

SPRINGFIELD'S HOME IN THE MED

THE HIGHLIGHTS OF FRANCE:

The highlights of France are these: Paris, of course, is number one; it can be your base for visiting several other major sights, such as the cathedral of Chartres; the chateaux of Versailles, Fontainebleau and the Loire valley. Before scheduling your visit to the chateau country, inquire about the dates of the light and sound spectacles at nearly all the big chateaux; the museum city of Rouen; and the Champagne country of Rheims. The Riviera is second: Nice is its big city, Cannes its society rendezvous, Juan-les-Pins its popular bathing beach; other notable spots are Monte Carlo, the hill towns of Roquebrune, Eze and La Turbie, Cagnes-ur-Mer. Vence, St. Paul, the perfume center of Grasse, St. Tropez and the ultra-ritzy Cap d'Antibes, with famous Eden Roc. The Gallo-Roman cities of the Rhone valley are probably third; see a bull fight in Arles, the Roman arena and Maison Carree at Nimes, the Wall of Orange, the Pont du Gard, the Palace of the Popes at Avignon, the French Pompeii of Vaisonla-Romaine. Other regions favored by tourists include Brittany, Alsace, the Burgundy wine area, the Basque country. Unique are the great medieval fortress of Carcassonne; the spectacular Middle Ages architecture of Mont St. Michel; the prehistoric cave paintings of Les Eyzies; the pilgrimage centers of Lisieux in the north, Lourdes in south; the Pyramide restaurant in Vienne.

Outside of Paris the biggest sporting events from the point of view of both spectator and participant concern winter sports. As soon as the first snow falls in late November, tourists and natives migrate toward the ski stations in the French Alps. Less frequented, but growing in popularity, are the winter resorts in the

Pyrenees, Massif Central, Jura, and Vosges.

In the Alps, the most popular resorts are Megeve, Chamonix, Alpe d'Huez, Serre-Chevalier, and Val d'Isere. Megeve has the beautiful 3-mile Mont d'Arbois trail to Saint-Gervais. It has two teleferics, five lifts, two skating rinks, 80 hotels, and the largest ski school in France. A rapidly developing nes centre is Courchevel.

HISTORICAL - GEOGRAPHICAL

Nice (43°42'N, 7°16'E), the chief town of the department of the Alpes Maritimes, is 739 miles by rail from Paris. The population fluctuates with the seasons, owing to the influx of tourists, as Nice is one of the principal resort cities of Europe. Its normal population is about 260,000, and it ranks as the 5th largest city in France.

Nice (Nicaoa) was founded about 2,000 years ago by the Phenicians of Marseille; it received its present name in honor of victory over the neighboring

Ligurians, and soon became a busy trading station. Nice had a rival in the town of Cemanelum (now known as Cimiez, a part of Nice) in existence until the time of the Lombard invasions, which left it in ruins.

In the 7th century, Nice joined the Genoese League formed by the towns of Liguria. In 729 it repulsed the Saracens, but in 859 and 880 they pillaged and burned the city, and for the most part of the 10th century remained masters of the surrounding country. As an ally of Pisa, Nice was the enemy of Genoa, and both the King of France and the Holy Roman Emperor endeavored to subjugate it, but it remained an independent state.

In the course of the 13th and 14th centuries it fell more than once into the hands of the Counts of Provence, and finally in 1388, it placed itself under the protection of the Counts of Savoy. The maritime strength of Nice rapidly increased until it was able to cope with the Barbary pirates. The fortifications were largely

extended, and the roads to the city greatly improved.

During the struggle between Francis I and Charles V, great damage was caused by the passage of the armies invading the Provence; pestilence and famine raged in the city for several years. In 1543, Nice was attacked by the united forces of Francis I and Frederick Barbarossa; the inhabitants were ultimately compelled to surrender, and Barbarossa was allowed to pillage the city and carry off 2,500 captives. Pestilence appeared again in 1550 and 1580. In 1600, Nice was taken by the Duke of Guise. By opening the ports of the County to all nations, and proclaiming full freedom of trade, Charles Emmanuel in 1626, gave a great stimulus to the city.

