

## USEFUL INFORMATION

### Where are we staying?

From Friday 25 July until Tuesday 29 July we will be staying at

**YMCA Gard Pont D'Avignon, 7 bis Chemin De La Justice, 30400 Villeneuve Lez, Avignon, France**

In an emergency parents may also ring Andrea Hemmett on 07980 618019

### Staff going on tour are:

- \* Andrea Hemmett – tour leader
- \* Matt Barker
- \* Jay Robertson
- \* Annabel Stevens
- \* Alex Robinson

You will be given a contact card with the phone numbers for Andrea, Matt and Jay as well as the accommodation details for your wallet!

The YMCA Gard Pont D'Avignon is a short walk to the Pont du Rouyame. The accommodation for musicians is in dormitories (2-5 people) with ensuite facilities. The staff are in four rooms. You will need to bring a towel (two towels if you want to use the pool!)

The hostel has a pool open from 9am – 8pm (but no lifeguard) and communal areas inside and outside. There is free WiFi for all guests.

Breakfast and either lunch or dinner are provided at the accommodation. Meals at the hostel are self-serve. Timings for meals are included in the itinerary.

You will need to bring some food and snacks with you for the journey to Provence and we will be stopping en route too. Our first meal whilst away is the evening of Friday 25 July at the hostel. Whilst we are away, you will need to find your own lunch (or evening meal on the Saturday). There will be cafes, restaurants in the areas we are visiting. We only have breakfast provided on the last day in Provence (Tuesday 29 July). You will need to purchase some food for the journey home!

### Concerts

We have three concerts whilst we are away, all of which are part of the Provencal Festival of Youth Orchestras. It is the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this prestigious festival which welcomes orchestras from across the world:

**Saturday 26 July:** 20.30hrs Concert at **Collégiale Notre Dame des Anges**, L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue

**Sunday 27 July:** 16.00hrs Concert at **Abbaye de Frigolet**, Mont de Frigolet, Tarascon

**Monday 28 July:** 19.30hrs Concert at **Place de la Marie**, La Garde Freinet

We have 90 minutes to set up and rehearse at the first two venues and 60 minutes at the last one - so that's not too bad! We also have a 90 minute rehearsal scheduled in at the hostel on the Saturday morning.

Concert dress is all black as usual. Shoulders need to be covered. Short sleeve shirts are fine. Skirts should (as always) be knee length or longer.

There is a fair amount of free time to explore places such as L'Isle Sur la Sorgue, Arles, Aix-en-Provence, and Avignon itself. We have also booked two excursions, which are an additional cost – we will be collecting the payment in euros whilst away:

Unguided visit to the Roman Amphitheatre in Arles on Sunday 27 July **4 euros**

Boat trip in Avignon on Tuesday 29 July **15 euros**

**Total extra cost: around £16.50.**