



# Content

#### Terres d'Albine

- 6 The Factory
- 11 Craft and Tradition
  - 11 Preparing the clay
  - 12 Shaping
  - 16 Color
  - 17 Firing
  - 17 Finishes
  - 18 Ceramic Patinas
  - 19 Our seal

#### **Reconstituted Stone**

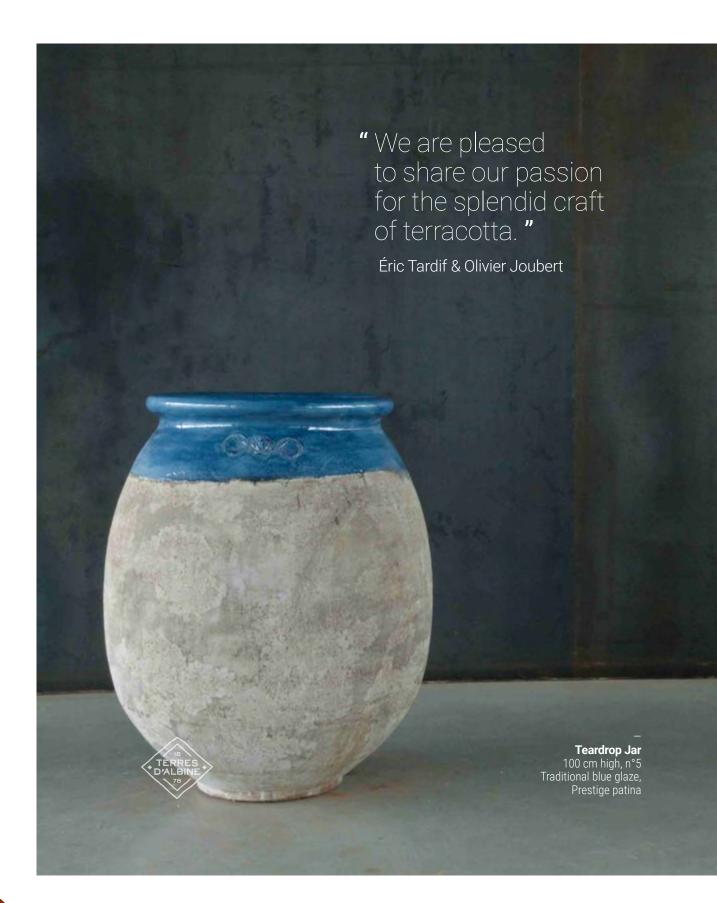
- 56 Bouquets
- 58 Putti
- 64 Urns and Vases
- 66 Large Statues
- 70 Pedestals
- 72 Animals
- 76 Cherubs and Buddhas

#### **Terracotta**

- 22 Teardrop Jars
- 26 Oil Jars
- 28 Olive Jars
- 30 Art déco Vases
- 32 Roy Soleil Vases
- 34 Languedocien Vases
- 38 Decorated Jars
- 40 Bugadier
- 42 Cuvier Vats
- 44 Contemporary Vases
- 46 Basins
- 48 Tables
- 50 Planters
- 52 Ornaments

#### From Albine to You

- 80 To Visit Us
- 82 Making Your Choice
  - 82 Custom orders
  - 83 Color samples
- 84 Color samples
- 86 How to place your order





Terres d'Albine is above all a story of passion and roots: roots in the earth - or actually in the clay extracted from our quarry at the foot of the Black Mountain; roots in know-how with traditional manufacturing processes stretching back to antiquity. Our passion for this profession maintains, perpetuates, develops and radiates this know-how as widely as possible.

Terres d'Albine, next to the Bouisset Brickyard, founded in 1878, produces high-quality vases, jars and statues. These products - hand made in our workshop in Albine, Tarn in southern France - are now known world-wide for their quality.

In 2018 two skilled and ardent ceramists took over the company, opening a new chapter. Their purporse was to continue the business, preserve the living know-how and use of the excellent local raw material - Albine clay to guarantee the continuity of the company's history.

This new catalogue illustrates our on-going dynamic.

We are pleased to share our passion for the splendid craft of terracotta.

Éric Tardif & Olivier Joubert directors of Terres d'Albine







# The Factory

The factory in Albine, a small village in the Tarn Department of southern France, 90 minutes from Toulouse), **grew up next to the clay quarry,** It has operated since 1878 and we still extract the clay needed to make our products.

In its early days, the company met local and regional needs, producing canal tiles for roofing, pressed bricks and partition bricks. Alain Bouisset's father began to produce floor tiles in the 1960s, as well as outdoor paving tiles, and flat ceramic shingles.

In the 80s, Alain developed refractory products and decorative accessories for roofs: rake tiles, roof friezes, crown tiles, etc.

