

PRESS FILE 2017



ARE YOU LOOKING FOR AUTHENTICITY AND SURPRISE ? AUBE IN CHAMPAGNE

Aube in Champagne is a land of culture, close to Paris, with a rich and varied heritage and lots of activities that multiply desires.

A breath of fresh air ? A getaway ? A journey of initiation in the steps of Rachi, Héloïse and Abélard, Bernard de Clairvaux, the Templars, Napoleon, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Camille Claudel...?

Aube is the land of all desires.

A historical and traditional artistic crossroads, Aube harbours a prestigious heritage that famous people have modelled, erected and transmitted to future generations.

Here, History is alive in all forms, from the most traditional to the most modern, for all visitors and all ages.

A surprising destination 1 1/2 hours from Paris in southern Champagne, Aube is a tourist mosaic of art, culture, oenology, gastronomy and natural and econo-

mic heritage, centred around medieval Troyes, the city of a thousand colours.

Unquestionably, 2017 is the **year of Renoir**, with the opening of the Renoir Home in Essoyes, accompanied by a vast new programme over the entire department. But not only...

The **opening of the Camille Claudel museum** in Nogent-sur-Seine, first international museum dedicated to this fabulous artist, is eagerly awaited, as is the **re-opening of the Commandery of Avalueur** magnificently restored professionally and the start of the future European cultural itinerary for the Templars.

If Aube harbours many half-timbered churches and houses, unique in France, abbeys and castles, it is also the temple of the **Beautiful 16th century Champagne sculpture** and the **European capital of stained-glass**. This constitutes a presti-

gious heritage recognised for its international interest.

Renowned for their warm and personalised welcome, the Aube tourism participants know how to federate and encourage. Artists, creators, craftsmen of excellence, Meilleurs Ouvriers de France (Best Workers of France), athletes, etc., all enthusiasts, open the doors of their shops, places or sites committed to excellence. They explain and they share.

Between the Regional Nature Park of Orient Forest (80,000 hectares, including 5,000 hectares of lakes), the Pays d'Othe and d'Armance, the Nogent-sur-Seine region, the route of flavours and expertises and the Champagne vineyard that sparkles and produces one quarter of the world's Champagne, nature, culture and adventure lovers will concoct their own cocktail with an exquisite and unique taste.



CONTENTS

p 4-5	Cultural Calendar
p 6-10	Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Opening of the Renoir Home ■ New Camille Claudel museum ■ Aube, birthplace of the Templars
p 11-19	Aube, Land of culture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ In the steps of famous people ■ Prestigious heritage, unique in Europe, stained-glass windows and half-timbered churches ■ Bring history to life in a castle ■ Encounters with our artists and craftsmen ■ Troyes, the city of a thousand colours
p 20-23	Culinary and oenological heritage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Come and meet the wine growers on the Champagne Tourist Route ■ Amazing nuggets ■ Sparkling gastronomy
p 24-27	Natural heritage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Do you fancy walks and more? ■ Aube with the family
p 28-31	Economic heritage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Tradition and innovation, Aube on the move ■ Personalised and sustainable services for business travel

CULTURAL CALENDAR

2017 YEAR OF Renoir IN AUBE

3 June - Opening of the Renoir Home

From 17 June to 17 September

«Another Renoir» exhibition at the
Museum of Modern Art in Troyes

22 and 23 July

Essoyes, in the Edwardian era

More info p 6 and 7



NEW CAMILLE CLAUDEL MUSEUM

**26 March - Opening of the Camille
Caudel museum in Nogent sur Seine**

The largest collection in the world of the artist
who revealed his talent during his youth in Aube.

Displayed with him: the works of Paul Dubois,
Alfred Boucher, Boeschwillwald, etc. *More info p 10*



Our wine-tourism events

■ **20 and 21 January - Festival of Saint-Vincent - Bar-sur-Aube and Bar-sur-Seine** : The wine-growers of the Côte des Bar honour their Patron Saint throughout this weekend. The programme includes a procession of brotherhoods, a religious celebration, a reception and a gastronomic dinner and dance. A weekend of celebration not to miss.

■ **27 May - Tumulte dans les bulles** : This vineyard rally, playful and festive, makes discover the winegrowing Heritage through. Key places in the heart of the city of Troyes. Discover their estate bubbling with activity.
**Date depends on the wine harvest.*

■ **June to August - Enchanted cellars** : Enjoy the activities blending the wine growing world and artistic world. For an evening, the Aube cellars host an

artist. Before each activity, the wine growers make a presentation or take you on a visit of their process and after each concert or theatre show, they will promote their wines.

■ **9 June - 70th anniversary of Rosé des Riceys** : 2017 will be marked by the 70th anniversary of the appellation Rosé des Riceys. The producers' union intends to celebrate the event fittingly by organising an extensive tasting of vintages going back in time. The producers will be asked to bring out from their cellars their precious nectars and share a few anecdotes.

■ **5 and 6 August: Route du Champagne en fête (Champagne Route celebration) - Valley of the Sarce** : This is the largest event on the Côte des Bar. Along the route, many wine growers welcome you into the heart

of their vineyard. The passport Champagne flute purchased at the entrance to the first village lets you visit each cellar and taste the different wines. Many activities will light up the celebration in the villages carefully decorated for the occasion.

■ **September* : Become a grape-picker for a day in Champagne !** What could be more different than a day of picking grapes in Aube en Champagne? In September, the wine growers of the Côte des Bar offer you the opportunity to discover their estate bubbling with activity.
**Date depends on the wine harvest.*

■ **20 October - Champagne Day** : Celebrate the unique sparkling wine that only comes from Champagne, France and share your sparkling picture with #ChampagneDay.

Also don't miss...



■ **27 to 29 January - Rock Opera «Past ages, Future ages, Templars» - Troyes** : After the wine-grower revolt and the history of the hosiery trade in Troyes, the association «Chante et Danse la Champagne» offers you a rock opera on the history of the Templars. A musical comedy that brings together 200 actors, dancers, singers and musicians !

■ **From April - 30th anniversary of Nigloland** : Nigloland renews with its origins and lights up to celebrate its 30th anniversary. Many surprises and activities are waiting for you



■ **Until 30 April - Richard Desvallières exhibition «dialogue du fer avec le feu» (dialogue of iron with fire) - MOPO Troyes** : Through a new presentation of many of his creations, the exhibition invites visitors to penetrate into Richard Desvallières' workshop, amidst the divine glow that drives his heart and his forge frame.

■ **From 3 June to 31 Dec. - 7 months around the stained-glass windows of the 19th century - Cité du Vitrail (stained glass exhibit)** : The assumed author of this masterpiece of domestic architecture, Louis-Germain Vincent Larcher (1816-1894) was a prolific creator and restorer of stained-glass, who worked on some one hundred churches in Aube. In 2017, the department is devoting an exhibition to him under the auspices of his Cité du Vitrail.

■ **3&4 June - La ronde des feux - Chaource** For the 17th consecutive year, the AR-TITUDE10 association is organising its festival of arts and fire. Between woods and prairies, the Ronde des Feux is an original event where fire arts, activities, shows, music and lights come together to re-enchant the neighbouring nature and create a magic ambience.

