



in LIVING & WORKING PROVENCE

Istres and Miramas business parks

The Istres and Miramas business parks are located mainly to the northwest of the Étang de Berre, just 30 minutes from the sea. They are close to great places to live that offer an outstanding quality of life: small Provençal villages that have preserved their historic touches and dynamic but modest cities at equal distances from the tiny inlets of the Côte Bleue and the vast beaches of the Camargue.



ARE YOU GOING TO BE WORKING IN ISTR

CHOOSE YOUR LIFESTYLE!

DO YOU LIKE CITIES WITH A HUMAN DIMENSION?

The charm of **Istres** lies in its historic downtown, pinewood landscape and the delightful banks of the Étang de L'Olivier. A city that loves its ferias and a city that loves water - Istres boasts plenty of cultural and sports activities throughout the year.

Between Aix and Arles lies **Salon-de-Provence**, a pleasant spot surrounded by scrubland, pinewood and olive groves with authentic farmers' markets. Though it is known for the French Air Force Academy and the elite Patrouille de France flight squad, it also has a jazz institute and a more unusual school that trains shepherds.

Nicknamed the «Venice of Provence» because of its many bridges and canals, **Martigues** is perched on the water between the Mediterranean and the Étang de Berre (30 minutes from Istres), whose light has inspired many painters. It is the fourth-largest city in the department and has a theater that features nationally renowned shows.

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DO YOU DREAM OF A PROVENÇAL VILLAGE?

Looking for tiny streets, ancient fountains, wash houses, late 18th century and neoclassical architecture? **Grans** and **Cornillon-Confoux** are small, quintessential Provençal villages between Salon-de-Provence and Miramas. They are less than 30 minutes from your workplace and they entice with a perfect ambiance for families and anyone looking for quiet village living. But they are still active with cultural associations and festivals (piano and jazz festivals in Grans and an adventure movie festival in Cornillon).

ES OR MIRAMAS ?

THE BUSINESS PARKS: INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE!



Going to work

Highway access: 45 minutes from the Aix TGV high speed train station and the Marseille-Provence international airport by highway via A55 and N569.

Public transportation: the business parks are served by the Cartreize and Ulysse bus systems.

Medical Services

The **Salon-de-Provence hospital complex** has 400 beds and the **Martigues General Hospital Center** offers 510 beds, a heliport, full technical services and an emergency medicine department.

There is also a private clinic in Martigues with 92 beds and a 170-bed private facility in Istres. You only have to drive an hour to reach the **hospitals in Aix-en-Provence** (762 beds) and **Marseille** (3,400 beds) which have some of the best healthcare services in France.

Accommodation Rental rates incl. charges

Geographical sectors	1-bed apt.	2-bed apt.	House
Istres	€450-600	€600-950	€850-1,000
Salon-de-Provence	€400-650	€650-800	€800-950
Martigues	€450-650	€700-900	€900-1,000
Grans	€500-650	€650-910	€750-1,000
Cornillon	€600-770	€670-780	€900-1,000

A few purchase prices

One-bedroom apartment in Grans **from €93,000**

Two-bedroom apartment in Martigues **from €238,000**

Three-room house in Salon-de-Provence **from €250,000**



Rental rates and prices are not contractual and are provided as guide only



Sports

Istres, Martigues, Miramas and Salon-de-Provence each have many sports clubs (some of which are very elite), swimming pools and sports facilities. There are equestrian centers in Istres, Miramas and Salon-de-Provence and marinas in Martigues, Istres and Miramas (catamarans, drift boats and kayaks). Miramas also has an 18-hole golf course. If you like hiking or cycling in the great outdoors, you will love the GR 2013 and other beautiful spots in Provence.

Lunch near your workplace

Near the main business parks, the town centers of Fos and Istres provide a nice array of restaurants, ranging from traditional cuisine to chain outposts. There are other options too: lunch with a water view at the Fos marina, views of the Étang de l'Olivier at Istres, lunch overlooking the greens at the Miramas golf course or in the picturesque setting of a small, family-run restaurant in Old Miramas.

Shopping

There is no shortage of shopping centers and shopping arcades in Istres and Miramas. Shopping addicts will be happy to discover the Village des Marques in Miramas, with 100 outlet stores selling discounted products, slated to open in 2017.

If there is any doubt about finding what you want, head to Plan de Campagne, a 30-minute drive from Martigues and the biggest shopping destination in France with over 400 shops. The icing on the cake? It's open on Sundays!

