



Hybrid Seminar/Workshop (online and in person, and Spanish and English)

## Fire Enlightenment: emerging paradigms for integrated fire management policies in Latin America and the Caribbean fuelled by biocultural diversities

What relationships between fire management policies, fire sciences and local fire practices in Latin America and the Caribbean region?

10 – 11 May 2023, Montpellier, France



- a) Pemón Arekuna community researcher during the burning of "conuco" (swidden cultivation) after asking permission from God Wacarampü, in Kavanayén, Gran Sabana, Canaima National Park, northern Amazonia, Venezuela. Photo: Leonardo Gutiérrez, 2021.
- b) Celebration of the fire ceremony: Ajq'ija' (in the Kaqchikel language of Guatemala, Mayan timekeepers), in Comitán, Chiapas. Photo: Laura Ponce, 2021.

### Dates and Venues:

10 – 11 May 2023

**Wednesday, 10 May:** Amphithéâtre RH - Présidence Centre-Ville, Botanical Institute -, 5 Boulevard Henri IV, 34000 Montpellier – France (<https://goo.gl/maps/XRMbo5d22KU9tv1F9>).

### Thursday, 11 May:

Morning - MAK'IT rooms, Botanical Institute, 163 rue Auguste Broussonnet, 34090 Montpellier – France (<https://goo.gl/maps/66ke3ikKGNR4eMTTA>).

Afternoon - Amphithéâtre RH - Présidence Centre Ville, Botanical Institute -, 5 Boulevard Henri IV, 34000 Montpellier – France (<https://goo.gl/maps/XRMbo5d22KU9tv1F9>).

### Organisers

Bibiana Bilbao<sup>1</sup>, Ludivine Eloy<sup>2</sup>, Alexandre Gaudin<sup>3</sup>, Jayalaxshmi Mistry<sup>4</sup>, Marie Toussau<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> UMR SENS - Institut de recherche pour le développement (IRD) [marie.toussaint@ird.fr](mailto:marie.toussaint@ird.fr)



## Language

The seminar will be in Spanish and English (with access to simultaneous translation during the presentations on May 10).

## Introduction and objectives

Under conditions of increasingly extreme climate changes and rapid and dramatic transformations in land use, the occurrence of wildfire mega-events of great severity in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) has become a critical problem, affecting local communities, populations at urban-rural interfaces, forest firefighters, ecosystem biodiversity and carbon sequestration capacity. Despite costly investment in human resources and high technical deployment, dominant fire suppression policies have not been sufficiently effective to control and extinguish and reduce the risks and impacts of the most severe and extensive wildfires increasing throughout the LAC region, even affecting more vulnerable ecosystems such as primary tropical rainforests and wetlands (e.g., Delta del Paraná River, Argentina). Co-developing new visions and capacities for integrated and intersectoral management of wildfires instead of just fighting them requires the inclusion of multiple perspectives and actors and rescuing the knowledge and adaptive practices of Indigenous peoples and local communities that inhabit natural spaces. There are inspiring initiatives from which essential lessons can be learned and identify challenges and barriers to overcome through collaboration, both at the regional level in LAC and in other regions that share similar challenges. However, in LAC, we acknowledge that there are different paradigms for fire management policies regarding their relationships with interculturality, forms of implementation, collaborations and evaluation. Furthermore, co-production or co-management experiences include many problems: struggles for recognition, overcoming historical power and knowledge inequalities, organisation issues, financial restrictions, dominant rules, and technocratic processes.

This workshop will gather members of civil and government organisations, academics and representatives of local communities from different countries. The main objective is to share different experiences and knowledge systems related to fire management in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) to contribute to the debate on the opportunities and challenges of dialogue and learning between scientific, fire practitioners' expertise, and traditional knowledge.

### Specific objectives

1. Contextualise and valorise Latin American experiences vis-à-vis other regions of the world to contribute to diagnosing actors positioning and socio-environmental changes related to fire in the LAC region.
2. Evaluate the status of integrated fire management policies in LAC and future plans incorporating an intercultural and intersectoral vision.
3. Identify the innovations and issues involving collaboration between local communities, academics and fire managers.
4. Strengthen and diversify the collaborative network between Latin American and European partners on integrated fire management policies.



