



Lyon & the Rhône Valley

POP 3.84 MILLION

Includes ➔

Lyon	454
Beaujolais	474
Pérouges	474
La Dombes	474
Vienne	475
Valence	476
Montélimar	476
Gorges de l'Ardèche & Around	477

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Les Halles de Lyon Paul Bocuse (p468)
- ➔ L'Ourson qui Boit (p468)
- ➔ Restaurant Pic (p476)
- ➔ L'Auberge du Pont de Collonges (p469)
- ➔ Le Musée (p465)

Best Places to Stay

- ➔ Jardin d'Hiver (p463)
- ➔ Lyon Renaissance (p463)
- ➔ Hostellerie de Pérouges (p474)
- ➔ Cour des Loges (p463)
- ➔ Mama Shelter (p464)

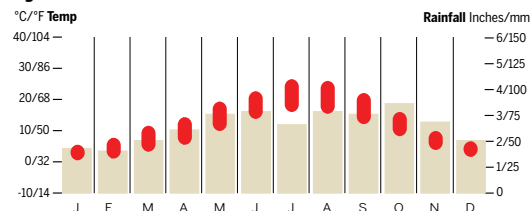
Why Go?

At the crossroads of central Europe and the Atlantic, the Rhineland and the Mediterranean, grand old Lyon is France's third-largest metropolis and its gastronomic capital. Savouring timeless traditional dishes in checked-tablecloth *bouchons* (small bistros) creates unforgettable memories – as do the majestic Roman amphitheatres of Fourvière, the cobbled Unesco-listed streets of Vieux Lyon, and the audacious modern architecture of the new Confluence neighbourhood.

North of Lyon, Beaujolais produces illustrious wines, while the picturesque hilltop village of Pérouges is a perennial film location. Downstream, the Rhône forges past Vienne's Roman ruins and the centuries-old Côtes du Rhône vineyards, opening to sunny vistas of fruit orchards, lavender fields and the distant Alps as it continues south past Valence and Montélimar, eventually reaching the rugged Gorges de l'Ardèche, where the Ardèche River tumbles to the gates of Languedoc and Provence.

When to Go

Lyon



Jun & Jul Jazz
festival in Vienne's Gallo-Roman theatre or Lyon's Nuits de Fourvière.

Nov Celebrate the tapping of the first bottles of Beaujolais *Nouveau*, on the third Thursday.

Early Dec See Lyon spectacularly illuminated during the Fête des Lumières.

Lyon & the Rhône Valley Highlights

- 1** Delving into Lyon's labyrinth of **tramboules** (secret passages; p460)
- 2** Biking the vine-ribbed hills of **Beaujolais** (p474)
- 3** Seeing dramatic Gallo-Roman ruins, including a perfectly preserved Corinthian-columned temple in **Vienne** (p475)
- 4** Catching a boat downstream to the **Confluence** (p471), Lyon's newest neighbourhood
- 5** Learning about Lyon's silk-weaving heritage in **Croix Rousse** (p460)
- 6** Canoeing beneath the stunning natural stone bridge Pont d'Arc along the **Gorges de l'Ardèche** (p477)
- 7** Catching a traditional **puppet show** (p471) featuring Lyon's charismatic little raconteur, Guignol
- 8** Seeing Lyon through the eyes of a local expert on one of the superb **walking tours** (p462) organised by the tourist office

