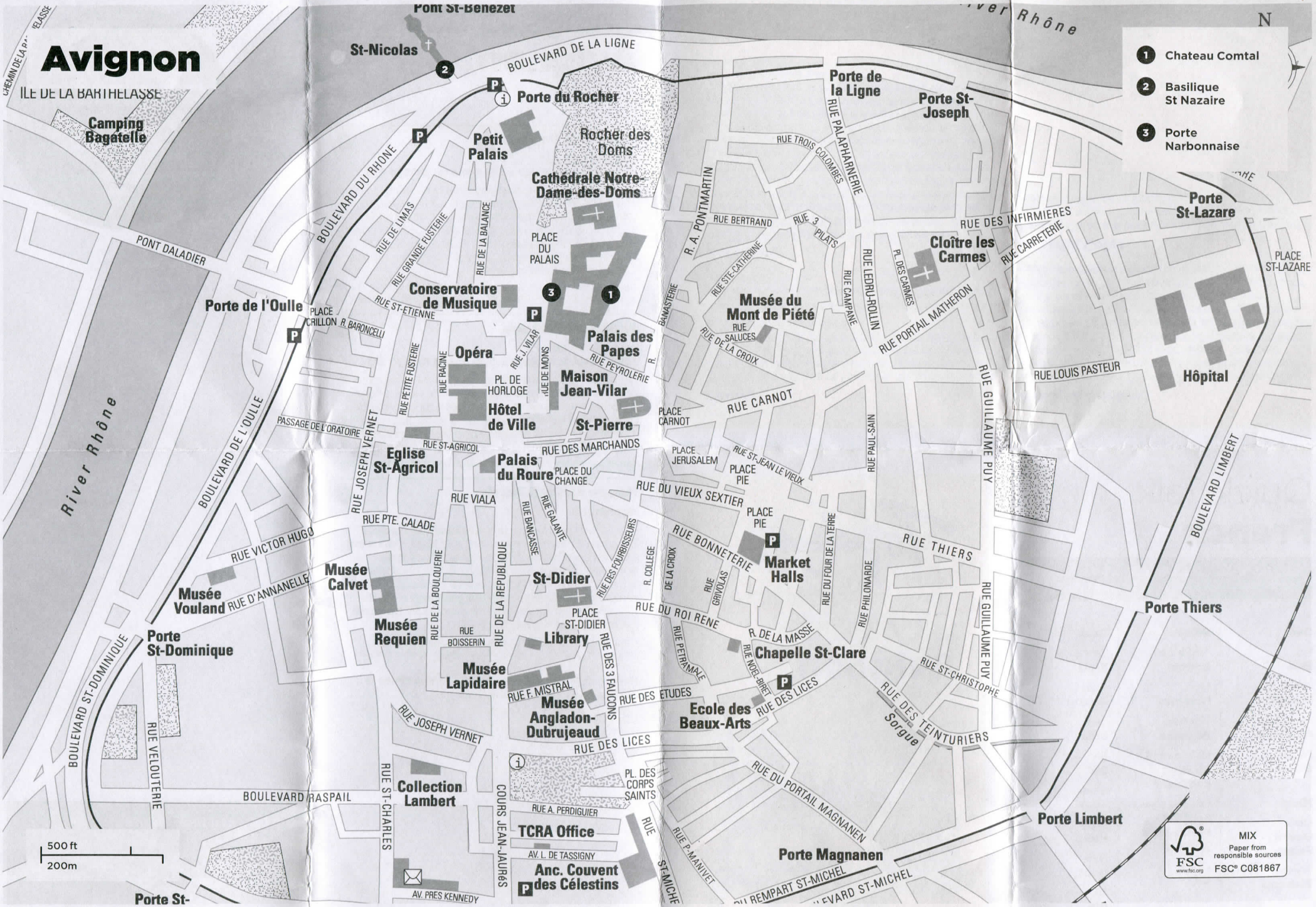


Avignon



- 1 Château Comtal
- 2 Basilique St Nazaire
- 3 Porte Narbonnaise

500 ft
200m



Quick Talk French

The official language of France is French.
The following are a few words to help you out.

