

# THÉMIS

## Solaire Innovation



Research, environmental education  
and science tourism site



For more information: opening  
days and times, activities,  
events...



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PYRENEES  
ORIENTALES  
• le Département •

## EDITOR'S NOTE



With energy production and consumption issues at the heart of worldwide political concerns, solar energy generation now constitutes an indispensable solution.

The Pyrénées-Orientales Department, with its exceptionally abundant sunshine, became the world's first region to deploy a tower thermodynamic solar power plant: Thémis. This unique site was the focus of experiments in the 1980s, prior to being used as a research site by astrophysicists studying cosmic gamma rays until 2004.

Ever since, as owner of Thémis Solaire Innovation (TSI), the Department has been striving to strengthen the stature of this tool for the research and development of new solar technologies.

Like all the sites managed by the Department, it is open to the general public to promote environmental education and scientific tourism.

Wishing you an enlightening read about the potential and applications of solar energy.

**Hermeline MALHERBE**  
*President, Pyrénées-Orientales Department*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hermeline Malherbe".

# TSI, RESEARCH AND TOURISM PLATFORM SINCE 2004



## BACK TO BASICS TO CHAMPION SOLAR ENERGY

Immediately after the astronomical observations were completed, the Pyrénées-Orientales Department initiated research intended to return Thémis to its original purpose of developing new technologies for the production and use of solar energy.



## FROM HOSTING INNOVATIVE SOLAR PROJECTS TO THE OVERALL RENOVATION OF THE DEPARTMENT'S SITE

### FROM 2008

Several agreements were reached with project proponents with the aim of verifying the feasibility of new solar technologies. The CNRS PROMES laboratory carried out different projects on the tower and the heliostats. Meanwhile, other businesses worked on installations built on neighbouring plots of land.



CNRS PROMES Central Tower thermodynamic solar power plant



## AN EXCEPTIONAL SITE FOR ENERGY TRANSITION

### SINCE 2014

Thémis Solaire Innovation is operational and developed a wide range of activities based on 3 missions:

- Contribute to R&D and technological innovation in the field of new solar technologies,
- Develop an offering of training courses, seminars and events focusing on energy and energy transition,
- Promote scientific tourism and environmental education for all.



Conference in the auditorium

The site hosts innovative projects on its various plots, but also provides office space for companies and laboratories, as well as a large co-working space in the Innovation Centre. The Site Headquarters, meanwhile, presents the general public with a variety of educational activities and tools to help them learn more about solar energy and promote the energy transition.



**EDF Renouvelables**  
Photovoltaic solar power plant on trackers



**Subsol**  
Concentrator photovoltaic solar power plant



**Engie Green**  
Bifacial photovoltaic solar power plant



## OPEN ACCESS FREE

### THE EXHIBITIONS



- The 3 lives of Thémis
- Understanding energy
- History of solar energy in P-O
- Sun, facts and fiction

### BELVEDERE PATH



- A 1 km out-and-back stroll
- View of the facilities
- Orientation table

## AUTONOMOUS WORKSHOPS FREE\*



Booking  
recommended

### LOAN GAMES

- Colouring
- Board games



- Photovoltaics
- Solar car
- Solar house
- Solar cooker

\*excluding solar  
kit price: €6

## “FABLAB” SOLAR CONSTRUCTIONS



## PAYING ACTIVITIES

Booking  
recommended

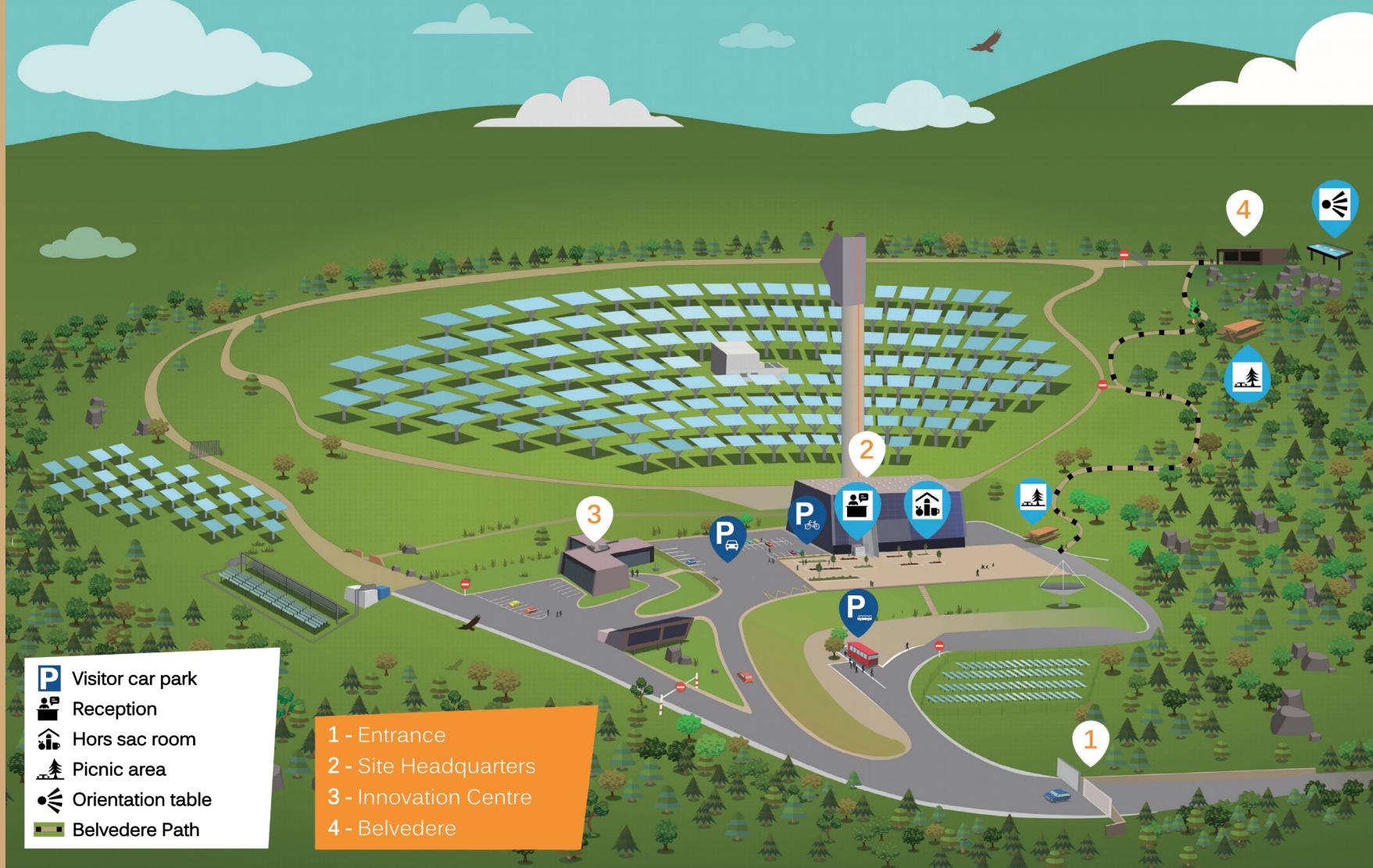
### GUIDED TOUR

- History of the site
- Ongoing project



### DIDACSOL MODELS

- Fun experiments around the sun, day/night alternation, uses of solar energy



# GETTING HERE:

86 Route de Thémis (D618B)  
66120 Targasonne

Within its opening hours, TSI offers activities aimed at raising public awareness about energy transition and understanding solar energy.



Please do not litter



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