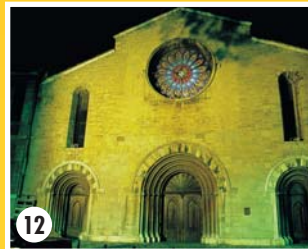


1 hr 30 mins exploring Medieval Hyères



The town of Hyères was founded between the IXth and XIIIth centuries, led by the local nobility. Trade led to an increase in the number of its inhabitants. Hyères experienced a significant expansion. It came under the direct control of the brother of St Louis, Charles 1st of Anjou. At the end of the XIVth century, the town built a second wall to enclose the suburbs that had grown up outside the first wall. The town remained like this until the XIXth century, the heyday of climatic tourism.

1- Rotonde Jean Salusse: The starting point for your visit of the historic town centre is in front of the Rotonde Jean Salusse, Avenue de Belgique.

2- Porte Massillon: The open Massillon Gate (end of the XIIIth century) invites you to wander through the old town.

3- Porte Fenouillet: Follow Rue des Porches (XVIIIth century) to arrive at the Place du Portalet and the Porte Fenouillet (XIVth century).

4- Tour des Templiers: To climb to the upper town, take Rue de Limans, Rue des Savonniers and Rue Rabaton, which contains the house of the illustrious Jean-Baptiste Massillon, Bishop of Clermont, who was born in Hyères in 1663. This small street opens on to Place Massillon near the imposing Tour des Templiers (XIIth century), the site of many exhibitions.

5- The Renaissance House: Follow Rue Ste Catherine until you arrive at Place Saint-Paul, opposite the Renaissance house built over the Porte Saint-Paul.

6- Collegiate Church of St-Paul: A large staircase leads to the interior of the Collegiate Church of Saint-Paul (XIth and XIIIth centuries), which possesses the largest collection of votive offerings in Provence. Throughout the upper town you can still see many fragments of Middle Ages houses (semi-circular doorways, XIIIth- and XIVth - century carved facades and doors).

7- Castel Sainte-Claire: After crossing through Porte des Princes, take Rue Saint-Paul and Rue Sainte-Claire until you reach Sainte-Claire Park and Castel Sainte-Claire, built in 1849 on the site of an ancient convent by Olivier Voutier, a sailor and archaeologist and discoverer of the Venus de Milo.

8- Parc St-Bernard: Pause at Parc Saint-Bernard (the Gardens of the Villa Noailles) and enjoy the many rare Mediterranean and exotic species planted here. It is unusual as Guevrekian's triangular garden, with its cubist design, is an integral part of the Villa Noailles design.



9- Villa Noailles: The impressive Villa Noailles (XXth century) is the work of the architect Mallet-Stevens (1923 to 1933). Here its owners Charles and Marie-Laure de Noailles lived at the centre of an extremely fashionable and artistic circle.

10- Château d'Hyères: From the ruins of the Old Castle (XIth and XIIIth centuries) you can enjoy a marvellous panoramic view over the whole town, the bay and the three islands.

11- Roman houses: Descending by Rue Saint-Bernard, Rue du Four

Cauvin and Traverse Paradis, you can see some remarkable Roman remains. Then you pass through the final gate: Porte Barruc (XIth and XIIIth centuries).

12- St-Louis Church: The tour ends with a visit to Saint-Louis Church (Romanesque and Primitive Gothic styles, XIIIth century), which houses, among other treasures, organs dating from 1878, a very beautiful stone altarpiece, an 1846 marble Virgin from a Florentine workshop, as well as a XVIIth-century Crucified Christ.

1 hr 30 mins exploring XIXth century Hyères

1815 was the beginning of the heyday of Hyères as a climatic resort, filled with a rich international population between October and March. The English in particular settled in the Iles d'Or district, leaving the town with a rich architectural heritage, squares, bandstands and promenades lined with palm-trees. It attracted many famous visitors - Queen Victoria stayed here in 1892. As a result of its popularity as a resort, the town expanded beyond the medieval walls.