The company introduced trapezoidal roof tiles for round towers and spindles for staircases, as well as replicas for renovations, with hand molded products, and later began turning out products for historic monuments.





The factory then achieved critical mass and expanded to serve the rest of France.

In the early 1990s, the first Languedocien vases were made, and the factory acquired know-how in rope-thrown methods to produce large pieces.

At this time large vases and jars entered the product range, along with the first patina finishes. This led to producing pieces in reconstituted stone. Gradually, the decoration range was enriched.

In 2018, the company was acquired by two ceramist engineers who are keen to continue the history of this site blending craft and tradition.





# Craft and Tradition



1959, employees manually breaking up the clay



Today, the machine breaks up the clay, Luc checks its consistency

### Preparing the clay

Since 1878 we have used clay extracted from our own quarry, 300 meters from the factory. Generally, we carry out one extraction campaign per year in which machines are brought in to extract the clay and store it in a warehouse at the quarry entrance. During the year, we use the stored clay, which is crushed and mixed with other elements, depending on the desired qualities and renderings, such as heat resistance, insulation capacity, plasticity, color, finishing effects, etc.

Although machinery has replaced the shovels of yesteryear, an inspector is nevertheless present at all times, to assure the quality

of the clay preparation throughout the manufacturing process.

Thanks to our know-how and the specific capacities of our clays we are able to offer frost-resistant products.

We have had our terracotta products tested by the Société Française de Céramique according to the standard usually applied to tiles\*. Our products resisted 100 successive freeze/thaw cycles.

So you can leave them outside throughout the winter.

<sup>\*</sup> Frost resistance standard NF EN ISO 10545-12.

### Shaping

#### **Rope-thrown pottery**

#### An ancient technique

The technique of rope-thrown pottery dates back to the 17<sup>th</sup> century, and according to some accounts has roots in antiquity.

The jar is crafted on a potter's wheel.

Vertical wooden forms positioned on the base are wrapped with a rope to produce the inner shape, on which the clay is pressed, and to support the piece during drying.

An outer template forms the exterior shape of the vase and guarantees a specific thickness.

We rope-throw jars, amphoras, art deco vases, Sun King vases, bugadiers, vats and contemporary vases.

"The technique of rope-thrown pottery has roots in antiquity."







#### **Stamping and Decoration**

Some vases are molded by stamping in plaster molds. Clay is applied against the walls of a mold, produced by a master mold maker. The plaster absorbs moisture, and as the vase starts to dry, it shrinks, and can then be unmolded and decorated. We use this method to produce small pieces.

#### **Production of ornaments**

Our ornaments are made by casting, in which the clay in liquid form - called barbotine - is poured into a mold. Plaster - naturally porous - absorbs water from the barbotine and gradually a wall of firm clay builds up to the desired thickness. Then the mold is turned over to drain the excess barbotine. In other cases the ornaments are shaped by hand, then glued and finished manually.







### Color

#### Finding the right glaze

Our research and development technician can reproduce any of the classical colors used on buildings classified as Historic Monuments for identical renovations.

"Pastel blue", "Biot yellow", "copper", etc.
Each color requires dozens of trials before
being added to our color chart.
The raw materials are carefully measured
out, and then each proof is added to the proof
book. It is only validated after firing,
when the powder has revealed its colors after
exposure to heat. The enamel workshop looks
a little bit like a chemistry lab.

Our specifications include frost resistance, light refraction and texture.

We offer a standard color chart (see pages 84 and 85) but we are delighted to create custom colors, specifically for your needs.

Please note that from one firing to the next, the colors may vary, consequently our standard color chart can only offer a general indication.

#### **Glazing**

The enamel is prepared in powder form: we weigh the different raw materials, and then mix them with water. We use a variety of techniques to apply the enamel, depending on the type of piece. This includes by brush, ladle, soaking, or spray gun (see photo above).





### **Firing**

We let each piece dry for several weeks. Then it goes into the kiln for a long firing to render it durable and frost resistant.

Firing is the most delicate phase of the process. Despite our experience and the high quality of our clays, upon opening the kiln, some pieces occasionally crack or even break, obliging us to start over. Consequently we secure our ceramic knowledge, as we seek the varying causes of the break or crack, to prevent it from occurring again.

### **Finishes**

#### **Pottery finishes**

With these pre-fired finishes we seek to reveal the richness of the raw materials and inherent colors of the clays.

#### Unglazed clay

This is a smooth monochrome finish with a graphite or red color.

#### Rough clay

This finish highlights the grain of the clay and is available in chalk, brick or charcoal color.

#### **Antique finish**

This finish, applied after firing, results in a mixture of mineral textures that in some places reveal the unglazed clay.





