

THÉMIS

Solar Innovation



Research, environmental education
and science tourism site

2024



leDepartement66.fr



At a time when questions of energy production and consumption are at the heart of global political concerns, the development of solar energy is now an essential solution.

The Department of Pyrénées-Orientales, which enjoys a particularly generous amount of sunshine, was the first place in the world to install a thermodynamic solar power tower. This project, called Thémis, was unique in the 1980s and was to be the subject of experiments for several years before becoming a field study centre for astrophysics researchers interested in cosmic gamma rays, up until 2004.

For 20 years, the Department, which owns the site, has invested in it, with the support of the Region, to strengthen the international reach of this tool in the service of research and development in new solar technologies.

In addition, Thémis Solaire Innovation (TSI), like all the sites managed by the Department, is open to the general public to meet the objective of environmental education and to develop a science tourism offer.

I hope you enjoy discovering all about the power and applications of solar energy.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H.M.', written in a cursive style.

Hermeline MALHERBE
*President of the Department
of Pyrénées-Orientales*

TSI, A RESEARCH AND TOURISM PLATFORM SINCE 2004

RETURNING TO ITS ROOTS TO PROMOTE SOLAR ENERGY

After the astronomical observations, the **Department** of Pyrénées-Orientales decided to launch a **study** to give Thémis back its original vocation: to develop new technologies for the **production and exploitation of energy from solar origins**.

Thereafter, the Department, the owner of the site, confirmed its willingness to **redevelop the site** in favour of technological innovation, while developing a new tourism offer in Cerdagne. Thémis then became **Thémis Solaire Innovation**, a research and innovation platform.

FROM WELCOMING INNOVATIVE SOLAR PROJECTS TO RENEWING THE WHOLE OF THE DEPARTMENT'S SITE

FROM 2008

Several agreements were set in place with organisations with potential projects, with the aim of checking the feasibility of **new solar technologies**.

The CNRS PROMES laboratory led various projects on the tower and on heliostats. The other companies worked on installations built on neighbouring plots.



CNRS PROMES Thermodynamic solar power tower



EDF Renouvelables
Photovoltaic solar power station on trackers



Subsol
Concentrated photovoltaic solar power station



Engie Green
Bifacial photovoltaic solar power station



FROM 2012 TO 2014

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

AN EXCEPTIONAL SITE FOR ENERGY TRANSITION

SINCE 2014

Thémis Solaire Innovation operates and develops numerous activities in line with the following **3 aims** :

- To contribute to **R&D** and **technological innovation** in the area of new solar technologies,
- To develop a **training, seminars and events** offer focussed on energy and the energy transition,
- To promote **science tourism** and **environmental education** for all audiences.



Conference in the auditorium

The site hosts **innovative projects** on the various different parts of the site, as well as hosting organisations and laboratories in offices and has available for any business a large co-working space in the Innovation Centre. The site headquarters offers the possibility of presenting to the general public a range of **events** and **tools for learning** in order to improve their knowledge of solar energy and therefore to promote **energy transition**.

