



nileGUIDE

ALL YOU NEED TO PLAN YOUR PERFECT TRIP



Emma Muldoon

Top 5 Religious Sights In Lyon

Lyon, 1 Day

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Guide Description



AUTHOR NOTE: There are hundreds of religious sights to visit in Lyon, so choosing between the many can be tricky if you have a limited number of days in the city. In this guide I have focused on, well, to be honest, my personal favourites, but I'm sure they will not leave you disappointed.

Basilique de Fourviere has been chosen for its iconic status on the religious sights scene - and also because it is completely awe inspiring (see guide photo for interior view). Cathedrale St-Jean has been chosen owing to its position and religious significance in Lyon since the 4th century, St-Nizier; because of the churches very beautiful indigo stained glass windows, and Grand Mosque de Lyon is among the top 5 religious sights in Lyon because Persian arcs and a huge glass pyramid (located over the entrance patio) are just a couple of the architectural achievements that make this mosque a special religious sight in Lyon.

Itinerary Overview

things to do
restaurants
hotels
nightlife

Day 1 - Lyon



Basilique de Fourvière

The centrepiece of Lyon's glory



Église Saint-Bruno-des-Chartreux

Unique Baroque church on Croix-Rousse hill



Cathédrale St-Jean

Roman & Gothic



Grande Mosquée de Lyon

Grand Mosque



St-Nizier

Gothic church of St. Nizier

contact:

tel: +33 4 7825 1301 / +33 4 7825 8619 (Reservations)
fax: +33 4 7238 2835
<http://www.fourviere.org/>

location:

Place de Fourvière
Lyon 69005

1 Basilique de Fourvière

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:

The Office du Tourisme provide an unusual tour of the roof tops of Basilique de Fourvière. For more information contact the Office du Tourisme at Place Bellecour.

DESCRIPTION: Built between 1872 and 1884 by the architect Pierre Bossan, the Basilique de Fourvière, that has been nicknamed the "upside down elephant" is representative of the eclecticism of the end of the 19th century. The oriental, symbolist and neo-classic influences (twisted columns and columned porticoes) are mixed with architecture inspired by the medieval style machicolated towers, which creates a shocking fortress church. An observatory offers spectacular views, and under the basilica is a crypt, accessible from the esplanade. Guided tours are available. Check website for mass and admission details. © wcities.com



Chris 73

contact:

tel: +33 4 7210 9655
<http://baroque-stbruno.com>

location:

7 Impasse des Chartreux
Lyon 69001

2 Église Saint-Bruno-des-Chartreux

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:

Église Saint-Bruno-des-Chartreux is situated just a few minutes away from the lovely Place Sathonay; a great location for Croix-Rousse style cafe culture.

DESCRIPTION: The principal interest of the abbey church of Saint Bruno des Chartreux lies in its rarity: it's one of the few baroque churches in Lyon. The monastery to which it belonged to was destroyed like many others during the Revolution. All that remains is a little cloister south of the chancel through which the monks would enter to go to services, and of course the abbey church itself. The long chancel used by the monks dates from the 16th century. The stalls were carved in the 18th century by Van der Heyden, from drawings by J.G. Soufflot. The nave and the transept, which were built in the 18th century by Delamonce, are baroque in style, as is the dome. A series of interesting paintings from that era hang in the abbey church, notably the two by C. Tremolières which can be seen in the transept: the Ascension and the Assumption (1737). The façade was constructed much later between 1868 and 1872. © wcities.com



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contact:

tel: +33 4 7842 2829
http://cathedrale-lyon.cef.fr/

location:

Rue Saint Jean
Lyon 69005

3 Cathédrale St-Jean

DESCRIPTION: The church of Lyon's bishop, one of Gaul's most important, has been situated on the banks of the Saone at the bottom of Fourvière hill since the 4th Century. Construction of the present building started in 1170-1180 and the chancel and facade were finished in the 14th Century: the cathedral is a testament to the evolution of Lyon's religious architecture. This historical church is host to many events, concerts and religious lectures throughout the year. © wcities.com



Emma Muldoon

contact:

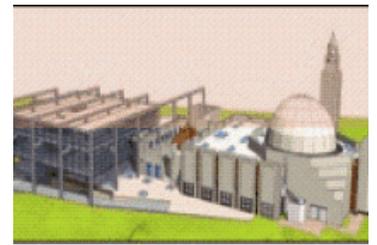
tel: +33 4 7876 0023
fax: +33 4 7875 7742
http://www.mosquee-lyon.org/

location:

146 Boulevard Pinel
Lyon 69008

4 Grande Mosquée de Lyon

DESCRIPTION: The Grande Mosquée de Lyon was conceived by the Ballandras and Mirabeau of Lyon and was mainly funded by King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and by other Muslim countries. Opened in September 1994, the mosque responded to its critics with a mix of discretion and occidental modernity. The Persian arcs of the façade, the minaret which is 25 meters high and the white dome mounted on a crescent are the most apparent exterior elements, but it is on the inside where you can see the real architectural dexterity. The entrance patio is covered by a glass pyramid supported by 230 columns. A mezzanine level was fitted in the prayer room for the women, which overhangs the mihrab showing the direction of Mecca. The mihrab is decorated with a blue mosaic saying the famous verse "there is no other God than God and Mohammed is his prophet". The mosque also has a documentation center. © wcities.com



Grande Mosquée de Lyon

contact:

tel: +33 4 7839 2408

location:

1 Place St-Nizier
Lyon 69001

5 St-Nizier

DESCRIPTION: The church of Saint Nizier is one of the oldest in Lyon - writers of the Middle Ages described it as the funeral basilica where the ashes of the first Lyonnaise martyrs in 177 were kept. According to the famous 6th century writer Grégoire de Tours it was the tomb of his uncle Saint Nizier, the namesake of the church. What is certain is that the edifice founded under bishop Leidrade, close to Charlemagne, has disappeared because it was replaced by the present construction in the 15th century. Saint Nizier is in reality a clever mixture of Gothic, Baroque and Neogothic architecture! The oldest parts like the majority of the façade and the interior area are in a Gothic style: the north steeple was constructed using the ideas of old Roman monuments, the nave is a perfect example of Gothic flamboyance (see Triforium and ribs of the vault). The columned apse of the entrance porch, added in 1579 by J. Vallet, adds a little touch of Renaissance. But overall it is the revival of interest in the Middle Ages that has been the inspiration for many modifications: A. Benoit constructed the south steeple using the design of the north steeple, but making it a little more geometric (1855-56) and the interior fittings were



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completely modified (furnishings, stain glass windows, organ, paintings, and statues). © wcities.com

Lyon Snapshot

Local Info

France's third-largest city, Lyon is best known for its culinary prowess and its lively cultural scene. A metropolis with a vibrant ambience, Lyons takes advantage of its strategic location between the north and south of Europe to welcome travelers from all over the continent.

Sights

Lyon does not have the grand landmarks-- the Eiffel Tower, the Louvre, the Champs Elysees-- but it does have its share of historic architecture. The city was founded by Romans in 43 BC and was the empire's capital of Gaul. There are several Roman sites worth a visit, including the oldest Roman theater in France. There is also a mediaeval quarter near the city center with charming, cobbled pedestrian streets and the most Italian Renaissance architecture in France. Many of the buildings here date to the 15th century and most have now been refurbished and painted in the pastel hues of Tuscany. For a panoramic view over the city, take the funicular up Fourviere Hill, where you'll also find the Fourviere Basilica, built between 1872 and 1896.

