

REVUE DE PRESSE

OPÉRATION RYANAIR
ACCUEIL PRESSE – DU 16 AU 18 mai 2018

LONDRES

TOUTE L'ANNÉE

À PRIX LÉGERS



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CONTEXTE DE L'OPÉRATION



- Suite au succès de la ligne Grenoble – Londres Stansted durant l'été 2017, la compagnie Ryanair a relancé son offre **du 2 avril au 27 octobre 2018** :

=> **3 rotations par semaine**

les lundis : arrivée 21h / départ 21h30

les mercredis : arrivée 16h30 / départ 17h00

les vendredis : arrivée 16h30 / départ 17h00

- **L'Aéroport Grenoble Alpes Isère, Isère Tourisme, l'Office de Tourisme Grenoble-Alpes Métropole et l'Office de Tourisme de Vienne** ont travaillé ensemble à la mise en place et au financement d'une campagne de promotion de la destination « Isère » sur la Grande-Bretagne, dans le cadre de cette liaison aérienne.

JOURNALISTES PRÉSENTS

Michael Benke	Oxford Mail	print + web
Karen Harvey	Surf4hub.com	web
John Pelling	Silver Travel Advisor	web
Kirsten Henton	Weather to travel	web
Lucy Pitts	The Good Life France	print + web

RÉCAPITULATIF DES RETOMBÉES

- 11 retombées print + web sur Grenoble, Vienne et l'offre Ryanair Grenoble - Londres Stansted
9 web – 2 print – 1 newsletter
- Articles parus entre le 23 mai et le 11 juin 2018
- 1 à 2 articles par journaliste
- Cible grand public – thématiques Culture/patrimoine – Œnotourisme – Sport - Proximité ville/nature

LES RETOMBÉES EN CHIFFRES

Date de publication	Titre	Type de média	Nom du média	Portée de la publication	Auteur
23/05/18	Discover Vienne, Isere, Auvergne-Rhone Alpes	Web	<i>The Good Life France</i>	390 521	Lucy Pitts
23/05/18	The magnificent Jazz in Vienne festival	Web	<i>The Good Life France</i>	345 123	Lucy Pitts
29/05/18	What to see and do in Grenoble Auvergne-Rhone-Alpes	Web	<i>The Good Life France</i>	35 614	Lucy Pitts
30/05/18	From the City to the Hills – Grenoble & Vienne	Web	<i>Surf4Travel</i>		Karen Harvey
			<i>Newsletter</i>	399 000	Karen Harvey
30/05/18	From the City to the Hills – Grenoble & Vienne	Web	<i>I Don't Like Peas</i>	1 000	Karen Harvey
07/06/18	11 reasons to visit Grenoble this summer	Web	<i>Weather 2 travel</i>	255 000	Kirsten Henton
07/06/18	Twin peak of perfection	Print	<i>The Oxford Times</i>	12 638	Mike Benke
07/06/18	Grenoble : Oxford's twin is the peak of perfection	Web	<i>The Oxford Times</i>	621 352	Mike Benke
11/06/18	Summer short breaks in Grenoble	Web	<i>Silver Travel Advisor</i>	51 300	John Pelling
11/06/18	Summer short breaks in Vienne	Web	<i>Silver Travel Advisor</i>	52 369	John Pelling
11/06/18	A long weekend in Grenoble and Vienne	Print	<i>Fine Magazine</i>		Lucy Pitts

Soit une portée – nombre d'internaute atteints – d'environ **2 163 917** sur l'ensemble des articles publiés.

The Good Life France – édition web

« Discover Vienne, Isere, Auvergne-Rhone-Alpes » - 23/05/2018

<https://www.thegoodlifeFrance.com/discover-vienne-isere-auvergne-rhone-alpes/>



Discover Vienne, Isere, Auvergne-Rhone Alpes

Written by [Lucy Pitts](#) in [Rhône Alpes](#)



The small city of Vienne in the Isère department of the Auvergne Rhône Alpes sits on the banks of the River Rhône. It has a delightful mix of rich heritage and history, and fabulous wines as well as sublime culinary delights.

It's a city of Gauls, Romans and Christians along with a sprinkling of fine dining and wines

A history that dates back over 2000 years



Vienne has been an important centre for thousands of years and was thought to be inhabited first by the Gallic tribe of the Allobroges. When the Romans conquered it in about 121 BC, it became known as Little Rome and one the largest and most important Roman centres in France, right up there with Nîmes.

After the Romans were eventually exiled, Vienne remained an important city for Christians who arrived there as early as 177.

A wonderful cultural blend

The city sits in a small basin surrounded by lush green hills, orchards and meadows all presided over by medieval remains high above. Just 20 miles south of Lyon and on the route of the Via Rhôna (a green route for cyclists and walkers which goes from Geneva to the Mediterranean), the modest façade of Vienne that greets you from the opposite bank of the Rhône as you arrive, gives way to a wonderful mixture of architectural and cultural styles.

Rome meets Lyon

One of the first surprises the city has to offer is the narrow streets with a distinctly Lyonnaise feel that lead you gently to a small and very untypical Place Charles de Gaulle. Whilst shops and cafés line the square, vast Corinthian columns front the Roman Temple d'Auguste – built around 10 BC to honour Emperor Augustus and his wife, Livia. It's the only surviving Roman temple in France and it shares this modest square with a 16th century tower and with extraordinary panache.

Further into the city and half-timbered medieval houses sit next to the gardens and archaeological ruins of Cybèle, thought to be Roman homes and a place of council sittings. And dive a little deeper still and there's one of the largest ever Roman amphitheatres which seats in excess of 11,500 and dates back to 40AD. Climb Mont Pipet for an aerial view.

If the amphitheatre was the setting for plays and concerts, it's believed the Pyramide (a Roman Obelisk) may have been the turning point for racing chariots. And across the river in Saint Roman en Gal, excavations have revealed stone avenues, fine mosaics and the remains of public baths and an entire city of houses.





Medieval magnificence



Whilst the streets may echo with the footsteps of Romans and Gauls, at almost every turn you're also reminded of its medieval past too. The vast and stunning 11th-century Cathédrale Saint-Maurice stares benignly at the Rhône whilst the de-consecrated 5th-century church (now Musée Archéologique Saint-Pierre) has an eclectic mix of artefacts which includes the tombstones of medieval saints.

Don't miss the magnificent Church of Saint Andre, a 12th century masterpiece with its graceful, beautiful peaceful cloisters.

Rich produce, fine wines and exceptional cuisine



Vines were first planted in Vienne by the Allobroges and even then, they were celebrated as being particularly fine.

Like much of this part of France, many of the region's vines were wiped out in the late 19th century by phylloxera. But now, over 100 years on, they're still being rediscovered, replanted and brought back to life and the region is bursting with grapes.

Vienne's two main appellations, the Côte-Rôtie and the Condrieu are both planted on steep rocky terraces on the west side of the Rhône, with the reds of the Côte-Rôtie reported to be some of the best in the Côtes du Rhône's region.

Exploring the vineyards

It's possible to explore the many vineyards as part of a number of guided tours, or independently. Tours include by tram or even by Segway or boat. The tourist office in Vienne has a wall which maps the region's wines and the staff there can help you to plan your tour! Vineyards that are worth visiting include Vitis Vienna and the Domaine Corps de Loup, both brought back to life in the 1990s.

Domaine Corps de Loup is extraordinarily romantic with vast wrought iron gates, a grand old house and neglected but ornate gardens clinging to the hills where they lay hidden in the undergrowth for over 50 years. It's family owned and run, slightly but delightfully ramshackle and you can stay the night at the small B and B.

Celebrating the vintage

Bringing together its Roman past and wine making heritage, every autumn Vienne celebrates with a Roman style harvest festival. And as you'd expect, apart from jousting displays and re-enactments, it's a chance to enjoy some of the region's rich produce which of course include jams, honey, local fruit and cheese.

The 2nd largest street market in France



The city's culinary heritage remains influenced by the 5 regions that surround it and what better place to sample what's on offer than at the Saturday market.

With some 400 stalls, this is the place to sample the famous Rigotte de Condrieu cheese, local pears and the local pear liqueur, or shop for ingredients with your own private chef before preparing a meal with them in the private kitchens of the Tourist Office.



Michelin star dining

If you still haven't had sampled enough, right next to the Roman pyramid is the La Pyramide restaurant, which was once home to chef Fernand Point – often described as one of France's greatest chef of his time. Fernand Point earned one of Michelin's first-ever three-star ratings in 1933 and today chef Patrick Henriroux is in charge, and proud owner of two Michelin stars.

For a long or a short weekend break, Vienne has a wealth of history to reveal and some of the region's best wines. It's a delightful sensory indulgence and each mouthful is there to be savoured.

Locals favourites

Muse Restaurant in the Rue du Musée, Vienne – 3 course evening meal is €27.

Bar & Gourmet in the Place du Marché aux Fruits, Condrieu – 2 course lunch is 18€.

Jam and pancakes at Philippe Bruneton's – one of France's premier jam producers:

www.confiture-bruneton.com/en

Vienne Honey Festival: October (see Tourist office website below for dates and details)

Domaine Corps de Loup: For individuals, tasting is free. It's open every day, even on Sunday.

Practical Information

Vienne is about 40 minutes from Grenoble airport by car and Ryanair flights from London Stansted to Grenoble Airport start from £9.99 one way and run from until the 27 October 2018 – www.ryanair.com.

A 2-night stay at the 3* Ibis Saint-Louis hotel Place Saint-Louis in Vienne, is priced from €100 with breakfast based on two sharing.

Car hire is available from Grenoble airport with Hertz www.hertz.com and starts from 37€/day.

For more help planning your trip contact the tourist office at www.vienne-condrieu.com

Lucy Pitts is a freelance writer, Editor of Fine Magazine and deputy editor of The Good Life France





The magnificent Jazz in Vienne festival

Written by Lucy Pitts in Music Events, Rhône Alpes



There's no denying that the French love a festival, their many and diverse street celebrations always seem to bring out the soul and essence of a city. And surprisingly, the sleepy and historic city of Vienne in the Isère department of the Auvergne Rhône Alpes region in the south east of France, is no exception.

For two weeks from late June until mid-July, Vienne's ancient walls, cobbled streets and many Roman remains throb to the rhythm and beat of jazz and blues, as its remarkable annual *Jazz a Vienne* festival gets underway.

Jazz a Vienne



Vienne is a modest city, with thousands of years of history and a population of a little

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Blog



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Dealing with administrative offices in France
Life isn't all sitting around eating cheese and quaffing wine for expats



How a Francophile followed a dream to live in Provence
Wikipedia defines 'Francophile' "as a person who has a strong affinity



Real life Escape to the Chateau properties for sale in France
Half of Britain it seems, is glued to



The expat good life in Vienne
We talk to Sébastien Martin-O'Driscoll about expat life in the

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under 30,000. It's surrounded by outstanding natural beauty with rolling hills, ancient ruins, vineyards clinging to steep rocky terraces and orchards. It sits on the banks of the majestic River Rhône which sweeps slowly by. For most of the year, there's a sense of quiet calm, bathed as it is in southern sunshine and a reassuring sense of its own important place in history.

