

SOME OF TOULON'S MOST FAMOUS FIGURES

GILBERT BÉCAUD

Born on October 24th, 1924 in Toulon, and nicknamed "Mr. 10,000 volts" thanks to the fabulous energy that emanated from his songs, Gilbert Becaud is probably the city's best-known figure overseas. He wrote numerous hit songs including the joyful "Les Marchés de Provence" - an ode to the colourful food markets of Provence.

PIERRE LETUAIRE 1798-1885

"The man who drew the heritage of Toulon"

Pierre Letuaire's drawings and lithographs offer a fascinating insight into life in Toulon in the 19th century and are a precious aid to historians and researchers. Spanning the naval base, infamous ancient convict prison and various maritime activities taking place in the Bay, Letuaire's work is a mine of precious information, and is now an official part of the city's heritage. The "Musée des Amis du Vieux Toulon" harbours 97 sketchbooks and around 800 drawings by the artist.



JULES MURAIRES DIT RAIMU

An archetypal "Toulonnais" and hero of Pagnol's famous "Trilogy" film series, Raimu is widely honoured throughout the city. Three monuments are dedicated to this inimitable artist: a bust on Place des Trois Dauphins square, a fresco and statue on Place du Théâtre square (by Louis Arride), and a sculpture of Pagnol's famous Card Game on Place Raimu square, where visitors can pose for a souvenir photo in one of the free chairs set opposite cheating Cesar and Panisse!

FÉLIX MAYOL

After writing over 500 playful and popular melodies, this delightful local figure donated the Mayol Stadium - a mecca of rugby - to the city in 1920, and offered the local team the lucky charm it still sports on its shirt to this day: Lily of the Valley.

