

tuba



THE NEW LIFE OF A LEGENDARY SPACE



The Tuba project is breathing fresh life into one of the venerable spaces in Marseille, with records showing that a bar and a restaurant already existed on the site more than a century ago in 1908.

The building was partially destroyed by the bombings in August 1944 at the end of World War II. It was sold in 1946 and became the hotel Les Roches Blanches. Then, in the 1970s, a pizzeria was added on the street level with a large terrace.

Later, the building was sold and split into two parts: a restaurant, L'Escale, and a nightclub, the Kon Tiki, in the lower part of the structure. These gave way to a scuba diving club in the 1980s that was open to the sea. The club soon acquired an excellent reputation among those mermen and mermaids who are passionate about diving, snorkeling, and underwater fishing.

And among the many club members was the famed free diver Jacques Mayol, often accompanied by his comrade Falco, captain of Jacques Cousteau's boat, the RV Calypso.

Over the years, the club acquired three boats and moored them in the waters of the Les Goudes port. But, sadly, the club eventually sank into oblivion.

Now, it's at this hidden spot, at the entrance of the fishing village of Les Goudes, that Tuba has become a sanctuary for friends, idlers, purists, and fervent defenders of letting go. Fittingly, Tuba, which is the French word for snorkel, is a link between sea and land, water and mineral. It's on a piece of rock that is (practically) at the end of the world. Five rooms on the water, a breathtaking view, a table exposed to the sea spray. And that's all you need.

THE DIVERS



Transforming a scuba club meant taking a plunge. And who was behind the snorkels and wetsuits? **Grégory Gassa** and **Fabrice Denizot**, two forty-somethings from Marseille who spent long spells in Paris, London, or New York. After working in fashion, Grégory opened beautiful eateries for refined tastes; as for Fabrice, a film producer, he saw this opportunity as the most wonderful script possible. This pair dropped anchor here with the fierce desire to honor the place's superb origins. But it was also a chance to welcome people who, like they had once done, never seemed to stop, never hit the “pause” button on their 24/7 lives, and let them contemplate, be lazy for once. Tuba is dedicated to them. It's raw. Without artifice. It is just right. Right where it should be, right as it should be. And it embraces luxury in its simplest form.

LIFE IN THE CABIN

One enters Tuba like one would enter a casetta on the Amalfi coast.

Inside, the tone is immediately set. Greg & Fab invite people into their “home”, a cabin full of friends, a cabin created for friends and BY friends! The first one who came? The architect Marion Mailaender. A childhood companion, she was a natural choice to express the Tuba story, to accentuate the structural legacy, and to showcase the glory of the surrounding.

There are no barriers here, the rooms, restaurants, rocky beaches, and Mediterranean waters form a harmonious whole. Tuba is 350m² of exceptional space, the only thing on the horizon is sea and friends.

The minimalism is reminiscent of the Cabanon built by Le Corbusier and is an ode to a lifestyle like the one depicted on the walls of the Etoile de Mer bar.

The architect has instinctively played with genres and eras. She evokes seaside memories with touching accuracy. The décor is a delightful mix of upcycled furniture and raw materials, and it cleverly blends stone and wood, pearls and shells, natural colors and fluorescent ropes.

The end result is a perfect fusion of a traditional dive club and a peaceful haven where local artisans and artists are given pride of place.

Outside, sun loungers with mellow, yellow stripes and wooden tables washed out by the sun meet at the water's edge. A steep beach on the rock that juts out into the water, a climb down a stainless steel ladder later, and you are in the Mediterranean... Everything is honest and spontaneous because THAT is the cabin, the seaside, the salty life.





DUAL ARTISTIC CURATION

#Thomas Mailaender

Close to the founders of Tuba, the artist Thomas Mailaender has been given carte blanche to organize artist residencies in the former diving club.

#Emmanuelle Luciani

At Marion's invitation, Emmanuelle Luciani convened her artist collective Southway Studio to create a large fresco in the descent of the entrance steps. It's a scene combining past and present that seems to run against the current. Traditional and domestic memories intersect and are imbued with the history of the place. The collective also created a unique hand-painted tile for each bathroom.

THE ROOMS

The Tuba cabin has five rooms, all of them overlooking the water, and one duplex room that can accommodate families.

At the end of the world, but just a few meters from the Tuba restaurant (what else would you expect?), the minimalist rooms are natural and infused with simplicity: sea rush matting on the floor, iodized woodwork, white sheets, rope lamps, marine plywood headboards, and “pipe” coat racks created by the artist Elvire Bonduelle.

Through the windows, the bay of Marseille stretches out with an everchanging palette of colors from dawn to dusk. Spectacular.



In bathrooms with old-fashioned faucets and a yellow hose as a shower head, the Southway Studio collective expresses its artistic vision on a single tile, letting the beige tint elevate the others.

Size doesn't matter, but this is over the top. The intimacy and exclusivity inject a surreal charm into the experience.