## Supporters and framework of the event:

This workshop will be held within the framework of and with the support of the following projects and organisations:

- *Montpellier Advanced Knowledge Institute on Transitions (MAK'IT)*, University of Montpellier. Project: “Fire Management Strategies in Latin America (LA): New Challenges and Opportunities for Policymakers in the Context of Climate Change”, Visiting Scholar Program 2022-2023 <https://makit.edu.umontpellier.fr/en/fellows/fellows-visiting-scientists/bibiana-bilbao/>
- *EcoSoFi: Projet Écosystèmes, Sociétés, Feu, Interdisciplinarité* – MSH Sud, France, MSH-Sud/ Maison des Sciences de l'Homme Montpellier : Sciences et Société Unies pour un autre Développement, Montpellier, France.
- *FIRE-ADAPT: The Role of Integrated Fire Management on Climate Change Adaptation for Ecosystem Services in Tropical and Subtropical Regions*, MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS, HORIZON-MSCA-SE-2021 (EU). <https://www.paucostafoundation.org/en/proyectos/fire-adapt/>
- *LANDMARC: LAND-use based MitigAtion for Resilient Climate pathways*, H2020-LC-CLA-2019-2 (EU) <https://www.landmarc2020.eu/>
- *COBRA Collective (CIC)* <https://cobracollective.org/>
- *TROPENBOS INTERNATIONAL: Towards fire-smart landscapes.* <https://fire-smart-landscapes.tropenbos.org/#>



## PROGRAM

**Note:** COBRA Collective will collect video footage and individual interviews during the two days to gather the views of the workshop participants on integrated fire management (IFM) policies in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC). We aim to screen a draft of the video for feedback at the end of Day 2 (Thursday, 11 May 2023).

**WEDNESDAY 10/05 – MORNING** – Chairwoman and discussant: Ludivine Eloy

9:00 – 9:30 am: **Welcome Words and General Introduction**

Bibiana Bilbao, Ludivine Eloy, Alexandre Gaudin, Jayalaxshmi Mistry, Marie Toussau

### **Presentations:**

1. 9:30 – 9:50 am. **Indigenous peoples and local community representatives' perspectives from LAC:** Fire is life (Excerpts from videos compiled by Leonardo Gutiérrez, Bibiana Bilbao and Adriana Millán).
2. 9:50 – 10:10 am. **Fire Practitioner's Perspective:** Fire management in Bolivia: Experiences and challenges from the line of fire (Carlos Pinto, FAN, Bolivia).
3. 10:10 – 10:30 am. **Environmental Policy Manager's Perspective:** The integrated fire management approach for Latin America and the Caribbean: progress and challenges (Lara Steil – FAO).

10:30 – 10:50 am. Coffee break: 20 min

4. 10:50 – 11:10 am. **Researcher's Perspective:** Interdisciplinary and biocultural inclusion challenges in fire sciences for inclusive policymaking (Bibiana Bilbao, MAK'IT, Cobra Collective, Universidad Simón Bolívar, Venezuela).

### **Discussion**

5. 11:10 am – 11:30 pm. **Discussant:** Ludivine Eloy (20 min).
6. 11:30 – 12:30 pm. **Q&As** (60 min)

**12:30 – 02:00 pm: LUNCHTIME**



**WEDNESDAY 10/05 – AFTERNOON** - Chairwoman: Jayalaxshmi Mistry

**Location:** Amphithéâtre RH - Présidence Centre-Ville, Instituto Botánico –, 5 Boulevard Henri IV, 34000 Montpellier – France (<https://goo.gl/maps/XRMbo5d22KU9tv1F9>).

02:00 - 02:20 pm **Welcome Words by Patrick Caron, founder and director of the MAK'IT Institute.**

**Presentations/ Panel Discussion:**

2:20 – 2:30 pm Afternoon session introduction: Jayalaxshmi Mistry

1. 02:30 – 04:00 pm. ***Experiences and approaches of international cooperation projects involving stakeholders' engagement and interculturality in fire management.*** (Interventions 60 minutes + Questions and answers 30 min).