■ **End of June to the end of July - 26th edition of Ville en musiques - Troyes** : Every year, Troyes vibrates to the rhythm of a major music festival with a hundred free concerts organised in different locations around the city. Every Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening.

■ **July to Sept. - Visits and activities with volunteer guides** : In 2017, the Aube department's volunteers step up once again for a summer season rich in events, visits and organised activities.

■ **6 and 7 July - Tour de France** : In July 2017, Troyes will have the opportunity once again to host the Tour de France. It will be the arrival city on Boulevard du 1^{er}-RAM after the 6th stage, from Vesoul to Troyes and the starting city the next day for the stage to Nuits-Saint-Georges.



■ **22 to 28 October - Nuits de Champagne festival - Troyes** : Every year, authors and composers of French songs are honoured at the Nuits de Champagne festival in Troyes. The entire programme and the rhythm of the event are organised around an author composer who becomes the emblem of the city and the region for a week.

■ **Re-opening of the Commandery of Avalleur** : The department of Aube witnessed the birth of the Order of the Temple. Located on a plateau, the Commandery of Avalleur, the 1st Templar commandery, dominates the plain of the seigneurie of Bar-sur-Seine. Soon tourists will be able to (re)discover the Commandery of Avalleur, its chapel and its central building, whose restoration will be finished in 2017.

Find all Aube in Champagne events at : www.aube-champagne.com



EVENTS

1

2017 OPENING OF THE RENOIR HOME

THIS YEAR, AUBE INVITES YOU TO COME AND EXPERIENCE RURAL LIFE IN CHAMPAGNE WITH RENOIR AND DISCOVER THE INTIMACY OF THE FAMILY HOME. IN THE STEPS OF THE MASTER IMPRESSIONIST, EVERYONE, ACCORDING TO HIS INSPIRATION, WILL BE GUIDED BY HIS EMOTIONS.

Pierre Auguste Renoir, grand master impressionist, is present everywhere in Essoyes, typical Champagne village where his wife Aline was born. From 1885, Renoir came every summer to the family home. It was in this environment of charming landscapes, with the villagers that he liked to pass time with daily, that he drew his inspiration and found his models: washerwomen, his children and his model Gabrielle, a young Essoyes nanny for his son Jean. Essoyes, where one feels the presence of the painter at every step, is an ideal destination for romantics and admirers of the painter, with their family, with friends or alone.

Share the gentleness of impressionist living

In June 2017 the Renoir's family home, acquired by the town of Essoyes, opens its doors to the public. Between the reconstitution and original works exhibited in the dining room setting, the world of peasant

life at the beginning of the 20th century will be revealed, when Renoir came to experience rural life in Champagne... Renoir in his family intimacy, moments shared simply and easily with his friends from Paris who liked to join him in Essoyes. The boaters' lunch, the young girls at the piano and the bouquets of flowers are so many memories of a happy time in the joy of country parties. In (re)discovering the work of this giant of impressionism, one will be seduced by the art, the atmosphere, the light and the period and one will share the famous painter's love for his dear village.

In Renoir's footsteps

■ **Du côté des Renoir** : cultural and tourist centre with a permanent exhibition in tribute to the famous Renoir family, a film on «creation at the Renoirs,» temporary exhibits, Renoir's studio, his gardens, etc.

■ But also reproductions of works following the village's streets, from

magnificent stone houses to the cemetery where the artist and his family lie.



On more than 300 sq.m., this beautiful home full of emotions sits over a vaulted cellar typical of the region. It opens onto a courtyard in front and a large garden in the back, that provides access to the painter's studio built in 1906. It was labelled «Maison des Illustres» (home of illustrious names) in 2012.

2017 Year of Renoir in Aube

LIKE SO MANY IMPRESSIONIST STROKES, MANY FESTIVE AND ARTISTIC EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES FOR EVERYONE WILL CRISS-CROSS THE AUBE DEPARTMENT THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

In Troyes

«Renoir went for walks in Troyes. He loved the old houses and liked to feast his eyes on the sculptures of its churches».

Jean Renoir

Take a picturesque stroll at the time of Renoir and dive into the atmosphere of the end of the 19th century undergoing massive changes: Upper Seine Canal, Covered market stalls by Baltard, public gardens, spirit of an open-air dance hall, conjuring up personas (Berthe Morisot, Gustave Caillebotte, Monet, etc.). Individual circuits, children, students, adults...

July 6th - Guinguette party Belle Epoque : At the time of Renoir - Troyes

The Tour de France will take place in Troyes on July 6 and 7. To keep the party going, a "guinguette" (dancehall) will be held on July 6 in the Hotel-Dieu-Comte garden in Troyes with the participation of the "Champagnes de Renoir". Visitors will travel back in

time until the XIXth century thanks to the Belle Epoque outfits, the retro musical atmosphere and tastings of local gastronomic products.

In Bar-sur-Seine, at the Champagne Devaux manor

From 1 July to 1 September

Exhibition of the winners of the Renoir Bursary.

At Vaux Château

From 14 to 16 July - Tableaux vivants of Renoir in the park and Edwardian era activities, including. Itineraries in Aube, conferences, exhibitions, discovery games, open-air dance hall evenings in the gardens of the Troyes town hall and on the quays of Ource in Essoyes, giant picnics, Renoir menus, etc.

In April, the complete programme will be available on the website www.renoir-essoyes.fr and in the Aube tourism offices.

IN ESSOYES

■ From 1 February

Visit of the Renoir centre and his studio.

■ From 3 June

Opening of the Renoir family home.

■ From June to August

The quays of the Ource come alive : book mongers, artists, local producers, old post cards, posters, etc. + Saturday to Tuesday, the «Matinales d'Essoyes» (Essoyes Mornings) with Bernard Pharisien, in the steps of Renoir.

■ 22 & 23 July

Essoyes in the Edwardian

era, a weekend that resembles a work of art, a reconstitution of the village at the time of Renoir, including activities, workshops (cooper, clog maker, wooden toys, people wandering in period costumes, tableaux vivants, mass, marriage procession, barrel organ, French Cancan, accordionist, giant picnic, etc.) and a Renoir meal.

■ 28 & 29 July

Open air films around Renoir and impressionism.

■ In October and November

Special guided visit with gourmet appetizer in the Renoir family home for groups of 12 to 16 people upon reservation.



5 to 28 May Renoir's Champagnes : 10 works of art for 10 exceptional Champagnes

An original concept, a committee of renowned experts - sommeliers, oenologists, etc. - has found inspiration in the Renoir family home, at the initiative of the Du côté des Renoir cultural centre and its partner champagne estates.

10 Champagnes have been associated with 10 works of Renoir. The exposition will show these gourmand pairings.



« Another Renoir » at the Museum of Modern Art in Troyes 17 June to 17 September 2017

The exhibit at the Museum of Modern Art in Troyes accompanies the public opening in June 2017 of the house that belonged to Pierre-Auguste Renoir in Essoyes, native town of his wife, Aline Charigot.

Comprised of some forty works primarily taken from French public collections, this exhibition offers a reinterpretation of the career of one of the major French artists of the 19th and 20th centuries.

A theme-based circuit questions the myth that has grown around Renoir and offers an opportunity to rediscover his work through little known subjects like still life painting, the influence of Essoyes on his painting or even his sculpted work.

