

*Reflections from the Canal...*



We have had a wonderful two seasons on the Canal du Midi and we are sad to leave. So many impressions; the sheer peacefulness of stunning stretches of green with the amazing reflections, a couple of hundred locks the many beautiful boats we pass, the sleepy villages of Montauban, Montant, Castelnaudary, Capestang, and vibrant cities like Toulouse, Montpellier, Moissac, Narbonne... the lively markets, the warmth and politeness of the French themselves, not to mention their wonderful food all of it shared with friends who took the time to join us and see for themselves why we love it. Reflections... and plenty of time to reflect... This year, too, was also the year that didn't smile on everyone – that cast a shadow and reminded us of how extremely fortunate we are to be able to do what we do. For Barb Carol and Deb – you have been in our thoughts all the way along.



Goat's cheese salad, cassoulet (beans with duck and pork), confit de canard, crepes with chestnut puree, blanche pizza with creme fraiche instead of tomato have all become firm favourites!





Although it often looks idyllic, it can also look like this!



Idyllic Trebes – or is it? Scene of a flash flood from the River Aude that killed 13 people in Oct.2018. Met an American who came back to find his boat high and dry on land in the Spring.



Little girl on her way to her christening!



The bread and grocery boat in le Somail.



The koypu (muskrat) who refused to budge. Well, it was his space....



From the eastern end of the Canal Midi, linking the Atlantic with the Mediterranean, at the end of our second season here, we passed into the calm waters of the Etang de Thau- the large shallow lagoons skirting the Med, that are home to thousands of oysters, and quaint little seaside resorts that are truly charming, and none too soon, for the 45C temperatures of the killer heatwave that swept France were killing us. And after 20 years, the fridge chose this moment to pack up. But luckily, we have a back-up! A totally different type of holiday awaited us ....and our next guest, Peter....