

PALAIS DES FESTIVALS & DES CONGRÈS DE CANNES

PRESS KIT 2026





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DAVID LISNARD

MAYOR OF CANNES

PRESIDENT OF THE CANNES PAYS DE LÉRINS URBAN AREA

PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MAYORS OF FRANCE

Cannes, a Sustainable Destination

At the heart of a rapidly changing world, where the balance of power and influence appears to be shifting from one hemisphere to another, Cannes continues to uphold its position as a leading destination for business, leisure and international events. This leadership has been reaffirmed by the city's numerous European and global distinctions at the World Travel Awards.

The Palais des Festivals et des Congrès, now Europe's leading convention centre in terms of revenue, has, over the decades, become a major driver of collective prosperity for the Côte d'Azur and beyond through its direct, indirect and induced economic and social impact.

This is a source of great pride and a clear endorsement of the Municipality's strategic vision. It also reflects the expertise of the SEMEC teams, together with that of tourism professionals and local retailers, whose commitment to hospitality and customer care is central to Cannes' reputation. Through the **"Bienvenue à Cannes"** Charter, visitors are assured of a reliable, high-quality offer, transparent pricing and the commitment of participating establishments—including, first and foremost, the Palais itself—to a sustainable approach.

The City of Cannes has successfully combined substantial investment in urban regeneration, the modernisation of its infrastructure, and the deployment of new public services and facilities to enhance both its attractiveness and the quality of life enjoyed by residents and visitors alike, while simultaneously reducing municipal debt and maintaining a disciplined approach to taxation.

This demanding yet pragmatic governance enables the city to pursue a sustainable and resilient long-term vision, inspire investor confidence, reinforce its appeal to event organisers and secure new markets that support the local economy throughout the year.

Our collective approach brings together public authorities and private-sector partners in the service of a city whose international reputation and influence depend on the commitment of every stakeholder, the fulfilment of shared responsibilities and a standard of service that consistently meets the expectations of both residents and visitors.

Sustainable because it is dependable. That is the guiding principle behind our action. That is the future of Cannes.





NICOLAS GORJUX

PRESIDENT OF THE PALAIS DES FESTIVALS ET DES CONGRÈS DE CANNES

Presiding over the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès de Cannes means embracing an ambition that extends far beyond the successful delivery of the events we host. It means bringing to life an iconic venue of internationally recognised standing while responding responsibly to the major challenges of our time.

The year 2025 marked a significant milestone in this journey. The Palais des Festivals et des Congrès de Cannes was named the World's Leading Festival and Event Destination for the fourth time at the World Travel Awards. This distinction recognises the outstanding performance of our destination, the professionalism of our teams and the continued confidence of our partners. While this international recognition is a source of great pride, it also strengthens our commitment to continually raising our standards and driving further progress.

Since adopting our status as a mission-driven company in 2022, our course has been clearly defined: **"Welcoming the World Sustainably."** This purpose serves as the compass that guides every one of our decisions, investments and day-to-day practices. It reflects our determination to reconcile attractiveness, innovation, positive impact and responsibility.

This ambition is embodied in a major environmental commitment: reducing the Palais' carbon footprint by 60% by 2030. Achieving this

demanding objective requires the active engagement of all our stakeholders and is supported by tangible initiatives, including the continuous improvement of our buildings' energy performance, the modernisation of our facilities, the deployment of innovative technological solutions, the promotion of sustainable mobility and dedicated support for our clients in reducing the environmental impact of their events.

Guided by the three pillars of our mission—****Connect, Care and Reveal****—we are pursuing a profound transformation that brings together operational excellence, environmental responsibility and social commitment. Supporting talent, promoting our destination, opening the Palais to the wider public, enhancing quality of working life and driving innovation to enrich the event experience all contribute to a shared vision: making the Palais a responsible, exemplary organisation that creates lasting value for all its stakeholders.

I would like to pay tribute to the unwavering commitment of the Palais teams, whose professionalism and dedication make these achievements possible. My sincere thanks also go to our partners, event organisers, local stakeholders, the City of Cannes and the members of our Mission Committee, whose high standards help ensure the credibility, transparency and integrity of our mission-driven approach.

In a world undergoing profound transformation, we firmly believe that international excellence and environmental responsibility are no longer separate ambitions—they are intrinsically linked. Building on its history, global reputation and enduring commitments, the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès de Cannes will continue to pursue this ambition with determination: welcoming the world's leading events while actively helping to shape a more sustainable event industry for future generations.

PRESENTATION OF THE PALAIS DES FESTIVALS ET DES CONGRÈS DE CANNES





*“The standard-bearer for Cannes”,
“the flagship of the economy”,
“the red carpet of the stars”...*

There’s no denying it - it has a knack for getting people talking and, above all, never fails to leave an impression. Well beyond the Côte d’Azur, of which it’s such a strong symbol, the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès de Cannes shines around the world, far from all the glitz and glamour.



A MAJOR PLAYER IN THE ECONOMY

As renowned as the established and emerging stars it welcomes through its outstanding calendar of international events, the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès is also a major economic driver. In 2025 alone, it generated **€54.9 million in revenue**, an **increase of 11.1% compared with 2024** and provides permanent employment for 190 people.

major businesses and the wide network of subcontractors and specialist suppliers that support its activities across a broad range of sectors. Its year-round programme generates an estimated **€1.2 billion in economic impact in 2025** and, for example, **accounts for several hundred thousand overnight stays in Cannes hotels.**

The Palais des Festivals is, in fact, a powerful engine of the local and regional economy, benefiting independent retailers,



CULTURE FOR ALL!

The key to its success? It involves, in part, organising shows for all audiences who can experience the different facets of art such as music, theatre, dance, circus, pyrotechnics and, of course, cinema...

It's one of the Palais' principles:

Making culture accessible by not only presenting internationally acclaimed headliners, but also providing tomorrow's emerging talent with opportunities to shine across the Palais' various stages.





A TRUE HUB FOR PROFESSIONALS

The other reason for its success is linked to the conferences and shows organised for the professional sector. They represent half the 168 annual events on site. At the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès in Cannes, those who drive numerous economic sectors meet up with their clients every year to do business and develop their network.

Cannes is the essential meeting place for the music markets, advertising, real estate, yachting, television series, film, finance and even duty-free products. It takes all sorts to make a world. And here, the timing is perfect: the world, in all its diversity, passes through Cannes one day or another.





A TRUE GLOBAL VILLAGE

The Palais des Festivals et des Congrès occupies an outstanding location.

Standing in the heart of the city, on the edge of the Mediterranean Sea, its special location means all delegates can get around on foot between the Palais and their hotel, enjoying the beauty of the city and its bay, along the famous Croisette.

In the evening, it's a pleasure to relax, stroll around and enjoy dinner in a city on a human scale where you can combine spending time together and living the good life.

The Palais offers event organisers a tailor-made exhibition space.

Each space can be adapted to requirements, thanks to the flexibility of the location.

INTERACTING IN SAFETY

The Palais des Festivals et des Congrès offers the very best security and safety conditions for all its guests. A very dense network of cameras, whose images are monitored in real time, and a strong presence of officials create one of the strengths of the systems in place.

Special efforts are also made on access controls so that everyone can take part in events with total confidence.

The Palais has been awarded the **ISO 18788** standard concerning security management operations. This covers the continuation and permanent improvement of all measures to guarantee a secure perimeter for all goods and people on the site.

The Palais des Festivals et des Congrès de Cannes was the first convention centre in France to obtain this certification, back in 2019.