Yes Oui	Exit Sortie	Two Deux
No Non	Entrance Entree	Three Trois
Hello Bonjour	Men Hommes	Four Quatre
Goodbye Au Revoir	Women Femmes	Five Cinq
Please S'il vous plait	How much? C'est combien?	Six Six
Thank you Merci	Do you speak English? Parlez-vous Anglais?	Seven Sept
Open/Closed Ouvert/ Ferme	One Un	Eight Huit
Toilets Toilettes		Nine Neuf
		Ten Dix

Topdeck

trips for 18 to 30 somethings

City Guide Avignon



Avignon is an ideal town for buying presents. Local specialties include olive oil, lavender, brightly printed fabrics, sugared fruits, chocolate and fig or melon jam – not to mention the great selection of regional wines! The main shopping street is Rue de la République, and the nearby Rue Joseph-Vernet is where you will find the more chic boutiques. A market, usually bustling with about 40 stalls, selling local and regional food and wine is open Monday to Saturday at Les Halles d'Avignon, in Place Pie. In addition to the covered market, there are colourful outdoor markets in the weekend at the Rempart St Michel and Place des Carnes.

Shopping

You can change travellers cheques at banks, post offices and exchange bureaux and ATMs are widely available in France.

Money

The official currency of France is the Euro (€). Euro banknotes are available in denominations of 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200 and 500 euros while euro coins

come in 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 50 euro cent and 1 and 2 euro denomination coins.

French feel to them as well as the traditional foods. Make sure you try the local sweets and chocolate which have very distinctive fillings. And an absolute must to sample is the region's wine, Cote du Rhone, produced from the nearby vineyards.

Internet Cafes

Internet Cafes are very easy to find within the Old Town city walls. There are at least two different places on Rue de la République.

Eating & Drinking

Avignon, like most French cities, has a wide range of specialties and traditional food which can be found in almost all local restaurants. The best

places to go to are 'Auberges' which have a classic French feel to them as well as the traditional foods.

Make sure you try the local sweets and chocolate which have very distinctive fillings. And an absolute must to sample is the region's wine, Cote du Rhone, produced from the nearby vineyards.

Things to do in Avignon

Palais Des Papes

Approx. €10.50
Joint ticket for Palace & St Benezet Bridge €13

The Palace of the Popes stands as the mighty symbol of the church's influence throughout the western Christian world in the 14th century. Construction began in 1335 and was completed in less than twenty years under the leadership of Pope Benedict XII and his successor Pope Clement VI. It's the biggest Gothic palace in all of Europe!

Open: Mar to Jun & late Sep 9am - 7pm, Jul & early Sep 9am - 8pm, Aug 9am - 9pm, Nov to Feb 9.30am - 5.45pm

St Benezet Bridge

Approx. €4.50
Joint ticket for Palace & St Benezet Bridge €13

Originally built in the 12th century, only four of the bridge's original 22 arches remain. It's said a young shepherd by the name of Benezet was commanded by angels to build the bridge and miraculously began its construction by lifting a huge stone and casting it into the Rhone River.

Open: Sep to Jun 9am - 7pm, Jul 9am - 8pm, Aug 9am - 9pm

Musee du Petit Palais

Approx. €6

The 'Little Palace Museum' was built for Cardinal Béranger Frédol between 1318 and 1320. Following extensive alterations, Pope Benoît made it his episcopal headquarters, and today its 19 rooms house an impressive collection of frescoes, sculptures and Italian religious paintings from the 13th to 16th centuries, including works by Botticelli, Carpaccio and Giovanni di Paolo.

Open: Mar to Jun & late Sep 9am - 7pm, Jul & early Sep 9am - 8pm, Aug 9am - 9pm, Nov to Feb 9.30am - 5.45pm

Remember! Entrance fees and opening times in Europe can change at any time.

Topdeck Top Tip: For a great value al-fresco dinner, grab some bread, meat, cheese and a bottle of wine from a supermarket in the old city, then cross the river and have a picnic on its grassy banks. As the sun sets behind you it lights up the Palace of the Popes and the view is superb.

Getting around Avignon

Avignon's Old Town is compact enough to be covered on foot, but if you require a taxi, the major ranks are located in front of the central and TGV rail stations.