Captured by Catinat in 1691, Nice was restored to Savoy in 1696, but it was again besieged by the French in 1705, and in the following year its citadel and ramparts were demolished. The treaty of Utrecht in 1713 once more gave the city back to Savoy; and in the peaceful years which followed the "new" town was built.

From 1744, until the peace of Aixla-Chapelle (1748) the French and Spaniards were again in possession. In 1775, the King of Sardinia destroyed all that remained of the ancient liberties of the community. Conquered in 1793 by the armies of the French Republic, the county of Nice continued to be part of France until 1814; after that date it reverted to Sardinia. By a treaty, concluded in 1860, between the Sardinian King and Napoleon III, it was again transferred to France.

The industrial establishments of Nice includes perfume factories, distilleries, furniture and woodworking factories, confectionery and soap works, factories for silk goods, straw hats, rubber goods, pianolas, metal goods and a state tobacco factory. Besides grape vines, the principal cultivated trees are olive, orange, mulberry, and carob; the staple exports are oil, agricultural produce, fruits, and flowers.

Nice is protected towards the north by hills which rise behind stage to the main ridge of the Alps, and is celebrated for the mildness of its climate, the mean temperature is 60°, that of winter being 490, of the summer 72° with the temperature rarely above 90°. The mean rainfall is 65", usually falling in heavy showers which soon leave the sky clear again. The city is famous for its carnival festivities, especially the battle of flowers.

CURRENCY:

U. S. currency may not be landed in the Nice-Villefranche area. Currency will be exchanged by the Disbursing Officer aboard ship at the following rates:

1 New Franc = \$1.00 4 New Francs & 99 Centimes = \$1.00



TRANSPORTATION:

LOCAL: Transportation from Villefranche to Nice is provided by train, bus, or taxi. Regular bus schedules depart from Nice at Avenue des Phoceens, the Municipal Casino to the square above the Villefranche landing on a regular schedule of approximately every twenty-minutes from 0630 to 2030 daily, and from 2030 to 2400 when the U.S. Fleet is anchored in Villefranche Bay. The train departs from the Villefranche Station at 0612, 0719, 0908, 1116, 1432, 1558, 1924, 2053 and 0026, and arrives at the Gare de Nice approximately 12 minutes later.

Returning trains from Nice, depart at 0010, 0647, 0800, 0925, 1014, 1102 1210, 1345, 1500, 1720, 1835, 2050, and arrive at Villefranche approximately 12 minutes later. A check should be made at the railway station to establish the exact time of departure, before relying on the above schedule.

Taxi service is good, but extremely expensive, the average trip from Nice to Villefranche being about 7 francs. Taxi fare from Nice to Cannes is about 30 francs.

For bus and train schedules to Cannes and Golfe Juan see Cannes-Golfe Juan section. For schedule to Monaco and Menton see Monaco and Menton sections.

ROADS AND RAILROADS:

Villefranche is connected to Nice to the west and Monaco to the east by secondary roads along the coastline. The road is kept in good repair and is in excellent condition the year round.

The city of Nice is connected to the east to Monaco, Menton, and cities along the Italian Riviera by two excellent highways N-7 and N-564; to the north to Switzerland by two principal routes (N-204 and N-202) and one secondary route (D-19), all in excellent condition. To the west, a principal highway connects Nice with Grasse and points directly west; route N-7, along the coastline connects Antibea, Cannes, St. Raphael, St. Tropez, Toulon, and Marseilles. Both are in excellent condition at all times.

Rail connections exist along the coastline to all points between Nice and Marseilles and north to Paris. The railroad line continues eastward from Nice to cities on the Italian coast, Rome and Florence and Venice. Regular scheduled trains pro-

vide accommodations found in most European countries.

Here are 5 outline routes which give some idea of the main Continental mileages. In conjunction with good touring maps, they will enable you to plan a rough touring timetable. To reap the maximum enjoyment from your trip, do not hesitate to make detours from these routes to sample what takes your interest. The suggested time schedules provide ample time for such detours. In most cases, these times can be reduced if you exceed an average speed of over 30 m.p.h.

1. Paris - Riviera- This is probably the most popular holiday journey in Europe. There are three separate routes through widely differing regions.

la. Via Rhone Valley- One night en route. Paris (N.7), Fontainebleau (N.5), Sens (N.6), Auxerre, Tournus, Lyon (N.7), Bollene, Avignon, Marseilles--or Bollene, (N.113), Nimes, Marseilles -- St. Raphael, Nice, Menton. Total distance Paris - Marseilles, about 495 miles.

