



# Australian Guide to the Cannes Film Festival 2019

The **Cannes Film Festival** is the biggest and most important celebration of cinema on the annual festival calendar and a unique opportunity to build a network of international film industry professionals.

Cannes is a festival, market and huge media event that can be overwhelming. As a market it attracts virtually every buyer and seller of any importance in the industry. As a festival it attracts producers, filmmakers and financiers, as well as the directors of other major film festivals and thousands of film journalists, who provide international coverage of big premieres and market stunts. As a spectacle it attracts large numbers of film fans.

This guide provides an overview of the festival, market and accreditation (why you need it and the screenings it will get you into), as well as some useful contact details and tips for first-timers.

The Festival de Cannes has remained true to its founding purpose: to raise the profile of films – contributing towards the development of cinema, boosting the film industry worldwide and celebrating cinema at an international level.

In 2019 the festival will run from 14-25 May.



# The festival and its sections

## Making sense of the sections and sidebars

Cannes is composed of three major events, each with its own sections and programs. These are the **Festival de Cannes**, **Directors' Fortnight** and **Critics' Week**, and they comprise what is commonly referred to as the 'Cannes Film Festival'.

## Festival de Cannes

### OFFICIAL SELECTION

The Official Selection highlights the diversity of cinema through its different sections, the two most important of which are In Competition and Un Certain Regard. Films that are representative of 'auteur cinema with a wide audience appeal' are presented In Competition, while Un Certain Regard focuses on works that have an original aesthetic. The Official Selection also includes Out of Competition films, Special Screenings and Midnight Screenings and the [Cinéfondation](#).

### FILMS IN COMPETITION

This is the festival's main event. Films in this section are referred to as being 'In Competition' and compete for a variety of awards. The Palme d'Or for best picture is one of the most prestigious awards a film can receive. The Competition welcomes both features and shorts, and there are different awards in each category.

### OUT OF COMPETITION

Films shown in this category are typically high-profile showcase films, special events, films that the festival feels deserve the honour of screening at Cannes or films which did not necessarily meet the criteria for Competition.

### UN CERTAIN REGARD

Un Certain Regard is a reflection of current quality world cinema. The Prix Un Certain Regard is awarded to the best film.

## CINÉFONDATION

Cinéfondation is the festival's competition for short and medium-length films made at film schools around the world. The Cinéfondation sidebar has its own jury which presents three different awards.

## CANNES CLASSICS

The Cannes Classics sidebar is a showcase section that screens a selection of classic films, tributes to foreign cinema, documentaries on filmmaking and, occasionally, rare or rediscovered footage from days gone by

## Directors' Fortnight

### LA QUINZAINE DES RÉALISATEURS

The Directors' Fortnight was founded with the intention of opening up Cannes to lesser-known filmmakers. This sidebar for edgier films is organised by the French Directors Guild (Société des Réalisateurs de Films). [quinzaine-realisateur.com](#)

## Critics' Week

### LA SEMAINE DE LA CRITIQUE

Each year, a panel of international critics selects around 10 features and 10 shorts from first and second-time filmmakers to compete in this section.

Independent from the Festival de Cannes and organised by the French Union of Film Critics, this sidebar has a tradition of discovering new talents from all over the world. [semainedelacritique.com](#)



# The Market

**The Marché du Film** is the largest film market in the world, where the industry gets together to do business: financing, buying and selling. The market is attended by roughly 12,400 film industry professionals, with around 3,800 films having around 1,500 screenings. The Marché also runs programs for producers – the Producers Network and Workshop.

## MARCHÉ DU FILM.

By registering with the Marché du Film and gaining accreditation, you can take advantage of many services including access to:

- **Marché du Film screenings**  
34 screening rooms, the majority of which are digitally and 3D equipped
- the **Official Selection** of the Festival de Cannes
- exclusive **reruns of the Official Selection films** in private screenings
- areas reserved for industry professionals such as the **Palais des Festivals, the Riviera, Lérins, and the Village International**
- the **Marché Guide**, over 1000 pages, detailing contact information for every registered company
- **Company listing** on [cinando.com](http://cinando.com)

## MARCHÉ DU FILM 2018 IN NUMBERS

- Participants: **12,411**
- Producers: **3,900**
- Buyers and Distributors: **3,300**
- Screenings: **1,500**
- Countries: **114**
- Booths and offices: **390**
- Viewings of VR Content: **5,300**

## THE PRODUCERS NETWORK

The Producers Network hosts more than 500 producers from around the world in a series of events including daily breakfast meetings, speed-dating sessions and the daily 'Happy Hour'. It was created to stimulate international coproduction and project financing. Every day an individually tailored program provides an opportunity to meet the various partners that projects require, be it a co-producer, distributor, sales agent or financier.

