

Nice, France

Overview

Nice is a vibrant city located on the French Riviera in southeastern France. Known for its stunning Mediterranean coastline, rich history, and artistic heritage, it is a popular destination for travelers seeking both relaxation and cultural experiences. The city is the capital of the Alpes-Maritimes department and the fifth-largest city in France.

Nice has a Mediterranean climate with mild winters and warm summers. Due to the movements of the winds, the winter months are generally characterized by chilly, sunny days alternating with periods of milder, cloudy weather.

Understand

History

Nice has a history dating back over 2,000 years. It was founded by the Greeks and later became a Roman colony. The city flourished during the Middle Ages and became a favorite destination for European aristocrats in the 18th and 19th centuries, thanks to its mild climate and picturesque setting.

In 1860, Nice officially became part of France through the Treaty of Turin.

Arrive

Once at the airport, think about finding an ATM to retrieve a few euros for your immediate needs.

Refer to this detailed [arrive](#)

Transport

Nice has a well-connected and efficient transportation system, offering multiple options for navigating the city and surrounding areas. Here is a detailed guide on using various modes of transport, including safety tips and how to avoid fines.

[Get Around](#) in Nice

Do

Intro [do](#)

- [Home page for Nice](#) with many useful links
- [Intro to Nice & the Côte d'Azur for English speakers, video](#)
- [Excitement of Things to Do in Nice, video](#)

Promenade des Anglais

[Promenade des Anglais](#) is an iconic seaside promenade stretches for 7 kilometers along the Baie des Anges (Bay of Angels). It's perfect for a leisurely stroll, cycling, or simply enjoying the views of the turquoise sea.

Vieille Ville (Old Town)

A charming maze of narrow streets, colorful buildings, and bustling squares with more details of the [Nice Vieille Ville](#). Highlights include:

- **Cours Saleya:** A vibrant market square known for its flower market and local produce.
 - [Market 'Cours Saleya', video](#)
- **Cathédrale Sainte-Réparate:** A baroque cathedral in Place Rossetti.
- **Colline du Château (only tourists call it Castle Hill):**

Although the castle itself no longer exists, this hill offers panoramic views of Nice, the sea, and the Alps. It's a great spot for a picnic or a peaceful escape from the city bustle.

Musée Matisse

Located in a beautiful villa, this museum showcases the works of Henri Matisse, who lived in Nice for much of his life.

Marc Chagall National Museum

Dedicated to the works of Chagall, particularly his biblical-themed paintings. [Marc Chagall National Museum, video](#)

Place Masséna

[Place Massena](#) is the main square of Nice, featuring striking red buildings, fountains, and modern art

installations.

Nice Port (Port Lympia)

- A picturesque harbor lined with colorful boats and waterside restaurants.

Beaches

- Nice is famous for its pebbly beaches. Public and private beach options are available along the [Promenade des Anglais](#).
- Popular spots include Plage Beau Rivage and Plage Opéra. Beach clubs often provide loungers and parasols for a fee.

Events

Nice Carnival

One of the largest and most famous carnivals in the world, held every February with parades, floats, and festivities. [Nice Carnival](#) video

Jazz Festival

A summer event that attracts renowned jazz musicians from around the globe.

Nice Itineraries

[Planned Itineraries for Nice](#)

Eat

Regional Nice Cuisine is renowned for its Provençal and Mediterranean flavors. Signature dishes include:

- [Salade Niçoise](#): A refreshing salad with tuna, olives, eggs, and vegetables.
- [Socca](#): A savory chickpea pancake, often sold in street markets.
- [Ratatouille](#): A vegetable stew made with zucchini, eggplant, and tomatoes.
- [Pissaladière](#): A tart topped with caramelized onions, anchovies, and olives.
- [Local Wines Niçoise](#): Pair your meal with wines from nearby Provence.

Nice Street Food at the Market

The Restaurant Scene of Nice, is renowned its **vibrant and innovative restaurants** from Michelin-mentioned wine bars to Michelin-starred, internationally known, quality restaurants. Mediterranean cuisine is featured but unique restaurants draw Hollywood stars and locals alike.

Find 'Your' Restaurant

- [Affordable Gastronomique Restaurants](#)
 - [Quirky & Quick Local Restaurants](#)
 - [Nice Street Food Tour](#) video
 - [Nice Takeout & Delivery](#)
 - [Nice Grocery Shopping](#)
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Best Season to Visit Nice

- **Spring** (April to June) and **Autumn** (September to October) are ideal times to visit for pleasant weather and fewer crowds.
 - **Summer** (July and August) is popular for beachgoers but can be crowded and hot.
 - **Winter** (December through February) Nice became a famous host of wintering Europeans many years ago. See this video [Winter is the Best Season to Visit Nice](#), video
 - **Rainy Season** is October and November. The region is typically cloud-covered with frequent heavy rain.
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After Nice

Day Trips

Nice France. Situated on the French Riviera, it borders Italy and has a rich history as a frontier town. Nice is well located with many destinations within reach, making a one-day round-trip, not particularly tiring. Following are a few well known destinations.

- **Destinations from Nice** A list of destinations from Nice, France
- **Monaco:**
 - A luxurious principality just 20 kilometers from Nice, known for its casinos and Formula 1 Grand Prix.
- **Eze:**

- A medieval hilltop village with breathtaking views and the Jardin Exotique.
- **Antibes:**
 - Antibes is famous for its marina and the [Picasso Museum](#),
- **Cannes:**
 - Known for its film festival and upscale boutiques.
- **Menton:**
 - Menton is a charming coastal town located in the Alpes-Maritimes department of Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur,

Remain

Have you thought about remaining in Nice? Here's an overview of moving to Nice, France [Remain in Nice, France](#)

References

[Nice, France](#) WikiVoyage

[Best of Nice Blog](#) Excellent reference by a long-time, English-speaking Nice resident.

Nice combines the charm of a historic city with the allure of the Mediterranean, making it a must-visit destination on the French Riviera.

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Last update: **2026/01/20 13:08**