THE LEADING AMBASSADOR FOR THE DESTINATION

The Palais is also in charge of the tourist office and promoting the destination.

For this reason, it brings together talents and initiatives by producing, in partnership with the **City of Cannes**, its own events such as the **International Games Festival**, the **International Pyrotechnic Arts Festival** and **Dance Festival**.

These three events alone attract several hundred thousand visitors a year.



SEMEC

*(Société d'Economie Mixte pour les Evénements Cannois/Mixed
Economy Company for Cannes Events)*



SEMEC

(SOCIÉTÉ D'ÉCONOMIE MIXTE POUR LES ÉVÉNEMENTS CANNOIS)

The Palais des Festivals et des Congrès is a public facility which belongs to the city of Cannes. SEMEC (Société d'Economie Mixte pour les Evénements Cannois/Mixed Economy Company for Cannes Events) is the exclusive operator by public service delegation.

SEMEC was created in 1991.

It's the first mixed economy service company in France.

Its shareholding is 80% made up by the public sector.



SEMEC'S MISSIONS

DEVELOP

Manage and develop the activity of hosting and organising events and business meetings (trade fairs, conferences, festivals) with a strong international dimension

PROMOTE

Promote Cannes as a destination, and strengthen tourist numbers in the Cannes area via the Tourist Office and Convention Bureau

ORGANISE

Organise cultural events in line with the cultural policy of the City of Cannes

RUN

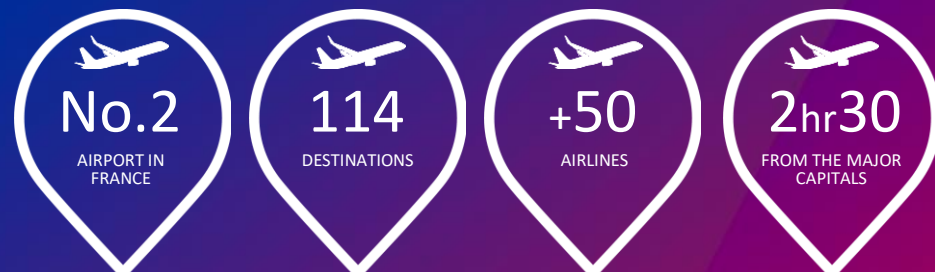
Run and maintain this public facility in an excellent state of repair and operation

THE GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF THE PALAIS DES FESTIVALS



THE GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF THE PALAIS DES FESTIVALS

NICE CÔTE D'AZUR AIRPORT



THE PALAIS DES FESTIVALS ET DES CONGRÈS



CANNES

AN IMMERSIVE TOUR
OF THE PALAIS DES FESTIVALS ET DES CONGRÈS

[CHECK OUT THE VIDEO HERE](#)



THE PALAIS DES FESTIVALS IN FIGURES



PALAIS DES FESTIVALS IN FIGURES

€ **54.9^B** €
TURNOVER IN
2025

€ **1200.9^M** €
ECONOMIC BENEFITS



561,828
OVERNIGHT STAYS



168
EVENTS IN 2025



79
PROFESSIONAL EVENTS



89
CULTURAL EVENTS

380,000
PROFESSIONALS HOSTED IN
2025



35,000^{M²}
OF EXHIBITION
AREA

5

AUDITORIUMS FROM
150 TO 2,300 PEOPLE

50

MEETING
ROOMS



3

RECEPTION SPACES
FOR UP TO 1,700 PEOPLE



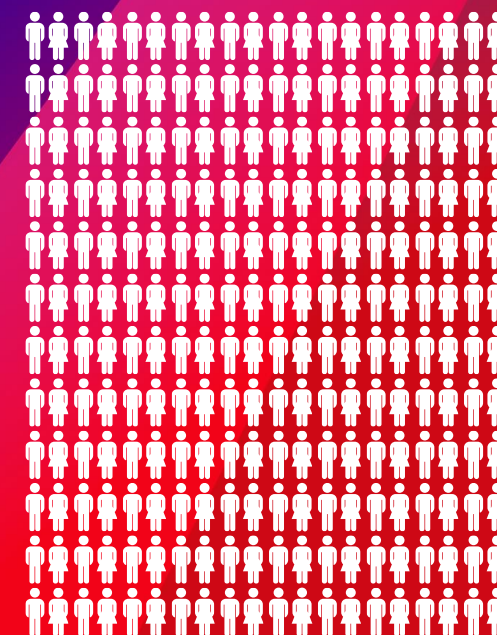
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DIGITAL STUDIO
FOR 350 PEOPLE



669,003

SUBSCRIBERS ON SOCIAL MEDIA IN
2025, REACHING



72,2^M PEOPLE

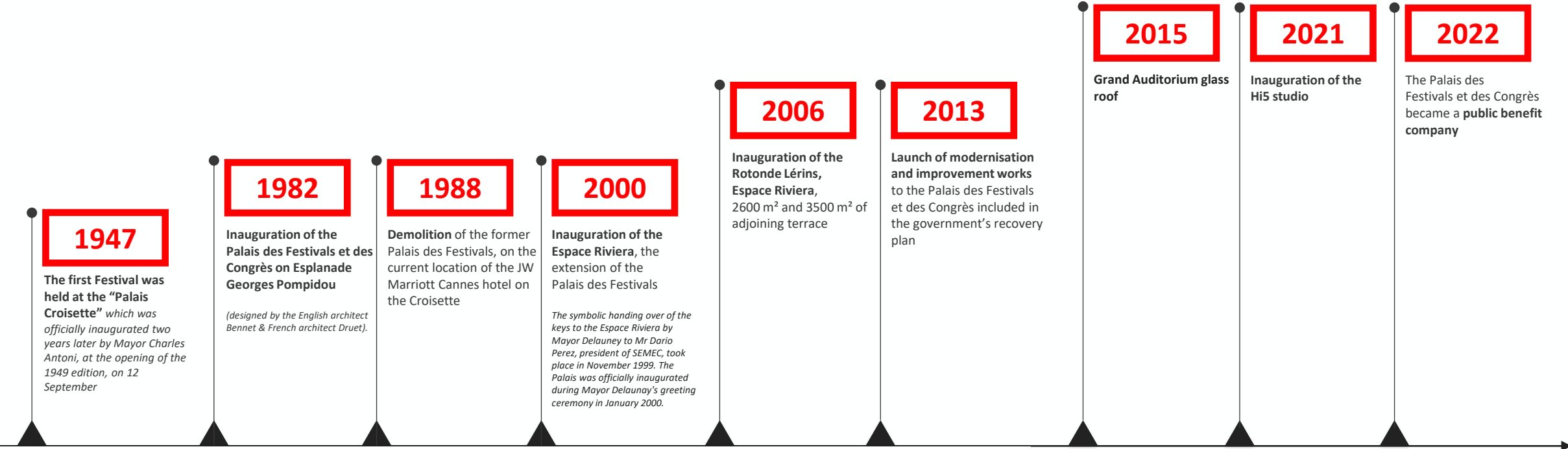
THE HISTORY OF THE PALAIS



THE HISTORY OF THE PALAIS

The history of the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès de Cannes is closely linked to that of the Film Festival which began in 1946.

To host this flagship event, an initial structure was erected in 1947 on Boulevard de la Croisette, the site of the current JW Marriott Cannes. Faced with the growing success of the Festival and the emergence of business tourism (notably with the first editions of MIPTV in 1963), in 1979, the City of Cannes decided to build a new Palais on the site of the Municipal Casino, which was inaugurated in December 1982.