The Producers Network is reserved for producers who've recently produced **feature films**. The number of producers is limited so it is recommended to register your interest as early as possible.

[marchedufilm.com/en/producernetwork](http://marchedufilm.com/en/producernetwork)

## INDUSTRY WORKSHOPS

The Industry Workshops is a series of workshops led by leading industry experts who are invited to come and share knowledge and up dates on the current trends of film production, financing and distribution.

Registered participants will have access to a set of activities during 3 days on topics such as co-producing with Europe, international financing, multiple distribution platforms and more. The program is intended for those looking to upgrade their knowledge and skills on the international market.

The Industry Workshops is limited to 350 participants so it is wise to register as early as possible if interested.

[marchedufilm.com/en/producerworkshop](http://marchedufilm.com/en/producerworkshop)

## **NEXT and CANNES XR**

Cannes XR is the Marche du Film's dedicated market for immersive technologies and entertainment. It aims to bring together the world's leading immersive artists, producers, investors, festival programmers and tech leaders and offers networking, financing and distribution opportunities for the XR industry.

NEXT has 10 days of presentations and showcases which focusses on XR and other new and alternative forms of storytelling, production, financing and distribution of films.

The pavilion is located in the heart of the Village International Pantiero and hosts exhibitors and speakers from around the world.

You can find more information and when it is released the schedule of events on the website.

[marchedufilm.com/en/next/home](http://marchedufilm.com/en/next/home)

## **DOC CORNER**

The DOC CORNER brings together the entire documentary film community present in Cannes – sales agents, distributors, buyers, festival programmers, producers, directors... – all in one unique venue, just for docs.

It is an all-in-one professional working platform designed for promoting theatrical documentary features, selling/acquiring exclusive new titles, both completed and in development, expanding networks and interaction with a wide range of documentary film professionals.

There is a video library comprised of 250 feature docs. Each registered participant to the Marché du Film has the opportunity to register its documentary features, completed in the current year of a minimum duration of 70 minutes (features dedicated to theatrical distribution), without any additional cost. The DOC CORNER reserves the right to select the films which will appear in the video library.

This year it also has a new integrated 15-seat Market screening room, entirely dedicated to documentary films, for sales agents or producers to present their films right on the spot.

You can find more detailed information on their website.

[marchedufilm.com/en/doccorner](http://marchedufilm.com/en/doccorner)

## **MIXERS**

For the third year, the Marche will run a series of cocktail meet-and-greets offered by invitation to active players in whatever the thematic market of the mixer. These are held at the Plage de Palmes.

[marchedufilm.com/en/mixers/home](http://marchedufilm.com/en/mixers/home)



# Accreditation

Unlike many international film festivals, Cannes is an event reserved for film industry professionals, who need accreditation to gain access to the Palais des Festivals. Film industry professionals and those in associated disciplines can attend the festival but must register prior to arriving. All requests must be supported by evidence of industry affiliation.

## **FILM PROFESSIONAL CLASSIFICATION**

Because the Festival de Cannes is exclusively reserved for film industry professionals, if you do not belong to one of the categories below your request will not be taken into consideration.

**Civil service, embassies**  
**Artistic agent**  
**Press agent**  
**Writer, director, composer**  
**Lawyer, jurist**  
**Film library, archive, restoration**  
**Actor**  
**Film commission**  
**Distribution**  
**Film school**  
**Film music publishing**  
**Financial institution**  
**Exhibitor**  
**Film festival**  
**Technical industries**  
**Press/media: non-journalists**  
**Press/media: journalists**  
**Production**  
**Film publicist**  
**Film technician**  
**Video, DVD, VOD**

There are six different types of accreditation at Cannes and each has different rules, fees and eligibility criteria.

## **FESTIVAL ACCREDITATION**

Previously known as 'professional accreditation', this is the standard credential for entry to the Cannes screenings and official activities. Festival Accreditation is available to a range of film industry professions and provides access to all festival venues (the Palais, Riviera, Village International and the major hotels) and to screenings in the official selection and sidebars. Festival Accreditation is free.