This is supported by the Orangerie and Orsay museums with, in particular, Paul Perrin, conservator at Orsay, acting as the scientific curator alongside Daphné Castano, conservator at the Museum of Modern Art of Troyes and general curator of the exhibition.

This exhibition is accompanied by a richly illustrated book and a programme of activities for all audiences: guided visits, conferences, projections, workshops, etc. In addition, a free access mediation space is integrated in the exhibit circuit.



2

NEW CAMILLE CLAUDEL MUSEUM

Artistic birth in Nogent-sur-Seine

Few people know that the gifted adolescent took his first artistic strides in Nogent-sur-Seine. The city is paying him the greatest tribute with the opening of the first international museum of Camille Claudel in the spring of 2017.

Born on 24 December 1864 in Aisne where she spent her early childhood, the young Camille Claudel arrived in Nogent-sur-Seine in 1876, where her father, Louis-Prosper, was appointed registrar of mortgages. The family settled for three years into an 18th century bourgeois house, which today stands at the entrance to the museum. At twelve years old, Camille showed amazing aptitudes for sculpture.

It was in Nogent-sur-Seine that she modelled her first figurines in clay: David and Goliath, Bismarck, Napoleon. Her father introduced her to Alfred Boucher (1850-1934), Rome 1876 second prize in sculpture, her first master who initiated her meeting Auguste Rodin in 1882. Rodin succumbed to the genius and talent of his protégé. Their fusional and tormented relationship marked them forever. Camille's work is impregnated with this passionate artistic dialogue.

The largest collection in the world

Four renowned sculptors in their lifetime lived for a while and knew each other in Nogent-sur-Seine: Marius Ramus (1805-1888), Paul Dubois (1829-1905), Alfred Boucher (1850-1934) and Camille Claudel (1864-1943). At the top of her success, Alfred Boucher worked to create in Nogent-sur-Seine the Dubois-Boucher municipal museum in 1902.

Over the decades, especially since 1980, a coherent acquisition policy, donations and wise sponsorship encouraged the uniqueness of this museum of sculpture between 1870 and 1910.

2017 marks a radical transformation with the opening of this international-scale Camille Claudel museum. This architectural setting brings together the largest number of the artist's works in the world: The fund is comprised of the collections assembled by Reine-Marie Paris and Philippe Cressent, acquired in 2008, purchases on the art market thanks to the Heritage fund and the generosity of patrons. The forty works on display offer a complete discovery of her artistic career. At the same time, the museum's fund of sculptures offers an opportunity to understand in what context Camille Claudel was formed, evolved and discovered. More than 400 works...

« The museography is reduced to its simplest expression. The artist's force speaks for itself. Only a harmony of colour was sought between the floors, the paintings and the furniture in order to let the works express themselves ».

Adelfo Scaranello, architecte



AUBE, THE SOURCE OF THE TEMPLARS

THE HISTORY OF THE ORDER OF THE TEMPLE AND THE CRUSADES IS CLOSELY TIED TO THAT OF THE AUBE DEPARTMENT AND CHAMPAGNE, LAND OF ORIENT ADVENTURERS IN THE MIDDLE AGES.

The Templar Commandery of Avalleur, unique in northern Europe

A little after the council of Troyes the land of Avalleur, in Bar-sur-Seine, 25 km south of Troyes, was given to the Order of the Temple. The Commandery was organised around 1167 and grew until 1300.

The Commandery of Avalleur is one of the best preserved Templar compounds in northern Europe. Aware of its undeniable architectural interest, the Aube Departmental Council has fully funded its restoration since 2008. The reopening of the site in 2017 is long-awaited.

The miraculously intact chapel (beginning of the 13th century) is a typical example of the Templar naves in the east of France and the central building has been renovated professionally. The public opening is planned during 2017.

Avalleur is favoured to be the **major Aube site of the new European cultural itinerary of the Templars**. Both the Aube Department and the Portuguese city of Tomar, founded in 1160 as the Templars' headquarters in the country, are promoting Avalleur as such site to the Council of Europe. Aube and Tomar are the essential pillars of the history of the Templars in Europe.

The original fiefdom of Hugues, the village of Payns, 12 km from Troyes, harboured the first occidental Templar commandery at the end of the



1120s. The Hugues de Payns museum recounts the origins and career of the first Templar.

On the trail of the Templars, is a walking circuit in the heart of the Regional Nature Park of the Orient Forest, within the **Temple Forest** itself, the largest forest estate (1,200 hectares) the Templars ever owned in Occident.

Over a 5-km circuit accessible to everyone, on foot or by mountain bike, eleven panels explain why and how the Templars managed this superb forest. From 27 to 29 January, the association «Chante et Danse la Champagne» offers at the Aube Congress Centre a rock opera on the history of the Templars. This musical comedy was created by local artists and brings together 200 actors, dancers, singers and musicians.

Discover in a fun way the world of the Templars, through a collaborative online **Templars game** that is entirely free. Soldier, monk, peasant or merchant, choose your avatar and pierce the secrets of the Temple forest !

HUGUES DE PAYNS

Hugues de Payns, founder and first master of the Temple, born around 1070 in Montigny-les-Lagesse, became the lord of Payns, located at the edge of Troyes, in the heart of the county of Champagne. From 1104 to 1108 and then in 1113, he left to defend the holy land alongside his lord, the Count Hugues 1st of Champagne. Around 1119-1120 he formed a companionship of monastic knights to protect the pilgrims and set up his headquarters near the site of the ancient Temple of Salomon, hence the name Knights of the Temple or Templars. The Rule of the Order of the Temple, established during the Council of Troyes in 1129 under the aegis of the Cistercian Bernard de Clairvaux, required a strict discipline of the monastic soldiers clothed in a white coat with a red cross sewn on the shoulder. In 1130, Hugues de Payns returned to the Holy Land where he died six years later. After the council, the Templars scattered from England to Flanders and from Scotland to Spain.



AUBE
LAND OF
CULTURE

1

IN THE STEPS OF FAMOUS PEOPLE

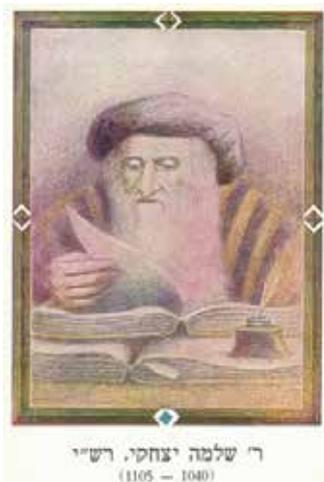
SINCE THE MIDDLE AGES, AUBE HAS REVEALED MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE MODELLED ITS HERITAGE AND WRITTEN GREAT PAGES OF HISTORY. REMARKABLE DESTINIES HAVE BEEN BORN IN SOUTHERN CHAMPAGNE.

Rachi and his famous Talmudic school in Troyes

Rachi, a great commentator on the Bible and the Talmud, was born in Troyes (1040-1105) in a Jewish family. This great witness to the prosperity and intellectual growth of Judaism in the 11th century carried out his research and taught in his home town. In 1010 he founded a famous Talmudic school where many disciples came to study the sacred texts. His commentaries still provide authoritative guidance. Opposite the synagogue, housed since 1960 in a group of half-timbered houses from the 16th and 17th centuries, the **Institut Universitaire Européen Rachi** is a centre of Hebrew studies and research that offers conferences, seminars and weekly courses to the general public..

