

Explore the village's main features in 45 min (yellow itinerary). Or take some extra time to discover more about our rich heritage (marked trail):

Montée de la Soubeyranne

1 • Tourist Office: Built on the site of the old wash-house.

2 • Roman Inscription: Two large slabs of white marble from a mausoleum built in honour of a high ranking Roman personality from the 1st century A.D. It translates into: "TO AULUS POMPEIUS FRONTO SON OF SEXTUS FROM THE VOLTINA TRIBE OF THE VOCONCES".

Grande Rue (Main Street)

3 • "Coumari" fountain, completed in 1725, designed with nine sides.

Grande Rue / Place du Prieuré

Church of Saint Géraud: Listed historical building from the 12th century, covering an earlier church dating back to 9th or 10th century. It was partially destroyed in 1574 during Wars of Religious, and restored in 1601, together with the new vault and North Wall. This date can be found on the main front wall (facing west) above the Romanesque doorway. The bell tower was rebuilt in 1828.

Interesting features: On the east wall you can see an original 12th century apsidal, the main apse which was polygonal in shape, and the north apsidal partly restored. On the south transept wall can be found a sundial (A), and under it the outline of an old doorway. This door lead directly from the church into the Priory's dormitory. You can also notice on the nave portion of the south wall the faint outline

of the long gone cloister roof. The walls of the church gained in height to accommodate the new vault in the 17th century.

Place de la République

4 • Remains of a Roman Monument: Fragments of cornice and frieze used when building the wall separating the squares in 1810.

• Bronze bust of Marianne: During the Second World War this French National Emblem was hidden deep in a well, in the cellar under the café "Barral", thus staying out of reach of the German enemy coming to collect metal.

Rue Barnave

5 • House of Maurice Faure, where you can read on the plate: "Private Hotel of Maurice Faure Minister for State Education and the Arts - Félibre Majoral (promoting regional heritage) 1850-1919 - Loved, Served and Honored Saillans, his Drôme and France."

(B) Old watermill well, with large wheel and brass dragon head.

Rue du Four

6 • Site of the town's old bread oven, property of the Priory before it became communal.

Rue des Arceaux

7 • Five arches in a row. These arches prevented the walls from falling after a fire or a siege.

8 • Gothic arch (broken bow).

Rue Beaumiroir

9 • Remarkable lintel with accolade.

Rue Dr Illaire

(C) Saillans' altitude is inscribed here: 262,4m (861 feet).

La Drôme

Martial Algoud (former mayor) bridge:

Rebuilt once in 1853, when the original steep slope had been leveled by the filling of streets and the dry moat. Many houses had their main entrance opened on the first floor, which was now at ground level. The bridge was partly destroyed in 1940 during the war, and rebuilt in 1942.

11 • Scenic views of Saillans, the Drôme River and its old quays. (D) Hanging houses over the river.

Rue des Remparts (Section of the Town's Wall)

12 • Coat of Arms of François de Bonne de Vercors-Lesdiguières: Who shared the Lordship of the Vercors (17th-18th century), a close parent to the "Conétable de Lesdiguières", Supreme Commander of France and protector with Montbrun of the protestants under the reigns of Henri III and Henri IV.

(E) Bridge over the Rieussec, built in 1843 when major improvements were made to the national road lined with platane trees. The main Street of Saillans also had to rise by 1,50m (5 feet) to level with it.

Grande Rue (Main Street)

13 • Lintel with accolade above a half-buried doorway dated 1584.

Rue du Bourg

14 • Numerous Gothic doorways (with pointed arches).

Place de la Daraize

15 • The former Church "Notre Dame du Bourg" once stood on the South side of this square - built in the 14th century, over an early Christian Church. The former cemetery - which was also used as a place of Assembly - is located directly under the square.

Grande Rue (Main Street)

16 • Lintel over a half-buried doorway on the main street - dated 1567.

Rue de la Brèche

17 • Notice the numerous arches.

Rue Raoul Lambert ou Fossé

Referred to as the "Fossé", where the dry moat could be found which surrounded the first town walls.

18 • The "Fossé" fountain erected in 1725.

Place Maurice Faure

19 • The Town Hall - which also houses the public school - was built in 1888. Private visits on request, inquire within.

• Half way up the elegant staircase you can see a milestone from Roman times with an inscription dedicated to "Constance Chlore & Galère Caesars" (239-305) on one side and to "Constant Caesar" (333-337) on the other side. When the Emperor changed the milestone was simply turned around! You can see another Roman milestone in the Church of Saint Géraud.

• Also in the Town Hall Staircase: a fragment from the Roman period, part of a large mausoleum (1st or 2nd century).

• The listed Town Council Chamber, with all its original 19th century furniture, has outstanding mural paintings from "Paul Audra" (1869-1948). There are two sections: Saillans in the Roman period, and an illustrated poem from "Maurice Faure" (see N° 5) on the wine and the peaches of Saillans..

• As you come back down the staircase, you can read an inscription about the building of such Town Halls coupled with Schools. And on your way out, marvel at the view over the "Roche" mountain cliff and the "Fossé".

Rue Capitaine Denevrol

20 • The fountain "Gabouri".

Rue Archinard

21 • Lintel with accolade dated 1589 with the initials 8Gfv.

22 • House of Léon Langlais: poet of the Occitan regional dialect. (F) A recess in the wall with old butcher's hooks.

Rue de Bonne

23 • Old Prison wooden door. (G) Walk to the end of the street, where the noble family Lesdiguières once lived, to see one of the 19 covered alleyways of Saillans. This is the only one to be built with wooden beams, which are centuries old.

Rue Chatou

24 • Trilobed window from the 14th or 15th c. (end of the street, look high up to the right).

Rue des Andrieux

(H) Old sink carved in stone used as a basement window lintel. Above it, you can spot a trilobed window which was walled up.

25 • Remarkable quadrilobed medieval window (15th century). Look at the very top of the house to the left.

26 • House named after King Louis XI: Studded door centuries old and above it a carved head.

Rue du Boulevard

(I) Windowsill with two hearts and a rosette.

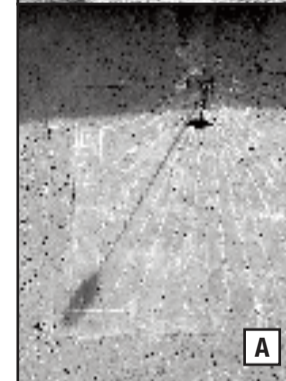
27 • Door with lintel dated 1668 and initials I.R.

Rue de L'Hôpital

28 • Door lintel with date 1687 and monogram IHS (Jesus Savior of Men).

29 • Old stall shop.

30 • Former Convent of the Trinitarian Sisters: Gothic doorway with a Cross, and small bell tower high above.



Borne milliaire (Église)

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