

PRESS RELEASE

Saint-Raphaël

How to Get There:

Saint-Raphaël benefits from a sophisticated communications network.

- **By Air:** 45 mins. from Nice Côte d'Azur Airport,
1 hour from Toulon-Hyères Airport,
11/2 hours from Marseilles International Airport.

- **By Rail:** Served daily by the "TGV Méditerranée" high-speed train (43/4hours from Paris).

- **By Road:** 5 km from the A8 highway Fréjus/Saint-Raphaël exit (exit 38).



Saint-Raphaël and its Year-Round Tourism Assets:

Located 65 km from Nice Côte d'Azur Airport and half-way between Cannes and Saint-Tropez (38 km), Saint-Raphaël is a **delightful Mediterranean sea resort** set at the foot of the magnificent Estérel Hills.

Home to 32,000 inhabitants, **Saint-Raphaël's pretty town centre borders the sea front**. The town is divided into a number of **different quarters** (Old Town, Town Centre, Ports, Valescure, Boulouris, Le Dramont, Agay, Anthéor and Le Trayas), each offering a **host of tourist attractions and an original personality**.

Saint-Raphaël's key assets are of course its seascapes and temperate climate, although the town also offers a vast and rich natural heritage, plus year-round leisure sporting activities and an exciting events calendar. Benefiting from the "France Station Nautique" water sports quality label, Saint-Raphaël is also the ideal location for diving, golfing or walking holidays, plus business tourism, thanks to its superb "Palais des Congrès" convention center.

The town's highly prestigious history is still witnessed by its many magnificent residences dating back to the late 19th - early 20th centuries, delightful old streets and beautiful seafront promenade.





Mediterranean Seascapes

Thirty-six kilometres of jagged coast line alternating marinas, **27 sandy and shingle beaches, little inlets and accessible creeks.**

Countryside

Overlooking Agay Bay, the 79,000-acre volcanic Estérel Hills - **32,000 acres of which are protected** - offer walkers a wide choice of exciting itineraries in fragrant and unspoiled Provençal countryside.



An excellent choice of Tourist accomodation:

Saint-Raphaël offers **the Var region's biggest accommodation choice** including:

- 43 Hotels: 12 three-star and 23 two-star.
- 18 holiday residences, including 3 three-star residences and 4 two-star residences.
- 11 Campsites, 6 Villages or Holiday Centres, 1 berthed boat, and 259 Seasonal Rentals.

Saint-Raphaël is the Var's leading tourist town and the 4th most visited tourist town in the Provence Alpes Côte d'Azur region as a whole, following Marseilles, Nice and Aix-En-Provence (in terms of nights spent).

What To Do, What To See:

Saint-Raphaël's fabulous natural heritage and choice of leisure and sporting activities makes it a coveted year-round destination.

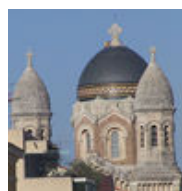
- **4 golf courses**, including the Var's oldest and France's 5th oldest course - the "Golf de Valescure" - built in 1895;
- **Water sports**: 7 diving clubs, 3 sailing clubs (sailing, funboard, sea canoeing, etc.), waterskiing, water jousting, and boat trips;
- **Nature activities**: the 8-km coastal footpath or "Sentier du Littoral", formerly used by customs officers to track down smugglers, hiking adventure trails, riding, mountain-biking in the Estérel Hills, climbing, tennis, archery and paintball.

The fabulous 20-km "Corniche d'Or" coast road;

- **The Old Town and Provençal Markets;**

The Tourist Office organizes guided tours every thursday at 10 a.m (duration =2h, Price : 2.30 €).

- **The 12th-century "Eglise des Templiers" Parish Church** (a listed monument since 1907) – Europe's oldest sanctuary dedicated to the Archangel Raphaël;
- **The Archaeological Museum**, featuring exhibits from wrecks discovered in the Bay of Saint-Raphaël;
- **The superb neo-Byzantine "Notre-Dame de la Victoire de Lepante" Basilique**, designed by Pierre Aublé and built between 1883 and 1887.
- **The Hilltop Villages in the Fayence area.**



A Few Annual Events:

- **Mid-February:** Mimosa Week
- **March:** Ideal Home Exhibition
- **April:** Heath Fair
Underwater Photography
Championship (Saint-Raphaël Trophy)
Classic Car Parade
- **May:** Traditional and Popular
Celebration of la Sainte-Beaume
Nautical Fair
2nd Antiques Fair
Archange de la chanson
française (Singing Competition)
« Le Mai de l'Art » Fair
- **June:** Triathlon de la Corniche d'Or
- **July:** Jazz New Orleans Festival
Provençal Water Jousting
Championship
"Soirées Musicales des
Templiers" (Classical Concert)
- **August:** Saint Peter's Day Celebration
Festival « August in the Fayence
Area »
- **September:** 13th European Cinema Week
National Trust Days
2nd Laugh Festival
- **October:** String Quartet Festival in the
Fayence area
Gem Fair
Hiking week in the Var region
« Propleinaire » Fair
- **November:** Food Fair
Art and decoration Fair
- **December:** "Light and sound Christmas
Festival"



Saint-Raphaël/Pays de Fayence Central Reservations Office

The Central Reservations Office offers:

- **A wide variety of accommodation** with sea views or on the sea front, in the town centre, in Saint-Raphaël's residential areas, and in the Fayence area's 8 hilltop villages: Fayence, Callian, Montauroux, Mons, Seillans, Tourrettes, Saint-Paul-en-Forêt and Tanneron (25-45 km from Saint-Raphaël)

- Our 4 seasons offers:

- Weekend or Short Stays : book 2 nights, get the 3rd one free
- Week Stay : 1 night offered for one week booked
- Long Stays : 2 weeks = 10 % discount, 3 weeks = 20 % discount, 4 weeks = 30 % discount

- **Our leisure offers:** Golfing, Land and water sports, Scuba diving, Discover the Esterel Hills on foot

- Book 2 nights, get the 3rd one free

RESERVATIONS:

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