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Three pink cities, three museums

June, Thursday 1st

19h30 Take-off on Air Canada's inaugural flight from Montreal to Toulouse

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June, Friday 2nd

09h00 Arrival in Toulouse: customs/passports and luggage
Official welcome at the airport

10h15 Transfer to the city center of [Toulouse](#) with Birgitte Reimers (Destination Occitanie).

11h00 Check-in at the Grand Hotel de l'Opéra

Free time to check "Toulouse Rugby Festival" on the "place du Capitole" next to the hotel.

12h15 Meeting in the hotel lobby with Birgitte and walk to the restaurant.

12h30 Lunch at the restaurant La Gourmandine with Birgitte.

15h00 Toulouse English guided tour. Meeting in front of the dungeon, Toulouse tourist office for an English-guided tour dedicated to the history and unmissable of the Pink City.

16h30 Free time to enjoy your city pass and visit a museum.

+ For history lovers: Toulouse's archaeology museum, Musée Saint-Raymond

+ For the curious ones: the Musée Paul-Dupuy, a Cabinets of curiosities housed in a former town house, currently showing works by feather artist Maxime Leroy.

+ For science lovers: the Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle and its impressive collection in the heart of the garden district

+ For music lovers: "la fabrique de l'Opéra", new temporary exhibition at Les Jacobins to uncover Toulouse opera workshops where sets and costumes are made.

19h15 Meeting in the hotel lobby with Marine from Toulouse tourist office.

19h30 Diner offered to you at the restaurant Emile for a typical South-west diner.

June, Saturday 3rd

Breakfast at the hotel and check out.

NB ! Leave the luggage at the reception.

10h00 Food tour "[Taste of Toulouse](#)". Meeting in Place Wilson with Jessica Hammer, find the girl with the basket!

Taste of Toulouse offers award-winning food tours and other delicious experiences to explore French gastronomy and culture, experience a slice of local life in "La Ville Rose," and connect with passionate local artisans and businesses who make and sell some of the best products in southwest France.

13h00 End of the tour, pick up luggage at the hotel.

Transfer to the [Tarn-et-Garonne](#)

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- 14h30 Cycling activity Canal des 2 mers ([canal de Montech](#)) Meet with Lauriane at the tourist office.
- 21 Rue de l'Usine, 82700 Montech

Quick visit of the Pente d'eau de Montech and of the barge.

This tourist site is opened in **Montech** since 2020. Colorful and unexpected, it is part of a project to upgrade the town's water slope. It showcases a unique heritage focused on river tourism and its industrial treasures along the Canal des Deux Mers. The water slope has been painted with colors that remind the sailing codes, inspired by the Italian art movement, Memphis. The Altair barge complete the visitor tour and also hosts exhibitions. The courtyard of the former paper mill accommodates the tourist office of Grand Sud Tarn-et-Garonne. It has been transformed with a landscaped car park and an open-air theatre to provide a dynamic platform for this contemporary and modern space. www.pentedeaudemontech.fr/

- 15h30 Cycle along the canal de Montech (10 kilometres, 1 hour), from Montech to Montauban harbor Port Canal.

Check-in Hotel du Commerce in [Montauban](#)

- 9 Place Franklin Roosevelt - 82000 Montauban - www.hotel-commerce-montauban.fr/

- 20h00 Dinner in "Antoine" restaurant (5 minutes' walk)

- 10 rue d'Auriol - 82000 Montauban - <https://antoine-omnivore.fr/>

June, Sunday 4th

- 10h00 Guided tour of the city and the [Ingres-Bourdelle Museum](#) in Montauban. Meeting with the guide Marion at the museum (a 5 minutes' walk from the hotel).

[Montauban](#), town of Art and History, nine centuries old, is wearing well. Built of pink brick, it offers treasures such as the 17th century Place Nationale with its splendid arcades and surrounding old streets, its luxury private mansions, the view on the former Bishop's Palace from the Pont-Vieux (old bridge). The town has managed to keep its identity whilst renovating its architectural heritage, witness of a rich and eventful history. Must to see : the Church of Saint-Jacques, the Ingres Bourdelle museum, the Notre-Dame cathedral, the sculptures by Antoine Bourdelle scattered around the town. www.montauban-tourisme.com

- 12h30 Lunch in Montauban in Les Terrasses de l'Empereur

- 2 Rue de la République, 82000 Montauban - <https://les-terrasses-de-lempereur.business.site/>

Transfer to the [Tarn](#)

- 15h00 Visit of [Cordes-sur-Ciel](#). Meeting with your guide Céline Balme, at the bottom of the city (paying car park). The city of Cordes sur Ciel, a major Occitanie site and favorite village of the French (2014) joined the "Most beautiful villages of France" in 2021. The medieval city is the first bastide founded

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in 1222 by Raymond VII in order to repopulate the region after the crusade against the Albigensians. Cordes sur Ciel has been floating above the skies for 800 years.