## **MARKET ACCREDITATION**

Over 12,000 industry professionals attend the Marché du Film. Market Accreditation is available to the board members and employees of companies which either operate in the film industry or service the film industry. Registration price for the Marché du Film is €290 (without taxes) if registered before March 1 / €345 (without taxes) after March 2 but before April 30. You can register on the spot between 13-23 May for €400 (without taxes).

## **THE PRODUCERS NETWORK**

The Producers Network is a special type of accreditation aimed at producers. The intention is to provide a collection of services and events to help producers develop their projects and to encourage international co-productions. Registration price for the Producers Network is €364 (without taxes) if registered before March 1 / €419 (without taxes) after March 2 but before April 30.

## INDUSTRY WORKSHOPS

This accreditation is great for industry who are trying to get a better understanding on the international market place.

Registration price for the Industry Workshops is €364 (without taxes) if registered before March 1 / €419 (without taxes) after March 2 but before April 30. The number of participants is limited so it is best to register as soon as possible if you are interested. For more information, visit the Marché du Film [registration](#) page.

## SHORT FILM CORNER, CANNES COURT MÉTRAGE

The [Short Film Corner](#) is run by the Marché and has its own registration fee and accreditation.

It is important to note that Short Film Corner is not curated and is not part of the official selection of short films. It accepts all and any short film submissions (excluding pornography) as long as the registration fee is paid. It is not a festival screening but a market screening so should be carefully considered

We advise all Australians, before registering for the Short Film Corner and investing in the vast expense to a trip to Cannes, it is wise to reflect upon what objectives you have in mind and do some research on what is on offer before registering. Here is an [article](#) with former participants' observations. The Short Film Corner will run 20–25 May 2019.

## PRESS ACCREDITATION

The festival is attended by around 4,000 journalists, representing 2,000 media outlets in over 90 countries. Media access is managed directly by the Festival de Cannes via its Press Accreditation Commission.

## CINÉPHILES ACCREDITATION

Organised by the City of Cannes and Cannes Cinéma association, Cinéphiles accreditation enables film enthusiast and education groups to see films from the official selection and sidebars in several cinemas around Cannes, as well as attend some screenings in the Palais.

## FILMS IN THE MARKET

Access to Marché screenings is by the separate Marché badge or by an invitation issued by the sales agent representing the film. Screenings are held in cinemas in the streets around Cannes or in the small screening rooms at the Palais. All screenings are listed on a daily basis in the Cannes trade dailies.

## TICKETS TO THE FESTIVAL

If you are an accredited attendee, tickets are only required for films showing 'In' or 'Out' of Competition at the Palais Lumière. In the last few years ticketing has moved to an online service. To obtain tickets you now need a unique ticketing code, which is part of your badge (supplied when you collect your accreditation pack).

Tickets are released approximately 24 hours before film screenings. If you are successful in your reservation, tickets may be collected from the Billetterie Centrale, located in the Hall Méditerranée in the Palais des Festivals.

Tickets are not required for films screening in Un Certain Regard, the Directors' Fortnight or International Critics' Week. To attend screenings in these sidebars, you simply line up outside the venue at least one hour before the scheduled start time. An appropriate accreditation badge or invite is required to gain entry.

For evening In Competition screenings at the Palais Lumière, you must be in evening dress or you may not be allowed entry; this means a black suit and black tie for men. It's difficult to secure tickets to Competition premieres, and you may have more luck at one of the subsequent daytime festival or market screenings.

The International Critics' Week and Directors' Fortnight sidebars do offer a small public ticket allocation.



# Tips for first-timers

## MAKE THE MOST OF THE FESTIVAL

- **Set up your meetings in advance.** Do your research in the weeks leading up to the festival and make contact with those you'd like to meet before you arrive in Cannes. [Cinando](#) provides contact information for accredited professionals attending the Marché du Film, details on their films and projects, as well as the screening schedule. A login to Cinando is provided with your accreditation. Once you have registered for the Marché du Film you can use Cinando to present your company and projects, and connect with fellow producers, distributors and sales agents from around the world.
- **Read the trades every morning.** Daily issues of *Variety*, *The Hollywood Reporter*, *Screen International*, *Le Film Français* and other magazines provide invaluable information on the latest business news and reviews, what's happening and market trends. Track the activities and marketing campaigns of the distributors and sales agents with whom you'd like to work. Pay attention to the fortunes of debut feature filmmakers with films screening in any sections of the festival, including the market.
- **Don't arrange formal meetings with distributors or sales agents if your project is not ready to finance.** If you meet someone at a social function, don't just launch in with your pitch, but first have a conversation and if it seems to be going well, tell them about the project. The festival is a very stressful place for acquisitions executives. Their focus is on finished movies and projects they are tracking. It's far more important for you to make a connection with someone with whom you might do business in the future, than to pitch a project that isn't ready.
- **Try to avoid spending all your time with your friends** – it might be comforting but you haven't spent all those dollars to hang around with people you already know. The festival is huge but it has a very singular focus: films and filmmakers.