1b. Massif Central Route. One night. Paris (N.7), Moulins, Vichy

(N.100, Le Puy (N.88 and N.106), Nimes (N.113), Marseilles. About 515 miles.

lc. Route des Alpes- Two nights. Paris (N.19), Troyes (N.71), Dinon (N.5), St. Julien (N.201 and N.90), Grenoble (N.75), Sisteron (N.85), Cannes. Total distance Paris - Cannes, about 615 miles.

- 2. Paris Pyrenees Andorra Costa Brava- Total mileage about 660. Three nights. N.20 to Orleans, Limoges, Toulouse, Foix (Andorra), Bourg Madame (Frontier) N.152, Barcelona.
- 3. Paris Loire Valley Biarritz Basque Coast Portugal- Total mileage about 1120. Six nights. N.10 to Chartres, Tours, Angouleme, Bordeaux, Bayonne (Biarritz), frontier, San Sebastian (mileage about 505), N.1/240 to Burgos, Valladolid Salamanca, Ciudad Rodrigo, frontier, Guarda (N.18), Castel Branco, Santarem, Lisbon. Mileage San Sebastian - Lisbon, about 620 miles.

- 4. Paris Frankfort Hamburg- Total mileage about 720. Two mights: N.3 to Meaux, Chalons-sur-Marne, Verdun, Metz, Saarbrucken (mileage 240), N.40 to Kaiserslautern, Mainz, Frankfort (170) autobahn and N.3 to Hanover, Celle, Hamburg (310).
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Road miles from: Cherbourg
To Nice Boulogne Frankfort Colescond and POLICE STATION: and Manham see Bringer oat Ballice Bring Waller

Villeframente se comesticitiv Commissariat Central, 45 rue Gioffredo, Nice, telephone 809-77. The French MilZista itary Police Headquarters is located at the Bureau de la Place, rue Catherine and inches Segurane, Nice, telephone 869-83. The police headquarters in Villefranche is on Ave. Georges Clemenceau, telephone 270-48.

TOURS AND POINTS OF INTEREST:

The most interesting tour in the Mediterranean is offered to Paris, lasting for four (4) days and includes transportation, hotel accommodations, meals, and guided tours around Paris and Versailles. The cost is approximately \$60.00.

An excellent tour is also available to Switzerland. An excellent tour lasting 1292 for a day, is to the Beuil-Valberg area, transportation by bus, and lunch is included. Local tours include a whole and a half-day tour of the French Riviera, transport tation by motor-coach, with English speaking guides. The one day tour includes Nice, Monte Carlo and the Casino, Grasse, and the perfume factories and lunch. The half day tour includes Nice, Grande Corniche Road, and Monte Carlo, commencing at 1300 and returning about 1800 daily. By courtesy of the Funel Perfume Factory at Le Cannet a visit of the region and the perfume factory is offered free. free. Paul III 1950 in 1960 in

CHURCHES:

i ants - inches The church of the Holy Trinity (American), 21 Blvd. Victor Hugo, Nice, is a congenial and friendly church. The American Rector is Rev. Dr. Henry C. Sartoria, telephone 894-66, and regular services are conducted each Sunday morning at 1100, The Conducted each Sunday morning at 1100, The church is closed for two (2) months each summer. Numerous Catholic churches are scattered throughout the city of Nice, two of which are: Tr. Longchamp, one block west of Ave. Te de la Victoire; the other at Rue Cronstadt and Rue de France. The Cathedral is on Ave. de la Victoire. In Villefranche the closest is just above the landing. Free USO bus . V) transportation will leave the fleet landing at Villefranche at 1030. Return transportation to the fleet landing will be provided by USO for standby sections that may be permitted to attend these services. Other religious services include: - Mi G sound

Mormon: The church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 11 Rue de Belgique. Sunday services are at 1030 (Sunday School) and 1700 (Sacrament Meeting). Mutual songing Services (M.I.A.) are held Tuesdays at 0900.

