The train des merveilles

FINDING THE REAL CULTURAL HERITAGE

Take a full day to travel by rail on board the Train des Merveilles from Nice to Tende and admire the stupendous scenery. Amongst this outstanding background, see the rich heritage of the mountain villages and appreciate their traditions. Running commentary provided by professional guides throughout the summer season setting out from Nice at 9.00 am. The guides will also provide suggestions for further discovery. Every village has something unique to offer.

Photo R. Rostagni – Editions du Cabri

Circulation dates for the Train des Merveilles: week-ends in May and French bank holidays, every day from June to September, week-ends in October, All Saints' Day French school holidays (27/10/07 to 7/11/07 included).
"A village, a day" : weekly visits from june to september: information from tourist offices.

One of the most beautiful mountain perched villages in the Region

Culture and Heritage
The historic village of Peillon, with its steep, narrow, winding streets interrupted by stairways and tall houses clinging to each other on the rocky escarpment is classified as a national historic monument. See the 18th century fountain, the Church of the Transfiguration, the Chapel of the White Penitents and its wall paintings attributed to Canavesio.
(Access to the village from the railway station along the road : 2½ miles and climbing more than 650 feet. About an hour's walk).

Far from the madding crowd
Hiking to Peille and la Pointe de la Lourquière - Mountain bike trail - Rock climbing routes - Riding centre.

Art de vivre and Tradition
Saint-Sauveur patron saint's day festivities in August.
Flea markets in April and September
Foire aux santons (figurines) in November-December.

«A village, a day» : 3 € fare visit : on mondays
Meet at the station for the visit to the Chapel of the White Penitents (book the day before, minimum 4 persons).
Visit the railway Museum in the station hall of Peillon Sainte Thècle on week ends in June, everyday in July and August. On booking only the rest of the year.
Information: 33 6 24 97 42 25

Suggested trip
Nice 9h00 ▸ Peillon 9h22 ▸ 18h51 ▸ Nice 19h12

sipeillon@orange.fr

The most intriguing village in Alpes Maritimes

Culture and Heritage
Peille is an exceptionally beautiful mediaeval village with its 12th to 16th century houses and vaulted passageways, the facades of the Palace of the Consuls, 14th century fountains and wash-house, the Church of the Assumption with its gothic and Romanesque naves, the fifteen compartment 16th century altarpiece and many prehistoric remains.
(Plan on a 1 ½ hour walk by road to get to the village from the railway station).

Far from the madding crowd
Forest excursions from Peille.
Hunting - Boules - Tennis courts and soccer grounds - Golf at Mont Agel - Via ferrata - Mountain bike route.

Art de vivre and Tradition
Lavender and wheat festival
Patron saint's day of the Assumption festivities in August
Festin des baguettes in September.

«A village, a day» : on saturdays
Visit the Musee du Terroir of old traditions (opened Saturdays and Sundays afternoons ; on appointment for groups)
Information: 33 4 93 91 71 71- Town Hall

Suggested trip
Nice 9h00 ▸ Peille 9h29 ▸ 18h44 ▸ Nice 19h12

www.peille.fr
mairie@peille.fr

Major salt route staging post

Culture and Heritage
This historic village stands at the confluence of the Redebraus and Paillon de Luceram rivers along the salt route and is famed for its Place de la Gabelle (where the salt tax was levied), its old single arched bridge, the labyrinth of streets and 13th century houses. The baroque church of St-Pierre es-Liens, the biggest in the valley, is famed for its Grinda organ (1791). There is also a former olive oil mill.

Far from the madding crowd
Hiking, mountain biking, trails.

Art de vivre and Tradition
Festival of Ancient Music in July.
Patron saint's day of St Pierre Es Liens in August.
Grinda Organ Recital in August-September.

«A village, a day» : 3 € fare visit : on fridays
Meet at the Tourist Office for the visit of the village with its church classified as a national historic monument, old mill, narrow streets and fountains.
Information: 33 4 93 79 62 93
Visits of the 17th century olive oil mill, olive oil tasting sessions to discover Nice's AOC olive oil
Information and booking :
Adolive 33 4 93 79 69 25 /33 4 93 79 69 26

Suggested trip
Nice 9h00 ▸ L'Escarène 9h39 ▸ 18h36 ▸ Nice 19h12

info.escarene@wanadoo.fr

The Episcopal city at the heart of the Bevera valley

Culture and Heritage
Houses with trompe-l'oeil facades, medieval bridge, St Michel magnificent baroque church and square, impressive prints of a rich past…

Far from the madding crowd
Baths of the Bévéra valley along the botanic nature trail, wild water and open air activities: mountain biking, rock climbing, hiking, paragliding and canyoning.
"Raid du Mercantour" summer and winter editions

Art de vivre and Tradition
Patron saint's day festivities in August
Film festival in August.
A varied schedule of concerts and plays throughout the year.
Farm fair in September.
Organ recitals.

