

Located between a lagoon and the Med, this southern French working port is a great place to get seafood and sea views. It's also a nice hop off on the way from France to Spain.

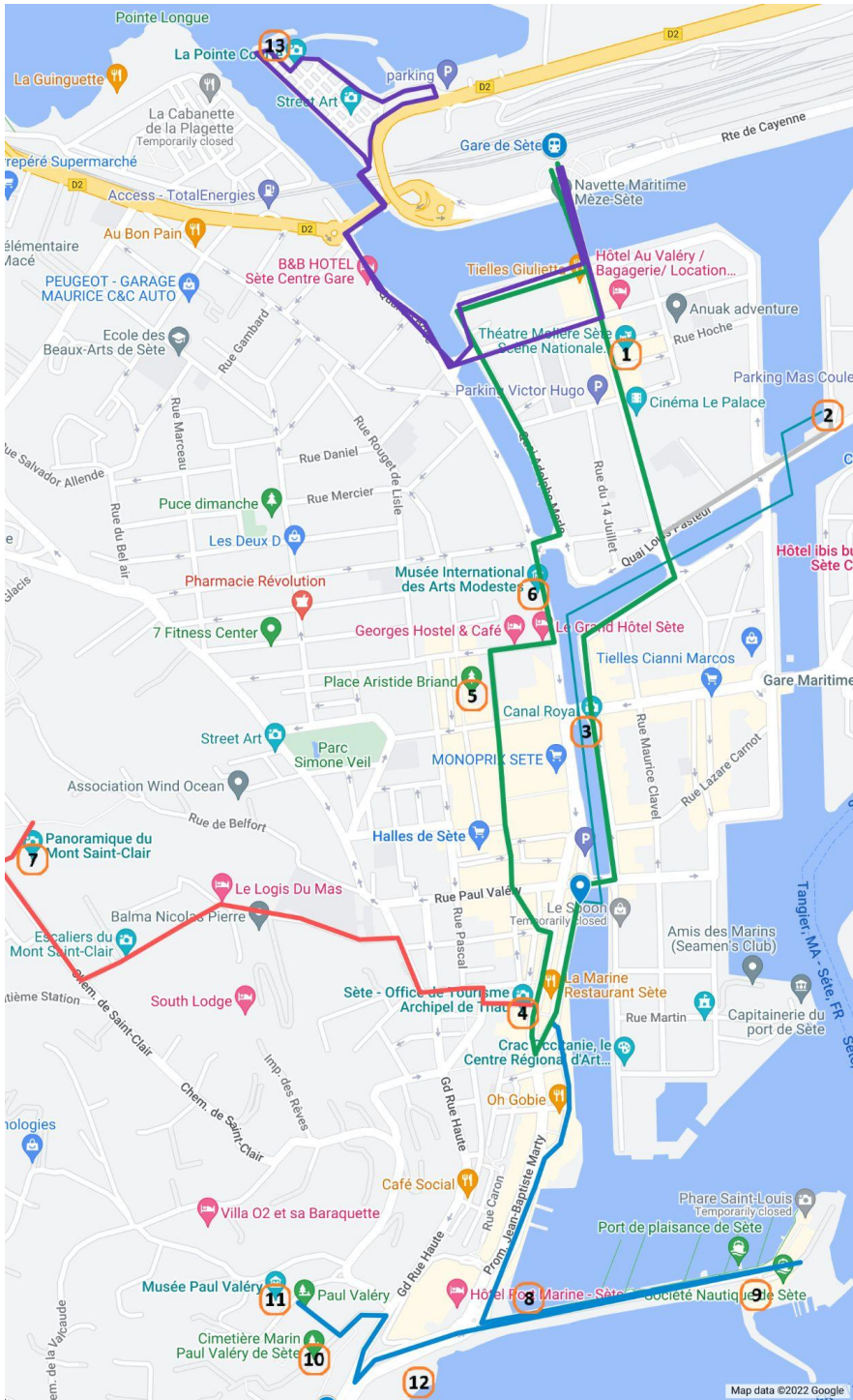


## Strolls

- **[A wander around the canals and town \(4km green\)](#)**
- **[Mont Saint Clair \(2.5km red route\)](#)**
- **[Cimetière Marin \(2km blue route\)](#)**
- **[La Pointe Courte - Agnès Varda homage \(2.8km purple\)](#)**