Lyon has cultural events happening almost every week and you can easily find a show by checking the local dailies for music, opera and dance performances. There are plenty of theaters and cafe-theaters in the city where you can catch anything from avant-garde productions to comedy to the classics.

Shopping

Lyon was once the center of the European silk industry and this legacy lives on in La Croix-Rousse, where there are still many local artisans and craftsmen selling beautiful silk creations. If you're looking for antique pieces, head for the narrow streets of Rue Auguste Comte. If you're in the market for branded luxury goods, try the Place des Jacobins or the Place Bellecour (the largest "clear square" in Europe), as well as the trendy boutiques

along Rue Emile Zola, Rue Gasparin and Rue President Herriot. Also check out the very French department store Printemps and the lovely glass-roofed Galeries Lafayette Part Dieu.

Dining

Lyon claims the title of France's gastronomic capital-- and those who think French food is the best go one step further and call the city the culinary center of the world. Lyon is full of high-end dining but eating on a budget is also possible, particularly at the Croix-Rousse Market, Lyon's biggest and busiest. Here you'll find vendors selling fresh bread, roasted chickens, pastries, sausages and many different cheeses. St. Antoine market is another option for eating on a budget, though it is slightly pricier than Croix-Rousse. For upscale dining, Lyons has plenty of bistros, wine shops and restaurants to please the pickiest palates. Definitely reserve a night to eat in one of the city's many vibrant, no-frills bouchons, where you'll find traditional Lyonnaise dishes like sausages, roast pork and pates. There is a wide variety in the neighborhood around city hall.

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History

Nestled between Fourvière and Croix-Rousse Hills, nicknamed by author Michelet during the 19th century "The Praying One" and "The Working One" respectively, Lyon is the second largest French metropolis after Paris. Capital of the Rhône-Alpes region, ideally located between Massif Central and the Alps, not far from the Mediterranean, the city benefits from an exceptional location at a cross road of commerce, ideas and cultures. This extraordinary capital offers a plethora of monuments and buildings telling the tale of Lyon's 2000-year history. Accordingly, 1235 acres of the town were classified as a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1998.

From the founding of Lugdunum city to the downfall of the Roman Empire Lyon's

site was settled long before the city was formally founded by the Romans. Legend explains that the city is named after a god from Celtic mythology. Tribes from northern Europe (Celts) are said to have erected a sanctuary in honor of Lug, the God of the Sun or a God of Light. This sanctuary was supposedly located on Fourvière Hill, next to Lyon's other original site, Condate, at the bottom of Croix-Rousse Hill.

The true history of this city began after the Romans founded it during the first century before Christ. Julius Caesar, during his campaign to conquer the Three Gauls in 58 B.C., decided to set up camp at the bottom of Fourvière Hill. In 43 B.C., a lieutenant named Lutius Muniatus Placus chose the same site to build the city of Lugdunum which would welcome Romans expelled from neighboring Vienna by the Allobroges. The name of the city has several meanings. It could mean "Hill of the Light" (Lug being equivalent to the Latin lux, meaning light) or "Hill of the Crow" (taking Lug from the word lukos meaning crow, an animal that announces the presence of God Lug in Celtic mythology). In 27 B.C., Lugdunum gained weight and importance when named Capital of the Three Gauls under Emperor Augustus. Little by little, the city grew significant enough to become second only to Rome in the Roman Empire. Its role, originally limited to military, was expanded to include politics, economics, and religion. An amphitheater, called Amphithéâtre des 3 Gaules, was built at the bottom of Croix-Rousse Hill to celebrate the imperial cult. It was the meeting venue for the 60 Gallic tribes attending the ceremonies. Later expanded to host as many as 20,000, it served to honor and entertain Roman Emperors visiting the city. During the period of conversion to Christianity in 177 A.D., 48 Christian martyrs were sacrificed here, including Bishop Pothinus and Saint Blandina. Under Augustus' reign, many monuments were erected like the Theater, the Temple dedicated to the Phrygian goddess Cybele, and the thermal facilities.

The downfall of the Roman Lugdunum began with the first invasion by Germanic

Lyon Snapshot continued

peoples in 276 A.D. and the internal squabbling that accompanied the decline of the Roman Empire. The once thriving city fell victim to the pillaging and political instability that put an end to its growth. By the end of the 3rd century, it had lost its status as Capital of the Three Gauls. Its inhabitants, expelled from their houses by tribes of Barbarians, found refuge in the low part of the town, the old city now called Vieux Lyon. Vestiges and tracks from that period remain in the Cathédrale Saint-Jean neighborhood as well as in the Musée de la civilisation Gallo-Romaine, a Gallo-Roman museum.

The gloomy Middle Ages: marked by religious events The early Middle Ages saw the invasion of the Germanic tribes, the Burgundians who were expelled from their territory by the Huns. They finally settled in Lyon and named it Capital of Burgundy in 461. In 532, the sons of Emperor Clovis annexed Burgundy, making Lyon a part of the Frank Empire. During the next several centuries, the city saw many waves of invaders. Outside the brief but stable reign of Emperor Charlemagne(742-814), the city was plagued by ravages and instability as it was successively devastated by Normans, Hungarians and Muslims eager to annex Provence or Burgundy.

After this long dark period, the city was reborn thanks to its religious role in the 11th century, when it was named "Primate of Gaul" in 1079 under the reign of pope Gregory VII. During that period, numerous churches, abbeys and bridges were erected. Among the extraordinary edifices remaining are the Saint-Jean Cathedral and the abbeys Saint-Paul and Saint Martin d'Ainay. The bridges built in the ecclesiastic city at these times created a strong infrastructure for the future development of the garment and food industry and trade. However, Lyon still remained modest in size and much smaller than it had been in the Gallo-Roman times. The Fourvière and Croix-Rousse hills were deserted while the bank alongside the Saône River grew. The bank alongside the Rhône River remained undeveloped until the 15th century because

of the difficulty of building a bridge in the regularly flooding water.

In 1307, Philip IV The Fair definitively attached Lyon, which had always been under the aegis of archbishops, to the French Kingdom. But it remained undeveloped due to the Hundred Years' War and the many disasters(floods, epidemic diseases, etc) that occurred in the 14th century. For example, the Black Plague killed approximately half of Lyon's population in 1343 reducing it to 40,000 people.

From the thriving times of Renaissance to the French Revolution It was not until the Renaissance that Lyon took full advantage of its geographic characteristics. Benefiting from the attention and favors of successive French kings, Louis XI "The Prudent", Charles VIII and Francis I, the city saw its largest development and economic growth. It became a center of trade and business. Charles VIII allowed Lyon to host four international fairs annually, when merchants came from as far as the Middle-East and Asia to buy, sell, and trade silk, leather goods, spices, and metals. Numerous occupations and jobs developed in relation to these trades. The silk industry brought a great number of workers, sometimes highly qualified, to design the best pieces for the French crown. Banking families arrived from thriving Italian cities like Venice, Florence, or Genoa to be part of the bustling city. The first real use of credit was invented in Lyon at that time, and the city was home to Europe's first Stock Exchange(Bourse). Both the economy and the culture flourished. Printing methods had been imported from Germany, and the first book published in the French language was printed in Lyon in 1473. Famous works by legendary French writers- physician and philosopher François Rabelais, poet Louise Labé, and Ronsard- were published here.

This cultural and economical wealth led to the erection of sumptuous masterpieces of architecture that dramatically changed the city of Vieux Lyon. Under the influence of powerful and wealthy families establishing their activities in the city, numerous mansions(hôtels particuliers) were built.

