

# Saint-Paul-de-Vence

📍 [Saint-Paul-de-Vence](#) is one of the oldest and most beautiful medieval towns on the French Riviera, located in the 📍 [Alpes-Maritimes department](#) of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region. Situated on a rocky outcrop 19 km from Nice, the village is famously encircled by well-preserved 16th-century ramparts built by order of 📍 [King Francis I](#), offering spectacular panoramic views of the Mediterranean Sea to the south and the Alpine foothills to the north.

The village is renowned for its exceptional artistic heritage and has long served as a haven for famous artists and writers, including Pablo Picasso, Marc Chagall, Henri Matisse, Jean-Paul Sartre, and James Baldwin. Key attractions include the 📍 [Fondation Maeght](#), a major modern and contemporary art museum set in sculpted gardens, and the 📍 [La Colombe d'Or hotel](#), a historic inn where many of these artists once stayed and which now houses a collection of their works.

Visitors can explore the cobbled streets, visit the 12th-century 📍 [Collégiale de la Conversion-de-Saint-Paul](#), and walk the ramparts for stunning vistas. The village hosts a weekly market every Wednesday morning at the 📍 [Place du Jeu-de-Boules](#), features the 17th-century 📍 [Saint Charles-Saint Claude chapel](#) (decorated with murals by 📍 [Paul Conte](#) in 2012–2013), and offers a relaxed Provençal atmosphere where locals often play pétanque under the shade of plane trees

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