Perched on a cliff 80 meters above the Durance valley and surrounded by mountains such as the Grand Morgon (altitude: 2,326 meters), the Tête de Vautisse (3,156 meters), the Mont Guillaume (2,550 meters) or the Pouzenc (2,898 meters), Embrun has long been a busy metropolitan situated in the heart of the Alps. Despite its relatively high altitude (876 meters), the city benefits from a Mediterranean climate, hence the nickname - the little “Nice of the Alps.”

The principal economic activity for Embrun’s 6,150 permanent inhabitants resides in the tertiary sector and more particularly in tourism with the proximity of the lake Serre-Ponçon and the nautical activities it offers as well as with the local ski resorts (les Orres, Crévoux, Réallon...).

Embrun has a rich historical past with a period as the capital of the Alpes Cottiennes in antiquity and later as the sub-prefecture of the department and the archdiocese.

A fortified city during the time of the Roman Empire, in the Middle Ages its defense system increased its stature, notably under Lesdiguières and Mayenne.
Local authorities involved:

The municipality of Embrun.

Starting from...

- Operation “facades” on Embrun’s historical center
- Opération Programmée d’Amélioration de l’Habitat (OPAH) - Planned Habitat Improvement Operation. This operation began in 2002 and runs for 3 years with the participation of the federal government, the city of Embrun, and the Agence Nationale pour l’Amélioration de Habitat (ANAH) - National Agency for Habitat Improvement.

Pictures

![Vue de la ville du Mont Guillaume](image1)

![Centre Historique d’Embrun](image2)
The Facades restoration Campaign : WP5

In the frame of the OPAH (Opération Programmée d'Amélioration de l'Habitat, Operation to make improvements to habitat), the municipality decided to implement that operation by a specific action dedicated to the façade of the historic centre of the city. The Ecole d’Avignon, was named by the Municipality, to conduct the preliminary actions of the campaign:

Actions done in 2003 and 2004:

- Technical specification and guideline upon façade
- Restoration campaign of the façades: regulation
- Technical suitcase of the restoration: renderings and painting
- Training for masons and painters
- Public’s sessions: technical and architectural information to the owners and the citizens of Embrun.

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