

## NÎMES PROGRAM - Mark JONES

March 29 to 31, 2023

### Wednesday March 29th

#### **Arrival at Nîmes airport at 10:10 am**

Departure by cab to the Nîmes-Centre train station to pick up the rental car.

**11:30 am:** Check in and installation at the Maison Albar Hotel L'Imperator, a mythical hotel in Nîmes.

*Maison Albar Hotels L'Imperator\*\*\*\*\**

*Quai de la Fontaine*

*15, rue Gaston Boissier*

*Tel : 04 66 21 90 30*

[www.maison-albar-hotels-l-imperator.com](http://www.maison-albar-hotels-l-imperator.com)

#### **Free lunch**

#### **Afternoon with the guide**

**1:45 pm :** Meeting at the Tourist Office. Welcome by the Director.

**2:15 pm :** Meeting with the Edeis site manager (*company that manages among other things the Roman monuments of Nîmes*). Then, visit of the Roman monuments (Arena and Maison Carrée, which is awaiting its classification as a Unesco World Heritage Site) and of the historical city center with its private mansions.

**5:00 pm:** Visit of the Appart'City Nîmes Arènes hotel, a very nice establishment ideally located on the Esplanade, a stone's throw from the Arena and the Nîmes train station. *Welcome by the Director.*  
<https://www.appartcity.com/fr/destinations/languedoc-roussillon/nimes/nimes-arenes.html>

## **Late afternoon free**

**7:00 pm** : Meeting with the Emperor hotel Manager and visit of the hotel.

**7:30/8:00 pm** : Dinner at the Brasserie of the Emperor Hotel.

## **Night at the Emperor Hotel**

### **Thursday March 30th**

#### **Morning with the guide**

**Morning at Les Halles de Nîmes**, an emblematic place in the heart of the city where the people of Nîmes meet.

**Between 8:30 and 10:30 am** : Meeting with the cheese maker Vergnes and Johannes Richard, French burger champion. Then discovery of the Villaret bakery, creator of the Croquant Villaret (a Nîmes speciality), next to Les Halles.

**10:30 am** : Meeting with the curator of Musée du Vieux Nîmes, for a visit of the museum and the story of Denim jeans.

**11:30 am**: Tasting of brandade at the Maison de la Brandade, next to the Halles, with the owner of the establishment. <https://lanimoise.fr/>

**Free lunch** at La Pie Qui Couette, in Les Halles.

**2:30 pm** : Guided tour, with the tour guide and cultural referent of the Tourist Office, at the Musée de la Romanité, a large archaeological museum facing the amphitheater, whose roof terrace offers a beautiful panorama of the city and the Arena. *Welcome by the museum curator.*  
<https://museedelaromanite.fr/>

**5:00 pm** : Free Time

**6:30 pm**: Visit of the Margaret Chouleur hotel, a prestigious hotel\*\*\*\*\* in the historical center. *A manager will be on site to present the hotel.* <https://www.margaret-hotelchouleur.com/>

**7:30 pm:** Dinner at the " Gigi ", Brasserie restaurant of the Margaret Chouleur Hotel.

**Night at the Emperor Hotel**

### **Friday March 31st**

**Full day with the guide**

**10:00 am:** Visit of Carré d'Art, contemporary art center and modern art museum, designed by Norman Foster, which celebrates its 30th anniversary this year. *A guiding manager will be there to present the building and the museum and talk about the celebration of the 30th anniversary.*

<https://www.carreartmusee.com/>

**Rest of the morning:** Meeting at Ateliers de Nîmes (jeans manufacturer).

**Free lunch**

**Afternoon** in the magnificent Jardins de la Fontaine, among the most beautiful promenades in Europe. Visit of the Tour Magne, a Gallo-Roman watchtower overlooking the Gardens and the Temple of Diana, which was part of the ancient sanctuary.

Then discover the Castellum, which was the arrival point of the aqueduct running to Nîmes and along which the Pont du Gard is the main work.

**7:30/8:00 pm** Dinner at La Bodeguita restaurant on the charming Place d'Assas.

**Night at the Emperor Hotel**

### **Saturday April 1st**

**Breakfast** at the hotel before departure for the rest of the program in the Nîmes region.