«A village, a day» : 3 € fare visit : on wednesdays
Meet at the tourist office for the visit of the village (for groups of 4 minimum).
Visit of the forts of the Maginot Line : information from the Tourist Office: 33 4 93 04 15 80

Suggested trip
Nice 9h00 ▸ Sospel 9h50 ▸ 18h24 ▸ Nice 19h12

www.sospel-tourisme.com
sospel-tourisme@wanadoo.fr

At the heart of the olive groves on the old salt route

Culture and Heritage
Breil lies on either side of the Roya river. Here you will find squares surrounded by arcades, the Sancta-Maria-in-Albis Church and baroque works of art (the organ with an 18th century polychrome case). The olive oil from the surrounding countryside was served at the Russian court of tsars. Artists' exhibition at the Chapel Sainte-Catherine from June to August.
The Ecomusée of the «Haut-Pays» is devoted to the history of transport in the south est of France.
Information : 33 4 93 04 99 76.

Far from the madding crowd
Hiking all round the year for all. Information available from the Tourist Office on routes (the Boucle de la Cruella, tourist routes, etc.). For wild water enthusiasts, specialists will be delighted to welcome you to the joys of canyoning, canoeing-rafting, kayak and hydro-speed.

Art de vivre and Tradition
Craftsmen and traders will be there to offer you local produce including olives, oil, olive paste, creschente, pies, honey, sculpted olive wood, ceramics, and work from pattern designers & stylists.

«A village, a day» : 3 € fare visit : on tuesdays
Meet at the tourist Office for a guided visit of the village (for groups of 4. Registration with the Tourist Office).
Tourist information: 33 4 93 04 99 76

Suggested trip
Nice 9h00 ▸ Breil sur Roya 10h03 ▸ 18h12 ▸ Nice 19h12

www.breil-sur-roya.fr
tourismebreilsurroya@wanadoo.fr

Village with a Ligurian influence

Culture and Heritage
This town was created on the salt merchants' route in 1616 by order of the Duke of Savoy. The trompe-l'oeil design decorations on the house facades bear witness to the Ligurian influence. The 17th century Church of the Visitation has a baroque style bell tower covered with multicoloured varnished tiles and has one of the 7 organs classified as historical monuments of the Roya-Bévéra valleys, this one having been built by C. VITTINO (1850).
(Access from station to village by 15 min walk on the road)

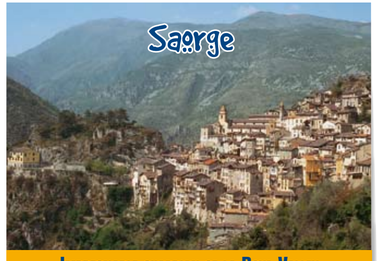
Far from the madding crowd
River trout fishing, wild water sports, tennis, a chance to discover the forests and plateau of la Ceva in the Parc du Mercantour, access to the Vallée des Merveilles by Lac Jugal.
Nice-Fontan cycle race (May), criterium run (1st Sunday in June).
Fontan-Saorge race (September).

Art de vivre and Tradition
Car boot sale (2nd Sunday in June)
Patron saint festivities (1st week-end in August)
Chestnut festival (1st Sunday in December)
Market local produce Fridays.

«A village, a day» : 3 € fare visit : on thursdays
Guided visit of the village (for groups of 4 minimum) Meet up at the Fontan/Saorge railway station (book the day before)
Information – Media Library 33 4 93 04 56 93

Suggested trip
Nice 9h00 ▸ Fontan 10h17 ▸ 17h53 ▸ Nice 19h12

bib.fontan@wanadoo.fr



Impregnable guardian of la Roya Valley

Culture and Heritage
This powerful mediaeval fortified village dominates the gorges below. Here the streets are built like stairways and many of the old houses have sculpted lintels. See the Romanesque chapel of Madone del Poggio and its Lombard bell tower. The Franciscan Monastery of Saorge has a magnificent small cloister, the parish 15th century church an organ that was brought over from Pavia by sea and then carried by mules.
(Access from station to village by 15 min walk on the road or 1 hour hike on an old trekking path)

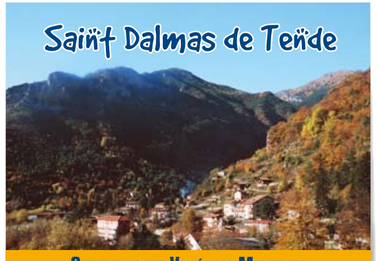
Far from the madding crowd
River trout fishing, wild water sports, tennis. Discovery of old terrace cultivations.