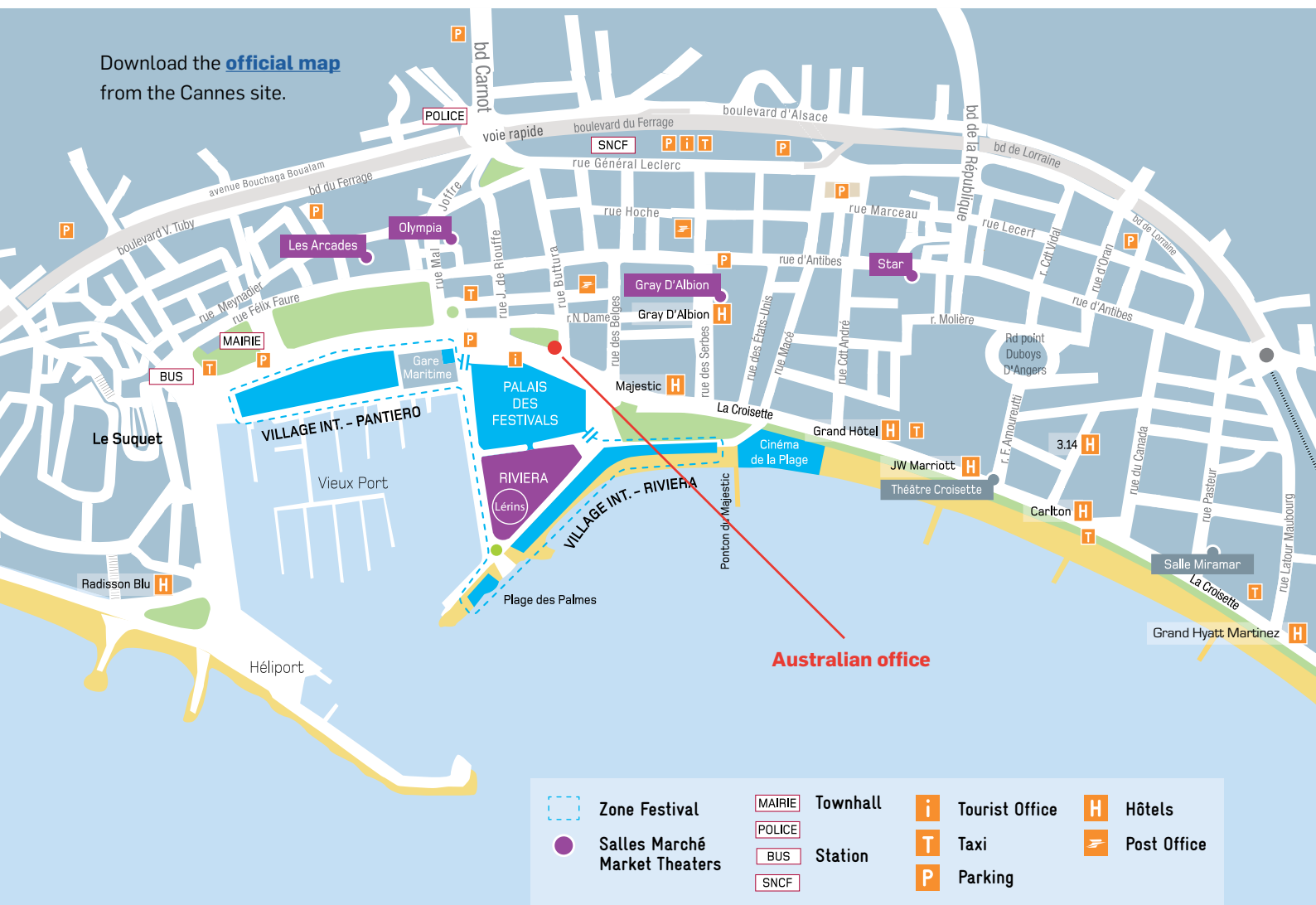
Armed with your knowledge of what's going on (from the trades) and your opinion of the films that are screening (from your viewing) you are well placed to make connections with the other 30,000 festival participants.

