

AVIGNON13092009

Press Information



700th anniversary of the Popes' arrival in Avignon



2009, the city celebrates the 700th anniversary of the arrival of the popes in Avignon. Festivities, exhibitions, special events, conferences... Starting the 1st weekend in March

Pope Clement V, the first Avignon pope (1309-1314)

On 5 June 1305, the cardinals convened in a conclave and elected a new pope, Bertrand de Got, who took the name of Clement V. The period was a troubled one, full of civil strife amongst warring families in Italy. Bertrand de Got was not a member of the Sacred College. He was Archbishop of Bordeaux and as such, vassal to the King of England, and subject of the King of France. Indeed, Bertrand de Got, the new Pope Clement V, was crowned in November 1305 in Lyon, in the presence of Philip the Fair, King of France. In electing the French Archbishop as pope, the conclave of cardinals sought to pacify relations between the Church and the King of France.



© Gaud

International Press Contact :
Sylvie JOLY
Tel. + 33 (0)4 32 74 36 54
s.joly@palais-des-papes.com

www.avignon-700ans.com
www.avignon-tourisme.com
www.avignon.fr

The new pope returned briefly to his native Guyenne, and after his visit refused to go to Rome, where violence and instability had worsened. Pope Clement V decided to remain in France. He worked on easing the tensions which divided France and England and proposed the idea of a new Crusade to the Orient. Later, when the affair of the Order of the Knights Templar reached a peak, he prepared the Council of Vienne to rule on the fate of the order. During this time, he travelled gradually towards Avignon, a safe city and above all the property of the Count of Provence, the pope's loyal vassal. The small city of Avignon, strategically located at the crossroads of major waterways and roads, had a bridge over the Rhone river and lay adjacent to the Comtat Venaissin, Papal property since 1274. Pope Clement V made his solemn, formal entrance into Avignon on the ninth of March, 1309. Little did he know that this was to be the start of the papal presence in Avignon for nearly one century, and that as such Pope Clement V put Avignon on the path to a remarkable destiny.

AVIGNON13092009

Press Information



700th anniversary of the Popes' arrival in Avignon



The Papacy settling down in Avignon brought drastic changes in the City.

- Clement 6th bought Avignon city to Queen Jane (who was at the same time Queen of Naples, Duchess of Anjou and Countess of Provence) in 1348.
 - The Popes Palace was built in less than 20 years and transformed the physiognomy of the city as well as the building of cardinal palaces, churches, convents...
 - The presence of the papacy attracted at that time artists, merchants, handicraftsmen to Avignon...
 - Innocent 6th and Urban 5th made build a new city wall (1357-1372) that included new boroughs and the City passed from 6000 to 30 or 40 000 inhabitants according to the historians.
 - Avignon was turned into an artistic and intellectual centre as well as an essential economic centre.
- 7 Popes and 2 schismatic ones lived in Avignon making of it an altera Roma (a second Roma) and the Centre of Christianity. The Papacy going back to Rome, the Popes sent to Avignon their legates and vice legates up to the French Revolution.

International Press Contact :
Sylvie JOLY
Tel. + 33 (0)4 32 74 36 54
s.joly@palais-des-papes.com

www.avignon-700ans.com
www.avignon-tourisme.com
www.avignon.fr



Musée de l'Oeuvre © Avignon Tourisme



AVIGNON13092009

Press Information



700th anniversary of the Popes' arrival in Avignon



700th anniversary of the arrival of the Papacy / The program

The artistic heritage of Simone Martini
(14th – 15th centuries)

Insights into paintings from the National Pinacoteca in Sienna, Italy and from the Petit Palais in Avignon.

Petit Palais Museum • 19 June to 31 October

Within the framework of the celebrations of the 700th anniversary of the arrival of the popes in Avignon, the Sienna Pinacoteca and the Petit Palais museum in Avignon have organized a joint exhibition on the artistic heritage from Simone Martini, a major painter from the first half of the 14th century who influenced 14th and 15th century Siennese painting. The Sienna Pinacoteca has granted an exceptional loan of thirty works, which will be leaving Sienna for the first time, and will be on display in Avignon, side by side with other works by Siennese painters from the Campana collection at the Petit Palais museum.

In 1309, Pope Clement V arrived in Avignon, and settled here, setting off the transformation of the city. The population in Avignon grew significantly, and the small city became a cosmopolitan, thriving international center. Cardinals, bankers and businessmen from Italy flocked to Avignon and settled here. Painters were among those drawn to the Papal Court in Avignon. Some of the painters who came were already famous, some became famous, such as Matteo Giovannetti and Simone Martini. Simone Martini arrived in Avignon around 1339 and died in Avignon in 1344. He left the frescoes on the porch of the Notre-Dame-des-Doms cathedral. The Italian painters imported the artistic traditions from Sienna, which took on new influences in the bustling cosmopolitan center that Avignon had become, creating a synthesis between northern and southern artistic trends.

