



Glasgow

2020
2021



TOURISTIC

G U I D E

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Conception **izzeo** 06 26 34 02 04

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Vehicle access
Passerelle et Hautpoul.



Pedestrian access GR 36
Passerelle, Hautpoul et Pic de Nore.



WELCOME TO MAZAMET

With a rich natural heritage, in the heart of the Parc Naturel Régional du Haut Languedoc Mazamet is an ideal area for outdoors activities, sports, walking, cycling and horse riding.

MAZAMET
is a
DYNAMIC TOWN

with a cinema, a media centre/library, a concert hall, an aquatic centre, restaurants, bars... Every year, numerous events take place in & around the Town.

located in the heart of the Montagne Noire (Black Mountains) and the Parc Naturel Régional du Haut Languedoc, 1h away from the Mediterranean beaches and 40km away from both Albi and Carcassonne. Mazamet is classified as a '3 flowers' town which benefits from an exciting natural location, and also from an unusual story.

Once known as the global centre of fellmongering and international commerce, Mazamet has now turned to the development of green tourism with the creation of a 'passerelle' (suspension bridge), unique in Occitanie.

Mazamet's passerelle is a 140m long bridge that spans the gorges of the Arnette river, 70m above the valley floor below, offering a vertiginous walk and an extraordinary view on the valley. It connects the past with the present, the Cathar village & refuge of Hautpoul with the modern-day town of Mazamet.



Mazamet

History & Heritage

05

History of Mazamet

According to historian René Bazin, Mazamet 'came down from the mountain as an avalanche, a happy girl, active and proud of the old medieval village of Hautpoul'.

The destruction of Hautpoul, during the crusades against the Cathars, caused the resettlement of the population. Protected by the rocks on the banks of the Arnette river, they then located at the opening of the valley, giving birth, around 1500, to the modest town that will later become Mazamet.

The town also knew the horrific bloody wars between Catholics and Protestants. It was only around 1800 that peace returned to Mazamet and a new industry, manufacturing sheets & blankets, developed.

Mazamet "old capital of the world of the fellmongering"

In the middle of the 19th century, the town followed an unusual industrial journey.



With the Reformation, the town developed a high-quality textile industry. It is around 1850 that Mazamet finally meets its destiny. An industrialist called Pierre-Elie Houles imported sheepskins from Argentina and created a technique allowing the separation between the wool and the skin of the sheep : fellmongering.

After this creation, a real economic and financial growth arrived in Mazamet.

Two historical walking routes, starting in front of the "Maison des Mémoires" "**Mazamet, au fil de l'eau**" (Mazamet, the water trail) and "**Mazamet, au fil de la laine**" (Mazamet, the trail of the wool) will help you to discover the town and to better understand this era.



- INDUSTRIE
IRE EN LAIS

Some beautiful striking residences are still visible in the heart of Mazamet. La Maison Fuzier, La Ermo Villa and Le Grand Balcon are great examples.



MAZAMET TOWN CENTRE Buildings of Character

Testament to the rich industrial past of the town, they are rightly remarkable.

Their size is imposing, their decoration of the facades and their gardens amaze visitors. The interiors are refined, from the Maison des Mémoires to some of the town's chambres d'hôtes, you will not leave unmoved.

In addition to these elegant mansions, there is a chamber of commerce and numerous banks, including a branch of the Banque de France.



MAZAMET TOWN CENTRE Places of worship

Religious wars between Catholics and Protestants have made the town of Mazamet what it is today and the numerous places of worship are the witness to this era. The Notre Dame and St Sauveur churches, l'Oratoire and St Jacques temples are great buildings you can still admire today. Le Temple Neuf is registered as a historical monument by the Bâtiments de France.





MEDIEVAL VILLAGE Hautpoul

Clinging to its rocky peak, dominating the town of Mazamet by more than 300 metres, the village of Hautpoul guards the entrance of the Montagne Noire and its huge forests. According to the legend, Hautpoul was founded in 413 by a Visigoth king. Even today, the village is still inhabited & unspoiled, retaining its medieval charm.

Walkers can enjoy exceptional panoramic views of the Arnette valley and the town of Mazamet from the 'Rock of the Virgin', the terraces of the old castle or from the passerelle connecting Hautpoul to its ancient church.