■ For groups and convention delegates, the visits are focussed around a historical, cultural, spiritual and architectural perspective, including the synagogue.

■ In September 2017, a new scenography space devoted to Rachi, his work and his history will open.



Héloïse and Abélard at the abbey of Paraclet

The impossible love of the famous Middle Ages couple still permeates the place of their tragic story. When the canon Fulbert, Héloïse d'Argenteuil's uncle, entrusted the young girl's education to Pierre Abélard, the privileged relationship gave birth to a child and a secret marriage. Abélard's separation and his terrible punishment of emasculation did not quench this passion. After a period of wandering, Abélard founded near Nogent-sur-Seine the abbey of Paraclet and offered it to Héloïse, who had become a nun. She became an abbess and settled into the abbey until her death in 1164. Abélard continued his philosopher career and died in 1142. Their bodies were buried at Paraclet before they were moved to Père Lachaise in 1817.

■ During the summer season, you can follow in their footsteps as you visit the abbey abode (17th century), the monks' cellar (16th and 17th centuries) and the chapel (end of the 19th century) plus the cellar of the Ferreux-Quincey church and the obelisk, symbol of the tomb of the lovers.



Bernard de Clairvaux, from abbey to a prison

On the European routes of Cistercian abbeys, the influential abbey of Clairvaux, founded in the 12th century, portrays its fascinating history, its dual identity and its exceptional heritage. The only one of its kind, the abbey-prison establishes the link between the monastic history and the prison history. The work undertaken makes it possible to rediscover this unique ambience born from the dual use of its facilities, first monastic and then carceral.

Promoted around its dual history and the notion of voluntary and forced confinement, its new cultural and scientific mission contributes to the site's European influence, strengthened during the 900th anniversary of the abbey's founding in 2015.

■ **23 and 24 September - International festival of music Ombres & Lumières (Shadows & Lights)** brings together recognised artists who come to defend a one of a kind artistic project, built on Clairvaux's dual identity of abbey and prison.

More information on the events in 2017 can be found on the website www.aube-champagne.com/fr/votre-agenda/

Amazing activities will save the abbey from destruction

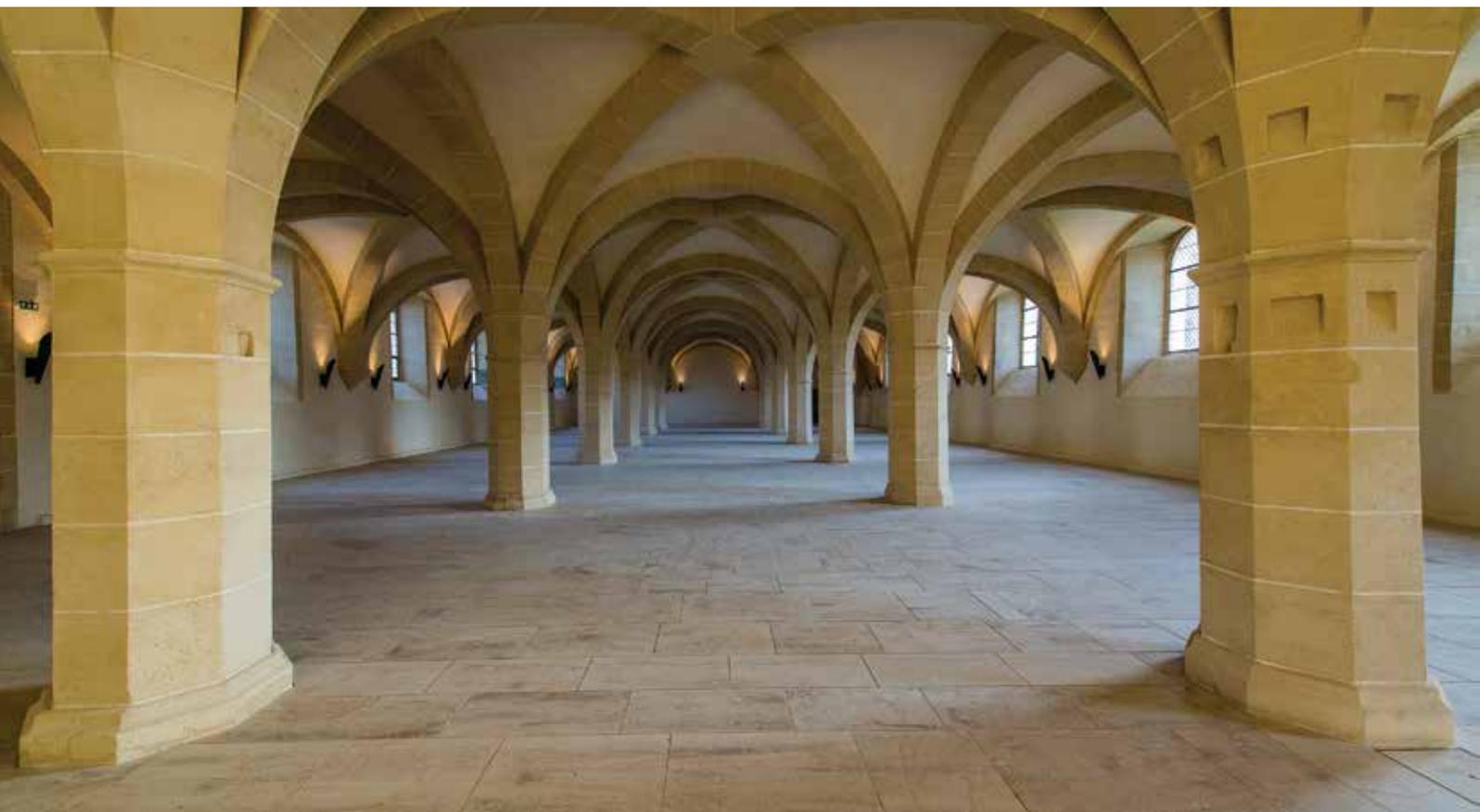
In 1115, on order of the abbey of Cîteaux, twelve monks led by the young abbot Bernard de Fontaine settled in the valley of Absinthe, isolated some 15 km from Bar-sur-Aube, in the south of Champagne, to found the third major branch of the Cistercian order, which enjoyed an unequalled spiritual and economic influence in medieval Occident. Upon his death in 1153, Bernard de Clairvaux left an abbey with 169 daughter-houses in France and Europe. Canonized in 1174 and declared doctor of the Church in 1830, this charismatic figure of the Church and the history of the Middle Ages forged his extraordinary personality in Aube. His harsh monastic principles were continued in the more recent history of this timeless place.

Affected by the Hundred Years War, the abbey was rebuilt as a monastic palace in the 18th century. A national asset at the Revolution and a papermill and glassworks at the end of the 18th century, it became the largest prison in France under Napoleon 1st in 1808.