### **Ceramic Patinas**

This is one of our specialties. Most of our creations have a patina finish so that the pieces harmoniously blend into the landscape, offering a traditional character to your interiors and exteriors. Each jar is unique and our patinas are all handmade.

#### **Classical patina**

The classical patina is our first. Over time, it has evolved. Originally it was applied as a cold finish, but now is applied to the raw piece and fired on the vase at high temperature.



### Our seal

#### **Prestige patina**

The prestige patina is exclusively ceramic, applied before firing and very resistant. It took several years of research to develop it. We work with the materials and colors to give you a quality finish worthy of jars that have come down to us through the centuries.

#### A certificate of authenticity

We stamp each of our terracotta creations with the "Terres d'Albine" seal to certify the authenticity of our products. It is stamped to the right and left of the Roy Soleil seal, and adorns the collars of our jars and Roy Soleil vases.





# Teardrop Jars

Originally in the south of France, and particularly in the village of Biot, potters began making olive or teardrop jars in the  $15^{th}$  century. These jars, used for food transport on boats, were made using the "colombin" technique.

Today, our hand-shaped jars, inspired by ancient models, are rope turned and offered in six shapes and four different heights: 60, 70, 80 cm (with or without garland) and two 100 cm models.



80 cm high with garland Ivory glaze, Prestige patina







## Oil Jars

The hand-stamped oil jars, unique in this collection of small pieces (45 cm to 55 cm), will embellish your interiors.



55 cm high Poppy red glaze, Classical patina



55 cm high Almond-green glaze, Classical patina



45 cm high Traditional blue glaze, Classical patina



45 cm high Traditional green glaze, Classical patina



55 cm high Verdigris glaze, Classical patina



45 cm high Honey glaze, Classical patina



# Olive Jars

Each jar is unique - hand turned according to the potter's inspiration. Each piece has a discreet particularity, a barely perceptible variation in size or shape, thus enhancing its value.

After drying, enameling the collar and firing, the patina is applied to give the jar the mark of time.

We offer our rope turned olive jars in five different heights: 130, 110, 90, 70 and 60 cm.



### Art déco Vases

This style from the 1930s synthesizes various currents. Although there are many sources of inspiration and international influences, Art Deco has become a symbol of French art seeking to balance modernism and tradition.

Our Art déco vases are handmade, using the rope-thrown technique.



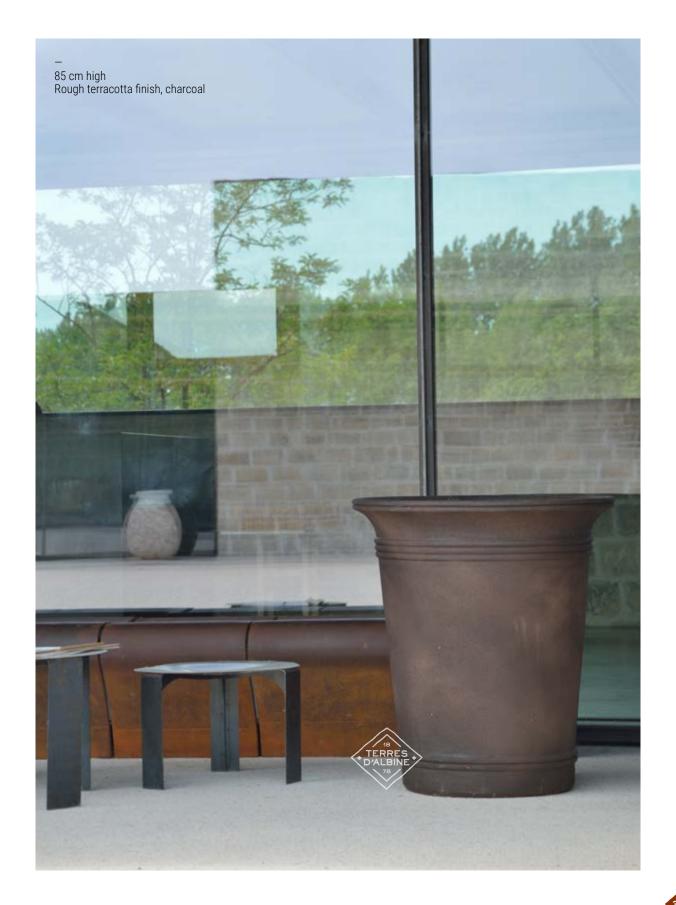




70 cm high Traditional green glaze



60 cm high Black satin glaze





# Roy Soleil Vases

This model, inspired by the Italian Renaissance, adorned the gardens of the Palace of Versailles according to legend. It is rope turned and decorations are affixed during the drying phase.

