

Ideas of walks from Sea from Villefranche-sur-Mer to Cannes



1. DARK PELICAN Villefranche-sur-Mer

2. Citadelle Saint-Elme

In order to protect the county of Nice from invaders the Duke Emmanuel-Philibert of Savoy built at the XVIth century the citadel with satellite fortresses of Mont-Alban and Saint-Hospice as well as the port in the Darse.

Today, this remarkable complex (7.5 acres) accommodates the Town Hall, the Volti, Goetz-Boumeester Museums and the Roux Collection.



3. Fort of Mont-Alban.

A rare testimony of military architecture from the middle of the XVIth century in France the fort of Mont-Alban is classified as a historical monument.

Culminating at 220 meters of altitude and offering an exceptional landscape : at the West on the « Baie des Anges » (Bay of the Angels) [22] until the massive of the Esterel and at the East on the « Rade de Villefranche » until the Italian riviera.



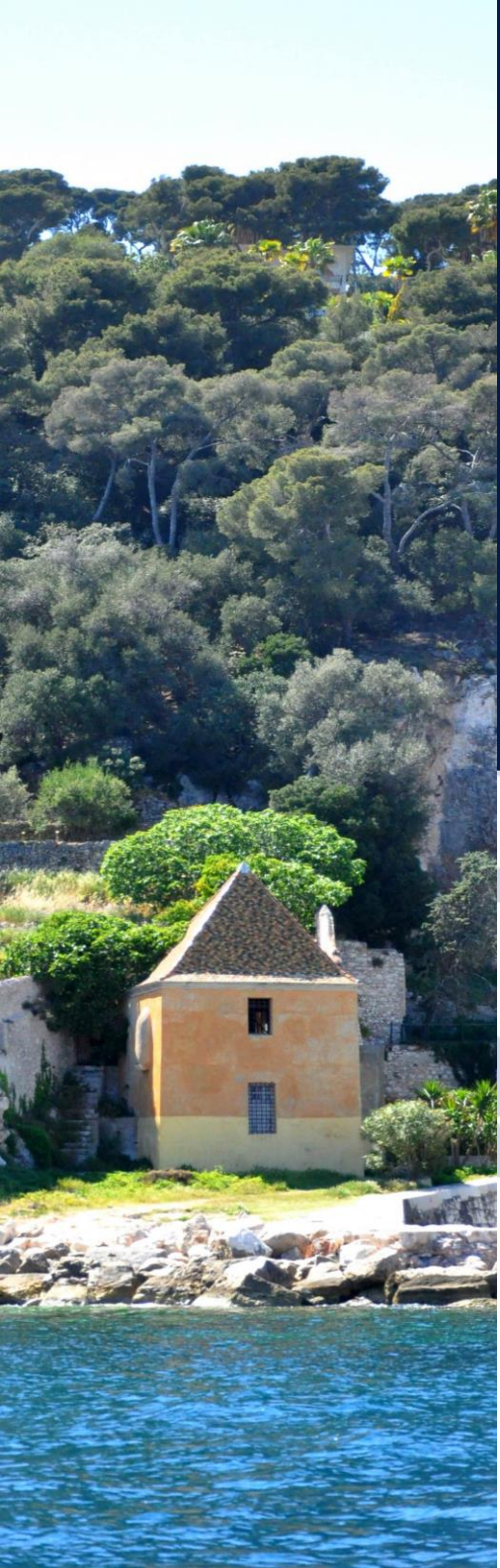
4. Port of the Darse.

Old historical military port, built in 1550 in the « Rade de Villefranche-sur-Mer », it was the only deep waters port in the area of The Mediterranean while several centuries.

In 1713, it's become a Royal Port and a basin is added (« Raboud » basin), a ropery, a barracks and a hospital.

Since 1990, it is signed up at the inventory of historical monuments.





