

**GOURJADE PARK |**  
ROQUECOURBE AVENUE



53 hectares of greenery, for pleasure and relaxation, in free access ! Many activities are available : walks or mountain bike rides, orienteering races, children games, nine-hole golf course, picnic...

**ARCHIPEL POOL**  
Swimming and have fun ! On a 5 hectares area, this aquatic center includes a swimming-pool with 3 pools.  
More information on : [www.castres-mazamet.fr](http://www.castres-mazamet.fr)

**CAMPSITE, RESTAURANT AND BAR**  
At the gates of the regional park of Haut Languedoc and the Black Mountain, the Gourjade campsite\*\*\* is ideally



**Information :**  
City of Castres – 05 63 71 58 58  
[www.ville-castres.fr](http://www.ville-castres.fr)  
Castres-Mazamet Tourist Office  
05 63 62 63 62  
[www.tourisme-castresmazamet.com](http://www.tourisme-castresmazamet.com)

situated to visit the most beautiful sights of the Tarn and the region. Calm, relaxation, discovery, sport : everything is there to allow you to spend the most pleasant stay. Campsite open from April to October. Restaurant-Bar open from May to September.  
More information on : [www.campingdegourjade.net](http://www.campingdegourjade.net)

**GOLF COURSE**  
In the center of Gourjade Park and encircled by the Agout valley, 25 ha of wooded park offer a superb nine-hole golf course, a 36-seat driving range and a 3-hole training course that has been able to blend in with the natural and historical beauty of the site.  
Open every day except December 25<sup>th</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup>.  
More information on : [www.golf.castres.com](http://www.golf.castres.com)

**ARCHEOPOLE**  
The Archaeological Center presents a permanent exhibition dedicated to discoveries in the Castres country. The exhibition is frequently updated by the discoveries of excavations and prospections in progress.  
More information on : [www.cerac-archeopole.fr](http://www.cerac-archeopole.fr)

**EQUESTRIAN CENTER**  
Living space in the heart of nature, the equestrian center lives to the rhythm of lessons and competitions. Horse riding is made accessible to all, adults and children. An equestrian show is produced and presented at the end of the year.  
More information on : [www.centrequestre.com](http://www.centrequestre.com)



*Castres is a stop-over along St. James' Way and its development was centered in the 9<sup>th</sup> century around the Saint-Benoît Abbey.*

*Birth place of Jean Jaurès, the city abounds with treasures such as the Goya Museum, located in the ancient 'Palais Épiscopal', which is the first museum in France after the Louvre to exhibit hispanic art.*

*Old private mansions, vestiges of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, are testament of the historical richness of Castres.*

*'Town of Art and History', 'Ville fleurie' ('Town in Bloom'), Castres has many parks and gardens, notably the Bishop's Palace Garden designed by Le Nôtre, which has been classified 'Jardin Remarquable'.*

*The alignments of the façades of the houses along the Agout river are reminders of the city's first vocation linked to the textile industry.*

*Resolute, authentic and active, Castres is today at the centre of the Greater Castres-Mazamet area.*

*Traditional know-how mixes with more recent activities such as mechanics, pharmaceuticals and cosmetology.*



**THE HOUSES ALONG THE AGOUT RIVER**



The first houses date from the Middle Ages. For centuries they served as workshops for tanners, 'chamoiseurs' and parchment-makers who used the water from the river to word the skins. Brightly-colored houses, with corbelled façades and basements immersed in the river, have earned Castres the nickname of 'Languedoc's Little Venice'.

**MUNICIPAL THEATRE**

Very beautiful Italian-style theatre inaugurated in 1904 and designed by the architect Joseph Galinier, a student of Garnier. The interior layout mirrors the 'Opéra-comique' theatre in Paris and its 'trompe-l'œil' dome dedicated to classic tragedy is quite eye-catching.



**PRIVATE MANSIONS**

During the reign of Henri IV, the establishment of the 'Chambre de l'Édit' Court, with the arrival of numerous magistrates, marks the beginning of a period of prosperity, to which some mansions are testament : 'Hôtel de Nayrac', Hôtel de Poncet', 'Hôtel de Vivivès', 'Hôtel Jean Leroy'.