The Roy Soleil vase is available in heights of 100, 80 and 65 cm, with or without garland.



100 cm high Ivory glaze



100 cm high Antique glaze



80 cm high Ivory glaze

# Languedocien Vases

The Languedocien vase, an exclusive Terres d'Albine creation, displays Italian Renaissance inspiration.

These vases are handmade, by stamping.
Each model is available in heights of 60 or 80 cm.
The decoration varies slightly between the large and small models.





**Fleur de Lys** 60 cm high Traditional green glaze



**Classical** 60 cm high Traditional yellow glaze

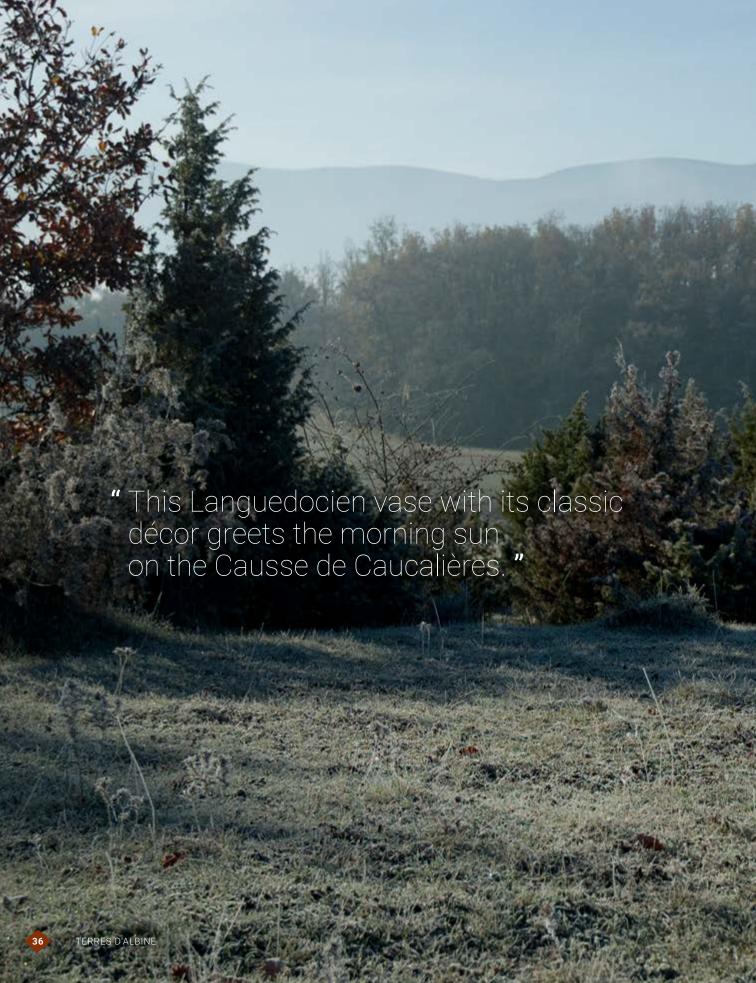


**Garland** 60 cm high Majorelle blue glaze













# Decorated Jars

These entirely hand-made Terres d'Albine creations are rope-thrown. Once the jar is shaped, the decorations are added by hand (see photo p.14). These include garlands, putti heads, leaves, or grape bunches.

The amphoras are 83 cm high.

Bacchus jars are available in heights of 70 and 90 cm.



**Amphora Putti** 83 cm high Upper half, Ivory glaze Lower half, Antique Patina



**Bacchus Jar** 90 cm high Ivory glaze

# Bugadier

In Provençal, "bugade" means laundry.

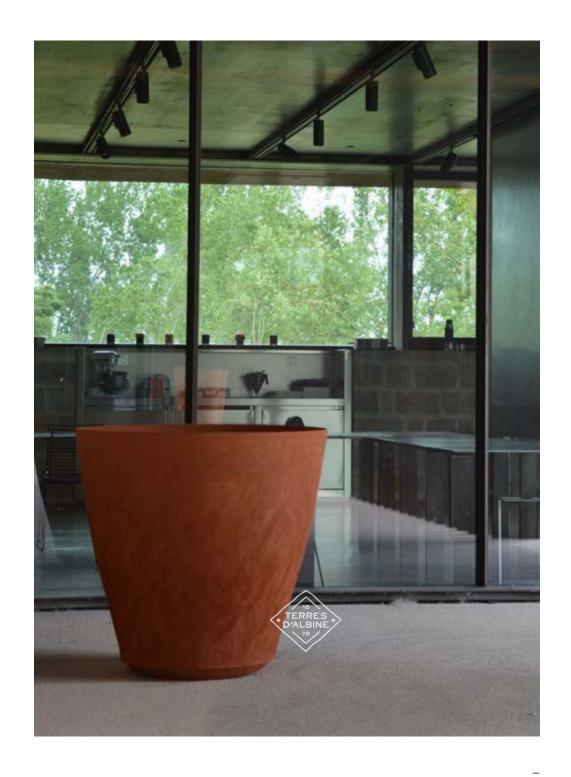
The original bugadier was therefore a "laundry tub", but this large jar could have other uses, for example to hold a reserve of water, or to serve as a container for maceration, or decanting.

