Thirteen kilometres from the coast as the crow flies, the Domaine des Courmettes is a 600 hectare nature reserve overlooking the Côte d’Azur. The buildings, which lie at 850 metres, have ‘character’ – an old mountain farm which was transformed into a sanatorium in the 1920s, then adapted as a centre to welcome visitors.

The site is known for its high biodiversity and A Rocha, a Christian conservation organisation, manages the area as a nature reserve. Sheep and goats help maintain the open spaces.

This outstanding natural area looking out across the Côte d’Azur offers superb walking, a rich flora and fauna and is a special place to visit. The Domaine rises to the Pic des Courmettes at 1248 metres, from the summit of which the visitor can see a unique panorama of the sea and the Alps.

We are offering the opportunity for Christian groups to spend a week’s holiday at this A Rocha centre, discovering the rich environment of the Domaine as well as the wider area. Discovery weeks run from late afternoon Sunday to Saturday morning, for groups of 15 or more guests. Accommodation is in double rooms (not en-suite), with full board, costing around €50 per person per day.
A range of activities are possible, and in discussion with Jean-François Mouhot, the Centre’s Director, your group can help shape your week in line with your interests. The chapel meeting room is available for morning devotions, and in the evenings, talks and discussions on different aspects of A Rocha’s project at Les Courmettes, and wider issues of faith and creation care can be offered.

Your holiday week could include:

* Discovery walks in Courmettes nature reserve with a local nature guide
* Guided geological & archaeological exploration of Courmettes site.
* Observation of the ornithological work being done at Courmettes
* Visit to Courmettes farm (sheep, goats and cheese making)
* Bird watching on site and further afield
* Many opportunities to do nature photography, painting and sketching
* A possibility to be involved ‘hands–on’ with practical work on the Domaine
* Independent walks from the centre
* A visit to the medieval village of Tourrettes–sur–Loup
* Visiting cities and museums of the Côte d’Azur
* Visits to Mediterranean beaches, including diving or coastal walks

Contact:
Email: courmettes@arocha.org
Phone: +33 (0)4 92 11 02 32

Travel to Les Courmettes:
By Car: 45 minutes from Nice, 2.5 hours from Marseille
By Train: To Nice station and then by local bus to Vence
By Air: Nice airport and then by local bus to Vence