International Press Contact :
Sylvie JOLY
Tel. + 33 (0)4 32 74 36 54
s.joly@palais-des-papes.com

www.avignon-700ans.com
www.avignon-tourisme.com
www.avignon.fr



Petit Palais © Ville d'Avignon JP Campomar



AVIGNON13092009

Press Information



700th anniversary of the Popes' arrival in Avignon



Sound and lights

August / September (4 performances /dates unknown)

Shot onto the façade of the Popes' Palace

A 3 dimensional slides night performance made of 9 sequences relating to the history of the Papacy in Avignon. Open to everybody for free.



Simulation Son & Lumière © Blachere - Photo non contractuelle

International Press Contact :

Sylvie JOLY

Tel. + 33 (0)4 32 74 36 54

s.joly@palais-des-papes.com

Concerts – Grande Chapelle

Popes Palace /October 3rd and October 4th

Missa Clemens Deus Artifex

Religious service celebrated polyphonically like in 14th century, the time of the Papacy

Canzoniere :

Madrigal (music of the 16th century), on Petrarque's Canzoniere 14th c Poetry

www.avignon-700ans.com

www.avignon-tourisme.com

www.avignon.fr



Grande Audience © V. Vandeveldre - Avignon Tourisme



AVIGNON13092009

Press Information



700th anniversary of the Popes' arrival in Avignon



Festivals and entertainments

Medieval market

On **27 and 28 June**, thirty market stands will go up, bringing the Middle Ages back to life with their presentations of crafts and traditions. Special events and demonstrations throughout the weekend.

Carmes' square Medieval Fair

September 11th to 13th

Medieval camps with duels, medieval music and dance, craft market, conferences and medieval banquet.

Greta Medieval entertainments on the squares of the city

October 10th and October 11th

Medieval troupes and companies will take place on the 5 main squares of the city for a great event for all the family.

The grapes Harvest at the jardin des Doms

Saturday August 29th

The traditional grapes harvest festival will take place during the festivities of 700th anniversary and will honor the Cotes du Rhône Wines and their history.

International Press Contact :
Sylvie JOLY
Tel. + 33 (0)4 32 74 36 54
s.joly@palais-des-papes.com

www.avignon-700ans.com
www.avignon-tourisme.com
www.avignon.fr



Jardin des Doms
© C.Rodde - Avignon Tourisme



Place du Palais des Papes
© C.Rodde - Avignon Tourisme



AVIGNON13092009

Press Information



700th anniversary of the Popes' arrival in Avignon



Alterarosa – Exhibition

Palace of the Popes - May 21st to 24th

5th edition, 5th anniversary.

Roses like you have never seen before ! And this year – roses surrounded by clematis ! Throughout the entire Ascension holiday weekend, the Benedict XII Cloister at the Palace of the Popes is planted with over 2000 rosebushes, transforming the stunning medieval cloister into a fairyland of roses.

This year's exhibition of roses adds clematis, a flower which goes beautifully and harmoniously with the rose.

Europe's greatest rose growers will come and present their latest creations, and the public will elect their favorite. One of the new roses will be sold in advance sales, to the benefit of Retina France, an association which works with pathologies affecting sight.

Alterarosa 2009 once again allies with a research sector, and facilitates access for the visually handicapped public, thus providing this area of handicap a forum for awareness-raising and communication.

There will be pruning demonstrations, conferences, floral art workshops, meetings and discussions with rose experts, all in the setting of the magnificent rose gardens. This year, an ephemeral medieval garden will also be added, to celebrate the 700th anniversary of the arrival of the popes in Avignon.

Alterarosa

Palais des Papes

Renseignement : 04 32 74 32 74

www.alterarosa.com



Alterarosa 2008
© V. Vandeveld - Avignon Tourisme

International Press Contact :

Sylvie JOLY

Tel. + 33 (0)4 32 74 36 54

s.joly@palais-des-papes.com

www.avignon-700ans.com

www.avignon-tourisme.com

www.avignon.fr

Creation of an ephemeral medieval garden on Palace of the Popes Square

In the Middle Ages, gardens were enclosed, beautiful but utilitarian spaces where fruit, vegetables, medicinal and tinctorial plants were grown. Plants were often grown on raised square beds whose borders were delineated with woven chestnut branches. From 21 to 24 May, see 16 planted squares in front of the Palace of the Popes.