- Imma Oliveras (Institut de Recherche pour le Développement. Montpellier, France): European project FIRE-ADAPT: The role of integrated fire management in climate change adaptation for ecosystem services in tropical and subtropical regions;

- Jenny Lieu (Faculty of Technology, Policy and Management, the Multi-Actor Systems Department, Technische Universiteit Delft, The Netherlands) European project LANDMARC: Land-based mitigation for a climate change resilient pathways;

- Nuria Prat (Pau Costa Foundation, Spain) Cooperation nexus with Latin America by the PAU COSTA FOUNDATION;

- Khalisa Ikhlef (UNESCO - Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems Programme – LINKS). United Nations Decades, International Decade of Indigenous Languages, LINKS, UNESCO;

- Catherine Monagle (International Savanna Fire Management Initiative -ISFMI-): Opportunities to improve fire management in savannas and tropical dry forests worldwide from the International Savannah Fire Management Initiative;

- Serena Heckler (Man and Biosphere Program Coordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean) Platform for climate change, risk and resilience in UNESCO sites in Latin America and the Caribbean.

**04:00 – 04:20 am Coffee break (20 min)**





2. 04:20 – 05:50 pm. **Experiences and approaches of local projects involving stakeholders' engagement and interculturality in fire management.** (Interventions 60 minutes + Questions and answers 30 min).

- Rodrigo de Moraes Falleiro (IBAMA/PREVFOGO Program, Brazil): *Implementation of prescribed burn management in Brazil: the challenge of integrating public management, scientific research and traditional practices;*

- Brian Ferrero (CONICET-CIT-Rafaela, Argentina): *Collective construction around fire management: experiences with the rural population, academic and governmental sectors in the upper Delta of the Paraná River, Argentina;*

- Laura Ponce-Calderón (El Colegio de la Frontera Sur, Chiapas, Mexico) *"Pyrobibiocultural revaluation as a strategy to integrate intercultural fire management"*

- Ameyalí Ramos (International Savanna Fire Management Initiative - ISFM): *ISFM initiatives in Latin America;*

- Miguel Matany Luque (Dirección General Nacional de Bomberos (DGNB): *Integral fire management with an intercultural vision, Venezuela.*

3. 05:50 – 06:10 pm. **Summary of the session:** Bibiana Bilbao

**06:30 – 08:00 pm Cocktail: Launch of the Spanish version of the book TFI#61: "Hacia la construcción de paisajes a prueba de incendios" (Towards fire-smart landscapes, Nick Pasiecznik and Johann Goldammer editors)<sup>6</sup> by Nick Pasiecznik, the editor of the TROPENBOS INTERNATIONAL series and Bibiana Bilbao, Member of the TFI#61 Editorial Board.**

**Location:** Jardin des plantes de Montpellier

(<https://www.google.com/maps/@43.6142238,3.8732543,15z>). Entrance by the Botanical Institute, 163 rue Auguste Broussonnet, 34090 Montpellier – France (<https://goo.gl/maps/66ke3ikKGNR4eMTTA>).

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.tropenbos.org/resources/publications/tropical+forest+issues+61:+towards+fire-smart+landscapes+>



### **THURSDAY 11/05 - MORNING**

**Location:** MAK'IT' spaces, Botanical Institute, 163 rue Auguste Broussonnet, 34090 Montpellier – France (<https://goo.gl/maps/66ke3ikKGNR4eMTTA>).

#### **09:00 am – 01:00 pm. Workgroups session**

09:00 am – 09:20 p m. Introduction and explanation of the work dynamics: Bibiana Bilbao, Ludivine Eloy y Jayalaxshmi Mistry (20 min)

9:20 – 12:30 am. Working group discussion

**Question 1-** What differences and similarities exist concerning the drivers of changes in forest fire regimes, vulnerabilities of socio-environmental systems, fire management practices and policies between the different regions of Latin America and the Caribbean? (60 min)

**Question 2-** What gaps (or gaps) exist between scientific research and fire management? What types of research are needed to generate better fire management policies? (60 min)

#### **11:15– 11:30 am. Coffee break: 15 min (patio at the Botanical Institute - MAKIT)**

Question 3- What actions are needed to strengthen collaborations between sectors (academics, fire practitioners, Indigenous peoples and local communities, policymakers, others) and regions?

#### **12:30 - 02:00 pm. LUNCHTIME.**

### **THURSDAY 11/05 - AFTERNOON**

**Location:** Amphithéâtre RH - Présidence Centre Ville, Botanical Institute -, 5 Boulevard Henri IV, 34000 Montpellier – France (<https://goo.gl/maps/XRMbo5d22KU9tv1F9>).