Art de vivre and Tradition
26th week of the Italian Organ with concerts (end of July - early August), Festin de la Saint-Roch (end of August). Information from the town hall.

«A village, a day» : 3 € fare visit : on thursdays
Meet up at 2 p.m. at the Librairie du Cairos bookshop for a guided visit of the village (book the day before).
Additional fee of 2€ for a mini-concert on the historic organ Town hall : 33 4 93 04 51 23
Bookshop : 33 4 93 04 51 60

Suggested trip
Nice 9h00 ▸ Saorge 10h17 ▸ 17h53 ▸ Nice 19h12

www.saorge.fr
mairie.saorge@wanadoo.fr



Gateway to the Vallée des Merveilles

Culture and Heritage
The station, designed for international travel, was built between 1928 and 1944 by order of Mussolini. Standing on the border, its ponderous architecture aimed to convey a sense of Italy's omnipotence. Saint-Dalmas is at the crossroads of the route leading to the Castérino ski resort and the Vallée des Merveilles. The Notre Dame de la Paix Church opens for religious ceremonies. Other features include the former zinc and lead mines.

Far from the madding crowd
Point of departure for many hikes towards Castérino and La Brigue, plus Granile, Berghe, Fontan.
Excursions in 4x4 vehicles.
There is a shuttle coach service to Casterino (access to the Vallee des Merveilles) in July and August (fare : 1.30 €)
Information and shuttle time table : 33 4 93 04 73 71
(Tende Tourist Office).

Art de vivre and Tradition
Village festival last week-end in June.
Polenta festival end of November.
Chestnut Festival and events organised throughout the year.

«A village, a day» : on sundays
Services organized on reservation towards the National park of the Mercantour. Information at the tourism department of Tende: 33 4 93 04 73 71

Suggested trip
Nice 9h00 ▸ St Dalmas 10h34 ▸ 17h41 ▸ Nice 19h12

www.tendemerveilles.com
info@tendemerveilles.com

A rich natural and architectural heritage

Culture and Heritage
Discover a unique set of lintels with coats of arms, the Pont du Coq, the Château Lascaris, the "Place Vieille" with its arcades, the collegiate church and its paintings from the primitive Nice school, the two baroque chapels and above all the magnificent frescos (1492) of Notre Dame des Fontaines just 2 1/2 miles away from the village.

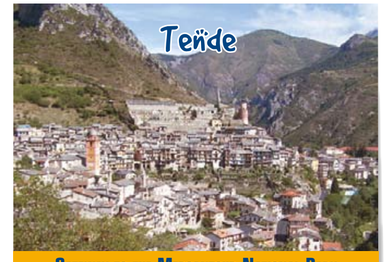
Far from the madding crowd
Hiking, mountain biking and rock-climbing (82 routes), semi-marathon and criterium race, unique flora, a potholer's paradise, via ferrata. Mountain Bike Free Ride Rally (June). Via ferrata.
Raid du Mercantour summer and winter editions.

Art de vivre and Tradition
Fête Médievale third week end of July
Festivities on August 15th.
Second hand goods market in August.
Associations-Clubs meet up in September.

«A village, a day» : 3 € fare visit : on mondays
Meet at the Maison du Patrimoine at 11 a.m. for the visit of the village with the Chapel of the Penitents and the Collegiale church (groups of 6 minimum).
Visits of the painted chapel of Notre Dame des Fontaines
Book at the Patrimony House : 33 4 93 79 09 34

Suggested trip
Nice 9h00 ▸ La Brigue 10h39 ▸ 17h25 ▸ Nice 19h12

www.labrigue.fr
info-labrigue@orange.fr



Gateway to the Mercantour National Park

Culture and Heritage
The town of Tende was a major staging post on the salt route and takes in the Vallées des Merveilles, Fontanalbe and Valmasque in the Mercantour National Park. Sights not to be missed include the Notre-Dame de l'Assomption collegial church (with its organ dating from 1807), the chapels of penitents, the ruins of Château Lascaris, the Musée Départemental des Merveilles and the Maison du Miel et de l'Abeille (house of honey and the bee). There is also an interactive exhibition at the Maison du Mercantour - Tourist Office.
Old mediaeval market town perched on the hillside.