The Hôtel Gadagne which now houses the Musée Historique de Lyon, the Loge du Change, and the Traboules are from that period.

The economic and cultural prosperity of this flourishing city was destabilized by the looming wars between Catholics and Protestants. Beginning in the 1560s, massacres and acts of vengeance plagued the town. People were killed and churches were destroyed, chasing away those engaged in cultural activities and merchants afraid of losing their capital. Banking families returned to Italy while publishers emigrated towards Geneva. Lyon became a working-class city, hidden behind the splendor of Paris.

However, in the 17th and 18th centuries the city regained prosperity thanks to the silk trade and the garment industry. It also benefited from the favors of the prosperous French crown, notably under the reign of Louis XIV. The city was redesigned and roads, buildings, and the Hospital were renovated. The Place des Cordeliers and the Place Bellecour were designed during that period. The general hospital, called Hôtel Dieu, was expanded. Some new buildings appeared: the Hôtel de Ville(the city hall from 1643), Saint Mary's Chapel in Fourvière, the city Theater, and the fountains replacing the medieval wells. Architects and politicians sought to enlarge a narrow city by elevating the buildings(they are taller in Lyon than is common in other French cities) and building new neighborhoods. The Presqu'île, Saint-Clair, and Les Brotteaux neighborhoods knew their development at this time under the aegis of architects Soufflot, Perrache, and Morand.

The French Revolution put an end to this quiet and prosperous period. In 1793, Lyon chose to support the Girondists against the "Convention"(the government that reigned from September 1792 to September 1795) and was considered too royalist. As a result, she had to endure a 2-month siege. During the French Revolution, 2000 people were shot or decapitated in Lyon. The architectural work was suspended and numerous frontages were

Lyon Snapshot continued

ruined, especially in the Place Bellecour neighborhood.

Nevertheless, Lyon's Age of Enlightenment was punctuated by major scientific discoveries surrounding the first veterinary school in Europe, the Brothers Montgolfier (Aérostat), and the notable talents of Ampère, the genius of physics who developed units for measuring electricity.

From the Industrial Revolution to the contemporary era in the 19th century, the main activities in town linked to the silk industry continued to expand but their location, influenced by a number of historical inventions, changed significantly. In the beginning of the century, Joseph Marie Jacquard revolutionized the textile industry by inventing a mechanical loom that could replace six men at work. In need of more space, the workshops moved to the Croix-Rousse hill, and Lyon grew to the north and east. Another major innovation changed the garment industry: the sewing machine of Barthélémy Thimonnier, invented in 1829.

The benefits of the Industrial Revolution in Lyon extended beyond the textile industry itself. The chemistry of dyes and other synthetic products, linked to that industry, saw strong development with the colorant products constituting a foundation for the success of the future giant of French chemistry, Rhône-Poulenc. The pharmaceutical sector was represented by Marcel Mérieux who founded the eponymous institute. Besides Rhône-Poulenc and Mérieux, we should also mention Berliet, a key company in the French automotive industry. The great banking institution, Le Crédit Lyonnais, was created in 1860 as a result of the prosperity of these sectors. Working in Lyon towards the end of the century, the Brothers Lumière developed the cinématographe that founded the modern movie industry. The Institut Lumière, honoring their contributions, was born in 1895. Throughout the 19th century, Lyon underwent rapid economic development due to the railway (constructed in 1832, making it the first railway built in

Europe) linking it to the nearby industrial city of Saint-Étienne.

During this period, the city also witnessed dramatic architectural development. Notable buildings from this time include the Opéra, the Palais de Justice built by Baltard Senior in the old city, the Préfecture, the Basilique de Fourvière, the banks of the Rhône and Saône rivers and the large streets on the Presqu'île. The bourgeoisie, made up of merchants and "captains of industry", lived in the magnificent buildings still standing on the Cours Morand or the Avenue de Saxe. Workings in the Parc de La Tête d'Or began at that same period. By the end of the century, the Guillotière, Croix-Rousse and Vaise neighborhoods had become part of the city. The modern city grew with the construction of large roads, making the town more sanitary, making paths for natural light to fall or to emphasize municipal monuments. Meanwhile, the oldest parts of the city underwent extensive renovations.

Throughout the first half of the 20th century, the mayor of Lyon, Édouard Herriot, continued to remodel the city to improve quality of life for its inhabitants. During his term (1905-1957), numerous public buildings were erected under the direction of architect Tony Garnier. The slaughterhouse and the cattle marketplace remain today as the great Halle, and the Stade Gerland stadium built in 1912, the Hospital, and low-income housing structures are among the masterpieces built under Herriot.

During World War II, being located on the frontier between the occupied and free zone, Lyon played a great role as the headquarters of the French Resistance fighting against the Nazi regime, notably under the leadership of Jean Moulin. It was bombed in May 1944, only months before being freed in September. After the war, as was true throughout France, the population and the city grew again. During the 30 Glorieuses, communication and transportation infrastructure was built to give Lyon its European dimension: the Satolas airport, now called Saint-Exupéry (1975), the metro (1978), the

Fourvière Tunnel, where the highway goes through Lyon, and the TGV (high speed train) shortening the trip between Paris and Lyon to only two hours. Municipal and cultural infrastructures like the Exhibit Center Eurexpo, the Auditorium Maurice Ravel, the Maison de la Danse, the Bibliothèque Municipale, the Palais des Congrès, and the Cité Internationale are also from that time. The Opéra was remodeled by French architect Jean Nouvel as was the Place des Terreaux by Drevet and Buren. In Old Lyon, all the monuments, bridges and riverbanks are illuminated to emphasize the historical and artistic style of this city.

Today's city is much more than the once-industrial city of factories. It is praised for its gastronomy, its arts & crafts, its culture and its history. Thanks to its metalworking activities, its garment industry, and its chemical and pharmaceutical sector, it has developed cutting edge technologies (located in Gerland metropolis) and a bustling business center (in La Part-Dieu neighborhood) offering a new dynamic economy in Lyon which has resulted in the appearance of a large service industry. The Hôtel Hilton and the casino, devotion to cutting-edge research (biotechnology, medical sciences, vehicle manufacturing) and services, the city is dedicated to a successful future.

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Hotel Insights

Like most large cities, Lyon offers a wide range of accommodation, with hotels to suit every taste and pocketbook. To find your way around, it helps to think of the town in terms of three distinct parts separated by two rivers; the rive droite (right bank) of the Saône (comprising Old Lyon and Vaise), the presqu'île (the spit of land between the two rivers) and the rive gauche (left bank) of the Rhône (the eastern districts).

The right bank of the Saône (5ème and 9ème arrondissements) Here in the heart of Old Lyon you will find the finest of the city's four-star hotels: the Cour des Loges and Villa Florentine. Both have a

Lyon Snapshot continued

very particular charm which combines luxury, originality, and beauty of design. A more practical affair is the Terminus Saint Paul, highly recommended due to its excellent location and dedicated upkeep. Further North in the Vaisequartier, the Hôtel du Tourisme stands out for its location overlooking the Saône and its unbeatable prices.

Presqu'île (1er, 2ème and 4ème arrondissements)

This is where most of Lyon's cultural and commercial activity takes place, and the choice of hotels is as large as it is varied. In the Perrache quarter to the south, the Ibis Lyon Centre-Perrache and the Clarine are notable for their excellent value for money. In the central Bellecour quarter, the Royal and Sofitel hotels are the undisputed kings of luxury. Two rather more affordable establishments, noteworthy for their comfort and strategic location, are the Grand Hôtel de la Paix and the Comfort Hôtel Saint-Antoine, both off the rue de la République. In the Terreaux and Croix-Rousse districts, the hotels bearing those names (Hôtel St Pierre des Terreaux and Hôtel de la Croix-Rousse) offer the best prices for service that exceeds expectations.

