

# Monaco > Monaco

Saturday July 4<sup>th</sup> • Stage 1 • 15.5 km

## Region

### ● Provence - Alpes - Côte d'Azur

The Region of Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, situated in the extreme south-east corner of France, encompasses six counties including the former counties of Provence, Nice and part of the Dauphiné. Bounded by the Mediterranean, flanked by the Italian border and by mountains in the East, PACA boasts outstanding assets as a tourist destination, enjoys exceptional amounts of sunshine and lays claim to an assorted and delicious selection of local produce (wines, oils, fruit, and seafood). This is why it is the leading tourist destination for French holidaymakers and the second most popular tourist destination for overseas visitors, after Paris. The region plays host to an estimated 35 million tourists each year. Its pleasant surroundings and vibrant character have also always been immensely popular with painters and artists.

A very urban area - counting four cities with a population of over 100,000 inhabitants: Marseilles, Nice, Toulon and Aix-en-Provence (Avignon is not far behind) - it is also the fourth most populated region in France with 4.5 million inhabitants.

In addition to tourism, ultra-modern industrial activities and cutting edge technologies - Sophia-Antipolis and Cadrache - are gradually replacing more traditional industries, notably shipbuilding - Marseilles, la Ciotat, Toulon - and the region's agricultural sector continues to expand and improve in quality.

