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Striking the perfect balance between a seaside resort and a cosmopolitan city, Nice serves as an ideal base for a holiday on the French Riviera. A popular travel destination since the late 18th century, the city boasts a mild Mediterranean climate, a rich culture, a lively Old Town district and a picture-perfect shoreline bordered with grand hotels. Set in
a stupendous spot by the Mediterranean Sea, the city was founded in the fourth century BC at the foot of the French Alps. As it was once a retreat for the European elite, plenty of grand mansions line its boulevards. The citys soft but intense light, charming architecture and colorful marketplaces have long attracted artists, including Matisse and
Chagall, and there are more museums in Nice than in any French city save Paris. Very pedestrian-friendly, Nice La Belle; strikes the perfect balance between a cosmopolitan city and a seaside resort. As it is blessed with warm sunny weather, wonderful food and, of course, a winning location, it is no wonder youll find plenty of things to do in Nice. Its
Promenade des Anglais also offers up one of the most iconic images of the French Riviera over the centuries is the marvelous Muse Massena. Set along the Promenade des Anglais amidst lovely lush gardens, the Belle Epoque mansion is
packed with all kinds of amazing old artifacts and artworks. Once the winter residence of Prince Essling, the sumptuous Neo-Classical-style seaside villa was first opened as a museum in 1921. Its pretty painted ceilings, sparkling chandeliers and sweeping marble staircases all highlight how the aristocracy once lived in Nice. Lots of antique furniture
and umpteen statues also decorate its grand rooms. On display are not just fabulous paintings and photos but exhibits examining various aspects of the citys past. Personal effects from Napoleon are also on show, including the emperors death mask. 21. Basilique Notre-DameAnother architectural gem is the Neo-Gothic Basilique Notre Dame. Known
for both its imposing twin towers and twinkling stained-glass windows, it overlooks Avenue Jean Medecin in the center of Nice. Completed in 1868, the design of the big bright white basilica was inspired by Angers Cathedral. The idea was to add more French architecture to the port city following its acquisition by France from the Kingdom of Sardinia
only a few years earlier. Towering 65 meters in height, its two towers lie on either side of a wonderful rose window. The churchs interior is just as majestic as soaring columns prop up its vast vaulted ceiling far above. Aside from admiring its striking stained-glass scenes, an elaborate altar and huge organ also adorn its walls. 20. Museum of Modern
and Contemporary ArtIf you want to see yet more incredible artworks and architecture this time abstract and avant-garde then the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art is a great place to go. Located just a short walk from Vieux Nice, its rooftop also boasts some of the best views over the city. Almost impossible to miss, its modern building looks
quite castle-like as four massive marble towers surround its otherwise glass and metal tetrapod arch. Although its dramatic design and panoramas already make it well worth visiting, the imaginative installations within are just as impressive. The 10 Most Amazing Destinations in the South of FranceNow home to around 1,400 thought-provoking
sculptures, paintings and photos, its collection covers the 1950s up to the present. As well as American Pop Art and European New Realism, the MAMAC displays works by the School of Nice. Particularly big names exhibited include Yves Klein and Andy Warhol with interesting and unique artworks appearing almost wherever you look. 19. Parc du
Mont Boron Just east of Old Nice is the peaceful and picturesque Parc du Mont Boron. Other than hiking along all its shady trails, there is a fantastic fort and some phenomenal viewpoints to check out. Coated in gorgeous woodlands, the 190-metre-high hill looms above the Cap du Nice and port far, far below. Amidst all the oaks, pines and olive trees,
you can wander along its eleven kilometers of paths or enjoy a relaxing picnic. While the sixteenth-century Fort du Mont Alban is unfortunately closed to the public, its sturdy stone walls and turrets still make for some brilliant photos. The highlight though has to be the parks astonishing views over the citys scenic coastline. Besides gazing down at the
Old Town and port on one side, the other looks out over the Cap Ferrat peninsula, Villefranche-sur-Mer and even the Esterel Mountains in the distance. 18. Nice Carnival Villefranche-sur-Mer and even the Esterel Mountains in the distance. 18. Nice Carnival Villefranche-sur-Mer and even the Esterel Mountains in the distance. 18. Nice Carnival Villefranche-sur-Mer and even the Esterel Mountains in the distance. 18. Nice Carnival Villefranche-sur-Mer and even the Esterel Mountains in the distance. 18. Nice Carnival Villefranche-sur-Mer and even the Esterel Mountains in the distance. 18. Nice Carnival Villefranche-sur-Mer and even the Esterel Mountains in the distance. 18. Nice Carnival Villefranche-sur-Mer and even the Esterel Mountains in the distance. 18. Nice Carnival Villefranche-sur-Mer and even the Esterel Mountains in the distance. 18. Nice Carnival Villefranche-sur-Mer and even the Esterel Mountains in the distance. 18. Nice Carnival Villefranche-sur-Mer and even the Esterel Mountains in the distance. 18. Nice Carnival Villefranche-sur-Mer and even the Esterel Mountains in the distance. 18. Nice Carnival Villefranche-sur-Mer and even the Esterel Mountains in the distance. 18. Nice Carnival Villefranche-sur-Mer and even the Esterel Mountains in the distance. 18. Nice Carnival Villefranche-sur-Mer and even the Esterel Mountains in the distance of the Esterel Mountains in the Esterel Mount
see its monumental floats and famous flower parade. Actually one of the largest carnivals in the world, the origins of its lively celebrations remarkably date back to 1294. Taking over the Promenade des Anglais, its countless concerts, parades and firework shows are held each year in the run-up to Lent. Wheeling about in elaborate costumes,
thousands of ecstatic dancers and musicians accompany its sumptuously-decorated floats. A stupendous light show parade also takes place each evening. The carnival finally comes to a close when the giant figure of a king is set on fire. Certainly up there with those of Rio, Venice and Mardi Gras, Nice Carnival really is an unforgettable experience!17.
Palais LascarisIn contrast to all the frenzied festivities and flower throwing, visiting Palais Lascaris is a rather more regal and refined affair. Lying right in the heart of Old Nice, its fine artworks and frescoed ceilings are a treat to peruse. It also houses an astounding collection of antique musical instruments. Built in the first half of the seventeenth
century, the aristocratic palace is delightfully decorated with sculptures, paintings and tapestries. Magnificent staircases and hallways lead to both period salons and stately apartments, many of which feature fabulous painted ceilings. Over 500 ancient musical instruments are also displayed here with some even dating to the sixteenth century. Easily, the aristocratic palace is delightfully decorated with some even dating to the sixteenth century.
overlooked due to its rather unremarkable facade, the ornate palace, its extraordinary instruments and artworks are definitely worth a quick stop.16. Day Trip to EzeNot all too far from Nice is the romantic medieval village of ze. Perched high up on a steep hillside overlooking the Mediterranean, its charming cobbled streets are lovely to stroll around
with stunning views guaranteed wherever you go. Where to Stay in the ProvenceOne of the French Rivieras most magical towns, its winding walkways are bordered by beautiful old stone buildings home to little art galleries, boutiques and cafes. Looking out over all its red rooftops and the sparkling sea below is a breathtaking botanical garden. Full of
succulents and cacti, it really is a must for its plants and panoramas. Aside from ambling about taking in its ambience and views, you can also enter the villages cute little church. Only half an hour east by car, ze is often listed among the loveliest towns in France thanks to its spectacular setting and sweeping views over the Cote dAzur. 15. Avenue Jean
MedecinOne of Nices main shopping streets, Avenue Jean Medecin runs north to south from the train station to Place Massena. Lined by hundreds of shops, restaurants and cafes, it hums with life at almost any time of day. Referred to simply as the avenue by residents, the almost endless street is named after the former mayor who helped transform
the citys fortunes after the Second World War. Other than the train station acts more as a neighborhood artery, the southern part is of more interest to tourists.