Rive gauche of the Rhône (3ème, 6ème, 7ème and 8ème arrondissements)

This part of town buzzes with activity, and with good reason. It encompasses the commercial and legal centres, the universities, the Cité Internationale, the Parc de la Tête d'Or, and the largest hospitals in the region. Hotels oriented toward business people abound in the Part-Dieu quarter; Méridien Part-Dieu and Novotel Lyon La Part-Dieu are some of the most luxurious, while the Ibis is less expensive. Not to be missed, further east in the chic Brotteaux quarter, is the Patio Morand, a peaceful and charming old villa. The magnificent Hilton situated in the Cité Internationale is the best option for those in search of peace and quiet, luxury, and proximity to the Parc de la Tête d'Or.

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Restaurants Insights

Restaurants in Lyon: don't believe the hype!

Restaurants in Lyon have quite a reputation to live up to. Recognised nationally and internationally as the gastronomic capital of France, chances are most visits to the city are preceded by high expectations and an eager gearing up to taste the touted supremacy of Lyon's acclaimed restaurants. But does Lyon still live up to the grand reputation of 'gastronomic capital', a title prescribed to it over fifty years ago? Is the label all hype, or does Lyon truly offer something special to visitors wanting to indulge in France's proclaimed capital of quintessential delights? The answer - in short - is yes! And there's a host of reasons to support this confirmation.

A legacy of Lyonnaise cuisine

Evolving from centuries of social and political change, Lyonnaise cuisine owes much of its gastronomic ranking to a cultural legacy that has consistently highlighted the importance of food culture within all reaches of its society. 'Work hard, eat well and enjoy the pleasures of the table', is a socially undivided Lyonnaise maxim that underlines the cultural attitude associating Lyon's enduring economic success with the quality of food served and enjoyed at its tables. Traditionally, Lyonnaise cuisine can be broadly defined as unpretentious, high quality cuisine with roots that lead back to the culinary traditions of *Classique Cuisine*, as apposed to the highly stylised dishes and elaborate serving style of *Haute Cuisine*, or 'high cuisine'. But owing to the city's prime location on the crossroads of French culinary traditions, influences near and far have fed a cuisine evolution that prizes the traditional while embracing the new. In addition, Lyon has served as an oven nurturing the talents of the world's most highly acclaimed chefs. Eugénie Brazier (Les Mères), Paul Bocuse, Pierre Orsi and Jean-Paul Lacombe, are just a few of the city's Michelin award winning chefs, credited in raising the banner for Lyon as 'gastronomic capital' of France.

The foundations of Lyonnaise cuisine

In addition to Lyon's prestigious cuisine legacy and its parenting of superstar chefs, the city's culinary reputation can also be attributed its geographical location and the quality of regional produce. Located favourably in the natural plains of the Rhône-Alpes region, and at the confluence of two regionally significant

waterways (the rivers Rhône and Saône), Lyon is situated at a regional crossroads of culinary traditions and is surrounded by an abundance of fruitful resources and fertile land. To the south of Lyon there's a high concentration of agriculture and farming in Charolais and Bresse, for which Bresse is internationally recognised for the high quality of its free-range chicken farming. To the east, the fish lakes of Savoy provide the kitchens of Lyon with a plethora of fresh fish and to the south, Drôme provides the organic produce and wild game, while the fertile plains of the Rhône Valley deliver a wide variety of seasonal fruits and vegetable. And all of this before the wine has even been added to the table!

Wine, wine, wine, and more wine!

Wine and Lyonnaise cuisine go hand in hand, in fact, the 'pleasures of the table' would not be complete without a bottle or carafe from one of the famed local wine growing regions. Lyon borders with Côtes du Rhône to the south (one of the world's most ancient vineyards), Beaujolais to the north; home of the distinctive gammy grape and the highest vineyard density in the world, and to the west - around the outskirts of the city - Coteaux du Lyonnais are a lesser known, and relatively small appellation, producing wines popular primarily in the restaurants of Lyon.

Knowing your 'brasserie' from your 'bouchon'

With no short supply of fine vintages and fresh produce, and with a legacy of nurtured culinary expertise, Lyon is in good shape to be granted the award of French gastronomic capital, but there's still one ingredient missing from the pot. The Restaurants! Lyon contains France's highest concentration of restaurants per capita, and given that the French love to categorise, the city's restaurants fall into an array of classifications that can prove to be a bit bewildering to the uninitiated food enthusiast, and it's no wonder! Lyon features over one thousand restaurants that are highly concentrated within the central area of the city. Walking down the street - particularly the restaurant packed streets of Rue de Marronniers and Rue Mercière - the cuisine excited visitors may find the vast number of restaurants and their unique titles a bit perplexing. A 'bistrot', followed by a 'bouchon', followed by a 'brasserie', and the list goes on as you stand spoilt for choice and a bit mystified about French restaurant classification. Of

Lyon Snapshot continued

course, 'mystification', is one of the joys of travelling, and delving-on-in is often the best way to decode the French culinary enigma, but for those visiting the city for a short period of time, some prior knowledge can result in less time pondering and more time tasting, so get ready for a quick 'what's' in knowing your 'bouchon' from your 'brasserie' in the gastronomic capital of France.

The Lyonnaise 'bouchon'

'Bouchon' is the typically Lyonnaise name given to small, intimate and friendly restaurants, which specialise in traditionally hearty Lyonnaise cuisine. The 'bouchon' menu is characterised by being simple, reasonably priced, substantial and heavily meat based, with dishes that include; Tête de Veaux (calf's head), Coq au Vin (chicken thighs stuffed with morels), Andouillette (tripe sausage made with veal) and Lyon's famed Quenelle (pike dumpling). Wines found in Lyon's 'bouchons' are generally regional, with Côte de Rhône and Beaujolais being the most common table wines on offer.

There are hundreds of 'bouchons' in Lyon, but only around twenty are certified with the title of 'Authentique Bouchon', as subscribed by the certifying body 'Authentique Bouchons Lyonnais'. You can recognise an authentic 'bouchon' by looking on restaurant windows for a sticker portraying a little (drunk) guy holding a glass of wine, with the words 'Authentique Bouchon Lyonnais' printed on the edge of the sticker. 'Bouchons' well worth a visit include; Chez Paul, Chez Mounnierre, Café du Soleil and Café des Fédérations, all notable for their true 'bouchon' hospitality and quintessential Lyonnaise menu.

The 'brasserie'

The word 'brasserie' comes from the French word 'brasser', meaning to malt or brew, therefore in French and Lyonnaise 'brasseries', expect to find an emphasis on food with beer rather than wine. That said, most Lyonnaise 'brasseries' tend to include an extensive wine selection in addition to a variety of beers. The 'brasserie' originated in Alsace, so the menu generally features a lot of seafood and specialities such as Sauerkraut. For a truly authentic 'brasserie' experience in Lyon, head to the daddy of them all, Brasserie Georges.