- **The Festival Daily** and all the major trades provide the screening schedules for the day and the following day, as well as key events organised by the festival. The Festival Daily is distributed each morning at the main entrances of the Palais, information points and select hotels.
- **Track the companies in which you are interested.** Look at their ads in the trades, keep up to date with their acquisitions and sales, and see their movies. Don't forget, our [Directory of International Sales Agents](#) has a list of sellers handling Australian movies and other more detailed tips for setting up and meeting with sales agents at the market.
- **Keep a diary** so that you have a clear record of any follow-ups you need to make after the festival (eg to send a showreel, short film or the outline of the project you have discussed).
- **Keep your business cards with you** at all times, along with your Market Accreditation (also referred to as your 'badge').
- **Keep your expectations in check.** Your first few trips to the festival will be research, and after each you will understand more about how everything works and how to build relationships with other filmmakers.
- Ensure you **leave plenty of time to get to screenings** as most are heavily subscribed – this applies to market screenings as well as screenings in the festival selection.
- Remember that while parties are fun in Cannes, **they are absolutely about business.** It doesn't pay to spend all your time trying to score invites to parties or to harass people for invitations. You will only annoy your contacts.

- **Cannes is a means to introduce yourself to people in companies based outside your home turf.** You can make appointments with local companies at any time of the year and Australian companies won't want to spend time in Cannes meeting with filmmakers who live down the road from them. Every serious film company in the world is in one place for 10 days – and so are you.
- **The Marché du Film Daily Screening Program** lists both market and festival screenings. It's available from 4pm one day in advance, at press counters and information points, inside the Marché du Film screening rooms, as well as in select hotels.

- **The Screen Australia office is located at Level 2, 2 la Croisette.** The office is open Tuesday 14 May to Wednesday 22 May, except when private functions have been scheduled. A schedule of opening hours will be available closer to the festival dates. Within opening hours, there are tables for Australians to hold meetings through the day. There can, at times be high demand for these and priority is given to producers with a proven track record of recently released, internationally recognised film and TV credits. The office is set up with wi-fi for producers to check emails. There is also a water cooler, coffee, tea and biscuits. Facilities are for Australian-based citizens or permanent residents only. To call, phone +33 (0)4 93 39 80 64.

Download the [official map](#) from the Cannes site.







# Practical Info

## GETTING TO CANNES

### By plane

Nice Cote d'Azur International Airport

[nice.aeroport.fr](http://nice.aeroport.fr)

Tel. (in France): 0820 423 333

Tel. (from abroad): +33 8 20 42 33 33

### By train

Cannes Railway Station

Approx five-hour high speed train journey from Paris

[snf.com/en](http://snf.com/en)

Tel. (in France): 36 35

Tel. (from abroad): +33 8 92 35 35 35

## TRANSPORTATION FROM THE AIRPORT TO CANNES

### By bus

One-way: €22

A/R : €33

50 min ride, every half an hour from 9am to 7pm

1st ride 8am, last 8pm

[Tickets](#) are available at the counters at the bus stop.

### By taxi

Around €80/trip (daytime rate: 7am to 7pm)

Around €90/trip (nighttime rate: 7pm to 7am)

Located at: Gate A1 (Terminal 1), Gate A3 (Terminal 2)

Central Taxi Riviera Nice: +33 (0)4 93 13 78 78

### Car hire

All of France and Europe's major car rental companies (Advantage, Avis, Budget, Europcar, Hertz, Entreprise, FireFly, Goldcar and Sixt) have branches at Nice Airport. Click [here](#) for car hire information.

## GETTING AROUND CANNES

The majority of the festival and market takes place within approximately two square kilometres. Your best option to get around is by foot. It's a good idea to allow longer than you think, as the Croisette and Rue d'Antibes both get incredibly crowded with slow moving foot traffic and often the festival security unexpectedly change the traffic conditions depending on what is happening on the red carpet. Some people hire bicycles which is a quick way to get around.