Atmospherically illuminated at night, it has tons of clothing shops and restaurants serving a wide range of cuisines to stop by 14. Place Garibaldi connecting the Old Town to the new is the expansive Place Garibaldi and all its pretty old buildings. Rightfully known for its history and architecture, the square has some great restaurants and bars for you
to grab a drink at. Laid out in the late eighteenth century, the plaza is named after Giuseppe Garibaldi the Italian hero who was born in Nice and helped unify Italy in 1861. An eye-catching statue of the general occupies its centre while stately Baroque buildings border it on all sides. After taking some pics of the famous figure and surrounding facades
its cafes and restaurants have some nice outdoor terraces to sit at. A wonderful old-fashioned carousel also lies in one corner with cultural events sometimes taking place here. 13. Cathedrale Sainte-Reparate in the heart of Vieux Nice. The citys most
important place of worship, its soaring facade and sparkling belltower overlook the rather small, cluttered Place Rossetti. Deceptively large and opulent inside, the current cathedral was constructed between 1650 and 1865 atop the site of an even older church. As well as three ornate organs and a magnificent main altar, it contains the relics of Saint
Reparata. Once youve admired its incredible art-filled chapels, you can gaze up at its towering campanile from one of the cafes outside. Always lively, the picturesque Place Rossetti hosts numerous markets and music concerts with the cathedral and square magically lit up at night. 9 Unforgettable Day Trips from Nice12. Visit Villefranche-sur-MerSet
in a very scenic spot between the Mediterranean Sea and mountains is the little resort town of Villefranche-sur-Mer. Located along a deep natural bay immediately east of Nice, it is a very pleasant place to wander about and take photos of all its brightly-colored facades down by the waterfront. Due to its spellbinding setting and scenery, the seaside
town has regularly featured in films over the decades. You may recognise its gorgeous coast and yacht-filled waters from The Bourne Identity and The Jewel of the Nile among others. Besides lounging on its beaches and going deep sea diving or sailing, you can stroll about its historic harbour and watch boats come and go. Right next to it is the
sixteenth-century St. Peters Chapel and a crumbling fortress to see. In addition to the town hall, the latter houses some cool art collections with its gardens and ramparts offering awe-inspiring views over the coastline.11. Cimiez Monastery Founded in the ninth century by Benedictine monks, Cimiez Monastery still overlooks all of Nice from atop its
prominent hillside spot. Right next to all its glorious Neo-Gothic buildings and gardens, youll also find the Musee Matisse and some Roman-era ruins. Run by Franciscan friars since the sixteenth century, the monasterys atmospheric old church boasts a beautiful facade and contains three masterpieces by the renowned Italian painter Ludovico Brea. It
also has a charming courtyard and phenomenal frescoes emblazoned across its ceiling to inspect. After seeing centuries and interesting exhibits on life at the monastery in its museum, make sure to amble about its gardens and cemetery. Next to all its monumental tombs, youll see the graves of famed figures such as Henri Matisse and
Raoul Dufy. Captivating views over Nice and the Cote dAzur can also be enjoyed from its grounds. 10. Promenade du Paillon. Stretching just over a kilometer in total, its gardens and green spaces contain childrens playgrounds and a fun water
fountain to cool off on hot days. Since its inauguration back in 2013, the pretty promenade has been a firm favorite with both locals and tourists alike. Following the former path of the Paillon River, it takes you from the Promenade des Anglais and Jardin Albert 1er right up to the MAMAC and Theater National de Nice. Along the way, you can explore
its lovely landscaped gardens, see cool statues and stop off at Place Massena. There is always a nice vibe about the promenade with its architecture, nature and views all lying just a short walk from either the Old Town or the more modern city center.9. Musee Marc ChagallRosino / FlickrBack up in the hilly suburb of Cimiez is the excellent Musee
Marc Chagall. Housing one of the worlds largest collections of his works, its galleries exhibit everything from paintings and prints to ceramics, sculptures and stained glass. Set amidst quiet, leafy grounds, the museum was opened in 1973 with the famous Russian-French artist himself having played a large role in its design. Mostly dedicated to his
biblical-themed works, the collection highlights both his technical virtuosity and universal message of peace. Throughout the museum, you can examine his colourful, creative paintings and amazing, illuminated stained-glass windows. It also displays seventeen of Chagalls Old and New Testament illustrations which count among the finest works he
ever created. Afterwards, you can relax for a while in its garden before continuing up the hill to the Musee Matisse. 8. Russian Orthodox Cathedrals soaring spires and giant green onion domes make for quite the sight. Located just to the west of the main train station, it really is a
must for architecture lovers. Its resplendent interior is also painted in brilliantly bright blue and gold. Actually the largest cathedrals construction was funded by Czar Nicholas II in memoriam of his heir,
Nicholas Alexandrovitch, who died in Nice in 1865. After ogling at its ornate facade, head inside to see all its glittering icons and golden murals. Thanks to its majestic altar, architecture and exquisite paintings, it is considered one of the most beautiful Orthodox cathedrals outside of Russia. 7. Musee MatisseLong one of the seaside citys most
important cultural institutes, the Muse Matisse explores the life and works of the revered artist. Again perched up amidst the hills of Cimiez, its extensive collection occupies an elegant seventeenth-century villa. Founded in 1963, it offers up a fascinating look into the artistic beginnings, evolution and influences of Henri Matisse who lived in Nice for
much of his life. On show are hundreds of his paintings, prints, drawings and sculptures. Many of his paintings, prints, drawings and sculptures. While you unfortunately wont see all that many of his paintings, prints, drawings and sculptures. While you unfortunately wont see all that many of his paintings, prints, drawings and sculptures.
its nice to spend some time in its Mediterranean gardens.6. Take the Train to Monaco If you want to tick another country off your list and see how the rich and famous live, then Monaco is only a short train trip east of Nice. Known for its glitzy casinos, yachts and Grand Prix, the glamorous principality makes for a fun, fancy day trip. The second-
smallest country in the world, the densely-populated city is nestled between lush green mountains and the glimmering Mediterranean Sea. Fabulously wealthy, its picture-perfect harbor is full of luxurious yachts while sleek supercars cruise about its scenic streets. Other than taking in its delightful views over the French Riviera, there are exotic
gardens and opulent palaces to visit dotted along its dramatic coastline. You can also always try your luck at the iconic Monte Carlo Casino or watch an incredible show at the Monaco Opera House.5. Place Massena lis surrounded by loads of important and impressive Neo-Classical-style buildings. Just a
short walk from both the Old Town and Promenade des Anglais, it hosts countless concerts, cultural events and festivals during the year. Fun Things to Do in the French RivieraLaid out in 1844, it was originally divided into two parts until the Paillon River was covered over. As its bridge was the only convenient way to get from the Old Town to the
new, the vast square has always served as an important meeting point. Both the Nice Carnival and Bastille Day celebrations normally pass by here as do other parades and processions. Very Mediterranean in terms of its look and feel, the plazas checkerboard flagstones are bordered by tons of cafe terraces and restaurant patios. At the center of all its
colourful red and yellow buildings is its stunning Fountain of the Sun God. Once youve snapped some photos of the enormous figure of Apollo, you can branch off and explore Vieux Nice.4. Colline du ChateauRising steeply above all the citys red rooftops is the lofty Colline du ChateauRising steeply above all the citys red rooftops is the lofty Colline du ChateauRising steeply above all the citys red rooftops is the lofty Colline du ChateauRising steeply above all the citys red rooftops is the lofty Colline du ChateauRising steeply above all the citys red rooftops is the lofty Colline du ChateauRising steeply above all the citys red rooftops is the lofty Colline du ChateauRising steeply above all the citys red rooftops is the lofty Colline du ChateauRising steeply above all the citys red rooftops is the lofty Colline du ChateauRising steeply above all the citys red rooftops is the lofty Colline du ChateauRising steeply above all the citys red rooftops is the lofty Colline du ChateauRising steeply above all the citys red rooftops is the lofty Colline du ChateauRising steeply above all the citys red rooftops is the lofty Colline du ChateauRising steeply above all the citys red rooftops is the lofty Colline du ChateauRising steeply above all the citys red rooftops is the lofty Colline du ChateauRising steeply above all the citys red rooftops is the lofty Colline du ChateauRising steeply above all the citys red rooftops is the lofty Colline du ChateauRising steeply above all the citys red rooftops is the lofty Colline du ChateauRising steeply above all the citys red rooftops is the lofty Colline du ChateauRising steeply above all the citys red rooftops is the city above all the citys red rooftops is the city above all t
Cote dAzur, it is by far the most popular park in Nice. Towering ninety meters in total, the rocky hill is named after the medieval fortress that protected the bay from the eleventh to eighteenth century. As it was eventually destroyed by Louis XIV, only a few ruins remain. Amidst its woods, youll instead find several shady cafes, a childrens playground
and a mesmerizing waterfall cascading down a cliff. You can either pant your way up to the top of Castle Hill or take an elevator from next to Hotel Suisse. Up high, youre rewarded with unbelievable views of the city and sea before you. An absolute must when in Nice, the large landmark is particularly special to visit at sunrise or sunset. 3. Cours