We have renewed this shape and offer it to you to use as you like!

The handmade bugadier is rope turned and now exists in large or small sizes, and is equally at home indoors or out.







92 cm high Rough terracotta finish, brick

# Cuvier Vats The lines of these rope turned vats are resolutely contemporary. Inspired by antique stone ponnes and wooden vats, the cuvier was created as a planter for trees or shrubs. Enameled or with a raw terracotta finish, it blends perfectly with your interiors or exteriors. The Cuvier is produced in two sizes: 92 and 63 cm high.



## **Contemporary Vases**

The sober sophistication of these fine vases with their clean lines enhances both interior and exterior décors. These vases offer the timeless quality of raw terracotta or elegant enamels.

These rope-thrown pieces are available in heights of 130, 90 and 60 cm.



90 cm high Majorelle blue glaze

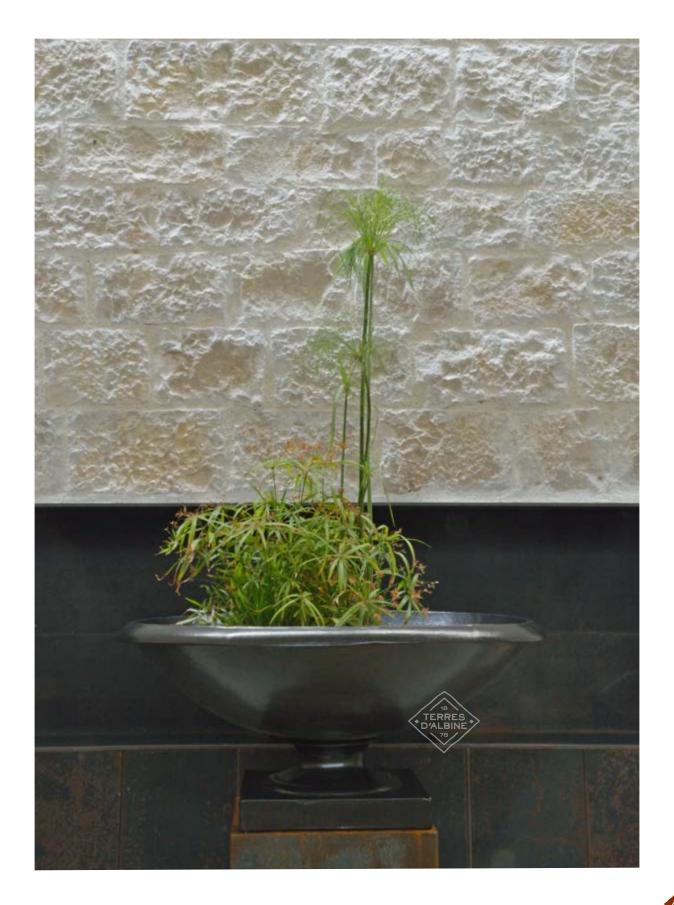


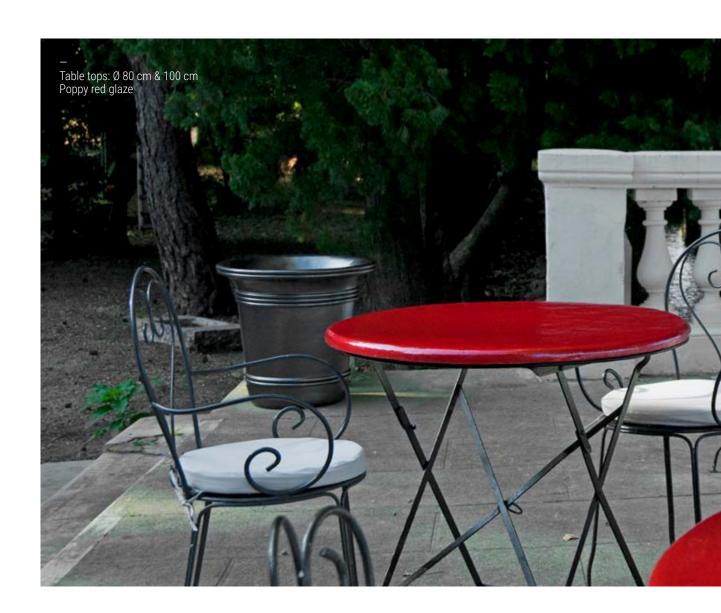
60 cm high Black glaze

#### Basins

This basin with its refined, classical lines evokes the elegance of antiquity. Entirely hand-made, its exceptional makes it an admirable piece. Height 45 cm, exterior diameter 110 cm.