Website: <http://www.regionpaca.fr/>

## County

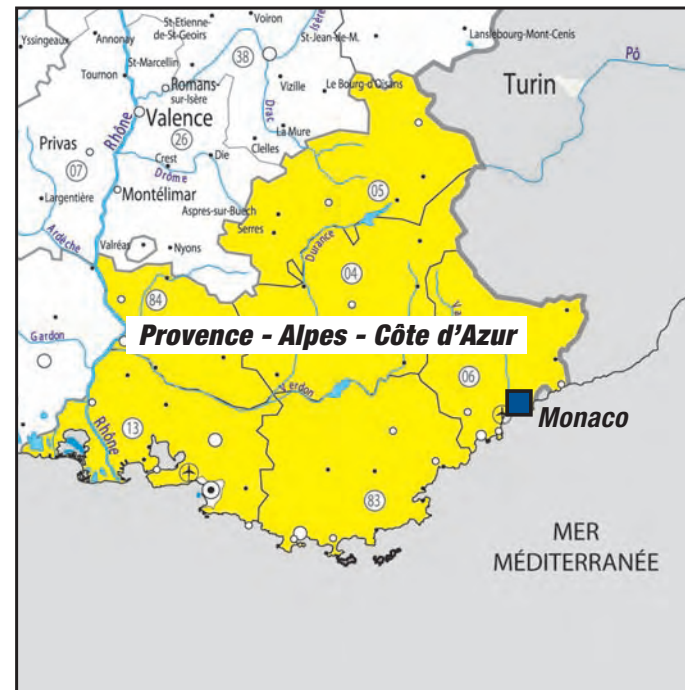
### ● Alpes-Maritimes

Prefecture: Nice

Sub-prefecture: Grasse

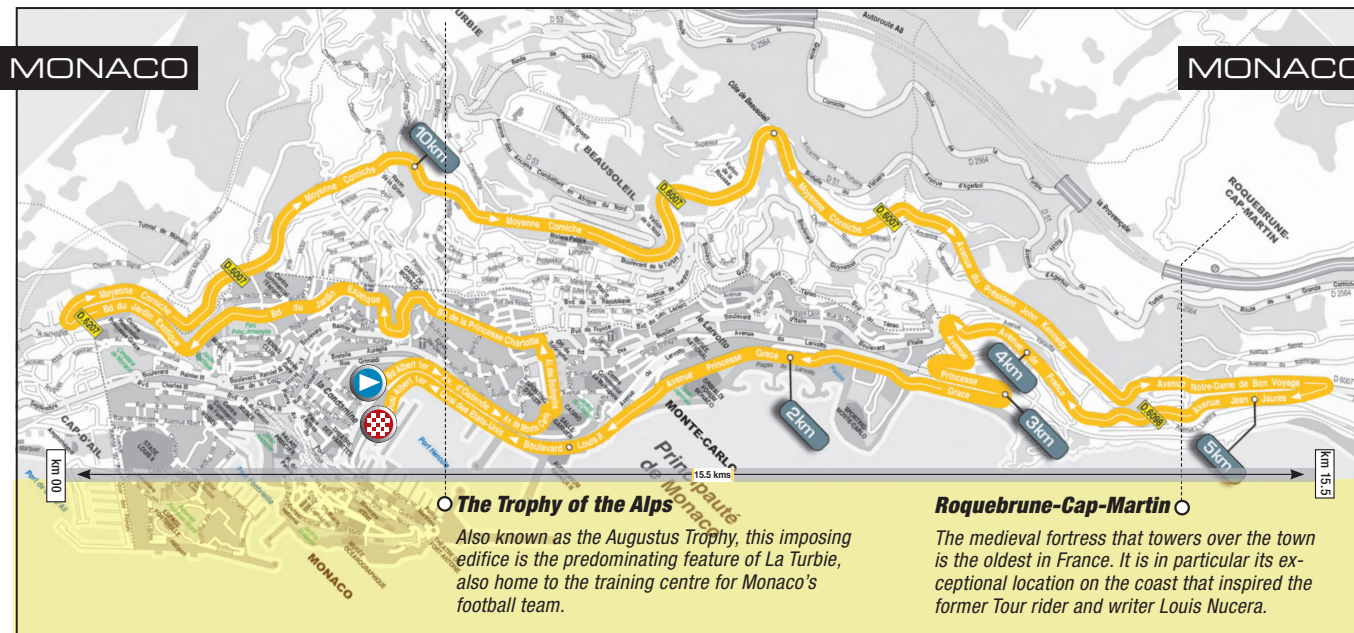
Population: 1.2 million

Website: <http://www.cg06.fr/>



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**The Trophy of the Alps**

Also known as the Augustus Trophy, this imposing edifice is the predominating feature of La Turbie, also home to the training centre for Monaco's football team.

**Roquebrune-Cap-Martin**

The medieval fortress that towers over the town is the oldest in France. It is in particular its exceptional location on the coast that inspired the former Tour rider and writer Louis Nucera.

**The Tour** pays  
a visit to...



Jean-Luc  
Ettori

photo : Presse Sports

**Jean-Luc Ettori**, the goalkeeper of the AS Monaco Football Club between 1975 and 1994, holds the record with regard to his number of first division match appearances. He spent his entire career as a goalkeeper in Monaco. He was the sports director of the club until May 2008.

"I came to Monaco when I was 20, and today I am 53. It is like a big village where everyone knows each other, at least indirectly. Contrary to what people believe, film stars, business men and sportsmen are not Monaco's sole residents. The heart of the Principality is made up of natives, who live there harmoniously in a friendly atmosphere. I love the "Place d'Armes", at the foot of the «Rocher» (Rock), with its big terraces, the «Place des Marchés», or the popular district of the former railway station. I have many memories which are associated with these places. I

also like going for lunch on Fontvieille Port, or just to take a stroll there.

Typical Monegasque dishes include stockfish, flaked cod with a tomato sauce, or "pissaladière", a kind of onion and anchovy tart. Naturally you can take advantage of the sea in Monaco. I own a boat but I have left it in the port of Menton as you cannot find a mooring spot in the Principality. As my body is a bit debilitated, I no longer do any sport. But just like everyone else, I follow the Tour de France and the mountain stages in particular. Bernard Hinault, who was both intelligent and courageous, is still my favourite rider. I also remember that after a qualifier for the European Cup in Monaco, we promised that we would cycle from the Principality to our training centre in La Turbie, which was a very long climb. On that day, I realised that it was a sport which was too hard for me."

