



**Rik Booltink**  
**Vrij (supplément weekend De Telegraaf )**  
**Du 17 au 19 avril 2019**  
**Aude**

**Contacts :**

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→ *If you realise you will be late for a meeting, please let the contact in question know as soon as you can. Thank you.*

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Wednesday, April 17



**14:05** Departure from Amsterdam on KLM flight KL 1407 to Montpellier

**15:55** Arrival in Montpellier Méditerranée Airport

Pick-up rental car at the AVIS desk in the airport

**Reminder:**

- Do not forget the AVIS rental voucher
- You will be held responsible and charged for any fine related to a prohibited parking, speeding, etc.

Departure for Narbonne (Aude department)

→ Montpellier Méditerranée Airport – Narbonne: 99 km – 1h05

Arrival in Narbonne and check in for one night in C Boutique Hotel

**18 :00 C Boutique Hôtel**

13, Rue Suffren Narbonne

11100 Narbonne

Phone: +33 (0) 9 67 17 56 54 / +33 (0) 6 --- -- -- -- -- [www.hotel-le-c.com/en-GB/homepage](http://www.hotel-le-c.com/en-GB/homepage)

Appointment at the C Boutique Hôtel with **Hugo Blanquier “Languedoc VTT Evasion”** to Pick up your bike  
0033 6 74 89 75 98

Languedoc VTT Evasion

12 bis rue Guiraut Riquier

11100 Narbonne

Phone: +33 -- -- -- -- - <http://languedocvtt evasion.over-blog.com/>

**20:30** Dinner at Brasserie & Co

**Brasserie & Co**

1 Boulevard Docteur Ferroul

11100 Narbonne

Phone: +33 (0) 4 68 32 55 25 - [www.brasserie-co.fr](http://www.brasserie-co.fr)

Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>



**Proposed itinerary:** 116 km, 1 786 m height difference (the climb to the mountain passes are easy, the only difficulties are the cycling to top of the castles).

You can register the GPS guiding system identifying the itinerary: **Code Openrunner 9180043**.  
→ Please find attached the Openrunner itinerary.

**08:00** Departure from Narbonne to Tuchan (45 minutes' drive)  
Park your car on the village square

In Tuchan, follow the D611. After 1,5 km, Follow the D14 on the right in direction of Padern (from the road you can see ruins of the Padern castle, lovely view on the village as well).

Continue on the same road to Cucugnan. Leave the village and turn on the left and climb the Auzine mountain pass (easy) and you will reach the **Quéribus Cathar Castle**.  
→ Guided visit with an audioguide (1 hour)

Cycle back to Cucugnan and get on the D14 in direction of Duilhac-sous-Peyrepertuse. Before going to the Peyrepertuse Cathar Castle climb the Triby Mountain Pass (easy). Continue to the **Peyrepertuse Cathar castle**. The castle is overlooking the village of Duilhac.  
→ Guided visit with an audioguide (1 hour)

Lunchtime in the surroundings

Return to Duilhac et follow the D14 and climb for about 1 km to the Croix-Dessus (easy). Get on the D14 to the Grés Mountain Pass (easy) and when arriving in Rouffiac, turn to the right on the D410 in direction of the villages Montgaillard and Maisons. 1 km after Montgaillard, head for the D510 on the left direction Dernacueillette. In Dernacueillette, take the direction of Davejean through the Bancs and Prat mountain passes (both very easy).

When arriving in Davejean, follow the D139 on the right, then the D39 on the left, in direction of Felines-Termenés which connects the D613.  
→ In Felines, follow the D613 in direction of Villerouge-Termenés (**free visit of the medieval castle**), this is the village where the last cathar, Bélibaste, was burnt on the stake in 1321

Continue on the D613 in direction of Talairan. After the Villerouge Mountain Pass (easy), take

the D23 on the left and cycle to Lagrasse (classified Most beautiful Villages of France).  
→ Please visit the romanesque Sainte Marie Abbey, medieval village, handicrafts, ...

Head for the D3 on the left in direction of Tournissan, Saint-Laurent-de-la-Cabrerisse. In Saint Laurent, follow the D106 on the right in direction of Coustouge and Fontjoncouse to Durban-Corbières. In Durban-Corbières, follow the D611 to Villeneuve-des-Corbières and then Tuchan.

End of the loop trail. Take your car and drive to Cucugnan and check in at the hotel for dinner and overnight stay.

**L'Auberge du Vigneron**  
**2 Rue Achille Mir,**  
**11350 Cucugnan**  
<https://www.auberge-vigneron.com>

**Friday, April 19th**

**08:30** Departure from Cucugnan to Narbonne via Tuchan, Durban

**10:30** Drop the bike in Narbonne.

**11:00** Free visit of Narbonne

Suggestions :

- **Palais des Archevêques** : lat. 43° 11' 2" - long. 3° 0' 14"

The old palace of the archbishops, which distinguish itself by several towers (donjon Gilles Aycelin (End of 13th - beginning of 14th century), tower Saint Martial and of the Madeleine (13th century)), includes the Palais Vieux of Romanesque origin and the Palais Neuf of Gothic style modified during the 12th and 13th centuries. It accommodates since the 19th century the Town Hall, the Museum of Art (old apartments), the Archaeological Museum (wing of the Old palate). It leans on the first enclosure of Narbonne, and the archbishop's garden extends on its backside.

- **Halles de Narbonne** : lat. 43° 10' 53" - long. 3° 0' 19"

This splendid pavilion of Baltard Style was inaugurated on January 1, 1901 and replaces the market which then was installed on the Place aux Herbes(current Town hall place), insufficient to accommodate all the merchants.

- **Canal de la Robine**

11:45 Pick up your Pic Nic at: **LES CUISINIERS CAVISTES**, 5 PLACE LAMOURGUIER, 11100 NARBONNE,  
tél : +33 4 68 65 04 43 **Contact** : SYLVIE

**12:00** picnic

**13:15** Departure from Narbonne

Highway road to Montpellier, and to the airport.

**15:00** Vehicle return at the AVIS desk in the Montpellier Méditerranée Airport  
Check in for Amsterdam on KLM flight n° KL 1408  
Take off 16.25  
Arrival 18.30

**This press trip was organized with the help of the below tourist organizations. Thank you for indicating their websites in your article:**

**Occitanie – Sud de France - <https://www.tourism-occitanie.co.uk/>  
Aude Pays Cathare Tourist Board - [www.audetourisme.com/en](http://www.audetourisme.com/en)**