#### **Tables**

We are very proud to offer you table tops of this size. Unlike enameled metal, they are perfectly weather resistant and can stay outdoors year round.

Our tabletops come in three sizes. Round: Ø 60, 80,100 cm. (Table legs not provided)

#### **Planters**

During the reign of Louis XIV, the Sun King, royal gardeners at the Palace of Versailles particularly appreciated this type of planter in the Orangeraie. The planters, originally of wood, allowed for easy repotting of orange trees, by simply breaking the containers. We offer an updated version made with terracotta and steel in different hues.

Planters are available in two sizes.

Square: 65 x 65 cm, Rectangular: 30 x 65 cm.



65 x 65 cm, 75 cm high Patina ivory glaze



#### **Ornaments**

Our hand-cast, terracotta ornaments, such as busts, finials, and water spouts, have patina finishes that fit right in with creations of past centuries. They have a raw terracotta finish.

If you prefer we can produce them with an enamel finish.



**Bacchus water spout** 50 cm high Terracotta



Bacchus water spout 50 cm high Patina



**Finial** 60 cm high Terracotta



Finial 60 cm high Patina





# Bouquets

At top a pillar, along an aisle or on a console, our range of reconstituted, patina-finish stone bouquets adorn both exteriors and interiors.





Perla bouquet 58 cm high Bouquet of flowers and fruit



-Iris bouquet 47 cm high Bouquet of flowers and fruit



**Finial** 71 cm high



**Globe** 64 cm high Pillar-top globe

#### Putti

With an 18<sup>th</sup>-century influence, our patina finish putti, made of reconstituted stone, are eager to be adopted!

The putto (singular of putti) is an Italian architectural term for a sculpture of a chubby, mischievous child on a façade. It is almost always a boy, and more rarely, a cherub. The putti are mainly found on Italian Renaissance monuments, especially on Sicilian Baroque buildings.

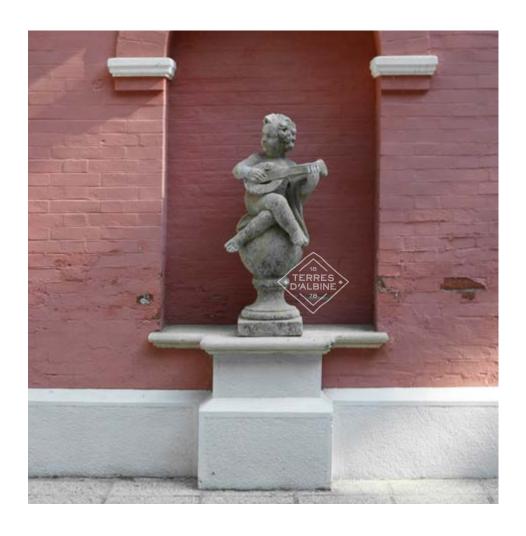




**Four-seasons putti** 70 cm high



**Four-seasons putti** 100 cm high





#### Musician putti 70 cm high From left to right: Tambourine, Pan Pipes, Flute & Cymbal







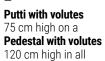


# Musician putti 100 cm high From left to right: Flute & Cymbal above, Guitar & Tambourine below















**Putti basket** 100 cm high



**Twins with a dove** 110 cm high

### Urns and Vases

Rather Baroque in style, the firepot traditionally adorns portals or pediments with volutes, depending on the era. The Medicis vase is named after The Villa Medicis, noted in the  $16^{\rm th}$  century.

Since then, many reproductions have emerged.



Fire pot 105 cm high Pot with cover



**Draped urn** 85 cm high Urn with cover



**Urn** 80 cm high



**Basin with flowers & fruit** 2 models available: 30 cm & 40 cm high



**Octagonal vase** 58 cm high



**Basket** 77 x 77 cm



**Medici vine vase** 97 cm high



**Medici vase** 2 models available: 75 cm & 95 cm high

## Large Statues

Our large statues of reconstituted stone express a rather Florentine influence and boast an aged patina finish.



