

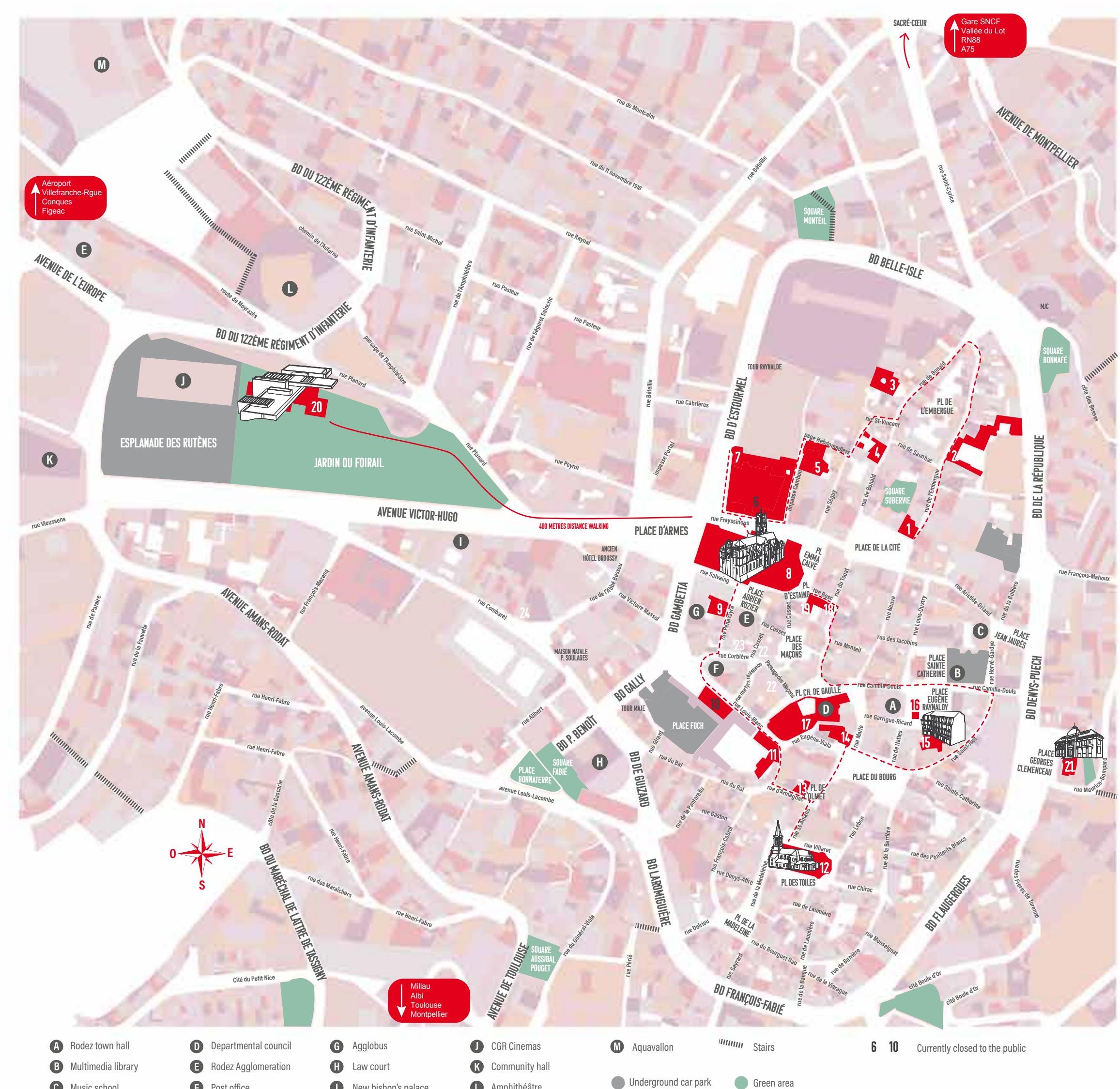
WALKING TOUR OF RODEZ

Duration: approximately 1hr 30 mins



#rodeztourisme

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A Rodez town hall

B Multimedia library

C Music school

D Departmental council

E Rodez Agglomeration

F Post office

G Agglobus

H Law court

I New bishop's palace

J CGR Cinemas

K Community hall

L Amphithéâtre

M Aquavallon

Stairs

Underground car park

Green area

6 10 Currently closed to the public

Rodez Agglomération Tourist Office
Hôtel de Coignac (Former Chamber of Commerce and Industry) - 19th century