02:00 – 02:15 pm Afternoon introduction

02:15 – 03:15 pm Working groups wrap-up

04:30 – 05:15 pm Projection of the event draft video and feedback – Claudia Nuzzo

05:15 – 05:45 pm Drafting the Manifesto with recommendations and the way further.

05: 45 – 06:00 pm Event concluding remarks and following steps– Bibiana Bilbao, Ludivine Eloy, Alexandre Gaudin, Jayalaxshmi Mistry, Marie Toussau

**Goodbye words! Altogether.**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION!**



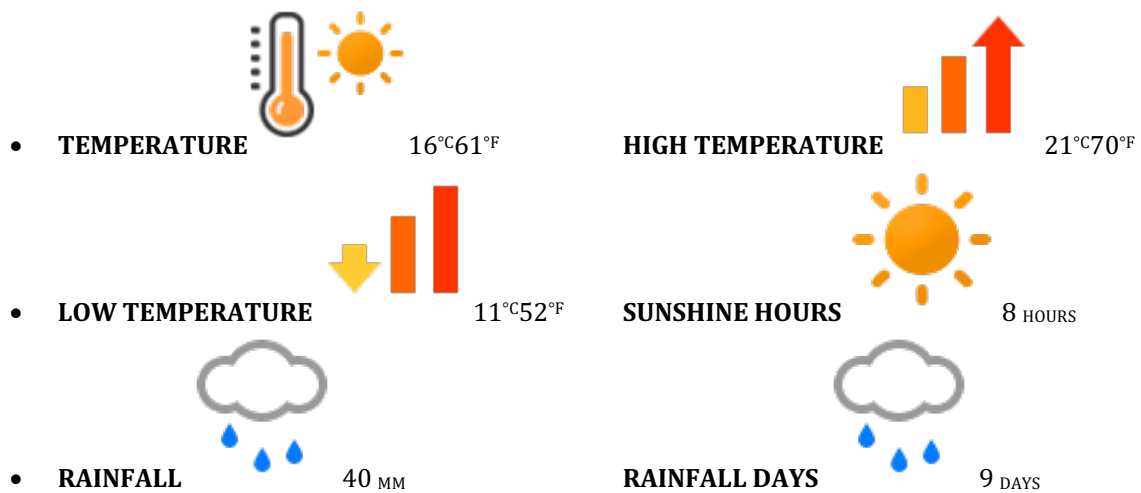
## MONTPELLIER'S TIPS

Tourist Office website: <https://www.montpellier-france.com>

### Climate

The climate of Montpellier is Mediterranean, with mild, relatively rainy winters and hot, sunny summers. Montpellier's sunshine is among the highest in France, and rainfall is not abundant.

#### MONTPELLIER WEATHER MAY AVERAGES, FRANCE



### Getting around

#### *Public transportation*

TAM administrates the primary public transportation network in Montpellier.

Christian Lacroix contributed to the design of Montpellier's four-line tram system. Single tickets (valid on trams and buses) cost €1.60. There are ticket machines at most tram stops, or you can buy them at the tourist office or newsagents.

Self-service bikes are available throughout the city. The city's compact centre is best explored on foot.

#### *Taxi companies*

Taxi Bleu du Midi: +33 4 67 03 20 00

Taxi TRAM: +33 4 67 58 10 10

### Opening hours

Most shops in Montpellier are open Monday to Saturday and are closed on Sundays. Shops usually open at 9:00 or 10:00, close for lunch, and generally stay open until about 19:00. Chain stores and supermarkets usually stay open throughout the day.

Public administration offices may have more restrictive opening hours.





### **Emergency phone numbers**

- 112 – emergency services valid in all European Union countries
- 15 – a medical emergency
- 17 - police
- 18 - fire brigade

### **Accommodation**

In Montpellier, each attendee must organise their accommodation, but if you need help, do not hesitate to contact us. Attached is information about accommodation in Montpellier (near the meeting site in the Centre of Montpellier):