THE (HE)ART OF SUSTAINABLE HOSPITALITY





THE (HE)ART OF SUSTAINABLE HOSPITALITY

Thanks to the broad mobilisation of its teams, the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès became a public benefit company in December 2022. This government label confirms and amplifies the societal efforts carried out for years on the Croisette.

With this new status, the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès is committed to improving the well-being of all, developing solidarity while reducing its environmental footprint as much as possible.

THE PALAIS HAS CHOSEN A CLEAR, CONCRETE PURPOSE WHICH SUMS UP ALL ITS ACTIONS: "THE (HE)ART OF SUSTAINABLE HOSPITALITY".

An ambitious, altruistic mission that managers and all staff approach with a single watchword: humility.

Everyone is well aware of their responsibility towards the social, economic and natural ecosystem. But everyone also knows the difficulties and obstacles to overcome to ensure that things evolve in a very diversified sector of activity.

"A mission committee has been set up to monitor and ensure that the company achieves its objectives and fulfils its missions, both in terms of

sustainable development and on a societal level. This committee ensures that all actions carried out by the company are in accordance with these commitments", explains Bruno Desloques, the Managing Director.

The Palais des Festivals et des Congrès is bound by this daily ethic which guides its steps in a constantly evolving societal context. Financial profitability alone is no longer sufficient for the development of a 21st-century company.

The Palais believes in human values and sharing. To support this, it draws on its strengths and regularly takes concrete initiatives to cultivate, among other things, the art of hosting, service and permanent dialogue with business and leisure tourists. It also strives to implement this philosophy among its staff, partners and the entire Cannes community.

THE PALAIS ACTS FOR THE PLANET AND ITS USERS



THE PALAIS ACTS FOR THE PLANET AND ITS USERS

Protecting planet Earth, which needs it so badly, is one of the priorities of the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès.

Its CSR-QSE (corporate social responsibility - quality, safety, environment) policy is entirely based on this objective. The Palais is **ISO 20121** certified, a benchmark standard for responsible event management. This certification helps organizations transparently integrate sustainability principles into all stages of event planning and execution. It takes into account social, economic, and environmental impacts and is essential for ensuring a positive and lasting legacy.

THE PALAIS SUPPORTS THE CANNES FOUNDATION

Actions are worth more than fancy words. The Palais des Festivals et des Congrès de Cannes takes action to protect and support numerous causes. It finances and supports the **Cannes Foundation and Cannes Endowment Fund** as a founding administrator member. **This structure combats the exclusion of Cannes children in the fields of education, supports culture, sport, digital citizenship, the family environment and, of course, environmental protection.**

COMMITTED TO PROTECTING SEAGRASS

Of the projects supported, **PRIME (Posidonia Restoration Initiative for a Resilient Mediterranean Ecosystem)** is led by the local association **NaturDive** and **Cannes start-up Blue Leaf Conservation**. Its objective is as transparent as crystal-clear sea water: **to raise public awareness, protect and restore the coastal posidonia (seagrass) meadows** which help capture carbon dioxide during photosynthesis and its sequestration in the form of carbon (commonly called blue carbon). Their efficiency is much greater than that of the Amazon rainforest.



GREEN LOBBYING OF ORGANISERS

The Palais des Festivals et des Congrès wants to make things happen directly by encouraging its clients to take action to protect the environment.

This results in the launch and continuation of new international trade fairs and festivals which promote eco-design as well as responsible, sustainable operations.

This commitment is yielding results through concrete actions at IPEM ("Going Green"), the Cannes Film Festival (accreditations funding projects for planet protection), the Yachting Festival ("Green Route"), CANNESERIES, and MIPIM, which is strengthening its sustainability efforts by reducing waste, decarbonizing the industry, and implementing a charter encouraging exhibitors and partners to adopt responsible practices.



ENERGY SOBRIETY

It's not enough to ask others to put in all the effort. "Since 2023, the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès has consumed 100% guaranteed green electricity, from French hydroelectric production. In 2024, it now uses guaranteed 100% green electricity from photovoltaic sources from the Provence-Alpes-Côte-d'Azur region", explains Bruno Desloques, Managing Director of the Palais des Festivals.

Energy sobriety is a daily priority. The heating setpoint temperature is, for example, reduced two hours before an event closes and up to one hour before reopening, with the agreement of the organisers. The setpoint temperature for the air conditioning in technical rooms has been increased from 19 to 24 degrees.

Lighting the premises is another source of energy savings, thanks to the introduction of relamping. This involves replacing lamps with more effective, energy-efficient light sources, thereby reducing electricity costs, extending their lifespan and better lighting quality.

Stand lights are systematically turned off as soon as events close. An official is responsible for checking the lights are out, again in agreement with the organisers.

The upcoming **installation of photovoltaic panels on the Rotonde Lérins** means the Palais will be able to produce its own electricity and so, once again, save energy.

The use of thalassotherapy will soon be in operation. This process recovers heat from the sea to heat or cool a building. A renewable energy source that has the advantage of reducing greenhouse gas emissions compared to those based on fossil fuels.

Cool roofing is now in place. This is a roofing design technique that aims to reduce heat absorption by the building by reflecting more sunlight and emitting less absorbed heat. It has several advantages: reducing the interior temperature of buildings, energy savings, reducing greenhouse gases and the carbon footprint of sites.

By **making ticketing paperless and encouraging online booking**, the Palais intends to limit paper production as much as possible.

Information and awareness-raising campaigns are regularly organised internally on all these subjects. Employees are the best ambassadors and players for this public benefit company.





ART FOR OUR FAUNA AND FLORA

Submerged statues to decorate the seabed! The Palais des Festivals et des Congrès supports and promotes the **underwater ecomuseum by English sculptor Jason DeCaires Taylor**. With his six works installed near the southern shore of Sainte-Marguerite Island, this exceptional site has an educational effect on the fauna and flora for the general public.

Over time, fish, algae and plants become one with these creations that are as beautiful as they are symbolic. *"We don't conquer our environment, we must live with and respect it"*, the artist sums it up nicely.

THE RED CARPET IS RECYCLED !

The famous red carpet of the Cannes Film Festival is recycled. Since 2021, it's been collected by a company that specialises in developing the circular economy and reusing materials within the cultural and educational sector of the Provence-Alpes-Côte-d'Azur region.

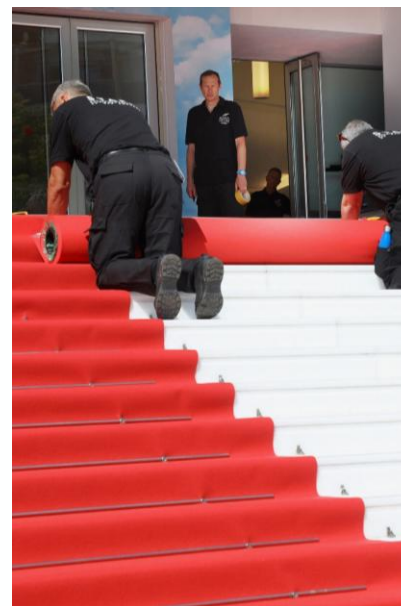
Several tonnes of material thus avoid being binned, and benefit the members of this association. In three years, the red carpet has notably been reused in various settings, as a decorative element for graduation ceremonies or even for the manufacture of upcycling items. This iconic material is therefore part of a zero waste approach: reduce, reuse and recycle.

Moreover, all carpets used in the aisles are made of 100% polypropylene, and their recycling is managed by our service provider Veolia.

