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→ If you are running late, please inform the contact person indicated in the program below.

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Occitanie Rail Tour

To explore the Occitanie region, as big as a country!

Embark on an eco-responsible journey through charming train tours, unusual visits and activities accessible to all, all in a generous and friendly spirit. [The Occitanie Rail Tour](#) is your chance to save money, limit your impact on the environment and travel in slow mode through a region as big as a country, while meeting new people at every stop. In partnership with the SNCF (French Railways) and liO Train (regional trains), [The Occitanie Rail Tour Pass](#) is available at a special low rate: €10 a day for unlimited travel, for 2 to 6 consecutive days!

Thursday, March 28

08h45 Taxi transfer from your hotel to the railway station SNCF Toulouse Matabiau (Atout France is taking care of this taxi transfer – **TO BE CONFIRMED**)

- Rail Pass offered by the CRTL Occitanie

→ Please note, that the Rail Pass is **only valid** on TER trains / regional trains. Not on Intercities or TGV trains).

09h17 Train ride to Albi on TER no. 870050

10h25 Arrival in **Albi**

Check in at the hotel in Albi:

Grand Hôtel d'Orleans

1 Place Stalingrad, Albi – [Web](#)

11h00 **Meeting in the hotel with Lucie, your guide, and Valérie, press officer for a tour on the theme of Catharism / UNESCO class**

Guided tour of Cordes-sur-Ciel. Founded in 1222 by the Count of Toulouse, Cordes-sur-Ciel was a prosperous town and an important center of Catharism. The city of a hundred arches still bears the marks of its rich medieval past.



13h00 Lunch in Cordes sur Ciel with Lucie and Valerie

- Au Jardin des Saveurs

<https://www.aujardindessaveurs81.fr/>

- La planche de Bacchus

<http://www.laplanchedebacchus.com/>

14h30 **Guided tour of Albi**, an episcopal city listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

17h00 Free time

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Dinner / Suggestions:

- L'épicurien (42, Place Jean Jaurès 81000 Albi) <https://www.restaurantlepicurien.com/>
- La Forge du vieil Alby (9 Rue Croix Blanche, 81000 Albi) <https://www.laforgequivieilalby.fr/>
- l'Alchimy (10-12 Place Du Palais Rue du Docteur Devoisins 81000, Albi)
<https://www.alchimyalbi.fr/>

Night in Albi - Grand Hôtel d'Orleans

Friday, March 29

- 09h02 Departure from Albi (TER no. 870003) to Carcassonne via Toulouse (with train change)
- 10h00 Arrival in Toulouse for a train change to Carcassonne on the Intercité no. 4657
- 10h43 Departure on Intercités train no. 4657 from Toulouse to Carcassonne
- 11h27 Arrival in Carcassonne



Check in at the hotel in Carcassonne.

Hôtel Du Pont Vieux

32 Rue Trivalle, Carcassonne -
<https://www.hotelpontvieux.com>

12h30 Lunch in Carcassonne / Suggestions:

- Restaurant le 37 (37 rue Trivalle 11000 Carcassonne) : www.le37carcassonne.fr/
- Restaurant Agapé (15 rue des 3 couronnes, 11000 Carcassonne) : www.agape-carcassonne.fr/

- 14h00 Meet Julien Gendron at Porte Narbonnaise for a tour in English on the theme of Carcassonne on the theme of Catharism - UNESCO class (guided tour offered)
End of visit 15h30.

Dinner / Suggestions:

- Restaurant Hôtel le Tribe : 2 Rue des 3 Couronnes, 11000 Carcassonne
<https://tribehotels.com/fr/france/carcassonne/tribe-table/>
- Brasserie aux 4 temps : 2 bd Barbès, 11000 Carcassonne - www.brasserie4temps.com/

Night in Carcassonne - Hôtel Du Pont Vieux

Saturday, March 30

Morning

Free time in Carcassonne (walk on the walls?)

- 14h22 Departure from Carcassonne for Béziers on TER no.86977 and TER no.876420

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- 15h52 Arrival in Narbonne
→ 14 minutes for changing train.
- 15h06 Departure for Béziers
- 15h32 Arrival in Béziers and welcome by Monique Boulze Pillevesse on arrival of the train in Béziers, luggage dropped off at the hotel and guided tour of the city of the theme of Catharism.

Check in at the hotel in Béziers.

Hôtel La Prison: opened last year. This uncommon hotel is situated next to the Cathedral Saint-Nazaire, that was destroyed and then rebuilt after Cathar crusade. The cathedral is at the top of the town and you can enjoy a breathtaking view of the city. <https://www.hotellaprison.com/en?>

Dinner / Suggestions:

- Pica Pica - <https://www.pica-pica.fr/>
- Le Patio - <https://www.restaurant-patio.fr/>
- Les bons Amis - <https://www.facebook.com/lbabeziers/>

Night in Béziers – Hotel La Prison



Sunday, March 31

Morning

Free time in Béziers (apparently, there are markets this a.m., too)

- 11h45 Departure from Béziers to Toulouse (Intercité no. 4758)
- 13h17 Arrival in Toulouse

Check in at the hotel in Toulouse

Grand Hôtel d'Orléans

72, rue de Bayard, Toulouse - <https://www.grand-hotel-orleans.fr>

- 14h30 Meeting in the tourist office for a guided tour of Toulouse on the theme of Catharism.

Dinner / Suggestions:

- Le J'Go - <https://leigo.com>
- La Gourmandine - <https://lagourmandinecotemarche.fr>
- Le Bibent - <https://www.bibent.fr>

Night in Toulouse - Grand Hôtel d'Orléans



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Monday, April 1

08h00 Taxi transfer to the airport - the taxi is reserved and offered by the CRTL Occitanie. You simply give the yellow taxi voucher to the chauffeur (I give you the taxi voucher on Tuesday 26 March).

09h40 Take off for Paris CDG on Air France flight AF7401

We hope you enjoyed your stay!

This press trip was organised by the regional tourism board and our partners indicated below we thank you for mentioning our sites in your future article/s:

Destination Occitanie : www.voyage-occitanie.com

Tourisme Tarn : www.tourisme-tarn.com

Aude Pays Cathares : www.audetourisme.com

Tourisme Hérault : www.herault-tourisme.com/fr/

Toulouse Tourisme : www.toulouse-visit.com

Atout France : www.france.fr/en

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