Saleya Flower MarketAnother unmissable Nice experience is exploring all the fragrant outdoor flowers, facades and food products on show, the broad boulevard runs parallel to the Quai des Etats-Unis in the Old Town. As it was formerly a park for the citys
upper classes, the long, tree-lined street is overlooked by lots of eighteenth-century mansions, now home to little local cafes and restaurants. Almost every day of the week, vendors sell artisanal food products and freshly cut flowers here from beneath the striped awnings of their stalls. On Mondays, a flea market instead sets up along the entire
street. Buzzing with life, the famous flower market is always fun to amble about. It is also the perfect place to pick up some tasty snacks, souvenirs or stop for a coffee break. 2. Vieux NiceA mess of narrow medieval streets and pastel-colored houses, Vieux NiceA mess of narrow medieval streets and pastel-colored houses, vieux NiceA mess of narrow medieval streets and pastel-colored houses, vieux NiceA mess of narrow medieval streets and pastel-colored houses, vieux NiceA mess of narrow medieval streets and pastel-colored houses, vieux NiceA mess of narrow medieval streets and pastel-colored houses, vieux NiceA mess of narrow medieval streets and pastel-colored houses, vieux NiceA mess of narrow medieval streets and pastel-colored houses, vieux NiceA mess of narrow medieval streets and pastel-colored houses, vieux NiceA mess of narrow medieval streets and pastel-colored houses, vieux NiceA mess of narrow medieval streets and pastel-colored houses, vieux NiceA mess of narrow medieval streets and pastel-colored houses, vieux NiceA mess of narrow medieval streets and pastel-colored houses, vieux NiceA mess of narrow medieval streets and pastel-colored houses, vieux NiceA mess of narrow medieval streets and pastel-colored houses, vieux NiceA mess of narrow medieval streets and pastel-colored houses, vieux NiceA mess of narrow medieval streets and vieux Ni
Promenade des Anglais, the vibrant area looks and feels much more like Italy than France. This is because Nice was ruled by both the Duchy of Savoy and the Kingdom of Sardinia for centuries. 10 Most Beautiful Lakes in France Popularly known as Babazouk, its warren of cobblestone alleys are sandwiched between the Colline du Chteau, Quai des
Etats-Unis and Promenade du Paillon. Lining its shady streets and squares are loads of tiny local cafes, boulangeries and patisseries. Its old Italianate-style buildings are also home to traditional restaurants and artisanal ice cream parlors serving some tantalizing Nice specialities. Aside from getting lost and enjoying the ambience, you just have to
check out its cathedral and the very lively Place Rossetti. The heart of the Old Town, they make for some fantastic photos with something always going on.1. Promenade des Anglais Which runs its way alongside the Baie des Anglais The citys most iconic symbol and site is, of course, the Promenade des Anglais which runs its way alongside the Baie des Anglais The citys most iconic symbol and site is, of course, the Promenade des Anglais Which runs its way alongside the Baie des Anglais The citys most iconic symbol and site is, of course, the Promenade des Anglais Which runs its way alongside the Baie des Anglais The citys most iconic symbol and site is, of course, the Promenade des Anglais Which runs its way alongside the Baie des Anglais The citys most iconic symbol and site is, of course, the Promenade des Anglais The citys most iconic symbol and site is, of course, the Promenade des Anglais The citys most iconic symbol and site is, of course, the Promenade des Anglais The citys most iconic symbol and site is, of course, the Promenade des Anglais The citys most iconic symbol and site is, of course, the Promenade des Anglais The citys most iconic symbol and site is, of course, the Promenade des Anglais The citys most iconic symbol and site is, of course, the Promenade des Anglais The citys most iconic symbol and site is a site of the Promenade des Anglais The citys most iconic symbol and site is a site of the Promenade des Anglais The citys most iconic symbol and site of the Promenade des Anglais The citys most iconic symbol and site of the Promenade des Anglais The citys most iconic symbol and site of the Promenade des Anglais The city symbol and site of the Promenade des Anglais The city symbol and site of the Promenade des Anglais The city symbol and site of the Promenade des Anglais The city symbol and site of the Promenade des Anglais The city symbol and sym
seaside walks, it takes you past lots of chic cafes and luxury hotels. With gently waving palms backing it and sweeping sea views before you, slowly sauntering along it is a must when visiting the French Riviera. Stretching seven kilometers in length, it owes its name and existence to the English holidaymakers who flocked to Nice in the early
eighteenth century. Enchanted by its warm weather and phenomenal vistas, a group of wealthy aristocrats funded the waterfront walkways construction. A firm favorite with locals and tourists, the picture-perfect promenade is lovely to walk, run or cycle along. With the Old Town, Musee Massena and nineteenth-century palaces bordering its eastern
end, there are also plenty of spots to stop along it. Humming with energy at all times of day, the relaxed seaside walkway is what everyone instantly imagines when they think of Nice. Where to Stay in NiceAs the city isnt massive and many of the main tourist attractions in Nice arent located too far from one another, the area in between the main
station and promenade is a convenient place to stay. From here, you can easily walk to most museums, explore the Old Town or hop on a train along the coast if you feel like it. Along Avenue Jean Medecin right by the gare for instance is the cozy, comfortable Hotel 64 Nice. As well as its excellent location and transport links, its well-equipped rooms
and public spaces are very stylish and modern. Despite lying near tons of restaurants, bars and shops, the family-friendly hotels quiet rooms guarantee guests a relaxing stay. A great budget option is the Hotel Villa Rivoli which lies just a stones throw from Musee Massena and the Promenade des Anglais. A very pretty property, the tastefully-decorated
Belle Epoque mansions rooms are full of old-school French charm. The boutique hotel also has a delightful garden to relax in and is highly recommended for its friendly, welcoming staff. How to get ThereVery well connected to the outside world, the seaside city is served by Nice Cote dAzur Airport; one of the busiest in France. Many companies also
run seasonal flights here in summer from all around Europe. The countrys well-developed rail system can also whisk you to Nice from either Paris or Marseille in about 5.5 and 2.5 hours respectively. Countless regional trains and buses also make their way along the French Riviera to cities such as Cannes and Monaco. Frances Culinary Capital: Lyon's
Top Attractions Besides driving to the city, several ferries call in at its port from various stops in Corsica. Once you arrive, most tourist sites should be within walking distance of the main train station or city center. If not, just hop on a bus or tram and youll be there in no time at all. Approximate travel times: Cannes 30 minutes by car, 15 minutes by
trainMonaco 30 minutes by car, 25 minutes by car, 2 minutes by trainAntibes 20 minutes by trainAntibes 20 minutes by trainAntibes 20 minutes by trainAntibes 20 minutes by trainAntibes 30 minutes 30 minut
quintessential French Riviera experience with both Fete de la Musique and Bastille Day also falling in July. Temperatures stay around 26C (79F) so dont forget to lather on that sun cream. As many of its hotels still dont have air conditioning, the heat can get too much at times. April to June and September to October are also great times to visit Nice.
 Although still very popular, the prices, temperatures and crowds have all come down a bit. Averages of around 15 to 23C (59 to 73F) mean you can sightsee or lounge on the beach and swim in both June and the warmer autumn months. From November to March, relatively few people visit so there are no queues and prices are at their lowest. While
French city of Nice is also packed with art, culture and world-class things to see and do. From strolling along its legendary Promenade des Anglais The
vast, palm tree-lined Promenade des Anglais is the most iconic stretch of seafront in Nice. It stretches from the airport in the west to the castle headland in the east 7km (4.3mi) of uninterrupted views of the Baie des Anges and gets its name from the English expat patrons who funded it in 1822. La Prom, as it is known to locals, has a dedicated lane
for cyclists and skaters. If you fancy joining them, you can rent skates, scooters and bikes from Roller Station. Spot the promenade's iconic landmarks along the way, including the many joining them, you can rent skates, scooters and bikes from Roller Station. Spot the promenade's iconic landmarks along the way, including the many joining them, you can rent skates, scooters and bikes from Roller Station.
pays homage to the famous blue chairs dotted along the seafront. Explore the fusion of Italian and French architecture and culture on the streets of Vieux Nice Maremagnum / Getty Images 2. Explore the narrow streets of Vieux Nice Maremagnum / Getty Images 2. Explore the fusion of Italian and French architecture and culture on the streets of Vieux Nice Maremagnum / Getty Images 2. Explore the fusion of Italian and French architecture and culture is rooted in a long history, much like its gastronomy, halfway between France and Italy.
yourself in it with a leisurely wander through Nices old town. It is in this district you can really see the traces of the citys Italian past. Lose yourself in the winding, narrow streets and alleyways and dont forget to look up to appreciate the colorful facades which are so typical of the area. Admire the architectural gems, including Cathdrale Ste-Rparate
and 17th-century Palais Lascaris, before making your way to the lively markets and caf terraces of the Colline du Chteau. This leafy,
wooded park on the eastern edge of the old town used to be the site of a medieval castle and military fortifications that were destroyed by Louis XIV in 1706. Archaeological digs have since revealed Celtic and Roman remains. Today, the Tour Bellanda remains, alongside a lovely garden with play areas, an impressive artificial waterfall and sweeping
vistas best enjoyed at sunset. The stalls of Cours Saleya market have something for everyone, from food and flowers to local crafts Fraser Hall / Getty Images 4. Browse the stalls at Cours Saleya market and a much-loved fruit and vegetable market.