EUGÈNE BABOULÈNE

"a figurative painter with a vision" 1905-1994

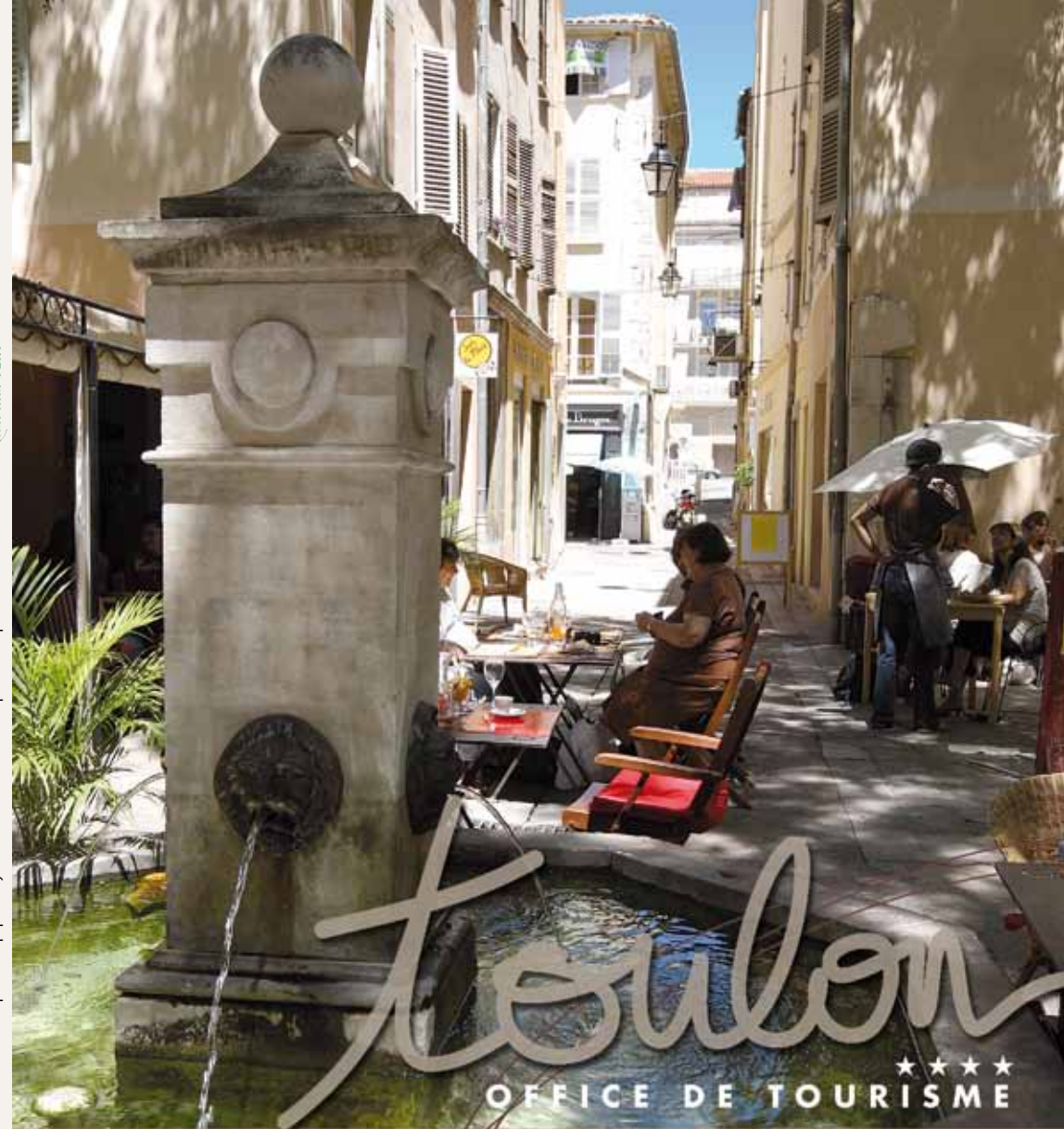


After studying at the Paris Beaux-Arts and Arts Décoratifs schools, Baboulène began his career as a professor at the Toulon School of Fine Arts in 1936. His works include the interior of the city's theatre. A figurative painter, he was considered as one of the foremost figures of the contemporary Provençal school. His colourful pastel works are characterised by their soothingly simple design.

VINCENT COURDOUAN

1810-1893 "the leader of the Provençal school"

Considered as the leader of the Provençal art movement, Vincent Courdouan is famed for his maritime and landscape paintings but was also a fervent Orientalist and exceptionally talented drawer. He used gouache, oil, charcoal and watercolour techniques to depict every facet of the Var throughout his 50-year artistic career.



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TOULON STEP BY STEP

Just follow the dots!

CITY MUSEUMS CITY CENTRE

MUSEE D'ART

113, av. Maréchal Leclerc - tel +33(0)4 94 36 81 01

Inaugurated in 1888, Toulon's "Musée d'Art" harbours a constantly-growing collection of works spanning the 15th to the early 20th centuries, with particular focus on Provençal landscape paintings from the 1850's (Guigou, Aiguier, Courdouan, Ziem, etc.), plus the Fauvist movement (Camoin, Chabaud, Verdilhan) and Symbolist movement. Free entry.

MUSEE NATIONAL DE LA MARINE

Place Monsenergue (entrance to naval base)

tel +33(0)4 94 02 02 01

The "Musée National de la Marine" naval museum retraces the tumultuous history of Toulon's "Arsenal" (naval base) and offers a fitting tribute to Mediterranean maritime traditions through an exceptional collection of model vessels and galleys. After a two-month renovation project, its permanent exhibits now benefit from an attractive new layout. It is one of France's foremost maritime museums.

MUSEE DU VIEUX TOULON

69, cours Lafayette - tel 04 94 62 11 07+33(0)4 94 62 11 07

This museum collects, conserves and exhibits various works of art, objects and souvenirs associated with the social, economic, military, religious and artistic history of Toulon and its region. Free entry.

MAISON DE LA PHOTOGRAPHIE

Place du Globe - tel. +33(0)4 94 93 07 59

Situated in the heart of the old quarter (Vieille Ville) of Toulon, this photography museum was inaugurated in 2002. It has a dual vocation as a springboard for young, regional artists and a showcase for internationally reputed photographers representing various movements. Free entry.

