

Safety recommendations

The banks, tops of the walls, boreholes and excavations present a certain number of dangers. Access is forbidden.
All behaviour that could result in damage to the site is forbidden.
Children are under the responsibility of the adults accompanying them, who must supervise them at all times.
Everywhere on the site the public must follow the indications and recommendations of the reception personnel and wardens.

Practical information

Average length of visit: 1 hour 30 minutes
Guided tours in French.
Tours suitable for disabled visitors.



Bookshop-Giftshop

The guide to this monument is available in the 'Itinéraires' collection in 3 different languages, in the bookshop-giftshop.

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Glossary

Attis: When Cybele objected to Attis' marriage, the latter went mad, and died of wounds from castrating himself. Cybele transformed him into a pine tree. Attis' cult, together with that of Cybele, was imported to the West from Phrygia.
Basilica: Roman building composed of a large rectangular hall, generally divided into several naves by colonnades and terminated by an apse. In Imperial times, all cities had a basilica adjoining the forum which was used as a court of justice.
Curia: a meeting place for the municipal assemblies of towns governed by or allies of the Romans.
Hellenistic: Gallo-Greek culture in which Greeks from Marseille were particularly influential (from the 3rd to the 1st century B.C.).
Mausoleum: a monument erected to the memory of Roman citizens who had distinguished themselves in military campaigns.
Narbonensis: a province in south-east Gaul, governed directly by Rome.
Oppidum: a Celtic fortification, either with or without residential quarters. These large areas were protected by ditches, providing refuge in times of trouble and acting as meeting places in times of peace.
Peristyle: a colonnade forming a portico around a building or square, running around all or part of its perimeter.
Rupestrian: dug out in the rock.
Salluvians: a Gaulish people of Celto-Ligurian origin who settled in Provence.
Swallow-hole: a naturally formed depression found in limestone.

The most important Gaulish site in Narbonensis*

Les Antiques

From the 16th century "Les Antiques" were visited by learned men and visitors. These monuments, a triumphal arch and a mausoleum*, were the only vestiges of the city of Glanum then visible. In the 17th and 18th centuries, an increasing number of ancient objects were discovered in their vicinity.

Spectacular discoveries

From 1921, systematic archaeological digs were carried out on the site, initiated by the architect for historical monuments Jules Formigé. Under his authority, Pierre de Brun oversaw works for twenty years; first he unearthed the surroundings of the basilica*, the houses in the northern area and the thermal baths. Henri Rolland succeeded him from 1941 to 1969. Since 1983, digs and research have once again been under way, yielding better knowledge about the ramparts and twin temples in particular. Study of these temples resulted in the restoration of a corner of the smaller of the two in 1992.
Hellenistic* remains have also been discovered beneath the Roman forum. Restoration of it started in 2007, with the decision to adopt the layout of the late 1st century B.C.. Two 'archaeological windows' – openings in the ground – allow elements from earlier periods to be observed: the dromos well and the Hellenic* trapezoid square.

* Explanations overleaf.

Glanum archaeological site

A city rediscovered after 17 centuries

The Salluvian* oppidum*



Archaeological digs in 1936

The first inhabitants settled here in the 6th and 7th centuries B.C., protected by a dry-stone rampart blocking the road to the Alpilles for a length of 300 metres. Pottery and coins thrown as offerings into the swallow-hole above the spring indicate the Gaulish settlement was motivated by religious reasons from its origin. A Celtic god, Glan, together with his benevolent companions the Glanic Mothers, lived in the waters that were thought to have healing properties and which gave their name to the inhabitants.

The Hellenistic* then Roman city

Subsequent relations with the Greek world brought wealth to the inhabitants of Glanum, resulting in the extension of the inhabited zone and the construction of buildings in the Hellenistic* style in the 2nd and 1st centuries B.C.. Then Glanum became a Roman colony in the very early years of Augustus' reign (63 B.C. - 14 A.D.). This resulted in the rapid, profound transformation of the city's monumental architecture. Finally, unable to resist the Alamannic invasions of 260 A.D., the town was abandoned by its inhabitants in favour of the nearby agglomeration that came into the possession of the Abbey of Saint-Remi in Reims in the Merovingian period.