On Mondays, a flea market takes the place of the food and floral displays. Theres also a night market featuring local crafts that runs from May to September. Surrounded by colorful buildings and a buzzing business district, the food market overflows with seasonal Mediterranean produce from small local producers. Collect picnic supplies like organic
tomatoes, zucchini flowers, spices, olives or lemons that come from the neighboring town of Menton. Saturdays and Sundays are the best days to buy cheese from Alpine producers. There are also plenty of street snacks and pastries you can munch on as you browse the stalls.5. Taste Nioise street food specialtiesTuck into socca (chickpea-flour
pancakes), pissaladire (caramelized onion and anchovy tart), tourte de blettes (chard, raisin and pine nut pie) and other delicious Nioise street snacks at local institution Chez Pipo near Port Lympia, or from the Chez Thrsa cart at the Cours Saleya market in Vieux Nice. Another emblematic local treat is pan bagnat, a round-shaped sandwich filled with
tuna, hard-boiled eggs, anchovies, black olives and raw vegetables, and soaked in olive oil. Essentially, a salade nioise in a bun! Try some of the best in town at Lou Balico in front of the MAMAC museum, Kiosque Chez Tintin next to the Libration market or La Gratta by Port Lympia. Wander the beautiful streets of Nice and visit its many incredible
museums Gulcin Ragiboglu / Getty Images / iStockphoto 6. Get a modern art fix at the MAMACThe Muse dArt Moderne et dArt Contemporain (MAMAC) exhibits a large collection of works from the influential avant-garde cole de Nice. Immerse yourself in the powerful blue works of Yves Klein and the worlds of Niki de Saint Phalle, Ben Vautier and
Martial Raysse. This multilevel museum also houses pop art classics from Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein, as well as contemporary art exhibitions, all within an impressive modernist building. Head to the rooftop exhibitions, all within an impressive modernist building. Head to the rooftop exhibitions, all within an impressive modernist building.
grandson of one of Napolon's favorite generals, Marchal Andr Massena, this sumptuous belle-poque villa now houses a engrossing museum dedicated to the history of Nice and the Riviera. Muse Massna is one of the many architectural gems lining the citys famous Promenade des Anglais and is well worth a visit to delve into Nices origins, the history
and impact of tourism on the Riviera and the enduring importance of the Carnaval de Nice, which has been delighting locals and visitors alike since 1876.8. See some of Matisse's greatest artworksOne of Frances most famous artists, Henri Matisse (1869-1954) lived in Nice for nearly 40 years. See one of the worlds largest collections of his work,
including paintings, drawings, sculptures and paper cut-outs, at the Muse Matisse in Cimiez. The museum is housed in a striking red-ochre Genoese villa surrounded by olive trees, a stones throw from the Monastre Notre Dame de Cimiez, where Matisse is buried. The fountains on the Promenade du Paillon are the perfect spot to cool off and people
watch in summer Rostislav Glinsky / Shutterstock 9. People-watch on the Promenade du PaillonAfter hitting the stores along Avenue Jean-Mdecin and 19th-century red-ochre buildings, enjoy a well-earned break with a spot of people-watch in the scenic surrounds of Place Massna, with its hypnotic tilework, stunning baroque-style fountain and 19th-century red-ochre buildings, enjoy a well-earned break with a spot of people-watch in the scenic surrounds of Place Massna, with its hypnotic tilework, stunning baroque-style fountain and 19th-century red-ochre buildings, enjoy a well-earned break with a spot of people-watch in the scenic surrounds of Place Massna, with its hypnotic tilework, stunning baroque-style fountain and 19th-century red-ochre buildings, enjoy a well-earned break with a spot of people-watch in the scenic surrounds of Place Massna, with its hypnotic tilework, stunning baroque-style fountain and 19th-century red-ochre buildings, enjoy a well-earned break with a spot of people-watch in the scenic surrounds of Place Massna, with its hypnotic tilework, stunning baroque-style fountain and 19th-century red-ochre buildings, enjoy a well-earned break with a spot of people-watch in the scenic surrounds of Place Massna, with its hypnotic tilework, stunning baroque-style fountain and 19th-century red-ochre buildings, enjoy a well-earned break with a spot of people-watch in the scenic surrounds of people-watch in the scenic 
watching on the Promenade du Paillon. This 1.2km-long (three-quarters of a mile), beautifully landscaped park spans from Place Massna to the Thtre National de Nice, with green spaces, wooden benches, water features and childrens play areas aplenty. 10. Go bar-hopping in Vieux NiceIf you have to choose one place in Nice for an evening out, make it
the Vieux Nice, with its bountiful selection of bars, pubs and restaurants. Start off at Le Bateleur or Caf des Amis on the Cours Saleya for a beer or a glass of wine in good company. Watch the sunset cocktail in hand from La Movidas first-floor balcony overlooking the Mediterranean. If an old-school pint is more your thing, head to Les Distilleries
Idales, a long-running locals favorite. Round off your evening with dinner at Bar des Oiseaux, Olive et Artichaut, Peixes or Le Comptoir du March, featuring the best local produce cooked to perfection. 11. Discover the leafy Cimiez quarter Perched on a hill, the leafy district of Cimiez is home to elegant villas, two important art museums devoted to the
works of Matisse and Chagall, Roman remains and the Muse Archologique de Nice. Originally a Roman bastion, Cimiez has transformed over time into an elegant residential area. In the 1890s, Queen Victoria regularly wintered at Le Rgina, a monumental palace later converted into apartments, where Matisse lived in the 1940s. Today, visitors can
admire the stunning facade while strolling through the neighborhood.12. Go hiking in the Parc du Mont Boron Offers an ideal escape from the hustle and bustle of Nice. The hilltop forest is spread across 57 hectares (141 acres) of Aleppo pines, olive trees
and holm oaks. History buffs can visit the 16th-century military Fort du Mont Alban at the top of the hill, which affords sweeping panoramic views of Nice, Villefranche-sur-Mer, the Cap-Ferrat peninsula and the Esterel mountains. You may also like: The 12 best beaches in France14 places to go to enjoy the best of FranceThe 6 best day trips from
Marseille by public transport Discover and book the best of Nice with the local destination experts Famous for its Belle Epoque architecture, Nice is one of the liveliest cities in the South of France. This vibrant, cosmopolitan seaside resort benefits from a remarkable location, enjoying the influence of the nearby Italian and Mediterranean cultures.
Nice has attracted tourists for at least the last two centuries, tempted by its lovely coastline and wonderful culture. Built upon the graceful curve of the Bay of Angels, Nice boasts palm-lined boulevards, beautiful architecture and a melting pot of cultures and cuisines. Museums, art galleries, boutiques, gourmet restaurants and cafes line the elegant
streets of this town. Behind the city, rolling hills rise towards the Alps less than 50 kilometres away. Cap de Nice, an affluent area of villefranche. Also here is Mount Boron, a national park with lovely walking trails and a fort. The coastline and its beautiful
beaches are dotted with sophisticated beach clubs and bars serving signature cocktails and bubbles. Latest news, reviews & events in Nice Find out all about what is happening in Nice and how to make the most of your time here. The latest news, reviews of fun activities, fabulous beaches, current events and the trendiest restaurants, as well as
interviews with leading locals, insider's guides and our top choices for things to do, see and experience in this cosmopolitan city. See our News & Reviews You will not be short of entertainment in this beautiful French Riviera town throughout the year. The most popular public events take place along the Promenade des Anglais, including the Carnival
in February, the Bastille celebrations in July and the Nice marathon in November. There are also plenty of live music and cultural festivals. See our Events What to see & do in Nice Head out onto the beach and venture into the sparkling blue waters to enjoy a whole range of watersports or, to experience more of the coast along
Nice, hire a yacht or book a boat trip. There are also plenty of sporting activities on dry land such as exploring on bike or foot. Shopping is also a popular option, either at the local markets or the designer boutique shops. Nice's architecture shows her varied history with stunning art-deco hotels, neoclassical villas and Belle Epoque buildings, while her
museums further show off her character as a melting pot of cultures. Dominating the city, at the top of Mount Boron sits Fort Mont Alban, built in 1557. But the 'piece de resistance' must be the Promenade des Anglais, an astonishingly pretty palm-lined boulevard by the sea. Discover Copyright SeeTheWorld 1998-2025. SeeNice.com is not a travel
agent nor tour operator, nor the end supplier. Read more Are you planning a trip to Nice and wondering how to spend your time? In this guide, I share the VERY BEST places to see and things to do in Nice. Theres a reason why Nice has been captivating French Riviera visitors for centuries. Its unique blend of natural beauty, rich history, and laid-
back Mediterranean flair is ever-enchanting. But Nice is also packed with amazing attractions, from famous landmarks to lesser-known must-sees. Ive been visiting Nice for decades and still discover something new every time. Now I cant wait to share my favorite sightseeing spots and activities in Nice with you. Whether youre a history buff, an art
enthusiast, a foodie, or a beach lover, Ive got you covered. Oh, and I made sure to include plenty of places to see in Nice that are free or almost free. From getting lost in the winding alleys of the Old Town to strolling along the iconic Promenade des Anglais, heres my selection of the best things to do in Nice, France. Join my Nice and French Riviera
Travel Group! Affiliate linksare sprinkled throughout the site content. Clicking on such a hyperlink and making a booking on the accommodation platform it refers to may result in a commission for Nice & Beyond at no additional cost to you. For more information, visit the Disclaimerpage. The international airport of Nice Cte dAzur makes Nice the
gateway to the French Riviera. Add to that the efficient public transportation network and you know why Nice is the most popular travel base to explore the French Riviera on day trips from Nice or even build your French Riviera
itinerary from Nice. This blog features plenty of South of France travel guides to help you plan your journey. Just dont make the mistake of planning so many tours from this seasonal Nioise who keeps on returning to this vibrant city year
after year (and sometimes multiple times a year). So, while you might be tempted to spend one day in Nice and the rest of your time exploring the wider region, its far from ideal. Racing through Nice wont allow you to soak in its unique atmosphere. Thats why Id recommend staying in Nice for three days to see the sights and enjoy the city at a
relaxed pace. As I compose this list of attractions, I ensured that the free or almost free things to do in Nice far outnumber the paid activities. The French Riviera might have the reputation for being an expensive place to vacation, but it doesnt have to be if you do some research (or let me do it for you). Note that some landmarks might have closing
days, and some activities are seasonal, so be sure to check the website of every attraction before planning your visit. Now, without further ado, heres my selection of what to see and do in Nice. The iconic Promenade des Anglais is Nices crown jewel, a 7km stretch of palm-lined seafront thats perfect for a leisurely stroll or bike ride. Soak in the
Mediterranean views or join locals for a jog or rollerblade session. Its the perfect spot to catch a stunning sunset over the Baie des Anges. The Promenade hugs the Baie des Anges or Bay of Angels and is lined with fascinating buildings such as the emblematic Palais de la Mditerrane, which now houses the Hyatt, the pink-domed Le Negresco, and there are no stunning sunset over the Baie des Anges.