The mothers of Lyon

A little bit of history is required in explaining the appearance and importance of restaurants 'Les Mères' (the mothers) in Lyon. Starting somewhere around the middle of the 1800's, a number of women in Lyon left their employment as cooks in rich bourgeoisie households, finding a better uses for their culinary talents in setting up shop on their own. These women started a tradition of 'Les Mères' cuisine, which would prove to be hugely influential in Lyon and beyond. In fact, Paul Bocuse apprenticed at Lyon's acclaimed Mère Brazier, a restaurant owned by Eugénie Brazier who, in 1933, was the first female chef to be awarded three Michelin stars. 'Les Mères' honest and refined cuisine, in addition to the 'being fed at mamma's house' atmosphere, is still very popular in Lyon today. In addition to Mère Brazier, visitors should check out the culinary girl-power at Mère Vittet and Mère Jean.

Bigwig restaurants in Lyon

From Classic Cuisine, to Haute Cuisine, to Nouvelle Cuisine – and everything in between – Lyon's big name, Michelin starred restaurants are the place to go for dining at its most rated, and most expensive. Leaders on the table include the famed restaurant of Paul Bocuse; Auberge du Pont de Collonges, which is just outside of Lyon, and La Terrasses de Lyon is notable in the big league, not only for its Michelin starred Haute Cuisine menu, but also for the restaurant's special location on Fourvière hill (within La Villa Florentine hotel). Located near to Tête d'Or park, Pierre Orsi is another big name glowing on the list of Lyon's great culinary achievements and Léon de Lyon-restaurant owned by Lyon's acclaimed Jean-Paul Lacombe- should also be included for its iconic status and two Michelin star awards. Restaurant de Fourvière is another Michelin starred restaurant, but like La Terrasses de Lyon, it is notable for its location, as well as its award winning menu.

The Lyonnaise Café

Café culture in Lyon centres around terrace fronted establishments which typically offer a number of hot drinks including coffee and hot chocolate, and alcoholic drinks including; wines, beers and spirits. Food is generally not the focus of the café, but you will usually find some food on offer, ranging from light-bites to full meals. A common fare of cafés in Lyon is the aperitif menu, which can include a selection of cold meats,

sausages, pates and pickled vegetables. The categorisation of cafés can sometimes become a bit blurred, with restaurants such as Café de Négociants and Café des Fédérations using the title of café, when in fact they provide extensive menus and restaurant services. For typical café culture, visit Café 203, and for a notable café-restaurant, visit Café Perl, located in a lovely area near Église Saint Nizier.

International restaurants

As you would expect to find in France's second largest city, international restaurants are represented in droves, and being located in an internationally acclaimed gastronomic city, standards are high as international restaurants stretch to achieve the benchmark set in France's gastronomic capital. Some notable international menus include that of Lolo Quoi, a large Italian restaurant with an extensive menu (located on the restaurant packed Rue Mercier) and Saigon Gourmet offers Vietnamese food at its very best. Saigon Gourmet is located on Rue Passet, within the Vietnam/ Chinatown area of the Guillotière neighbourhood. This is the area to arrive for a taste of East Asia in Lyon. La Mamounia, a popular Moroccan restaurant, offering a reasonably priced menu, is a good place to go for a taste of North Africa and Indian food at its best can be found at Shalima in Croix-Rousse.

Lyon and the Salon de Thé

The traditionally French Salon de Thé (tea room) offers non-alcoholic drinks, including tea, with light snacks and pastries. However, in recent history, with influences from North Africa and the Middle East, the Lyonnaise Salon de Thé is more akin to an Egyptian tea room offering shisha pipes, a variety of tea beverages and light meals or snacks. These tea rooms are a real addition to Lyon. Attracting a youthful clientele, Salon de Thé establishments are a great place to have a light meal, drink some tea and sit back on a comfy chair while smoking shisha! A few good ones to try are L'Arbre à Thé, La Shisha des Gones and Le Pharaoh.

The bistrot

A bistrot, in its original Parisian form, is a small restaurant serving reasonably priced meals amidst simple surroundings. In Lyon, bistrotts tend to combine bar and restaurant facilities on a varying scale. Some bistros are primarily bar oriented, while others

Lyon Snapshot continued

provide a full food menu. The title of 'bistrot' doesn't fit very well within Lyonnaise restaurant categorisation. Being a primarily Parisian type of eatery, the rough equivalent to the bistrot in Lyon is the home grown 'bouchon'. Generally, if you see the word 'bistrot' in a restaurant title in Lyon, it's likely to offer a menu including some Lyonnaise specialities along with dishes of a more national flavour. A good example of this type of bistrot is Bistrot Verdi, located on historic Rue Giuseppe Verdi, not far from the Opera National de Lyon.

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Nightlife Insights

ART AND CULTURE Lyon is one of the most famous cities in France for its artistic and cultural activity. Once the capital of Gaul, the contemporary city has succeeded in gracefully combining ancient and modern components, and has earned the classification of UNESCO World Heritage Site. Visitors can explore the celebrated old neighborhoods of Lyon, enjoy the city's museums, artistic and historical, and search through the many libraries or take in the great variety of educational attractions.

Museums Lyon boasts a wealth of museums, all worth a visit. The best known and most popular are the Musée de la Civilisation Gallo-Romaine, which explains in depth the history of ancient Gaul under the Roman Empire, the Museum d'Histoire Naturelle, the Musée des Beaux-Arts, a name recognized worldwide, the Institut Lumière, which focuses on the Lumière brothers and their great invention and finally the Musée des Miniatures, which provides a birds'-eye view of our world, reproduced in miniature.

Film Lyon is certainly not lacking movie theaters, offering new releases, old classics, and even small, low budget movies. The most popular movie theaters in Lyon, frequented for their quality and reasonable prices are the UGC Lyon Part Dieu 4, the Pathé and the Ciné Cité. These cinemas show new releases for the most part, in very comfortably equipped screening rooms. Lesser known or small-budget movies and old cult classics can be

found in the local cinemas, like the Cinéma Opéra, the Fourmi and the Cinéma Le Zola, as well as the UGC Astoria which shows both major motion pictures and small-budget films. Finally, it would be criminal to forget the marvelous and historical Institut Lumière.

Theater & Dance There are many stages for theater and dance performances in Lyon, which are usually well-appreciated and frequented by the population. The best-known are the Théâtre des Jeunes Années, the Théâtre National Populaire, the Maison de la Danse, the Théâtre des Célestins, and the Théâtre de la Croix-Rousse. Lyon is an excellent place both to discover new talent and admire established names, as many well-known troupes make this city a regular stop.

MUSIC Classical Auditory treats abound in Lyon, with busy concert schedules at the Auditorium Maurice Ravel and the Opéra de Lyon. The Opera hall is truly spectacular, the sound is remarkable, and the decor beautiful. A memorable evening is guaranteed, particularly on nights featuring masterpieces like the Magic Flute.

Jazz & Blues Those travelers who love nothing better than a peaceful evening accompanied by the soulful sounds of jazz and blues will have no trouble getting some satisfaction in Lyon. There are many music-themed bars which cater to this style: try the Hot Club or the New Orléans to start out.

Rock There are also many places where you can enjoy good rock music: the Eden Rock Café, the Phoebus, and the Atmosphère are all worth visiting. The groups who perform are good, and the number of skilled musicians in Lyon is surprisingly high.

House, Dance, Techno These genres of music are typically found in dance bars and discos, such as DV1 and the Chapelle Club.

NIGHTCLUBS AND SHOWS Lyon by night is by no means Paris, and many find the town less "active" than it should be,

considering its size. Still, there are many places to go out and have fun on the town with a friend (or a few!). There are excellent evenings to be had at Duplex, Eden Rock, or the République. The atmosphere of these nightspots is young and energetic.