#### **Four seasons statues** 150 cm high From left to right: Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter





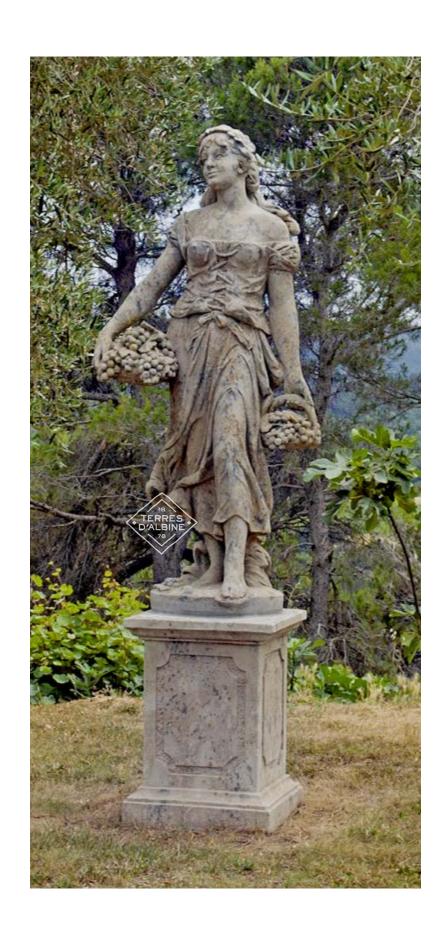








**Diana & Apollo** 140 cm high



**Autumn** on a **Pedestal** Total: 213 cm high

#### **Pedestals**

To highlight our statues, putti, basins and other pieces, we offer two models of pedestals. They are independent pieces, which can be used on their own.

Also available at a height of 90 cm high with a base of 52 x 52 cm.



**Pedestal**63 cm high
Reconstituted stone with aged patina



**Small Pedestal** 30 cm high Reconstituted stone with aged patina

# Animals

Our animal statues of reconstituted stone, set on either side of an entrance, gate, or at the foot of a staircase, will provide an impressive welcome for your guests.



The two lions 135 cm high Pedestal available at extra charge 49 x 110 x 54 cm



**Elmer the Bulldog** 98 cm high



**Jack the Doberman** 77 cm high



**Maydor the Greyhound** 80 cm high

You can also order other animals such as geese, frogs or wild boars.







– **Hen** 20 cm high

**Rooster** 35 cm high



**Cat** 25 cm high



Rabbit 30 cm high



**Turtle** Large: 20 x 27 x 40 cm Small: 10 x 15 x 25 cm

# Cherubs and Buddhas

#### Cherubs

At either side of an entrance or in the middle of a garden path, these little cherubs remind us of the Renaissance when they were everywhere.

#### **Buddhas**

A Buddha sculpture perfectly evokes an atmosphere of deep meditation.



**Thoughtful cherub** 35 x 16 x 22 cm, 12 kg



**Daydreaming cherub** 34 x 24 x 23 cm, 18 kg



**Reclining cherub** 23 x 54 cm, 9 kg







**Buddha head, small** 38 cm high 23 cm in diameter, 12 kg



**Buddha head, large** 58 cm high 35 cm in diameter, 57 kg



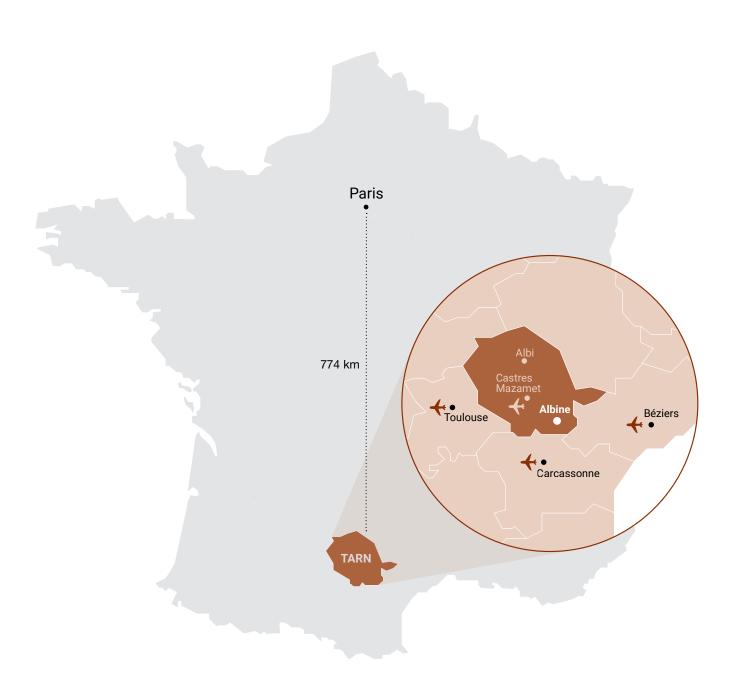


# To Visit Us

The factory is located in the south-east of the Tarn Department in southern France, ninety minutes from Toulouse, within the triangle formed by the cities of Béziers, Carcassonne and Albi. You can visit us during the week to observe our craftsmen at work, and see our range of products to fully appreciate their qualities and sizes. We encourage you to make an appointment so that we can give you a guided tour of our workshops.