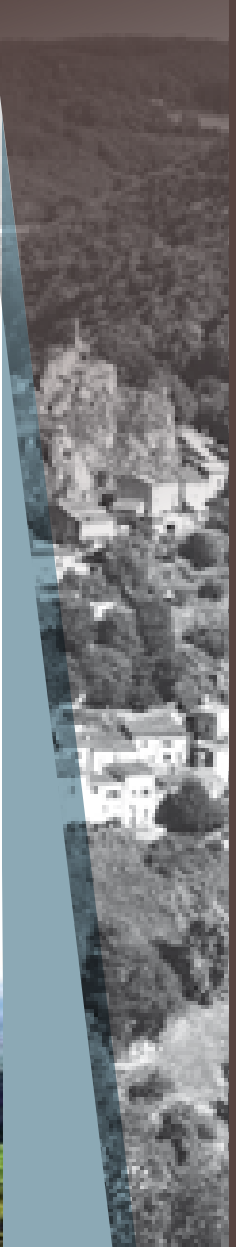
The church of Hautpoul

Remains of the Church of Hautpoul: this primitive church of the parish of Mazamet, enclosed in one meander of the Arnette river, dominated the town.



Le Plô de la Bise

The viewing point of le Plô de la Bise (accessible by car on the RD118 leading to Carcassonne) offers an amazing panorama of the whole landscape.



Mazamet Gardens



SOME GARDENS

to discover

The Camellias Garden

Old garden of La Maison Fuzier (The gardens of the Maison des Mémoires), the Camellias Garden invites you to discover diverse types of camellias.



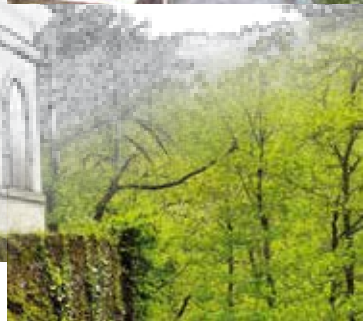
The Cormouls Houlès Garden

In the middle of the 19th century, during the boom of the fellmongering, the Cormouls Houles family built two factories, next to the Arnette river and this wonderful park (created between 1858 and 1859). They are still visible today and open to everyone on the way to the passerelle.



The medieval garden of Hautpoul

In the heart of Hautpoul, this area of rest and contemplation will tell you the story of the cultures in the Middle Age (edible & aromatic plants, fruit orchards, medicinal & flowering plants).



Mazamet

Culture & Museums

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La Maison des Mémoires



In the heart of the town centre, the Maison des Mémoires is an invitation to discover the heritage of Mazamet through the Museum of Catharism, and three exhibitions rooms with free access:

- A living room of the 19th century
- Models of Castles in the Cathar Country created by E. Fuchs
- Temporary exhibitions of local heritage.

Museum of Catharism

Mazamet's Museum of Catharism allows you to understand the Cathar tragedy through a graphically illustrated tour, complete with audioguide and two videos which relay the history of Hautpoul.



Maison des Mémoires

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LA MAISON du Bois et du Jouet

Situated at the bottom of the medieval village of Hautpoul, with 1500m², the "House of Wooden Toys" welcomes you for a playful presentation, an initiatory journey in the world of wood. Discover more than 1500 wooden games and toys from all around the world, from yesterday to today.

Inside: temporary expositions, game rooms, shop.

Outside: arboretum, picnic area, camper-van parking and fun tour (tales from the wood and tales of the fountain).



HAUTPOUL torchlight visits

Every summer, there are torchlight visits organised in Hautpoul. This is unique and atmospheric way to discover the historical aspect of Hautpoul, of Mazamet and their links with Catharism.



Mazamet

Nature, & Escape & Leisure

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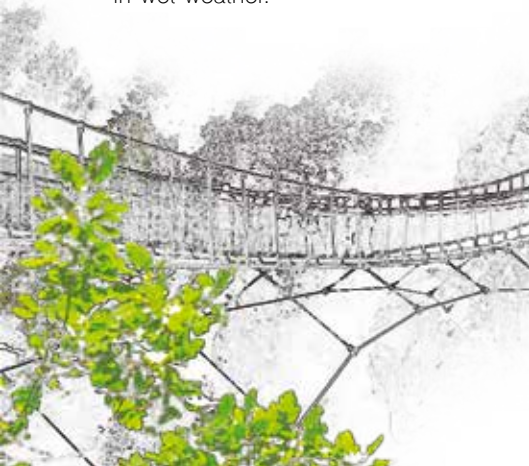


The Passerelle

Built in 2018, Mazamet's passerelle is a 140m long suspension bridge that crosses the gorges of the Arnette river, 70m below offering a vertiginous walk and an extraordinary view of the valley. It connects Hautpoul with the remains of the Saint Saveur church and allows walkers to discover the ancient forests & pathways between the centre of Mazamet and the medieval village of Hautpoul.

