



Vieux Lyon and Fourvière Disability-friendly wheelchair tour



01 Place Bellecour, statue of Louis XIV

Go out of the Tourist Office, turn left then follow the tactile paving [designed for visually impaired individuals] until you reach the equestrian statue.

Take the time to admire the “Urban Weaving” project, an ephemeral artwork (5 years) offering a series of contemporary pathways and shaded areas to revitalise this iconic space.

Go to the centre of the square to see the equestrian statue of Louis XIV from the front. In the background, you can admire the bell tower of the former Hôpital de la Charité and the imposing Grande Poste building, which houses an art-deco fresco by Louis Bouquet, an undulating tribute to the history of communications.

Head towards Rue du Colonel Chambonnet, which leads off from the right-hand corner of the square in the direction of the Basilica of Notre-Dame de Fourvière, the large church dominating the hill on the other side of the river. From the end of the red path of “Urban Weaving”, ascend to the edge of the square to avoid the slope.



02 Saint-Jean Cathedral

Turn right at Place Saint-Jean. Avoid crossing the square, as it is covered with uneven cobblestones. Go along the pavement of Rue Jean Carriès to admire the Cathedral façade from a distance.

[The Cathedral is accessible through the right-hand door via two ramps placed on the ground. However, assistance is needed to push open the two heavy doors at the top of the ramps].

Retrace your steps to go back.



03 La rue Saint-Jean

[Be careful as this street is highly cobbled, promising a jerky ride that can generate significant physical shocks: it is the responsibility of each individual to decide whether they are able or willing to attempt this part of the circuit and the ‘traboules’ option, depending on their particular condition.

It is advisable to go slowly, placing at least two wheels of the wheelchair on the smooth strip that runs down the middle of the street between the cobblestones].

Continue along Rue Saint-Jean following the way markers of the Camino de Santiago, passing in front of the Cathedral while staying on the pavement on the edge of the forecourt.

Turn left onto Rue de la Bombarde, pausing to admire the lovely courtyard of the Musée Cinéma et Miniature at number 60 at the start of the street.

Go back to Rue Saint-Jean and head up to Place du Change.

If you want, take Rue de la Fronde on your left to reach the Gadagne museums. The little square houses the Horloge Charvet, a clock that chimes every 15 minutes: you can watch the figures of Pulcinella and Harlequin opening the ball and ringing the four bronze bells.

Carry on to Place du Change and then follow Rue Lainerie until the junction with Rue François Vernay.

Cross the Pont Bonaparte bridge, following the pavement on either side. [Beware: the bridge has a slight incline]. After the bridge, continue along Avenue Adolphe Max.



Option: Saint-Georges district

[Warning: cobbled ascent – recommended only for persons suitably equipped or accompanied]

Turn left (south) towards St-Georges, then after a few metres turn right onto Rue Ferrachat and loop back to reach Place de la Trinité. This charming 360° square, typical of the Old Town, houses a silk workshop, the “Maison de Guignol” theatre and Le Soleil restaurant.

After that, descend Rue Tramassac towards the funicular station.

Return to the left-hand pavement and cross towards Rue Jean Carriès, then turn right towards Place Saint-Jean, where you can admire the view of the Cathedral from the Lazarist school.

View of the fountain and, behind you, Fourvière hill with its basilica.



Option: « Traboules »

[a guide is essential to push open the heavy doors to the buildings].

— 37 rue Saint-Jean: Maison du Chamarier façade.

— 54 rue Saint-Jean: la Longue Traboule. After passing through the heavy door, you can see two courtyards. The rest of the traboule isn't accessible due to the steps. Turn round and retrace your steps.

— 27 rue Saint-Jean: after passing through the heavy door, you can see two courtyards. Note the holes in the steps to allow water to drain out during flood periods. It is not possible to exit the traboule at the other end at number 6 Rue des Trois Maries due to a large step.

— 22 rue Saint-Jean: courtyard.

— 7 rue Saint-Jean: façade.

— 1 rue Saint-Jean: façade.

— 2 place du Change: façade of the Maison Thomassin.

— 10 rue Lainerie: after passing through the heavy door, you arrive in a courtyard with a magnificent spiral staircase.

— 14 rue Lainerie: façade of the Maison Claude Debourg illustrating the transition from the Flamboyant Gothic to the Renaissance.

— 8 rue Juiverie: Maison Bullioud – after descending a 5 cm step, you arrive in a courtyard with a gallery supported by trumpet arches or ‘squiches’ (Galerie Philibert Delorme).

Then go to the corner of Rue Lainerie and Rue François Vernay to continue the circuit.





04 From quai Romain Rolland to place Saint-Jean

In Rue Lainerie, you can admire **the art-deco building** housing Jean Gerson school on the right.

At the intersection of Rue François Vernay and Quai Romain Rolland, there is a mural known as **the Fresque de la Cour des Loges**. In summer, it may be hidden behind the foliage.

From the quay, on the opposite pavement, you can glimpse **the Church of Saint-Nizier**, a building representing the transition between the Gothic and Renaissance styles.