Of course there are also places for more intense partying or drinking. The rue Sainte Catherine is unbeatable for mythic nights, if not always the most pleasant. Bars line the street, creating an energetic buzz all night. Start at Ayers Rock and keep moving down the street for an intense evening! A final suggestion for the night: varied bars and pubs follow each other from Saint-Jean to Vaise along the Saône riverside. Cruise through to find a fun-loving crowd!

DISTRICTS Saint-Jean is the most widely known district of Lyon. The Cathédrale St-Jean and the visual beauty of the neighborhood are remarkable, and the restaurants deserve recognition. The cobblestone streets lead peacefully to old Lyon, where cars are quite rare because they are barred from the area. Locals and tourists on foot enjoy the "Traboules" (passages particular to Lyon which traverse courtyards and link the streets) and historical architecture. The Place des Terreaux, situated in the heart of the city, is also quite popular. Always full of crowds, there are many shops in this area: there's a bar on every corner, and a large, straight avenue links the Hôtel de Ville and the Place Bellecour, where attractive people compliment the ornate architecture.

The Part-Dieu area is quite popular, thanks to its well-known shopping center, the Centre Commercial de la Part-Dieu. You can find anything you want here, despite the intense summer heat and overwhelming crowds.

The sixth arrondissement is the fashionable quarter of Lyon, providing a quiet and peaceful space for those seeking luxury and beauty.

The Gerland area is known mainly for its stadium, the Stade de Gerland, which belongs to the Olympique Lyonnais.

Lyon Snapshot continued

The Laurent Bonnevey quarter is that of the Astroballe, the stadium of the famous basketball team ASVEL Basket.

SPORTS Lyon has something to offer most sports lovers with the Gerland stadium for the Olympique Lyonnais and the Astroballe for ASVEL Basket. It also has many other stadiums, gymnasiums, and sports cafes, notably the Victoire.

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Things to Do Insights

Walking in 500 hectares of UNESCO World Heritage

Have you're walking shoes on and get ready for an up, down, in and around trek through 2000 years of history in Lyon's UNESCO World Heritage zone. The following walking guides divide the zone into bite size pieces, including routes which will transport you to the most interesting sights and places of interest in Lyon's 500 hectares of World Heritage.

Splitting Lyon's World Heritage zone into digestible pieces means you can cover the whole terrain in a few days, or you can take it more leisurely over many days, it's up to you. Each guide focuses on the route and indicates the major sights and places of interest along the way. If you want to get more detailed information on a particular highlighted sight or place of interest, just click on the link for full details. In addition, stopping times are not indicated, so it's completely up to you how little or how long you spend at each place of interest!

Bellecour to Saint Georges

Starting from Place Bellecour, walk northwest along the square's perimeter; heading in the direction of the river Saône. Cross Rue du Plat and arrive at Quai des Célestines, in the vicinity of Théâtre des Célestins. Continue forward and cross the bridge Pont Bonaparte. You'll probably want to stop halfway on the bridge to take in the wonderful view along the Saône. To your left, see the colourful hues which typify the buildings along Quai Fulchiron and to the right, the beginning of Quai Romain Rolland, the location of more than a few lively nightlife spots! Continue forward now and enter the historic terrain of Vieux Lyon!

Turning left at the end of Pont Bonaparte bridge, walk south along Quai Fulchiron.

You will see the striking towers of a Neo-Gothic church looming in the near distance. Keep walking until you arrive at the towers and enter the area of Saint Georges church. Turn right into Place Saint Georges, and cross the square to join Rue Saint Georges. From here, head back in a northerly direction on Rue Saint Georges. There are so many interesting nooks, crannies and mysterious old buildings on cobbled Rue Saint Georges, it might take you a while before you arrive at Place de la Trinité.

You will notice as you enter Place de la Trinité (immediately to your right) Café du Soleil, a typical 'bouchon', housed on the first floor of Maison du Soleil and, further along the square, La Maison de Guingnol. To the right of Maison du Soleil, you will notice the cobbled street rising up, up, up! This street is Montée du Gourguillon; one of the oldest streets in Lyon and well worth a little detour. Exit Place de la Trinité onto Rue Bellièvre, then turn right onto Rue du Doyenné. You have now moved from the area of Saint Georges to the start of the Saint Jean area. From here, look straight ahead and you will see Saint Jean Metro station. Now get ready to go up!

Saint Georges to Fourvière and back down to Saint Jean

Saint Jean Metro station- on the crossing between Saint Jean and Saint Georges- is the place to catch the Funicular (hill tram) up Fourvière hill, to either Saint Just or Fourvière. You could walk, but it's not advised unless you have legs of steel! Take a ticket and board the Funicular going to Fourvière. When you reach the top, you have arrived at Basilique de Fourvière. Here, you are in the vicinity of the Esplanade de Fourvière (view point), Crypte de Fourvière, Parc des Hauteurs, Tour Métallique and Musée d'Art Sacré, so take your pick, but arrive back at the Basilica to continue the tour.

From the Basilica, go down on Rue Roger Radisson until you arrive at Musée de La Civilisation Gallo-Romain and the Amphitheatre Gallo-Romain. Continue along Rue Roger Radisson and then take a right onto Montée du Télégraphe, which will bring you to the mighty edifice of Saint Just church. Saint Just is also the location of Saint Just Metro station, so you have two choices from here! You can either take the Funicular back down to Saint Jean, or, you can take a leisurely walk down the hill,

which will allow you to take in the special atmosphere of residential Fourvière.

Going for the walking down Fourvière option (that's the spirit!), go down Rue des Farges and join with Rue de l'Antiquaille and then join the road Montée Saint Barthélemy. As well as allowing you to take in Fourvière's residential area, this route provides a number of excellent view points from Fourvière hill, across the city of Lyon. Continue forward, passing the hotel Villa Florentine and La Terrasse de Lyon on your right.

Just after Villa Florentine, you will see a turning to the right and a sign saying 'Montée des Chazeaux'. Here, you will find a steep and long staircase that will send you back down the hill to Saint Jean, delivering you at the end of Rue du Boeuf

Saint Jean to Saint Paul

From the end of Rue du Boeuf, turn left and enter Place Saint Jean via Rue Tramassac. Having just entered the centre of the World Heritage zone, you are now surrounded by two thousand years of evident history. Dominated by the imposing Romanesque-Gothic Cathédrale Saint Jean, you will also notice Maison du Chamarier, located next to the cathedral. Behind the cathedral, you can visit Jardin Archéologique Saint Jean- a site featuring the 6th century remains of the area's original churches- and also, take a look at the civil Gothic architecture of Palais Episcopal Saint Jean.

Heading back to Place Saint Jean, exit the square onto Rue Saint Jean. You are now in the vicinity of Palais de Justice the Traboules Saint Jean and Maison des Advocates (adjoining the Musée des Miniatures et Décors de Cinéma). In addition, the tourist hotspot of Rue Saint Jean is crammed full of Cafés, restaurants and souvenir shops. Continue along the cobbled street of Rue Saint Jean- passing Place du Gouvernement- until you reach Place du Change, the historic location of Lyonnaise trade fares. Here you will see the 17th century Loge du Change and the 14th century Maison Thomassin.

Exit the Place du Change onto Rue de la Lainerie. You are now entering the area of Saint Paul. There are some great photo opportunities on Rue de la Lainerie, so have your camera at the ready. Keep an eye out for number 14; the 16th century Maison Claude Debourg, and at

Lyon Snapshot continued

number 2 Rue de la Lainerie, see the house where Laurent Mourguet lived (creator of Guignol).