5. Chapel of the Lazaret.

Tower of a set from the XVIIth century. It's a little one floor square building, topped by a glazed tiles roof characteristic of the region.

This tower is also called « Tour Paganini » (Paganini Tower) because it has sheltered the body the famous violonist Paganini after his death in 1840.

6. Coastal trail or « Chemin des Douaniers ».

At the French Revolutionary, the customs administration decided to chart a path along the shoreline ; the « Chemin des Douaniers » (Customs Path) is thus in service in 1791, from the « Saintes Maries de la Mer » (Saint Maries of the Sea) to Menton.

This walk, in the earth of a protected and wild site, with wooden walkways and carved from the rock steps will enable you to discover the charms of our shoreline.



7. Maeterlinck palace.

It was an old mythic luxury hostel completed in 1920, located at the point of the Cap of Nice, it's like majestically suspended in front of The Mediterranean.

Redeemed in 2012 by a Czech billionaire for 48 millions of Euros and changed as around twenty apartments. The architecture of this neo-classical palace is inspired by the Florentines, inside an area of 4 hectares with French garden, pool in front of the sea and private beach accessible by a funicular .

True jewel of the Roaring Twenties and today luxurious residence, this palace still unique on the French Riviera.

8. Castel of the English.

It's one of the most surprising architecture jewel of the French Riviera. Built in 1856 by the Scottish colonel, old officer of British army in India, Robert Smith. Seductive appearance, the building surprised ; a curious architectural mix bringing together different styles of gothic art with oriental influence who valued him the surname of « Folie de l'Anglais » (Madness of the English) or « Folie Smith » (Smith madness).





9. Port of Nice.

In earth of the city, at feet of Genoese architecture buildings there is the Port Lympia, name given to the port of Nice . This name was given by the Lympia source wich is fed by a little lac in marshy area where begun, in the middle of XVIII th century, the construction works of the port. Construction of this artificial port in center of countryside begin in 1750 and was taking over one and a half century. Today, mooring spot for « Pointus » (little tipical boat), Yachts and pleasure craft.

It's also welcoming cargos and ferries ships, wich are doing the crossing to Corsica.



10. War Memorial.

Construction began in 1924 with inauguration in 1928 by the Marshal Foch. Side-by-side at the castel hill (11), this Memorial is 32 meters tall- one of the highest memorials in France.

The monumental construction was erected in memory of 3665 people of Nice lost during the 1st World War.

The beauty of this monument earned him to be classed « Heritage of the XX th century » in 2000, and to be registered at Historical Monuments.

11. Castel hill's.

The castle who's here before on the hill and wich was defending the city of Nice during lot of attacks, was destructed in 1706 on the application of Louis XIV. Indeed, at this time Nice was not holding by the France, this fortress was a barrier for French attacks against the Savoy county. Despite of destructions, the Castle garden's still keeping traces from old monuments. This garden offer an exceptionnal landscape and it's one of the favorite place for a walk by the people of Nice.



12. « Rauba Capéu » dock.

Formerly called « Chemin des Ponchettes », in 1770 it was the first path dig into rock for allow for join the « Marine » (today call « Cours Saleya ») to the newly dug port Lympia.

« Rauba Capéu » means in language of Nice « Stolen hats », indeed this place it's one of the most windy of Nice.

This city was given the renovation at architects in 2004, this project was obtened the 1st price of Urban Development Trophies. A sundial of 12 meters of diameter is incrusted in the floor, and it's the walkers which play the role of gnomon.



13. « Vieux Nice » (Old Nice).

In the Turin architectural style, built in the XVIIth and XVIIIth centuries, reign, in the Old Nice, nicknamed « Le Vieux » (The Old) by the local, a real village atmosphere inside the earth of the city.

Swarming of people, this district is alive and can be visited on foot.

During summer, this place is appreciated all the more because it's cooler than elsewhere, thanks to the proximity and the height of the house which form narrow streets, always in shadow, in which the light wind from the open sea coming.