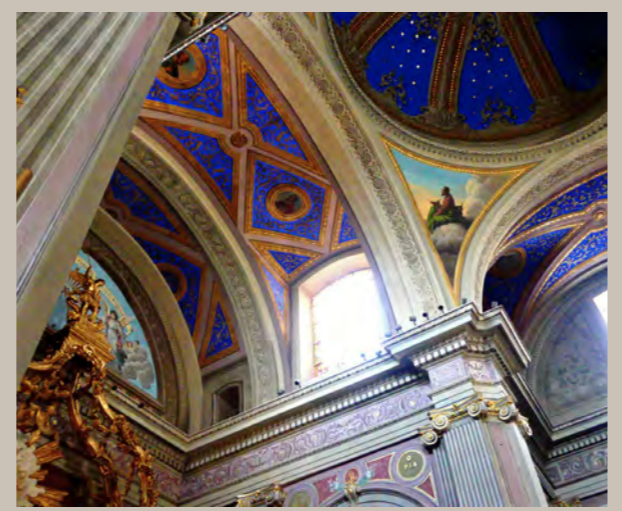


**SAINT-BENOÎT CATHEDRAL**

Destroyed during the religious wars, reconstruction works was conducted between 1678 et 1718, date of its inauguration. It received a large part of its ornamentation in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, notably a collection of works of Jean-Pierre Rivalz, a painter of Toulouse.



**NOTRE-DAME-DE-LA-PLATÉ CHURCH**



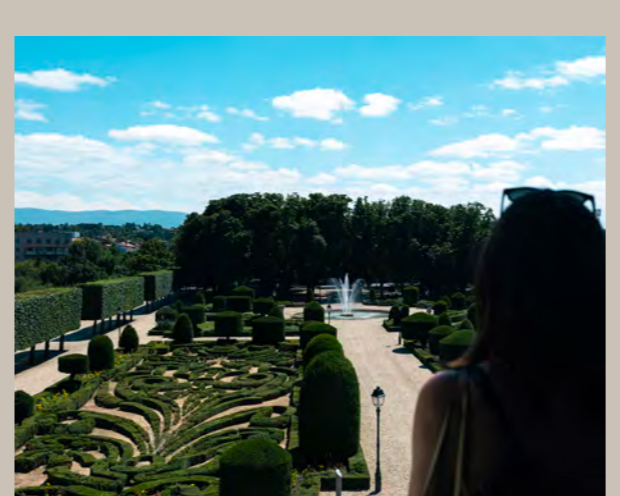
Recently renovated, it is characterised by its blue dome of celestial beauty, its imposing organ restored in the 1980s and its 34 bells ! Volunteer bell-ringers have been working continuously on the keyboard since 1847 !

**SAINT-JACQUES DE VILLEGODOU CHURCH**



In the Middle Ages, Castres becomes a stopover on the way to Compostela mainly due to the presence of the relics of St Vincent de Saragosse. Built at the end of the 14<sup>th</sup> century, the church has been destroyed on 1567 and only the the bell tower remained.

**BISHOP'S PALACE GARDEN**



Extraordinary example of a 'French Garden', in the pure tradition of 17<sup>th</sup> century classicism, it is classified as 'Jardin Remarquable' since 2004. With its play on perspectives and its boxwood embroidery around the pond, it showcases the creations of André Le Nôtre, Louis XIV gardener.

**'HALLE DE L'ALBIQUE'**

'La halle aux grains' was built between 1865 and 1868 in Albinque district. This iron building takes inspiration from Halles of Paris designed by Baltard. Nowadays it is a covered market, an important living place in this square recently renamed Pierre Fabre, a pharmacist of Castres known internationally and great patron.



**GOYA MUSEUM | 1 STREET FROM TOWN HALL**

The Goya Museum has undergone a major renovation and transformation over the pas three years. Its remarkable art collection of approximately 600 works is the only one in France entirely devoted to the art of the Iberian Peninsula, from Antiquity to the present day. Among the museum's masterpieces, works by Velazquez, Murillo, Goya, Picasso...



**RIVERBOAT 'LE MIREDAMES'**



From mid-May to the end of September, the 'Coche d'eau' runs down the Agout river from the city centre to Gourjade Park.