Which is one of the reasons that the *Jazz a Vienne* festival is quite such a surprise and a delight. It's the main jazz festival in France and one of the biggest in Europe, attracting some 200,000 festival goers every year.

Free and paid events take place around the city. Narrow, cobbled lanes throb with the sound of music, the Roman gardens of Cybèle in the heart of the city become a stage. So do the ancient Roman ruins at the Musée de Saint Romain en Gal across the river. While the stunning and ornate Théâtre à l'Italienne hosts midnight performances.

Jazz in Vienne Festival 2018



In 2018, some 250 different events or concerts are planned, with 4 main stages and 200 free events. Each day the festival runs from noon to midnight. The programme includes musical lectures, film screenings, and live music in the city's many cafés and restaurants. Hedonistic beats dance off the Corinthian columns of the Roman temple.

The most exhilarating venue has to be the stunning and huge Roman amphitheatre, with its unique acoustics and atmosphere. Lit up at night, with a huge sense of history, some 14,000 revellers enjoy headline acts. The fantastic line up includes international stars like Earth, Wind and Fire, Gregory Porter, Jeff Beck and Sting! And if you can't get a seat in the amphitheatre you can always enjoy an aerial view by walking up Mont Pipet directly above.

The music isn't necessarily strictly jazz and the festival embraces gospel, blues, soul, funk, ethnic and quite a lot more. The festival describes itself as eclectic and opulent, vast but intimate. For two weeks, music is everywhere, echoing back off the Rhône and the mountains, lifting the soul and feeding the mind. It's an extraordinary moment in time when the wonders of Rome collide with the wonders of music and for music lovers looking for something unique, it really shouldn't be missed.

Practical Information

Jazz a Vienne runs from the 28th June to the 13th July 2018, and you can find out more and book tickets at their website: www.jazzavienne.com

Vienne is about 40 minutes from Grenoble airport by car and Ryanair flights from London Stansted to Grenoble Airport start from £9.99 one way and run from until the 27 October.

Vienne department, Poitou-



The ghosts that roam the streets of Paris

Have you ever seen a ghost in Paris? Many say they have... Paris has



The Good Life for expats in the Loire Valley

Charlotte Field from the UK talks about life as an expat in charming



The story of the Matisse Chapel in Vence, south of France

Night Nurse Needed - Should be

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What to see and do in Grenoble Auvergne-Rhone-Alpes

Written by Lucy Pitts in Rhône Alpes



On the one hand, Grenoble is cosmopolitan and vibrant, with a modern twist and a long association with being the gateway to the Alps and winter sports. On the other, it's historic, traditional and refined with a rich cultural heritage and a strong affiliation with the arts. The great joy is that you can dip into either of Grenoble's eclectic personalities as part of a long weekend break.

Grenoble is in the Isère department of the Auvergne Rhône Alpes region in the south east of France and sits at the confluence of two grand rivers, the Drac (known locally as the dragon) and the Isère (known as the snake). It describes itself as the flattest city in France and is completely surrounded by mountains making it feel surprisingly remote for a city that's so centrally placed.

An ancient city with a passion for art

Looking over the city from 500 metres above is the Bastille (*top photo*). The fortifications here date back to medieval times but the current Bastille was first built in the 17th century and rebuilt in the 19th century. And it's from here that you start to understand Grenoble.

Beneath you the city lies like a map, with the red roof tops of its distinct old quarter, long, straight Roman roads and winding rivers and river peninsulas. And all around you are the snow-capped Vercors, Chartreuse and Belledonne mountains giving the city below a hushed reverence.

A walk to the Bastille

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Blog



Choosing a Home in
France

Nice might seem like an
obvious place to settle if one



The good life for expats in
Ribercac Dordogne

We talk to British expat Linda Jame
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You can walk to the Bastille and back down via the Jardin des Dauphins and a series of winding paths, or take the rather unusual cable car which has baubles for carriages. There's a decidedly 1920s feel about it and it was the first urban cable car in France. In fact, you can almost feel the presence of the intrepid hikers of the 1920s setting off with their woollen jumpers and wooden skis.

Exploring Grenoble's past

Back down in the city, the old quarter fans out from around Place Saint-André which is home to a large fountain, street cafés and restaurants, and the majestic Gothic / Renaissance façade of the old Dauphiné Parliament building. It feels scholarly here and ideal for an early morning coffee in the sunshine.

Close by, there's a change of mood in the Jardin de Ville which feels almost tropical and is presided over by the beautiful 17th century Hôtel de Lesdiguières as well as by ancient trees and palms. Narrow streets then lead you from one bustling square to another where you'll find plenty of markets, boutiques and cafés,

including the covered 19th century Parisian style Saint Claire market and the Place aux Herbes.



Museums and monuments



France

Half of Britain it seems, is glued to



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Grenoble is rich in museums and historic landmarks with its Place Notre-Dame, a 13th-century cathedral, the Musée de l'Ancien Évêché and Fontaine des Trois Ordres, which commemorates the 1788 events leading to the French Revolution. The Musée de Grenoble, right in the heart of the city, has an astonishing collection of 900 works of fine art and sculpture and with a new contemporary exhibition every 3 months, is worth a few hours of your time.

A more modern affair

If you're ready to embrace Grenoble's other personality, hire a bike for the day from Métrovélo near the train station and take to the streets. There are hundreds of kilometres of designated cycle paths in and around Grenoble and you could do worse than by starting with a discovery of the city's street art collection, hidden around the back streets. Maps of where to find the different works are available from the tourist office and for diehard street art fans, the Street Art Fest (throughout June) includes pop up workshops and exhibitions.

Indulge in the local produce

As with all French cities, the Grenoblois are proud of their local produce and cuisine which includes walnuts, the Chartreuse liqueur and of course cheese, and you'll find some of the local food artisans in the Rue de Strausbourg, to the east of the Hoche district.

No city is complete without a larger than life personality and in Grenoble this comes in the form of cheese specialist and award winner, Bernard Mure-Ravaud! With an encyclopaedic knowledge, he'll guide you round the many cheeses he offers at the Fromagerie Les Alpagnes, and help you wash it down with some wine...even if it's only 11am!

And from there, don't be afraid to move on to some charcuterie at the Boucherie Marché Grenette, a short distance away. Or laden with produce, head to the bohemian Championnet district, where there's an eclectic mix of designers, unusual boutiques, art galleries and workshops to peruse.

Float above the city enjoying haute cuisine or linger in a cocktail bar

When it's time to eat, head back to the Bastille and eat at the Chez le Père restaurant which has floated quietly above the city serving gourmand cuisine since 1896. A three-course meal here is a thing of beauty and great culinary delight and what's more, costs just €59!

The Grenoblois seem fond of their cocktails too and in amongst the cobbled back streets



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there's plenty of bizarre concoctions and bars to try. At the "Keep it Weird" bar (and they did) for example you can sit on a sofa made from an old car bonnet as you sip on a Chartreuse Mule from a chilled copper mug. The Mule is an eclectic mix of the local Chartreuse Liqueur, lemon and Ginger Beer and it's supposed to have long lasting health benefits. Whether it did, I'm not sure but it was strangely moor-ish, and after a couple more Mules, you probably won't care!

And just one last dance

If you're still not ready to bed, visit Grenoble in September. At the Festival Jour et Nuit you can dance the day or night away – an electric music event for all ages!

Grenoble contains a curious mixture of styles and is surrounded by outstanding natural beauty which could take a life time to explore. It feels calm, yet energetic, traditional, yet modern. It's a place where different cultures seem to blend happily together. It dances to a very different beat to other cities in this region and with its warm summer climate is a place that you may find that you linger. Or better still, come back for more!

Information

Ryanair flights from London Stansted to Grenoble Airport start from £9.99 one way and run until the 27 October 2018 www.ryanair.com

A 2-night stay at the 4* [Mercure Grenoble Center Alpotel](#) with breakfast is great value

Car hire is available from Grenoble airport with Hertz www.hertz.com. You can hire a bike from www.metrovelo.fr or buy a 1, 2 or 3 day pass for all access to the city at www.grenoblepass.com

For more help planning your trip contact the tourist offices at www.grenoble-tourisme.com

Discover Vienne, Grenoble's neighbour with a Roman vibe

I don't like peas – blog influenceur
« From the city to the hill – Grenoble & Vienne » - 28/05/2018
<http://idontlikepeas.co.uk/author/karen/>



After dropping our things at the hotel we headed out for dinner, walking between the modern apartment buildings and down through Victor Hugo Square with its renaissance facades, palms, orange and chestnut trees.



I'd never really thought of Grenoble as a spring/summer destination. To me Grenoble, the capital of the Alps, meant *ski, ski, ski*. Apparently to Adam's friend Nigel it meant the risk of nuclear irradiation. Chernobyl mate, that's Chernobyl.

One, two, three... minutes – the approximate time it took to get off the plane, through passport control, and pick my bag up off the carousel. The airport was empty. Empty.

During the winter 350,000 passengers make their way through Grenoble airport, I'm guessing it will get somewhat busier with the new summer flights offer ([Ryanair](#) £9.99 each way, 3 times per week – and the reason we were there) but I was totally surprised by it all (and slightly worried I was in a re-make of [The Langoliers](#)).



I DON'T LIKE PEAS

The blog of Karen Harvey: photographer, writer, creative consultant... self proclaimed cat whisperer, chicken wrangler and chief cake taster!

We were off to [Restaurant Chez le Per'Gras](#), a 5th generation, 120 year old restaurant, situated in the Bastille, high above the city. There seemed to be three popular ways to get there – to drive, to run, or to take the cable car.

Grenoble's cable car was one of the first in the world, built in 1934 it's a real must-see for the experience as well as the view.

263 metres high, hanging in the air in a 1976 Plexiglas and aluminium bauble, I wondered if I really did need a dinner after all.