## Interactive Map

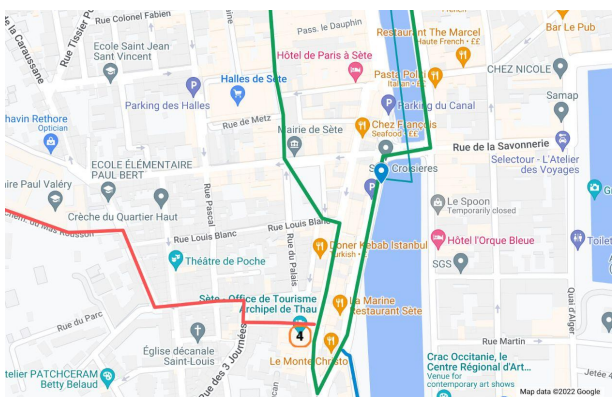
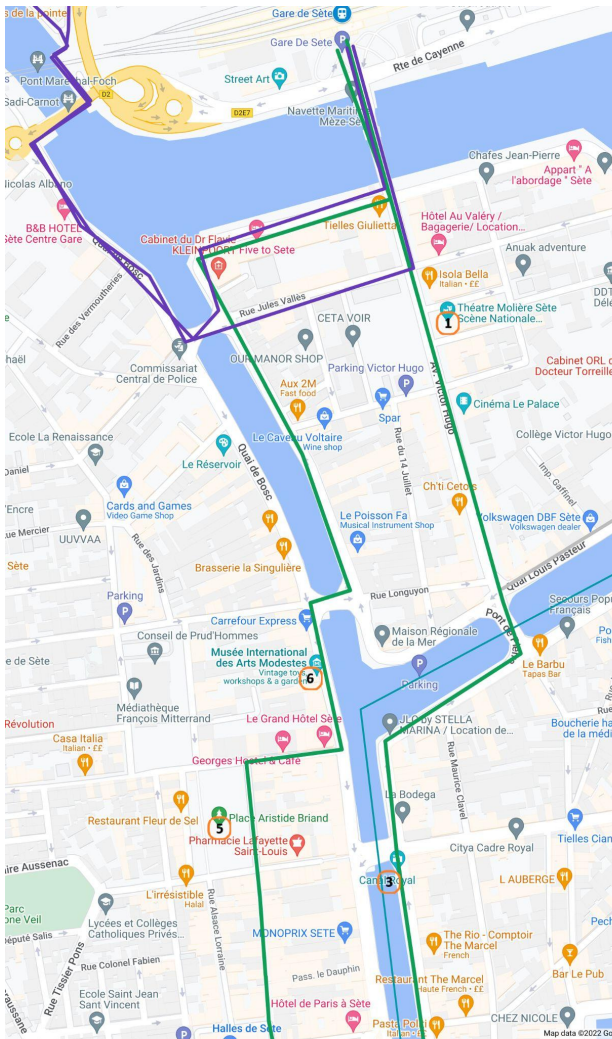
Here is a [link to a map](#) that can help you find your bearings.



- 1 Théâtre Molière
- 3 Canal Royal
- 4 Tourist Office of Sète
- 5 Place Aristide Briand
- 6 Museum of Modest Arts
- 7 Vue Panoramique Saint-Clair
- 8 Harbour wall
- 9 Kayakmed
- 10 Cimetière Marin
- 11 Musée Paul Valéry
- 12 Site de Saint-Pierre
- 13 La Pointe Courte

## A wander around the canals and town (4km green)

This stroll gives us a feel for the place and helps explain why it's called the Venice of the Languedoc.



Leave the station and walk straight on across the Pont de la Gare, and down Rue Victor Hugo and past the [Théâtre Molière](#) on your left (1).

When you get to the end of the road, you come to a bridge, the Pont de Pierre. If you fancy a little trip on the canal for free, you can catch the [bateau taxi](#) (2) on Wednesdays (market day) between May and September or any day in July or August. To catch it, turn left and just over the next bridge to your left (marked in grey on map)

Otherwise, cross the Pont de Pierre and turn right to follow Quai Rhin et Danube around to the left which becomes the Quai Noël Guignon.

When walking along the quayside, you'll see fish on the shaded sides of the boats - it makes you wonder why the fishermen ever set out to sea?

As you walk along the quay, you start to see an increasing number of bars and seafood restaurants. You are now on the Canal Royal (3) which is where water jousting takes place in summer.



