

FRANCE – PROVENCE

8-day / 7-night easy to moderate one-hotel guided walks at Greoux-Les-Bains near Gorge du Verdon



At the heart of rural **Provence**, lies a beautiful part of France untouched by tourism. This is a land filled with the scent of wild flowers, fields of lavender and dotted with little hill towns and villages; the perfect countryside for walkers.

- Our 3-Star family-run hotel offers outstanding cuisine sourced entirely from local produce
- Explore the Routes de la Lavande, an area steeped in the culture of lavender production
- Visit charming hill-top villages including Moustiers Saint Marie, one of the prettiest in France

Cost: AU\$1480 per person (twin share) - Single room supplement AU\$260

Departs: 14, 21, 28 April, 5, 12 May, 22, 29 September, 6, 13, 20 October 2012 from Greoux-les-Bains

Tour includes: 7-nights in comfortable hotel accommodation room with ensuite bathrooms, with 7-breakfasts, 7-evening meals, experienced walks leader, 5-guided walks and a free-day midweek.

Not Included: Airport transfers from Marseille which can be pre-booked at extra cost – we recommend you take these - please ask for details when booking, meals & drinks not mentioned & personal expenses.

A typical centre-based **Classic Walking Holidays** offers a choice of 2-guided walks, each of varying length and ascent. If you are new to walking, start at the easier level, where the pace is the gentlest. We have plenty of stops to enjoy the views and to rest. As your holiday progresses you may feel confident to try a more challenging level, or stick to the same level - it's your choice. We have stops to enjoy the views and to rest. There is usually a free-day midweek to relax, go sightseeing or to explore.

Walking options may include the pretty town of Forqualquier with its bustling local market; the medieval citadel of Mane-en-Provence or the beautiful village of Lurs perched high on a rocky crag. Here and in other places nearby we can enjoy highlights of several of the great long distance GR routes of France such as the dramatic ridge walk on the Chemin de St Jacques (the Way of Saint James pilgrimage route). Nearer Gréoux there are meadows of poppies and the walk across the lavender plateaux. A highlight is always Moustiers Saint Marie, deemed easily as one of the prettiest villages in France, perched beneath a rocky cliff and with a suspended star high above the stone church.

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations



VILLA BORGHESE: The charming three-star hotel has a fine tradition of service and is a member of the prestigious Châteaux Demeures de Tradition and the *Relais du Silence* groups. The balconies of the 50 large simple bedrooms – each with its own en-suite bathroom - look out over the gardens towards the hilltop castle of Gréoux-les-Bains. There is a small outdoor heated swimming pool next to the pleasant terrace and a cosy bar with an open fireplace. The hotel prides itself on serving locally sourced fresh and traditional produce from within 20km of the town.

Easier Walks



8 to 12km on good paths which are sometimes rocky. Up to 350m of ascent in a day.

An option to visit the pretty town of Forqualquier with its bustling local market bursting with Provençal goods before ambling down to the medieval citadel of Mane-en-Provence and walk the well graded path from the beautiful village of Lurs perched high on a rocky crag. Nearer Gréoux we'll savour meadows of poppies, walk across the lavender plateaux and enjoy the botanical route of Moustiers Ste Marie, deemed officially one of the prettiest villages in France.

Harder Walks



12 to 18km mainly on good walking paths, with some steeper rougher routes on rocky ground. Up to 700m of ascent in a day.

Enjoy highlights of several of the great long distance routes of France including a walk to the strange limestone formations of Les Mourres high above Forqualquier and a dramatic ridge walk on the Chemin de St Jacques near the beautiful village of Lurs. Above Gréoux wide expanses of poppy meadows will lead us to the heart of the Provençal lavender region and our hike to the limestone massif above Moustiers Saint Marie will be rewarded by stunning views.

Please Note: The above program should give you a good feel for the walks at this resort but is subject to change. Each year we listen carefully to the views of our guests and make improvements to our walking programs. Further information will be sent to you prior to your holiday; however, the walk selection each week is made by your walk leaders.

Local transport to and from walks: Local transport is not included in the cost of your holiday. Please allow Euro 70 (approx \$110) per week for transport during the week, excluding your free day - payable locally.

Ask for details of transfers available (at extra cost) from Nice when making your reservation.

Contact **Outdoor Travel** or your travel agent for more details, travel brochures and reservations:

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