

THÉMIS

Solaire Innovation



Research, environmental education
and science tourism site



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



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 Département, 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 be 'H. Malherbe', written in a cursive style.

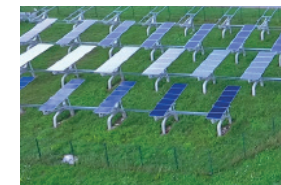
TSI, RESEARCH AND TOURISM PLATFORM SINCE 2004



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.

Later, the Department, owner of the site, affirmed its commitment to rehabilitating the site to promote technological innovation while developing a new tourism offering in the Cerdagne region. Thémis became Thémis Solaire Innovation, a research and innovation platform.



EDF Renouvelables
Photovoltaic solar power plant
on trackers



Subsol
Concentrator photovoltaic solar
power plant



Engie Green
Bifacial photovoltaic solar
power plant

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

FROM 2012 TO 2014

The Pyrénées-Orientales Department, in partnership with the Region, undertook major works, including the renovation of existing buildings.



ENTRÉE

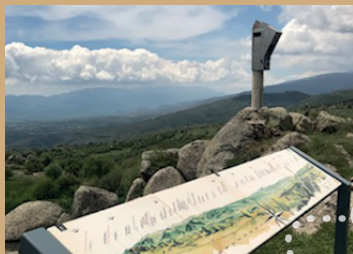
OPEN ACCESS
FREE

THE EXHIBITIONS

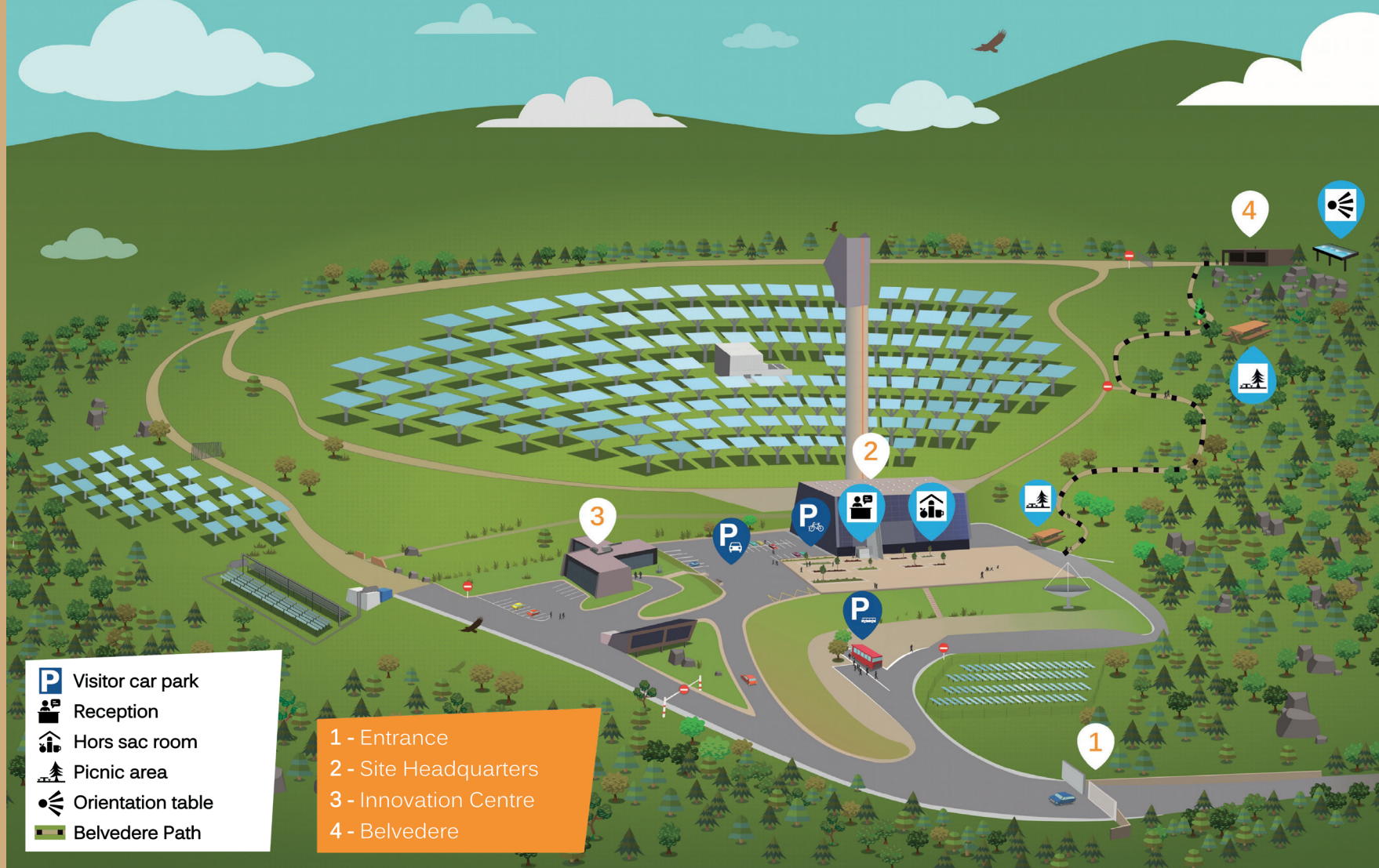


- The 3 lives of Thémis
- Understanding energy
- History of solar energy in P-O
- Sun, facts and fiction

BELVEDERE PATH



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



- Visitor car park
- Reception
- Hors sac room
- Picnic area
- Orientation table
- Belvedere Path

- 1 - Entrance
- 2 - Site Headquarters
- 3 - Innovation Centre
- 4 - Belvedere

AUTONOMOUS WORKSHOPS

FREE *

Booking recommended

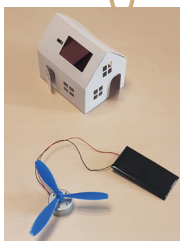
LOAN GAMES

- Colouring
- Board games



"FABLAB" SOLAR CONSTRUCTIONS

- Photovoltaics
- Solar car
- Solar house
- Solar cooker



* excluding solar kit price: €6

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.



GPS: 42.5009, 1.9736
Car park: Cars, buses and bikes (free)
Nearest electric car charging point:
Super U car park in Egat (4.1km away)

Contact and information:

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