#### ***Some hotel options in the centre of Montpellier:***

1. *Hotel Royal, 8, Rue Maguelone:* [https://www.royalhotelmontpellier.com/fr/?gclid=Cj0KCQjw8e-gBhD0ARIsAJiDsaWsnF8g1jBK-UwrP2Vi4a8uMDXqaHVdrGOY6DkyTFcK9moicQ0Yeh4aAuabEALw\\_wcB](https://www.royalhotelmontpellier.com/fr/?gclid=Cj0KCQjw8e-gBhD0ARIsAJiDsaWsnF8g1jBK-UwrP2Vi4a8uMDXqaHVdrGOY6DkyTFcK9moicQ0Yeh4aAuabEALw_wcB)
2. *Hotel Campanile Montpellier Centre St Roch, 11 rue Pagezy*  
[https://www.online-reservations.com/?hotelid=4885965&gclid=Cj0KCQjw8e-gBhD0ARIsAJiDsaWImoZ3Mre4ujCKaPRmGyA200EGZqzrz0jCZ-ljKJmpeuclNzrcJqkaApl1EALw\\_wcB](https://www.online-reservations.com/?hotelid=4885965&gclid=Cj0KCQjw8e-gBhD0ARIsAJiDsaWImoZ3Mre4ujCKaPRmGyA200EGZqzrz0jCZ-ljKJmpeuclNzrcJqkaApl1EALw_wcB)
3. *Kyriad Hotel Montpellier Centre Antigone, 890, Avenue Jean Mermoz*  
[https://montpellier-centre-antigone.kyriad.com/en-us/?sr=NBKYFR&gclsrc=aw.ds&kClickId=230323202837483707&kVsId=230323202837482980&gclid=Cj0KCQjw8e-gBhD0ARIsAJiDsaW\\_Z8ZMATGSiiU989pEVO3RKDxnp7nHfAtbiWfJvAln42ILM4waEVcaAsp5EALw\\_wcB](https://montpellier-centre-antigone.kyriad.com/en-us/?sr=NBKYFR&gclsrc=aw.ds&kClickId=230323202837483707&kVsId=230323202837482980&gclid=Cj0KCQjw8e-gBhD0ARIsAJiDsaW_Z8ZMATGSiiU989pEVO3RKDxnp7nHfAtbiWfJvAln42ILM4waEVcaAsp5EALw_wcB)
4. *Hotel du Palais, 3 Rue du Palais des Guilhem*  
<https://www.hoteldupalais-montpellier.fr/>
5. *Hotel Ibis Polygone 95, Place Vauban, Bd d'Antigone*  
<https://www.reservationstays.com/requests/6Br7WD22mAcTV4ObUsrO9g/hotels/DIZZ721J>
6. *Hotel des Arceaux , 33-35 Bd des Arceaux*  
<https://www.hoteldesarceaux.com/>
7. *Hotel Best Western Le Guilhem, 18 Rue Jean Jacques Rousseau*  
<https://www.bestwestern.fr/en/hotel-Montpellier-Best-Western-Hotel-Le-Guilhem-93720?sob=A42>

### **In Booking**

- *Hotel sites with affordable prices in the Centre of Montpellier between 9 and 11 May (3 nights) – 1 person*  
[https://www.booking.com/searchresults.en-gb.html?label=olr%3ACj0KCQjw8e-gBhD0ARIsAJiDsaWImoZ3Mre4ujCKaPRmGyA200EGZqzrz0jCZ-ljKJmpeuclNzrcJqkaApl1EALw\\_wcB&sid=a3b1a72e6f2e41151f5087d5af39cfbd&aid=1250365&ss=Montpellier&ssne=Montpellier&ssne\\_untouched=Montpellier&highlighted\\_hotels=4885965&lang=en](https://www.booking.com/searchresults.en-gb.html?label=olr%3ACj0KCQjw8e-gBhD0ARIsAJiDsaWImoZ3Mre4ujCKaPRmGyA200EGZqzrz0jCZ-ljKJmpeuclNzrcJqkaApl1EALw_wcB&sid=a3b1a72e6f2e41151f5087d5af39cfbd&aid=1250365&ss=Montpellier&ssne=Montpellier&ssne_untouched=Montpellier&highlighted_hotels=4885965&lang=en)