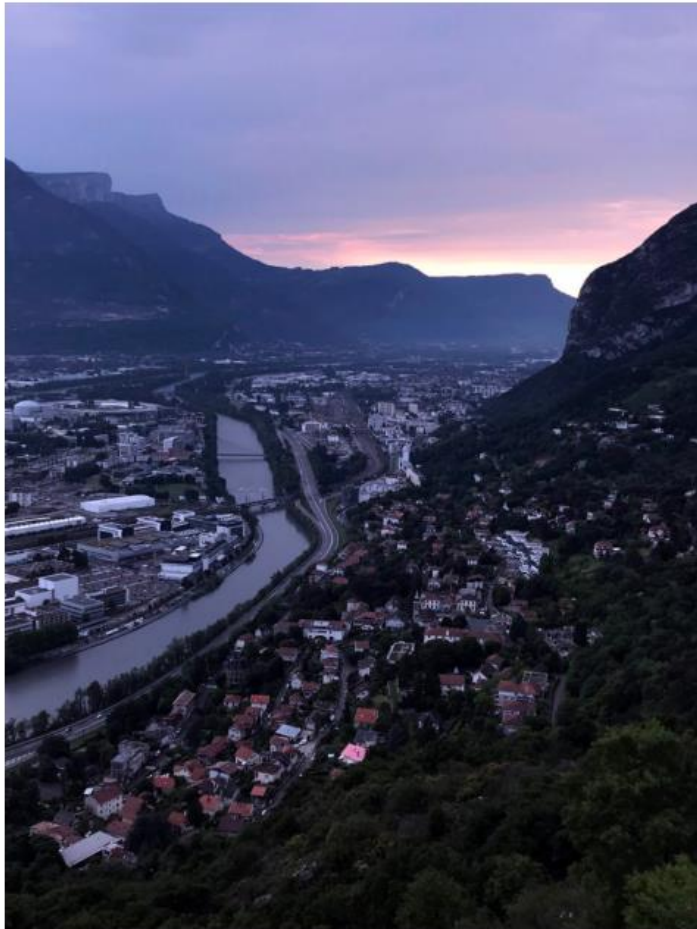




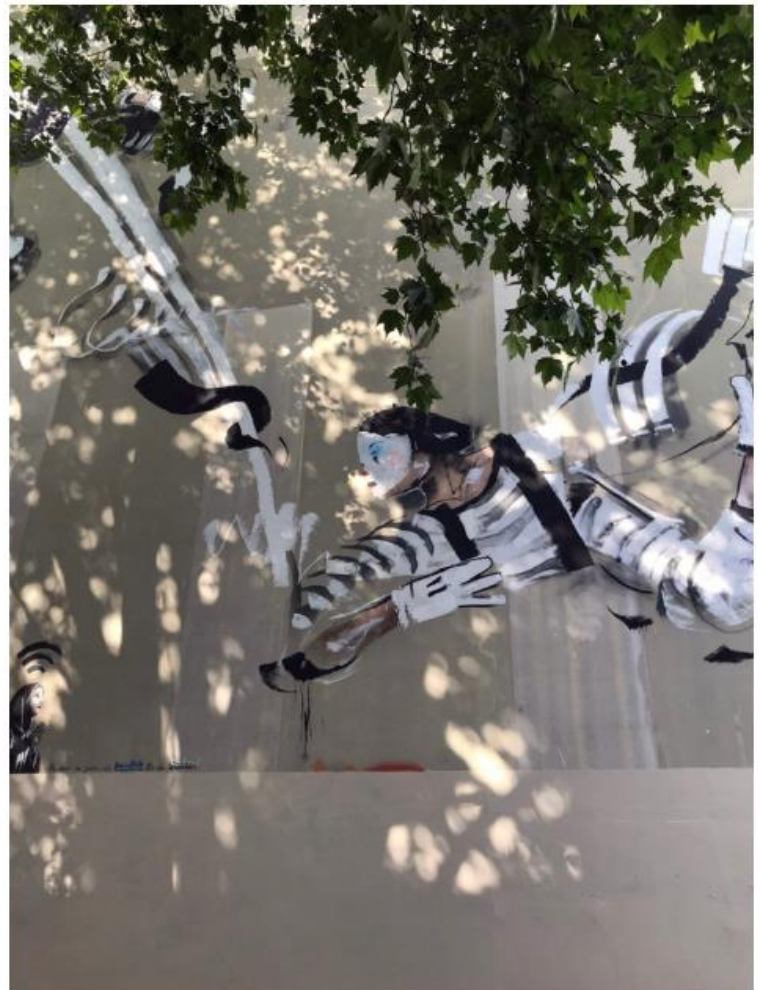
I DON'T LIKE PEAS

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Turns out fate had the same idea about my dinner needs – the restaurant really struggled to cater for my allergies. Still, I could have been content with just the incredible views. As the sky turned pink over the mountains, I savoured my leaves of Little Gem.



Darkness fell and we took the cable car ride down into the city, gliding towards the sparkling lights, and headed towards a cocktail bar for a Chartreuse Mule (made from Chartreuse, lime and ginger beer). [Chartreuse](#) is the famous 'green liqueur of health' created by monks of the region, the recipe dating back to 1605 and made from more than 130 plants.





I DON'T LIKE PEAS

The blog of Karen Harvey: photographer, writer, creative consultant... self proclaimed cat whisperer, chicken wrangler and chief cake taster!

In the morning we took a street art tour. For the past few years Grenoble has held a [Street Art Festival](#) in the summer. Artists from around the world volunteer their time to create the works of art and help put the city on the cultural map. We walked the streets, turning each corner to see something new, from basic tags to massive murals: [Antony Lister's](#) Mime, the amazing [Nevercrew's](#) Ordering Machine, [RNST's](#) la Fille du Printemps, and a 70 metre long mural showing the history of graffiti font on the wall of la Piscine Jean Bron.

We ended our trail at le chat of [Christian Guemy](#), then rushed to the Fromagerie [Les Alpagnes](#) to meet Bernard Mure-Ravaud, Guinness World Record holder and chief cheese geezer.

So much cheese. So many eyes bulging with delight. I can't eat the squishy cheese, but I was very happy to take double helpings of sweet and nutty tasting Comte, made from the summer milk of cows who spend the season eating sweet herbs in the mountains. Apparently, in October there's a week-long festival in the street where they bring the cows down from the mountains and parade them, now that's got to be worth seeing!





I DON'T LIKE PEAS

The blog of Karen Harvey: photographer, writer, creative consultant... self proclaimed cat whisperer, chicken wrangler and chief cake taster!



There are 23 museums in the city. With only a couple of hours to spare we legged-it round Grenoble's top-notch [Museum of Art](#), getting a whistle stop tour of some of the best art from 13th Century to the modern day. Rubens, Canaletto, Gainsborough, Renoir, Gauguin, Pissarro, Modigliani, Picasso, Monet, Miro, Calder, Klee, Arp, Matisse... the list goes on. I was particularly taken by Thomas Couture's portrait of *Mademoiselle Florentine de l'Opera*.



We ate an amazing lunch at [L'Epicurien](#): local sausage salad with onion confit, perfectly cooked entrecote with pepper sauce and dauphinoise potatoes, macarons and sorbet. Proper traditional French cuisine in a friendly and welcoming restaurant. It was Lucy's birthday and this felt like a really joyful celebration.



I DON'T LIKE PEAS

The blog of Karen Harvey: photographer, writer, creative consultant... self proclaimed cat whisperer, chicken wrangler and chief cake taster!



Although the museum was founded in 1798, the current building was built 1994 and has some amazing spaces, some left empty-walled, giving the sense of immense and valuable space.

There was a huge amount I missed, most disappointingly the Caro (I tried to sell one of those at auction once) and George Rickery Conversation mobile – I've been mesmerised by his work before at the Kroller Muller Museum in the Netherlands.

Onwards, from the city into the hills, to the beautiful vineyard of [Domaine Corps de Loup](#) (body of the wolf!), in the hillsides of Cote-Rotie and Condrieu.





I DON'T LIKE PEAS

The blog of Karen Harvey: photographer, writer, creative consultant... self proclaimed cat whisperer, chicken wrangler and chief cake taster!

I've never been to a vineyard before, but this was exactly what I'd imagined it would be, apart from the big ol' dog, I'd not accounted for him.

In the cellars we tasted wine. I tried to describe the flavours. I've not mastered my vocabulary yet, but when 'it's like a papery leathery Indian emporium, all rich and dusty,' becomes an acceptable description, I'll be totally ready for my new wine swigging pastime.

Our next stop was the city of Vienne, and dinner at Muse. The restaurant doesn't have a website, you might struggle to find them online, but if you're going to Vienne please don't miss out.

I could have eaten several more bowls of the amazing green asparagus and smoked duck vichyssoise. It's not often I eat something so delicious that it stays in my thoughts for days after. There was that rice pudding in Neemrana, and that chai latte in Copenhagen, and now this soup, all added to my 'when I get a teleportation device' list. The rabbit risotto was also really good – really French, really local.

After a drink outside the roman temple we headed back to the hotel. Lynsey instructed John on the shoe buffing machine, (he seemed hesitant, but in the morning he was very pleased with his shiny shoes) and we all headed off to bed.



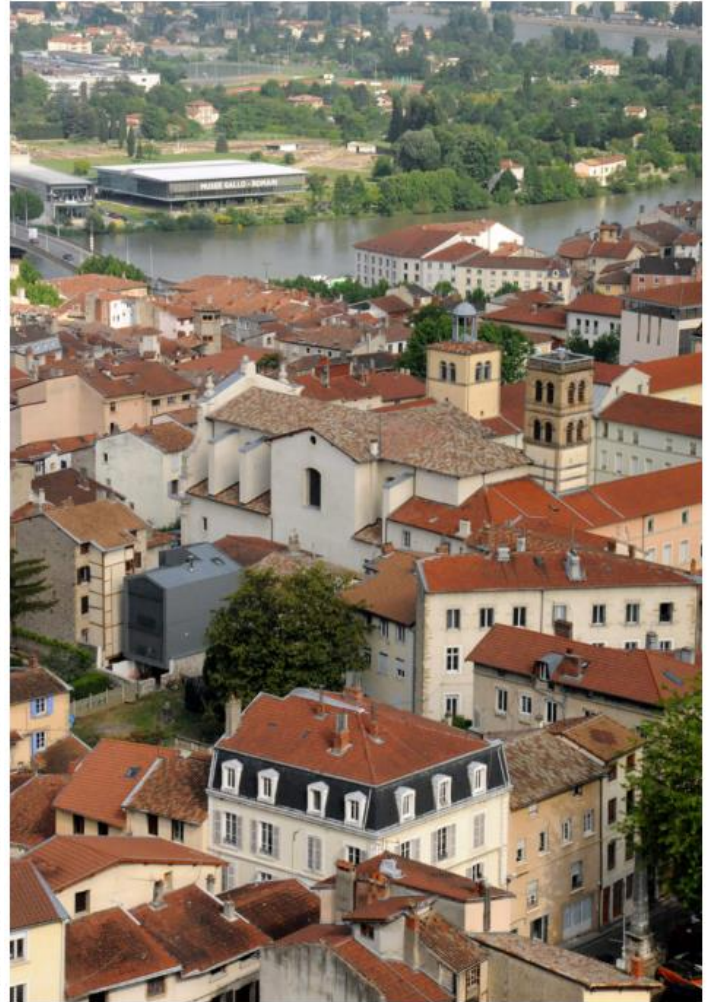


I DON'T LIKE PEAS

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Next morning, we took our lives in our hands and boarded the frantic jazz tram for a trip to the chapel on the hilltop and through the city streets.

As the recorded commentary told us '*Vienne is nicknamed little Rome*' (at volume level eight, the driver told us, he was training his friend to be in charge of the volume controls) we wound our way up the narrow road, grabbing a glimpse of a cemetery, to the top, for the view.