Jewish: Synagogue, 2 Rue Custane Deloye (opposite Galeries Lafayetti). Services are held on Fridays at 1730, and Saturdays at 0900 and 1715. There are prayer books ode in English available. Sold of the sold of

was the commence of basiness time? is now the second lience at 11s Greek Orthodox: Blvd. Tzarewitch. Services are held on Saturdays at 1700, and Sundays at 1000.

RESTAURANTS, FOOD, BEVERAGES:

Numerous small restaurants and bars are scattered near the waterfront of Villefranche, and good food and beverages may be purchased at reasonable costs. Numerous
restaurants and bars, both large and small, expensive and reasonable are located in
Nice. A recommended restaurant is the Normandie Manor on rue de France, and Chez
Memers on 9 Rue Barralis. Excellent meals and drinks are served at the Ruhl, Continental, and Negresco Hotels, and numerous other places in Nice. Food and drinks, for
the most part, are reasonable in price, and excellent in quality. The Chateau Madrid
on the Moyenne Corniche is recommended, but is extremely expensive. Da Bouttau is
recommended for local color. Chez Adolfe, near the fish market, also serves excellent food. On the outskirts, Lion D'Or in Vence and Colomb D'Or in St. Paul are
highly recommended.

Other good restaurants in Nice are: Maison Rouge, elegant, with a view of the sea; La Caravelle, inexpensive Provencal cooking; Garac, closed Tuesday, very fine, in expensive Nicise cooking, noted for fish; Da Bouttau, opposite the catherdral;

Cambrinus, rue de l'Hotel des Postes, unpretentious, inexpensive.

Corsaire is the most expensive of the waterside restaurants in Villefranche. Darse, on the yacht basin is simple but good and farely cheap.

CLUBS AND HOTELS:

Villefranche: Tennis Club de Barmassa; Lawn Tennis Club, Beaulieu-Hotel Bristol, are the leading private clubs. The Provencal Hotel and the Hotel welcome on the Villefranche Quai are the leading hotels.

Nice: Tennis Clubs include the Nice Lawn Tennis Club, Parc Inperial, telephone

825-24, and the Tennis Club at the Hotel Ruhl.

Leading hotels, in order of the accommodations and service offered, are as follows: Hotel Negresco, Hotel Ruhl, Hotel Continental, Hotel Luxembroug, and Hotel Royale. Accommodations are practically unlimited in practically any variety and range but reservations should be made as far in advance as possible, especially during the tourist season from May to September. There are nearly 200 hotels with about 10,000 rooms, which does not include boarding

NIGHT CLUBS: Municipal Casino; Casino de La Mediterranie; Sintra; Maxim's (excessively expensive); Plantation; Piroquet; Havanna; Mohte Cristo; O'Connor's; Carressa; Cintra Vogade; La Fregate; Hotel Atlantic; Le Perroquet; Hotel Ruhl.

BEACHES:

Excellent swimming is offered along the beach front of Nice, and there are no restrictions on bathing with the exception of the harbor of Nice and the coast west of St. Helen Church on Promenade des Anglais up to the mouth of Var River. The beach is a pebble beach, and relatively clean. Excellent swimming and facilities are offered at the Roc Beach Hotel

east of Nice Harbor. Additional swimming beaches are located on Cap Ferrat, across the bay from the Villefranche landing or quays, or in the vicinity of the town.

ATHLETIC FACILITIES:

Football, softball, basketball, and track events may be held at the Stadium located at Leo Lagrange daily except Sundays, on Cartier St. Maurice. The Villefranche Stadium, Place Francois Benon, provides a suitable place for softball, soccer, and basketball. The Beaulieu Lawn Tennis Club, Hotel Bristol, extends complimentary membership to officers as well as the Monte Carlo Country. The Golf du Mont Agel, Monte Carlo,

extends complimentary membership and golf privileges to officers from the ships in the vicinity of Villefranche. The Hotel Ruhl, Promendade des Anglais, Nice, and the Barmassa tennis Club, Villefranche, extend tennis privileges to enlisted men; Nice Lawn Tennis Club, Parc Imperial, Nice, telephone 825-24 also, extends privileges to utilize the stennis facilities; and the Bastide du Roy Golf Club, Biot (near Antibes), extens golfing privileges to enlisted men. Bicycles may be rented at

various shops and establishments.