Nowak travel newsletter 9 September 2023

EUROPE 2023

4 months | 6 countries | 8 house swaps | 10 journey legs | 2 grand-boys +1

Supermarket chariots?



French Hotdog?





Apt

We awoke at 6 thinking we had a long journey to Apt. I got that wrong! It only took about 40 minutes so we arrived before most of the stall holders were set up for business. No one seems to get under way here until at least 9am, or later.

Apt is the provincial town for this area. Still small by general standards but much bigger than the villages we have visited so far and it has a large Saturday market that was highly recommended.

We are getting used to the delightful drive through the Luberon valley and this time we went all the way to find Apt, with another mountain range, the Mont Vaucluse, in the background. Our GPS took us right up to the historic centre where we met the barricades set up for the market. It was an easy park and short stroll into the city centre.

The streets here are wider than its little sister villages. This is no doubt due to the fact that the town is built on a flat area and there was not much competition for space. However, the whole of the historic centre was covered in stalls seeking our trade.

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As the day advanced, the people arrived and the aromas of paellas (great simmering cauldrons of it), cheeses and flowers (particularly lavender) scented the air. By 9.30 we had to breath in to pass the people. We bought some veggies and bread and sampled a sweet pastry from one of the many bakery stalls. We recognised some of the same stalls from Bonnieux. I particularly noted the variety of tomatoes and dried meats (shrivelled looking long sausage-like things).





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