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▶ MONACO

Monaco today:

A major player in sustainable development

The Principality's spectacular development together with its condensed surface area make Monaco one of the world's most densely populated States. This distinction motivates the Government's policy dedicated to the preservation of the natural heritage and the marine ecosystem and the restriction of pollutant waste products. Green spaces represent 20% of the surface area in the Principality.

The Oceanographic Museum, inaugurated in 1910 by Prince Albert I, "the Scientist Prince", symbolises the campaign to preserve the marine environment. Its aquarium houses a magnificent collection of 6,000 fish, from the Mediterranean and tropical seas, occupying 90 seawater tanks.

In 1992, at the Rio Conference, Prince Rainier III pledged his support in favour of sustainable development. The evolution in the choice of modes of transportation in the city is marked by a desire to promote environment friendly alternatives. By creating the Monaco Prince Albert II Foundation in June 2006, the new sovereign is continuing in the same vein as his predecessors.



The oceanographic museum (photo : centre de presse de Monaco / Charly Gallo)

- **Population:** 32,000 (natives known as Monegasques)
- **Surface Area:** 2 square km (2<sup>nd</sup> smallest State in the world after the Vatican)
- **Economy:** chemistry, cosmetology, commerce, tourism
- **Local celebrities:** Prince Albert, Princesses Caroline and Stéphanie, Léo Ferré
- **Sports clubs:** AS Monaco football team
- **Festivals:** International Circus Festival, Monte-Carlo Television Festival, Monte-Carlo Comedy Film Festival
- **Local fare:** fougasse (wheat pancake), pissaladière (pizza with onions, anchovy fillets and olives), petits farcis (stuffed vegetables)
- **Local saying:** *Deo Juvante* (" With God's Help ")
- **Website:** <http://www.monaco.mc/>

## ▶ MONACO

### Monaco and cycling

Monaco will play host to the Tour de France for the sixth time. For the 17<sup>th</sup> time the race will be launched from outside France. Starts from the south are rare: four in total, and only one from the south-east, from Nice, in 1981.

The Tour visited the Principality for the first time in 1939. After the war years, in 1946, Apo Lazaridès triumphed in a race of five stages, the Monaco-Paris, which heralded the return of the Tour a year later. In the 1950s, finishes in the Principality crowned Dutch riders Jan Nolten and Wim van Est then Raphaël Gémiani. And in 1964 the finish of the 9<sup>th</sup> stage, Briançon-Monaco, was the backdrop to one of the epic Anquetil versus Poulidor battles. The Norman rider was the first to arrive on the cinder track of the original Louis II stadium. Poulidor drew level with him to battle for the sprint. However, upon crossing the finishing line he stopped riding whilst another lap of the finishing circuit still remained and Anquetil raced on. Poupou finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the stage, leaving victory, and in particular the one minute bonus, to his rival. Soon after, Jacques Anquetil won his 5<sup>th</sup> Tour in Paris... 55 seconds ahead of Raymond Poulidor.



Anquetil - Poulidor sprint on the old Louis II stadium track - (photo : Presse Sports)

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- **1191:** The Germanic emperor Henri VI entrusted the sovereignty of Monaco to the Genoese. In 1215, the construction of a stronghold on the Rock was embarked upon.
- **1297:** Disguised as a Franciscan monk, François Grimaldi penetrated the stronghold and seized control. This earned him his “sly” nickname.
- **1489:** The King of France and the Duke of Savoy recognised the independence of Monaco.
- **1509:** After two centuries of an ongoing struggle with the Grimaldis, Genes surrendered Monaco.
- **1612:** Monaco became a Principality, under Honoré II.
- **1793:** Monaco was annexed by the members of the National Convention and renamed Fort Hercule.
- **1815:** Monaco was placed under the protectorate of the King of Sardinia.
- **1861:** Via a treaty with France, Monaco was recognised as an independent state, but lost Menton and Roquebrune, towns that voted to be joined to France.
- **1863:** Prince Charles III authorised casinos, which were to bring prosperity to the town.
- **1869:** Direct taxation was abolished.
- **1911:** Monaco became a constitutional monarchy. First Monte Carlo car rally.
- **1929:** First Monaco Grand Prix.
- **1949:** Rainier III acceded to the throne.
- **1982:** Accidental death of Princess Grace.
- **1993:** Monaco was admitted into the United Nations.
- **2005:** Prince Albert succeeded his father, as Albert II.