VERY GREEN POSTERS

Did you also know that the posters for the Cannes Film Festival, Dance Festival and NRJ Music Awards, to name just a few events, also have a second life? Thanks to the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès and the Cannes association Résines (Réseau d'Initiatives Numériques et d'Ecologie Solidaire/Digital Initiatives and Solidarity Ecology Network) Estérel Azur, these promotional items, in the form of tarpaulins, are turned into bags, pouches and baskets.

It's people being reintegrated into the workplace who make them. All items are sold directly by the association or via the Tourist Office. With great success.





CANNES CERTIFIED AS A « SUSTAINABLE INNOVATIVE DESTINATION »

In 2023, Cannes became a "**Sustainable Innovative Destination**", a label created by France Congrès et Événements and linked to the ISO 20121 certification, which addresses the challenges of responsible events and tourism. This label enables visitors to access responsible offers throughout their stay, not only in hospitality but also in dining, transportation, shopping, and cultural leisure activities.

Several partners are already committed, and the Palais des Festivals is the leading organization for this initiative in Cannes. The 2024 partners include: the City of Cannes, the Cannes Pays de Lérins Agglomération, Lenôtre Traiteur, Helen Traiteur, Groupe Barrière (Hôtel Le Majestic Cannes & Hôtel Le Gray d'Albion Cannes), Hôtel Mondrian Cannes, and Hôtel Martinez Cannes.

« These recognitions highlight our commitment to responsible and environmentally friendly event practices », says Bruno Desloques.

MAKING THE PALAIS DES FESTIVALS ET DES CONGRÈS ACCESSIBLE

The Palais des Festivals et des Congrès de Cannes is committed to making its spaces accessible to people with disabilities. Its two main venues, the Louis Lumière Auditorium and the Claude Debussy Theatre, have had their **Tourisme & Handicap certification** renewed.

Louis Lumière Auditorium is certified for hearing, mental, and motor disabilities, offering 20 wheelchair spaces and 12 companion seats, as well as 82 seats and 3 fold-down seats equipped with hearing loops. Claude Debussy Theatre is certified for hearing and mental disabilities, with 4 wheelchair spaces, 9 companion seats, 82 seats, and 7 fold-down seats equipped with hearing loops. A total investment of €54,000 has been dedicated to improving infrastructure, including restrooms, signage, and stair nosing.

The Palais is also **ISO 9001** certified, ensuring quality management and continuous improvement of its services.



PALAIS DES FESTIVALS ET DES CONGRÈS DE CANNES AWARDED THE "DIPLOMATIC HERITAGE" LABEL

On the occasion of France's presidency of the G7, the Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs awarded the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès de Cannes the "Diplomatic Heritage" label on 16 April 2026, recognising its pivotal role in hosting the G20 Summit in 2011 and its longstanding commitment to fostering international dialogue.

Awarded for the first time to just fifteen sites across France, this distinction recognises the enduring excellence of the Palais' mission: welcoming the world and showcasing France on the international stage.

The G20 Summit, held on 3 and 4 November 2011, marked a defining moment in the Palais' history. Under the French Presidency of Nicolas Sarkozy, the venue welcomed the leaders of the world's twenty largest economies, including Barack Obama, Angela Merkel, Hu Jintao, Dmitry Medvedev and David Cameron, to address financial regulation and global economic stability.

From the G20 Summit to major European conferences, the Palais has established itself as a leading venue for global dialogue. In 1986, it hosted the World Energy Conference, followed by the Council of Europe Summit in 1995. It subsequently welcomed the France-Africa Summit in 2007, before hosting the Meeting of European Ministers in 2008.

Each of these landmark gatherings reflects the Palais' enduring vocation: to serve as a venue for dialogue, influence and international cooperation.



HUMAN VALUES, DRIVING THE PALAIS FORWARD

Protecting the planet also means protecting ourselves as humans.

The Palais des Festivals has etched its societal commitment in stone by drafting a charter of ethics. This document commits all teams, all services, to mobilise again and again on major principles, such as respect for the European Convention on Human Rights and the Conventions of the International Labour Organisation.

The Palais supports Human Rights and fights to protect children within its sphere of influence. It prevents all forms of discrimination, particularly against vulnerable groups, works hard to address the issue of disability and promotes diversity and equal opportunities between men and women.

By also adopting the Diversity Charter in 2008, the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès demonstrates its commitment to cultural, ethnic and social diversity within its organisation.



THE PALAIS - CREATING CONNECTIONS BETWEEN PEOPLE





THE PALAIS, CREATING CONNECTIONS BETWEEN PEOPLE

*The Palais des Festivals et des Congrès, as a public benefit company, has set itself the goal of **the (he)art of sustainable hospitality** by creating links and strengthening human and technological relationships in Cannes. This ambition is achieved by welcoming all audiences by organising cultural and professional events, promoting meetings, interactions and connections that transcend our differences.*