There are accessible public toilets on the quay.

Continuing along Quai Romain Rolland, you will pass in front of the majestic **Palais de Justice**, also known as the "24 Columns". On the opposite side, the Passerelle du Palais de Justice foot-bridge leads to the Presqu'île district. On the right-hand side of the bridge, there is a **statue called "The Weight of Oneself"**.

To continue the Old Town circuit, turn right onto Rue de la Bombarde, then turn left onto Rue Mandelot, where a children's playground borders **the archaeological garden**. Then turn right onto Rue Saint-Etienne to return to Place Saint-Jean.



05 From place Saint-Jean to Fourvière

Go into the Vieux-Lyon metro/funicular station and pass through the security gates – **[the accessible entrance on the left]**. Continue straight on to take the lift at the back and go up to the first floor. Take the F2 funicular (on the left as you exit the lift) to go up to Fourvière.

[Note on the funiculaire : You will need to cross a small step to enter the funicular, which can vary in height depending on the carriage. This can cause a significant physical jolt for those in an electric wheelchair: it is the responsibility of each individual to decide whether they are able or willing to attempt to board, depending on their condition.]

If you are in a manual wheelchair, the step can be crossed with assistance. You will have to cross this step at both stations. The inside of the carriage is very narrow. There is a small space for parking your wheelchair. The carriage can accommodate two people in electric wheelchairs at the same time.]



06 Fourvière Basilica

Une fois sorti du funiculaire, prendre l'ascenseur sur la gauche. Lorsqu'on sort de l'ascenseur, il faut prendre à droite et rouler sur le même trottoir et dépasser la basilique jusqu'à l'entrée de l'esplanade et du grand parking.

On the left, you will find the Notre-Dame de Fourvière information centre, which is accessible to persons with reduced mobility. **[A wheelchair can be provided free of charge (in exchange for an identity document). To the right of the esplanade is a lift enabling you to enter and visit the basilica. The lift also provides access to the crypt on level -1. The lift operates from 9 am to 6 pm].**

L'esplanade de Fourvière offre une très belle vue panoramique sur Lyon. **[Si on est en fauteuil électrique et que ce dernier possède une fonction pour élever le siège (fonction « lift »), il peut être opportun de l'utiliser].**

The Fourvière esplanade offers a spectacular panoramic view of Lyon. If you are in an electric wheelchair with a seat elevation ("lift") function, it may be advisable to use it.

There is shop with toilets on the opposite side of the esplanade. The toilets are open every day from 8:00 am to 6:30 pm.

Retrace your steps along the same pavement to get back to the lift leading to the funicular. Once out of the lift, go up the small slope on the left and go round to the other side of the funicular. **[Enter the carriage through the lowest door, as the step between the platform and the train is the lowest at this point. Upon exiting the carriage, take the lift on the right and go down to the next level to return to Saint-Jean].** Cross the Pont Bonaparte to reach Place Bellecour.



2 options at Fourvière :

— **Chemin du Viaduc / Parc des Hauteurs**

[An uneven, downward-sloping path leads to the viewpoint].

When you reach the entrance of the Fourvière esplanade, cross the pedestrian crossing and get onto the pavement directly opposite. Turn right into Montée Nicolas de Lange. **The majestic metal tower of Fourvière** looms before you.

Follow Chemin de Viaduc on the left and enjoy a pleasant stroll through the park leading to the viewpoint. Turn around for a breathtaking view of Notre-Dame de Fourvière.

Retrace your steps back to the basilica.

— **Lugdunum musée et théâtres antiques**

When you reach the entrance of the Fourvière esplanade, cross the pedestrian crossing and get onto the pavement directly opposite.

Go down Rue Roger Radisson, sticking to the right-hand pavement. Cross the pedestrian crossing in front of **the Lugdunum Museum**. Even if you don't visit the museum, you can enjoy a superb view of the archaeological site by following the gently sloping path leading to the museum entrance.

Retrace your steps back to the basilica.

What is the Cour/Traboule agreement?

'Traboule' is the name for the hidden passageways that snake their way between the buildings of Old Lyon. If you're lucky enough to visit some of them, it's thanks to this agreement! Many owners have carried out costly renovation work on the old building they inhabit. For this reason, many traboules and courtyards were closed to the public to keep them clean and preserve tranquillity for residents.

To prevent this historical heritage from becoming permanently inaccessible to all, the City of Lyon signed an agreement with the owners of the properties housing traboules and courtyards, to open the traboules to the public during the day to showcase this exceptional heritage and allow the people of Lyon to continue to use them as shortcuts, as they have always done.

The Cour/Traboule agreement adopted in July 1990 provides that the City and the Urban Community of Lyon will contribute towards maintenance, cleaning and lighting costs in exchange for a public pedestrian right of way through these traboules and private courtyards, 365 days a year between 7am and 7pm. Property owners also agreed that the City may place an explanatory sign at the entrance to the courtyard or traboule and a notice inviting visitors to respect the tranquillity and cleanliness of the premises.

