

Bouldering in Annot, France

Written by YDE

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France - Over the past couple of years Annot has been earning the reputation as the next big bouldering destination after Fontainebleau in France, if not one of the top locations in continental Europe. With its numerous sandstone problems, moderate climate, and easy access it's easy to see why the area is getting so much attention. Whether you're looking for a place to see if your winter training paid off, or just passing by on the way to another climbing destination, this burgeoning area definitely delivers the goods.

The small town of Annot is situated in the Alpes de Haute Provence district of southern France, close to the infamous Verdon river. It is about an hour's drive north from Nice (80 km) or around 2-3 hours from Marseille (200 km). The town also has a train connection and is part of a beautiful scenic trip between Nice and Digne-les-Bains. It's an interesting ride with an old fashioned locomotive through a very unique geographical landscape. Starting from the flatlands on the Mediterranean, the train slowly winds its way around breathtaking canyons clustered with ancient villages. Numerous castles and forts line the landscape, and it could be worth your while to stop at some of the stations if you fancy a bit of history. You'll be just over 2 hours underway if you leave from the train station in Nice, and the ride is well worth the price (~€10 one way).

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