Departure at the city centre pier (Mil-hau Ducommun street) : after passing under Miredames bridge, you will go up the Agout river to reach Gourjade Park, 20 minutes later.

On the way back, 'Le Miredames' offers an outstanding view over the famous multicoloured half-timbered houses which made famous Castres. Well preserved and faithfully restored, these former workshops for tanners and parchment-makers in past centuries, give to the city its character.

Embark on an original trip with summer's guided boat tours, 'Apéro Coch', sundown trips...

Booking : 05 63 71 58 41 / [cochedeau@ville-castres.fr](mailto:cochedeau@ville-castres.fr)

**JEAN JAURÈS MUSEUM | 2 PLACE PÉLISSON**

Jean-Jaurès Museum provides a chronological and thematic tour to discover the life and commitments of this great orator born in 1859 in Castres where he spent his childhood. Writer and journalist, then deputy, he is the father of socialism in France. Here, as everywhere he went, he left an indelible mark. Combining a visionary spirit and humanistic evidence, he still remains today a great figure. Convinced pacifist he was assassinated on 31 July 1914 and his remains were removed to the Panthéon in 1924, date when his statue was installed in the main square that bears his name.

**YOUR APPOINTMENTS NOT TO BE MISSED !**

**THE 'GUINGUETTES' ON THE BANKS OF AGOUT : FROM MID-JUNE TO LATE AUGUST | UNDER THE BISHOP'S GARDEN**

Enjoy the rays of sun and sublimate your ends of days by sharing a moment of conviviality in music.



**'LES RUES' CAMBOLESQUES' FESTIVAL : EARLY JULY | DOWNTOWN**

Discover every evening, in the heart of the city, an anthology of unusual events dedicated to street arts (theater, music, dance...).



**'À PORTÉE DE RUE' FESTIVAL : MID-JULY | DOWNTOWN**

For music lovers, classical music takes over emblematic places in the city centre. Several free concerts are organized outdoors with the presence of internationally renowned musicians.

**'COULEURS DU MONDE' FESTIVAL : EARLY AUGUST | MAY 1<sup>ST</sup> SQUARE**

In honour of the cultures and traditions of the world, the folk ensembles succeed but do not resemble each other. Whether they come from Africa, Asia or elsewhere, the watchword is to celebrate diversity.



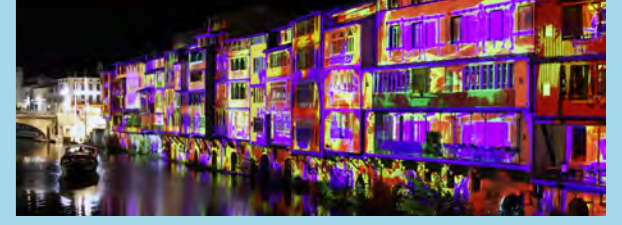
**'L'ESCAPADE VÉNITIENNE' : MID-SEPTEMBER | SOULT SQUARE AND DOWNTOWN**

Embark on an enchanted journey in the heart of the streets and squares of the Venice of the Tarn that comes alive under the sign of elegance and conviviality in the Italian style. From strolls to strolls through the city center, the 'Masqués' present their most beautiful attire, always with grace and in the greatest Venetian tradition.



**CHRISTMAS MARKET AND 'FRESQUES DE LUMIÈRE' : DECEMBER | JEAN-JAURÈS AND SOULT SQUARES, DOWNTOWN**

Awaken the child in you with this magical appointment to live in the heart of the city. Craft market, gourmet terraces, free entertainment... The Christmas market delights every year the little dreamers as well as the great gourmants. At nightfall the Frescoes of Lights dress the emblematic monuments of a thousand and one colors that become the theater of a bewitching show where heritage and magic blend.