At the end of Rue de la Lainerie, turn left on to Rue François Vernay and continue forward. Cross Rue Octavio Mey and continue until you reach Place Saint Paul. Join Rue Saint Paul (to the left of Gare Saint Paul) and continue until you see the Romanesque Église Saint Paul, one of the oldest churches in Lyon. From here, head back to Place Saint Paul and join Rue de la Juiverie, situated opposite Gare Saint Paul. Pass Le Palais de la Miniature and then take a left onto Rue de la Loge, followed by a right onto Rue de Gadagnes. You are now back in the Saint Jean area.

Continue forward on Rue de Gadagne until you reach the grand Renaissance building which houses the Musée Gadagne. Here you will find the Musée Historique de Lyon and the Musée des Marionnettes du Monde. Continue forward onto Rue du Beouf. Here you can enjoy walking on one of Old Lyon's most beautiful streets, minus the crowds that tend to build on Rue Saint Jean. The most notable place of interest on Rue du Beouf is La Tour Rose, a magical Renaissance building which now houses a hotel. To experience this building in full effect, you need to go inside to the interior court which features picturesque Florentine galleries and the enigmatic Tour Rose (pink tower). Walk forward on Rue du Beouf and find yourself back in the vicinity of Place Saint Jean.

Saint Jean to Terreaux

Exit the area of Saint Jean via Avenue Adolphe Max (heading towards the Saône) and then take a left onto Quai Roman Rolland. Enjoy the walk along the Saône and, for future reference, take note of all the nightspots along the quay. When you arrive at the bridge Pont Alphonse Juin, take a left, cross the bridge and continuing straight onto Rue Grenette.

Pass the restaurant packed Rue Mercière on your right and then take a left onto Rue Brest. Materialising in the near distance, you will see the grand edifice of Église Saint Nizier. Before you know anything about Saint Nizier church, its façade exudes something quite special, in fact, the edifice represents influences from Gothic, Baroque and Neo-Gothic architecture, which is a fairly rare mix. In addition to the church, Place Saint Nizier is a lovely place to hang-

out and watch the business of the Saint Nizier flower sellers.

Continuing forward onto Rue Paul Chenavard, you will arrive at the north-western corner of Place des Terreaux, the second largest square in Lyon. Here at Place Terreaux you are surrounded by an abundance of things to see and do, all situated in and around the central square area. Place Terreaux is also the place to be for café culture and terraced restaurants, so you may decide to view the interests of the square - coffee in hand - from one of the squares many eateries or cafés.

From the powerful Bartholdi Fountain - almost in the centre of Place Terreaux - look straight ahead and you can see Palais Saint-Pierre, which houses the Musée des Beaux Arts and to the left of the museum, the Hôtel de Ville. Both of these grand buildings are used as projection canvases for a spectacular light show that takes place during the Fête de la Lumière (December 8th).

Behind Hôtel de Ville, the Opéra de Lyon is served by the area of Place Louis Pradel. This large restaurant and bar lined square opens out onto the Rhône and is a great place to see all kinds of activities including street performing, BMXing and skateboarding. Basically anything active goes down well at Place Louis Pradel!

Place Terreaux to Croix-Rousse

Exit Place Terreaux, onto Rue Romarin (from the south-eastern corner of Place Terreaux) and prepare to go up the slopes of the 'working hill'; Croix-Rousse!

Walk up Rue Romarin, pass Atelier de Soierie (silk makers) and then take the first left onto Rue Saint Polycarpe. Here, find your first opportunity to experience the Croix-Rousse Traboules. Buildings number 7, 9 and 16 on Rue Saint Polycarpe all offer single passage traboules, which lead to internal courts and Florentine galleries (if the doors are unlocked!).

Continue forward on Rue Saint Polycarpe, pass through the lovely Place Forez, and join Rue de l'Abbe Rozier. You will now see the grand structure of the multi-denominational Saint Polycarpe church, which dates back to the 17th century. Take a left in front of the church and walk forward on Rue René Leynaud. Continue forward on Rue René Leynaud until you reach the unmissable Passage Thiaffait on your right.

Take the Thiaffait Passage (home to Croix Rousse's up and coming designers) up to Rue Burdeau. Exit the Thiaffait Passage onto Rue Burdeaux, go straight ahead, and join Rue Pouteau, followed by a quick left turn onto Rue des Tables Claudiennes.

Time for another Croix-Rousse Traboule experience! This time you will pass through multiple passages. Enter the first traboule at number 55 Rue des Tables Claudiennes. Go down the covered passageway and enter into a court. Now, take the stairs up to the first floor and exit at 20 Rue Imbert Colomés. Now, cross the street to number 29 Rue Imbert Colomés and enter your second traboule. Follow this traboule until it spits you out at number 9 Place Colbert.

From Place Colbert, take a right and go down Montée Saint Sebastian until you reach Jardin Villemanzy. The Villemanzy Park is one of the prime view point areas in the Croix-Rousse, so have your camera at the ready for the vista across the river Rhône and beyond. Now, cross behind the restaurant Maison Villemanzy and turn left onto Rue des Fantastiques, heading back up the hill. Enjoy the 'fantastic' view along this road until you reach Rue Delorme on the left. Enter Place Belleview (another prime viewpoint) via Rue Delorme.

In Place Belleview you can see the monument of the poet Sully Prudhomme and Fort St-Laurent, which unfortunately is not open to the public. From Place Belleview, go over the mount to join the end of Boulevard de la Croix-Rousse. Here you will find the curious Gros Caillou (a big rock!), situated at the end of the boulevard. From the end of the boulevard, you are not far from the Galerie Vrais Rêves (gallery true dreams) and the Maison des Canuts (house of the silk workers).

Leaving the end of Boulevard de la Croix-Rousse, go past the Ecole Maternelle Le Gros Caillou and join Rue de Belfort. With the Ecole Maternelle Le Gros Caillou of your left, walk straight ahead on Rue de Belfort, and then take the first left onto Rue Dumenge. At number 6 you will find Galerie Vrais Rêves.

From Galerie Vrais Rêves, continue forward on Rue Dumenge, take a left onto Rue du Mail, followed by a right onto Rue d'Ivry. At number 10 Rue d'Ivry you will find Maison des Canuts. Here you can visit the silk shop and view the antique looms of the Croix-Rousse silk workers. You can also

Lyon Snapshot continued

take a guided tour, which normally starts at 3.30pm.

From Maison des Canuts, you have a couple of choices which depend on the day and time. Close by at Place du Commandants (right out of Maison des Canuts and then left onto Rue de Belfort. Go straight until you reach the Commandants square), you will find one of Croix-Rousse's most popular food markets, but the market is only open on Thursdays between 6am and 12.30pm. Also, the lovely Jardin Rosa Mir is close by, but the garden only open to the public on Saturday afternoons between 3pm and 6pm.

To go to Jardin Rosa Mir, exit Maison des Canuts to the left, follow Rue d'Ivry and then take a right onto Grand Rue de la Croix-Rousse. Jardin Rosa Mir is located at number 83 on Grand Rue de la Croix-Rousse, opposite the Theatre de la Croix-Rousse. The entrance to the garden is not marked very well from the street and the number does not appear on the outside of the building, so keep your eyes peeled for a very small sign which points the way to the garden entrance.