HOTEL DES ARTS

Centre méditerranéen d'art

236, av. Maréchal Leclerc - tel. +33(0)4 94 91 69 18

The Hôtel des Arts is a modern art museum exhibiting works from the second half of the 20th century to current day. Thanks to its international collections, it is now one of the most highly-visited museums on the cultural itinerary stretching along the coast from Marseille to Menton. Free entry.



THE PROVENCAL CITY

The city of Toulon is spread out around one of Europe's most beautiful bays. From Place d'Armes square to the West, to Porte d'Italie gate to the East, a tumultuous history has carved out the shape and architectural features of this multi-faceted city. The "Haute Ville", or upper area of Toulon is characterised by majestic, pale stone Haussmannian monuments built during the reign of Napoleon III, and in particular the vast Place de la Liberté, where you can admire the splendid frontage of the ancient Grand Hotel. The "Basse Ville", or lower area of the city, dates back to medieval times and has expanded over the centuries around Sainte-Marie-de-la-Seds cathedral.

Although the city's main roads skip around the old quarter and some of the ancient buildings are now hidden by modern constructions, the historic heart of Toulon unveils itself as you stroll around these narrow lanes, lined with yellow, ochre and pink façades. Take time out to explore the pretty pedestrian area, with its chic little boutiques and colourful shop windows, art galleries and cosy, Provençal restaurants... And if you look up, you will be able to admire the suspended street lights that lend such a special character to the villages of the South. You will also come across numerous little alleyways leading to tiny squares adorned with bubbling fountains - Toulon is actually home to no less than 200 fountains, making water one of the town's most prominent features. Original, impressive or romantic, they stand witness to the major artistic trends that have marked the city's history.



THE FOUNTAINS OF TOULON

- Fontaine du Vieux Palais (1776-1867)
Place G.Lambert
- Fontaine-Miroir (1994) Place Raimu
- Fontaine des Cinq Parties du Monde (1739-1987) Place Monsenergue
- Fontaine de la Pucelle (1824-1986)
Rue de la Fraternité
- Fontaine du Musequin / du Lion (1989)
- Fontaine du Tambourin (1839-1977)
Place Louis Blanc
- Fontaine du Panier (1839)
Marché du Cours Lafayette
- Fontaine du Dauphin (1782)
Place Paul Comte
- Fontaine-Lavoisier Saint-Vincent (1615-1832)
- Fontaine de la Pigne (1739-1988)
Cours Paul Lendrin
- Fontaine des Trois Dauphins (1782)
Place Puget
- Fontaine de la Fédération (1890)
Place de la Liberté
- Fontaine de la Statue des Mobiles (1894)
Place de la Gare
- Fontaine du Buveur (1880)
Jardin Alexandre 1er
- Fontaine-Rocaille (1887) Musée d'Art
- Fontaine de l'Intendance (1821)
Place Senès
- Fontaine du Globe, Place du Globe



OFFICE DE TOURISME DE TOULON Place Louis Blanc

Jours et horaires d'ouverture : www.toulontourisme.com - 04 94 18 53 00

KEY

- DOTTED ITINERARY
- SHOPPING STREET
- MUSEUM
- WALK LENGTH
- AUDIO GUIDE
- INFORMATION STAND

NAVAL BASE

Along with Brest, Toulon is home to France's largest naval base and naval force, including the Charles de Gaulle aircraft carrier, the massive Mistral and Tonnerre "projection and command ships" and nuclear attack submarines. In all, over 60 % of France's naval vessels are berthed in the Bay of Toulon.

MONUMENTAL DOOR OF THE ANCIENT JESUIT COLLEGE

rue Anatole France

Now part of the naval base. This door, built in 1689, now adorns the old rope factory.

LE JARDIN ALEXANDRE IER

Formerly named the "Jardin du Roy" or King's Garden, this beautiful park was occupied by naval officers and used to cultivate fruit and flowers for the royal family in Versailles. The city council reclaimed the ground in 1852 and converted it into a park featuring two wide alleyways lined with plane trees and a café set inside a wooden chalet. It was renamed when the King of Yugoslavia, Alexander I, visited the city. The 19th-century music stand was installed in 1989.

L'ÉGLISE SAINT-LOUIS

rue Louis Jourdan

This neo-classical church, completed just before the French Revolution, was initially a temple for the "Cult of Reason and the Supreme Being". It is now a listed monument.