Far from the madding crowd
Raid du Mercantour summer and winter editions, via ferrata, mountain bike centre, walks, swimming pool in summer, and games areas all available.

Art de vivre and Tradition
Fête de la St Eloi (July), Fête des Bergers et Fête paysanne (August shepherds and peasants festival), Fête du Traou (August), antiques and second-hand goods fair, concerts, etc.

«A village, a day» : 5 € fare visit : on Thursdays and Fridays
Meet at the station at 10 h 45 a.m. for the guided visit of the mediaeval village (with regional guide and interpreter) free for children under 12. On Thursday 26/07 «Route des orgues» : visit of the village + organ concert (10 €). Meet up at 2 p.m. at the station and return at 5 p.m. Information Tourisme Insolite : 33 4 93 04 69 06

Suggested trip
Nice 9h00 ▸ Tende 10h45 ▸ 17h21 ▸ Nice 19h12

www.tende-tourisme.com
www.tendemerveilles.com
info@tendemerveilles.com

La Région interactive

Le train des merveilles

Touristic train in the Paillon and Roya-Bevera valleys

TER ROYA BEVERA

On the aerial line of the train des Merveilles, stopovers in the heart of our patrimony.

The railway line reaches a height of 1000 meters in altitude. Nowadays modernized by the region, it is a symbol of the technical exploits of the last century. More than 45 major civil engineering works, helical tunnels and viaducts rising above the canyons.

One of the most beautiful railway landscapes in Europe.

« A village, a day »

With your TER train ticket, visit at special fares the villages along the Train des Merveilles.

Inquirements at Tourist Offices.

FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD
HIKING,
MOUNTAIN BIKING, 4X4
WATER SPORT RUNNING
VIA FERRATA

ART DE VIVRE AND TRADITION
PRODUITS DU TERROIR
FESTIVITIES
GASTRONOMY

CULTURE AND HERITAGE
MUSEUMS
MONUMENTS
BAROQUE ART

Nord

ITALIE
Torino
Cuneo
Limone
Col de Tende 1871 m
Tunnel du Col de Tende
Fort Pernante
Fort Central
Fort Pépin
Circuit des Forts
Fort de Giaure
Fort de la Marguerite
Fort Tabourde
Baisse d'Ourne
Viévola
Viaduc de la Chapelle
Lac de l'Agnel
Lac Long
Lac Vert
Lac Noir
Lac de la Foux
Lac Nire
Lac du Basto
Mont Ste Marie 2739 m
Lac de Casterino
Casterino
Tunnels de Rio-Freddo et Morga
Musée des Merveilles
TENDE
Vallée des Merveilles
Mont Bego 2873 m
Gravures Rupestres
Lac Fourca
Pointe de la Come de Bouc 2439 m
Lac des Mesches
Viaduc de la Levenza
Viaduc sur la Roya
Viaduc de l'Usine
N.-D. des Fontaines
La Brigue
St-Dalmas-de-Tende
Parc National du Mercantour
Plateau de la Ceva
Tunnel ferroviaire hélicoidal de Berghe
Berghe Supérieur
Berghe Inférieur
Viaduc de Scarassoui
Fontan
Fontan-Saorge
Circuit de Peiremont
Galerie de St-Roch
Pont de Saorges
Saorge
Madone de Poggio
Col de Turini
Vallon de la Maglia
Croix du Mont Agu
Mont Léga 1556 m
l'Arpette 1610 m
Breil-sur-Roya
Circuit de Lavina
Circuit de la Carleva
Moulinet
Madone des Grâces
Col de Brous
Vallon de Carleva
Crête du Mont Grazian
Mont Gros 1272 m
Col St Roch
cascade Ste-Madeleine
Vallon de Gulou
Vallon de Basséra
Boucle du Mt Agaissen
Piène Haute
Sospel
Olivetta
Circuit du Cuore
Col du Razet
Col de Castillon
Coaraze
Touët de l'Escarène
Levens
Bendejun
Berre-les-Alpes
L'Escarène
Tour du Farguet
Castillon
St-Blaise
St-Martin-du-Var
Peille
Carros
Contes
Circuit de Lourquière
Chap. des Pénitents
Peillon-Ste-Thècle
Aspremont
Gattières
Drap-Cantaron
Colomars
La Trinité-Victor
L'Ariane - la Trinité
Nice-St-Roch
La Gaude
NICE Ville
Nice Riquier
Villefranche-sur-Mer
Beaulieu
Eze-sur-Mer
Cap d'Ail
Monaco
Cap Martin - Roquebrune
Carnoles
Menton
Menton Garavan
Ventimiglia