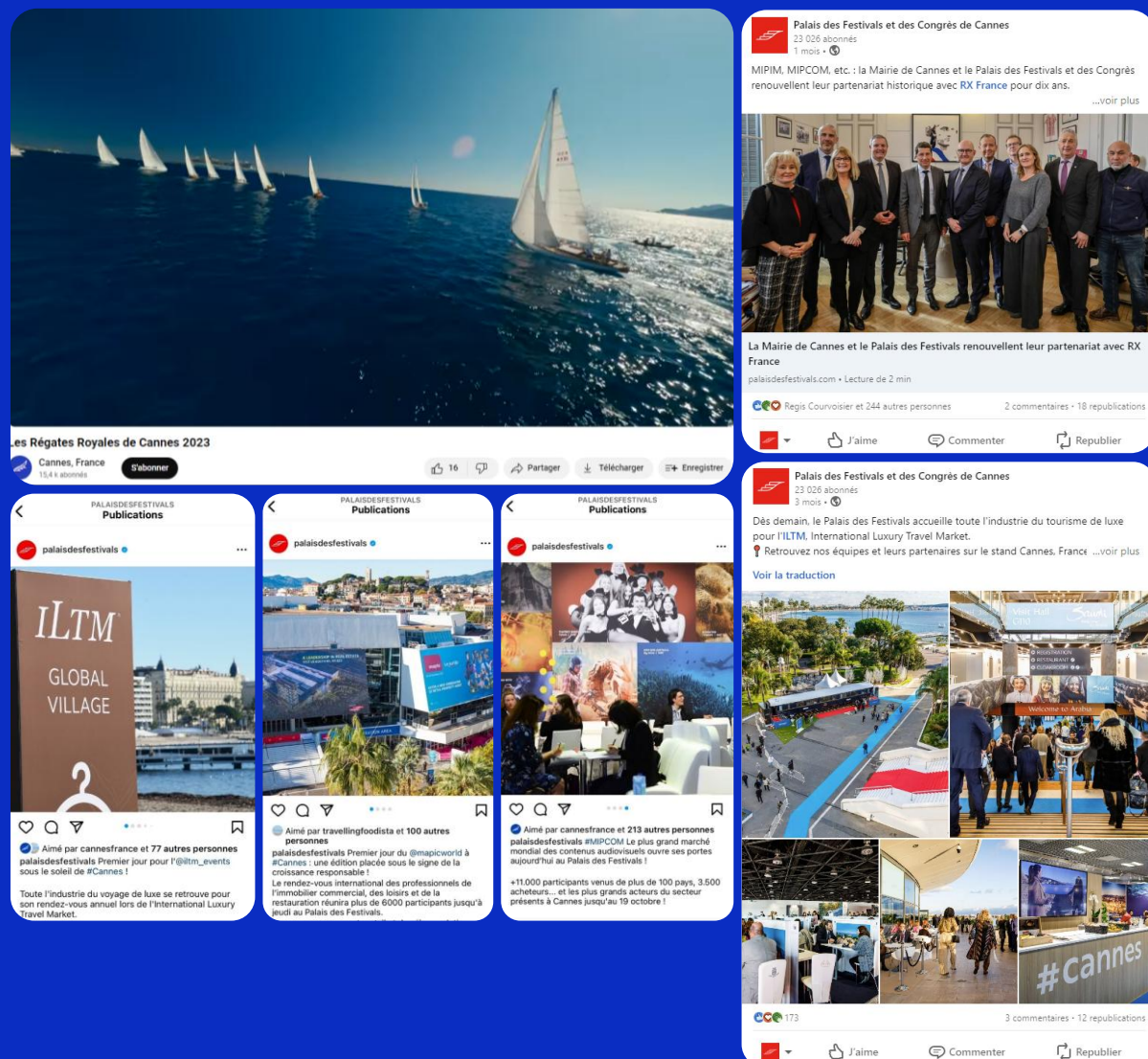


THE HI5 STUDIO TO REVOLUTIONISE TRADE FAIRS

The health crisis has shaken up the way we do things. In particular, it's given rise to new ways of approaching trade fairs.

Organisers now want to have the choice of setting up hybrid events (both in person and remotely) or 100% digital. To meet this demand, the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès has created the Hi5 Studio, which is revolutionising the format of trade fairs and festivals.

Equipped with a 120m² stage that can accommodate 350 people seated in real cinema armchairs, this equipment provides the option of expanding the audience by professionalising online broadcasting. It's also a way of opening up events to other audiences and so ... connecting the world even more.



A STRONG PRESENCE ON SOCIAL NETWORKS

Log in. Stay in contact. Get involved every day. The Palais des Festivals et des Congrès has a presence on all social networks to constantly keep its tens of thousands of subscribers informed.

This simple link with its community maintains the feeling of identity and belonging to a region that makes the whole world dream. In this way, connection between everyone becomes possible despite, in many cases, the geographical distance.

In 2025, Cannes became the first city in France to launch an official account on BeReal, the French mobile app that promotes authenticity and spontaneity.

The idea is to reach out as much as possible to all generations and all audiences, professionals, enthusiasts for the Cannes destination or occasional visitors.





PROMOTING INTERACTION

Whether it's real estate professionals at **MIPIM** or the general public, or fans of the small screen at **CANNESERIES**, everyone meets up at the Palais. By hosting **168 events a year**, the Riviera site regularly brings together communities around a common interest or shared passion. Ideal for interacting, developing, comparing ideas, working and having fun in a dream setting!

The Palais des Festivals et des Congrès is a real creator of interaction and connections. That's why it also organises its own events: the **Pyrotechnic Arts Festival**, **Dance Festival** and **International Games Festival**. Lots of people take part. There's no doubt about it - this is also a very effective way to connect even more people with a universal common thread: culture and the joy of living.

THE PALAIS - BRINGING TALENT TO THE FORE

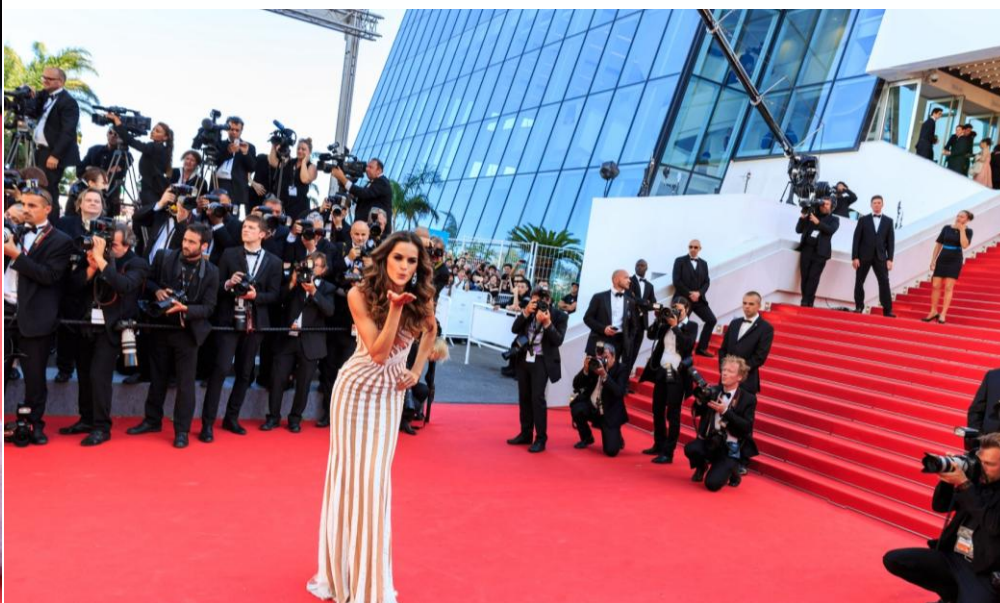




THE PALAIS - BRINGING TALENT TO THE FORE

In a society undergoing profound change, which has adopted exponential change like a second skin, the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès intends to embrace the spirit of the times and capture the currents that flow through it.

By becoming a public benefit company, it has also set itself the objective of “revealing talents” to the general public and professionals.



Since the creation of the “**Festival of the Free World**”, which has since become the “**Cannes Film Festival**”, its teams, through very different events, have proudly rolled out the red carpet for artists, decision-makers, entrepreneurs, professional organisations and talents from all walks of life that positively transform the world.

DIVERSITY GIVING EVERYONE A BOOST

Established or aspiring, pioneers, trailblazers, leaders, geeks, artists, creative types ... all skills can be found at the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès.

It's actually one of the places in France where the greatest number of talents can express themselves through festivals, events and trade shows which cover a vast range of what human genius is capable of producing.

Think of cinema, music, theatre, health, creative advertising, the art of lighting up the sky with fireworks, the gift of launching major sustainable real estate projects or designing board games, for example...

The City of Cannes and its Palais are committed fans of diversity!



AWARDS ON EVERY LEVEL

As well as showcasing all these talents, the Palais is the venue for all kinds of awards before the eyes of the whole world!

How? Thanks to famous distinctions which create the reputation of those who receive them, as well as the trade fairs and festivals which award them. The best known of them, the star among stars, remains, of course, the **Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival**. This prize is over 76 years old yet remains as exciting as ever. We particularly remember directors Quentin Tarantino and Xavier Dolan, whose fame most definitely took off on the Croisette. But we also think of all those who presented, for the first time, their work created sometimes on the other side of the world, during intense, emotional moments.

It makes sense! This annual parade of talent, on the steps of the red carpet, remains one of the priority missions of the Festival (and the Palais), explains Thierry Frémaux, Managing Director of the Cannes Film Festival. And this

happens, he tells us, through the **discovery of “young authors, young directors and new countries too, because geographical expansion is part of the perspective of universality as the basis of creating the festival in 1939 and 1946”**.





GATHERINGS KNOWN ALL AROUND THE WORLD

In addition to the Cannes Film Festival, talent is also revealed through major events, truly global benchmark moments, organised within the Palais.

The list is impressive. We could mention, among others, the **NRJ MUSIC AWARDS** and **MIDEM** for music, **MIPCOM** for television production or the very dynamic **CANNESERIES**, whose president Fleur Pellerin is fully aware of having a role to play in unlocking such potential:

“In general, we know this after the event, when they are finally recognised”, she confides. “Like Phoebe Waller-Bridge who came [Editor’s note, in 2018] to present Killing Eve and also received an award. Then she did Fleabag (comedy series), and became extremely famous. She also took part in the James Bond script. For me, this is a very telling example.”