I DON'T LIKE PEAS

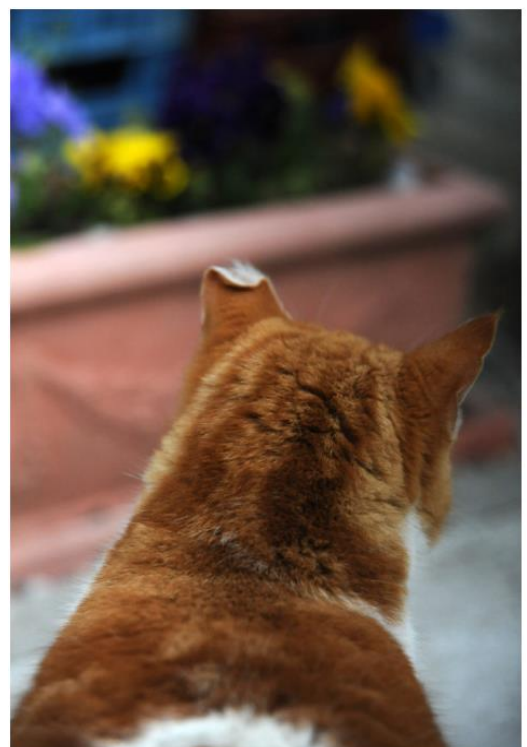
The blog of Karen Harvey: photographer, writer, creative consultant... self proclaimed cat whisperer, chicken wrangler and chief cake taster!

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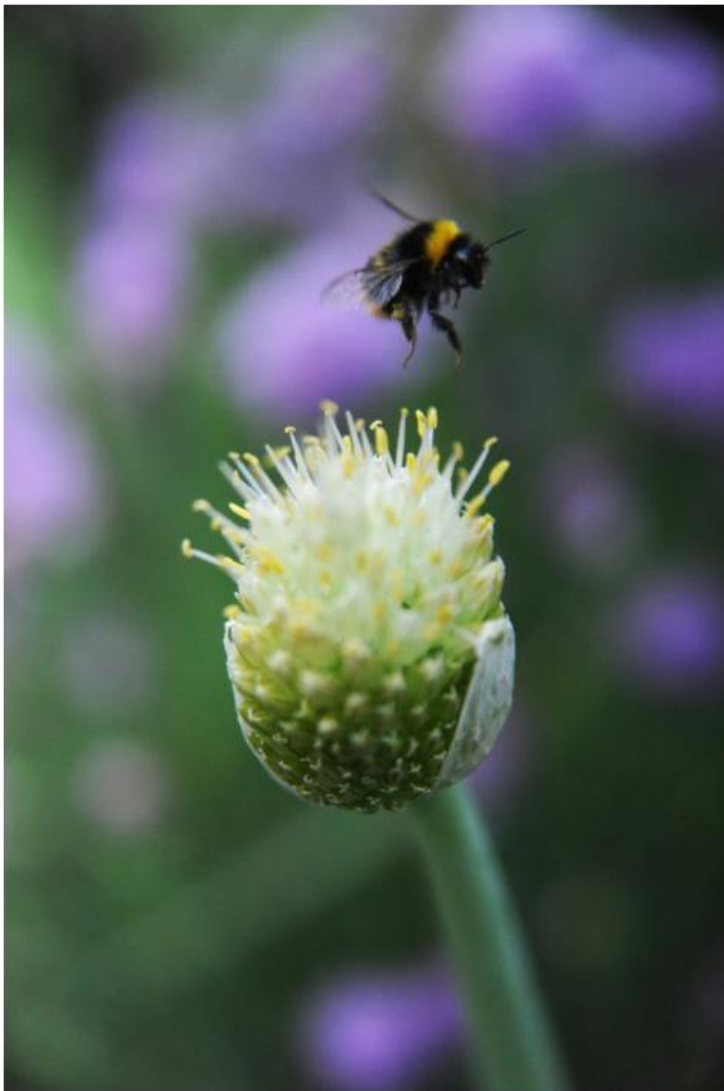


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With the greatest thanks to [Grenoble Alpes Isere Airport](#), [Grenoble Tourism](#), [Vienne Condrrieu Tourism](#) and [Heaven Publicity](#) for making this trip possible. As always, my opinions are my own.



THE HUB ARTS & CULTURE CHARITY FASHION FOOD & DRINK HOME & GARDEN MONEY MOTORING TRAVEL

HOT TOPICS MISSING GLASTONBURY? 10 GREAT SUMMER FESTIVALS TO FILL THE VOID

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From the City to the Hills – Grenoble & Vienne

TOPICS: [City](#) [Grenoble](#) [Hill](#) [Vienne](#)

WRITTEN BY: [KAREN HARVEY](#)



I'd never really thought of Grenoble as a spring/summer destination. To me Grenoble, the capital of the Alps, meant *ski, ski, ski*. Apparently to Adam's friend Nigel it meant the risk of nuclear irradiation. Chernobyl mate, that's Chernobyl.

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One, two, three... minutes – the approximate time it took to get off the plane, through passport control, and pick my bag up off the carousel. The airport was empty. Empty.

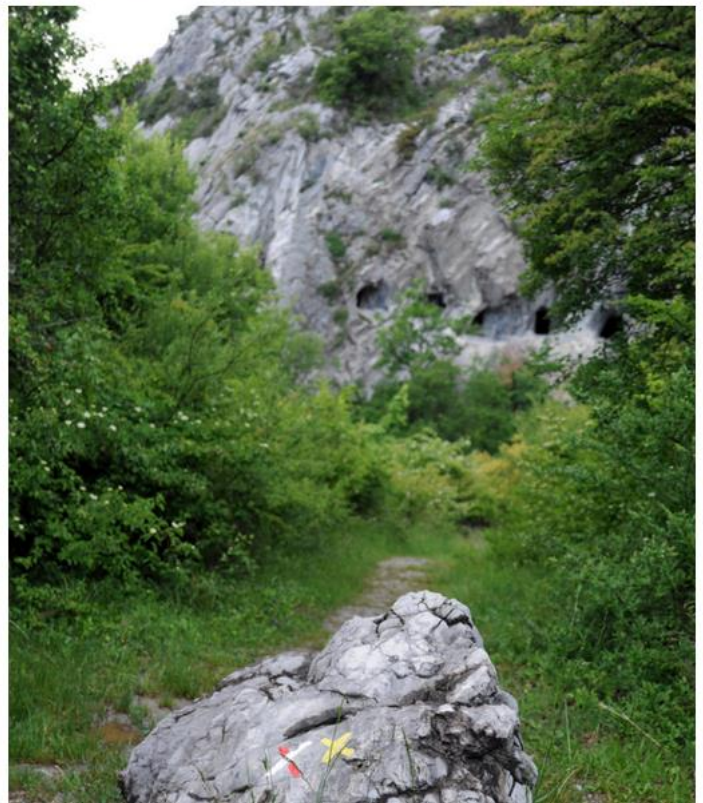
During the winter 350,000 passengers make their way through Grenoble airport, I'm guessing it will get somewhat busier with the new summer flights offer ([Ryanair](#) £9.99 each way, 3 times per week – and the reason we were there) but I was totally surprised by it all (and slightly worried I was in a re-make of [The Langoliers](#)).

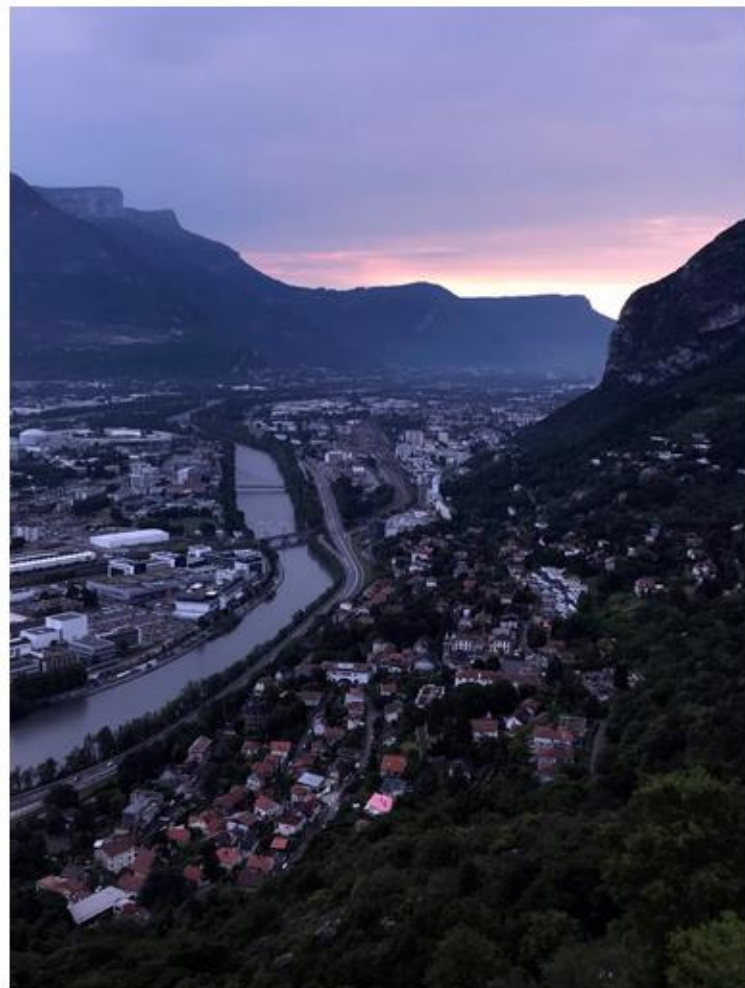
After dropping our things at the hotel we headed out for dinner, walking between the modern apartment buildings and down through Victor Hugo Square with its renaissance facades, palms, orange and chestnut trees.



Grenoble's cable car was one of the first in the world, built in 1934 it's a real must-see for the experience as well as the view.

263 metres high, hanging in the air in a 1976 Plexiglas and aluminium bauble, I wondered if I really did need a dinner after all.





Darkness fell and we took the cable car ride down into the city, gliding towards the sparkling lights, and headed towards a cocktail bar for a Chartreuse Mule (made from Chartreuse, lime and ginger beer). **Chartreuse** is the famous 'green liqueur of health' created by monks of the region, the recipe dating back to 1605 and made from more than 130 plants.

Turns out fate had the same idea about my dinner needs – the restaurant really struggled to cater for my allergies. Still, I could have been content with just the incredible views. As the sky turned pink over the mountains, I savoured my leaves of Little Gem.





In the morning we took a street art tour. For the past few years Grenoble has held a [Street Art Festival](#) in the summer. Artists from around the world volunteer their time to create the works of art and help put the city on the cultural map. We walked the streets, turning each corner to see something new, from basic tags to massive murals: [Antony Lister's](#) Mime, the amazing [Nevercrew's](#) Ordering Machine, [RNST's](#) la Fille du Printemps, and a 70 metre long mural showing the history of graffiti font on the wall of la Piscine Jean Bron.



