSUAL PLACES



## TIP 4: SPELEOLOGY AND WINE



Another unusual spot is the **Grotte St-Marcel**. As well as a highly recommended visit, you can enjoy a unique 3-hour experience, combining caving and wine tasting in the dark, with a cave guide and an oenologist. The cave is an ideal place for ageing wine, and houses 3,000 bottles 45 metres underground.

For those who want to avoid caving, it is also possible to combine a 1-hour guided tour with a 1-hour wine tasting session.





# WhatToDoWhen GOING TO UNUSUAL PLACES



## TIP 5: A TOUR IN MONTGOLFIÈRE



For several years now, **Vol Terre** has been organising hot-air balloon flights from **Roussillon**, in one of the most beautiful areas of Provence: the Luberon and its ochre.

It's a magical, Jules Verne experience, with a surprisingly smooth take-off (and landing). The flames lift the machine into the air and we reach an altitude of 1,000 metres. As someone who likes to get a bit of height, I'm in for a treat. You see everything better and from a different angle. The Colorado of Provence, the ochre of Roussillon, the most beautiful villages of the Luberon, and there are so many of them! It's all so beautiful. All your senses are stimulated (sight, smell).



# WhatToDoWhen GOING TO UNUSUAL PLACES



## TIP 6: RENT A VINTAGE CAR



**Mehari, Coccinelle, 2CV, Combi van...** You're spoilt for choice with **Yes Provence**. It's quite brilliant, you hire a legendary car, a deudeuche for example, and then you drive around the most beautiful places in Provence thanks to the agency's tailor-made tours. It's even now possible to combine your rental with an in-house treasure hunt, wine or cheese tasting, a stop at the swimming pool, and so on. In short, unusual all the way.





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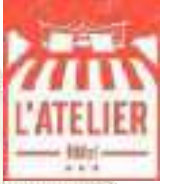


The "Demoiselles coiffées" place



The Rocalinaud rock

**TIP 7: DISCOVER UNEXPECTED NATURAL SITES**



**The Rocalinaud rock** is a strange rock with an enigmatic shape, also known as the "Moon Rock". It was formed by the sea when it covered Provence, creating the remains of an underwater dune. Since then, it has been inhabited by humans until the 16th century, creating small caves. There is a 2-hour, 4km walk (easy) to discover the site.

**The Demoiselles coiffées site** was also created by erosion, creating pretty fairy chimneys of ochre. An intimate site, easy to access (1h or 2h loops).



# WhatToDoWhen GOING TO UNUSUAL PLACES



## TIP 8: A WALK ON THE LAND OF A LOCAL LEGEND

### Legend

This is the story of two brothers, **Francis and Anthony** (Barberini), nephews of Pope Urban VIII. A bit of a rogue, they dabbled in alchemy, boasting that they could transform lead into gold and had found the elixir of life. The practice was totally banned and punishable by death, so the papal uncle sent them to a manor near Caromb (1647). At a sale that went against one of the brothers, the injured party took revenge and threw a vial in his brother's face. He was burnt and died. But his ghost drove his brother mad, and he in turn died of madness. Since then, we've been talking about haunted houses or Pre-Fantasti.



**Manoir de la  
Pre-Fantasti hiking  
(Loop 2h/ 3.6 km/ Easy)**





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## TIP 9: AN EXTRAORDINARY MUSEUM



If I say seabed, Ansois, fine art and the 16th century, what comes to mind? Nothing comes to mind. No wonder, only **Georges Mazoyer** thought that bringing these worlds together in one museum made sense. You'll find it in a 16th-century building in Ansois (beautiful village). A keen scuba diver and student of the Beaux-Arts, he marries these two worlds perfectly through his zany, playful and dreamy collections. The highlight of the show is the passage through the **blue grotto**, with its blue stained-glass windows, plunging you into the Mediterranean abyss.



# WhatToDoWhen GOING TO UNUSUAL PLACES



## IDEA 10: THE LARGEST INDEPENDENT BOOKSTORE IN FRANCE: THE LIBRARY LE BLEUET



What is rare and wonderful? Here are the answers: The **cornflower** and a **bookshop** in a village at the end of the world. Hence the name of this bookshop. It's hard to imagine that in the small village of Banon, famous for its cheese, there's been a house full of books (over 100,000) since 1990. Open every day of the year, and organising numerous events (sculptures, photos, theatre, etc.), this place has become legendary! Thank you Joël Gattefossé for making it possible.





# PRACTICAL - GOING TO UNUSUAL PLACES

## Activity



The Rose House	06 87 65 25 47	JARDIN - L'ISLE-SUR-LA-SORGUE: Visits from 15 March to 15 June every morning from 10am to 1pm, except Sundays. MAISON SHOW ROOM LABORATOIRE - FONTAINE-DE-VAUCLUSE: Saturday 10am-12pm, 2pm-6pm. Sunday: 2pm-6pm.	
The Platane tree on the Domaine des Andéols	04 83 88 33 77	From 31 May to 28 September.	
The Puyvert dovecote	06 18 07 27 11	Guided tour with a passionate inhabitant of the village of Puyvert.	
Philippe Tower		Only visible from the outside. Cannot be visited.	
The Santonne Chapel		Accessible free of charge.	
St-Marcel d'Ardèche cave	04 75 04 38 07	By reservation or every Monday at 9am from 6/07 to 28/08. Open from 30 March to 15 September. All year round for caving.	SpéléOenologie 74 € per person. Group 6 p. min. 8 yrs.
Flight to Roussillon (Hot-air balloon)	06 03 54 10 92	Departure at sunrise. Meeting point at the Place du Pasquier car park . Duration 1 hour. Online booking required.	250 per person.
Yes Provence	06 60 93 69 11	Open every day from 9am to 5.30pm. Book online or by phone.	Saint-Andiol
The Demoiselles coiffées website		2.7 km/ 1h. 5 km/ 2h. Tip: Bédoin Provençal market on Mondays.	Easy trail. Bédoin.
The rock of Rocalinaud		A 2-hour loop.	Easy trail. Beaumes-de-Venise.
The Pre-Fantasti Manor Trail	04 90 16 08 61	3.6 km/ 2 hours.	Easy trail. Caromb.
Musée Extraordinaire	04 90 09 82 64	October-May: Open every day from 2pm to 6.30pm. June to September: Open daily from 10am to 7pm.	Ansouis.
Le Bleuët Bookshop	04 92 73 25 85	Open every day from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.	Closes at 8pm in July/August