stately Villa Massna, a museum dedicated to showcasing the history of Nice. Fun fact: The name Promenade des Anglais means Walkway of the English reverend LewisWay to donate money for its construction and create jobs
The original name was LaCamindeiIngles. I love to start and end my day in Nice with a visit to Cours Saleya and a stroll along the Promenade des Anglais. Its a classic combination yet so quintessentially Nice. One of the main attractions in Nice with a visit to Cours Saleya and a stroll along the Promenade des Anglais. Its a classic combination yet so quintessentially Nice. One of the main attractions in Nice with a visit to Cours Saleya and a stroll along the Promenade des Anglais.
checkerboard floor. Its the perfect starting point for exploring the city, connecting the Cold Town, the shopping district, and the Promenade du Paillon. By day, its a bustling hub and by night, its beautifully lit with color-changing statues representing the seven continents. The focal point of Place Massna is the Sun Fountain or Fontaine du Soleil. It
features a 7 m (23 ft) tallmarble statue of Apollo, the Greek god of the sun and arts, surrounded by five bronze statues representing Earth, Mars, Mercury, Saturn, and Venus Nice boasts some truly spectacular churches. The Russian Orthodox Cathedral, with its colorful onion domes, feels like a slice of Moscow on the Riviera. Its located a bit outside
of the city center, north of Nice-Ville, the main train station. Then in Vieux Nice, youll find the Cathdrale Sainte-Rparate at the heart of Place Rossetti and the glise de lAnnonciation, with its beautiful baroque interior and impressive frescos. And lets not forget about the Chapelle de la Misricorde, also known as the
Chapelle desPnitents Noirs, with its yellow facade and cupola fresco adorning Cours Saleya. For your convenience, I created this map showing the location of all the attractions mentioned in this article. Thats it for this list of things to do in Nice. By now, youre probably itching to book your stay (if you havent already) and count down the days until you
can explore the city yourself. I wish you the most amazing time in Nice! Bookmark this page or pin it for future reference. Sarah Vanheel Sarah, your go-to expert for all things Nice and the French Riviera, is a trainedteacherofFrenchas a foreign language and a long-time francophile. Nice is her second home and she knows this Mediterranean city and
its surroundings like the back of her hand. Sarah takes great pride in sharing her local expertise and experience-based travel tips to help you make the most of your time in Nice and beyond. Learn more about Sarah or contact her. The deep blue waters of the Cote dAzur are the dramatic backdrop for elegant Nice, the cultural capital of the French
Riviera, set on the Baie des Anges (Bay of Angels). Stroll, bike, or rollerblade the famous Promenade des Anglais, a palm-tree-lined, four-mile stretch that runs along the Mediterranean. A hike up Castle Hill offers up incredible panoramic views, while a walk through the pretty streets of Old Town delivers on cute cafs, a famed flower market, and busy
brasseries serving delicious Provenal food. Its easy to see why Nice was a haven for painters like Marc Chagall and Matisse, and if you need a break from Nices endless sun, you can visit local museums highlighting their work. Dont pass up the chance to experience the French Rivieras glitz and glamor by taking day trips to Saint Tropez and Monaco
or by joining a group to go clubbing til dawn. Pick a category to filter your recs$$$$ French, Mediterranean, Vegetarian friendly$$ - $$$ French, Mediterranean, French, Mediterranean, Vegetarian friendly$$ - $$$ French, Mediterranean, Vegetarian friendly$$ - $$
rooftop bars to watch the sunset in NiceYes, Paris is grand, but Nice is the French city I keep returning to over again. And watching the sun set behind the water during golden hour while sipping an ice-cold glass of ros is my favorite thing to do there. Here are 7 rooftop bars to check out on your next trip to the city. Esther Carlstone, Los
Angeles, CAIf chic hotel pool vibes are your thing, this is the place. Stunning views, hearty tapas, and festive live music make this a place I love recommending to first-timers. To avoid being disappointed, make sure to reserve a table overlooking the ocean for the ultimate happy hour. And if youre traveling with children, like I often do, rest assured
that this is one bar thats family-friendly and even has a kids' menu to please picky eaters. Calade Rooftop Restaurant topping the Radisson Blu boasts a prime location overlooking the Promenade des Anglais, offering breathtaking views of the impossibly blue water from the dining room and the narrow terrace outside. If wine isnt
your thing, they also have delicious signature cocktails, like my personal favorite, the Madeline (with amaretto, triple sec, and pineapple juice). Pair your drink with the oven-baked camembert and youll feel that all is right with the world. This bar is a little off the beaten path, sitting on the edge of the port, but I always recommend it for its one-of-a-
kind, over-the-water experience. Its definitely an Instagram-ready spot, so Id recommend going here for a glass of wine and an appetizer and then heading out to dinner elsewhere. Its just a short drive (or a long walk) to get here. Note that reservations are a must during peak seasons. This vibey bar on the 10th floor of the Le Meridian hotel has
rebranded in order to focus more on its array of fish dishesgreat news for anyone who loves seafood. Grab a chilled glass of wine while watching the bustle of the Promenade des Anglais or the glittering Mediterranean below. I come for the ros and charcuterie, and love sitting in the lounge area for more of a chill evening. If you love people-watching
as much as I do, this charming terrace tapas bar is a happy hour must. Its equally ideal for a pre-dinner aperitifcheck out the extensive cocktail menuor a coffee break. Order the aiguillettes de poisson (fish filets) and wander around with your glass in hand checking out the activity on the promenade below, or score a spot on one of the two small
terraces to catch an epic sunset. Bella Ciela Nice Bar & Rooftop An Insta-worthy makeover gives this pretty-in-pink bar a whimsical air, making it a favorite place to bring fellow traveling friends. I love the gorgeous views of the citys rooftops including the Notre Dame Basilicaas the sun starts to sink below the horizon. The service can be slow, but just
sit back and enjoy that laissez-faire lifestyle. If youre trying to avoid crowds, check this place out in the morning for a coffee and pastry. Explore more from our sponsors these questions and answers were created by AI, using the most common questions travelers ask in the forums. What are the public transportation options in Nice? According to forum
posts, Nice offers reliable public transportation with buses, trams, and trains frequently available. Some travelers mentioned the Lignes dAzur, which connects various parts
of the city and surrounding regions. Specific bus routes like the #82 and #100, and tram services provide efficient connections to popular destinations including Eze and Monaco. For many users, public transport in Nice is considered affordable. Recent updates indicate that single bus tickets cost 1.70, with various pass options like a 1-day pass for 7
and a 7-day pass for 20. Tickets can be purchased via apps, at stations, or directly from bus drivers. It's important to note occasional disruptions due to strikes, impacting the availability of services on certain days. This summary was generated by AI from Tripadvisor forum posts. What are the best beaches in Nice? According to forum posts, the beaches in Nice? According to forum posts.
in Nice are predominantly made up of large smooth rocks known as galets and are not sandy. Travelers have called out that these beaches can be uncomfortable without proper footwear like rock shoes. For many users seeking sandy beaches, alternatives near Nice include the beaches at Villefranche-sur-Mer, which offer a mix of sand and small
gravel, and Juan-les-Pins in Antibes, known for its sandy stretches. These locations are favored for their more comfortable beach experience and are accessible via short train or bus rides from Nice. Some travelers suggested that Villefranche-sur-Mer is also more suitable for children due to its gentler and shallower waters compared to the steep and
quickly deepening waters off Nices beaches. This summary was generated by AI from Tripadvisor forum posts, What facilities are available at Nice Airport? According to forum posts, Nice Airport? According to forum posts, Nice Airport? According to forum posts, Nice Airport offers a variety of dining options, particularly in Terminal 2. Travelers can find small restaurants, fast food outlets, and places serving sandwiches and drinks.