We ended our trail at le chat of **Christian Cuemy**, then rushed to the Fromagerie **Les Alpes** to meet Bernard Mure-Ravaud, Guinness World Record holder and chief cheese gezer.

So much cheese. So many eyes bulging with delight. I can't eat the squishy cheese, but I was very happy to take double helpings of sweet and nutty tasting Comte, made from the summer milk of cows who spend the season eating sweet herbs in the mountains. Apparently, in October there's a week-long festival in the street where they bring the cows down from the mountains and parade them, now that's got to be worth seeing!



We ate an amazing lunch at **L'Epicurien**: local sausage salad with onion confit, perfectly cooked entrecote with pepper sauce and dauphinoise potatoes, macarons and sorbet. Proper traditional French cuisine in a friendly and welcoming restaurant. It was Lucy's birthday and this felt like a really joyful celebration.

There are 23 museums in the city. With only a couple of hours to spare we legged-it round Grenoble's top-notch **Museum of Art**, getting a whistle stop tour of some of the best art from 13th Century to the modern day: Rubens, Canaletto, Gainsborough, Renoir, Gauguin, Pissarro, Modigliani, Picasso, Monet, Miro, Calder, Klee, Arp, Matisse... the list goes on. I was particularly taken by Thomas Couture's portrait of *Mademoiselle Florentine de l'Opera*.





Although the museum was founded in 1798, the current building was built 1994 and has some amazing spaces, some left empty-walled, giving the sense of immense and valuable space.

There was a huge amount I missed, most disappointingly the Caro (I tried to sell one of those at auction once) and George Rikery Conversation mobile – I've been mesmerised by his work before at the Kroller Muller Museum in the Netherlands.

Onwards, from the city into the hills, to the beautiful vineyard of [Domaine Corps de Loup](#) (body of the wolf!), in the hillsides of Cote-Rotie and Condrieu.



I've never been to a vineyard before, but this was exactly what I'd imagined it would be, apart from the big ol' dog, I'd not accounted for him.

In the cellars we tasted wine. I tried to describe the flavours. I've not mastered my vocabulary yet, but when 'it's like a papery leathery Indian emporium, all rich and dusty,' becomes an acceptable description, I'll be totally ready for my new wine swigging pastime.



Our next stop was the city of Vienne, and dinner at Muse. The restaurant doesn't have a website, you might struggle to find them online, but if you're going to Vienne please don't miss out.

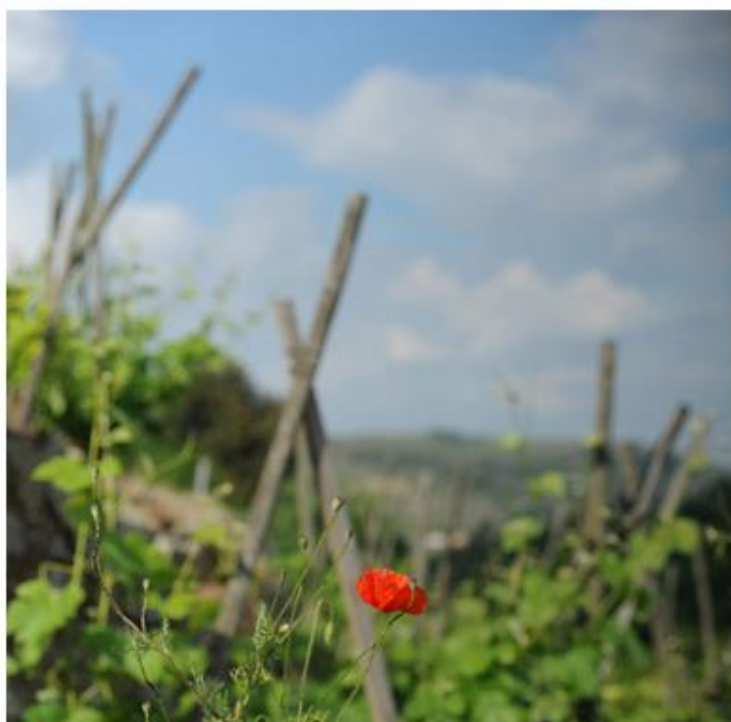
I could have eaten several more bowls of the amazing green asparagus and smoked duck vichyssoise. It's not often I eat something so delicious that it stays in my thoughts for days after. There was that rice pudding in Neemrana, and that chai latte in Copenhagen, and now this soup, all added to my 'when I get a teleportation device' list. The rabbit risotto was also really good – really French, really local.

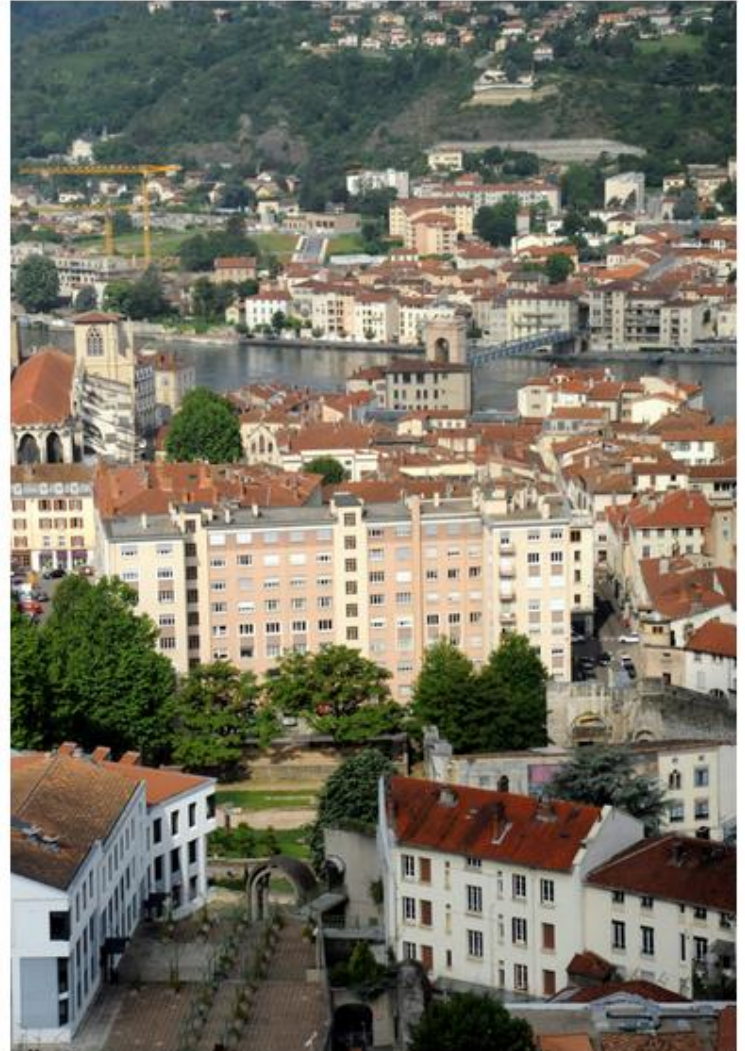
After a drink outside the roman temple we headed back to the hotel. Lynsey instructed John on the shoe buffing machine, (he seemed hesitant, but in the morning he was very pleased with his shiny shoes) and we all headed off to bed.



Next morning, we took our lives in our hands and boarded the frantic jazz tram for a trip to the chapel on the hilltop and through the city streets.

As the recorded commentary told us 'Vienne is nicknamed little Rome' (at volume level eight, the driver told us, he was training his friend to be in charge of the volume controls) we wound our way up the narrow road, grabbing a glimpse of a cemetery, to the top, for the view.





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Offering superb value, Ryanair flights from London Stansted to Grenoble Airport start from £9.99 one way and run from until the 27 October 2018 www.ryanair.com

A 2-night stay at the 4* [Mercure Grenoble Center Alpotel](#), is priced from €89 with breakfast based on two sharing.

A 2-night stay at the 5* [Ibis Saint-Louis hotel Place Saint-Louis in Vienne](#), is priced from €100 with breakfast based on two sharing.

Car hire is available from Grenoble airport with Hertz www.hertz.com and starts from 37€/day.

For more information visit:

Vienne Condrieu Tourism – www.vienne-condrieu.com

Grenoble Tourism – www.grenoble-tourisme.com

The surrounding countryside – www.isere-tourisme.com

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Twin peak of perfection

MIKE BENKE explores Oxford's twin city of Grenoble and ancient Vienne for fine French food, wine and culture

While Oxford has links with a number of cities around the world, the likes of Bonn, Leon and Perm are not traditional tourist destinations. However, our French twin, Grenoble, tucked in at the base of the Alps, is the exception.

The city is a regular stopping-off point for those looking to ski during the winter and, thanks to new cheap Ryanair flights from Stansted, it also offers the perfect destination for a weekend break throughout the year.

With summer underway, now is the perfect chance to sample the many delights the city and wider region, have to offer.

With a wide range of activities both in the city itself and in the country it makes for the perfect weekend break.

Given how few flights there are each day the Grenoble Isère Airport is nearly deserted at this time of year – which means getting in and out is a very simple process.

The city is about 30km away and while there are buses or taxis available, hiring a car is perhaps the easiest way and offers much more freedom.

Undoubtedly the best way to get an overview of the city is to visit the Bastille, a 19th century fortress built into the cliffs.

It can be reached via cable car which runs throughout the day and late at night although the more adventurous may wish to run or cycle.

Up there you truly see how nestled in the mountains Grenoble really is, with a refreshing Alpine breeze blowing in your face.

As well as the breathtaking views, there is a chance to look around the fort and an adventure park for youngsters.

There are also several places to eat, including fine dining at Restaurant Chez Le Père Gras – although this must be booked in advance.

Like its British twin, Grenoble is a



Creative: Street art in Grenoble. The city showcases urban style



Dizzy heights: Oxford's twin city of Grenoble is nestled at the foot of the Alps and is best appreciated from the Bastille. Pictures by Mike Benke

city renowned for its university and scientific endeavours but with shops, markets and museums it offers something for the more culturally minded as well.

Perhaps the best way to see the city and its creative side is to take a look at the street art dotted around which has appeared in recent years due to the annual street art festival.

While it is unlikely all of it will be to everyone's taste, there is little getting away from the fact much of it is very impressive. A map of where the best murals are located can be found at the tourist information centre.

For those wanting a more traditional art experience, there is the Musée de Grenoble, which offers a huge collection of classical and contemporary art with works on display ranging from van Dyck to Matisse.

The artisan shops are also well worth a visit, especially Fromagerie Les Alpines which offers some of the finest cheeses available. Locals have been known to queue outdoors for its produce.

If you have hired a car, then it is certainly worth exploring other parts of the region. Grenoble is within easy reach of many outdoor pursuits but for those wanting to explore another historic town, head to Vienne.

Just over an hour away on the banks of the Rhone, its ancient



Ancient: Roman architecture in Vienne reveals its long history

streets boast impressive Roman architecture including a temple and amphitheatre in the heart of the town.

