

Feast of Tabernacles 2024

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 over 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

If needed, we will charter a private bus from Montpellier airport (MPL) to the Feast site on **Wednesday, October 16th**. To take the shuttle, you must be able to board the coach by **3:00 pm**. The shuttle service is scheduled to leave at around 3 p.m. which allows for the Air France flight from Paris to get in at 2.40 p.m. The shuttle will then go to the two train stations at Montpellier (if they're both needed), arriving at about 3.15 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. respectively. The estimated travel time by bus is 1 hour. (We can adapt the departure time somewhat if it suits everybody). This one-way service is available for about **€35** 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 Friday October 25th. 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 **also available for around €35** per person (aged 2 years and older). For more information on Montpellier airport, see <https://montpellier-airport.com/>.

Reminder about passport, visas, and Coronavirus requirements

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. Currently, France does not require proof of COVID vaccination or testing in order to enter, but visitors are advised to bring proof of vaccination if they have it (just in case), and to check if there have been any changes in requirements a month before their travel begins.

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 small charge. Daily maid service is not included but is also available for a small charge. It is not possible to arrive earlier than Wednesday afternoon, October 16. All guests must check out by 12 noon on Oct. 25.

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 October 16.

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 Wednesday October 16th through the morning of Friday, October 25.**

Per adult single occupancy:	€720
Per adult double occupancy:	€600
Per child aged 4-11:	€500
Per child aged 2-3	€380
Per child aged 0-1:	free (no meals)

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. As of mid-January 2024, €1 was worth approximately US\$1.09.

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

After registration on the COGWA Feast website, those who have been accepted will be receiving confirmation. The confirmation letter will contain details and deadlines regarding making payment. Those we are unable to accept will be put on a waiting list if they request it. For more information, you may contact me (James Muir) at james.muir@cogwa.org.

Projected program and activities

	Wednesday Oct. 16	Thursday Oct. 17	Friday Oct. 18	Sabbath Oct. 19	Sunday Oct. 20	Monday Oct. 21	Tuesday Oct. 22	Wednesday Oct. 23	Thursday Oct. 24
Morning			Service	Service	Service	Service	Service	Service	Service
Afternoon		Service	Family Day	Service	Excursion	Excursion	Excursion	Excursion	Service
Evening	Service 9 p.m.	Pot de bienvenue			French association		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 October 16 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 including the medieval fortified city of Aigues-Mortes. Charlemagne erected a tower on the site in the 8th century to provide security to local fishermen. Monks ran salt-production operations in the area for centuries. But it was King Louis IX, who can lay claim to being the true father of Aigues-Mortes, and his new town grew to become one of the most important strategic ports on the Mediterranean and the launch point for the crusade to reclaim Jerusalem from Muslim aggressors.



Aigues-Mortes



Collioure

Collioure is a fortified fishing port near the Spanish border. It is famous for its sea views, its picturesque pedestrian streets, its cuisine, and for its history as a favorite location of artists such as Henri Matisse.

Carcassonne is the most complete medieval city in France, complete with two concentric walls and a ducal castle. It has been the backdrop of many films. To walk in Carcassonne is to take a step back in time.

There will also be an excursion to Sète and Montpellier.



Ramparts of Carcassonne



Sète



Montpellier