ANCIENT ROPE FACTORY

Visible from Place d'Armes

Measuring 405 metres in length and just 20 metres in width, the ancient "Corderie" boasts a remarkable architecture in keeping with its original vocation as a rope factory for the Navy. It was built between 1686 and 1701 by the royal architect André Boyer, on the basis of drawings by the famous military engineer Vauban.

LA TOUR CARRÉE

Situated inside the naval base, visible from the main entrance. This square clock tower was built on piles between 1772 and 1775. It was formerly used as a lookout post, while its bell and clock announced the start and end of the working day.

NAVAL BASE MONUMENTAL DOOR AND MUSEUM

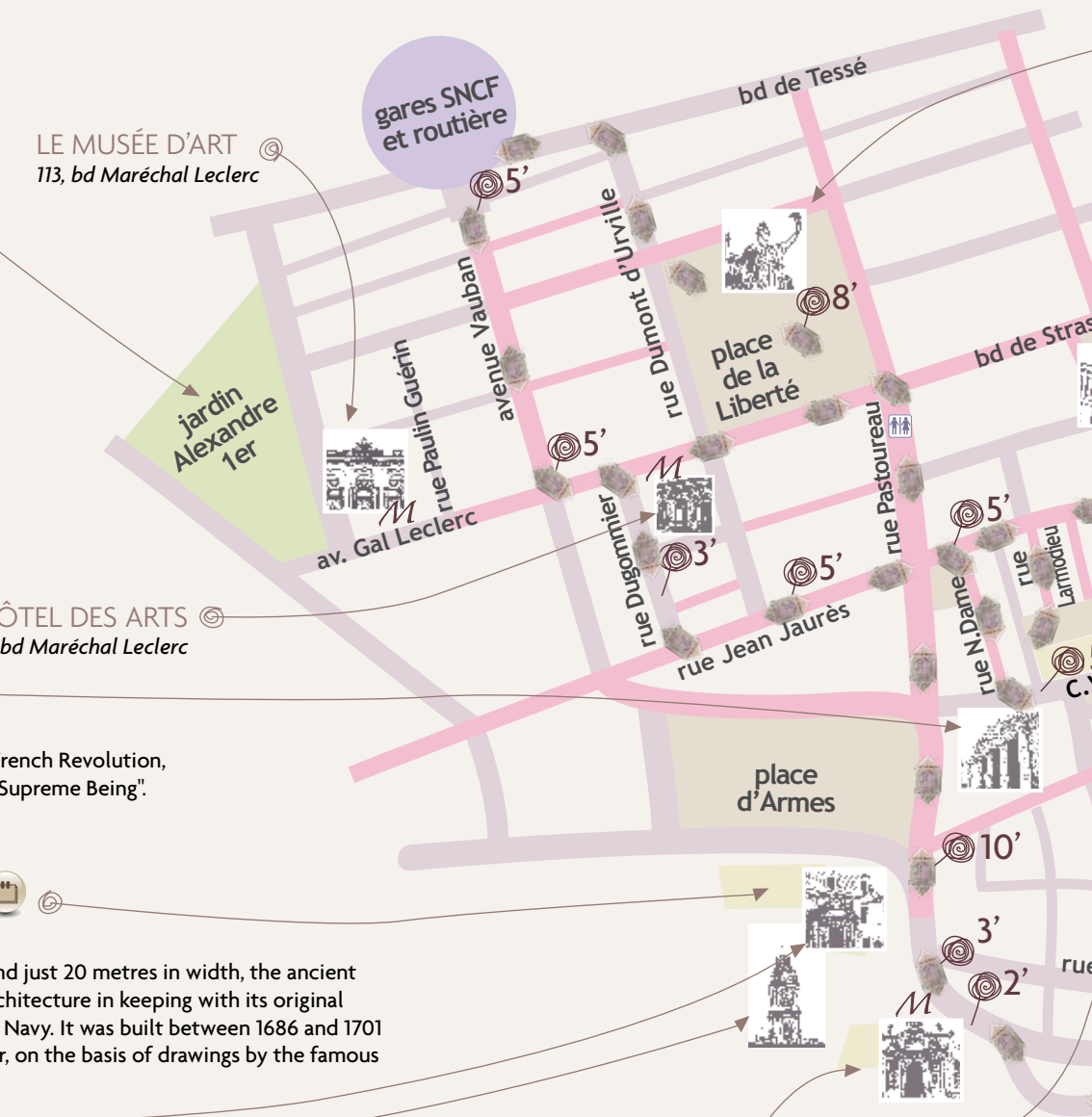
Tucked away behind the monumental door built in 1738 by Lange, the "Musée National de la Marine" naval museum retraces the tumultuous history of Toulon's "Arsenal" (naval base) and offers a fitting tribute to Mediterranean maritime traditions through an exceptional collection of model vessels and galleys. After a two-month renovation project, its permanent exhibits now benefit from an attractive new layout. It is one of France's foremost maritime museums.