There is also the option of a tram ride around the town, which provides spectacular views of Vienne, its architecture and that impressive amphitheatre. Quieter than Grenoble, the narrow streets have plenty of shops and top-class restaurants.

Vienne is perhaps most famous for its annual Jazz Festival, which this year features Sting and Earth, Wind and Fire on the bill. It runs from June 28 to July 13 (jazzavienne.com/en)



Rhone valley: View over Vienne. The town is a beautiful mix of Roman, medieval and later styles and has a plethora of fine restaurants

The region is also renowned for its wine production and the banks of the Rhone are lined with vineyards – including those of the acclaimed Côte-Rôtie. Many offer visits for wine tasting and even have accommodation, such as Domaine de Corps de Loup.

For anyone looking for a short getaway in the sunny south of France, Grenoble provides an exciting new option that will delight anyone interested in culture, food and the great French outdoors.

FACT FILE

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STAY: Two nights at four-star Mercure Grenoble Center Alpotel costs €69 with breakfast based on two sharing.

Two nights at three-star Ibis hotel Lyon Sud Vienne St Louis costs €100 with breakfast based on two sharing.

FACTS: Vienne Condrieu. viennecandrieu.com
Grenoble. grenoble-tourisme.com

Oxford Mail

7th June

Grenoble: Oxford's twin is the peak of perfection

Show caption
(11) View gallery



Oxford Mail



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Grenoble: grenoble-tourisme.com

Isere: isere-tourisme.com

11 reasons to visit Grenoble this summer



Kirsten Henton



Looking for an affordable [city break](#) with a difference this summer? Step forward Grenoble - the other 'Capital of the Alps'. This compact city in the Dauphiné region of southeast France - all too often thought of as a winter-only destination - has so much to offer urban explorers.



11 reasons to visit Grenoble this summer © Pierre Jayet - photo courtesy of Grenoble Tourism Office

Think warm, sunny days spent admiring period architecture, checking out scenic views, spying famous artwork, sipping on Chartreuse cocktails, and cheese-sampling - just a few of the things you can do in this Alpine city among the mountains.

1. You're guaranteed a crowd-free start

Fly through petite Grenoble Alpes Isère Airport in winter and you'll contend with thousands of powder-hungry snow-lovers hitting the slopes of popular resorts throughout the ski season.

Go in summer, and what a difference! Gone are the countless groups wielding trolleys piled precariously high with ski-paraphernalia, and departure boards listing flights off across Europe and beyond.

On a peaceful day from late spring to late autumn, it's not unusual to see one flight on the board - [Ryanair's low cost seasonal summer route from/to London Stansted](#). What better excuse do you need to stop and stay in a peaceful, activity-full city that has plenty of surprises in store?

2. The weather is delightful

For a warm and sunny city break, Grenoble ticks every box. Sitting in the foothills of the low Alps, Grenoble enjoys fresh, humidity-free air as well as pleasant daytime temperatures and plenty of sunshine, especially between May and September.

Meanwhile June, July and August average daily highs are even higher - around the upper twenties. Just remember to pack a layer or two, as the altitude ensures evenings are cool.

3. It's cycle heaven

Grenoble may well be located in the foothills of the Alps, hemmed by no less than three dramatic mountain ranges, but it's also said to be France's flattest city. This means it's one easy place to explore on two wheels, and thanks to [MetroVelo](#) you can do just that.

You can rent MetroVelo's zingy yellow bikes from as little as €3 per day*, including a lock, helmet and basket if you so desire. Just don't forget to pick up a copy of the [city's cycle routes](#) to help you find your pedals on the easy-to-navigate streets of Grenoble.

3. Discover a hilltop fortress

The mid-19th-century [Grenoble Bastille](#) is a curious warren of ramparts, steps, caves, blockhouses and museums - don't miss the [Mountain Troops Museum](#) buried deep inside the fort, which shows how soldiers perfected the art of fighting in this rugged terrain.

For dinner with a view, book a table at [Chez Le Père Gras](#) behind the Bastille with its huge picture windows and exceptional take on local cheese ravioli.

Visiting the Bastille also gives you the chance to really take in the layout of Grenoble. It offers a wonderful panorama including the mountains that ring the city, the terracotta roofs of the higgledy-piggledy old town, modern scientific heartland, and joining of the meandering Drac and Isère rivers.



Sail over the Isère River in Grenoble's vintage 'bubbles' © Pierre Jayet - photo courtesy of Grenoble Tourism Office

4. Take a ride in a vintage bubble

Another reason to head for the Bastille is that you get to hop in one of the city's iconic 'bubbles', also known as the [Grenoble Bastille Cable Car](#). This retro ride - which dates from 1934, although the bubbles were added in 1976 - will have you at the top in a matter of minutes.

Get a little more from your visit by riding the cable car up and hiking back down the hairpin GR9 walking route to the pretty, historic neighbourhood of Saint Laurent. Alternatively, head for the hills by following one of the various routes from the Bastille into the Chartreuse Mountains for a truly memorable day's walking.

5. Fromage is a big deal

There's no denying it - cheese is a diet-staple in and around Grenoble. Call by the counter at [Les Alpages](#) where moustachioed-Bernard will enthusiastically show you his mighty fine collection of local and international cheeses - make sure you try the rich and creamy Bleu du Vercors Sassenage - a speciality of the Dauphiné region.

Visiting in October? Aim for the spectacle that is the annual **Descent of the Alps**. Grenoble throws one great street party as producers and farmers celebrate the return of the cattle from the Alps for winter. You'll find tastings, live music, and the all important procession of the hard-working cattle themselves - not to mention an award-ceremony for the best beast.



Enjoy a drink in one of Grenoble's many sunny squares © Pierre Jayet - photo courtesy of Grenoble Tourism Office

6. The multitude of museums

Grenoble is well stocked with museums paying homage to its cultural heritage. Inspect ancient finds at the [Grenoble Archaeological Museum](#) before examining classical pieces and modern art at the [Museum of Grenoble](#).

An ode to the city's celebrated scientific and research achievements, [The Chemistry Museum](#) charts the growth of the chemical industry, while the [Resistance Museum](#) tells the moving, courageous stories of those brave citizens who worked - at great personal cost - against the occupying German forces during WW2.

There's truly something for everyone. You can see the full list of Grenoble's museums and galleries on the [tourist board's website](#).

7. It's a sanctuary for street artists

Did you know that Grenoble hosts the only urban street art festival in France? Launched in 2015, it attracts visitors and artists from around the globe, showcasing all sorts of styles, from sculptures and installations to stencilled images, tags, frescoes and murals with meaning created using a variety of techniques.



Admire *The Weapon of Peace* by street artist SNEK © SNEK - photo courtesy of Grenoble Tourism Office

The [Grenoble Street Art Fest](#) runs throughout June each year, and is free to attend. There's a busy schedule of activities including conferences and screenings plus guided walking tours for anyone keen to learn a little more about what's on show. Alternatively, get your hands on a copy of the festival's route map to tick off edgy art around the city at your own speed.

8. Take your pick of free festivals

Grenoble also hosts a multitude of music festivals throughout summer, such as the much-loved [Cabaret Frappé](#), which takes place around mid-July each year. This free event brings all sorts of talented musicians together, with public concerts and gigs filling the air around the band stand in the City Garden (Jardin de Ville).



Wine and classical music mingle at Le Millésime Festival each October - photo courtesy of Grenoble Tourism Office

Add the film, wine, walking, free-flight, and mountain festivals that take place at various times from July to October, and you've got one seriously good reason to visit Grenoble in summer. Check out the tourist board's website to see the full [calendar of events in Grenoble](#).

9. Sample the local liqueur

Hands up who's tried Chartreuse? Renowned throughout [France](#) and the wider world, original Chartreuse is a historic blend of 130 botanicals, which still adds its signature 'green bubbles' to a [variety of cocktails](#) today.

Make an afternoon of it by heading to the [Chartreuse Cellar](#) in Voiron (around one hour by bus EXP1 from Grenoble) - said to be the longest liqueur cellar in the world - where you'll learn everything from the history to production of Chartreuse before enjoying a well earned tasting. Salut!

10. You can do it on a budget

One of the many things that makes Grenoble a cracking city break is its affordability. From getting there to accommodation and sightseeing, it's geared towards budget-friendly travel, especially in the summer months when demand is low.

10. You can do it on a budget

One of the many things that makes Grenoble a cracking city break is its affordability. From getting there to accommodation and sightseeing, it's geared towards budget-friendly travel, especially in the summer months when demand is low.



Consider buying a [Grenoble Pass](#) to experience the attractions for less. Choose from one, two or three-day options, which include tickets for public transport, entry to 20 sites around the city, including the Bastille cable car and Museum of Grenoble, as well as discounts at various restaurants and independent shops (of which there are many).

11. ...and you can get there from £9.99

While flights during the ski season can be somewhat pricey owing to Grenoble's popularity as a launching pad for winter sports, it's a different case altogether in summer.

Ryanair has launched a special summer schedule, which whisks you from London Stansted Airport (STN) to [Grenoble Alpes Isère Airport](#) (GNB) in around an hour and a half, three times per week, from as little as £9.99* each way.

** Prices correct as of June 2018.*

Weather2Travel.com travelled as a guest of Grenoble-Alpes Métropole Tourist Office in May 2018. All views expressed are those of the writer.



Kirsten Henton

Posted on Thursday 7th June 2018 in: [City](#) [Europe](#) [Summer](#)



Summer short breaks in Vienne



John Pelling

Retired Headmaster and Silver Traveller

Date published: 11 Jun 18

Travel to Vienne from Grenoble is quickest by train via Lyon, unless the car hire option is taken. Hertz may allow one-way journeys. The simplest way is to separate the two cities, and either fly to Lyon St Exupéry then take the short train journey or travel by Eurostar and TGV.

The contrast between the two cities is great: size matters and Grenoble, with its science research institutes, business centre and university has a population many times larger than the 33,000 of Vienne. Contrast quality with quantity and the wines of the Côte Rôtie, cultivated since Roman times, and Condrieu stand out, and there are restaurants to compare with the best. La Pyramide, with two Michelin stars, is where Paul Bocuse was trained: it is easily recognisable by the obelisk outside. This marked one end of the former Roman circus. Muse at 4-6 rue du Musée has a wonderful menu at really affordable prices and is so popular that only advance notice will secure a table. A few steps away and turning a corner of the old market hall, it will not be the food that makes people gasp: confronting them is the temple of Augustus and Livia. Floodlights make after dinner drinks at the Bar du Temple essential.



Roman and Gallic antiquities abound, not only in Vienne but in St Romain-en-Gal across the river. The Musée des Beaux-Arts et d'Archéologie stands close to the Garden of Cybele, easily spotted by the half-timbered medieval house nearby. There are two amphitheatres, Odéon and the more substantial Théâtre Antique, still used for events like the jazz festival.

