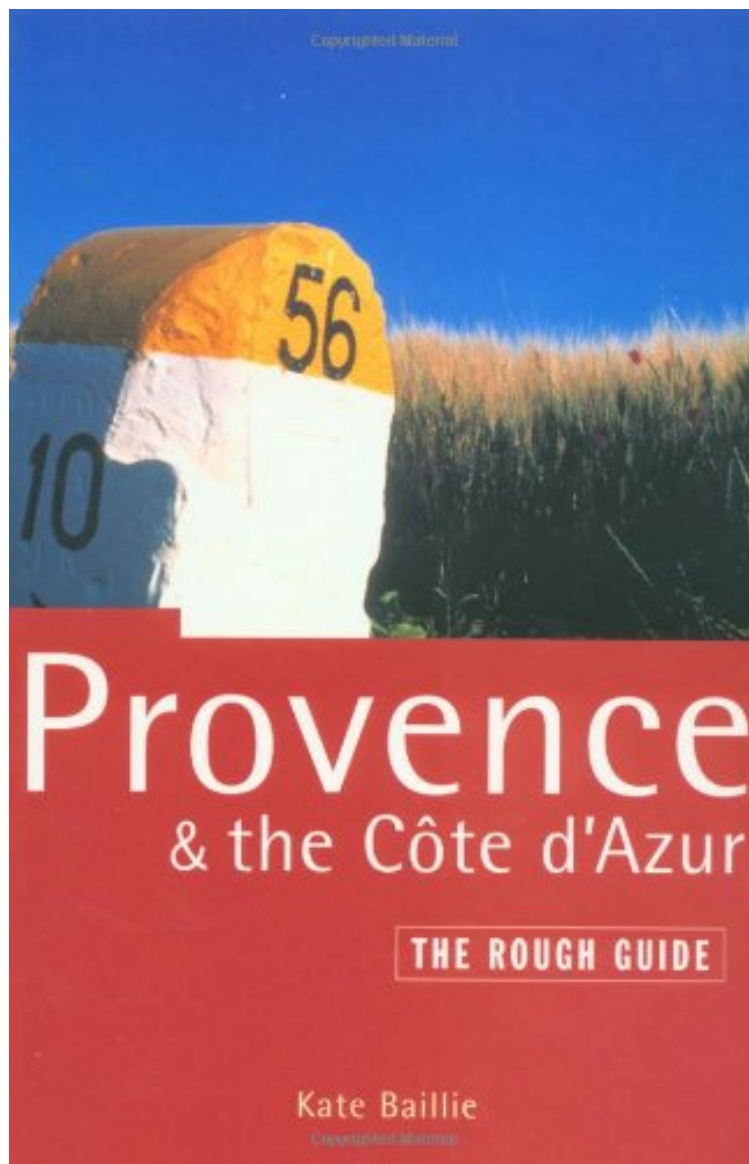


(Free and download) The Rough Guide to Provence the Cote d'Azur

## The Rough Guide to Provence the Cote d'Azur

*Kate Baillie, Danny Aeberhard, Rachel Kaberry*  
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**Kate Baillie, Danny Aeberhard, Rachel Kaberry : The Rough Guide to Provence the Cote d'Azur** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Rough Guide to Provence the Cote d'Azur:

Clare Brown (reader), London, UK: "Will equip visitors with more than enough knowledge of the area, its attractions,

culture and atmosphere to ensure they feel an uncanny familiarity with the sights and sounds of the Riviera as soon as they arrive...an insightful and practical guide, which does justice to the Rough Guide reputation for providing indispensable travel information...clear maps, well-chosen photographs, and reader-friendly passages of local history." Independent on Sunday, London: "Restaurants, bars and cafes are particularly well covered...useful for organising every last detail...Rough Guide has thought of everything...a thorough guide, full of useful information."

"Useful for planning every last detail - Rough Guide has thought of everything" Independent on Sunday Excerpt. © Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. When to go Beware the coast at the height of summer. The heat and humidity can be overpowering and the crowds, the exhaust fumes and the costs overwhelming. For swimming the best months are from June to mid-October, with May a little on the cool side, but only by summer standards. As for sunbathing, that can be done from February through to October. February is one of the best months for the Cte d'Azur - museums, hotels and restaurants are mostly open, the mimosa is in blossom, and the contrast with northern Europe's climate at its most delicious. The worst month is November when almost everything is shut and the weather turns cold and wet. The same applies to inland Provence. Remember that the lower Alps are usually under snow from late November to early April (though recent winters have had snow in Nice followed by no falls on the lower ski-resorts). October can erupt in storms that quickly clear and in May, too, weather can be erratic. In summer, vegetation is at its most barren save for high up in the mountains. Wild bilberries and raspberries, purple gentians and leaves turning red to gold are the rewards of autumn walks. Springtime brings such a profusion of wild flowers you hardly dare to walk. In March a thousand almond orchards blossom. The only drawback with the off-seasons is the Mistral wind. This is a violent, cold, northern airstream that is sucked down the valley of the Rhne whenever there's a depression over the sea. It can last for days, wrecking every fantasy of carefree Mediterranean climes. Winter is its worst season but it rarely blows east of Toulon, so be prepared to move that way.