L'HÔTEL DES ARTS

236, bd Maréchal Leclerc

LE MUSÉE D'ART

113, bd Maréchal Leclerc



LA PLACE DE LA LIBERTÉ

The gigantic Fontaine de la Fédération, built by the Allar brothers in 1889, forms the centrepiece of this vast square. Take time to admire the magnificent surrounding buildings, and in particular the ancient façade of the Grand Hotel (1869).

L'OPÉRA

place Victor Hugo

The extension of the city in 1853 and displacement of the city walls to the North made room for the new Opera House, designed by architect Léon Feuchère. Building work was launched on March 5th, 1860 and the Opera House was inaugurated on October 1st, 1862, thirteen years after the Opéra Garnier in Paris. Listed monument.

LA PLACE PUGET

This typical Provencal square, nestling in the shade of veteran plane trees, was the city's main square in days gone by. It owes its charm to the beautiful "Fontaine des Trois Dauphins" fountain built by Toscat and Chastel in 1780, now covered with luxuriant vegetation.

LE BATEAU-SCULPTURE

rue Vezzani et passage des Capucins

This monumental work is a faithful reproduction of the bow of a 17th-century royal vessel.

LE MUSÉE DU VIEUX TOULON

69, cours Lafayette

CATHÉDRALE STE-MARIE-DE-LA-SEDS

traverse de la Cathédrale

This ancient cathedral is located in the heart of the city's medieval quarter. The extension of the original 11th-century Romanesque church in the 17th century has endowed it with a curious blend of styles: a classic facade with Baroque details, massive bell (1740) and splendid wrought iron bell tower. The interior, which has been reworked several times, has nevertheless maintained a coherent Gothic aspect. Listed monument.

COURS LAFAYETTE

Food markets are naturally one of the emblems of Provence and the Cours Lafayette market – one of the city's main landmarks – held every day except Mondays, is unquestionably one of the most famous of them all! You can also enjoy touring the small market exclusively featuring local producers held every Friday and Saturday on Cours Paul Lendrin ("Petit Cours Lafayette").

A LOCAL SPECIALITY : LA CADE

Referred to as "socca" in Nice, "calda" in La Ciotat, "panisse" in Marseille, and "cade" in Toulon, this typical regional culinary speciality is a sort of pancake made with chickpeas, olive oil and water. You can buy it at the Provencal market on Cours Lafayette!

MAISON DE LA PHOTOGRAPHIE

Place du Globe

LE CARRÉ DU PORT

- LA STATUE DU GÉNIE DE LA NAVIGATION, this bronze figure, fondly nicknamed "Cuverville", stands proudly pointing his index finger out to sea. It was built by sculptor Louis-Joseph Dumas and inaugurated on May 1st, 1847.
- LES ATLANTES DE PIERRE PUGET, dating back to 1657, this masterpiece by Marseille-born sculptor Pierre Puget comprises two allegorical figures holding up the city hall balcony. Listed monument.

L'ÉGLISE SAINT-FRANÇOIS-DE-PAULE

place Louis Blanc

Built in the 18th century, this magnificent church features a Baroque curved and counter-curved façade, typical of western Provencal religious architecture at the time. Listed monument.