To emphasise its viticulture as well as its antiquities the Tourist Office has a 'wall' of Rhône wines, while its bookstall offers Roman recipes and two 'Secrets' books, on gastronomy and wine. There is also a splendid kitchen where visitors can enrol on cookery courses, including sometimes a party in the gardens outside. The Côte Rotie offers wine tastings and tours of vineyards, all

identifiable from the helpful Tourist Map.

A tourist train will take visitors who wish to avoid the steep walk up to the Belvédère de Pipet for a panorama of the city and the Rhône. It is almost directly above the Roman theatre. And gives views across the river to the Valois tower and the Gallo-Roman museum and archaeological site.

From medieval times Vienne was the seat of an archbishop and numerous vestiges of that history remain. The church of St André le Bas has a cloister that few locals know about and the cathedral of St Maurice is magnificent. The Heritage Room (Salle de Patrimoine), close to the bridge and St André, has more to show.

The regular train service from Vienne reaches Condrieu in a few minutes, where another fine restaurant is Bar et Gourmet. Walking down the three-course lunch at less than €20 may take more than the hour or two required to reach Philipp Bruneton's shop, where his artisan jams are unrivalled for variety and fidelity to ingredients. Those unwilling or unable to walk will need either a taxi or a car. Whatever the mode of transport it is a journey well worth making. His salon de thé serves pancakes, even offering breakfasts, and it is possible to watch him at work to understand why each individual ingredient used, many from his own herb garden, becomes a separate taste within the confection.



Summer short breaks in Vienne



John Pelling

Retired Headmaster and Silver Traveller

Top ten things to do in Vienne and District

1. Eat at one of the 15 restaurants in Vienne (Les Evenements map from the tourist office), including, if the wallet can cope, the La Pyramide**.
2. Taste wine on the Côte Rotie, or the Condrieu and St Joseph vineyards (same map).
3. Visit the Roman sites and Musée des Beaux-Arts et d'Archéologie of Vienne.
4. Visit the Gallo-Roman Museum and archaeological site at St Romain-en-Gal, just across the river.
5. Take the tourist train to the Belvédère de Pipet for spectacular views of the city.
6. Visit St Maurice Cathedral.
7. Follow the Heritage Trail around Vienne city centre.
8. Follow the Designers' Trail in the centre.
9. Visit the Centre d'art contemporain at Halle des Bouchers.
10. Visit Philippe Bruneton at 80 route de Sainte-Croix, 69420 Longes.



More information

EasyJet flights from Gatwick (LGW) to Lyon (LYS) from £73 one way.

Eurostar from London to Lyon £342 return.

Train from Lyon Part-Dieu to Vienne (19 minutes) fare from €2 to €7 single.

A two-night stay at the 3-star Ibis Saint-Louis hotel Place Saint-Louis in Vienne from 100€/night with breakfast for two sharing.

For more information visit www.vienne-condrieu.com.

Summer short breaks in Grenoble

Summer short breaks and the top ten things to do in Grenoble, France



John Pelling

Retired Headmaster and Silver Traveller

Date published: 11 Jun 18

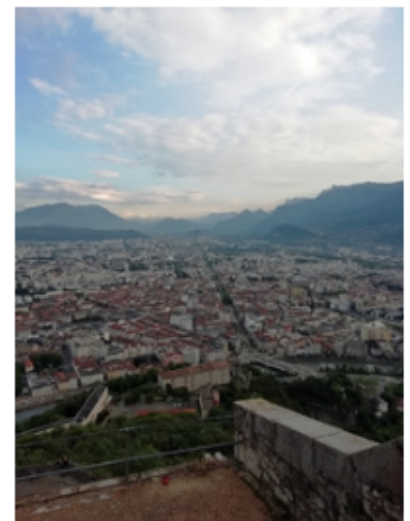
Grenoble airport is a busy winter sports hub that until recently was almost idle in spring and summer. For the past few months Ryanair has been trialling bargain 'off-piste' flights three times a week at £9.99 one way. If these succeed other carriers will follow.

The airport communications department, in conjunction with tourist offices in Grenoble and Vienne, is keen to promote the Alpes-Isere region as a summer destination. And why not? A crammed three-day press trip itinerary may not be recommended for most Silver Travellers but five, six or seven days would give a good taste – and taste is the operative word – of Grenoble, its hinterland, and Vienne.

A shuttle bus operates from the airport into Grenoble (15€ single, 20€ return); car hire is an alternative, essential for reaching Vienne easily if you have only a few days. Otherwise, as here, it would be better to treat them separately. Driving in either city can be problematic, but both have excellent local buses and Grenoble has trams.

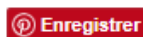
So, to the tastes: a cable car to the Bastille, the old citadel of Grenoble, moves slowly enough for almost anyone (a friend or partner can help if necessary) to board and disembark. Views from the top are magnificent. For the history of warfare enthusiast there is a museum to the mountain troops, the caves where snipers were positioned to pick off invaders and of course the citadel itself.

It is a popular destination for the more athletic locals, who jog or cycle up and down. The track is passable by car or mobility vehicle. There are two restaurants. Chez le Père'Gras, the gourmet choice, has foie gras on the menu as well as delicate filo parcels stuffed with pear, walnuts and blue Sassenage cheese, a very French variation on ravioli with more cheese, and a Chartreuse ice cream with chocolate and a strawberry.



The city centre has a mouth-watering market and of course more restaurants. On the way (or as alternative) to lunch the Fromagerie des Alpes is run by the ebullient Bernard Mure-Ravaud, Meilleur Ouvrier de France, who in the UK would be insulted by the title 'best worker': our preference was 'curator' as he not only selects but matures his cheeses. Only a photograph can do justice to his display. Incidentally, he supplies the restaurant Salut in Islington. His website www.les-alpages.fr shows more.

Summer short breaks and the top ten things to do in Grenoble, France



John Pelling

Retired Headmaster and Silver Traveller

Walking, or the efficient city tram service, provides opportunities to view architecture of many periods, including the former military barracks of Bonne now being transformed into an eco-housing neighbourhood. More adventurous walkers will find many trails in the countryside around Grenoble, with maps and ideas available from the tourist office.

A different kind of art is available in the streets nearby, as Grenoble has an annual Street Art Fest in June; traditional tastes have the elegant modernist Musée de Grenoble. Historical museums, including the Second World War and Resistance, the Musée Archéologique in the church of St Laurent, and Sacré Cœur 'a miniature Montmartre', for contemporary stained glass. Information on the jazz festival and other events can be accessed from www.grenoble-tourisme.com and the www.isere-tourisme.com.



Top ten things to do in Grenoble

1. Take the Téléphérique cable car to La Citadelle and eat at Chez le Père'Gras.
2. Watch street artists in action in June or tour the works they leave behind with a map from the tourist office.
3. Visit the market at Halle Sainte-Claire (Tuesday to Sunday) and walk afterwards along Rue August Gaché with buildings from the 1820s.
4. Buy cheese at Fromagerie Les Alpagnes, 4 rue de Strasbourg.
5. Visit the Musée de Grenoble for one of the most comprehensive collections of art outside Paris.
6. Visit [Le Magasin des Horizons](#), built by Gustave Eiffel, in the Bouchafer-Viallet area for temporary exhibitions of contemporary art.
7. Visit the de Bonne eco-neighbourhood and Jardin des Vallons.
8. Visit the Sacré Cœur Basilica opposite the railway station for contemporary stained glass.
9. Visit the St Laurent Archaeological Museum, Rue St Laurent.
10. Ride on a city tram or take a bus ride into the countryside.



More information

[Ryanair](#) flights from London Stansted to Grenoble Airport start at £9.99 one way and run until 27 October 2018.

Shuttle bus transfer to Grenoble city centre costs €15 single; €20 return.

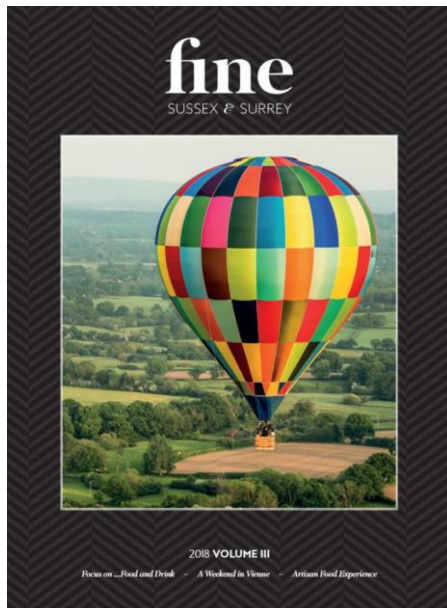
A two night stay at the 4-star Mercure Grenoble Center Alpoted is priced from €89/night with breakfast based on two sharing.

Car hire from Grenoble Airport with Hertz www.hertz.com starts at €37/day.

For more information visit www.grenoble-tourisme.com or for the surrounding countryside www.isere-tourisme.com.

[Read about summer short breaks and the top ten things to do in Vienne](#)

Fine Magazine – édition papier
« A long weekend in Grenoble and Vienne » - 11/06/2018



A word from the editor

Hello and welcome to the latest issue of Fine Sussex and Surrey and my first as the new editor.

With summer now in full swing, this delicious edition is all about food and drink, and some of the finest foodie experiences our region has to offer.

There's a distinctly French flavour this month with tips from travel writer Janine Marsh on how to enjoy some great French produce as part of a day trip to France. And if you're planning a weekend break, I've also been exploring the stunning French cities of Grenoble and Vienne in the south.

We've also unearthed some of our best local artisans and places to eat, including a country baking retreat at the award-winning Artisan Bakehouse, a flamboyant medieval feast at the extravagant Loxwood Joust and perhaps one of the most unique and delightful fine dining experiences in the country with A Table Outside.

If you're looking for ways to add interest to your barbeques, we've turned the spotlight on chilli with our serving suggestions and recipes, and our resident nutritional therapist has the low down on the many health benefits of this wonderful spice.

For the dog lovers amongst you, summer is always a great time to explore the rich and diverse countryside our region has to offer so this month, I've been out and about with my dogs, sampling some of the best walks, dog friendly pubs and hotels.



As well as our special features, we also have lots from our usual contributors. Janine Lowe explains how Chinese traditions can influence a house move, Carolyn Burchell is talking about buying Fairtrade and Ade Holder has been testing driving the new Jeep Compass.

Finally, with so much going on in our region this summer, don't forget to check our "What's in the Diary" section which has got details of forthcoming events which shouldn't be missed. I hope you enjoy this packed edition and get a chance to sample some of its delights. I'll see you next time.

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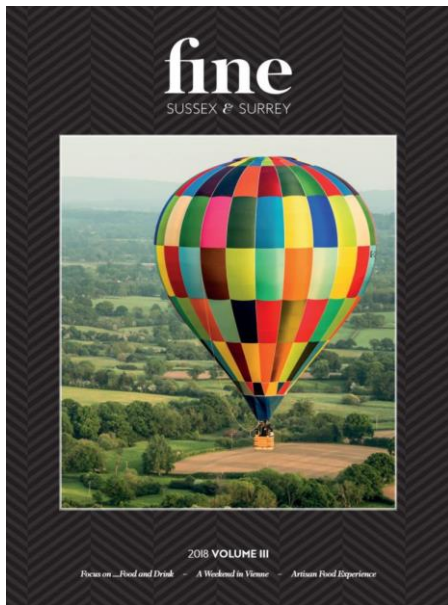
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Nothing speaks of summer more than the smell of fresh roses and this month we answer 2 of the most commonly asked rose questions.