*Théâtre Molière - google*



*water jousting - OT Sete*

Beyond and after Pont De La Savonnerie, the canal widens and this is where the big boats that bring in the big catches are moored. Cross over the bridge, to have a little nosey at the boats. It's also where there's a string of restaurants serving the day's catch.



*Harbour*

If you want to extend your stroll, you can continue walking along the front and go to the Cimetière Marin (blue route below).



*By Google*

Otherwise, we'll need to cut back and head into town along Grande Rue Mario Roustan.

A little way down the Grande Rue Mario Roustan you pass the Tourist Information Office (4).

If you want to get some more views of the place from higher ground, you could make a detour and walk up to Mont Saint Clair (red route).



*By Google*

If not, let's get a feel for the town away from the canals. Continue down Grand Rue Mario Roustan until you see a square, the Place du Pouffre, just off a little road on your left (Rue Louis Blanc).

Walk diagonally across the square onto the Rue Gambetta.



*By Google*

Walk all the way down this road, through Place Aristide Briand (5) to the very end and turn right down Rue Gabriel Péri and back to the waterside.

Turn left and follow the course of the canal past the ambitiously humble [International Museum of Modest Arts](#).



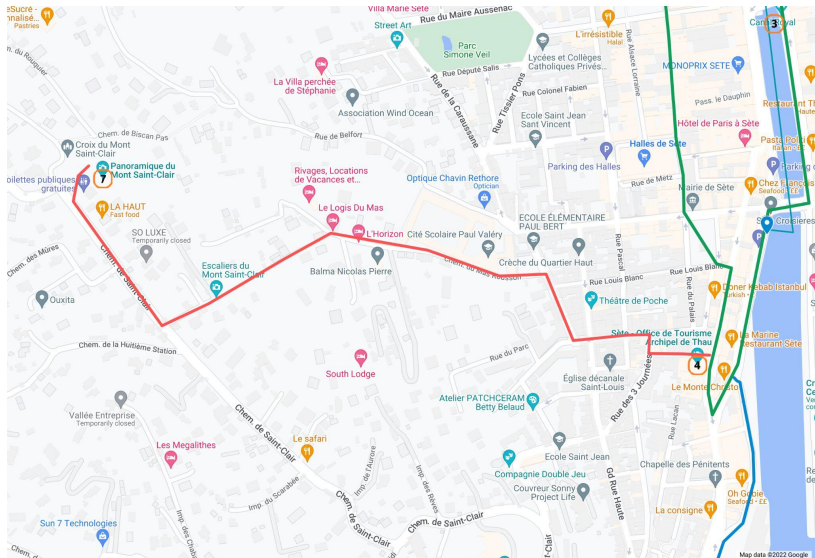
*By Google*

At the next bridge (Pont Virla) turn right.

Once over the bridge turn left and follow the quay all the way to the end and round the corner until you get back to the Pont de la Gare.

## Mont Saint Clair (2.5km red route)

Think of this walk as a geography lesson taken by a PE teacher. It presents us with an overview of what makes Sète the place it is - a working port between a lagoon (and the Canal du Midi) and the Med all while working on the calf muscles and glutes.



Facing the Tourist Information Office, take the Rue Rapide which runs up the right-hand side.

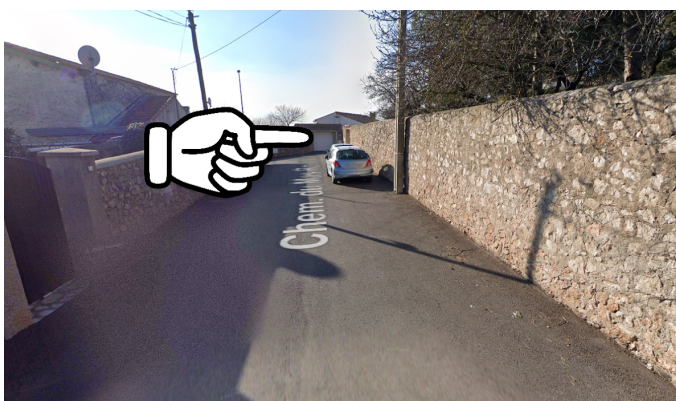


At the end turn right onto Rue des 3 Journées, then left onto Rue Garenne before taking the third right onto Rue Villefranche.

Take the next left onto Chemin Mas Rousson. This road eventually becomes a set of steps leading off to the left which you need to go up - hope your calf muscles are feeling fresh...



