

→ NATURE TRAILS, Places and secrets of heritage



Salines & lakes

The Saltworks first began in Frontignan in the 1330s and ended in 1968. Three centuries of exploitation that have shaped this exceptional landscape.

Since 1989, the 230 hectares of these former salt marshes are protected natural areas, classified Natura 2000, belonging to the Coastal and Lake Shore Conservatory (Conservatoire du littoral et des rivages lacustres), managed by the Agglomeration, with the EID - interdepartmental agreement for mosquito control on the Mediterranean coast (Entente interdépartementale pour la démoustication).

The ancient saline and lakes are today the cradle of more than 130 species of birds and more than 300 plants: white stilts, flamingos, terns, posidonia beds and salicorne, queen of the salt marshes.

The history of Frontignan is intimately linked to the vines. For centuries, landscapes have been shaped by the hand of wine producers in love with their vines around a unique grape variety, the Muscat made with small grain grapes.

Facing the sea and lakes, at the foot of the Gardiole Massif, the Muscat vineyards benefits from an exceptional Mediterranean climate, between sun and maritime influences. This gives the grapes an aromatic and tasty flavour that makes Muscat a natural sweet wine with golden reflections, first appellation of controlled origin (AOC) in 1936, known and recognized all over the world.



Vines & Muscat



Gardiole & Garrigue

A listed and protected site, the Gardiole massif, which covers 5,000 hectares, is home to a typical Mediterranean flora and fauna.

Green and kermean oaks, turpentic pistachios and lentisques, myrtles, cistes, rosemary... Houses rock robins, red partridges, great spotted cuckoos, jays, Montagu's harriers, falcons, owls, hawks or ocellated lizards.

In the past, agricultural and pastoral activity was predominant, as the capitelles (dry stone huts where the shepherds sheltered in bad weather) present on the massif still bear witness to this day. It offers an exceptional panorama of the coastline and lagoon, the Thau Basin and the hinterland. It offers exceptional panoramic views of the coastline and lagoon, the Thau Lagoon and the countryside.