

# Invest in Aveyron



DOCUMENT ÉDITÉ PAR



CONSEIL GÉNÉRAL  
de L'AVEYRON

**AVEYRON**  
Expansion

# AVEYRON

## ATTRACTIVE CONDITIONS FOR SETTING UP AND DEVELOPMENT

*Two industrial zones adjacent to the A75 motorway as well as several other industrial parks situated near major arterial roads, all with space available.*

*They all offer :*

- *exoneration from the 'taxe professionnelle' for the first 5 years*
- *links to the natural gas network*
- *fibre optic links.*

*Average price in the department : €6 per m<sup>2</sup>, and possibility of modification to suit requirements.*

### **Finance**

- 8 local initiative hubs offering loans
- a local venture capital source
- two regional risk capital organisations
- a reconversion organisation
- EDF-GDF Service Aveyron (participative loans)

### **Fiscality**

As well as the exoneration from the 'taxe professionnelle', the department enjoys a number of other fiscal advantages related to the creation of employment in rural areas.

## Premises

- favourable building conditions and reductions for leasing or sale of appropriate buildings within designated zones
- three business 'hothouses'
- existence of specific space available
- partnerships established with leasing companies

## Additional aid

Various subsidies and other forms of aid are available, depending on the specific nature and the location of the project.



# AVEYRON EXPANSION

*An umbrella organisation, incorporating elected representatives, the chambers of commerce, agriculture and métiers, representatives from industry and employees organisations as well as other interested parties (bankers, accountants, legal experts...), Aveyron Expansion offers a multi-disciplinary service available to local authorities, elected representatives, companies and start-ups in the fields of :*

- introductions, consultancy, project development for industry: preparation of requests for subsidies, local implementation of regional projects (Midi-Pyrénées Création), tools to help setting up businesses...
- contribution to local authority projects, a strategy segmented by sector (the food industry, wood and furniture, mechanical engineering...).
- publication of promotional literature : themed brochures, website, presentation documents of the département.
- research and economic feasibility studies
- intervention at local level (networking with local partners, assistance in developing industrial and/or commercial projects) and surveying (land surveys, project development...).

# AVEYRON

## ENTERPRISE AND INITIATIVE WITHOUT HASSLE



*Allocated in southwest France :  
between Toulouse, Montpellier and  
Clermont-Ferrand, a midpoint  
between northern Europe and Spain  
(via Highway A75 and the viaduct of  
Millau designed by Sir Norman Foster  
with direct flights from / to Paris,  
Lyon and London)*

### Access

**By car** : 4 major roads.

A75 (toll free) : Clermont-Ferrand/Montpellier/Béziers  
(the shortest, cheapest and least congested way from Paris  
to the mediterranean coast) ;

A20 : Paris/Brive/Toulouse ;

RN88/A68 : Toulouse/Rodez/Lyon ;

RN140 : link between the A75 and the A20.

**By plane** : Rodez-Marcillac Airport. Daily flights to  
London (Ryanair). Daily flights to Paris-Orly (BritAir/  
Air France). Daily flights to Lyon (Hex'Air).

**By train** : several direct trains each day. Paris-Rodez,  
Toulouse-Rodez, Paris-Millau.

**Surface area** : 8,735 sq. km (5<sup>th</sup> largest in France)

**Altitude** : from 144 m. to 1,463 m.

**Population** : 263,808 inhabitants

**Principal towns** : Rodez : 53,000 inhabitants

Millau : 26,000 inhabitants

Decazeville : 17,000 inhabitants

Villefranche-de-Rouergue : 16,000 inhabitants

# AVEYRON

## THE KEY FACTORS SECTORS OF SUCCESS

### **Agriculture**

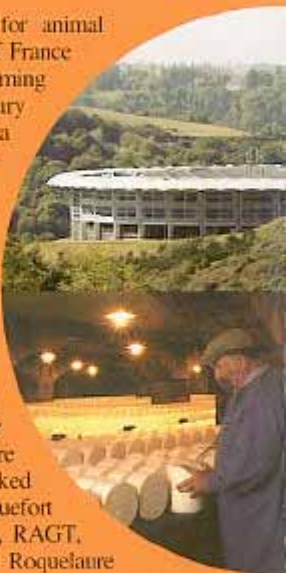
Leading departement for animal farming in the south of France and leader in sheep farming nationally. A departmental Veterinary Laboratory for carrying out analysis at a regional level, a complete departmental abattoir service...

