This area is dedicated to temporary exhibitions.

8 / Marseilles deportees testimonies
The Evacuated and the Scrutinised from the Old Port: screening of testimonies from Jean-Pierre Carlon's film Opération Sultan, Les Productions du Lagon, 14 minutes.

7 / The wall of names
The names of deportees to and from Marseille are inscribed on this wall, along with their ages at the time of their deportation. This presentation is intended to be a symbol, helping to restore an identity to the men, women and children sent to Reich prisons, concentration camps or killing centres. It is also an evolutionary work, as new names will be added each year. If you wish to honour someone’s memory, we would be very happy to welcome you upon appointment.

musee-histoire@marseille.fr ou 04 91 55 36 00

8 / Remembrance and artistic area
By using artistic works that are sometimes reflexive, sometimes immersive and performative, the Mémorial des déportations allows everyone to explore different perspectives, all of which are subjective expressions of the Shoah tragedy and the victims of the War that go beyond a strictly historical approach and raise issues between the past and the present.

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18 urns containing ashes and earth from 12 concentration camps and 6 killing centres are collected to sustain the memory of all those who perished there.

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The ‘Threat of Barbarity’, extreme violence, reduces a person’s body to decay, passing through all stages of suffering.

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The Threat of Barbarism, Jean-Marc Bourry, 1995
This 3-meters-deep sculpture spreads out in a circular arc, is composed of 24 bronze columns, measures 2.20 metres high, and has a central steel piece. Twelve vertical elements, representing the twelve tribes of Israel in the Book of Genesis in the Old Testament, stand on either side of a central element, symbolising the ‘Threat of barbarism’: the columns - a round, broad shape, with a smooth texture, and a light, luminous colour when furthest from the threatening point of the central bow - gradually become thinner, rougher-looking, and darker-coloured, the closer to the central element they are. Up close to the unspeakable, the columns are black, rough and narrow.

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The ‘Threat of Barbarity’, extreme violence, reduces a person’s body to decay, passing through all stages of suffering.
Repression and Persecution in Marseilles throughout the Second World War

Memory of a place

In the Centre of Documentation Juive Contemporaine and the Musée des Docks romains, the Mémorial des déportations — also known as the Mémorial des camps de la mort — is dedicated to the repression and persecution policies that were implemented throughout the Second World War, and is associated with the Musée de la Docks romains, the Mémorial de la Marseillaise and various archaeological sites.

Mémorial des déportations

The Mémorial des déportations, formerly known as the Mémorial de la Marseillaise, forms an integral part of the Voie Historique, along with the Musée des Docks romains, the Mémorial de la Marseillaise and various archaeological sites.

Ground floor

1 / The bunker infirmary

Located underneath Fort Saint-Jean, a bunker: a medical facility used by both the Allies and the Germans during the Second World War. The bunker covered a large area, and on a larger scale, the Operation Toulon block (the Mediterranean War). It is also located within the extensive coastal fortifications system, built by the British to fight the invasion threat in 1940. Its use as a hospital was determined by the need to provide a place to treat wounded soldiers, as well as the medical supplies that were left behind today, as well as a testimony of the essential role of the doctor and his medical team during the fighting for the liberation of Marseilles, 1943-1944. The first meeting between General de Gaulle and the French-Allied forces, and General Giraud, representing the Free French, took place in the bunker on the front of the building's façade on 23rd August 1944, in order to attempt to claim the official surrender of the German military in the city of Marseilles. An interactive device highlights the various areas of German military constructions in Marseilles, their history and the traces they have left behind today, as well as a testimony of the essential role of the doctor and his medical team during the fighting for the liberation of Marseilles, 1943-1944.

2 / Historical landmarks

This film, directed by Drôle de Trame, is a celebration of the city’s heritage and a journey from one site to another, aiming to provide a general overview of the various urban landscapes of Marseilles: crime, vice, filth and cosmopolitanism.

3 / The deportees’ route from Marseilles

Two screens giving access to testimonies from the deportees:

- Marseilles, Vichy and the Nazis, the Time of the Round-ups, Deposition of the Jews, Published in 1933. The film is a collection of written testimonies from three deportees, women, men, and children, arrested and then deported because they were born Jews or were repressed as politicians, resisters, hostages or “suspects.”

- Marseilles, Vichy and the Nazis, the Time of the Round-ups, Deposition of the Jews, Published in 1995. Published in 2007, Publications of the raids. Published in 1995, this book is a collection of written testimonies from three deportees, women, men, and children, arrested and then deported because they were born Jews or were repressed as politicians, resisters, hostages or “suspects.”

4 / Testimonies of Marseilles deportees

Testimonials from deportees...