## Taxi

Allô Taxi Cannes

[taxi-cannes.net](http://taxi-cannes.net)

Booking: +33 4 93 992 727

Email: [contact@taxi-cannes.net](mailto:contact@taxi-cannes.net)

Or they have a free [itunes app](#) you can download.

## EATING OUT

You won't have a problem finding a place to eat out in Cannes; it is filled with restaurants. You can find an array of places to eat along the Croisette. For cheaper restaurants head to the Port area past the Palais, where you'll find great pizza places.

The [official Cannes](#) tourism website has hints and tips on bistros, restaurants and wine bars.

## DAILY NEEDS

Morning [markets](#) like Forville, Gambetta and La Bocca have great fresh produce and ingredients on sale, while [supermarkets](#) like Monoprix and Carefour can supply your daily needs.

## ACCOMMODATION

There are a variety of options for accommodation in and around Cannes. View a list of hotels [here](#). For apartment rentals, the Marché du Film recommends booking with its partner [Immosol](#), which offers apartments with or without hotel services, depending on your budget. There are a number of other reputable agencies located in Cannes. If you need any advice or contacts in Cannes to help arrange accommodation, please email [business@screenaustralia.gov.au](mailto:business@screenaustralia.gov.au)

## ON ARRIVAL

It is a good idea to text or call whoever arranged your accommodation as soon as you're in a cab, bus or train from Nice. That way, they can meet you with the keys to enable immediate access to your apartment or hostel.

## **BEWARE OF FRAUDULENT ACCOMMODATION**

You may be contacted by organisations with attractive offers of hotel or apartment rentals for your stay in Cannes, sometimes using the logos of the Marché du Film, Festival de Cannes or the Palme d'Or.

Fraud can occur when you arrive at the hotel or residence where the booking was made, only to discover that a reservation does not exist. In these cases fraudulent companies can no longer be contacted and there is no possibility of having payment reimbursed.

Cannes participants have fallen victim to fraudulent accommodation providers presenting themselves as: **Premier Destinations, Euro-Events, Global Living Group, The Ultimate Living Group, Riviera Network, Business Travel International** and **Expo Travel Group**. If you receive requests or notifications from any of the aforementioned, please be extremely careful.

If you suspect any fraudulent activity, let the Marché du Film know at [marketinfo@festival-cannes.fr](mailto:marketinfo@festival-cannes.fr)

## **WARNING**

Take care with security in the office, your apartment and in the streets. There are always incidents of crime during the festival. We advise you not to leave windows open at night (if you're on a lower floor), as unfortunately there are burglaries every year. In case of lost or stolen passport please notify the Australian Embassy immediately [here](#).

## **MEDICAL HELP AND ENGLISH SPEAKING DOCTORS**

The Australian Embassy keeps a list of English speaking doctors. They can be contacted [here](#).

Riviera Medical Services is an association run by local doctors who have a list of all local medical personnel who speak English. The list includes the names and contact numbers of GPs, specialists, physiotherapists, dentists, gynaecologists, paediatricians, nurses and ambulance services. Call to find the medical practitioner or medical assistance. Assistance in English guaranteed.

Tel. +33 (0) 4 93 26 12 70

Note: As this is a free service run voluntarily, very occasionally there is no one available to answer. Do try again later.

It is recommended that you take out appropriate travel and medical insurance that covers you for any unexpected costs.

## **BANKING AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE**

### **Au change Miramar**

57 bd de la Croisette - 06400 Cannes

Tel. +33 (0) 4 93 94 45 20

### **European Exchange Office**

65 bd de la Croisette - 06400 Cannes

Tel. + 33 (0) 4 93 94 45 20

### **Travelex**

8 rue d'Antibes - 06400 Cannes

Tel. +33 (0) 4 93 39 41 45

### **American Express**

8 r Belges 06400 Cannes - AMEXCO 470786 F

## **POLICE STATION**

1, Avenue Grasse

6400 Cannes, France

Tel. +33 (0)4 93 06 22 22

## **INFORMATION POINTS**

Staff at information points will be able to answer your questions. These are located in the following Marché and festival zones:

### **Outside the Palais**

Entrance of the Village International Pantiero

### **Inside the Palais**

Level 01: Marché du Film entrance, centre aisle

Level 01: Puits de Lumière

Level 0: Hall Méditerranée (on the left of the main entry)

Level F+3: street entrance by the newspaper stands

At the Riviera: seaside entrance