It's the best place for the gourmands and the gourmet, and it's also here where the people of Nice were meeting at night.



14. Chapel of Mercy.

Giving full feet on the « Cours Saleya », built from 1740, the richest of its inside decorations, the originality of its volume and the Bistolfi painting make it truly baroque jewel, of an exceptional architectural richness.



15. Opera of Nice.

Classed as Historical Monument in 1993, this Italian theater, dressed by the traditional colors of this time, to know tapestries and gold, illuminations of mirror, which adorn each box. The plan are making by the architect François Aune and validated by Charles Garnier.

It's a place where it's good to go as simple curious or as fine expert.



16. « Neuf lignes obliques » (Nine Oblique Lines).

Is a monument by French artist Bernard Venet, installed in 2010 in front of the « Promenade des Anglais » (The English Walk) to celebrate the occasion of the 150th anniversary of annexation of the County of Nice by France.

The sculpture is made of nine lines made of steel, 30m high which join at the top.



17. Albert I Garden.

Created in 1852, built on the Paillon river, it's one of the older public garden of the city.

This is here where a lot of festival are taking places like : The Nice Jazz Festival, it's a living place and it's needed to be discover. It's extended by the « Coulée Verte » (Green River), which is a huge space where is a lot of outdoor activities, for children in particular.

Its tree structure overflow of world diversities, without forget the Azur typical plants.



18. « Le Méridien » Hostel.

Located at the 1st of « Promenade des Anglais », it's one of the most famous hostel in Nice, both by its history and its radiation.

Associated to the « Ruhl » casino, it howns a private beach and also all the benefits a luxury hotel can offer.

On the roof there is a heated pool and also a terrace for enjoy the view on the Bay of The Angels.



19. « Palais de la Méditerranée » resort.

Opened for the first time in 1929, then fully demolished in 1990, except the two facades classed as Historical Monuments in 1989, and re-opened in 2002 thanks to the initiative of private financing.

Today, it's a luxury resort with restaurants, sun bath, pools and panoramic view and also a casino.

It has also a theater.

The resort has also a 1700 square meter space for receptions, distributed in 16 meeting rooms.



20. Negresco.

Unique palace-museum of the city of Nice, this mythical hotel built in 1912 by Niermans, for the Romanian Henri Negresco, is classed Historical Monument since 2003.

It is characteristic and known all around the world for its pink cupolas and also its roof. There is a permanent art gallery inside, a 2 stars Michelin's Guide restaurant, luxury store and also its own private beach.

This hotel was used as sets for a lot of films, like « La Cage aux Folles 2 » or « Chacal ».

21. Airport of Nice.

Located at the beginning of the « Promenade des Anglais », the airport of Nice is the 2nd airport of France.

Its unique geographical situation make it one of the most spectacular airport for landing or taking off.

22. Angel's Bay (« Baie des Anges »).

Name given at the large bay in front of the city of Nice, this area is from the cap of Antibes until the cap of Nice. Its name was given by the old fishermans, who's named the little shark living in the bay, the Angels.



23. « Promenade des Anglais » / « Quai des États-Unis » (United States Dock).

Built in 1820, by the reverend Lewis Way, it give to Nice its worldwild fame. Of a total lenght of 7 kilometers, the shoreside walk is separate in two parts.

From the airport until the Albert 1st Garden, it's the « Promenade des Anglais », after and until the « Rauba Capéu » dock, it's the « Quai des Etats-Unis » (United States Dock), in tribute to the Americans during the 1st World War.

24. Port of « Saint Laurent du Var ».

This marina, located next to the airport of Nice, is also very famous by its lot of restaurants, stores and the « Cap3000 » mall which succeeded it.



25. Port of « Cros de Cagnes ».

Port of an Italian fishermen's district, it knew a great activity between 1920 and 1930 with 200 « pointus » allowing to make possible to live for more than thousand people.

