

Argens-Minervois, Aude, France

A charming medieval village straddling the UNESCO-listed Canal du Midi, Argens-Minervois is the gateway to Languedoc's vineyards, Cathar history, and some of the smoothest canal cruising in France.

🚢 Canal mooring (Port d'Occitanie) ⌚ Typical call: full day or overnight 📄 Currency: Euro 🗣️ Language: French

👉 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Canal mooring at Port d'Occitanie on the Canal du Midi

Walk to centre: 5 min from the canal port to the village centre

Best For: Wine tasting, cycling the towpath, Cathar history, slow travel

Don't Miss: The start of the Grand Bief — a 54 km lock-free stretch of the Canal du Midi

🚗 Getting around: 🚕 **Taxi** ✅ €10–20 in village; €45–60 to Narbonne; €75–95 to Carcassonne

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Carcassonne — Medieval Citadel** — The spectacular walled city of Carcassonne is just 33 km away.
- **Minerve — A Village Perché in the Gorge** — Rated one of France's Most Beautiful Villages, Minerve is a dramatic Cathar stronghold perched on a rocky spur above the Cesse and Brian gorges...
- **Minervois Wine Tasting** — The surrounding Minervois AOC produces excellent reds and rosés.
- **Narbonne — Roman City & Cathedral** — Narbonne, about 35 km away, was once the capital of Roman Gaul.
- **Cycle the Canal du Midi Towpath** — The Canal du Midi towpath is flat, shaded by centuries-old plane trees, and ideal for cycling.

BEST WALKS

- **Village & Canal Locks Loop** 45 min · Flat · Canal towpath & village streets — Start at Port d'Occitanie, walk the towpath past the Écluses d'Argens, then climb into the medieval village centre to see Château d'Argens and the church of Notre-Dame...
- **Towpath to Lac des Aiguilles** 1.5 hr round trip · Flat · Canal towpath & lakeside path — Follow the canal towpath south from Port d'Occitanie then branch off to Lac des Aiguilles for a peaceful lakeside walk.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

🌤️ CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				🇫🇷 DAYLIGHT & 💰 MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain	Apr 7:06AM–8:31PM · Jun 6:08AM–9:30PM · Aug 6:54AM–8:51PM · Sep 7:28AM–7:58PM · Oct 8:03AM–7:05PM Currency: Euro	
Apr	65°	49°	9d		
Jun	81°	63°	7d		
Aug	86°	66°	5d		
Sep	78°	61°	7d		
Oct	69°	55°	9d		

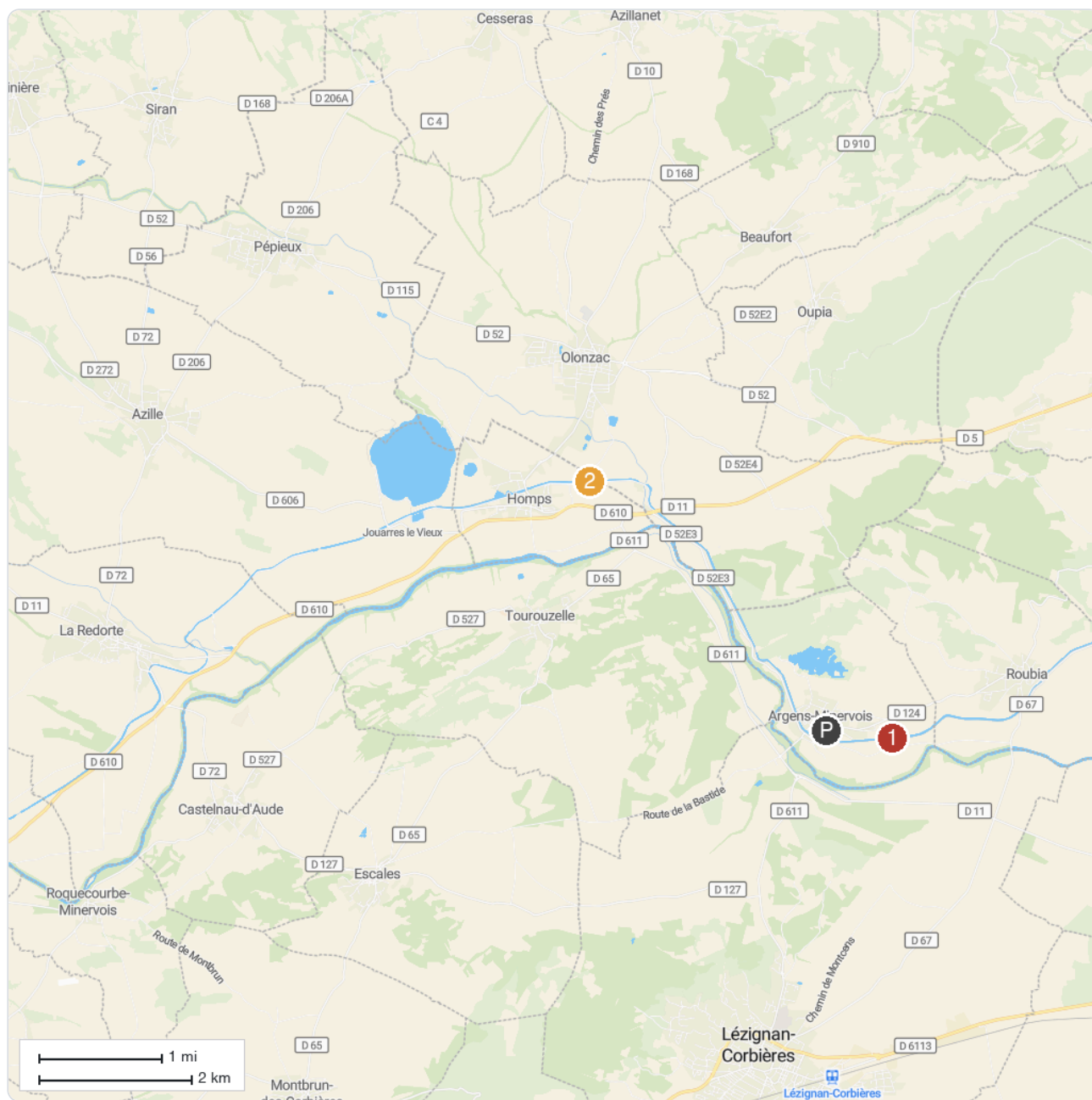
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Buy wine at the source. The Minervois AOC produces some of Languedoc's best-value reds. Ask at the port or tourist office for the nearest domaine open for tasting — several are within cycling distance.
- Rent a bike on day one. The Canal du Midi towpath is the best way to explore the surrounding countryside. Locaboat and other operators at Port d'Occitanie can arrange hire.
- Summer days get hot. The Languedoc sun is fierce in July and August. Start walks and excursions early, carry water, and take advantage of the shaded canal towpath.
- Minerve is worth the detour. It's only about 17 km away and one of the most dramatic Cathar villages in France. If you have a car or taxi for the day, put Minerve at the top of the list.
- Stock up in Lézignan-Corbières or Olonzac. Both have weekly markets (Wednesday and Tuesday respectively) and are just 5 km away — handy for fresh provisions for the barge.
- The Grand Bief starts here. If you're self-driving a hire boat, departing east from Argens-Minervois puts you on 54 lock-free kilometres all the way toward Béziers — the most relaxed cruising on the entire canal.

Argens-Minervois, Aude, France — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



- 1 **Écluse d'Argens** A historic Canal du Midi lock near Argens village.
 - 2 **Écluse d'Homs** A historic Canal du Midi lock near Homs village.
 - P **Cruise port / terminal**