AMONG THE PROFESSIONALS, TOO

Let's move away (just temporarily) from the field of culture. Instead, let's focus on the **trade shows, conferences and corporate conventions** which take place at the Palais. More and more of them are shining the spotlight on their established or emerging stars, too. All these distinguished talents have one thing in common: they stand out for their daring and being one step ahead of the rest of the world.

This is particularly the case with the **MIPIIM AWARDS**, which celebrate real estate projects at the forefront in terms of sustainability and commitment to serving their communities and the planet. **CANNES LIONS** also presents highly anticipated awards in the field of advertising. The world of events isn't left out, either. Each year, it hands out its prestigious awards through the **HEAVENT MEETINGS** exhibition.

Proof that everything moves on, the notions of inclusion and diversity are taking centre stage everywhere, like **MIPCOM** which features industry experts and major talents.

For what purpose? To demonstrate, no more, no less, that the 21st century is becoming aware of the positive, essential impact of these values in building our society.

mipim[®]
AWARDS



HEAVENT
MEETINGS
THE EUROPEAN TRADE SHOW FOR MICE AND EVENTS
ONE TO ONE MEETINGS EXHIBITION BY WEYOU GROUP

mipcom[®]
CANNES

WAICF
WORLD ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE CANNES FESTIVAL



TALENTS BROUGHT TO LIGHT BY THE PALAIS

The Palais des Festivals et des Congrès de Cannes, as organiser, hasn't been slow in bringing a colourful array of talents into the spotlight. To achieve this, it relies on its cultural programme.

Certain “made in the Palais” awards, aimed at bringing out or establishing the greatest expertise across the board, are now part of the landscape. In particular, the **VESTALE D'OR** and **VESTALE D'ARGENT** at the **Cannes Pyrotechnic Arts Festival**. These prizes are very popular because they open doors internationally. There's also the **AS D'OR - JEU DE L'ANNÉE** at the **International**

Games Festival. This quality label gives designers the near certainty of enjoying real sales success on the shelves.





THOSE SPECIAL MOMENTS...

In Cannes, the appearance of such talents, these celebrities, these stars and hopefuls may seem fleeting. A few minutes, a few hours, an appearance on the red carpet, a photo featured in the media around the world ... sometimes more. Sometimes less. However, their appearance very often provides thrills that remain forever etched in the collective memory.

Who doesn't remember, for example, the classic moment when Italian director **ROBERTO BENIGNI** threw himself at the feet of president of the jury Martin Scorsese while receiving the Grand Prix du Jury at the 1998 Cannes Film Festival...

In 2022, **TOM CRUISE** embraced the Croisette for 24 hours to promote Top Gun 2. The Patrouille de France aerobatics team actually flew over the Palais to celebrate the event!

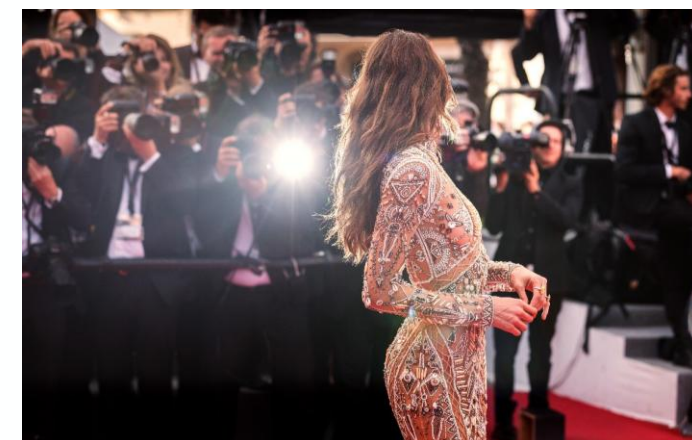
Director **XAVIER NOLAN**, with a lump in his throat and misty eyes, also forever left his mark on the history of the Cannes Film Festival during his moving, sublime speech delivered after receiving the jury prize for Mommy in 2014.

Nine years later, in 2023, the legendary **HARISON FORD**, at the preview presentation for the fifth episode of the adventures of Indiana Jones, was also seized by emotion which wins over all who see the Lumière Theatre. **"They say that when you die, you see your life flash before your eyes. And I just saw my life flash before my eyes"**, the actor said on stage in a trembling voice.

The debates, controversies and friction have all left their mark on people's minds for decades. Cannes is a living place where the human heart beats with passion and feelings mingle to move society forward. **Like the 82 stars and women of cinema, Cate Blanchett and Agnès Varda in the lead, who, during the 2018 edition of the Festival, demanded "equal pay" in the 7th Art during a "100% female" walk up the steps.**

A moment immortalised on the red carpet by a photo that will remain for all posterity. It brings together, among others, **Cate Blanchett, Salma Hayek, Claudia Cardinale, Kristen Stewart, Marion Cotillard, Léa Seydoux** as well as female producers, editors, set designers and distributors.

So many intense moments, as there always are (and will be) in Cannes.





450 HANDPRINTS ON THE CANNES WALK OF FAME

It's said that the hand is unique to man, that it symbolises his ingenuity, freedom and infinite possibilities.

In Cannes, the hand simply celebrates talent, in a concrete testimony to discover during a leisurely stroll! On the square in front of the Croisette, around the Palais, this "Chemin des Etoiles" pays tribute to international film stars in the same way as the Los Angeles Walk of Fame.



The handprints and signatures of nearly 450 actors and directors feature prominently, such as those of Michael Douglas, Sophia Loren, Jack Nicholson, Catherine Deneuve and Sarah Michelle Gellar. And every year, the cast keeps growing.

These hands full of talent are timeless.



TALENT HAS ITS OWN “WALL OF EXPRESSION”

It's an indelible way of reminding us all, every day, of the permanent commitment to all the talented people who pass through Cannes!

Since 2022 and the 75th Cannes Film Festival, the Palais has hosted an original “expression wall for talent” within its building.

In concrete terms, big business owners, artists and young entrepreneurs are invited to leave a record of their visit with a few words, a drawing, signature or symbol of their choice on a black composite wooden tablet. Everyone is free to do their own thing, expressing themselves as they wish. These blocks, of different sizes and engraved with the Cannes logo, are then varnished and assembled into a large frieze like a dry stone wall.

The “wall” is combined with some wonderful photos of stars displayed in the corridors. At the Palais, we

never forget talent, giving it complete freedom to express itself.



RENDEZ-VOUS À CANNES

LOCAL CELEBRITIES AT THE TOP OF THE BILL

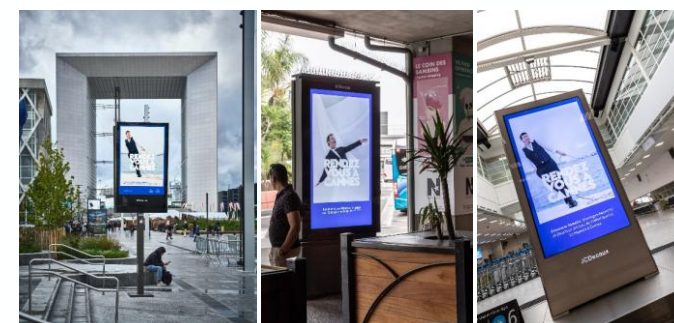
Lucie De Gennes, junior world sailing champion, **Emanuele Balestra**, mixologist-botanist, bar manager at the Hôtel Barrière Le Majestic, **Lori Moreau**, chef at the Five Seas Hôtel restaurant, **Benjamin Levy**, musical director of the Cannes orchestra, and **Kjetil Traedal Thorsen**, architect with Snøhetta who designed the Croisette of tomorrow...