Terres d'Albine Le Simou 81240 Albine, France contact@terres-albine.com +33 (0)5 63 98 32 08





# Making Your Choice

## **Custom orders**

We are pleased to be able to offer special items (in terms of shapes, materials and colors) for specific projects and sites.

We regularly work hand-in-hand with architects and landscapers. We can also customize certain products with your initials, coat of arms, motto, etc.

Feel free to ask us for a customized estimate.



Personalization of a Roy Soleil vase with the blazons of two families side-by-side beneath a crown (ordered by a landscaper)
About 15 x 20 cm.



## **Color samples**

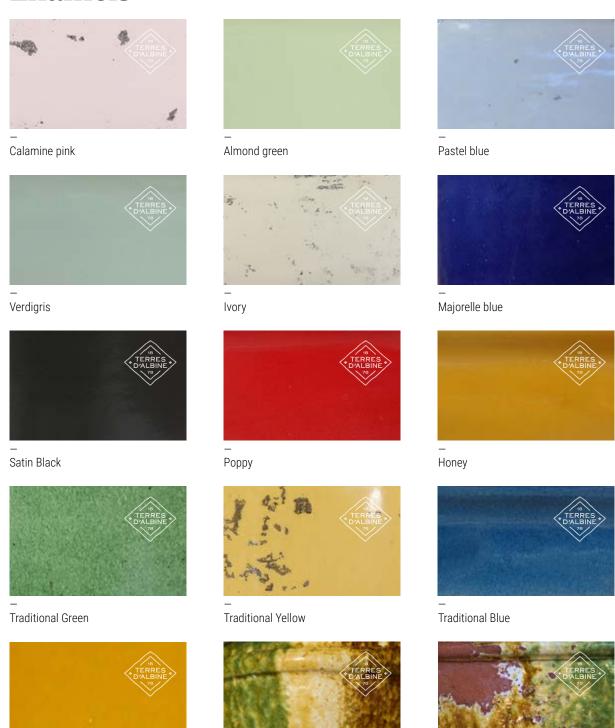
The following double page presents our standard colors.

Each piece displayed in this catalogue can be finished with a different enamel, color, patina or raw terracotta.

### Individualized colors

We'd be happy to develop a color for you and make the enamel to your expectations.

## **Enamels**



Old enamel

Antique enamel

Glossy yellow

## **Patinas**







Classic

## **Finishes**

### **Rough terracotta**



Chalk



Brick



Charcoal

### **Raw**



Graphite



Red

### **Antique**



## **Important!**

Please keep in mind that there may be differences in appearance between the photo printed on paper and the kiln-fired enamel on a shard. And from one firing to the next, the colors may vary. Consequently our color samples are intended to give you the general idea, with a possibility of variations.

# How to Place Your Order

You can place your order directly via our website or by sending us an email.

www.terres-albine.com contact@terres-albine.com

We can deliver anywhere in the world by surface transport, ship or air at extra charge.

If you would like advice on our products, material qualities or colors, you can contact us by phone, fax or letter.

Tel. +33 (0)5 63 98 32 08 Fax. +33 (0)5 63 98 48 27 Terres d'Albine Le Simou 81240 Albine, France

We are at your service Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. and from 2 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The delivery time depends on the item ordered and our backlog at the time. Since we produce hand-crafted pieces, our sales staff will give you a delivery date as soon as your order is received.

Follow us on social networks:



@terresalbine81



@terresdalbine



terres d albine



TERRES D'ALBINE





Page design and layout PRUNCH / www.prunch.fr

#### Texts

Terres d'Albine

#### **Translation**

Tim Bowler - AAA&Prose

#### Photo credits

Studio Tchiz: pages 2, 9, 18-19, 22-23, 26-27, 30, 33, 37, 38, 40, 45-46, 52-53, 57, 59, 63, 73-79, 84-85, 88 / Atelier Pépite: pages 4, 6-8, 12-15, 17, 20, 24-25, 28-29, 31-32, 34-35, 41-44, 47-49, 51, 54-56, 58, 60, 67-68, 70, 78, 80, 82-83, 87 / Raymond Alègre: pages 16, 33, 36, 39, 50, 57, 59, 60-66, 69, 71-73 / Briqueterie Bouisset: archive photos pages 10 & 11 & drone photos page 10.

© Terres d'Albine, March 2020, all rights reserved. The use or copying of any content (photos, texts and color chart) is prohibited without the authorization of the author.



www.terres-albine.com