

# LYON

Lyon - 2000 year old city, origins on the hills to the north and west, capital city of Roman Gaul. The Roman city was exploited by the rich medieval merchants to build their own city closer to the river, to access wharves and for simpler storage. The river Saone was able to be bridged about this time so the city expanded on to the peninsula.

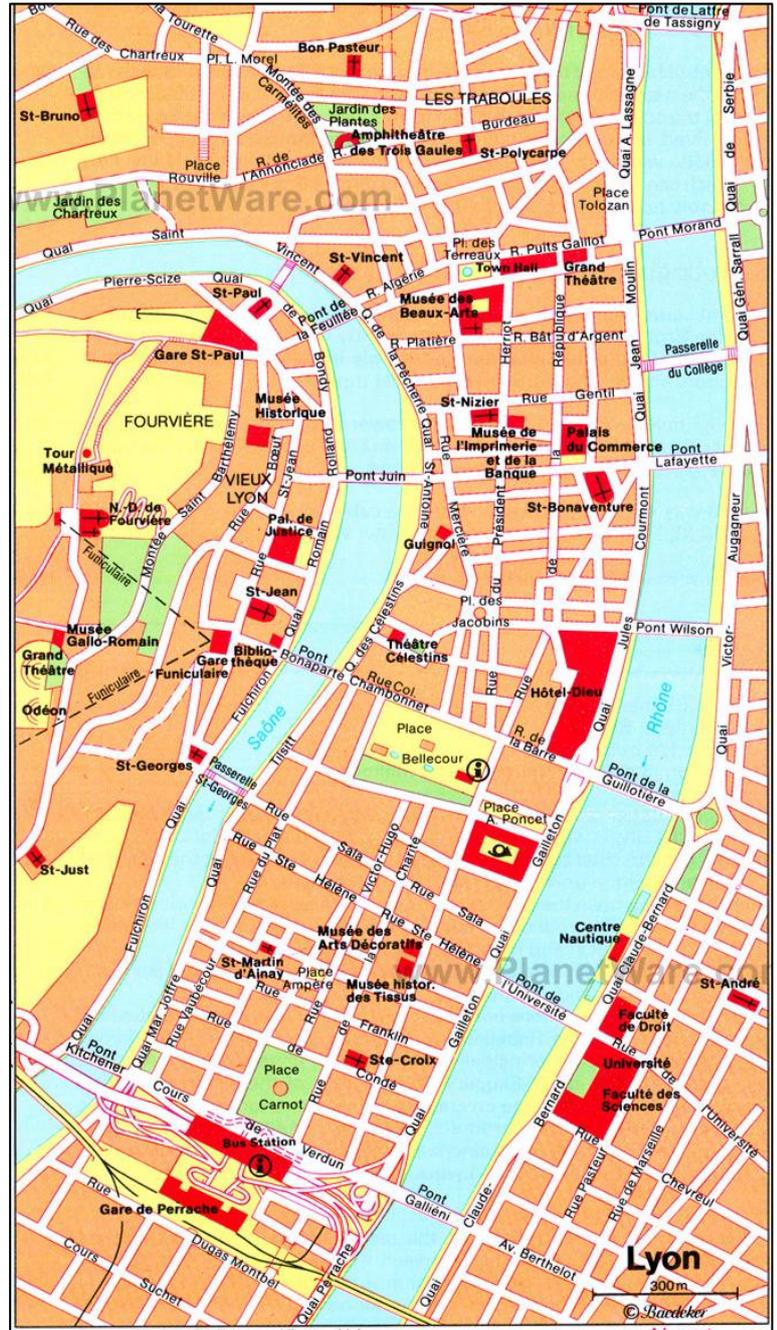
Best viewed by taking the funicular rail up to la Fourvière. Here see the Basilica of Notre Dame de Fourvière, and the Roman theatre, houses and shops. The Gallo Roman museum is interesting, with many treasures. Nice cafes with views at the top for a coffee.

Head downhill to “Vieux Lyon”, the old medieval city, with its little restaurants. Aim to arrive at St Jean Cathedral (C12) just before 12 to view the astronomical clock (C15) with all its moving figures. Lunch in the old city.

Cross the river Saone, and head for Place Bellecour, (Renaissance). Rue de la Republique is a mall, full of interesting shops. In the later C19, many streets were “Haussmanised”, to resemble the boulevards of Paris, with elegant apartment buildings above the shops. At the end of the C19, technology advanced sufficiently to enable the River Rhone to be bridged. The city continued to develop across the Rhone. Here is the modern CBD with its offices, etc. The Centre Part Dieu is a “grate-ciel” or sky scraper and known locally as “le Crayon” because of its shape.

Suggested afternoon visits could include:

- **Amphitheatre gallo-roman** at the foot of croix rousee hill
- **Traboules** in the silk area
- **Town Hall and the Bartholdi fountain**
- **Musee de Beaux Arts** 10h00 to 18h00 but closed 12h to 14h00 € 7
- **Centre d'Histoire de la Resistance et de la Deportation - housed in old Gestapo headquarters.** Espace Berthelot  
14 avenue Berthelot Tramway T2, arrêt Centre Berthelot Métro ligne B, Jean Macé, Métro ligne A, Perrache 10h00 - 18h00 € 4
- **Villa Lumière.** The Lumière Brothers invented movies. Visit their home and laboratories and see their early movies. 10h00 - 18h00, €6,50 25 Rue du Premier Film, Metro Montplaisir Lumiere
- **Musee des tissus et musee des arts decoratifs**  
34 rue de la Charité Textile Museum : 10.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.  
Decorative Arts Museum : 10.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m entry to both, € 10



**Brasserie Georges** (map below) Great ambiance, established 1852, décor in that style. Could be a possibility for a meal at the end of the day. However, there are hundreds of little places in the old city, as Lyon is renowned for its haute cuisine. Look for little “bouchons”, which are family run, and have very limited offerings, but exquisite food.