**With free access,
open every day of the year.**

Walking shoes/boots are needed to access to the passerelle & there are a number of steep pathways and rocks which may be slippery in wet weather.





LE LAC DES MONTAGNÈS & leisure centre

**FREE
ACCESS**



Between Mazamet and Carcassonne, this lake is in a stunning setting, majestic and peaceful. Encircled by woodland & greenery, this little corner of paradise, ideal for relaxation, welcomes families the whole year for water and beach activities, for minigolf, for fishing, mountain biking hiking the numerous walks, paths and the tree-top adventure park.

You can enjoy the circular walk around the whole lake (2,7km). Shiatsu workshops are available in the summer under the pine forest.



A fishing pontoon and a water access chair are available for those with disabilities.



**Various
restaurants
are open from
spring to
autumn.**

Swimming is permitted every day of the year and supervised during July and August.

Around the lake, the sandy beaches are ideal to relax under the sun after a refreshing dip in the water.



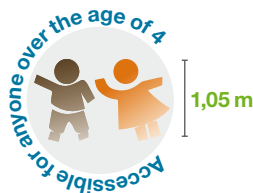
**During the
summer, there is
free bus between
Mazamet
and the lake.**





Lac'cro Parc Montagn'Yes

An acrobatic park set amongst the trees, situated besides the Lac de Montagnès. With more than 130 activities on 13 levels and 25 tethered wire walks, including a huge 200m long zip wire.



La Montagne Noire



The town of Mazamet is situated in the heart of the Montagne Noire. Bordered by the Lauragais plain in the North and the Minervois plain in the South, the Montagne Noire is the south west end of the Massif Central. It stretches 70km from

east to west and extends into 3 departments (Tarn, Aude and Hérault).

The view from the Pic de Nore (Aude), 1211m peak, is accessible by car & bike from Mazamet and on foot (via the GR36). From here, there are exceptional 360° panoramas towards the Pyrénées and the Mediterranean with an orientation table allowing you to depict various aspects of the landscape.





Hiking countryside



With its huge open spaces, Mazamet is an ideal area for numerous types of hiking, cycling, mountain biking or horse riding.

From short walks on the level to more challenging walks in the mountains, there is something for every ability!

Maps & routes are available in the tourism office.

LA VOIE VERTE "Passa País"

From Mazamet to Bédarieux, the Voie Verte cycle path, the "Passa País", allows you to cycle in complete safety for 80km, as it is reserved solely for walkers or cyclists.

The Voie Verte is ideal for a leisurely walk, both short or long, through forests, mountains, prairies, over rivers, through tunnels and over bridges designed by Eiffel.

It is adapted from the old railway line for cycles (because it is mainly flat). It is also possible to rent a bike near the cycle path.





Mazamet

Fishing

Thanks to its rivers and streams, Mazamet is a popular place for fly fishing and a great training ground for this sport.

You might meet the French champion and the European vice-champion too.

**Fishing licences
are available
at the tourism
office.**



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CLIMBING Canyoning



The Gorges of Le Banquet, close to Mazamet, provides a great environment for rock climbing and canyoning.



MAZAMET GOLF CLUB Le Barouge



Created in 1956, this beautifully maintained golf course has tree-lined fairways and stunning mountain views. Situated at the foot of the Montagne Noire, this traditional club will guarantee you a warm welcome. 18 holes', par 70 course (available to play as 9 holes). Open every day of the year.

AQUATIC CENTRE Wellness

Leisure, wellness, relaxation : with its new equipment, its activities for everyone and its wellness zone, Mazamet's Aquatic centre is more than just a swimming pool.



Mazamet

Great annual events

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The Cyclosporitive "Jalabert"



In tribute to Laurent Jalabert native son and former world cycling champion. Every year, on the third Sunday of August, the Cyclosporitive (cycle race) takes place in Mazamet, in the presence of the Jalabert Brothers (Laurent and Nicolas, who was once a professional too).