A TIMELESS VISIT

Guided visits let you discover the lay-brothers' building, the great cloister, the monks' refectory transformed into a chapel for prisoners in 1813, the abbey's stables, which became a prison for young delinquents in the 19th century and then an exhibition area in the 21st century plus the «chicken cages,» individual cells in the central house under Napoleon 1st used until 1970.

The leading collection of medieval archives, the Clairvaux library (1472) is registered in the **Unesco World Memory** register, kept at the Greater Troyes media library and can be consulted on the Internet.





From Napoleon Bonaparte to Napoleon III

In 1779, when he was 10-years old, the young Napoleon Bonaparte entered the military college of Brienne. He kept a nostalgic memory of this small town dear to his heart where he devoted five years to forging his meticulousness and strong work ethic before integrating the military college of Paris. The land of Napoleon's history and youth, Aube is also the cradle of the France Campaign, one of his most outstanding feats, which took place from January to April 1814, one of the last battles of his long military career.

■ **The Napoleon museum**, inside the compound of the former military college of Brienne-le-Château, recounts in detail Bonaparte's youth and the France campaign of 1814. The museum will reopen in 2017 after restoration work.

A few decades later, **Charlemagne de Maupas**, a child of Aube and Napoleon III's chief of Police, acquired the château de Vaux in Fouchères in 1854. He was one of the three organisers of the coup d'état of 1851 that made it possible for Louis-Napoleon to become emperor of France.

■ **The château de Vaux**, private and now open to the public (April to October), bears witness to an archi-

« In my mind, Brienne is my homeland. It is there that I felt the first impressions of being a man ».
Napoléon Bonaparte

itecture worthy of the elegance of the Age of Enlightenment. Thanks to the audacity and work of its young 23-year old owner, the abandoned château became the perfect blend between culture, heritage and education. A thrilling police inquiry makes it possible to reconsti-

tute the events marking Napoleon III's coup d'état in 1851. This treasure hunt is a veritable voyage through time and the events marking the history of France.

■ More than 40 medieval games in wood are at the disposal of visitors of all ages: games of skill, strategy, society and a giant goose game !

The French poet Chrétien de Troyes is considered as the founder of Arthurian literature in old French and one of the first authors of novels of chivalry in the 12th century. He served the court of Champagne, under Henri le Libéral and Marie de France, his wife.

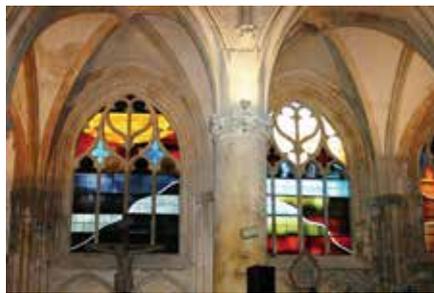


2

STAINED-GLASS AND HALF-TIMBERED CHURCHES PRESTIGIOUS HERITAGE

*DISCOVER A SUMPTUOUS HERITAGE
DECLARED A NATIONAL INTEREST;
AUBE IS AN ARTISTIC CROSSROADS.*

European capital of stained-glass, Aube presents a unique collection in Europe. On this route of stained-glass, some 200 churches and 9,000 sq.m. of stained-glass offer a complete panorama of the stained-glass art in the 12th to 21st centuries, with an exceptional representation of the Beautiful 16th century. Religious or civil, these luminous chronicles result from a long history and an ongoing know-how. The stained-glass art remains very much alive, especially thanks to Flavie Serrière Vincent-Petit who made the stained-glass for the Aube Congress Centre. Near the Saint-Pierre-and-Saint-Paul cathedral of Troyes, which alone harbours 1500 sq.m. of stained glass windows, the **Cité du Vitrail**, a cultural and educational facility set up in the Hôtel-Dieu-le-Comte, presents several stained-glass exhibits at eye level.



The Maison du Vitrail d'Armance (from obscurity to light), in the heart of Ervy-le-Chatel, opened its doors in July 2015. Here visitors discover stained-glass, from the donor to its installation on the jobsite in order to understand how it is made in a fun way.

Aube is the temple of sculpture in Champagne gathered under the term «**the Beautiful 16th century.**» From Gothic to mannerism, the works reveal

the extreme diversity of styles of the Renaissance masters and image-makers in Champagne. Artists with multiple writing styles, at the centre of all artistic currents in burgeoning Europe (Flanders, Italy, etc.). At that time Champagne didn't just welcome merchants from all countries, it mixed all fashions, avant-garde trends, etc.

Just for the 16th century, 1042 windows have been classified historical monuments.



ON THE ROUTE OF HALF-TIMBERED CHAMPAGNE CHURCHES

In Northeast Aube and the Region of the Great Lakes of the Orient Forest, the itinerary follows pretty country roads punctuated by ponds, forests and prairies leading to villages and their church with its extraordinary architecture. These religious buildings, unique in France (eleven in Champagne, of which seven are in Aube) dating from the end of the 15th to the 18th century, testify to the perfection of the half-timber constructions. The abundance of forests offset the rarity of quality stones and made it possible for the master Champagne carpenters to express their talent, with wood filled with clay and straw, that can be found in many surrounding houses.





3

EXPERIENCE HISTORY

Built in 1754, the **Château de la Motte Tilly** opens onto a 60-hectare park near Nogent-sur-Seine. Classified a historical monument and labelled «remarkable garden,» it enriches its passionate visits with a rich cultural and musical programme, including many original events for children.
Open every day except Monday.

The **Château de Riceys-Bas** and its gardens are an integral part of France's history. The castle courtyard, built over the old fortified castle in the plane tree alley, testifies to the park's splendour in the 17th and 18th centuries. It is the history of a castle in the same family for more than 200 years, between

wine-producing adventures, involvement in communal life and superb renovations.

Open from 1 April to 15 August.

Saved from destruction in 1983 by a couple of enthusiasts, the **Château de Droupt-Saint-Basle** reveals the extent of the work carried out. From the gardens to the living room, after crossing the drawbridge, we find architecture from the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries. The owners themselves offer guided visits of this historical monument, including surprises in the gardens and treasures in the Popular Art Museum nested in the attic.

Open from 1 June to 15 July.

PLUS...

- The **Château de Barberey-Saint-Sulpice**, erected in 1626, a private estate that opens its French gardens from 1 August to 15 September.
- The **Château des Roises** in Bucey-en-Othe, a 16th century manor, is open for visits from mid-July to the end of August.

OR EVEN...

- A night in a castle, authentic guesthouses and charming homes magnificently restored, just a few minutes from Troyes...
- The **Château de Brantigny** in Piney, the charm of the 18th century.
- The **Château de Montabert** in Montaulin, 14 hectares of gardens and park..
- The **Domaine de Vermoise**, a 16th century castle with a 9th century dungeon, 18th century barn (for receptions) and a park designed by the master Troyes glassmaker, Maurice Marinot (1882-1960)
- The **Château de Géraudot**, a 17th century seigneurial residence in the heart of the Regional Nature Park of the Orient Forest.
- The **Château de La Motte** in Rumilly-les-Vaudes, a 16th and 18th century mansion exclusively dedicated to weekly or extended weekend rentals.