Admire the medieval facades of the house of the great huntsman and the great falconer. Take advantage of the many shops of the craftsmen installed in the city.

<https://www.tourisme-tarn.com/decouvrir/incontournables/cordes-sur-ciel/>

- Contact: Céline Balme

18h00 Wine tasting of [Gaillac wines](#). Tasting of Gaillac wines at Château Lastours with Louis de Faramond, winemaker owner and president of the Gaillac Appellation. On the occasion of the open doors of the estate, discover the cellar and the art gallery.

- Chateau Lastours, 81310 Lisle Sur Tarn - www.chateau-lastours.com/

Dinner and overnight hôtel Mercure Albi Bastides **** in in [Albi](#)

- 41 Bis Rue Porta, 81000 Albi - Tél. : +33 (0)5 63 47 66 66

<https://all.accor.com/hotel/1211/index.en.shtml>

20h30 Dinner at the hotel. Housed in an old watermill from 1770 which was used as a pasta factory, the Mercure hotel is a listed historical monument with its brick facades typical of Albi la Rouge.

Located on the banks of the Tarn, at the foot of the Pont Neuf, the hotel offers a unique view of the Ste-Cécile Cathedral and the Episcopal City, listed as UNESCO World Heritage Sites since 2010.

June, Monday 5th

09h00 Guided tour of the city and the [Toulouse-Lautrec Museum](#) in Albi.

Meet with Valérie (Tarn Tourisme) and Lucile (guide) at the Tourist Office

- Rue Mariès, 81000 Albi

Guided tour of Albi Episcopal city of Albi, listed as World Heritage by UNESCO and the Toulouse-Lautrec Museum.

The episcopal city, an architectural ensemble all in orange brick, has retained an exceptional homogeneity. Sainte-Cécile Cathedral, a masterpiece of southern Gothic art, will surprise you with its Renaissance decorations and its spiritual strength.

Leaning against the Sainte-Cécile cathedral, the Palais de la Berbie houses an internationally known museum: the **Toulouse-Lautrec Museum** is dedicated to this great painter born in Albi in 1864, and it is the largest public collection in the world of the artist. You will stroll through the streets of old Albi, discovering Place Savène, the Saint-Salvi collegiate church and its cloister as well as the Pont-vieux on the Tarn, one of the oldest in France.

12h30 Lunch in Albi Restaurant “L’Alchimy”

- 10-12 place du Palais, Albi - www.alchimyalbi.fr/

Transfer to Toulouse ([Haute-Garonne](#))

15h30 Check in at Grand Hotel de l’Opéra and transfer to La Cité de l’espace

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16h00 Visit of La [Cité de l'espace](#) and guided tour with Caitlin, English-speaking mediator
Avenue Jean Gonord – 31500 Toulouse
Press contact : Florence Seroussi

Located in Toulouse, European Space Capital, the Cité de l'espace is a unique, spectacular and lively place to discover the space adventure. Take off and discover the spacecrafts in real size: who can get so close to satellites and spacecrafts? Until now, only a few astronauts and space engineers. Now it's your turn!

17h30 Transfer to the hotel and free time

19h15 Meeting in the hotel lobby with Marine from the Toulouse Tourist Office and joint dinner with the French-speaking Air Canada journalists

19h30 Dinner at the "Turbine" guinguette, tapas to share.
• Espaces EDF Bazacle / <https://turbine-bazacle.fr/>

Every summer, the Pink City sees the flowering of ephemeral guinguettes on the banks of the Garonne. It's the ideal place to get a taste of local conviviality and admire the scenery on your last evening in the Occitanie region.

Walk back to the hotel.

June, Tuesday 6th

09h15 Transfer to the Toulouse-Blagnac Airport
09h30 Check-in / customs and passports control
11h30 Departure from Toulouse with Air Canada to Montreal
14h45 Arrival in Montréal

We hope you enjoyed your stay!

This press trip was organised in partnership with Air Canada, Atout France Canada, Destination Occitanie, Toulouse, and the areas Tarn-et-Garonne Tourism, Tarn Tourism, and we thank you for mentioning our web sites in your future articles:

Air Canada: www.aircanada.com/ca/en/aco/home.html

Atout France : www.france.fr/en

Destination Occitanie : www.visit-occitanie.com/en/

Toulouse : www.toulouse-visit.com

Tarn et Garonne Tourisme : www.tourisme-tarnetgaronne.fr/en/

Tarn Tourisme : www.tourisme-tarn.com/uk

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