This private mansion dates back to the late 19th century. In 1927, the Chamber of Commerce bought this building for offices which it occupied until 1960. The stained glass windows on the 1st floor were made after the Second World War. The Tourist Office was established here in spring 2013. For point no.2 : take rue de l'Embergue on your left.

2 Hôtel de Séguet - 17th century
A bourgeois mansion which belonged to an important family of magistrates. You can admire the portal and its grotesque masks with thick features that were popular in the Baroque period. For point no.3 : take rue de l'Embergue, then rue de Ronald on your left.

3 Hôtel de France - 18th century
Built in the 18th century, it is a rare example of a French-style mansion (*entre cour et jardin*) : between the entrance courtyard and the garden) in Rodez. Its portico opens onto a tree-lined courtyard, setting the residence apart from the street. For point no.4 : take rue Saint-Vincent on your right, then rue Séguy.

4 Hôtel de Ronald - 16th century
A lovely tower housing a spiral staircase visible from the courtyard. Commissioned by Rodez's archdeacon, this building was then the residence of one of Rouergue's most important families. For point no.5 : take Passage des Hebdomadiers on your right, then impasse Cambon.

5 Hôtel de Lauro - 16th century
Former residence of a canon. It was later converted several times into a school and rectory. Today it houses the Compagnons du Devoir (a French trade guild). For point no.6 : take rue Frayassinous on your right.

6 Episcopal Palace - 17th century
Established here since the late 17th century, the former bishop's palace is one of the few monuments in Rodez to be made of bricks in between a courtyard and garden (French architectural design). For point no.7 : at the end of rue Frayassinous, take boulevard Estournel on your right.

7 Tour Corbières - 15th century
Built to counter the English threat, the medieval ramparts where originally composed of around twenty watchtowers, including Corbières Tower (15th century). It was turned into a prison during the French Revolution. For point no.8 : retrace your steps and enter the cathedral, rue Frayassinous.

8 Cathedral - 13th - 16th centuries
It took around 300 years to build one of southern France's largest cathedrals (107 m long, 36 m wide and 30 m high under vault) out of local pink sandstone. Begun in 1277, the cathedral's construction was significantly slowed down by the Hundred Years War, plague epidemics and particularly by the division of the Rodez diocese in 1317. The cathedral then saw all ecclesiastical property divided in two, which explains this exceptionally lengthy construction period. The main facade, which resembles a fortress, has no entrance gate: the cathedral was joined to the town ramparts, hence the sober and somewhat appearance akin to an impassable wall. In a flamboyant Gothic style, the clock tower, at a height of 87 m, is one of France's highest flat clock towers. Commissioned in the 16th century by François d'Estaing, it took just 13 years to build. For point no.9 : exit the cathedral on place Adrien Rozier, take rue Penavayre opposite you.

9 House known as Maison Canoniale - 15th century
In the courtyard, note the 15th-century sandstone well decorated with scallops and bumblebees, symbols of the pilgrims on the way to Santiago de Compostela. In fact, in the Middle Ages, Rodez was located on one of the many secondary roads of the Via Podiensis, starting from Puy-en-Velay. The restored entrance gate dates back to the 15th century. It still has a small window, an ancestor of our current peephole, and a knocker. For point no.10 : take rue Corbière on your right, and then left onto rue Louis Blanc (go past the post office).