There is also a Jamie's Italian for those wanting a hot meal, although it is described as somewhat mundane. Additionally, a cake and coffee stand before security is recommended for being better and cheaper than options available airside. Forum contributions suggest that the airport includes shops where essentials like SIM cards can be purchased
upon arrival. For those waiting at the airport, there are cafes available, although they are typically priced as per usual airport standards. The airport also provides free unlimited public Wi-Fi, which is useful for travelers wanting to work or stay connected. Travelers have called out the cleanliness and crowd management at the airport, describing an
overall good experience. Check-in processes might be slow due to trainees, but security checks are reported to be quick and staff friendly. This summary was generated by AI from Tripadvisor forum posts. What are the best areas to stay in Nice? According to forum posts, the Le Carr d'Or area in the city center is highly recommended for first-time
visitors to Nice. This area is described as a rectangular zone encompassing Ave Jean Mdecin, Bd Victor Hugo, Bd Gambetta, and the Promenade, well-serviced by trams and offering a variety of hotels for all budgets. Some travelers said that the Old Town is favored for its proximity to nightlife and cultural sites, but it can be noisy, especially at night
due to the echo of sounds in the narrow streets filled with restaurants and bars. For those seeking quieter options, areas like the Musiciens district up to Place Mozart are suggested for their less central but still accessible location with quieter surroundings. Travelers have called out Central Nice for its convenience regarding transportation. It is noted
for easy access to trams, buses, and the beach, making it ideal for those who plan on exploring the city extensively or using Nice as a base for day trips along the Cte d'Azur. This summary was generated by AI from Tripadvisor forum posts. What wheelchair accessibility options are available in Nice? Some travelers mentioned that Nice offers
designated handiplages with amenities for wheelchair users, including special wheelchairs for entering it, suggesting Antibes as a better option for water access. According to forum posts, public transport such as buses and trains in
Nice are accessible, but navigating through aisles with a wheelchair might be challenging. Some users recommended contacting the local transport authority for more specific assistance. Additionally, companies offer guided day trips tailored for wheelchair users, enhancing accessibility to various attractions. Travelers have called out that certain
areas in Nice, like the Promenade des Anglais, are equipped with ramps and are generally flat, making them easier for wheelchair navigation. However, some parts of the Old Town may present challenges due to uneven pavements and narrow streets. Forum posts suggest checking with potential hotels regarding their accessibility features, such as the
presence of lifts and the availability of rooms catering to reduced mobility, to ensure a comfortable stay. This summary was generated by AI from Tripadvisor forum posts. What are the preferred payment methods in Nice? According to forum posts, card payments, including contactless methods, are widely accepted in Nice. Travelers have noted that
virtually all shops and restaurants accept cards, with contactless being the norm. However, there are a few exceptions, particularly some smaller or traditional establishments are prevalent, carrying some cash is advisable. Cash is particularly useful in smaller shops
outdoor markets, or in the occasional restaurant that operates on a cash-only basis. It's been noted to keep smaller denominations handy as larger bills can sometimes be difficult to use for smaller transactions. For those needing cash, ATMs are readily available throughout Nice, including at the airport. Users have suggested using bank-owned ATMs
for better security and potentially lower fees compared to independent machines. This summary was generated by AI from Tripadvisor forum posts, LAcchiardo is recommended for its private room suitable for group dining, offering great food and service. The restaurant is
noted for fitting within a budget of around 50 per person, making it a viable option for groups looking for a mid-range dining experience. Travelers have also mentioned Le Frog as a busy, unpretentious local restaurant that can accommodate groups. It is located close to Cour Saleya and Prom, offering typical French dishes. For those interested in
Lebanese cuisine, Le Cdre is well-regarded and capable of handling groups, with many dishes designed for two or more diners. This summary was generated by AI from Tripadvisor forum posts, the coastal path between Nice and Villefranche-sur-Mer, known as
Sentier du Littoral, is partially marked and can be challenging to navigate without a downloaded map. Some travelers mentioned that the path features uneven cobblestone terrain and requires proper footwear due to steep steps and rises. For those looking for different routes, some users suggested taking the pavement beside the road which provides
easier navigation and possibly better views. Another option discussed is the route through Parc du Mont Boron, which offers scenic views due to its elevation but involves more hill climbing. Travelers have called out the convenience of returning to Nice by train or bus. The train from Villefranche-sur-Mer to Nice is quick, taking about 5 minutes and
costing approximately 2.10. Alternatively, the bus route #15 is also available for the return journey. This summary was generated by AI from Tripadvisor forum posts. The capital of the Cte d'Azur, Nice la belle, as it is known, is famous for its Promenade des Anglais and its seven kilometres of pebble beaches. France's fifth-largest city has many other
treasures to explore to your heart's content: escape to the hilltop villages of the hinterland, slide down the snow-covered slopes of Auron and Isola 2000, savour sun-drenched local produce, discover the works of Matisse and Chagall, both shaped by the Mediterranean light...The must-sees during your stay in NiceWhile many of Nice's monuments are
well worth a visit, don't hesitate to take the time to start by wandering the streets and lively places to soak up Nice's soul...Discovering the art of living in NiceOne of the best ways to discover and better understand the city and its people. In Nice, seven sites are undoubtedly the best places to visit to get a feel for the Nice spirit. The Vieux-Nice
district and the Cours Saleya marketTo start with, let yourself be carried away to Vieux-Nice. There, take the time to wander through the pretty little streets with their colourful facades and Italian flair. Your steps will then undoubtedly lead you to the unmissable Cours Saleya and its authentic market, rich in colour and fragrance. Every morning, from
Tuesday to Sunday, you'll find fresh, tasty, local fruit and vegetables, as well as a flower market that delights the eye from morning to night. The Cours, lined with bars and restaurants and lively all year round, is undoubtedly the best place to see and experience the soul of Nice. The not-to-be-missed Prom' or Promenade des Anglais Top 2 in our
ranking: the cult Promenade des Anglais! The Promenade des Anglais! The Promenade des Anglais, affectionately known as the Prom by the locals, is a 7km-long avenue linking the Port of Lympia to the east and Nice airport to the west. Facing the Bay of Angels, and made up of a vast median strip running alongside the beaches, this place to meet and relax has also become a
legend for its palm trees, blue chairs and the legendary grand hotels and palaces it runs alongside. To finish your stroll in style, head east to reach the sundial designed by Rauba Capeu. And its highly Instagrammable neighbour, the blue-white-red #IloveNice structure.La Colline du ChteauA little more energy? All you have to do is climb the Colline
du Chteau to discover a haven of serenity, just a stone's throw from the Old Town. This 19-hectare park offers a host of panoramic views over the city of Nice, its port, the Promenade des Anges. It's an excellent way to take in all the topography and diversity of the bella Nissa, which is also sublime at sunset (note: in high
season, a lift provides access to the summit). Between Place Massna and Place GaribaldiWith its striking black-and-white paving, fountain and red-fronted buildings, Place Massna is one of Nice's (and tourists') favourite meeting places, as it lies at the intersection of a number of popular sites: the Prom, Vieux-Nice, and the lively districts on either side
of Avenue Jean Mdecin. The vast Place Garibaldi can be reached by taking the Promenade du Paillon past Place J. Toja. Elegantly bordered by buildings with beautiful ochre facades, this square is home to numerous cafs, restaurants and ice-cream parlours, making it an ideal place to enjoy an aperitif, a bite to eat or a sweet break, while taking in the
sights and sounds of Nice. The Promenade du Paillon The Promenade du Paillon is well worth a visit, whether you're looking for a cool, green spot for a picnic, a romantic break or some outdoor fun for the kids with wooden games in the shape of a marine bestiary. Stretching from Place Garibaldi to the Promenade du Paillon The Promenade du Paillo
green corridor hosts a host of events throughout the year. In fine weather, you can cool off on the large esplanade, which has been transformed into a mirror of water, complete with fountains, while to the west, you can enjoy the mists that intermittently invade the Albert I garden. The Port district of Nice is like a small village, with its
friendly atmosphere, its inhabitants, its shopkeepers, and its lively atmosphere. With its inhabitants, its shopkeepers and its craftsmen. Everyone knows everyone else, making it a typical place to linger. On the harbour side, you can admire boats of all types: small colourful fishing boats, luxury yachts, cruise ships... On the quayside, numerous
restaurants offer their succulent specialities. The beaches of Nice Bordered by the Mediterranean, it seems unthinkable to visit Nice without indulging in the pleasures of the beaches. Le Voilier Plage for its vast expanse, allowing you to
enjoy a pleasant space. La Plage de Villefranche-sur-Mer: 15 minutes from the town centre, but well worth the slight effort, as it is the nearest fine sandy beach to Nice. Ideal for families. Beaches and coves frequented by Nice locals: those on the other side of the port, from Plage des Bains Militaires to Coco Beach. A sumptuous historical and artistic