Exit the garden, take a left back onto Grand Rue de la Croix-Rousse and follow this long road until you reach Boulevard de la Croix-Rousse. You are now in the area which holds the Marché de la Croix-Rousse. The market takes place along the main stretch of the boulevard every day (excluding Monday), from 6am until 1.30pm. From the junction of Grand Rue de la Croix-Rousse and Boulevard de la Croix-Rousse, take a left and follow the length of the market street until you reach Rue des Chartreaux, on the left side.

Turn left onto Rue des Chartreaux and then take the second right turn on to Rue Pierre Dupont. Here you will find the impressive Église Saint Bruno. Don't be tempted to view this church just from the outside as the interior offers something quite special! From Église Saint Bruno, go back down Rue Pierre Dupont, take a right back onto Rue des Chartreaux and continue down the hill. At the end of Rue des Chartreaux, join Montée des Carménites and continue forward onto Rue Lucien Sportisse.

On Rue Lucien Sportisse you will find the Amphithéâtre des Trois Gaules. Heading away from the amphitheatre, take the Montee de l'Amphitheatre (stairs opposite the

amphitheatre) down until you reach Place Sathonay. This lovely and lively square is the perfect spot to finish your tour of the Croix-Rousse. You can take a rest here to experience Croix-Rousse's café culture and village atmosphere at its most vibrant. For access back to Place Terreaux, exit Place Sathonay onto Rue du Sergent Blandan, followed by a right onto Rue Terme. Follow Rue Terme until the end, then take a left to Place des Terreaux.

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Travel Tips

Getting There:

By Air: Lyon-Saint Exupery International Airport (LYS) (+33 4 72 22 72 21/<http://www.lyon.aeroport.fr>) is located 25 km east of Lyon and provides direct service and connections to domestic and international destinations from the following airlines:

Aer Lingus (+33 1 70 20 00 72/<http://www.aerlingus.ie>) Aigle Azur (+33 1 49 19 882) Air Algerie (+33 4 78 42 64 95) Air France (+33 0 820 820 820/<http://www.airfrance.fr>) Air Lib (+33 0 825 805 805) Air Linair (+33 0 820 820 820/<http://www.airlinair.com>) Air Littoral (+33 0 825 834 834/<http://www.airlittoral.fr>) Air Malta (+33 1 4486 0840/<http://www.airmalta.com>) Air Senegal International (+33 1 5664 1400/<http://www.air-senegal-international.com>) Air Transat (+877 872 6728/<http://www.airtransat.com>) Alitalia (+33 0 820 315 315/<http://www.alitalia.fr>) Antinea Airlines (+33 1 4021 1999) Austrian Airlines (+33 0 820 816 816/<http://www.aua.com>) Blue Express (+39 06 60214577/<http://www.blue-express.com>) Blue Air (+40 40 21 208 86 86/<http://www.blueair-web.com>) BMI Baby (+44 870 126 6726/<http://www.bmibaby.com>) British Airways (+33 825 825 040/<http://www.british-airways.com>) CCM Airlines (+33 0 820 820 820/<http://www.ccm-airlines.com>) City Airline (+33 0 826 953 113/<http://www.cityairline.com>) Condor (+1 800 524 6975/<http://www7.condor.com>) Corsair (+33 0 820 042 042/<http://www.corsair.fr>) CSA Czech Airlines (+33 5569 8439/<http://www.csa.cz>) Easy Jet (+871 244 2366/<http://www.easyjet.com>) Hex'Air (+33 0 810 182 292) Iberia Airlines (+33 0 820 075 075/<http://www.iberia.fr>) KLM Royal Dutch Airlines (+33 0 890 711

231/<http://www.klm.com>) LOT (+33 0 800 101 224/<http://www.lot.com>) Maersk Air (+33 0 825 320 321/<http://www.maersk-air.com>) Portugalia Airlines (+33 0 825 083 818/<http://www.flypga.com>) Royal Air Maroc (+33 0 820 821 821/<http://www.royalairmaroc.com>) SN Brussels Airlines (+33 0 826 101 818/<http://www.flysn.fr>) Thomson Fly (+43 0192 89 598/<http://www.thomsonfly.com>) Tunis Air (+33 4 7277 3737/<http://www.tunisair.com.tn>) Turkish Airlines (+33 4 3791 6666/<http://www.turkishairlines.com>)

SATOBUS (+33 4 7268 7217) offers connections several times a day to and from the airport and the main cities of Rhone-Alpes including Lyon.

High-Train Station (+33 4 7222 7790/<http://www.lyonairport.com>) is located near Lyon-Saint Exupery Airport terminals. The high-speed trains provide service to and from the airport and cities around much of France. Reservations are required.

Taxis, all metered, are available at the Lyon-Saint Exupery Airport. Fares depend on the amount of passengers, luggage, tolls and snowy or icy roads. Typically, a trip to Lyon-Gare is around EUR36 during the day from 7a-7p and EUR 50 at night from 7p-7a.

Rental car companies: Avis (+33 4 7222 7525/<http://www.avis.com>) Budget (+33 4 7222 7474/<http://www.budget.com>) Europcar (+33 4 7222 7528/<http://www.europcar.com>) Hertz (+33 0 825 006 969/<http://www.hertz.com>) National Citer (+33 4 7222 7487/<http://www.citer.fr>) Sixt (+33 4 7222 7272/<http://www.fr-sixt.com>)

By Train: TGV (<http://www.tgv.com>) is currently the fastest train in the world and services major cities throughout France. Eurostar (<http://www.eurostar.com>) provides travel between Paris, London and Brussels with stops at Lyon Part Dieu and Lyon-Saint Exupery International Airport. Thalys (<http://www.thalys.com>) travels between Paris, Brussels, Amsterdam and Koln with a stop at Lyon Part Dieu.

By Bus: Eurolines (+33 4 7256 9530/<http://www.eurolines.com>) offers transportation throughout continental Europe and has a stop in Lyon.

By Car: A large motorway network (A6, A7, A42, A43, A47, etc.) provides

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direct links from major cities around France to Lyon.

Getting Around in the City

TCL underground(+33 0 820 42 7000/ <http://www.tcl.fr>) provides transportation via four underground lines, two cable cars, four tramway routes and more than 100 bus routes around Lyon and most of its suburbs. Tickets can be purchased at city kiosks, train stations, vending machines and from bus drivers.

Cyclopolitain(<http://www.cyclopolitain.com>) is a fun and inexpensive way of getting around Lyon- by electric tricycles with drivers called Cyclonautes, who will take you anywhere you want in the city for EUR1 per person. Cyclopolitain tricycles operate from March to Christmas Eve, M-Sa from 11a-7p.

Lyon Espace Affaires(+33 4 7839 2611) provides taxi service in the city. Tourist Taxis(<http://www.lyon.taxis-touristiques.com>) allows visitors to see Lyon

with the help of specially trained drivers providing commentary and guiding the way.
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Fun Facts

The facts about:

Lyon Country: France

Lyon by the Numbers:

Population: 445,452

Elevation: 659 feet

Average Annual Precipitation: 30.5 inches

Average January Temperature: 38 degrees F

Average July Temperature: 71 degrees F

Quick Facts:

Major Industries: tourism, silk, textiles, chemicals, machinery, printing

Electricity: 220 volts, 50Hz, round two-pin plugs

Time Zone: UTC/GMT+1

Country Dialing Code: 33

Area Code: 4

Did You Know?:

Known as the "Silk Capital of the World," Lyon is a hot spot for textile and fashion designers to set up their workshops and boutiques.

Orientation:

Lyon is France's third-largest city and is located in the eastern-central part of the country. Lyon lies 431 km(261 miles) southeast of Paris and 311 km(193 miles) north of Marseille.

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