THE VILLAS

1- Protestant Church (6, rue Docteur Jaubert)

It's the Reverend Luther Winter Caws who built this temple for the Scottish colony. It was acquired in 1936 by the Reformed Church of France.

2- Le Clos Fleuri (2, rue St Remy)

Dating from the 30s, this villa in the Eclectic style was designed for its multiple viewpoints.

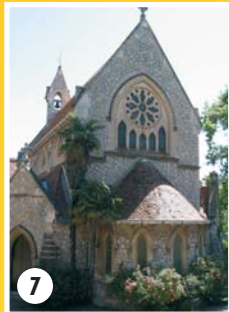
3- Anatole France School (rue Michelet)

The work of the architects Maurel and Angeli, dating from 1888-1889; notice the enormous covered playground and the quality of the decoration on the facades.

4- Villa Beauregard (11, avenue Ernest Miller) - This 1880s villa is an example of end-of-the-century seaside resort architecture: classical sobriety facing the street and an exquisite facade facing the garden.

5- Villa Tunisienne (1, avenue Andrée de David de Beauregard) Chapoulart designed this villa in 1884 for himself; it was where he held receptions. The street facade and the garden facade are of moulded cement enlivened with many colours and faience tiles.

6- Villa La Criquette (7, ave Andrée de David de Beauregard) The development of the district continued in the 30s. The architecture is more regionalist: scalloped tiles, Italianate influences, glazed earthenware, inspired by dovescotes.



7- Anglican Church (22, ave Andrée de David de Beauregard) Built in 1883-84 by Chapoulart in the style of Anglican churches in England. Neo-gothical in style, it is now a town cultural site.

8- Villa Muresque (2, avenue Jean Natte) Chapoulart built this villa in 1881 for Godillot. It contains a superb range of plants (orange trees, palm trees and yuccas). The classical architecture is overlaid with Oriental decoration.

9- Alexis Godillot's Stables (22, avenue Victor Hugo) As well as his house, Godillot asked for plans for a château to be built. He only built the horse-stables and the riding stable for his son in 1882. They became a factory making aluminium items in the 30s.

10- Villa Saint Hubert (70 avenue des îles d'or) In 1882, Godillot had his own house built by Chapoulart. 2 villas were turned into an enormous mansion. It is a combination of Normandy style, dormers and reveals from classical architecture, and ceramics from Moorish architecture.

11- Grand Hôtel (62, avenue des îles d'or) Built in 1850, this was the first luxury hotel: a hundred south-facing bedrooms, a dining room that could seat two hundred people, a winter garden, and public rooms surrounded by lush gardens.

12- La Tour Jeanne (42, avenue des îles d'or) Designed in about 1880 by Chapoulart for Godillot, whose monogram is above the entrance, this building housed the headquarters of the English Bank.

13- Hôtel des Ambassadeurs (Palais Lutétia, 11 bis av. des îles d'or) One of the largest old hotels in Hyères, it was rebuilt in 1837.

14- Villa Léon Antoinette (19, bd d'orient) This villa was built in 1870; it has a large painting gallery on the 1st floor and a severe facade with an arcaded porch.

15- Villa la Favorite (Bd Chateaubriand) This villa was basically built by developers and was mainly intended as a rental property.

16- Villa Ker André (8, bd Chateaubriand) The architect Chapoulart built this modern villa in 1895; it is completely turned towards the light and the sun.

17- Hôtel Chateaubriand (17, bd Chateaubriand) This was the last, and the most luxurious, of the great hotels built in Hyères at the end of the 1880s, and it has preserved a neo-Louis XVI interior.

18- Villa Tholozan (50, rue Alphonse Denis) The Duc de Luynes built this villa in 1858. It looks like one of the oldest and most remarkable of the villas in Hyères. It is built entirely of freestone.

19- Park Hôtel (Grimm's Park Hôtel, avenue Joseph Clotis) Located in the former King's Gardens. Neo-classical façade and rotunda. It houses the town's visual arts school and crafts workshops.