▶ MONACO

One of the world's G8 in terms of sport

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Regularly cited for its palaces and its casinos, the Principality's pole position in the world of sport is often forgotten. Few countries can boast an international level football team, the most famous rally in the world, a Formula 1 Grand Prix, some of the most renowned athletics and swimming meetings worldwide, a legendary tennis tournament, international federations and multiple conferences, but also a wealth of less glittery though just as prestigious events in the domain of sailing, show jumping

and beach volley. If a G8 (group of 8) existed in the world of sport, the Principality would be part of this group.

In fact, this "small State" is fortunate to be governed by a sovereign who is an avid sports fan! It is not by simple coincidence or by precedence that Prince Albert is a member of the International Olympic Committee. A genuine Olympian, His Highness participated in four editions of the Winter Olympics as a pilot in the Monaco national bobsled team. A highly skilled judoka, he is also the ardent defender of a spectacular and unfairly eclipsed sport: the modern pentathlon. Without offending sensibilities, it can be affirmed



Monte-Carlo Master - (photo : Presse Sports)

that HSH is probably the most sportive Head of State currently in office. His father Rainier III, from 1949 to 1950, and his grandfather, Prince Pierre, from 1950 to his death in 1964, were already members of the IOC.

On his mother's side, the sporting fibre is also developed as Princess Grace's father, John B. Kelly, was no less than Olympic rowing champion in 1920 in Anvers, and Albert's Uncle, John Junior, was bronze medal winner in the Melbourne Olympic Games in 1956, again in rowing.

**THE OCEANOGRAPHIC MUSEUM**

*This exceptional museum of marine sciences, opened in 1910 by its founder, Prince Albert I, is reputed worldwide for its collections, in particular its aquariums including the famous "Shark Lagoon", inaugurated in 2001.*

**THE EXOTIC GARDENS**

*Inaugurated in 1933, these contain several thousand "succulent" plant varieties. Within these gardens, 60 metres underground, visitors can discover the rooms of the prehistoric Observatory Cave. The Exotic Gardens also house the Prehistoric Anthropology Museum. Boasting a wealth of burial artefacts from Monaco and the surrounding area, this museum, founded in 1902 by Prince Albert I, presents the major steps in the history of humanity.*

sightseeing...

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Along the way...

**ALPES-MARITIMES**  
(06)

In the far south-east of France, situated along the Mediterranean, next to the Italian border in the east, Alpes-Maritimes, the French Riviera and its hinterland boast an abundance of exceptional tourist treasures that are famous world wide.

The county boasts a prestigious coastline as well as rugged landscapes right down to the sea. Here, the Alps and the sea merge into one.

Less than an hour's journey time by car separates the sea from the mountains and the area counts several ski resorts (Auron, Isola 2000). Benefiting from 320 days of sunshine per year, an exceptional climate is one of the major assets of a region whose 1.2 million inhabitants earn a living essentially from tourism.

Tourism aside, a highly developed service sector represents a significant part of the economy of Alpes-Maritimes: 76, 2% of the working population. The public buildings and works sector is another highly developed sphere of the county's industrial fabric, glowing with innovation and leading the way for tomorrow in Sophia Antipolis, where a large high-tech science, IT - communication university project is being developed, and at the Cannes Mandelieu space engineering centre, the biggest centre for the manufacture and testing of satellites in Europe and the largest industrial centre in the county.