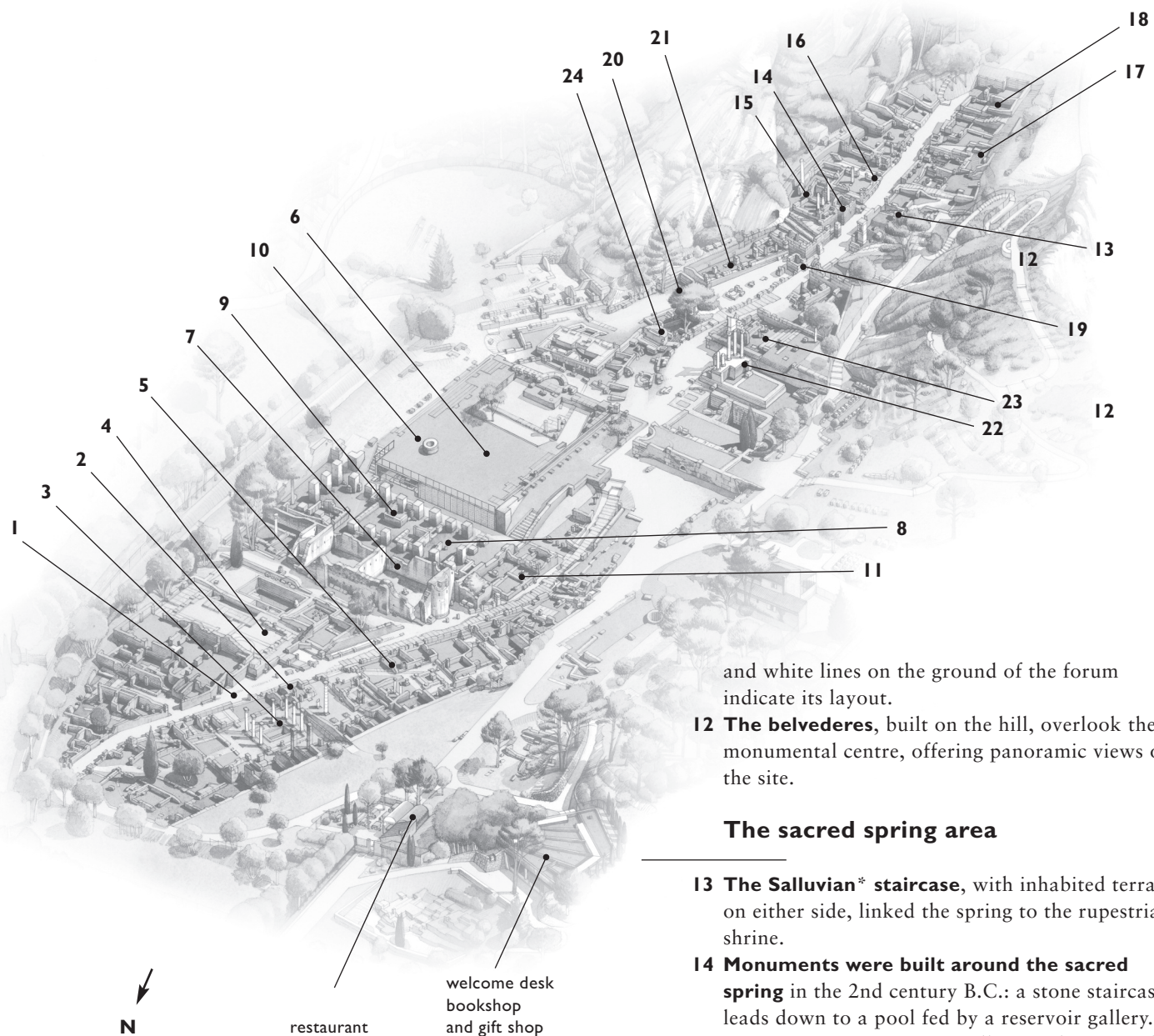
* Explanations overleaf.

The residential area

- 1 **The city's main street** covers the town drains for much of its length.
- 2 **The market** is formed by four stores laid out around a courtyard bordered by Doric columns.
- 3 **The house with antae** is typical of Mediterranean houses with its rooms laid out around a courtyard with a pool. It is named after two pilasters decorated with Corinthian capitals, called antae.
- 4 **The thermal baths** were built following a simple layout, from 75 B.C.. They were a focus for social life in Antiquity, and a major Romanising factor. Nearby are two houses, one on the right with Hellenic peristyles*, the other on the road which used to be decorated with a mosaic representing a capricorn.
- 5 **The House of Attis***, built in the 2nd century B.C., was inhabited for nearly five centuries and underwent several modifications.

The monumental centre

- 6 **The forum**, the Roman public square, was closed off by two porticos.
- 7 **The curia*** recognisable thanks to its apses, is a room that was used as an assembly hall for local officials in the Roman period; another room served as a tribunal.
- 8 **The basilica*** is a vast administrative building, with 24 square foundation pillars still visible.
- 9 **The Tuscan temple** dates from the Hellenistic* period.
- 10 **The dromos well** owes its name to the stair entranceway, or dromos, leading to the water.
- 11 **Sulla's house**, cut in two by the basilica*, is named after an inscription on a mosaic which decorated one of the rooms.
The house with alcoves: its ruins were incorporated into the pillars of the basilica*,



and white lines on the ground of the forum indicate its layout.

- 12 **The belvederes**, built on the hill, overlook the monumental centre, offering panoramic views over the site.

The sacred spring area

- 13 **The Salluvian* staircase**, with inhabited terraces on either side, linked the spring to the rupestrian* shrine.
- 14 **Monuments were built around the sacred spring** in the 2nd century B.C.: a stone staircase leads down to a pool fed by a reservoir gallery.
- 15 **Valetudo's temple** is a small Corinthian temple dedicated to Valetudo, the Roman goddess of health.

- 16 **Hercules' shrine** is dedicated to the mythological Greek and Roman demi-god, a symbol of physical strength. Numerous votive altars were found in front of this shrine.

The local settlement area

- 17 **The wine smoking rooms**, dating from the Roman period, were used to smoke and thus better preserve wine.
- 18 **The local houses** are part of the Gaulish village which pre-dated the building of monuments in the town.

The ramparts and the rest of the monumental centre

- 19 **The ramparts**: its defensive walls are comprised of massive rectangular stone blocks and are built on the walls of a protohistoric enclosure. In the centre, a cart gate and pedestrian gate flanked by a tower gave access to the shrine. This gate was transformed into a grand entrance in the Roman period.
- 20 **The exedra**, a sort of recess with benches, was built in the 2nd century B.C. and was preserved during the Roman period.
- 21 **The Doric portico**, at the entrance to the shrine, was probably used for purifying ablutions by the faithful on their way to the spring.
- 22 **The twin temples** were dedicated to the cult of the Emperor's family. The smaller of the two has been partially restored.
- 23 **The bouleterion** was the assembly hall for dignitaries during the Hellenistic* period. It is terraced on three sides and originally had a central altar.
- 24 **The triumphal fountain** dates from the Roman period.