

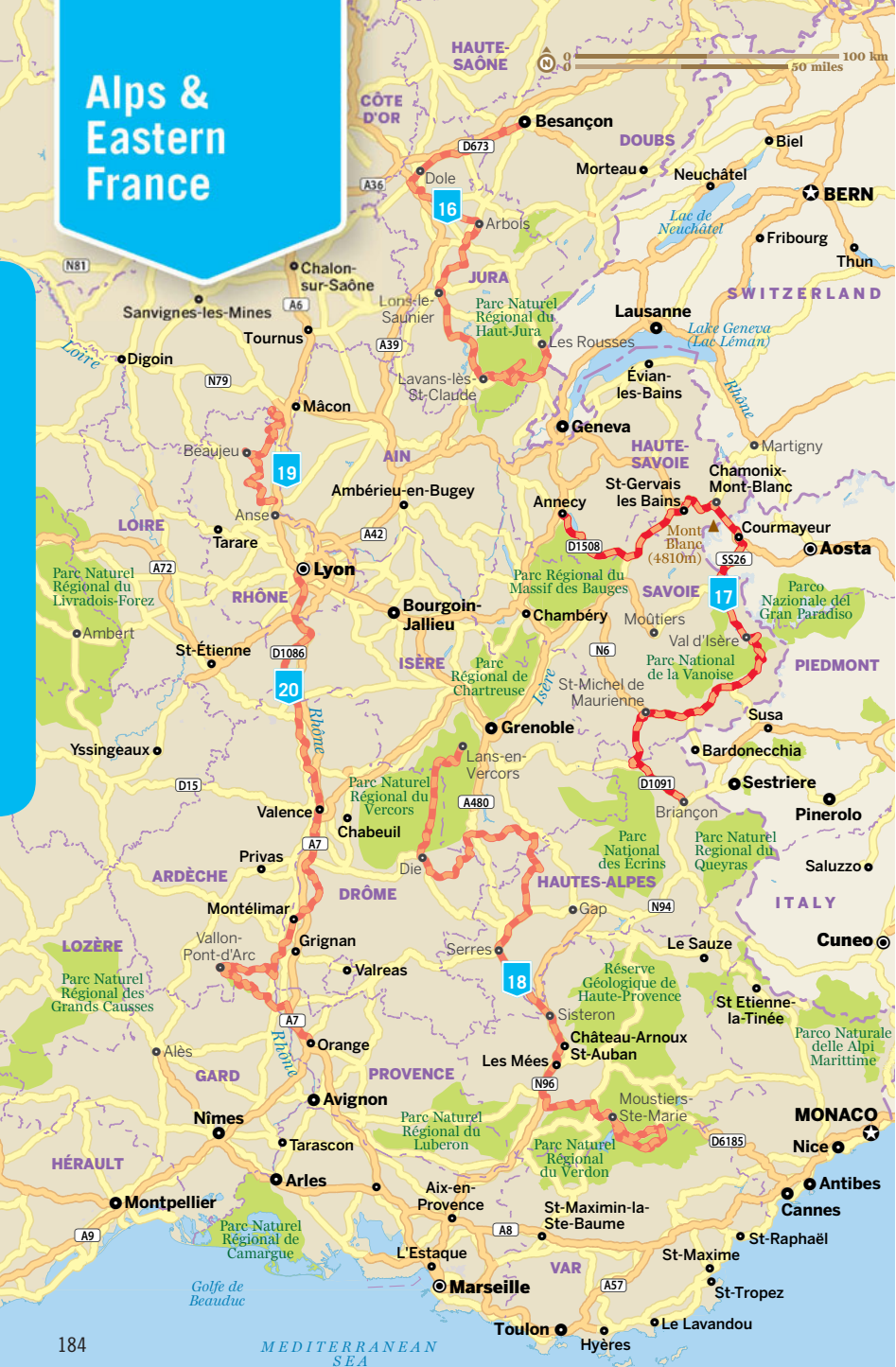
Alps & Eastern France

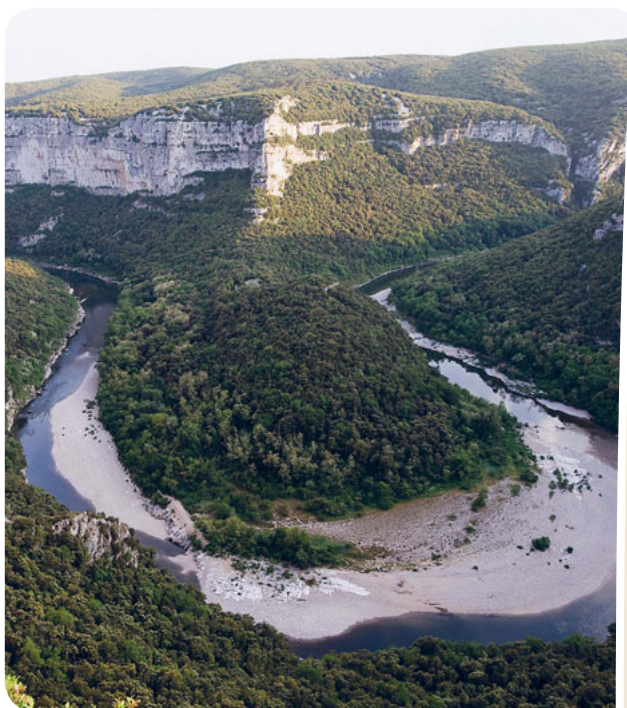
FROM THE RHÔNE RIVER TO EUROPE'S HIGHEST MOUNTAIN, eastern France is a crazy quilt of inspirational landscapes.

Our five itineraries head in all directions from Lyon. To the northwest, narrow roads snake through the vine-covered Beaujolais; to the south, the Rhône flows through increasingly sunny country past Gallo-Roman ruins, medieval hilltop fortresses and precipitous gorges.

East lie the mountains: the Jura, land of Comté cheese and golden wine; the Vercors' poppy-strewn plateaus and limestone peaks; Haute-Provence's lavender fields and multihued canyons; and, towering high above, the Alps, where France's most spellbinding high-country scenery revolves around hulking Mont Blanc.

Alps & Eastern France





Rhône Valley Gorges de l'Ardèche (Trip 20)

16

The Jura 5 Days

Mellow out amid bucolic highlands and rolling vineyards in this off-the-beaten-track region. (p187)

Classic Trip

17

Alpine Adventure 6 Days

Revel in France's high-country grandeur, from lakeside Annecy to top-of-the-world Chamonix. (p195)

18

Foothills of the Alps 6 Days

Hike verdant meadows and rugged canyons where the Alps and Provence meet. (p205)

19

Beaujolais Villages 2 Days

Explore the unhurried villages, gentle landscapes and renowned reds of the Beaujolais. (p213)

20

Rhône Valley 5 Days

Follow eastern France's great river from Lyon's bistros to Orange's Roman theatre. (p221)



DON'T MISS

Château-Chalon

This is the perfect spot to sample the Jura's distinctive 'yellow' wine. Stay in a turreted B&B on Trip **16**

Bonneval-sur-Arc

Hidden on Europe's highest mountain pass, this village in Vanoise National Park is a nature-lover's hideaway. Escape here on Trip **17**

Gîte d'Alpage de la Molière

Homemade raspberry pie and spectacular mountain views welcome hikers at this eatery. Rest your feet here on Trip **18**

Domaine des Vignes du Paradis – Pascal Durand

This family-run domaine welcomes visitors. Stop in to sip award-winning St-Amour reds on Trip **19**

Sentier Aval des Gorges

Driving the Gorges de l'Ardèche scenic route is spectacular. Discover this easy-to-miss trail on Trip **20**