

Top 7 out of the beaten track experiences on the French Riviera

1- Cap d'Antibes Coastal Walk (Sentier de Tire-Poil)

While Antibes draws visitors, few venture to this lesser-known coastal path. It hugs the rocky shoreline past pine forests and hidden coves—perfect for a morning walk or secluded swim with postcard-worthy views. Starting from La Garoupe Beach or Fake Money bay (ahah), it's a 5kms walk along the coast taking about 2h giving you an amazing perspective on the unique flora represented on the peninsula and the historical castles and insane billionaires' properties like La Garoupe castle, La Croe castle and the Villa Eilenroc. Don't forget your sunhat, sunscreen and water as the walk is quite exposed. If the sea is calm on the day, bring your swimsuit and stop for a dive in the protected coves out of the big crowd.

2- Île Saint-Honorat – The Monks' Island

Off the coast of Cannes lies this peaceful island home to a Cistercian monastery. Explore vineyards, ancient chapels, and forested trails. The monks still make wine and liqueur—perfect for a serene day trip. Reached by a quick 15-20min ferry ride from Cannes old port, go enjoy the serenity and calm on this island away from the crowd. Enjoy the treasures of architecture with the monastery and chapels along with getting into a tasting of the monks' own wine, olive oil, lavender productions. First Friday of the month is a perfect day for it with the popular “Vineyard and wines” day which includes the ferry and the vineyard tour.

3- Go visit the best authentic and family operated winery around

Either you have your own transportation or need us to arrange a taxi or bus, going to explore this vineyard is something else from the big names or most well known wineries around Nice. It's a shorter ride than reaching the Var where a lot more vineyards are and the experience is just out of this world. They have a very unique technique to make their wine and they even bring his brother art onto the bottles, beautiful! Don't miss out on this place called Domaine des Hautes Collines. We can organize tasting there too with some local cheeses platters, etc...

4- Train des Merveilles – A Scenic Ride into the Alps

Take this breathtaking train from Nice into the Roya Valley and the Mercantour National Park. It's a dramatic, offbeat route through tunnels, perched villages, and alpine vistas—far from the glam of the coast. Enjoy a 100kms route from Nice to the medieval town of Tende (1000m above sea level) with over 100 bridges and viaducts on the way. Benefit from a guided ride in both English and French in summer from June to September. Don't forget to stop at all the wonderful places like Sospel, Breil sur Roya, Saorge, la Brigue and Tende of course. Make good use of the unlimited rides daily pass. Can mix this journey with a hike or a mountain bike ride as bikes carriage are free to use on the train.

5- Take a peaceful boat ride along the coast

Seazen is a company that we like working with as they operate solar powered little catamaran, a very green and eco-friendly way to discover the coast with departure from Beaulieu sur Mer or Antibes-Juan Les Pins. That's very aligned with our value at WhatToDoRiviera. What's really better than just floating in silence on the crystal-clear waters checking out the beautiful and iconic mansions around. The boats can accommodate a max of 6 to 8 people on board. They have already carried over **10,000 passengers** and sailed more than **10,000 km**—all with **zero CO₂ emissions** from the electric grid. Rented by the hour during the day or at sunset, the best way to see the French Riviera from the coast.

6- A visit to the Gorges du Verdon

Take a day trip from the French Riviera to what can be called the Grand Canyon of Europe! Only a bit more than 100kms from the coast, you should explore this place for the views and unbelievable sceneries. A visit of Castellane village is a must do along with going down the Gorges on a kayak or pedalo in between the cliff! Impressive! Try to get there early in the morning to beat the crowd. The drive along la Route des Cretes is incredible too and a stop in Moustiers on the way back will make it a perfect day out.

7- Join an Antibes Provencal tasting tour

Coming to this part of France, you are entering a place with its own cuisine and food culture! Every part of France has such different recipes and food habits due to different climates and local resources. A perfect way to stroll through Antibes old town while discovering very local food and drinks! A fantastic experience stopping in the very famous Absinthe bar, one of the oldest roman cellar that you can visit while in town and just hearing the story behind the drink of Absinthe is just such fun, a stop in an amazing wine cellar to taste organic and local wines with the knowledge of our sommeliers and tasting the best local recipes from our top and talented local caterer! A good way to end up a day of adventures if you go on an evening session.