

CONTENTS

FOR MORE THAN 850 YEARS...	2
A BRIEF HISTORY OF MONASTICISM	4
Saint Benedict, father of Western Monasticism	5
HISTORY OF SÉNANQUE	7
A secluded, wooded valley	8
Benefactors	9
High point	13
The Papacy in Avignon	13
Firm stability	14
Fervent young monks	14
Commendatory Abbot	15
Wars of Religion	16
Following the Founders' intentions	16
Sénanque abandoned	17
Renaissance	18
Congregation of the Immaculate Conception	19
Return of the monks	20
MONASTIC LIFE IN SÉNANQUE TODAY	22
Prayer	24
Work	25
The monastic mystery	26
A TOUR OF THE MONASTERY	28
The Romanesque spirit	28
Cistercian architecture	30
Does Cistercian art really exist?	32
THE DORMITORY	34
THE ABBEY CHURCH	35
The Choir	36
The Nave	40
THE CHURCH' S STAINED GLASS WINDOWS	44
THE CLOISTER	46
THE CHAPTER HOUSE	52
THE CHAPEL - THE FORMER REFECTORY	55
THE WARMING ROOM OR MONKS' ROOM	56
THE BUILDERS	60
GLOSSARY	62
CHRONOLOGY	63

Publisher: Bertrand Hervo
Editorial coordination: Caroline Brou
Design and layout:
Céline Vauléon,
Éditions Ouest-France graphic studio
Photoengraving: Scann' Ouest, Rennes
Printing: Pollina, Luçon (85) - n° L88630A
Printed in France

© 2003, Éditions Ouest-France
Édilarge SA, Rennes, France
ISBN 2 7373 3271 0
Legal deposit: January 2003
Publisher no.: 4566.01.3,5.01.03