### **Food industry**

Principal centre for food production in southern France, centred around meat and dairy farming plus seed development accounting for 5.200 jobs. Food with high added value is the key positioning (quality labels, AOC, premium products...). Major companies who are growing in stature (seeds, industrial bakeries, pre-cooked meals...): Société des Caves de Roquefort (Lactalis Group), Roquefort Papillon, RAGT, Valmont (Lactalis Group), Raynal et Roquelaure (Cofigéo)...

### **Mechanical engineering**

With 6,300 people working in this sector, mechanical engineering represents a major sector of the local economy ; the key aspects being the automobile industry, the aeronautical industry and machine tooling. A major part of the



'Mechanic Valley'. Leading companies include : Bosch (spark plugs and injectors), S.A.M. Technologies (Arche Group, high pressure foundry), Lisi Aerospace (Lisi Group, bolts for the aeronautical industry), Filtrauto (Sogefi Group, oil-filters), Forest Liné (machine tools)...

## Wood and furniture

Third region nationally for furniture, accounting for 3,300 jobs. From traditional saw milling, now highly mechanised, to the manufacturing of solid wood furniture, from cabinet making to roof joists, from pallets to doors and windows, from parquet to kitchen units... the sector runs the entire gamut of wood-based products. A Regional Centre for the Transfer of Technology, a unit for seasoning wood, a heat treatment centre for use in cabinet-making and joinery...



**VITALITY,  
DIVERSITY...  
AND HIGH  
QUALITY**

**High  
technology and  
information  
technology**

Growing rapidly, now one of the major centres within the Midi-Pyrenees region (2,350 jobs). Three leading companies : Inforsud (a leading IT company in the south of France), Sopra Group (among the top 5 systems integration companies of french origin)

and RM Ingenierie (french leader in the production of specialist software for the medical and para-medical sectors). An electronic valley in the south of the department : Synelec Telecom Multimédia (world leader in control room video image banks), Sodielec (among the leading companies in Europe in the field of the transfer of information via hertzian networks), Sefec (specialised in electronic equipment for the aeronautical and aerospace industries).



### **Skilled manufacturing**

Interior lighting, gloves and leather wear, cutlery, printing, clothing, like a hallmark of the department... The Laguiole knife : one of the most trendy knives in the world, the Drimmer Group : leading lighting manufacturer in France...



### **Building and construction**

Traditional diverse and artisan by nature, it represents the third most important economic sector in the department (more than 2,300 companies, more than 7,400 employees).



### **Tourism**

183,000 beds, indicative of the economic importance of this sector. In third place as a holiday destination at regional level, and in first place for camping holidays, the tourist industry is an important sector of the economy.



## A HEALTHY ECONOMY

### The major industrial employers

- More than 1 500 employees

**Robert BOSCH** (parts for the car industry)

- From 500 to 1 500 employees

**SOCIÉTÉ DES CAVES DE ROQUEFORT**

(food sector)

**DUMESTE** (Steiner, Espalux : furniture)

**RAGT SA Group** (seeds)

**INFORSUD Group** (IT and printing)

**S.A.M. Technologies** (high pressure foundry)

**LISI AEROSPACE** (bolts for the aeronautical industry)

**SOPRA GROUP** (Consulting and Service Group in the field of information technologies)

- From 150 to 500 employees

**FILTRAUTO** (parts for the car industry)

**VALMONT** (food sector)

**SOULIE RESTAURATION** (pre-cooked meals)

**FROMENTIERS DE FRANCE** (industrial bakeries)

**DRIMMER** (lights and furniture)

**FOREST LINE** (machine tools)

**RAYNAL ET ROQUELAURE** (pre-cooked meals)

**UMICORE France** (Laminated zinc)

### To summarise

- the total number of jobs has increased since 1990
- the number of employed people is increasing constantly
- a shift from farming to an value added business
- industry which is modern and diversified
- the booming tertiary sector.



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