It houses the most older French Coast Guard station (« SNSM ») of the Alpes-Maritimes.

The adjacent city was celebrated its 200 years birthday in 2013.



26. Racecourse of the Riviera

It was opened in 1952 but it was inaugurated in 1960, the racecourse extend over 63 hectares and it's able to welcome 11 300 people.

27. « Marina Baie des Anges » (Marina Bay of the Angels).

This real estate project constructed between 1969 and 1993, includes a marina and 4 wavelike buildings by architecte André Minangoy.

All the buildings are residences with commerces on the Port level.

This complex is also classed as an Architectural Heritage of the 20th century.



28. « Fort Carré d'Antibes. »

The « Fort Carré d'Antibes » is a military fort built under the reign of Henri II in the XVIth century.

The fort is located on the Saint-Roch peninsula in Antibes, at the edge of the seaside road and it's built on a rock 26 meters over the sea.

The fort is open to the public since 1998 it's also classed at Historical Monuments in 1976.

It's houses some expositions inside, like a museum.



29. Antibes.

It's with the Greeks that appear the first trace of that city which make important commercial exchanges.

Indeed it was a colony from the city of Marseille, during its commercial deployment, from the IVth century BC, transform the city in stronghold to ensure the trade.

Today, Antibes is a touristic city, with a big marina, there is a lot of place to see.

Picasso museum, the « Fort Carré » and the Napoleonic naval museum are some way to explore for organised your visit.

30. Château de la Croë.

Built in early 1927, this exceptional Victorian-style French castle offers no less than 2000 square meters of beauty by the architect Armand-Albert Rateau.

Today it is owned by Roman Abramovich president of Chelsea football club.



31. Hôtel du Cap-Eden-Roc.

Built in 1870 in a Napoleon III style this sumptuous palace hotel is one of the jewels of the French Riviera.

It is located in the center of a 9-hectare park with pine trees, has an in-ground pool, a gourmet restaurant, a secluded rose garden and all the facilities one would expect from a 5-star palace hotel with private cabins & villas at the water's edge. Has its own pontoon.

Buzzing with Film Festival of Cannes and returning guests year after year.





32. Port « Gallice », Juan-les-Pins

A modern port close to the hustle and bustle of Juan-Les-Pins.

Particularly sheltered from the east wind, it is also well protected from the winds of the West, often attenuated by the massif of Estérel.

33. Port « Camille Rayon », Golfe-Juan

Between Antibes and Cannes, named after its founder 'Hero of the Resistance' Mr. Camille Rayon. When in contact with the seafarers of Juan-Les-Pins, he realizes that shelters are lacking for their boats. Atypical but above all visionary, he then embarked on the conquest of maritime spaces in order to create shelters to accommodate their boats. Nowadays a modern port with great amenities.



34. Lerins Islands

An archipelago consisting of two islands, Sainte-Marguerite and Saint-Honorat, it offers a wonderful place to stroll and visit. The Sainte-Marguerite Island is the largest, and served, in particular, as a prison for the famous the Film 'Man with the Iron Mask' in his fort Fort Vauban.

The island Saint-Honorat smaller than Sainte-Marguerite has a monastery since 410 with a renowned vineyard.

Dark Pelican recommends :

<http://restaurantlaguerite.com/>

<http://tonnelle-abbayedelerins.fr/site/index.php/en/>



35. Cannes.

From the 2nd century BC this ancient fishing village since antiquity. Nowadays puzzing with luxurious hotels , excellent shopping, restaurants and nightlife The Promenade de la Croisette is the waterfront avenue with palm trees. La Croisette is known for picturesque beaches, restaurants, cafés and boutiques. Le Suquet, the old town, provides a good view of La Croisette. The fortified tower and Chapel of St Anne house the Musée de la Castre. A distinctive building in Cannes is the Russian Orthodox church. World famous for its film festival, its croisette & beaches.