OPENING TIMES

SUMMER
(1st March - 31st October)

Tuesday - Thursday - Friday
10am - 11:30am / 2pm - 5:30pm
Wednesday - Saturday
2pm - 5:30pm

WINTER
(1st November - 28/29th February)

Tuesday - Thursday - Friday
10am - 11:30am / 2pm - 4:30pm
Wednesday - Saturday
2pm - 4:30pm

Closed on public holidays :
January 1st; Ascension Thursday;
May 1st; May 8th; July 14th; August 15th;
November 1st; November 11 st; December 25th

Annual closure :
mid November to mid December

For groups, a reservation is required,
directly through our website or by email

More informations on our website
www.chapellematisse.com

BOOKSHOP

Specialized works
(Books available in several languages)
Postcards, Replicas, ...



The community of the Dominican sisters are happy to host you at the chapel of the Rosary for visiting or moments of prayer.

Weekly masses :
Wednesday 6:15pm - Sunday 10am

USEFUL INFORMATION

Tel. +33 (0)7 43 40 06 22
+33 (0)4 93 58 03 26
Email : reservation@chapellematisse.fr
Website : www.chapellematisse.com

466 avenue Henri Matisse
06140 VENCE



Pictures of the chapel and the museum :
© David Huguenin
Chapel and artworks of the artist exhibited in the museum :
© H. Matisse Succession

CHAPEL OF THE ROSARY

Vence



designed and realized by

HENRI MATISSE



Photographic portrait of Henri Matisse and Sister Jacques-Marie by Hélène Adant, 1951: © Archives Sister Jacques-Marie

HENRI MATISSE

1869 December 31th, Henri Matisse was born in Le Cateau-Cambrésis (Northern France).

1918 He visited Nice, where he later settled in 1921.

1942 After a major surgery, Henri Matisse recovered in Nice. Where he met Monique Bourgeois, his night nurse, who later became his model.

1943 Matisse moved to Vence, taking refuge in the villa «Le Rêve».

1944 Monique Bourgeois entered the convent and became Sister Jacques-Marie.

1946 Matisse and Sister Jacques-Marie saw each other again in Vence.

1947 The Dominican sisters planned to build a chapel. Matisse offered to carry out the project.

1948 Matisse started four years of an intensive and exclusive work in collaboration with the Dominican community.

1951 The chapel of the Rosary is blessed on 25th of June.

1954 3rd of November, Henri Matisse died in Nice and was buried in the cemetery of Cimiez.

Despite all of its imperfections,
I see it (the chapel) as my masterpiece...
It is the result of a life devoted to seeking the truth.
- Henri Matisse -

THE CHAPEL

Matisse designed the chapel for the Dominican sisters of Vence in gratitude for the cares provided by Sister Jacques-Marie, his nurse.
Helped by Dominicain friars, he carried out a complete artwork, committing himself to the project entirely for four years, undertaking such tasks as : architectural design, creating large drawings on ceramic panels, stained glass windows, sculptures, furniture and even church vestments.
In his own words, the chapel is :
«the conclusive achievement of a whole life of labour» !



Photography © David Huguenin 2017

What I have done in the chapel is to create a religious space... To take an enclosed space of very reduced proportions and give it, solely by the play of colours and lines, the dimensions of infinity.
- Henri Matisse -

THE MUSEUM



Photography © David Huguenin 2017

Adjacent to the chapel, the museum presents, across several different rooms, the huge preparatory works of Matisse. This work includes : drawings, miniatures models, pictures, and texts. These works show the way Matisse simplified his lines to get pureness in expression.

Brightly colored church vestments and ornaments designed by Henri Matisse are exhibited and still used for services in the chapel.

I must be so penetrated, so impregnated by my subject, that I can draw it eyes closed...
After a certain moment it is no longer me, but a revelation : all I have to do is to give myself up to it.
- Henri Matisse -