**CAP-D'AIL - km 3**  
**Pop. 4,500**

Up until 1908, Cap-d'Ail, which takes its name from the small headland where the commune was founded, was the coastal port of La Turbie and was formerly known as La Turbie-sur-Mer. Nestled at the foot of the moyenne Corniche (middle cliff road) Cap-d'Ail boasts a pretty coastal path running along the cliffs ideal for promenades and jogging.

Along with its beaches, the most famous of which is the Mala, Cap-d'Ail is renowned for its prestigious villas inhabited by the high-society stars of this world - Greta Garbo, Sacha Guitry, the Lumière brothers - but also and especially Winston Churchill, who was even designated honorary Mayor of the commune.

**LA TURBIE - km 4**  
**Pop. 3,200**

A pretty medieval village perched above the Principality, at the summit of a pass well-known to riders of Paris-Nice, La Turbie is notably famous for the Trophy of the Alps, a colossal Roman monument that towers high above the Mediterranean.

The Trophy of the Alps was erected in the years 6 to 7 BC in honour of the Emperor Augustus, adopted son of Julius Caesar, to commemorate his victory over 45 Cel-

to-Ligurian tribes that refused to submit to Roman authority.

Gigantic in its original proportions - the statue of Augustus that topped the monument stood 49 metres high - the edifice was damaged and practically dismantled over the centuries. Its stones were notably used to build the Saint Michel church in La Turbie.

Classified as a listed monument in 1865, the edifice was restored at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century at the initiative of the then Mayor of the town, Philippe Casimir, and the American multimillionaire Edward Tuck.

The stones used to build the monument were extracted from the local quarries, one of the cornerstones that forged the town's reputation and which can still be visited today. La Turbie - AS Monaco's training ground - is also famous for a laurel plant, which fired the imagination of the poet Théodore de Banville and led to the composition of his most famous poem (Ode to the Laurel of La Turbie).

**BEAUSOLEIL - km 4.5**  
**Pop. 12,800**

Beausoleil, a relatively recent commune on the French Riviera, was created on the 10<sup>th</sup> of April 1904. Today, this pretty health resort, with its rich heritage of sumptuous

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## Along the way...

residences in the Belle Epoque style, counts almost 12,800 habitants and stretches out over a surface area of 279 hectares.

Situated at 163 metres of altitude, this exceptional spot offers stunning views over the Principality of Monaco, forming a genuine balcony overlooking the Mediterranean Sea.

Its settlement origins, shared with La Turbie, date back to Antiquity: the Celto-Ligurian prehistoric watchtower located at the Mont des Mules bears witness to this. This former hill fort, classified as a listed historical monument in 1939, is a stage on the ancient Roman heritage route of "Via Julia Augusta".

### ROQUEBRUNE-CAP-MARTIN km 8 - Pop. 11,700

A great supporter of the Tour de France, Louis Nucera was also an avid fan of Roquebrune-Cap-Martin. "The world, one said, is a thought of God. When he created Roquebrune-Cap-Martin, the Almighty must have been in a good mood. Conscious of this privilege, the inhabitants of Roquebrune have done their utmost not to break this peaceful harmony from the very beginning", Nucera wrote of the resort.

Dominated by its superb fortress, the oldest in France, this town was originally a Celto-Ligurian settlement, populated by tribes that refused to surrender to Roman domination, before being administered by the Lerins Abbey religious community of monks.

Like all the other towns in the region, Roquebrune was at the centre of a lengthy conflict between the Genoese and the Grimaldis and eventually became an integral part of the Principality of Monaco, along with Menton.

French ambitions, apparent from the Revolution, succeeded under the Second Empire, when Roquebrune became a permanent part of France. The 20<sup>th</sup> century was marked by the advent of tourism. At the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century the empresses Eugénie and Sissi launched the fashion for the countless tourists who, ever since, continue to benefit from this quality of life so precious to Louis Nucera.