4

CRAFTSMEN AND ARTISTS INCREDIBLE ENCOUNTERS

A LAND OF CULTURE, PROUD OF ITS HERITAGE AND ITS HISTORY, AUBE STIMULATES TALENTS. CRAFTSMEN OF EXCELLENCE AND ARTISTS, TRADITIONAL KNOW-HOW AND CREATIONS. EACH AMAZING SHOP VISIT BECOMES AN ENCOUNTER.

■ **Renard** in Creney-près-Troyes, more than 130 years of existence, specialises in creating weather vanes and steeple cocks, in addition to restoring the roofs of historical monuments.

■ **Tuilerie Poterie Royer**, founded in 1800 in Soulaines-Dhuys, is a veritable eco-museum of baked terracotta ware.

■ **Dess**, in Piney in the heart of the Orient Forest, produces upscale umbrellas (fantasy, fashion or promotional) and parasols «made in France».

■ The **earthenware factory of the Benedictine monastery, Notre-Dame de la Sainte-Espérance**, founded in 1864 in Mesnil-Saint-Loup, offers fine dining ceramic ware and glazed earthenware in the Auxerre style or inspired by old Rouen, or more contemporary with the series on occupations or the fables of La Fontaine.

■ **LS Collection by Delagneau**, creators of caps with a removable visor in precious wood; high-end woodworking differently.

■ **Jacques Chéreau wood sculptor** in Aix-en-Othe, from a family of sculptors and trained at the Boule school of Paris. He exhibits his hyper-realist refined creations in many countries.

■ **Erwan Pincemin**, known especially



under the name «Roche du Feu.» this cutlery craftsman offers knives whose sleeve is sculpted on a vine stock from Champagne vineyards.

Plus...

Creators of cardboard furniture, decorated porcelain, wood pens, stained-glass creators and restorers, ceramists, wrought iron craftsmen, artist cabinetmakers, accordion maker and restorer, wood and glass sculptors, mosaic art, etc. Personalised or group visits, workshops and initiation courses: a range of discoveries.

■ The **Musée Vivant de la Bonneterie** (Living Museum of Hosiery) in Romilly-sur-Seine: more than 300 looms in an old factory, demonstrations, visits led by volunteer hosiers and living memories.

■ The **Musée du Cristal** (Crystal Museum) in Bayel, on the site of one of the oldest royal manufactures created by Colbert, which saw generations of glassworkers follow one another.

Glass blowing demonstrations are offered.

■ **Camac Art Centre** in Marjay-sur-Seine, an international creative meeting place for arts, sciences and technology.

The centre favours interaction, experiments and exploration: artist residences, exhibits and educational workshops.



A LABELLED VILLAGE OF CHARM

Since December 2015, **Ervy-le-Châtel** became the first «Village of Tradition» in France, after having been, in February 2014, the first Aube town labelled «Petite Cité de caractère» (Small Town of Character), like 150 rural towns of less than 6,000 inhabitants. These labels highlight a remarkable heritage, protected and put to its advantage.

5

TROYES, THE CITY OF A THOUSAND COLOURS

THE CONTEMPORARY CITY IS THE DIRECT HEIR OF THE MEDIEVAL CITY.

FOUR GOLDEN AGES

- **12th century** : commercial and financial expansion, an incredible intellectual and cultural bubbling.
- **16th century** : the artistic explosion.
- **19th century** : the economic and industrial growth driven by the hosiery trade.
- **21st century** : the city's heritage renaissance and the reconquest of its prestigious built heritage.



Today Troyes radiates the artistic riches handed down by the «Beautiful 16th century. Following an intellectually and economically effervescent Middle Ages, the Renaissance gave the Capital of Champagne Fairs a concentration of all the artistic disciplines (architect, painting, sculpture and stained-glass) marked by the impact on the occidental culture of universally known characters.

Its current architectural and urbanistic form date from this pivotal period: a historical centre shaped like a champagne cork, like a happy omen.

From the terrible fire that ravaged one quarter of the city in 1524 to the isolated patches unfit for habitation at the end of the Second World War, Troyes rose again, aware of its moral obligation to protect, maintain and transmit this exceptional heritage

to future generations. Proud of one of the best collections of half-timbered houses, its picturesque style and its patch-work of rainbow colours, the city is still carrying out its metamorphose under our eyes. The Conservation and Development Plan will eventually cover the 140 hectares of the bouchon de champagne (champagne cork shaped city centre). So many visits and discoveries with each step...

■ This juxtaposition of popular half-timbered houses and bourgeois private mansions in stone is entrenched in Troyes' DNA.

■ Formerly nicknamed the «small Venice,» for the past several years Troyes has been actively reappropriating its water courses, fountains and wells. The quays along the old canal

that crosses the city have become the preferred promenade of tourists and natives.

■ Parks, squares and gardens are sprinkled throughout Troyes, like the Swiss valley landscaped at the location of the ancient ramparts or the temporary medieval gardens that resurface from May to October: the garden of innocents, which adjoins the Sainte-Madeleine church, the dyer's garden at the Hotel of Vauluisant and the medicinal plants garden at Hôtel-Dieu.

■ Troyes, a city with a heart! The city's new emblem on the quays and evidence of its expertise, this stainless steel lace was designed by a couple of Aube artists (Michèle et Thierry Kayo-Houël) and fabricated in a Troyes plant



(Sotralinox).

Romantic promenades have their tourist booklet dedicated to lovers.

■ The stained-glass windows make the city a veritable illustrated book! Between 1480 and 1580, no less than 29 glass painters, at once creators, restorers and glaziers, worked here. The Saint-Pierre-and-Saint-Paul cathedral of Troyes alone displays 1500 sq.m. of stained glass windows from the 13th to 19th century.



«City of art and history»

Ten churches classified Gothic in the 20th century, 2,800 classified sculptures, original museums and sumptuous private mansions invite you to wander to your heart's content.

MOPO, Maison de l'Outil et de la Pensée Ouvrière (Centre for Tools and Worker Thought) is unique in France

The compagnons du devoir et du tour de France (French association of craftsmen and artisans), who have been present since 1419 in Troyes, created this hymn to tools, trades and man in 1974 in the Hotel de Mauroy, erected during the Renaissance.

A fabulous collection of hand-shaping tools (wood, iron, leather and stone) dating from the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. 10,000 tools passionately collected and bequeathed to the association by the Jesuit blacksmith Paul Feller.

The centre has a new layout and an additional room with a futuristic design for contemporary presentations, without forgetting the extraordinary library of 33,000 volumes devoted to tools, trades, techniques, education and labour history, the second technical library of France, opened both to the general public and to researchers.



AGENDA

■ From May/June to August/September 2017 Small curiosities of the canal

«Edwardian era» picnic with music on the edges of the canal, painting workshop around Renoir and period games.

■ From June to October - Guided summer visits let you admire Troyes' essential sites, from the Halles market to the Hotel of the Lion Noir to the Ruelle des Chats.

■ From 24 June to 14 August - 26th edition of Ville en Musique, Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings A hundred free concerts in locations with a soul.

■ Throughout December : for the 3rd consecutive year, a 3D projection will be projected every day on the facade of the Town Hall. The 24 open windows will represent the 24 days preceding Christmas. There will be workshops, concerts and activities in the department.

■ **Until 30 April 2017 - Richard Desvallières, dialogue du fer avec le feu** (dialogue of iron with fire), a brilliant blacksmith who opened the way to a new ornamental ironwork.