At the top continue on Chemin Mas Rousson, then turn right onto Chemin de Saint-Clair and follow it all the way to the top and the Mont Saint-Clair panorama (7).





From here, you can see how Sete sits between the Mediterranean and the Etang de Thau, which leads to Toulouse via the Canal du Midi. Not a bad place to start a business, eh?

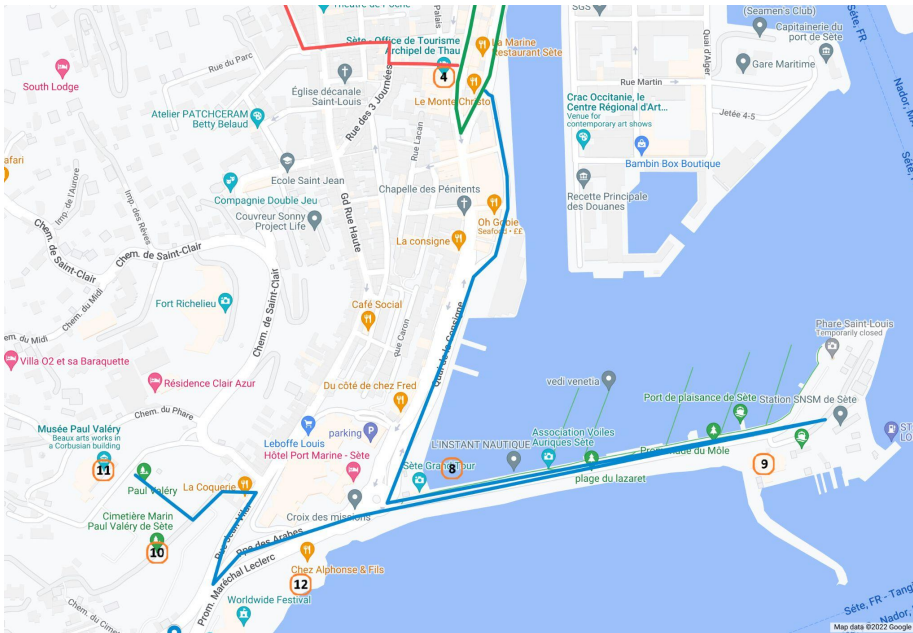


Retrace your steps back to Grande Rue Mario Roustan and continue back to the station via the green route described above.



## Cimetière Marin (2km blue route)

This detour takes us to the harbour and ends up at a cemetery with a view so good, it inspired a poem. Will it get your creative juices going?



From the Quai Maximin Licciardi, keep walking along the seafront, past the utilitarian fishing port, until you get to the harbour wall (8). While here, why not walk to the end. If you are feeling the urge to get in the water, you could have a word with [KayakMed](#) (9) who rent out kayaks and paddleboards - watch out for the ferries steaming to Morocco!



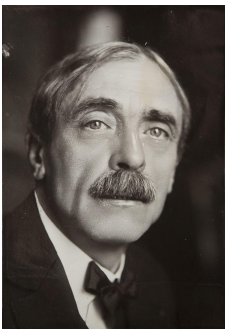
When you have finished with the harbour, at the roundabout follow the upper road to the left, the Rue des Arabes and then take a sharp right up Rue Jean Vilar.



Turn left onto Chemin de Cimetière Marin and walk through the gates.(10)

Note: There are signs for Cimetière Marin and Musée Paul Valéry all the way.

The view from here over the cemetery inspired enlightened thinker and all round good egg, [Paul Valéry](#) to write a poem on the nature of life (apparently urging us to get on and live life rather than moping around in cemeteries). It cemented his place as a national treasure - here's a copy of his poem [Le cimetière marin](#) in English (and French).

