

## English version

The protohistoric and Roman settlement known as Camp de César, covering an area of 18 hectares, is located on the eastern edge of the vast Lacau plateau. It overlooks the Rhône Valley, a favored communication route for ancient societies in southern Gaul. Occupied for over a thousand years, Camp de César tells the story of ancient Mediterranean communities. Scientific excavations conducted by the local Heritage Service in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, which began in 1990, are still ongoing and have yet to reveal all the riches held by this significant site in Languedoc. The oppidum occupied a highly strategic position on the banks of the Rhône and at the confluence of the Cèze and Tave valleys. It controlled access to routes leading toward the Cévennes and the upper Rhône Valley. Furthermore, it benefited from the proximity of two major Roman roads: the Domitian Way, linking Italy to Spain and traversing the whole of southern Gaul, and the Helvian Way between Nîmes and Alba-la-Romaine. In addition to its privileged relations with the Mediterranean world, particularly with Marseille, Camp de César undoubtedly had control over a vast territory. Thus, the course of the Tave in the plain was intensively occupied and exploited during the Roman era. The numerous villae testify to an organized management of the land, with the cultivation of cereals and vines. This broad sphere of political and economic influence ensured its survival and flourishing for many centuries.