■ **From 21 January to 19 February - Brotherhoods**, an exceptional exhibition on the theme of Saint-Vincent, featuring portraits illustrating the living heritage of Champagne taken by the photographer Paolo Verzone.

■ **and 2 April - European Artistic Craft Days**, different demonstrations of know-how put on by the Association l'Outil en Main at the Maison de l'Outil et de la Pensée Ouvrière.

■ **From 10 May to 1 October - Entre les murs de fresques** (Between fresco walls), art made by hand with tools and material, but also art with spirit and soul arousing numerous emotions. Workshops and demonstrations with the association des Passeurs de Fresques.

MAM, one of the largest and most beautiful museums of modern art in the French provinces.

Next to the cathedral, the former episcopal palace of the 16th and 18th centuries is a prime showcase for this precious selection of paintings, sculptures, drawings, glassware and ceramics illustrating the major currents of French art between 1850 and 1960. Its collections are from the donation of a couple of former Troyes hosiers, Pierre and Denise Lévy, great lovers of art.

The fauvists Derain, Braque, De Vlaminck, Dufy, Van Dongen, native of the region, Maurice Marinot, etc. rub shoulders with other currents incarnated by great names of modern art - Picasso, Degas, Gauguin, Ernst, Buffet, Modigliani, Daumier, Courbet, Seurat, etc. and of sculpture like Rodin or Maillol.

■ **Until 29 January 2017 Picasso face au taureau : graphic variations** in partnership with the Kunstmuseum Pablo Picasso in Münster (Germany).



■ **4 March - 28 May - A fresh perspective on the collections: drawings from the Mapfre Foundation (Madrid)**. 15 original works created by artists present in the Troyes collections reveal a new facet of their work and thus interact in reference or in opposition to the permanent collections (Bores, Degas, Delaunay, Gleizes, Gris, Klee, Lhote, Matisse, Picasso and Rodin).

■ **17 June - 17 September - «Another Renoir» exhibition**. This exhibition will highlight 50 original works from private collections and the Orsay Museum. This exhibition will provide new insights into the life and works of Renoir.

The **Saint-Loup museum**, on the other side of the cathedral, harbours the Fine Arts and Archaeology plus the museum of Natural History. A myriad of works and objects assembled into unique collections in the region.

The **Cité du Vitrail**, near the Saint-Pierre and -Saint-Paul cathedral of Troyes, alone hosts 1500 sq.m of glassware. This cultural and educational facility, set up in the compound of the Hôtel-Dieu-le-Comte, presents several stained-glass exhibitions at eye level.

In addition, there is the **Apothecary of the Hôtel Dieu le Comte** (the healers' den) or the **Vauluisant museum**, which recounts in particular the hosiery trade saga - the men, machines, techniques and fabrications - and presents the original trades like a unique piece of wood from the 18th century.

■ **20 May - Unusual visits during the European museum night**.

CAC - Centre d'Art Contemporain (Centre of Contemporary Art)/Passages. 35 years old, this centre of contemporary art production, distribution and awareness building hasn't aged. It maintains privileged relationships with creation and stays abreast of regional, national and international artistic news. In addition to an annual programme of 4 exhibitions, the Centre d'Art Contemporain/Passages also hosts up to three artists in residence.

1

COME AND MEET THE WINE GROWERS ON THE CHAMPAGNE TOURIST ROUTE

THE CHAMPAGNE OF THE CÔTE DES BAR TELLS THE HISTORY OF THE PASSIONATE MASTER WINE GROWERS WHO CREATED TERROIRS WITH STRONG PERSONALITIES. HERE, IN SOUTHERN CHAMPAGNE, NOBLE AND CHARACTERISTIC WINE-GROWER CHAMPAGNES FLOURISH, CHAMPAGNES THAT INTENSIFY THE CULINARY CREATIVITY.

A natural phenomenon observed from the beginning, effervescence remained too variable over the centuries. At the beginning of the 17th century the wine growers started to try and understand why. In order to better preserve and transport their wines, the Champagne wine growers preferred barrels. The effervescence trapped in the bottles then appeared in the glasses.

It took the talent of passionate and persuaded men to control this sublime effervescence. At the beginning of the 20th century, champagne already had the force of a myth that its wine growers decided to protect. But Aube, an ancestral

land of vineyards, was for a while considered a trivial player. The Aube wine growers revolted against an administration that refused them the Champagne appellation. The law of 22 July 1927 officially granted them the precious champagne Appellation d'Origine Contrôlée (AOC) [Label of Guaranteed Origin].

The champagne tourist route

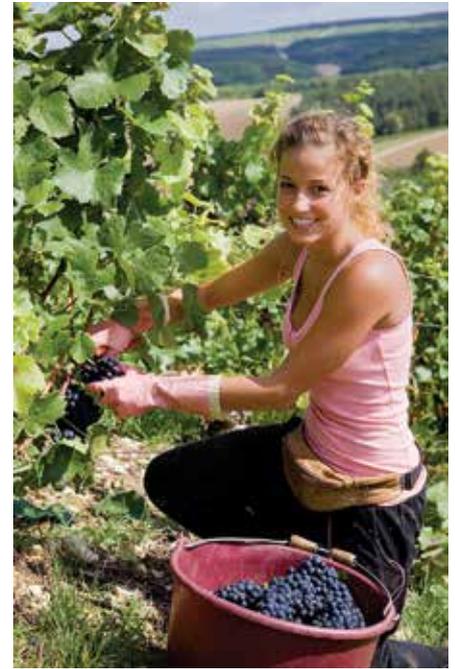
Aube, land of pinot noir, is by itself an invitation to multiple sensorial and cultural voyages. The Champagne Tourist Route invites you to succumb to many temptations over more

than 220 kilometres. Here, the landscape enraptures the eyes, the aromas exalt the soul, the sun cradles the neighbouring hillsides and the grapes full of life stimulate the sheer plea-

KEY FIGURES

- 8 000 hectares
- 1/4 of the Champagne vineyard
- 564 wine growers-producers
- 5 traders-producers
- 8 cooperatives and producer unions

(CIVC figures 2014)



sure of the palate. A land of sharing, Aube presents its 39 partner cellars labelled Vignobles & Découvertes [Vineyards and Discovery], along a series of lush landscapes 1-1/2 hours from Paris. The «Coteaux, Maisons et Caves de Champagne» [«Hillsides, Homes and Cellars of Champagne»] are registered on the UNESCO world heritage list in the «cultural landscapes» category.

are a rare nugget, an island in the heart of Champagne, a geological and climatic exception between the Côte des Bar and the Côte des Blancs. Chardonnay is king (90% for 10% pinot noir) on this sunny and windy hillside. Surprising and highly sought after, it is incomparable for its roundness and its aromatic palette, its elegance and its potential for ageing.

Throughout the year, the wine growers offer visits and introductory tasting workshops: still wines, reserve wines, old vintages, famous name vintages, food/champagne pairings, discovery of aromas, batches in the form of games, assembly and dosing demonstrations, aroma recognition and comparative tastings, etc.

