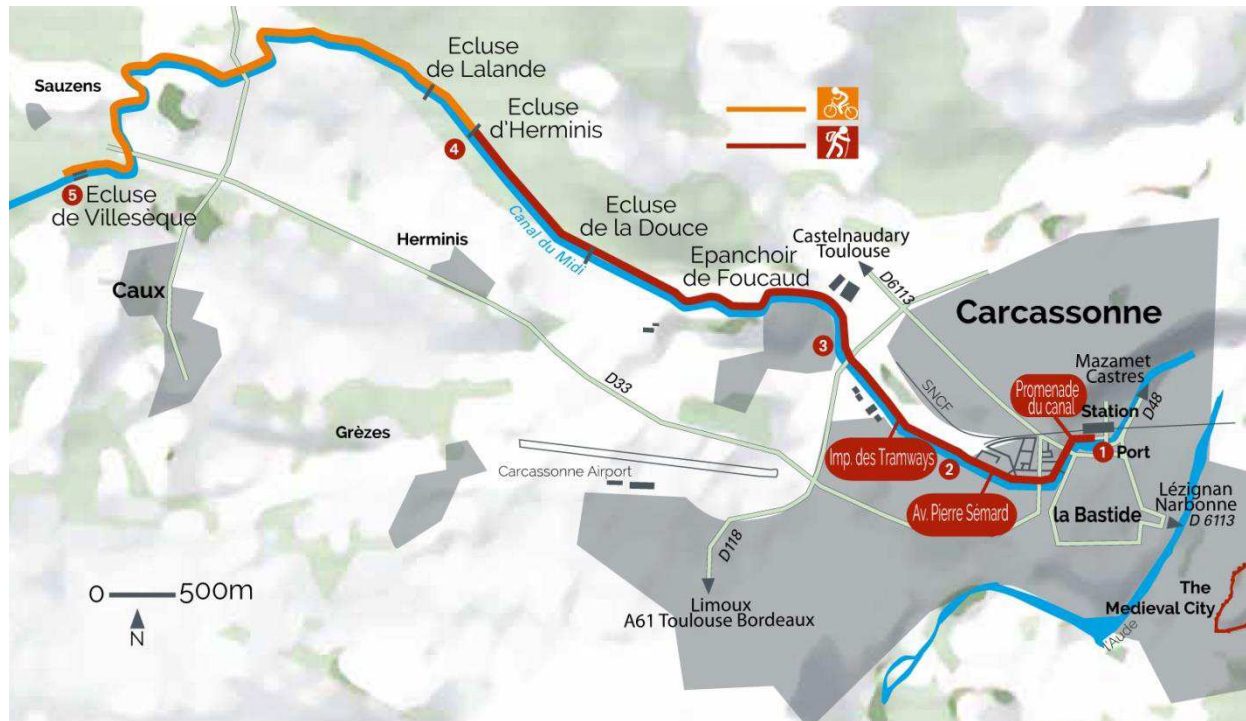


## IN THE SHADE OF THE CANAL DU MIDI

This other small section of the canal du Midi leads you to discover other natural landscapes in an environment that is both pastoral and peaceful...



**Distance : 13 km (there and back)**

**Difficulty Level : Easy**

**Duration : 3h**

**Start : Port of Carcassonne** (To avoid taking the road, you can start from Impasse des Tramways directly on the towpath) ②

**Signage : None. Follow the canal via the towpath.**

This circuit is suggested, but the canal du Midi, with a length of 240km, also offers other linear circuit walks. Everyone is free to choose their own distance whether it be long or short.

### **Route description :**

- ① Cross the pont Marengo which passes over the canal and opposite the station, follow the road on the left along the banks of the canal. (Promenade du canal)
- ② Go down the Avenue Pierre Sémarad then the impasse des Tramways to join the start of the towpath.
- ③ For hikers keep following the towpath to the Ecluse d'Herminis



④ and for cyclists to the Ecluse de Villesèque. ⑤ When you get up to Sauzens, take care when crossing the D33. Return via the same walking or bike route.

**History / Good to know : Social and cultural heritage of the Canal du Midi**

*The Canal du Midi, which stretches over a length of 240km, passes through ten different types of landscape. In Carcassonne, there is the Fresquel valley. The project of classifying the areas around the canal is underway, as this will ensure the preservation of agricultural areas between Bram and Carcassonne and in particular, between the villages of Alzonne, Sainte-Eulalie, Villesèquelande and Caux. Effectively, until now, the classification only concerned the canal itself. Apart from this, it seemed important to preserve the landscapes surrounding it with the symbolic plane trees and the immediate surrounding area. The canal could therefore fit in to the protected landscape. This is a rational and concerted approach in which two complementary perimeters have been defined: the sensitive zone which is directly visible from the canal and the influence zone which has further-reaching perspectives. The State and the local communities are working together closely in this project.*