heritage. As you wander around the city, you'll want to learn more about its history and discover its rich heritage. Once again, Nice has plenty of exceptional sites to visit. Here are just a few:the remains of the Cimiez arenas in the Monastre gardens: scattered across the heart of this green area lightly shaded by centuries-old olive trees, these ruins are
a reminder of the city's prestigious past in Roman times. The park also hosts a number of events throughout the year, including the Fte des Mais, one of Nice's favourite festivities. Nice Archaeological Museum: located just a stone's throw from the Parc des Arnes, this museum - and the next one - are well worth a visit, providing a great way to spend a
day in this district to the north of the city. Here you can discover the layout of the ancient city of Cemenelum, founded in the 1st century. Muse Matisse: this imposing red ochre villa houses the largest collection of works by the artist: drawings, paintings, sculptures, photographs, etcNot far from Nice station, you can also discover the Muse National
Marc Chagall to the west, and the astonishing Saint-Nicolas de Nice Orthodox Cathedral to the east, built in the 19th century under the patronage of Tsar Nicholas. Back in the Old Nice district, you'll find the following: The MAMAC (Muse d'Art Moderne et d'Art Contemporain): located near the Place Garibaldi, the MAMAC not only intrigues visitors
with its architecture, but also houses a vast collection of modern and contemporary art, featuring works by big names such as Yves Klein, Andy Warhol and Niki de Saint Phalle, as well as artists from the Nice school. The Palais Lascaris: a beautiful 17th-century Baroque building with a splendid dcor, from its monumental staircase to its period salons
adorned with paintings, tapestries and antique furniture, and home to a superb collection of 500 antique musical instruments. Surroundings well worth a visitIf you have time, don't hesitate to climb Mont Boron to the east of the town, not far from Lazaret and Villefranche-sur-Mer. A vast, unspoilt natural site planted with pine trees, it offers an idyllic
setting for a picnic with friends or family, or a day of sport, fun or relaxation. With a breathtaking view plunging towards Italy on one side and the Esterel on the other. It's magical! Another option: a trip into thehinterland of Nice to discover its picturesque villages and incredible biodiversity. Some names to explore: Vence, Grasse, Sainte-Agns
overlooking Menton, Gourdon and Saint-Paul-de-Vence, Peillon or Eze on the way to Monaco... and on the natural side, for lovers of hiking, mountain biking and canyoning, the superb Mercantour National Park. Nice and its Carnival: a whole history You can't talk about Nice without thinking of its breathtaking carnival, which has been part of Nice
tradition since 1873. Famous the world over, the Nice Carnival is part of the DNA of this city on the Cte d'Azur. And with good reason: while it attracts audiences from generation to generation, to build floats, giants and costumes, each
one more impressive than the last. All in all, every February, from the Place Massna to the Promenades des Anglais, 15 days of carnival corsi and flower battles, an explosion of colour and a festive, popular and family-friendly atmosphere. Nice's culinary specialities and
those of its region. And in Nice, the culinary arts are not to be outdone. When it comes to Nice's gastronomic delights, you'll love :The must-try socca: an exquisite chickpea flour cake, perfect for any occasion (as a snack, an aperitif or a main course). Pissaladire: a tart with anchovies, onion confit and black olives. Salade nioise: there are many
variations, but they all feature vegetables (tomatoes, peppers, lettuce, cucumber, onions, fava beans, artichokes, etc.), tuna, anchovies and boiled eggs. All seasoned with olive oil and olives. Daube nioise: this hearty speciality is made from beef cooked with carrots, tomatoes, onions, porcini mushrooms and bacon in red wine. It is served with gnocchi
or ravioli from Nice. There are also courgette fritters, Niois stuffing, pan bagnat and savoury or sweet chard pie. And those with a sweet tooth will love the ganses (diamond-shaped doughnuts sprinkled with icing sugar) available in most bakeries during Carnival. All the senses are on alert when you visit Nice! This article was produced by National
Geographic Traveller(UK). Think of Nice and hot, languid summers spent lounging on a beach are likely to spring to mind along with luxury yachts, five-star hotels and gone is the heat, ushered out by the salty breeze, along with the cosmopolitan
crowds that typically fill the streets of the old town. Not long ago, the off season was considered the best time to go. Long before the citys fame as a summer destination, it thrived as a villgiature dhiver (winter resort), offering aristocratic and upper-class families a chance to escape the bitter, gloomy winters of northern Europe and bask in its mild,
coastal Mediterranean climate. The European elites of the 1800s turned Nice into whats now recognised by UNESCO as the Winter Resort Town of the Riviera. In the first part of the 19th century, it was mostly the British upper classes who would retreat here. Afew decades later, they were joined by wealthy Russians, Germans and Austrians, among
others, who brought with them their near-limitless funds and own ideas about how they wanted their winter homes to look creating the eclectic mix of baroque, belle poque and art deco architecture seen in the city of Nice today. Coco Beach is a small pebble cove with shallower waters and smaller crowds. Photograph by Anthony Lanneretonne Lu France and smaller crowds.
Calin has been awarded Cuisine Nissarde status a label recognising restaurants that promote typical regional recipes and ingredients. Photograph by Anthony Lannertonne These winter visitors, or hivernants, helped make Nice into whats now the fifth-largest city in France, framed by the Provence Alps to the north and the palm-fringed Bay of Angels
to the south. But despite its size, theres little to suggest its changed significantly since the days of those early visitors theres hardly a glass-and-steel structure in sight, and life retains the same slow, casual rhythm. Nice offers the same it always has. That includes the works of artists, such as Matisse, Picasso and Chagall, who all had a personal
connection to the city, which are on display in many of the citys museums. There are also relics of the past like the Htel Rgina, built for Queen Victoria, who regularly wintered here and even reminisced about it on her deathbed. Then there is the opulent Opra de Nice, which hosts operas, ballets and concerts throughout the year for as little as 10
(8.50). While, for most, spending the entire winter in Nice is not viable anymore, just a short off-season break is enough to relax and revitalise. Its best to take it slow; get lost in a painting at the Muse des Beaux-Arts de Nice; wander the villa-lined streets of Cimiez imagining the lives of those who lived here in its heyday; sip a crisp glass of local ros at
Place Charles Flix and people-watch. Theres no denying that even out of season, Nice is a tonic for the soul. What to see and do in Nice1. Vieux NiceCobbled streets and colourful facades characterise Nices lively oldtown core. Restaurants, boutiques and ice cream parlours aside, the meandering streets have barely changed since the 1700s, when Nice
was part of the Kingdom of Sardinia. Today, you can enjoy seafood from the stalls in Place Saint-Franois or have an aperitif overlooking the long market square of Cours Saleya. Villa MassnaOn Promenade des Anglais, Nices main drag, this villa-turned-museum offers a first-hand insight into how the European elites of the late 19th and early 20th
centuries spent winters in Nice, through photographs and objects from the time, Thisgrand, belle pogue mansion was the winter residence of French politician Victor Massna, and has been a museum since 1921. Dont miss a stroll around the gardens dotted with palm trees. 3. Matisse MuseumDevoted to the work of French politician Victor Massna, and has been a museum since 1921. Dont miss a stroll around the gardens dotted with palm trees. 3. Matisse MuseumDevoted to the work of French politician Victor Massna, and has been a museum since 1921. Dont miss a stroll around the gardens dotted with palm trees. 3. Matisse MuseumDevoted to the work of French politician Victor Massna, and has been a museum since 1921. Dont miss a stroll around the gardens dotted with palm trees. 3. Matisse MuseumDevoted to the work of French politician Victor Massna, and has been a museum since 1921. Dont miss a stroll around the gardens dotted with palm trees. 3. Matisse MuseumDevoted to the work of French politician Victor Massna, and has been a museum since 1921. Dont miss a stroll around the gardens dotted with palm trees. 3. Matisse MuseumDevoted to the work of French politician Victor Massna, and has been a museum since 1921. Dont miss a stroll around the gardens dotted with palm trees. 3. Matisse MuseumDevoted to the work of French politician Victor Massna, and has been a museum since 1921. Dont miss a stroll around the gardens dotted with the gar
is the one museum in Nice you wont want to skip. The near-600-item collection mostly consists of his paintings and drawings, and objects that were brought here from his studio in Nices old town after his death. The setting a 17th-century villa in Cimiez, near where Matisse and his wife are buried is equally captivating. 4. Colline du ChteauThis park
on top of a hill at the end of the Promenade des Anglais offers the best viewpoint over Nices terracotta roofs, and is especially scenic at sunset when the city is cast in an amber glow. Once home to a medieval castle, destroyed in 1706 by the troops of Louis XIV, its now a park with romantic 19th-century gardens complete with a faux waterfall and
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rock grotto. Those dreading the 300 steps to get there can take the lift next to the Tour Bellanda viewpoint.5. Chteau de BelletIts a little-known fact that the vineyards of Bellet, in the hills of Nice, form one of Frances smallest appellations and the only place in the world where wine is regularly made from the rare Braquet and Folle Noir grapes.