EXHIBITIONS

Free - Open access

THE 3 LIVES OF THÉMIS



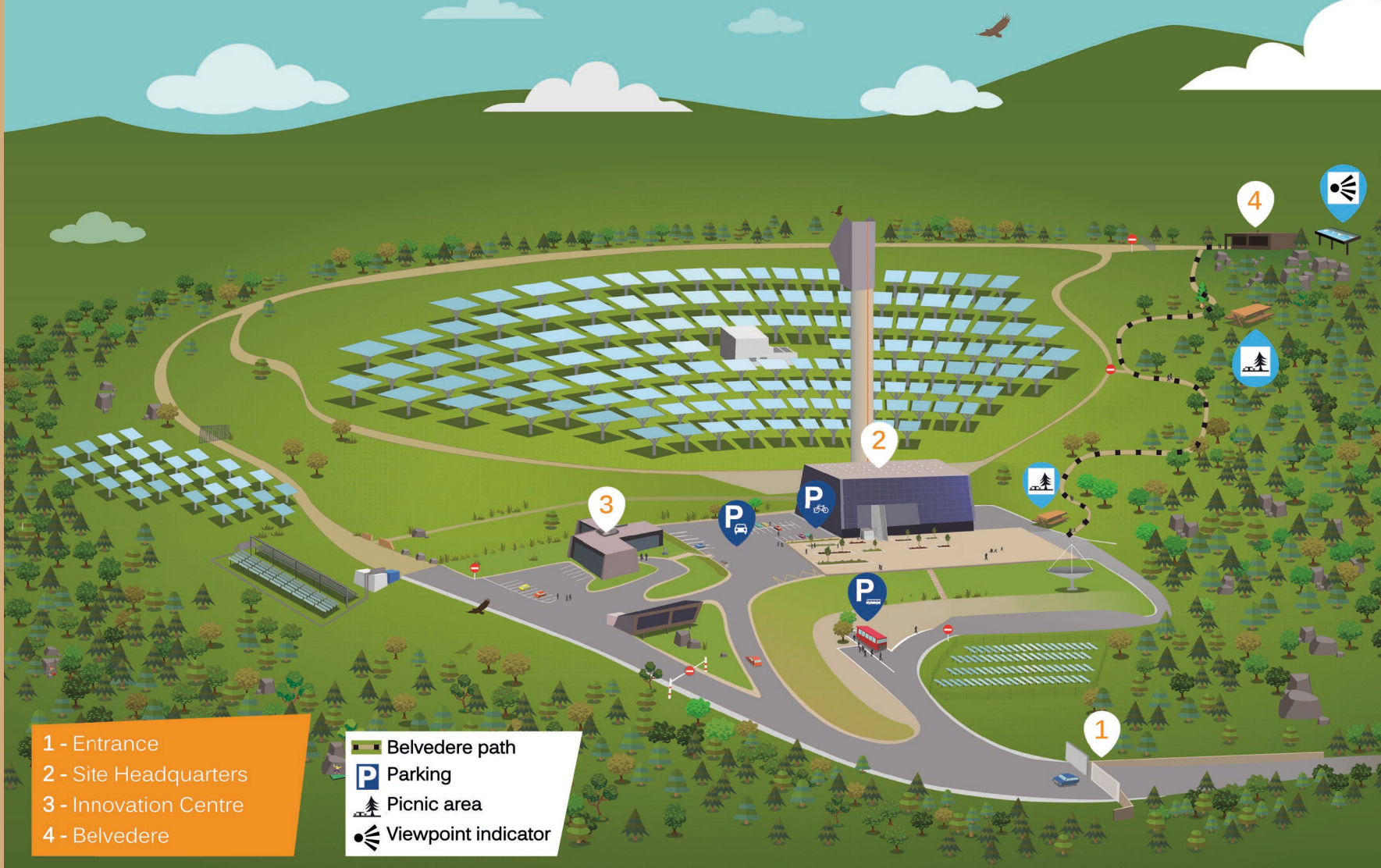
UNDERSTANDING ENERGY



THE HISTORY OF SOLAR ENERGY IN THE P.-O.



SUN, MYTHS AND REALITY



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

- Belvedere path
- Parking
- Picnic area
- Viewpoint indicator

OUTSIDE Free - Open access

CHEMIN DU BELVÉDÈRE

- 1 km walk (there and back)
- View of the installations
- Viewpoint indicator



EVENT Charge - Booking required - Only in summer

GUIDED VISIT

- History of the site
- Current projects
- Interactive models



Departs:
2 pm, 3 pm and 4 pm
(duration: 1 hour)
Price: 6€,
4€ reduced price,
children under 7 free

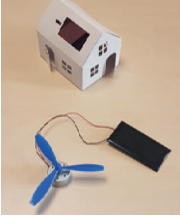
2 independent WORKSHOPS Free* - Booking required

Opening times: 10.30 am,
2 pm and 4 pm (duration:
1 hour)

PRÊT DE JEUX



GAMES TO BORROW 'FAB LAB' SOLAR CONSTRUCTIONS



*except for the
cost of
the 'FabLab'
solar kit €6



OPENING DATES 2024

During its open days, TSI offers activities aimed at raising the awareness of the general public in energy transition and understanding solar energy.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

OPEN TO GROUPS (reservation only)

JANVIER							FÉVRIER							MARS							AVRIL						
LUN	MAR	MER	JEU	VEN	SAM	DIM	LUN	MAR	MER	JEU	VEN	SAM	DIM	LUN	MAR	MER	JEU	VEN	SAM	DIM	LUN	MAR	MER	JEU	VEN	SAM	DIM
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	26	27	28	29	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30												

MAI							JUIN							JUILLET							AOÛT						
LUN	MAR	MER	JEU	VEN	SAM	DIM	LUN	MAR	MER	JEU	VEN	SAM	DIM	LUN	MAR	MER	JEU	VEN	SAM	DIM	LUN	MAR	MER	JEU	VEN	SAM	DIM
	1	2	3	4	5				1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
27	28	29	30	31	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31	26	27	28	29	30	31							

SEPTEMBRE							OCTOBRE							NOVEMBRE							DÉCEMBRE							
LUN	MAR	MER	JEU	VEN	SAM	DIM	LUN	MAR	MER	JEU	VEN	SAM	DIM	LUN	MAR	MER	JEU	VEN	SAM	DIM	LUN	MAR	MER	JEU	VEN	SAM	DIM	
						1				1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3							1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31	25	26	27	28	29	30	23	24	25	26	27	28	29					
30																				30	31	1/01	2/01	3/01	4/01	5/01		

Guided visits from 8 July to 31 August 2024 and on European Heritage Days on 21 and 22 September 2024.



OPENING TIMES

INSIDE

From 10 am
to 12 noon and from
1.30 pm to 5.30 pm

OUTSIDE

From 10 am
to 5.30 pm

THÉMIS

Solaire Innovation

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