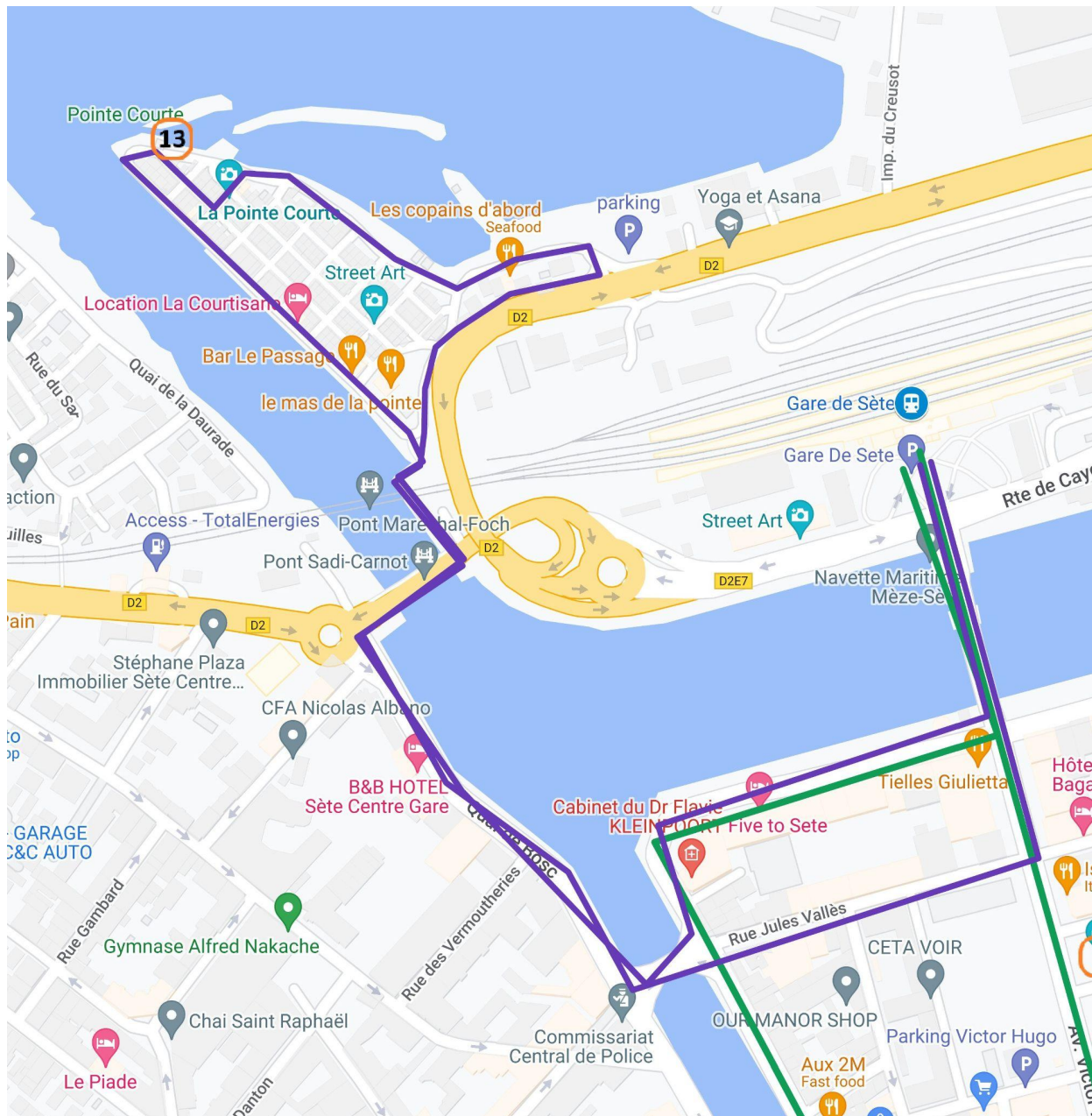


If that has just whetted your appetite for culture, why not pop in to the [Musée Paul Valéry](#) that overlooks the cemetery. (11). When you have finished, retrace your steps. If you fancy grabbing an ice cream or some seafood, while watching the waves, why not stop at the Saint-Pierre fort (12)?



## La Pointe Courte - Agnès Varda homage (2.8km purple)

This short walk from the station is for [Agnès Varda](#) fans who want to see where her breakthrough film, [La Pointe Courte](#), was set. It also provides a window into the lives of fishermen back in the day who lived their lives packed together like sardines.





Leave the station, but unlike the hero of the film, don't walk across the train tracks! Instead, walk the long way round coming out of the station then turning right and right again (that's three bridges) and then take an immediate left through a small car park to a little lighthouse that marks La Pointe Courte (13).



From there you can wander around the streets and carry out the tricky task of matching up the film shots to the views. Despite the limited space on this scrap of land between the lagoon, the sea and the railway.



If you want to get something to eat or drink while here, there are a couple of bars which I haven't tried. FYI, one of the bars, Les Copains d'Abord, is named after a famous George Brassens song. When you have finished, come back the same way.