Chteau de Bellet, where organic ros and red has been made since the 18th century, hosts tours and tastings in its deconsecrated chapel.6. Lou Camin NissartThis hiking trail, covering 27 miles along Nices coastline, is a lot to tackle in one go. But the section from Mont Boron back into the city is a manageable wander through Aleppo pines and olive

1868. Photograph by mauritius images GmbH, AlamyWhere to shop1. Cours Saleya MarketSet along Cours Saleya in Vieux Nice, this market is over 100 years old. The wooden stalls, covered by striped awnings, host sellers of fresh fruit and vegetables, antique dealers and one of the best-known flower markets in France. During summer evenings,

trees, past swish villas and along the rocky beach. If the incline is too much to handle, take a bus up to Mont Boron, take in the views over Villefranche-sur-Mer, then make your way down following the waymarked route back to Nices historic port area, Port Lympia. Nicolas Alziari has been producing top-grade, Nice-style olive oil since

another market pops up, showcasing crafts from local makers. Come here for unique souvenirs, one-of-a-kind jewellery and rare antiques. Nice-style olive oil since 1868. The extravirgin olive oil is delicate and mild perfect for drizzling over dishes or to make a vinaigrette for salads. Nicolas Alziaris shop in Vieux Nice sells everything from vintage olive oil tins to cooking utensils and olives grown on its estates. 3. Chez Theresa, socca has been cooked and sold on nearly every street corner in Vieux Nice. At Chez Theresa, socca has been cooked and sold on nearly every street corner in Vieux Nice. At Chez Theresa, socca has been cooked and sold on nearly every street corner in Vieux Nice. At Chez Theresa, socca has been cooked and sold on nearly every street corner in Vieux Nice. At Chez Theresa, socca has been cooked and sold on nearly every street corner in Vieux Nice. At Chez Theresa, socca has been cooked and sold on nearly every street corner in Vieux Nice. At Chez Theresa, socca has been cooked and sold on nearly every street corner in Vieux Nice. in a wood-fired oven since 1925 and is lauded as the best in the city. Youll also find other traditional Nioise foods such as pissaladire (aflatbread with onions, olives and anchovies) and chard pie here. Where to eat1. Lu Fran CalinWith tables spilling out onto the cobblestones of the old town and the chimes of the Cathdrale Sainte-Rparate accompanying meals, this traditional restaurant has been awarded Cuisine Nissarde status a label recognising restaurants that promote typical regional recipes and ingredients. Try the daube (beef stew) or courgette gratin and be sure to book in advance its popular. 2. SentimiWith Nice sitting less than 15miles from the Italian border, influences from its neighbour to the south east unsurprisingly run strong in Nioise cuisine. Sentimi, in the 18th-century Place Garibaldi, revisits the Italian classics with modern flair. The restaurant is famous for its crescenza cheese melted between two thin layers of pizza crust with your choice of toppings, but the grilled octopus is also divine. 3. Les Bains du CastelClinging onto a cliff that juts out above the eastern end of Nices main beach, this is a place for special occasions. With views out over the sea and the Promenade des Anglais, its at its best at sunset. The menu is heavily geared towards seafood youd do well to order the langoustine and peaches, or grilled monkfish. Travellers can visit one of Nice's many restaurants, shops, or bars during the winter season. Photograph by Anthony Lannertonne Sest hotels in Nice1. Htel Villa Saint HubertCharacterised by wrought iron balconies, pastel-blue shutters and a belle poque facade so typical of southern French villas, this is an independently owned hotel that offers comfortable rooms for a peaceful nights sleep and easy access to all of Nice via the tram network. Breakfast is served in the greenery-filled garden.2. Mama Shelter NiceColumns topped with floral arrangements, swirling ceiling murals, loud and artfully clashing prints this June 2024 opening near the port evokes the spirit of artists who lived in the city, such as Matisse and Picasso. The cosy rooms have rain showers, and the rooftop pool area is perfect for a day in the sun.3. Htel du CouventIn a city with a penchant for luxury, its not easy to stand out, but this 400-year-old nunnery-turned-fivestar-hotel, also new this year, does just that. It swaps out the typical glitz for naturalistic gardens, a focus on local produce and simple but chic rooms. Its tucked at the end of a steep street in Vieux Nice. Where the locals go1. Swim at Coco BeachSure, Nices three-mile main beach, with its pastel-blue waters, iswhat everyone comes for, but to start the day like many locals do, head past the port to the more intimate Coco Beach. Here, youll find a small pebble cove with shallower waters and off-white rocks to sunbathe on. 2. Have lunch at La RotondeFancy a peek inside what is arguably Nices most famous building? La Rotonde at the ultra-luxe LeNegresco hotel on Promenade des Anglais is a contemporary brasserie run by the same chef as its Michelin-starred neighbour. Book for a weekday lunch and youll get the dish of the day with dessert, plus a look at the interior of the hotel, for 39 (33).3. Pick up a treat at Florian Located in Port Lympia, Florian is a confectioner thats a local favourite for sweet treats. All manner of creations can be found here, from candied fruit and chocolates to jams and fruit pastes. If you only try one thing, make it the crystallised flowers from Provence a speciality of the shop. A box with verbena, rose and violet petals makes a perfect gift. Best bars in Nice1. Mamma MiaPull up one of the eye-catching red chairs, order yourself a large spritz and watch life unfold on Cours Saleya. The busy square is the perfect place for pre-dinner drinks to soak up the atmosphere of Nice coming alive at sundown. There are bar snacks and a full food menu, too, with pizzas and pastas. 2. MovidaOverlooking a row of palm trees and the Bay of Angels, this fashionable hangout has two balconies facing the sea and a seemingly endless drinks menu. Its worth asking for the cocktail creation, where a bartender will serve a custom beverage based on your preferences. Then, sit back and enjoy the work of the resident DJ.3. Cave RomagnanWhile it doesn't look like much from the outside, with plastic chairs and peeling paint, this is one of the citys best live music venues. Every Saturday (and some Wednesdays) from 7pm onwards, the small venue in central Nice is packed with music fans, and jazz fills the streets long into the night. Whats more, its free to attend. Thomas Cook has a three-night break in Nice from 200 per person, including flights and accommodation in a four-star hotel, on a room-only basis for travel in March. How to get there & around: Air France, British Airways, EasyJet, Jet2 and Ryanair offer daily flights to Nice from several major UK cities. Average flight time: 2h. Nice is walkable, with reliable and affordable public transport on the Lignes dAzur network. The three-line tram system connects Nice Cte dAzur Airport and most neighbourhoods. Tickets can be purchased at all stops. One ride costs 1.70 (1.45), while an unlimited day pass is 7 (6). A return airport tram ticket costs 10 (8.50). The French Riviera Pass offers free entry to several museums, access to a football game, a boat trip and more. Passes start from 28 (24). When to go: June to August is peak season, with high prices and crowds that come to enjoy the warm sea. Average temperatures of up to 30C are not unusual. Autumn through to spring smilder temperatures expect averages in the mid to high teens and plenty of sunny days with chillier evenings. Hotels are more affordable at this time. October and November are the rainiest months, while February occasionally sees snow. More info:cotedazurfrance.comexplorenicecotedazur.comThis story was created with the support of Atout France, Office de Tourisme Mtropolitain Nice Cte d'Azur and Mama Shelter. Published in the November 2024 issue of National Geographic Traveller (UK). To subscribe to National Geographic Traveller (UK). magazine click here. (Available in select countries only). A rucksack, an app, a quest: become an explorer for a day and take on the hidden treasures of the Nice Cte dAzur metropolis! 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