Did you know?

Salon-de-Provence is where the great Nostradamus settled down for good at the age of 44 in 1547.

Today his home is open to visitors, who can learn more about the life of this intriguing celebrity who was simultaneously a physician, an astrologist and a humanist who rubbed elbows with the greats of his era, including Rabelais, Catherine de Medicis and Charles IX.

DO YOU HAVE CHILDREN?

From nursery to high school



Among the cities of Grans, Cornillon, Istres, Salon-de-Provence, Miramas and Martigues, you will find¹:

- **40** NURSERY SCHOOLS,
- **58** KINDERGARTENS,
- **65** ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS,
- **20** MIDDLE SCHOOLS,
- **20** HIGH SCHOOLS.

International programmes, with some classes taught in foreign languages, have been opened in several middle and high schools in Aix-en-Provence (German and English), Marseilles (German, English, Arabic, Spanish and Italian) and Pennes Mirabeau (English).

- AMU (Aix-Marseille University): **the largest university in the French-speaking world**
- **Wide-ranging and multidisciplinary education options** that encompass all disciplines: The arts, humanities and social sciences, economics and management, health care, sciences and technology, law.
- A **university with a global outlook**: 45 degrees through international partnership arrangements and 10 Erasmus Mundus programs.
- IAE Aix (Aix Marseille Graduate School of Management) **ranked among the 30 best schools of management in the world**⁴
- **Elite higher education institutions**: Arts & Métiers ParisTech (Aix-en-Provence), Centrale (Marseille), Ecole Nationale d'Architecture (National School of Architecture, Marseille), Kedge Business School (Marseille), Polytech (Marseille), Mines St Etienne ISMIN (Gardanne), Sciences Po (Aix-en-Provence)...

³-Data is for information purposes only and may be modified in the future
⁴-Financial Times 2013 Ranking

Whether they're (still) babies or (already) teenagers, rest assured there will be a pre-school, primary and secondary education option to suit your needs.

Higher education

students (Académie Aix Marseille)

90,000

5 large campuses

post-graduate schools

12



CFAI Provence
500 apprentices per year

Centre AFPA
2,500 interns per year

200 students per year **ISFI**
Nurses Training Institute

Test Pilot School **EPNER**

2013 Shanghai Ranking:

AMU AMONG THE 150 BEST UNIVERSITIES IN THE WORLD (OUT OF 500)
AND WITHIN THE 6 RANGE FOR FRENCH UNIVERSITIES.

KEY FIGURES

ISTRES

8 business parks
400 companies
7,400 employees
2,812 hectares

MIRAMAS

4 business parks
150 companies
1,500 employees
300 hectares

JEAN SARRAIL AERONAUTICS CLUSTER AT ISTRES

for the aeronautics industry

45,000 m² built space

33 hectares of land to develop

TRIGANCE

tertiary industry

TUBÉ

commercial industry
more than
250 companies

VILLAGE DE MARQUES

600 future jobs
2 hectares
100 stores

Companies operating in THE INDUSTRIAL PARK

ATOSA - BASE AÉRIENNE - COLAS - DASSAULT AVIATION
DÉCATHLON - EIFFAGE TP PROVENCE - GARDNER CRYOGENICS
GEODIS - HIPPOPOTAMUS - ID LOGISTICS - RAMPA TP - SAMADA
MONOPRIX - SAM VERANDA - SNECMA SAFRAN - THALES
TRANSDEV - VEOLIA - VSM - WELDOM.

"I'm from Pau, but I was transferred to the area to join my partner who got a job in Marseille. My biggest concerns when I got here were the travel times and the rents, which are higher than in southwestern France. I traded my apartment in Pau for a little house in Simiane-Collongue, a country village between Aix and Marseille. The rent is a bit more expensive, but we have a higher quality of life. We love outdoor activities and mountain climbing, so we have everything we want being so close to the Sainte Victoire, Calanques and Luberon massifs, as well as the Ecrins and Queyras mountains.

I carpool to my job in Istres with a co-worker. It's a 40-minute drive, but there are two of us.

As for settling in, it was no trouble making friends- in fact, lots of people are from somewhere else.

Finally, my wife is pregnant and, much to our surprise, we had no trouble finding a certified mother's helper with flexible hours, which is a huge advantage!



Laurent BRUN,
Operating Engineer for Ground Tests
at Safran Snecma in Istres

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