**AND ALSO, DON'T MISS OTHER EVENTS !**

• **'Les Dimanches de la Brocante'**: open air flea market held four times a year (March, June, August, October) in Jean-Jaurès square

• **'Les Dimanches des Créateurs'** : three times a year (June, August, October) in Soult square

• **'Les Journées aux fleurs'** : beginning of May in Gourjade Park

• **'Les Marchés des producteurs de pays'** : every Tuesday evening from late June to late August, Pierre-Fabre square

# Historic route



- HERITAGE**
- 4 Saint-Benoît Cathedral
  - 6 Notre-Dame-de-la-Platé Church - Carillon (access : la Platé Street)
  - 15 Saint-Jacques de Villegoudou Church
  - 14 Riverboat jetty for 'Le Miredames'
  - 11 'Halle de l'Albinque'
  - 9 'Hôtel de Nayrac'
  - 5 'Hôtel de Poncet'
  - 8 'Hôtel de Viviès'
  - 7 'Hôtel Jean Leroy'
  - 13 The houses along the Agout river
  - 12 Jean-Jaurès Square
  - 1 Municipal Theatre

- CULTURE**
- 10 Jean-Jaurès Museum
  - 3 Goya Museum - 'Palais Épiscopal' - Town Hall

- PARKS AND GARDENS**
- 2 Bishop's Palace Garden
  - 16 Mail Garden
  - 17 Briguiboul Park and Villa
  - 18 Gourajde Park

- MARKETS**
- 12 Food market
  - 19 Organic market
  - 11 Covered market
  - 20 Gras market (from mid-November to mid-April)

**ASK ABOUT**

Town Hall - 05 63 71 58 58 - [www.ville-castres.fr](http://www.ville-castres.fr)

Tourist office - 05 63 62 63 62 - [www.tourisme-castresmazamet.com](http://www.tourisme-castresmazamet.com)

**Street names**

Alsace-Lorraine, pl	B2
Alquier-Bouffard, rue	B1 B2
Aribat, bd du Dr	B1
Barral, rue	B2
Beaujeu, rue	B2
Bonne-Montmaur, rue	B2
Borrel, rue	A1
Bottes, rue des	B1
Bouffard, pl Jean	A1
Boursiers, rue des	A1 A2
Brettes, rue de	A2
Cachin, rue Baron	A1
Capitouls, rue des	A1
Capucins, rue des	A1 B1
Carnot, bd	B1
Carnot, pl	B1
Carras, quai du	A1 B1
Carras, rue du	A1
Castelmoutou, rue	A1
Chambre-de-l'Edit, rue	A2 B2
Clémenceau, bd Georges	A1 A2
Consulat, rue du	A1
Cornebasse, rue	B1
Dacier, rue	B1
Eluard, sq Paul	A1
Empare, rue d'	B1 B2
Evêché, rue de l'	B2
Fabre, pl Pierre	A1
Fagerie, pl	B1
Ferrer, rue Francisco	B1
Flaubert, sq Gustave	A2
Foch, bd Maréchal	A2 B2
Fuziès, rue	B1
Gabarrou, pl Jean-Pierre	A1
Gambetta, rue	B2
Guy, rue Gabriel	A2 B2
Henri-IV, rue	A1
Hôtel-de-Ville, rue de	A2 B2
Hugo, rue Victor	A2
8-Mai-1945, pl du	B2
Jacobins, quai des	B1
Jaurès, pl Jean	A1 B1
Leris, rue Eugène	B1
Libération, rue de la	B2
Lices, bd des	A2
Malbec, rue	A1
Malpas, rue	B1
Metz, pt de	B2
Milhaud-Ducommun, rue	B1
Miredames, bd	B1
Miredames, pt	A1
Miredames, quai	B1
Montlédier, rue	A2
Moulin, quai	B2
Neuf, pt	B2
Palais, rue du	A2
Péligon, pl	A1
Platé, rue de La	A2
Rabaud, rue Camille	A1
République, pl de la	B2
Roumive, pl	A2
Sabaterie, rue	A1
Sabatier, rue	B2
Saint-Benoît, rue	B2
Saint-Jacques, pl	B1
Saint-Martin, rue	B1
Sainte-Claire, pl	B1
Sainte-Claire, rue	B1
Salengro, pl Roger	B1
Sicard, bd des Drs	A1
Soult, pl	B1
Thomas, rue Frédéric	A1
Tolosane, rue	A2
Tourcaudière, quai	B1
Trois-Rois, rue des	A1 B1
Tuboeuf, rue	A2
Vieille-Halle, rue	B1 B2
Vieux, pt	B1
Villegoudou, rue	B1
Vittoz, bd Raymond	B1 B2
Zola, rue Emile	A2