An intimacy that, as soon as you step through the door, becomes conviviality. Tuba invites its guests to leave the rooms to go to the bar, the restaurant, and the beach and share the views, the tables, and this slice of the Dolce Vita.



THE BAR



At the bar, Kevin Sabatier – former head bartender at Misincú (five stars) and then Castellet (five stars too) – personally takes care of the thirsty gullets, having created a menu that echoes the exceptional location of the place and its proximity to the sea.

Whether at the counter or on the terrace, the cocktails at Tuba reflect the diversity of Marseille: spices, flavors, stories, and sharing mingle in the bartender's elixirs and entice you to escape. Tempted? Try a **Sormioule**, between the rock and the sea with its thyme, rosemary, ginger, and lime flavors. Or maybe the complex aromas of a **Golden Sour** with mezcal that was born in the Calanques...

Meanwhile, the classic Cuba Libre takes on a special twist at the Tuba bar. Rum lovers can discover the **Tuba Libre** with its notes of star anise, licorice, and fennel. It's the same but so very different.

THE RESTAURANT

For its third season, the place to eat in Les Goues is celebrating the arrival of two new chefs: **Sylvain Roucayrol** and **Paul-Henri Bayart** have been unveiled and are ready to take the plunge. Under the leadership of Grégory Gassa and Fabrice Denizot, the two chefs have made the kitchen their own and are bringing their talent, their culinary creativity, and their hospitality to the table!

Sylvain Roucayrol was trained by Claude Bosi (London), Izu Ani (Dubai), and by the Experimental Group before taking his place at the helm of Mara (Paris) and becoming Executive Chef of the restaurants Caché and Amagat. Paul-Henri Bayart spent more than ten years in the world of asset management before joining the Ferrandi culinary arts school in Paris. He met Sylvain at Caché, where he held various positions in the kitchen, and then helped open the Amagat restaurant, once again with Sylvain. Together, Sylvain and Paul are breathing new life into Tuba's interpretation of Mediterranean cuisine.

Beyond the delightful flavors, the duo have had an impact at Tuba by developing a well-considered identity for the menu and displaying an authentic mastery of Mediterranean products! Devoted to fish and local products, Sylvain and Paul offer a happy mix of starters and main courses, with no strict order or hierarchy, only an emphasis on sharing: fish crudos, shellfish of the day, grilled lamb chops, Mediterranean antipasti, and local vegetables are all on the plate.

With a focus on fresh products, they offer a tart of Mediterranean red tuna that is prepared at the table with perfect seasoning and meticulous work on the raw fish. All of this is followed by desserts that will make your spoons melt with a special mention for the *chocoquine* tart, the homemade ice cream, or mascarpone cream in a generous pot to share, not to forget the Provençal cookies that, once tasted, will blissfully propel you straight to the striped loungers.





TUBA À LA CARTE

ON THE WATER

- **Boating**

Marseille is synonymous with boats and Tuba has created a to-go picnic basket perfectly suited to lounging on the deck while out on the waters. Inside: wine, anchovy dip, and a fluorescent snorkel. Of course, you can also enjoy sitting on the rocks or snuggling under a blanket, the only important thing is to remember to toast the moment..

- **Paddleboards & canoes**

The Mediterranean can also be enjoyed in self-propelled floating mode thanks to Tuba's collection of paddleboards and yellow canoes.

ACTIVITIES

While sunning on a deckchair, walking in the Calanques (with or without a guide), sipping cocktails, or borrowing a mask and snorkel to go swimming are the favorite pastimes at Tuba, guests can also indulge in many other fun activities. Among the options? Yoga, canoeing, stand-up paddleboard, petanque, backgammon, rock climbing...

More relaxed alternatives? How about a sauna or a deep-muscle massage? All you need to do is ask, and we'll take care of you.

GREEN
FRIENDLY



At the gateway to the Calanques National Park, Tuba is deeply committed to a sustainable and environmentally friendly approach. Gregory Gassa and Fabrice Denizot have even established a “green charter”. Available in the rooms and the shared areas, it reminds guests of the most important measures to help the environment... AND urges them to adopt them!

And since each year more than 600 000 tons of waste plastic end up in the Mediterranean, Tuba bans everything it can: no plastic straws, no disposable cups, no packaged soaps, and no cleaning products with dubious ingredients!

RADIO TUBA

Eyes closed on a deckchair, sitting on the terrace, wading along the rocks, or drinking at the bar, wherever you are at Tuba, its custom radio station is there with you.

Morning, noon, night, and even at that fateful hour when it's time to depart for home, there's always music in the background. On the playlist, local and international, popular and cult, family and festive... everything is permitted! At least, everything that feels like holidays, warm sand, relaxation, and the Dolce Vita. For music lovers searching for the Mediterranean spirit, it's time to forget Ibiza and the music of the Balearic Islands because now it's happening in Les Goudes in Marseille.

Radio Tuba 24/7 at:

tuba-club.com

Spotify playlist:

[shorturl.at/hpwTU](https://open.spotify.com/playlist/shorturl.at/hpwTU)

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