

Group Press trip The heart of Gascony, from d'Artagnan to Jazz in Marciac July, 22<sup>nd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>



# July, Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup>

Arrival in Toulouse Airport in the morning

Transfer to the Gers

-> Toulouse - Auch : 1h20

#### Auch : Guided visit of Auch in English

An hour's drive west of Toulouse, the outline of Auch makes a proud statement. You have arrived in Gers, in the heart of Gascony. This legendary land, home of D'Artagnan, will be your companion as you enjoy a delightful stay in the most pleasant countryside.

Land of the musketeers where the memory of D'Artagnan still burns bright, Gers will take you on a journey through its **bright**, **undulating landscapes**, from châteaux to fortified towns; from vineyards to small villages. Gers will also help you to appreciate its philosophy of time, its natural appetite for thegood things in life and, in a nutshell, its Gascon character.

-> Auch- Margouët-Meymes : 45 min

#### Night in A Garbay B&B

• Devant Garbay, 32290 Margouët-Meymes - 0033 7 81 40 60 67

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## During two days and two nights, enjoy Marciac village at the rythm of jazz !

## Jazz in Marciac Festival 2023, 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary - www.jazzinmarciac.com/programmation-par-date

If life is sweeter in the summer, in Marciac it is sweeter than anywhere else when the biggest names in jazz come to town to do their thing. The prestigious artists who perform in Jazz in Marciac say it: *"when you come here you never forget it"*.



Marciac is a 13th-century walled city, hidden away in the small valleys of the Gers. Its atmosphere, its architecture and its spirit render it typical of Gascony where D'Artagnan was born. It has authentic charm and here people take the time to live.

Started in 1978 by a group of friends, Jazz in Marciac has become one of Europe's leading festivals. Every summer, from late July to mid-August, some 250,000 spectators come to soak up the irresistible atmosphere and applaud the stars of jazz. Diana Krall, Marcus Miller, Richard

Galliano, Sonny Rollins, Wynton Marsalis, Ahmad Jamal and more: these are all outstanding artists who have made Marciac their home from home. On the village square the stage is set for the 'Festival Bis' fringe events, where you can see top musicians perform for free. For jazz-lovers, top-level courses and master classes are also an opportunity to enjoy some amazing encounters. In Marciac, it's all that jazz! www.jazzinmarciac.co.uk

#### **09h30** Depart for the House of Delord in Lannepax

#### -> Margouët-Meymes – Lannepax : 15min

House of Delord - 4 generations of Armagnac producers : The Armagnac Delord story started in **1893**. Prosper Delord, travelling distiller and cellar master took his alambic from farm to farm,

transforming white wine into Armagnac. In **1932**, it was Prosper's sons Gaston and Georges that started the Armagnac house Delord Freres in Lannepax. Producers, distillers and traders, they gradually sold their Bas-Armagnacs from Gascony to the United States. In **1963**, Jacques oldest son of Gaston continued the Armagnac adventure. **Today**, Sylvain and Jérôme, Jacques' two sons form a new fraternity in the company; one who noses, tastes and blends and the other skilled in the art of its promotion. www.armagnacdelord.com/en/



France







-> Lannepax – Marciac : 45min

- Noon Lunch , at Le J'GO restaurant with Jean-Louis Guilhaumon, President and founding member of the festival Jazz in Marciac 45 years ago.
  The J'Go restaurant cooks produce from farmers committed to protecting the environment and regenerating the soil. Local fair trade
  - 12 Rue Notre Dame, 32230 Marciac 05 62 69 20 72 <u>http://marciac.lejgo.com</u>



### Afternoon

Free time to enjoy the festival bis (free concerts on the central square, in the streets, back yards,...)

19h30 Dinner at the Table de Jazz In Marciac

#### Concerts :

#### 21h00 - Sixun

### https://jazzinmarciac.com/en/programmation/sixun-snarky-puppy-va

Sixun, the leading European fusion band of the 80s and 90s, are back in 2023! Thirteen years after their last live appearance, these "six musicians in one" are breathing new life into themselves. Alongside a digital reissue of their entire discography, the band are releasing a new album: "Unixsity". Founded in 1984, Sixun have built up a distinctive career over more than twenty years, culminating in a Django d'Or award for their live performance at La Cigale in 2006. A group with strong, inspired personalities, Sixun produce a skilful blend of Afro-jazz-funk melodies and rhythms, served up by top-flight soloists, colourful harmony and an impressive rhythmic tandem. The six musicians have once again combined their strengths and talents to create this new repertoire of original works and rebuild the Sixun sound for which they are renowned. This new opus revives the band's incandescent groove, with its powerful rhythms, haunting melodies, lush harmonies and inspired improvisations. "Unixsity" is all about freedom. It's a flamboyant invitation to celebrate the triumph of a unique music. Love of music, energy, creativity: these are the hallmarks of this new album, which illustrates Sixun's unique identity.

