



# BLUE ESCAPE

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## FULL – DAY Nîmes – Pont du Gard

Departure from Marseille at 9.00 am return at 17.00 pm



Roman and Hispanic and with contributions from the Camargue and the Cévennes, the Languedoc and Provence, Nîmes is a city of all accents! It has been fashioned for over 2000 years by southern sunshine, wind and various influences. 'Set at the crossroads of history and human relations' (Christian Liger), it has lived the history of Europe intensely. And although it has many influences and paradoxes, its personality is unique. Welcome. Secretive Nîmes will open its heart to you.

Nîmes is not a town like the others. Smiled on by the gods, Nîmes enjoys 300 days of sunshine a year. This particularly attractive geographic position did not escape the notice of the founders of Nîmes. With its position at the crossroads between Provence and Languedoc, between Cévennes and Camargue, the character of Nîmes is one of rare diversity.

To visit: The **Arena**, a Roman amphitheatre built in the 1st century AD and the best preserved of the Roman world.

The **Maison Carrée**, the main temple of the Gallo-Roman town.

The **Jardins de la Fontaine** (gardens) laid out in 1745 to the design of Louis XV's engineer.



Departure for the **Pont du Gard**, a majestic aqueduct built in the Roman era, around 19 BC.

This bridge, over the river Gard, is 275 metres long and 49 metres high. It was part of an aqueduct nearly 50 kilometres long which supplied Nîmes with water. On its first level it carries a road and at the top of the third level, a water conduit, which is 1.8 metres high and 1.2 metres wide and has a gradient of 0.4 per cent. The three levels were built in dressed stone without mortar. The projecting blocks supported the scaffolding during construction.

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