"Train des merveilles"
Nice <> Breil via Vintimille
Station

footpath tracking
VTT excursion
water sport running

Peillon Sainte-Thècle
Syndicat d'initiative de Peillon
Tel: 33 6 24 97 42 25
Mail: sipeillon@orange.fr

Peille
Town hall
Tel: 33 4 93 91 71 71
Mail: mairie@peille.fr
Site: www.peille.fr

L'Escarène
Tourist Office
Tel: 33 4 93 79 62 93
Mail: info.escarene@wanadoo.fr

Sospel
Tourist Office
19 avenue Jean Médecin
Tel: 33 4 93 04 15 80
Mail: sospel-tourisme@wanadoo.fr
Site: www.sospel-tourisme.com

Breil-sur-Roya
Tourist Office
17 place Bianchéri
Tel: 33 4 93 04 99 76
Mail: tourismebreilsurroya@wanadoo.fr
Site: www.breil-sur-roya.fr

Fontan
Point Infos - Médiathèque
Avenue Théophile Bottone
Tel: 33 4 93 04 56 93
Mail: bib.fontan@wanadoo.fr
laurencelaine4@wanadoo.fr

Saorge
Town hall & bookshop
Avenue du Docteur Davéo
Town hall tel: 33 4 93 04 51 23
Bookshop tel: 33 4 93 04 51 60
Mail: mairie.saorge@wanadoo.fr
Site: www.saorge.fr

La Brigue
Bureau municipal du Tourisme
Place de Nice
06430 La Brigue
Tel: 33 4 93 79 09 34
Mail: labrigue@orange.fr
Site: www.labrigue.fr

Saint-Dalmas
no information point, see Tende

Tende
Tourist Office
103 avenue du 16 September 1947
Tel: 33 4 93 04 73 71
Mail: info@tendemerveilles.com
Site: www.tendemerveilles.com

Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, *notre région*
www.regionpaca.fr

Le train des merveilles

On the rails to the Haut Pays
« A village, a day »
cultural activity, nature, art de vivre

AUTRE information 33 4 93 04 92 05
www.trainsdesmerveilles.com

Practical information

The Train des Merveilles is circulating
on week-ends and french bank holidays in May everyday from 1st of June to 30 th of September on week-ends in October All Saints day school holidays : 27/10/07 to 7/11/07 included

Cultural guides aboard the train
All days of circulation of the Train des Merveilles : departure from Nice central railway station at 9 a.m French and english commentaries of the villages crossed.

Travel better, Get the most
The "Train des Merveilles" is replaced by the new air conditioned AGC rail-train. Quality travel ensured.

Organised travel, guaranteed pleasure
Get the **N° 5 Nice Breil/Roya-Tende timetable** for all trains from the station. The regional transport guide gives further details on TER PACA express train.

Travel more, Pay less
Rates for all travellers on the TER PACA express train network

Young travellers less than 26 years of age: 15€/year for the "Carte Jeune Region PACA"

Single travellers and couples: 30€/year for the "Carte Tout Public Région PACA"
-50% 7/7 throughout the year (card valid 1 year)

Single travellers and couples: 30€/year for the "Carte Tout Public Région PACA"
-50% week-ends and bank holidays,
-25% on weekdays (Card valid 1 year)

1-day traveller: 12€/day with "Carte Isabelle"
(valid from 1 July to 30 September 2007 over the entire Alpes-Maritimes department and in the Var as far as Fréjus)

CONTACTter
INFORMATIONS TER SNCF
33 891 70 3000
(0,225 €/min)
Monday to Friday (except french bank holidays) from 7h00 to 19h00

Vallées Merveilles ROYA - BEVERA
INFORMATION FOR VISITS AND VILLAGES
334 93 04 92 05
Monday to Friday from 8.30 to 12.00 from 13.30 to 17.00

www.royabevera.com

RENSEIGNEMENTS INTERNET
www.trainsdesmerveilles-ter.com

Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, *notre région*
www.regionpaca.fr

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