Fireworks Lac des Montagnès

Every year, close to the 14th of July, a spectacular firework display takes place over the waters of the Lac des Montagnès. A magical evening.



Fanfares Sans Frontières

Every year, at the beginning of July, marching bands arrive from around the world to perform in the streets of Mazamet. This is a two-day party with music and parades.



Local producer's market

A fantastic local producer's market with food, drink, artists & performers. Convivial atmosphere, and quality products.

Mondays in July and August from 5pm to 10pm in the car park adjacent to the Maison des Mémoires.



Rallye Montagne Noire

A huge sporting event, the Rallye Montagne Noire takes place every year at the end of July. This car rally is a great family spectacular with hundreds of vehicles parking after the races in the Jardin des Promenades.



The "Florales"

Mazamet, welcomes the Floriales (flower & plant show) every spring, over a week-end in April. This is the ideal time to discover plants, flowers or garden decorations, from the market stands of local growers & artisans.

In addition, numerous demonstrations take place linked with the garden, plants and nature.



Markets

IN MAZAMET

There are markets throughout the year.
Outdoors every Tuesday and Saturday around the streets of the Town Hall **Place Tournier**.

Winter markets

The winter markets take place every year in Mazamet's "Hall" (indoor market hall)

Rue Cormouls Houlès.

Regional foie gras market, local products & vegetables, oysters, and more...
every Sunday morning from the middle of November to the end of March.

IN AUSSILLON

Market throughout the year
Outdoors every Thursday morning **Place du marché.**

practical information





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Information

- **Office of Tourisme for Castres-Mazamet : Mazamet Office**

7 place Georges Tournier
05 63 61 27 07
accueil@tourisme-mazamet.com
www.tourisme-mazamet.com

- **Town Hall. Mazamet**

Place Georges Tournier
81200 Mazamet
05 63 61 02 55
www.ville-mazamet.com

Emergency numbers

SMUR : 15
National Police : 17
Local Police : 05 63 61 14 00
06 83 50 17 80
Quai de l'Arnette 81200 MAZAMET
Firefighters : 18
Poison Control Center : 05 61 77 74 47
Hospital of Pays d'Autan : 05 63 71 63 71
6 avenue de la Montagne Noire
Doctor on call : 3966
European emergency call : 112

Museums

- **Maison des Mémoires
Musée du Catharisme
Temporary Expositions**

Rue des casernes - 81200 Mazamet
05 63 61 56 56
contact@museeducatharisme.fr
www.museeducatharisme.fr

- **Maison du Bois et du Jouet**

Moulin de l'Oule - 81200 Mazamet
05 63 61 42 70
maisonduboisetdujouet@gmail.com
www.maisonboisjouet.fr



Cinema, Special Performances...

- **Espace Apollo Michel Bourguignon**

Cinéma, special performances, concerts, theatre...
Place du Maréchal Leclerc - 81200 Mazamet
05 63 97 53 53
www.espace-apollo.com

