



Stories & Traditions

First part.

THE AUTHENTIC PROVENCE AT LA BASTIDE DES CYPRÈS

December, 2016

Cypress of Provence, tree of life



► *Arrived at the Bastide, the top of the cypress that goes towards the sky.
This tree wants to give everything to you*

« Fountain of the Air », bearer of peace and silence.

Serene and sober watching the men, this great curtain of cypress struts the mistral. People of the South willingly plant them on the edge of the houses, against the facade; in my opinion, they are the only trees that enjoys such privilege.

Tree of life, always green, its rotting wood fragrant like an incense.

Tree of light, it gives us its great shady alley where one dreams to a forest.

The fruit, called cypress nut, has interesting medicinal properties.

The wood is the most durable, it has long been used for the manufacture of exterior joinery, boats. It has its golden age.

The tree resists drought. It has a beautiful green color all year long.

Benefits fragrant, the tree which bonuses the air by its insensible perspiration.

Tree of power, power, legend, religion in our history. The cypress represents the young lovers and its branches represents the children they will have together.

The tree that sings.

Walking down the hill, I ask the old shepherd why we planted a cypress next to the mas?

Ah Thierry yes I know, here: in my time, the cypress was planted because it is a beautiful singer. That is the reason.

We were not going to look far. We liked this cypress music.

It's deep, it's like a fountain, Thierry. You know the water of fountains near the mas, it sinks, it sinks, it makes its noise, it makes its way, it lives, it keeps company more than ten men, and ten women do not talk about it.

Here, you could not afford the luxury of running water all the time; Here, water is measured at the burette.

And yet there was also need of this company of things which are not man.

In between, I tell you that, but I, I have reflected everything in my time of pasture: the one who does not feel this need, make a cross on it and go in it.

So to replace the fountain we were planting a cypress on the edge of the farmhouse, and like that, instead of the water fountain, we had the fountain of air with as much company, so much pleasure. The cypress was like that can, which is driven into the damp slope to have a stream of water. We thrust the cypress into the air and we had a wire of air.

They came and sat down, smoking, listening. This noise on the worries in the head, ah! It's good !

JEAN GIONO

► *Provençal tradition wants us to plant a cypress as a welcome sign*



A cypress : we have a drink at the bastide

Two cypresses : we have a drink and we eat

Three cypresses : we have a drink, we eat
and we also sleep there



You may count the cypress and then, dream

► *Is this your tutelary tree ?*

If you were born between 25 January and 3 February or between 26 July and 4 August, the cypress, the symbol of distinction, is your tutelary tree.

You must be especially eager for light and sunlight, and suffer from being deprived of it like our tree

► *At the moment of finishing this narrative, I remember :*

The cypress comes from the Latin cupressus which means happy

If comes the envy to be friend with the cypress, enjoy a journey at the Bastide des Cypress to spend some time in the Rhone valley and of course in Provence

"This immemorial signature of the Mediterranean landscapes".

THIERRY 2016
LA BASTIDE DES CYPRES
"Naturally"



The cypress worries me incessantly. I would like to make something that resembles the sunflower pictures. The green is particularly refined. We must see here the cypresses in relation to the blue, or rather, in the blue.

VINCENT VAN GOGH