10 Chapel of the former Jesuit College - 17th century
This chapel was originally part of a vast ensemble: the Jesuit college, which is now partially destroyed. On its facade, two statues : saint François-Xavier (missionary) and Ignacio de Loyola (founder of the Jesuits). This baroque-style monument houses a beautiful monumental altarpiece as well as painted

11 Maison Trouillet - 15th century
A former multipurpose house that belonged to a family of important traders. The ground floor was used as a shop and the other floors for dwellings. The mulioned windows are decorated with ogees and pinnacles. This house gets its name from the 19th-century owners, a family of chemists. For point no.12 : turn left onto rue Armagnac, then right onto rue Saint-Amans.

12 Saint-Amans Church - 18th century
Initially built in the 12th century, it was completely rebuilt in the middle of the 18th century. The church is dedicated to St. Amans, the first evangelist bishop of Rodez and its region. The outer facade is Baroque in style. The interior is Neo-Romanesque in style, due to the re-use of capitals from the former building in the nave. The tapestries decorating the choir date back to the 16th century and recount the miracles of St. Amans. For point no.13 : retrace your steps and go up rue Saint-Amans to place de l'Olmet.

13 House known as Maison d'Armagnac - 16th century
Built in the first half of the 16th century, this house belonged to a wealthy merchant and banker, Hugues Dauhou. The Gothic and Renaissance styles mingle on the facade: grotesques and corbels bear a resemblance to the Gothic style but the symmetrical layout, the old-style medallions and the dormer windows are in the Renaissance style and are reminiscent of the cathedral's choir enclosure decoration. For point no.14 : go up to place du Bourg.

14 Maison de l'Annunciation - 16th century
Built in the mid-sixteenth century, it was the property of a rich merchant, François Dardenne, and operated as a shop on the ground floor with homes on the upper floors. The pilasters' and cornices' discreet design are evidence of its Renaissance-style ornamentation. On the corner turret, you can find a low relief depicting a scene from the Annunciation. For point no.15 : go along place du Bourg, turn left onto rue Saint-Just.

15 Hôtel de Jouéry (Fenaille Museum) - 14th to 16th centuries
Its limestone facade is in the Renaissance style. The courtyard of this ancient residence, the heart of the museum and an architectural gem, is preserved. Next to the hôtel de Jouéry is one of Rodez's oldest houses (12th century) with two sculptures on its facade: a wolf and an acrobat. For point no.16 : continue straight onto rue Saint-Just and then left onto rue Camille Dousl, all the way to place E. Raynal.

16 Remains of the forum - 1st century
In Gallo-Roman times, the forum, a place of public life and trade within the town, was located on this square. With its exceptional dimensions, it was larger than those of Narbonne or Arles. The only visible remains are the low wall situated at the entrance to the underground car park. For point no.17 : go straight ahead from the Mairie (town hall), rue Camille Dousl, to place Charles de Gaulle.

17 Hôtel Lenormand d'Ayssènes - 18th century
Built at the beginning of the 18th century, major transformations took place when the Prefecture was set up in this building (1825). On the facade, a medallion commemorates Jean Moulin, who was prefect of Aveyron from 1937 to 1939. For point no.18 : take rue du Touat on your right.

18 Maison Guitard - 14th century
Formerly the property of a family of bankers, the Guitard family, it is one of the oldest preserved houses in Rodez. Its tower-shaped design shows the social power of this family, which lent its name to part of rue du Touat, formerly known as rue de la Guitardie. For point no.19 : take rue Bosc on your left.

19 Maison de Benoît - 15th century
This house has a beautiful inner courtyard with a flamboyant Gothic-style balustrade. At the top is a sculpture representing a wine grower (created in the 20th century) is a reminder of the trade that took place with the nearby Marcillac vineyard.

3 museums, a single admission fee

15 Fenaille Museum
16 Soulages Museum
17 Denys-Puech Museum

For more information about the museums rodeztourisme.fr



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