The City of Cannes and Palais des Festivals et des Congrès have decided to launch a **major communications campaign to highlight Cannes' talents internationally**. And make the world want to come and visit. This initiative is based on **fifteen local personalities who make up a network of local ambassadors**.

Give the title “Rendez-vous à Cannes”, the campaign “highlights figures from all walks of life who shape our city, in hospitality, culture, arts, business, sport, science”, explains the Mayor of Cannes, David Lisnard. “Together, we promote these people who embody our city, share their stories, portraits and videos, and invite the world to join us...”, he adds.

In concrete terms, the campaign was introduced through a first stage, in autumn 2023, which involved, in particular, a digital display in Paris la Défense (for three weeks) and Nice Côte d'Azur airport (for two weeks) of five portraits of personalities, taken by photographer Audoin Desforges.

“In spring 2024, the second phase of the campaign continued by targeting the UK market with new visuals displayed in the heart of London for 2 weeks. This awareness campaign is also developing through a social media campaign via the official Instagram and Facebook accounts of the Cannes destination through reels and stories.”



RECORD EVENTS : BEHIND THE SCENES OF SUCCESS





RECORD EVENTS AND NEW BUSINESS INITIATIVES

The business strategy of the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès de Cannes is paying off. In 2025, it hosted 79 events (including trade shows, congresses, corporate conventions, gala dinners, etc.). This strong economic momentum is continuing into 2026.

IN-PERSON MEETINGS FAVORED

These record results are the outcome of an effective strategy implemented right after the Covid-19 health crisis. It is based on several key levers: optimizing the calendar and event co-activity, incubating new events, hosting major medical congresses, and intensifying prospecting efforts across all MICE segments both in France and internationally—combined with a new digital offering.

“The main lesson learned from the health crisis is clear: face-to-face meetings are essential, whether for communication, training, or doing business. Cannes has all the assets for success: a globally recognized brand, excellent accessibility (by air, train, and road) both within France and

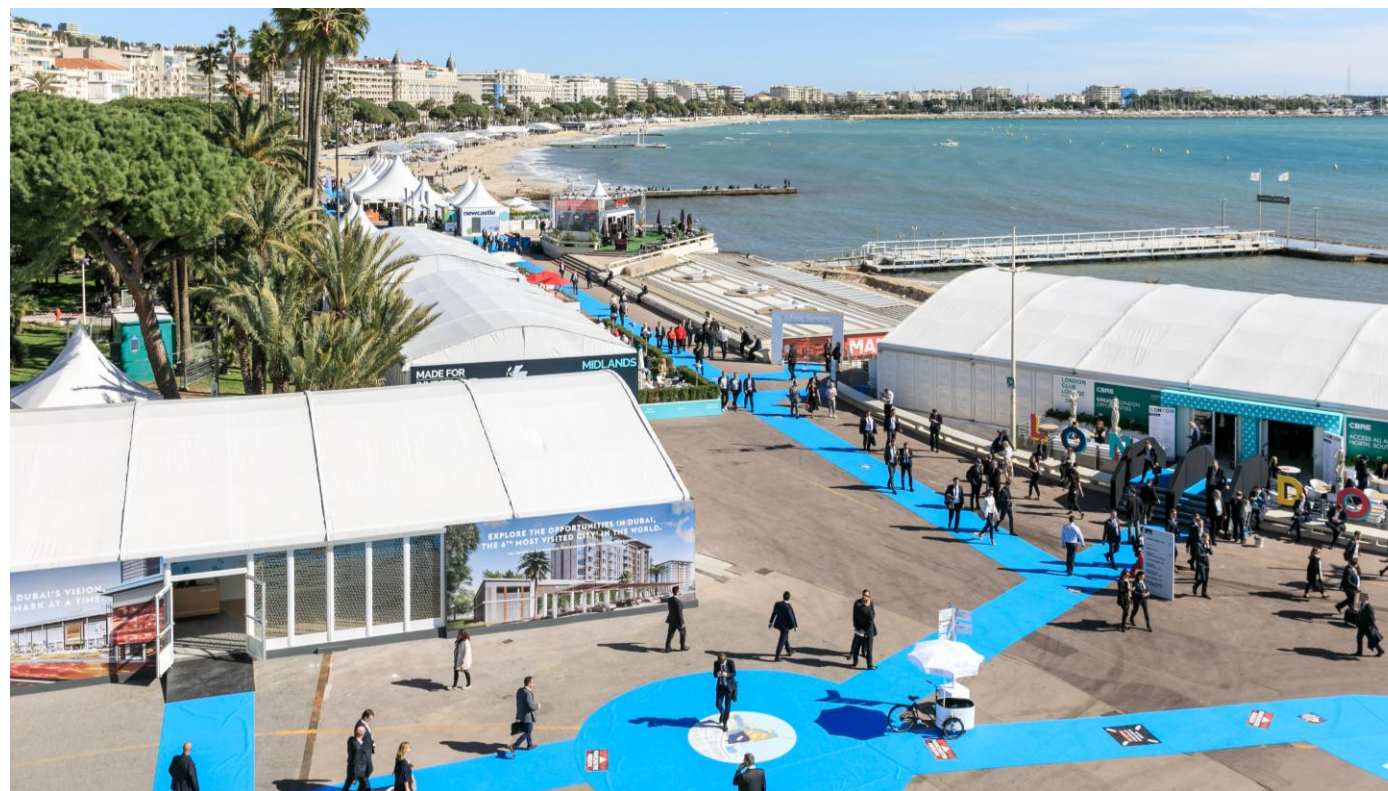
internationally, and a renovated, high-quality, and diverse hotel offering close to the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès. This venue, ideally located in the heart of the city and on the Mediterranean coast in a stunning setting, also allows everything to be done on foot—accessing hotels, restaurants, bars, beach clubs, nightlife spots, and shops in a clean, safe, and beautified environment thanks to major investments made by the City of Cannes. This unique ecosystem encourages interaction and networking among participants both within the Palais des Festivals and throughout the city,” explains Régis Faure, Director of Sales and Digital Projects.

THE PALAIS-DESTINATION - A WINNING DUO

The Palais des Festivals et des Congrès appeals to a highly diverse yet predominantly international clientele: creatives at Cannes Lions, investors and financiers at IPEM, blockchain developers and entrepreneurs at EthCC, real estate developers and local authorities at MIPIM, and healthcare professionals at the Face and Neck Assises. This diversity highlights Cannes' ability as a destination to adapt and meet the expectations of various market segments.

“Cannes as a destination, and the Palais, are constantly evolving. Public and private investments, combined with the professionalism of Cannes’ events industry, are key success factors. Additionally, having the same operator manage both the Palais des Festivals and the Convention Bureau enhances the city’s unique standard of excellence”, explains Bruno Desloques, the Managing Director.

To all these strengths is added a frequently decisive advantage, championed by a fully dedicated eight-person sales team: *“Cannes also offers the unique opportunity to brand the entire city in the colors of the event—something that is not feasible in major capitals or other French and international metropolitan areas,”* explains Régis Faure.



