

LE PONT DU GARD



Location



History of “Le Pont Du Gard”

- The bridge of Gard is an aqueduct in the South of France constructed by the Roman Empire. It is located near the village of Remoulins, in the Gard Department. It was built during the I century d.C.
- Designed to carry water across the small Gardon Valley , it was part of a 50 km aqueduct that carried water from nearby Uzes sources to the Roman city of Nemausus (Nimes).



- It was built entirely without the use of mortar. Aqueduct stones , some of which weigh up to six tons, are held together by iron clamps.
- From the fourth century its maintenance was neglected and sediments began to clog the chute. In the 9th century it became useless and people began using its stones for their own purposes. However, most of the bridge of Gard remains intact. Until the 18th century the aqueduct was used as a bridge that facilitated the foot traffic across the river.



World Heritage

- The Pont du Gard was classified as World Heritage by the Unesco in December 1985.
- Since the 16th century, restorations have been carried out aimed at their conservation.
- In the 19th century, precisely in 1840, the Pont du Gard was inscribed on the list of the monuments.
- In 1996 starts an operation of protection and refurbishment of the ecological and historical place of the Pont du Gard.

Natural surroundings of the Pont du Gard

- The magnificent Roman monument of the Pont du Gard is displayed still more majestic thanks to the natural environment which is accessible free of charge to all visitors. The magic of the place lies in the aqueduct, but also the Gardon River and in the Mediterranean landscape.
- On the wettest bank there is a tree-lined avenue through which we can walk and closer to the water, perhaps to take a swim. On both banks of the Gardon, there are a few trails, next to the aqueduct, which you can climb and reach an interesting height from where you can admire the Pont du Gard and the magnificent natural surroundings.



Museum of the Pont du Gard

- The Museum of the Pont du Gard revolves around the Roman aqueduct, which may be discovered through models, cartography and images in multimedia screens.
- There are three areas of visit extending over 2500 m².



The Gallo-Roman civilization of the city and water

- It's a show with multiple screens and sound effects that plunges us into the daily life of the Nîmes of that era, with its inhabitants in their occupations, the ancient and also of the Nîmes monuments.
- In this section, the water is the protagonist: the 30 000 m³ arriving every day in public fountains, baths, gardens, ponds...



The construction of the Roman aqueduct and bridge

- This section is divided into three parts: the aqueducts of the Roman world: a giant map shows about 50 aqueducts built by the Romans.
- The work of the Roman aqueduct: you can see reproductions of the channel and the two arches on the third floor of the Pont du Gard; the aqueduct of Nîmes: air travel, the underground aqueduct you can see on the big screen.



The Pont du Gard over the centuries and its representations

- In this section, the Museum invites you to discover the multiple representations of the Pont du Gard, completed by three studies galleries: Gallery of the sages, the Gallery of engineers and architects Gallery.