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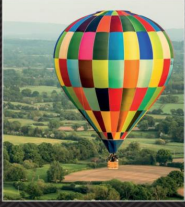
Janine Lowe explains how ancient Chinese traditions may help make your move a success.

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Carolyn Burchell explores the ups and downs of the Fairtrade Foundation and why she thinks buying "fair" makes such a difference.



A long weekend in Grenoble & Vienne

*Two cities which dance to a very different rhythm
but make the perfect weekend escape*



Tucked away in the Isère department of the Auvergne Rhône Alpes region in the south east of France, Grenoble bustles. It's got a cosmopolitan feel but also a sense of calm probably due to the composed presence of the Pre-Alpes that completely surround it. But if you tend to only associate Grenoble with winter sports, then think again.

Getting your bearings from above Although Grenoble has a modern feel, it has a history that dates back to the Romans which results in a blend of architecture and styles.

The best place to start exploring is from the 18th century Bastille which watches over the city from across the River Isère, 500 metres above. It's a popular challenge for runners and you can walk, run or catch the iconic baubles of the 1920s cable car up to the top.



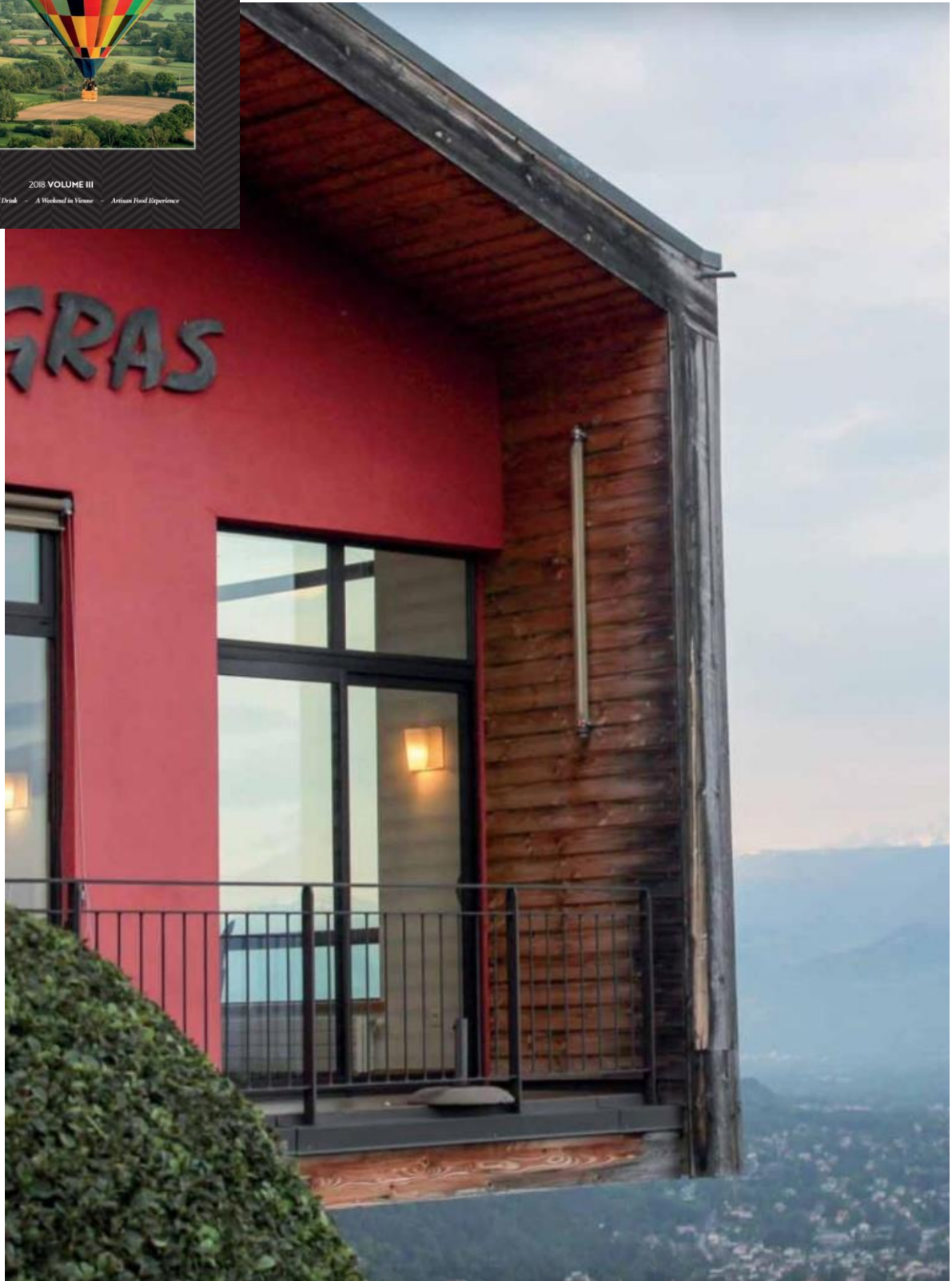
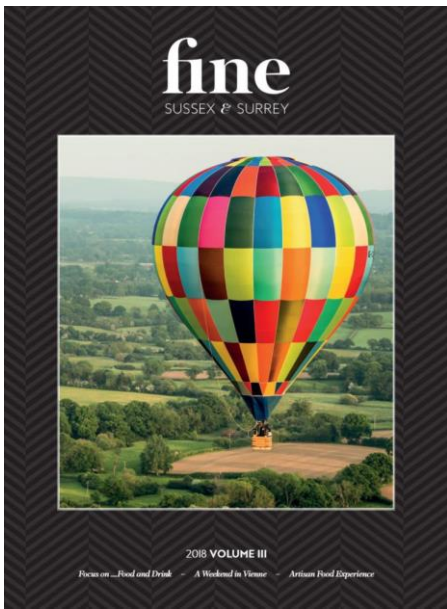
The Bastille is the gateway to endless hiking and mountain trails, but it also has zip lines, a museum and a café. Most importantly however, it provides you with a unique aerial map of the city and a chance to eat at the Chez le Père Gras restaurant which quietly presides over the view.

The Bohemian chic of Championnet
The district of Championnet outside the historic centre has a village atmosphere and a touch of bohemia. Here you'll find clusters of designers, unusual boutiques, art galleries and workshops.



As you'd expect, the Grenoblois value their high-quality produce, and local specialities include the Grenoble walnut, the Chartreuse liqueur and of course cheese, from the soft blue Vercors Sassenage to the nutty Le Comte.

In Rue de Strasbourg, to the east of the Hoche district, you'll find victuallers in abundance including cheese specialist Bernard Mure - Ravaud, a big personality with a large moustache - both a world champion cheesemonger and voted France's top "tradesman" 2007.





2018 VOLUME III

Focus on... Food and Drink A Weekend in Vienne An Asian Food Experience



He's one of the driving forces behind the annual Descent des Alpagnes in October which celebrates the return of the local cattle from their summer alpine grazing with a parade of cows through the streets of Grenoble and a showcasing of local produce with hundreds of street stalls and displays.

Make time for the arts

Grenoble has a rich artistic heritage which caters for most tastes. The Musée de Grenoble houses one of the most prestigious and diverse collections in France with 13th century masters to works by Matisse, Picasso and Gauguin.

And as an acknowledgment of its vibrant and youthful soul, the city also embraces street art, with 86 recognised works on the walls of the newer districts. You can discover these for yourself with the help of a map from the tourist office or visit during the Street Art Fest which takes place throughout June and includes workshops and exhibitions.

Unwind in the historic city centre

Of course, you have to find time to meander the streets of the historic centre and explore the markets. The Marché Place aux Herbes is a good place to buy the gourmand and there are plenty of open air bars and restaurants that fill the central Place St André with its grand fountain and stunning Renaissance style parliamentary buildings.

Recommendations for places to eat include The Café de la Table Ronde (the second oldest café in France) and L'Epicurien in the Place aux Herbes.

Follow the Romans to Vienne

Just south of Lyon, Vienne sits on the banks of the Rhône, about an hour's car drive from Grenoble.

It was an important Roman settlement which means 16th and 17th century half timbered houses jockey for position with Roman walls and remains. Narrow cobbled streets reminiscent of Lyon give way to a startlingly beautiful Roman Temple surrounded by bars and cafés.

The town is home to an impressive tourist office next to the Rhône. They offer a range of tours which include a €7 tram ride up to Mont Pipet which has views over the town and the Roman amphitheatre.

Amongst other options, you can also opt for a "circuit gourmand" which is a tour and tasting of local products or a sunset tour on a wooden barge with a glass of wine.

The tourist office even organises cookery workshops during which you'll shop for local ingredients with your chef in the market and then prepare a meal.

A taste of the region's wines

For lovers of the grape, there's a wall of wine in the tourist office which maps the region's winemakers and the wines of the local Côte-Rôtie and Condrieu regions and helps you plan any tastings.

That done, explore some of the local vineyards such as the extraordinarily romantic family owned Domaine Corps de Loup which lay abandoned for 50 years. With a ramshackled 18th century charm, it clings to the hillside in amongst the trees just 10 minutes outside Vienne.

Jazz and jam

During the first two weeks of July, Vienne is home to a remarkable jazz festival. With open air concerts, a main performance in the candlelit amphitheatre, this year's artists include none other than Gregory Porter, Jeff Beck and Earth Wind and Fire!

Throughout the year the city is also home to the second largest market in France with some 400 stalls and in October Vienne hosts a honey fair. Or you can head to the surrounding hills to try some of the 120 different jams made by one of France's finest producers Philippe Bruneton, a 20-minute drive away.

Vienne and Grenoble both offer culture, the arts, fine architecture, gourmand cuisine and outdoor activities. Isère has a rich landscape with both a hint of Provence and Savoie and a warm and welcoming climate. From the grandeur of the Rhône to the calm and serenity of the silent Pre-Alpes, this is a region that indulges the soul.

Vienne and Grenoble are both about 40 minutes from Grenoble airport by car.

Ryanair flights from London Stansted to Grenoble Airport start from £9.99 one way and run from until the 27 October 2018 www.ryanair.com

A 2-night stay at the 4* Mercure Grenoble Center Alpotel, is priced from €89 with breakfast based on two sharing.

A 2-night stay at the 3* Ibis Saint-Louis hotel Place Saint-Louis in Vienne, is priced from €100 with breakfast based on two sharing.

Car hire is available from Grenoble airport with Hertz www.hertz.com and starts from 37€/day.

For more help planning your trip contact the tourist offices at www.grenoble-tourisme.com or in Vienne at www.vienne-condrieu.com