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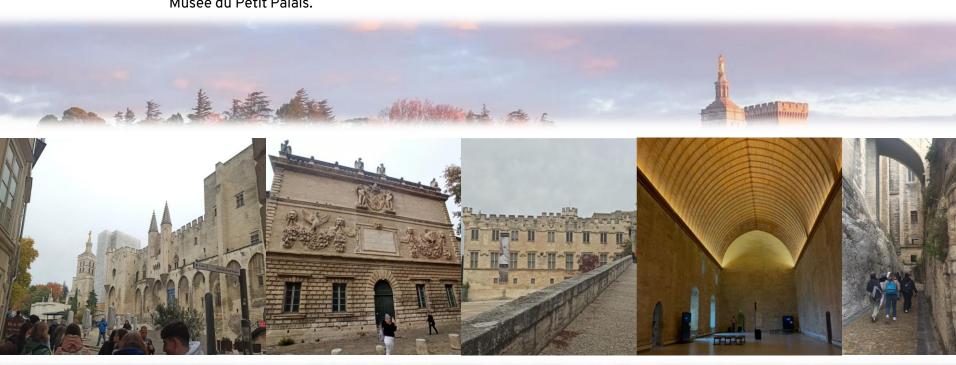


#### **The Roure Palace**

At a short distance from the place de l'Horloge, in Rue Collége du Roure, is the Palais du Roure, dating from the 15th century. Built for a Florentine banking family, this house has been transformed into a cultural centre.

### The Palace of the Popes

Avignon became the city of the popes thanks to a shrewdness by King Philip the Fair who, in 1309, invited Pope Clement V to Provence, claiming he wanted to protect him from the growing anarchy that reigned in Rome. The real reason was to control papal power, forging an alliance with those at the top. The palace of the Popes is located in place du Palais and is truly mammoth. Once in the square, one cannot help but be amazed seeing its generous dimensions, which stretch up to the church of Notre Dame, including the cathedral of Avignon, the Hôtel des Monnaies and the Musée du Petit Palais.





### The St. Bénézet Bridge

The bridge is located on the Rhone river just in front of the city of Villeneuve, towards which it extends. In reality, it originally led right from the opposite side of the river, but the considerable force of the water over the years has overwhelmed it several times, leaving it maimed. The Saint-Bénezet bridge was built in the 12th century and its length was 900 meters. Its somewhat curved shape was a fundamental communication route, as it had the only bridge over the Rhone river that connected Lyon to the Mediterranean. The impetus of the river had repeatedly damaged the structure of the bridge which, however, was promptly restored until man's stubbornness surrendered to the force of nature.

#### **Notre-Dame-Des-Doms Cathedral**

The Notre-Dame des Doms cathedral is the main place of Catholic worship in Avignon and the bishopric of the archdiocese of the same name. Located next to the Palace of the Popes, it has been a historical monument of France since 1840 and, since 1995, a world heritage site. In 1854 it was awarded the title of minor basilica. Its position on an elevated rock ledge, its imposing spire surmounted by a statue of the Virgin and its proximity to the palace of the Popes allow it to dominate the valley and be seen from far away.







### The Ramparts of Avignon

The ramparts of Avignon are the fortifications surrounding the historic center of Avignon in the Vaucluse department, in the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region. It is one of the rare French cities to have kept all its ramparts.

# <u>06</u>

### **Pie Square**

The Piazza Pie is a beautiful square near Les Halles, the indoor market. The Saint Jean Tower is located here. The Piazza Pie is very close to the Rue de la Republique (The Street of the Republic).







## The Rocher des Doms park

The rocher des Doms is a rocky outcrop on the left bank of the Rhone, used as a shelter by the founders of Avignon and then included in the urban development of the city. It dominates the river and its valley from more than 30 m. Its summit is occupied by a public garden.

### The Basilica of Saint Peter of Avignon

In Place Saint-Pierre is located the basilica of Saint-Pierre d'Avignon. We arrive in front of the entrance, in a small square that seems almost hidden. Here one cannot help but be struck by the large Gothic-style façade, decorated by two small pointed towers on the sides. St. Peter's Basilica was built in the 14th century on the remains of a 7th century church which was destroyed by the Saracens.







### Clock Square, Opéra Théâtre, Hôtel de Ville

The Clock Square is a square located between the New Benches street and the New Government street, and the Mount Jordan in Rome street in the Ponte district. The Opéra D'Avignon is an opera house that has been in operation for nearly two centuries. The initial opera house was built in 1824-1825 and opened with its inaugural performance on October 30, 1825. The Hotel de Ville D'Avignon is a Grand Building Located on the Place de l'Horloge, not far from the Place du Palais.

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### The Street of the Republic

Rue de la République is the largest of Avignon's three main thoroughfares, created within the city walls during the 19th century, the other two being Rue Thiers and Boulevard Raspail.