- **Palais des congrès Pierre Barraillé**

Rue Jean Assemat - 81200 Mazamet
05 63 61 02 55





Leisure, Sport & Nature

- **Guided Walks with Donkeys**
- **La Ferme des Ânes d'Autan**
La Métairie Neuve - 81200 Aiguefonde
05 63 58 78 20 - lesanesdautan.com
- **The Lac de Montagnès**
RD 118 direction Carcassonne - 81200 Mazamet
Free shuttle bus from Mazamet during July & August
- **Aqua wi'Fun** (new)
Inflatables on the lake - 07 66 16 07 47
- **Lac'cro Parc Montagn'yes**
07 83 19 04 55 - 05 63 97 92 50
www.lacroparc.com
- **Mini golf : Le Choupa**
05 63 97 15 75 - 06 12 44 24 94
www.lechoupa.com
- **Shiatsu Message** in summer
Delage Marie Noëlle 07 86 29 74 43
- **Canyoning - Rock Climbing & Canyoning**
Gorges du Banquet
- **Verticaléo** 07 82 47 63 36
www.canyoning-escalade-tarn.com
- **Mazamet Aquatic Centre**
Avenue Général de Gaulle - 81200 Mazamet
05 63 61 37 16
contact.centreaquatique@castres-mazamet.com
Desserte Bus Libellus GRATUIT : ligne 8
- **Centre équestre Les Ecuries de Milias**
Saint Pierre de Fronze - 81200 Aiguefonde
06 20 15 60 65 - ecurie.milias@gmail.com
- **Golf Mazamet La Barouge**
Route du golf - 81660 Pont de l'Arn
05 63 61 06 72 - www.golfmazamet.fr
- **Les amis du Gourp de la loutre**
D54 direction Pradelles Cabardès - 81200 Mazamet
05 63 98 11 64 - gourpdelaoutre.free.fr
- **Bike Rental**
- **2 x 2 roues/Esprit moto 81**
ZAC de la Castagnalotte
81660 Bout du Pont de l'Arn - 05 63 97 16 27
- **Infor Play Park - Pitchou Parc**
15 ter avenue de la Chevalière - 81200 Mazamet
06 71 57 98 75 - pitchouparc.fr
- **Passerelle Mazamet**
On arrival in Mazamet, Follow the signs "Passerelle de Mazamet". Free parking for 180 cars, situated at, 93 rue de la Resse - 81200 Mazamet.
GPS Coordinates :
DD : Latitude : 43.481589 / Longitude : 2.376105
DMS : 43°28'53.72"N / 2°22'33.978"E

Transport

- **Pôle d'Echange Multimodal**
Avenue Charles Sabatié - 81200 Mazamet
- **Gare SNCF (Train Station)**
Information and sales : 36 35
Contact TER Midi-Pyrénées : 08 00 31 31 31
(free call from all terminals)
www.ter.sncf.com/midi-pyrenees
- **Bus Libellus (local free bus)**
- Every day, except Sunday & Bank Holidays
 - lignes 8 et 9 du réseau urbain Mazamet - Aussillon
 - ligne 10 Mazamet - Hôpital - Castres
- **Summer** : Shuttle from the centre of Mazamet.
- **Taxis**
- **Taxi Driver**
39 route de Mazamet - 81200 Aiguefonde
06 71 24 14 45
- **Taxi Bonnafous**
6 rue Camélias - 81240 Saint Amans Soubert
06 29 69 48 36
- **Castres-Mazamet Airport**
Le Causse : 05 63 70 34 77
Hop ! : 08 92 70 22 22
- **Airport Shuttle Bus**
- **Toulouse Blagnac Airport**
- Eco Navette 05 61 41 56 93 - www.eco-navette.fr
- Executives Roadlines 09 50 86 63 74
www.executive-roadlines.com
- Taxi Labruguierois
05 63 50 22 28 - 06 78 67 56 33
www.taxis-labruguierois.fr
- **Carcassonne Airport**
Taxi Labruguierois 05 63 50 22 28 - 06 78 67 56 33
www.taxis-labruguierois.fr

Parking for Mobile Homes

- **Centre of Mazamet / Free**
In the heart of the town, close to all shops & amenities
large parking area, semi-shaded
Parking du champ de la ville 81200 Mazamet.
- Water & drainage year-round
- **Rest area at La Maison du Bois et du Jouet / Free**
Moulin de l'Oule - 81200 MAZAMET
- Parking at La Maison du Bois et du Jouet
- Take the bridge on your right
- Water only, 5 spaces available
- Open year-round
- **Aire du lac des Montagnès / Free**
RD 118 Mazamet
- Water & drainage, beginning of April to the end of October
- Limited to 9 space/48 hrs maximum
- Open year-round



Mazamet Aussillon Montagne Noire a territory to discover!



- 1 Sentiers "Au fil de l'eau" et "Au fil de la laine"
- 2 Musée du Catharisme
- 3 Voie verte du Haut-Languedoc "Passa Païs"
- 4 Passerelle
- 5 Village médiéval d'Hautpoul
- 6 Maison du Bois et du Jouet
- 7 Belvédère du Piô de la Bise
- 8 Village médiéval d'Aussillon
- 9 Base de loisirs des Montagnès
- 10 Les Amis du Gourp de la Loutré
- 11 Gorges du Banquet





Office de Tourisme de
Castres-Mazamet

Mazamet Office

7 place Georges Tournier
Tél. 05 63 61 27 07

accueil@tourisme-mazamet.com

www.tourisme-mazamet.com

a territory to discover !