[gb&dest\\_id=-1453260&dest\\_type=city&checkin=2023-05-09&checkout=2023-05-12&group\\_adults=1&no\\_rooms=1&group\\_children=0&sb\\_travel\\_purpose=leisure&order=price&nflt=pri%3D2%3Bpri%3D3%3Bdi%3D7464%3Bdistance%3D1000%3Bht\\_id%3D204](https://www.booking.com/searchresults.en-gb.html?label=olr%3ACj0KCCQjw8e-gBhD0ARIsAJiDsaWImoZ3Mre4ujCKaPRmGyA200EGZqzrz0jCZ-IjKJmpeuclNzrcJqkaApl1EALw_wcB&sid=a3b1a72e6f2e41151f5087d5af39cfbd&aid=1250365&ss=Montpellier&ssne=Montpellier&ssne_untouched=Montpellier&highlighted_hotels=4885965&lang=en-gb&dest_id=-1453260&dest_type=city&checkin=2023-05-09&checkout=2023-05-12&group_adults=1&no_rooms=1&group_children=0&sb_travel_purpose=leisure&order=price&nflt=pri%3D2%3Bpri%3D3%3Bdi%3D7464%3Bdistance%3D1000%3Bht_id%3D204)

- **Apartment**

*In the centre of Montpellier between 9 and 11 May (3 nights) – 1 person*

[https://www.booking.com/searchresults.en-gb.html?label=olr%3ACj0KCCQjw8e-gBhD0ARIsAJiDsaWImoZ3Mre4ujCKaPRmGyA200EGZqzrz0jCZ-IjKJmpeuclNzrcJqkaApl1EALw\\_wcB&sid=a3b1a72e6f2e41151f5087d5af39cfbd&aid=1250365&ss=Montpellier&ssne=Montpellier&ssne\\_untouched=Montpellier&highlighted\\_hotels=4885965&lang=en-gb&dest\\_id=-1453260&dest\\_type=city&checkin=2023-05-09&checkout=2023-05-12&group\\_adults=1&no\\_rooms=1&group\\_children=0&sb\\_travel\\_purpose=leisure&order=price&nflt=pri%3D2%3Bpri%3D3%3Bdi%3D7464%3Bdistance%3D1000%3Bht\\_id%3D201](https://www.booking.com/searchresults.en-gb.html?label=olr%3ACj0KCCQjw8e-gBhD0ARIsAJiDsaWImoZ3Mre4ujCKaPRmGyA200EGZqzrz0jCZ-IjKJmpeuclNzrcJqkaApl1EALw_wcB&sid=a3b1a72e6f2e41151f5087d5af39cfbd&aid=1250365&ss=Montpellier&ssne=Montpellier&ssne_untouched=Montpellier&highlighted_hotels=4885965&lang=en-gb&dest_id=-1453260&dest_type=city&checkin=2023-05-09&checkout=2023-05-12&group_adults=1&no_rooms=1&group_children=0&sb_travel_purpose=leisure&order=price&nflt=pri%3D2%3Bpri%3D3%3Bdi%3D7464%3Bdistance%3D1000%3Bht_id%3D201)

- **Houses and apartments**

*In the centre of Montpellier between 9 and 11 May (3 nights) – 4 people*

[https://www.booking.com/searchresults.en-gb.html?label=olr%3ACj0KCCQjw8e-gBhD0ARIsAJiDsaWImoZ3Mre4ujCKaPRmGyA200EGZqzrz0jCZ-IjKJmpeuclNzrcJqkaApl1EALw\\_wcB&sid=a3b1a72e6f2e41151f5087d5af39cfbd&aid=1250365&ss=Montpellier&ssne=Montpellier&ssne\\_untouched=Montpellier&highlighted\\_hotels=4885965&lang=en-gb&sb=1&src\\_elem=sb&dest\\_id=-1453260&dest\\_type=city&checkin=2023-05-09&checkout=2023-05-12&group\\_adults=4&no\\_rooms=1&group\\_children=0&sb\\_travel\\_purpose=leisure&order=price](https://www.booking.com/searchresults.en-gb.html?label=olr%3ACj0KCCQjw8e-gBhD0ARIsAJiDsaWImoZ3Mre4ujCKaPRmGyA200EGZqzrz0jCZ-IjKJmpeuclNzrcJqkaApl1EALw_wcB&sid=a3b1a72e6f2e41151f5087d5af39cfbd&aid=1250365&ss=Montpellier&ssne=Montpellier&ssne_untouched=Montpellier&highlighted_hotels=4885965&lang=en-gb&sb=1&src_elem=sb&dest_id=-1453260&dest_type=city&checkin=2023-05-09&checkout=2023-05-12&group_adults=4&no_rooms=1&group_children=0&sb_travel_purpose=leisure&order=price)