AVIGNON13092009

Press Information



700th anniversary of the Popes' arrival in Avignon



City Visits

Visit « The Fabulous Destiny of the City of Avignon »

Starting 1 April, 2 special visits will be proposed by the guides from the Avignon Tourism Office "The Fabulous Destiny of the City of Avignon"

This city visit will describe the growth and expansion Avignon underwent thanks to the arrival of the Popes in the 14th century. Guides will focus on city layout, the cardinals' palaces, the hôtel des Monnaies city mansion, the Papal protection of the Jews and the Synagogue, organization of the city and life at the time, the trades and the markets.



Hôtel de la Monnaie © C. Rodde - Avignon Tourisme

1 April to 21 October. On Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 10 am.

Leave from the Tourism Office

« Life of the Popes in Avignon »

This visit focuses on the Palace of the Popes and describes the political aspects of the Papal arrival in Avignon, discussing topics such as: Why Avignon ? Comtat Venaissin facing the Kingdom of France, relations with the King of France and many aspects of the organization of the life of the popes (personal / political ...).

1 April to 21 October. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays at 10 am

Visits start from the Tourism Office, except for the Sunday visit, which starts from the Palace of the Popes

www.avignon-tourisme.com

International Press Contact :
Sylvie JOLY
Tel. + 33 (0)4 32 74 36 54
s.joly@palais-des-papes.com

www.avignon-700ans.com
www.avignon-tourisme.com
www.avignon.fr



AVIGNON13092009

Press Information



700th anniversary of the Popes' arrival in Avignon



La Petite Cuisine des Halles
Every Saturday at 11 a.m.

Chefs from in and around Avignon prepare their specialties in the learning and demonstration space inside the Halles market. Learn their secrets and find the ingredients you need at the Halles food market.

To continue the celebrations marking the 700th anniversary of the arrival of the popes in Avignon, the cooking demonstration centre at Les Halles marketplace, called "La Petite Cuisine des Halles" will be proposing nine special events, one for each of the nine popes who reigned in Avignon. Medieval recipes, matched with 9 specially selected wines from the Bouteillerie at the Palace of the Popes, in the "special edition" gift box, will also be available.

- **Saturday 7 March at 11 a.m.**
"At the table of Pope Clément V", conducted by Roger Hennequin from Brunel restaurant.
- **Saturday 11 April at 11 a.m.**
"At the table of Pope John XXII", taught by Boris Chevtchenko from the restaurant "l'Isle Sonnante"
- **Saturday 16 May at 11 a.m.**
"At the table of Pope Benedict XII" taught by Thierry Piédoie from the restaurant "le Piedoie".
- **Saturday 13 June at 11 a.m.**
"At the table of Pope Clément VI », taught by Julien Allano from La Mirande.
www.700ans-avignon.com
- **July (date to be confirmed)**
« At the table of Pope Innocent VI » taught by Jean-Remy Joly from restaurant les Agassins
- **Saturday 26 September at 11a.m.**
« At the table of pope Urbain V » taught by M. Hiély from restaurant la Fourchette
- **October (date to be confirmed)**
« At the table of Grégoire XI » taught by Jean-Marc Larrue
- **November (date to be confirmed)**
« At the table of Pope Clément VII » taught by the chef of the restaurant of Hôtel de l'Europe
- **Décember (date to be confirmed)**
« At the table of Benoît XIII » taught by Laurent Azoulay from restaurant Hiély Lucullus

International Press Contact :
Sylvie JOLY
Tel. + 33 (0)4 32 74 36 54
s.joly@palais-des-papes.com

www.avignon-700ans.com
www.avignon-tourisme.com
www.avignon.fr





AVIGNON13092009

Press Information

700th anniversary of the Popes' arrival in Avignon



Special edition wine gift box

«700th anniversary of the Popes' arrival in Avignon

Bouteillerie du Palais des Papes

9 specially selected wines from the Bouteillerie at the Palace of the Popes.

The Box set

- CLEMENT V - Côtes du Rhône rouge 2006, Les Brottiens.
- JEAN XXII - Hermitage rouge 2003
- BENOIT XII - Côtes du Rhône villages Laudun blanc 2007, Château de Bord
- CLEMENT VI - Châteauneuf-du-pape rouge 2005, Domaine Barville.
- INNOCENT VI - Gigondas rouge 2006
- URBAIN V - Saint-Peray blanc 2006
- GREGOIRE XI - Côtes du Rhône villages Cairanne rouge 2006, Domaine Grosset.
- CLEMENT VII
Châteauneuf-du-pape blanc 2007
- BENOIT XIII
Muscat de Beaumes de Venise blanc 2007 « La pigeade »

International Press Contact :
Sylvie JOLY
Tel. + 33 (0)4 32 74 36 54
s.joly@palais-des-papes.com

www.avignon-700ans.com
www.avignon-tourisme.com
www.avignon.fr



Coffret édition spéciale © C. MERIAUX

Information
Bouteillerie du Palais des Papes
Tél. : + 33 (0)4 90 27 50 85