THE HOSTING OF MEDICAL AND ASSOCIATION CONGRESSES IN GAINING MOMENTUM

The Palais des Festivals et des Congrès is now positioning itself as a leading destination for medical and scientific events, attracting learned societies, PCOs, pharmaceutical laboratories, and more. It is now drawing major medical congresses, including the Assises Face et Cou, which brings together 3,500 delegates, as well as the Advanced Francophone Course on Breast and Gynecological Cancers.

Several other major medical and association congresses are already confirmed for 2025 and 2026, including:

- **The French Congress of Psychiatry** in December 2025 (3,500 participants)
- **The Congress of the International Federation of Societies of Cosmetic Chemists** in September 2025 (1,600 participants)
- **The Assises of Human and Medical Genetics** in January 2026 (2,500 participants)
- **The Congress of the International Association of Science Parks** in October 2026 (1,500 participants)
- The 100th Congress of SOFCOT – French Society of Orthopaedic and Traumatological Surgery in November 2026, with more than 4,000 surgeons and healthcare professionals;





ATTRACTING HIGH-POTENTIAL NEW EVENTS

The Palais des Festivals et des Congrès has strategically refocused its business development on identifying high-potential sectors that are directly connected to the local territory. *“The objective is to align with major future-oriented themes that resonate with the local ecosystem,”* explains the Sales Director.

In this context, the **WAICF – World AI Cannes Festival**, dedicated to artificial intelligence, was launched. This strategic positioning leverages the proximity of Sophia-Antipolis, Europe’s leading technology park. Since 2024, the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès has also hosted the **DATA CLOUD GLOBAL CONGRESS**, a flagship event bringing together over 3,000 international leaders from the data center industry.

Additional events are set to strengthen the programming around breakthrough technologies, particularly in the blockchain space:

- **EthCC**: a major conference dedicated to the Ethereum ecosystem, with 8,000 participants.
- **ETHGlobal**: another key Web3 event gathering approximately 1,500 attendees.

As part of its Web3 strategy and its commitment to innovation, the **Palais des Festivals et des Congrès de Cannes** became, in 2025, the first convention center in France to accept cryptocurrency payments.



“The Palais des Festivals and the Cannes Convention Bureau play a central role in identifying and hosting these events. We know our region well, which allows us to quickly connect organizers with the local ecosystem,” says Régis Faure, Sales Director and Head of the Convention Bureau.



A DENSE AND RELEVANT COMMERCIAL ACTION PROGRAM TAILORED SUPPORT FOR EVENT ORGANIZERS

Behind these excellent results lies significant groundwork. Throughout the year, commercial initiatives are carried out to promote Cannes as a MICE destination and to market the Palais des Festivals. In 2024, nearly 63 targeted actions were conducted in strategic markets: France, the United Kingdom, the United States, Italy, Germany, and neighboring countries.

The prospecting of new clients goes hand in hand with an active strategy of organizer loyalty building. “We work hand in hand with them to optimize the experience and customer journey from the moment they arrive in the region and the destination”, emphasizes the Sales Director.

In line with this approach, the Cannes Convention Bureau, integrated into the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès, supports organizers with tailor-made solutions: assistance with accommodation and restaurant bookings, connecting them with Cannes-based event partners, and more.

👉 Learn more: www.cannesconventionbureau.fr



HIGH-TECH FACILITIES TO ENHANCE APPEAL

In a continuous drive for innovation and quality, the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès has installed a new dynamic display infrastructure. These new installations provide organizers with modern, effective tools to strengthen communication with participants. The setup includes:

- **5 LED screens ranging from 5 to 36 m²**, optimally positioned for high impact visibility
- **12 mobile totems** : 8 totems for indoors and 4 for outdoors.
- **7 fixed LCD screens** installed in strategic areas for targeted content broadcasting

Several rooms have also undergone or are undergoing renovation in 2024 and 2025, further enhancing the attractiveness of the Palais. These facilities offer organizers spaces adapted to all event formats.

Enhanced 4G/5G Mobile Connectivity

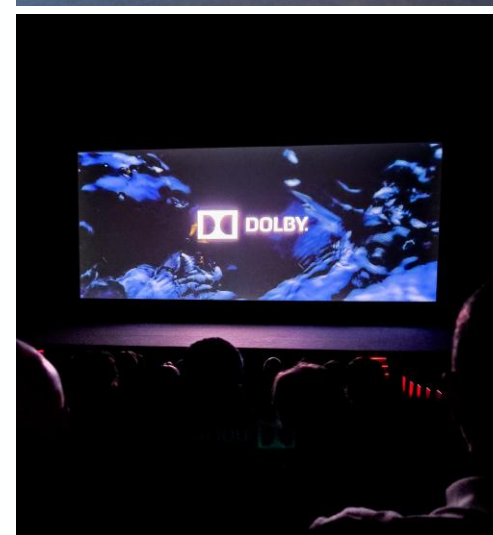
The Palais des Festivals et des Congrès now provides optimal 4G/5G connectivity thanks to a new indoor antenna infrastructure co-financed with the four national operators (Free, Bouygues Telecom, Orange, SFR). This system covers 35,000 m², supports thousands of simultaneous connections, and is designed to be both eco-responsible and scalable.

A Unique Immersive Sound Experience

With the 78th Cannes Film Festival approaching, the Grand Auditorium Louis Lumière has become **the largest venue in Europe equipped with the Dolby Atmos® system**.

This state-of-the-art sound system comprises 128 speakers, including 20 ceiling-mounted speakers, 29 amplifiers and 5 kilometres of cabling, installed without modifying the existing structure. Fully funded by the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès, this installation offers spectacular three-dimensional sound for total audience immersion.

This strategic, technological, and cultural choice underscores Cannes' commitment to providing exceptional projection conditions for both creators and audiences, reaffirming its role as the **global capital of cinematic experience**.



CALENDAR OF MAJOR EVENTS AT THE PALAIS



A video player showing a sunset over the Cannes coastline. A palm tree is in the foreground on the left, with the sun low on the horizon behind it, creating a strong lens flare. The water is calm, and the city skyline is visible in the distance. A play button icon is centered at the bottom of the video frame.

CANNES

DYNAMIC 12/12

2025





CANNES - WORLD'S BEST EVENTS CITY



CANNES – WORLD'S BEST EVENTS CITY

Cannes breathes in, breathes out, moves forward in time with the very high pace of events offered by the City and by the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès.



The location of the Palais right in the centre of town, on the famous Croisette which will soon be given a second lease of life thanks to major redevelopment work, is more than just symbolic: everything starts from its beating heart, teeming with ideas, radiating out to each district of this Riviera city, entirely open to events and considered a world leader for events tourism.

In addition to the spaces available at the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès, numerous venues in Cannes can host trade shows, festivals, filming and the most relevant cultural initiatives. The five-star cast is almost limitless, with the sublime beaches of fine sand, hotels including the most prestigious on the planet which are a great source of local pride, the typical Provençal Forville market, the unusual Villa Domergue up on the heights of Cannes, the heavenly Lérins Islands or Palm Beach, which will also soon be renovated.

To live up to its ambitions, remain attractive externally and for the well-being of its residents, the City invested 80 million euros in major projects in 2023, such as the Allées de la Liberté, modernising the La Malmaison art centre and, of course, the total renovation of the Croisette.

This philosophy makes Cannes really stand out,

receiving the title “best destination in the world for its festivals and events” in 2025 at the World Travel Awards, considered the Oscars of tourism. This is the fourth time it’s been awarded this prize ahead of major world cities. Cannes has also been rewarded in 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025 five times at European level.

It may be internationally facing, but the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès still hasn’t forgotten its roots. Roots which are firmly anchored between land, sea and azure blue sky, in the Cannes global village.



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