

Feast of Tabernacles 2020

Church of God, a Worldwide Association

Montagnac, France



The Festival site

The Festival site for France this year will be located just outside the town of Montagnac in the Languedoc-Roussillon region, in the south of France. The hilltop town is half an hour's drive from Montpellier, the department capital.

The Feast site itself will offer full-board accommodations in a relaxing, family-style vacation village exclusively reserved for our group. We are expecting around 100 brethren in attendance from France, Belgium, Switzerland, the United States and other parts of the world. Services will be held alternately in French and English with simultaneous translation offered via FM radio and headsets that attendees must bring with them.



Address:

VVF Villages "Le Clos des Cigales - Montagnac"
Bessilles Les Vignes
34530 Montagnac, France

Telephone:

Phone (international): +33 4 67 24 07 28
Phone (within France): 0467240728

Making Your Travel Plans?

We advise against booking any non-refundable itineraries prior to being accepted to attend. The following information is provided to help you in your planning. Further details about these services will be communicated in the months following registration.

Arrival and departure shuttle service

We will charter a private bus from Montpellier airport (MPL) to the Feast site on Friday, Oct. 2. The shuttle will also stop at the Montpellier train station to pick up passengers arriving by train. The estimated travel time by bus is 1 hour. We will arrange for one or two shuttle departure times that afternoon, as needed. To take the shuttle, you must be able to board the coach by **6:00 PM**. Before planning on using this service, please be sure your travel plans will allow you to arrive at the bus on time. This one-way service is available for €30 per person (aged 2 years and older).

We will also charter a private bus which will depart from the Feast site for Montpellier at around 5:30 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 11. Expected arrival times at Montpellier train station and airport are **6:30 a.m.** and **7:00 a.m.**, respectively. If considering this option, please be sure your flight's departure time is no earlier than 9:00 AM. This one-way service is available for €30 per person (aged 2 years and older). For more information on Montpellier airport, see <https://montpellier-airport.com/>.

Reminder about passports and visas

American and Canadian citizens need a valid passport for travel to France, but no visa is currently required if the visit is less than 90 days. For citizens of the EU, a national ID card is all that is required. Visitors from countries other than those mentioned above should check online or with a French consulate to learn if they need a visa.

Lodging

This site is not a hotel; one cannot arrive and get a room during the Feast without booking through COGWA.

The accommodations were recently renovated. They are very basic by North American standards. Each unit is furnished with a TV, a kitchenette, a bathroom (shower and sink), water closet (toilet), and a terrace with garden furniture. Rooms vary in size, and larger accommodations will be set aside for larger families. Bedding and bath towels will be supplied at the beginning of the Feast and changed once during your stay. (Soap and washcloths are not supplied.) Extra linen and towel changes will be available for a charge of €10 per person, per change-out. Daily maid service is not included but is also available for a small charge. It is not possible to arrive earlier than Friday afternoon, Oct. 2. All guests must check out by 12 noon on Oct. 11.

Electricity:

The electrical current in France is 200-220 volts, 50 cycles. This will burn out North American appliances if no transformer is used. (In the past, several visitors attending the Feast in France have had “bad hair days” due to short-lived but supercharged curling irons!) Note that a transformer is not the same thing as an adapter. An adapter is the plug that allows the appliance to be connected to the wall outlet. The sockets in France generally have two thin cylindrical prongs rather than the rectangular flat-type found in North America. A transformer is a separate item (a small box) that actually modifies the electrical current. Several companies market travel sets that include both a transformer and several European adapters. Such sets usually cost about \$25 and are available at luggage shops or department stores.

Services available:

Free parking is available. There is a coin-operated laundry facility. Wi-Fi Internet access is available in the common areas. On-site recreational facilities include basketball, soccer, tennis, a *pétanque* court (we’ll show you how to play *pétanque*—you’ll love it!), and a children’s playground. Bike rentals are available on a first-come, first-served basis.



Meals

Since your lodging includes full board, three meals will be provided in the restaurant. Breakfast will be served buffet-style, while lunch and dinner will be served family-style at the table. French custom is not to serve a table until everyone has arrived and it is full. So please plan to be on time for lunch and dinner.

Meal schedule:

Meal service will begin with dinner on Oct. 2.

Breakfast: 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.

Lunch: 12:30 p.m.

Dinner: 7:30 p.m.



Financial information

Costs:

The prices include a small fee to help offset Festival expenses. These prices are for full board, including wine with lunch and dinner, starting from the evening of Friday, Oct. 2, through the morning of Sunday, Oct. 11.

Per adult single occupancy:	€700	Per child aged 4-11:	€460
Per adult double occupancy:	€565	Per child aged 2-3:	€355
Per child aged 12-15:	€515	Per child aged 0-1:	free

Making Your Payment:

Once you are accepted for transfer to this Feast site, we will provide you with the necessary details for making your payment as well as deadlines associated with securing your stay.

Exchanging money at the Feast:

The currency now used in France is the euro. At this time in early 2020, €1 was worth approximately US\$1.11.

Banking hours in small towns and villages of France are typically 9 a.m. to noon and 2 to 5 p.m. We recommend that you change at least a small amount of money before you leave on your trip, to ensure you will have some local currency when you arrive. An ATM card with which to withdraw euros from French ATMs is the easiest means of changing money in country. Your home bank account is debited in your home currency, and there is a small exchange fee.

It is always a good idea to have at least two different means of procuring euros in case there is a problem with an ATM machine or with your card. We recommend bringing some cash for emergencies. Visa and MasterCard are widely accepted in France; American Express is accepted in very limited locations; Discover card is unknown and not accepted.

Feast registration

Registration will open on April 5.

Please complete your registration according to the instructions found on the COGWA Feast website: <http://feast.cogwa.org/>. Acceptance will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Since we accept transfers from around the globe, we use registration order to determine order of acceptance. Those we are unable to accept will be informed that they have been placed on a waiting list. Those who are initially accepted to transfer will receive a letter of confirmation within a few days of registration. The confirmation letter will contain details and deadlines regarding making payment. For more information, you may contact the Church of God, a Worldwide Association, French Department at 972-521-7777, or Daniel Harper at daniel.harper@cogwa.org.

Projected program and activities

	Fri. Oct. 2	Sabbath Oct. 3	Sun. Oct. 4	Mon. Oct. 5	Tues. Oct. 6	Wed. Oct. 7	Thurs. Oct. 8	Fri. Oct. 9	Sabbath Oct. 10
Morning			Service	Service	Service	Service	Service	Service	Service
Afternoon		Service	Excursion	Excursion	Excursion	Excursion	Excursion	Family Day	Service
Evening	Service 9 p.m.						Talent Show		Au Revoir evening

Church services and translation:

You do not need to understand French to attend this site. Approximately half of the services will be held in French, the other half in English. In each case, simultaneous translation will be provided via FM radio transmission. **Those wishing to make use of the translation service will need to provide their own FM radios, batteries (please bring spares), and earphones. We will not be able to provide these items at the site.** Such items are usually less expensive and easier to purchase in the United States and Canada than they are in France. The first service will be held on Oct. 2 at 9 p.m.

Excursions:

Some afternoons during the Feast, coach excursions will be offered for a per-person price. Payment for excursions will be made at the Feast site.

Excursions will be planned to points of interest in the area such as Narbonne, Aigues-Mortes, Sète, Carcassonne, and Collioure. Further details and pricing for each excursion will be made available to those who register to attend the Feast in Montagnac.