



E C O L E
D'AVIGNON

Interreg III B «Alpine space» Culturalp project

WP5 – BEST PRACTICES STARTING UP

WP5_PACA_02_Brantes_presentation Brantes (Vaucluse)

Main characters :

Brantes is a medieval village located at the northern extremity of the department of *Vaucluse*. It is a peaceful place offering a wonderful panorama on the northern side of the *Mont Ventoux*, whose summit lies at 1909 meters. Since 1990, the “Man and Biosphere” reserve of the *Mont Ventoux*, created by UNESCO, develops the basis, within the natural and the social sciences, for the sustainable use and conservation of biological diversity, and for the improvement of the relationship between people and their environment globally.

The village seems to be almost suspended above the *Toulourenc* valley like a valiant sentry. The labyrinth of lanes, archways and old stonework houses huddle under the ruins of the feudal castle, and around the church built in the 17th century, and the *Pénitents Blancs* chapel.

In the middle of the 19th century, 442 inhabitants lived in the commune; now the population represents only 65 inhabitants. Many small farms are disused, in particular the cereal and fruits culture, because the climate is too difficult. Currently, sheep pasture, fish breeding and

exploitation of oak and pine wood constitute the main activities of the commune.

Some art craftsmen are established in the village : a workshop of santons and a workshop of glazed earthenware attracts the tourists. Moreover, there are some beautiful walks close to the village; two backpacking trails cut through the *Brantes* area : the GR 9 and GR 91.

Local authorities involved :

Municipality of *Brantes*

Starting from...

- Tourism development planning for *Haut Vaucluse* (III° State / Region *PACA* Planning Contract for 1994 – 1999).
- Leader II program for “*Ventoux*” piloted by Tourism Departmental Committee of *Vaucluse* (1994 – 1999).
- European program “*Corpus*” (1999- 2001) for the methodology

Operational tools to be applied :

Architectural and technical guide