Intermission backstage in the VIP lounge

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#### 23h00 - Snarky Puppy

#### https://jazzinmarciac.com/en/programmation/sixun-snarky-puppy-va

Winners of four Grammy Awards, this phalanx of musicians united by a bond whose explanation eludes us has set itself an ambitious goal: to overhaul the laws that have hitherto governed big bands by challenging rather facile expectations. With Snarky Puppy, a variable-geometry group born in Texas but based in Brooklyn, it's multi-stylism, an attraction to long forms, the redistribution of improvisational spaces, cross-disciplinary sources of inspiration and the acquisition of new timbres that prevail in a sort of mysterious yet orderly jungle. A kind of new symphonic jazz whose popular success has been one of the great surprises of recent years. Snarky Puppy are the mini big band who have done the most to win over the adventurous fringe of a public for whom jazz offered nothing but pious images. This "icono-class", aware of its impact and effectively cultivating its generational codes, is asserting with great energy that the future of jazz won't happen without them...

-> Marciac - Margouët-Meymes : 30min

#### Night in Garbay guest house

• Maison d'hôtes, Garbay, 32290 Margouët-Meymes - 0033 7 81 40 60 67

### July, Monday 24th

### Morning

Free time

-> Margouët-Meymes-Lupiac : 10min

12h00 Discovery of Lupiac (village of d'Artagnan) and the château de Sabazan (Saint Mont vineyard) – (to be confirmed)

> • Lupiac : Charming Castelnau perched on a hill 243 m above sea level, Lupiac is the birthplace of the most famous musketeer Charles de Batz de Castelmore, Captain-Lieutenant of King Louis XIV's Musketeers, better known as **d'Artagnan**. With all the charm of Gascony in this picturesque, peaceful village, Lupiac is the ideal place for a holiday in the heart of nature. <u>www.lupiac.fr/?lang=en</u>

• **Sabazan** : Château de Sabazan is located in the medieval village of the same name, close to Aignan.



150 inhabitants live all year round to the rhythm of the vineyards between the 13th-century Romanesque church and the Château, rebuilt in the 15th century from 13th-century stone. <a href="https://www.plaimont.com/appellations-vins-aoc-igp/nos-vins/vin-rouge-chateau-de-sabazan-aoc-saint-mont/">www.plaimont.com/appellations-vins-aoc-igp/nos-vins/vin-rouge-chateau-de-sabazan-aoc-saint-mont/</a>

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-> Lupiac - Margouët-Meymes : 10min

Back to the Guest house to change for the late afternoon and the evening

-> Margouët-Meymes – Marciac : 30min

- 17h00 Free time to enjoy the festival bis (free concerts on the central square, in the streets, back yards,...)
- 19h30 Dinner at the Table de Jazz In Marciac

## Concerts :

## 21h00 Lizz Wright

https://jazzinmarciac.com/en/programmation/lizz-wright-norah-jones-va

There's the warmth of the timbre. Then the gravity of the sound. Then there's the power, inward and restrained, but also more demanding at times. Lizz Wright's organ offers this vast palette of vocal landscapes. Above all, her singing celebrates the South. The soul of a region embodied in music. Jazz, of course, but also soul, gospel, blues, rock & folk. A tradition that she magnifies in each of her songs. And even when this Georgia native revisits a repertoire that is not her own, as on 'Grace', her 2017 album where she covered gems by Ray Charles, Allen Toussaint, Nina Simone, Sister Rosetta Tharpe, k.d. lang and Bob Dylan, she makes every word and every chorus her own, bringing them to life with her unique voice. Lizz Wright or the praise of the unexpected. The surprise comes as much from her musicians, masters in the art of scripting sounds, as from the repertoire tackled by this singer who seems at ease in any register... It's vocal transformism of the highest order!

Intermission backstage in the VIP lounge

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#### 23h00 Norah Jones

https://jazzinmarciac.com/en/programmation/lizz-wright-norah-jones-va

Norah Jones is the story of a young singer, songwriter and composer who rose from anonymity to stardom at just 23, releasing "Come Away With Me", one of the most popular albums of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and becoming one of the stars of the legendary Blue Note label. Norah Jones' universe extends far beyond jazz, and her subsequent career has given her the opportunity to show just how much she also loves country, pop and folk, both in her own music and through her collaborations with artists as diverse as Willie Nelson, Herbie Hancock, Q-Tip, the Foo Fighters and the Dirty Dozen Brass Band... At the same time so close to jazz and so far from it, the multi-award-winning singer whose serene, detached voice is the antidote to stress and violence is back in Marciac. There's no doubt that the woman who was brought up to love all musical cultures under the benevolent tutelage of her father Ravi Shankar will take to the festival's main stage like a goddess, addressing the multitude of her fans in the language of the heart.

-> Marciac - Margouët-Meymes : 30min

#### Night in Garbay guest house

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### July, Tuesday 25th

## Morning

Free time Departure for Toulouse (Airport, railway station, ...) -> Margouët-Meymes - Toulouse : 1h30

End of Programme

#### We hope you enjoyed your stay!

This press trip was organised in partnership with the Destination Occitanie and Gers Tourisme, we thank you for mentioning our sites in your future articles:

www.tourisme-gers.com www.visit-occitanie.com

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