

Gard Provençal

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Towns and villages

Discover the regions of Gard Provençal ::

 Cevennes foothills

 Tave river valley

 Around Uzes

 Near the Pont du Gard

 Between Ceze and Ardeche rivers

 In the Cotes du Rhone

 Across the bridge from Avignon

TAVE RIVER VALLEY ::

Saint Laurent la Vernede



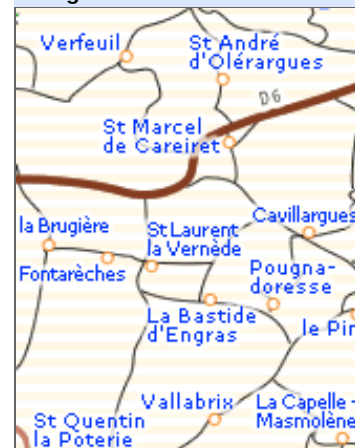
Population :: 600

Village festival :: The weekend closest to August 10 (feast of St. Lawrence).

Town hall :: 04 66 72 80 82



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The village spreads out over the hillsides that run along the left bank of the Tave Valley.

Its history goes back to the prehistoric age, as is proven by the magnificent dolmen of Cocovèze.

The well-preserved communal fort dates from the 15th century. It comprises four round towers, an indented great door, its original alleys, and the Romanesque bell-tower adjacent to the church. The latter is composed of a square tower topped with a wrought-iron campanile, and it rises 32 meters above the valley.

You can explore the village that surrounds the fort, with its many narrow alleyways, its discreet houses, its wash-house supplied with white-water, and its main square lined with its 55 ancient plane trees, where you can play boules.

The associations organize, among other things, sports and cultural activities.

St. Laurent la Vernède also offers a quality of life that is highly prized today; it's a good place to live in and to visit.

shops

Bakery-pastry shop; grocery- tobacco shop-newsstand-café-restaurant; farmer's cheese market; notary; garage; post office; insurance office; rental of self-catering cottages; lumberjacks; wine cooperative; raising of game and fowl; construction companies; plasterer; fireplace and pool installer; antique and second-hand shops

heritage

The fort; wash-house; church; dolmen

Saint Laurent la Vernede on gard-provençal.com ::

Restaurants



history

You must go back to the year 1122 to discover the name of St. Laurent on a document: "villa Sancti Laurentii."

In the early 13th century, Brémond I, Raimond I, and Elzias I, members of the house of Uzès, were the first known lords of Saint Laurent.

The fort of St. Laurent la Vernède was built, starting in June 1445, by several prominent families of the village. In 1446, they signed a contract before a notary that assured them certain spaces in the fort, depending on their contribution to the construction of the walls or "barris." They also demanded the right to build houses inside it, which would be sheltered from the frequent wars of the period.

The church, which certainly dates from the 12th century, became Protestant during the 16th and 17th centuries. The Protestants of the neighboring villages who had no church of their own came to St. Laurent, following the path of the Huguenots whose name has remained in our collective memory.

When the Edict of Nantes was revoked, the Protestant church became Catholic once again. All the rights granted to Protestants by Henri IV were taken away by Louis XIV, and Protestants were also forced to abjure their religion.

1746 marks the beginning of a court case that lasted until the Revolution. It opposed Joseph de Thomas, known as "le Grand Joseph," primicier of Avignon, to the community over the communal forests.

The case was finished, after 42 years, on July 22, 1788, by an agreement that gave the lord a fourth of the timber cut in the forest. But it was no longer time for legal proceedings; the people of St. Laurent had something else to contend with: the Revolution.

local products

Wines produced in the cooperative:

Wines of Pays d'Oc; Wines of the Pays du Gard

Fruits: apricots, cherries, figs, melons, plums.

Vegetables: asparagus, tomatoes, and zucchini.

Grains: hard wheat, soft wheat, barley, sunflower.

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