Pinot noir: 80% of the Côte des Bar vineyard

The Côte des Bar, with subsoil that tends towards marl, is the ideal terroir for the development of pinot noir. Its cultivation, established by the Romans in Burgundy, is profoundly tied to the development of monasteries, especially the Cistercians. Each abbey and each village jealously protected its variety of pinot, creating through the transformations a large variety of families. 150 km south of Reims, the pinot noir of the Côte des Bar benefits from exposure to sunshine that gives the wine nice flavours and roundness, without sacrificing elegance.

The Montgueux hill, a choice terroir for chardonnay...

At the doors of Troyes, the champagnes of Montgueux wine growers

NEW ACTIVITIES FOR 2017

- Introduction to pruning : Champagne Rémy Massin et Fils
 - Introduction to disgorging by hand in midair : Champagne Didier Goussard
 - Down-river in a canoe and cellar visit/tasting : Champagne Jean Josselin
- The wine growers of the Côte des Bar often produce distinctive and characteristic champagnes, which are the expression of the wine grower's personality and the reflection of the specific character of the «terroir.»

The pleasure of learning to taste

UNUSUAL OR AUTHENTIC

Discover champagne according to your desires :

- Dinner on a hot-air balloon
- Discovery of the «terroir» and the work in the vineyard
- Walks in the vineyard guided by winegrowers in an electric car
- Fly over the Côte des Bar in a plane with a wine-grower pilot
- Promenade by foot, on a horse, electric bicycle or Segway® in the vineyards
- Brunch at the estate, lunches with local terroir products or a sparkling picnic in the heart of the vineyard
- Day of golf and champagne...

2

AUBE REVEALS AMAZING NUGGETS

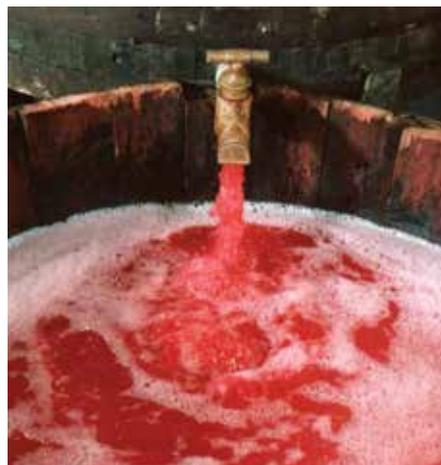
Rosé des Riceys 70 years and still just as confidential

■ Which town is home to the largest wine area in all of Champagne? Which is the only Champagne town with three AOCs ?

One answer only : **Les Riceys**, 866 hectares, 288 wine growers, 35 wine growers-producers and Champagne, Coteaux-Champenois and Rosé des Riceys AOCs.

Whereas the champagne AOC reigns over 350 hectares, Rosé des Riceys is only produced on 30 to 35 hectares and only in very sunny years, which explains its rarity. Necessarily a vintage wine, it can be kept 3 to 10 years. Rosé des Riceys is made from pinot noir. It is a flat rosé that cellars well with a wild character, aromas of undergrowth and red fruits, which ages very slowly. History cites it as the preferred wine of Louis 14th.

The wine-growing terroir of Les Riceys was formed 154 million years ago.



■ **9 June - Vertical tasting for the AOC's 70th anniversary** : a tasting of vintages back through time, organised by the producers union. The wine growers of the appellation will be asked to bring out from their cellars their precious nectars and share a few anecdotes.

■ **June/July/August on Saturdays - Enchanted cellars in Les Riceys and around**, tastings, theatre presentations and concerts in the champagne cellars.

■ **28 July au 1 August - Lights of Champagne** : night show in Les Riceys.

■ **25 June - Marche des reconciliations** (Reconciliation walk) : for this 2nd edition, several walking itineraries in the town of Les Riceys with the opportunity for a tasting in the cellars.

Prunelle de Troyes, ingenious in cocktails

Distilled since 1840 and gold medal winner at the Paris universal exhibition in 1900, this liqueur (40°) is made from sloe pits in the distillery of the Cellier Saint-Pierre, facing the Troyes cathedral. Its production secret? Its marriage with other natural ingredients, which impart its complexity and its taste of sensual, sweet almonds.



Cider from the Pays d'Othe makes the Bretons jealous

Choice terroir for the cultivation of apples and the production of farm cider made in the purest tradition, the green region of Pays d'Othe has just ten producers, some of which have established refuge orchards to save the ancient varieties out of the 300 identified. In September, the old fashioned press is a must see.

■ **24 September - Old fashioned press in Eaux-Puiseaux** : Cider production like in the Middle Ages, reconstitution of old fashioned pressing at the Ferme d'Hotte.

■ **Beginning of October - Cider festival in Vauchassis** : apple pressing, exhibitions, handicrafts, terroir products, activities and games.

3

WHEN GASTRONOMY SPARKLES...

AUTHENTIC AND REFINED, AUBE GASTRONOMY ENCOURAGES SENSORIAL EXCURSIONS. APPETIZER, MEAL OR SNACK, ONE LOVES TO EXPLORE NEW ASSOCIATIONS, ESPECIALLY WITH CHAMPAGNE. MANY DISTINCTIONS UNDERLINE THE TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE.

On the menu...

- Appetizer... Champagne! With a few pieces of toast covered with Chaource cheese and mushroom fondue.
- Brienne sauerkraut
- Andouillette AAAAA of Troyes
- Chaource, Soumaintrain, Fromage de Troyes, Champ-sur-Barse
- For dessert, delicious pairings of chocolate and champagne

Did you know ?

An Aube company is the leader in the French sauerkraut market: **Choucroute** André Laurent, created in 1906 in Blignicourt.

And Aube is the second leading French producer of sauerkraut behind the Bas Rhin.

Tasting ideas

- Sauerkraut cooked with champagne from Laurent.
- Sauerkraut with cider from Lavines.

Gastronomy & culture in Chaource

This pretty village located at the source of the Armance river, has been known since the Middle Ages for its **ladled cow's milk cheese**. A Label of Guaranteed Origin, it can be recognised by its bloomy rind and creamy texture. It is the source of many local recipes, like the Chaource cheese and mushroom fondue.

Chaource has a cheese museum



where you go back in time through rare objects, witnesses to professions that have disappeared today.

You should also cross the porch of its church to admire its rich statuary from the Beautiful 16th century and the sculpture of Christ lying in the tomb sculpted by the Master of Chaource.

restaurants, 9 «2-fork» restaurants, 3 «3-fork» restaurants plus 4 Bibs Gourmands and the only 3 Distinguished Tables attributed by the Logis in Champagne-Ardenne :

- **Au Vieux Pressoir - Auberge du Lac** in Mesnil-Saint-Père
- **Au Beau Rivage** in Nogent-sur-Seine
- **Aux Maisons** in Maisons-les-Chaource

The andouillette AAAAA

(for Association Amicale des Amateurs d'Andouillettes Authentiques), prepared by hand, has a long delicatessen tradition in Troyes. Louis II, the Duke of Guise, Louis XIV or Napoleon enjoyed it. Since then, it has crossed the frontiers of metropolitan France.

Aube has 16 tables in the 2016 Michelin selection, including 4 «1-fork»

The Symbol of Love case or the encounter between a Troyes chocolate maker and a Troyes jeweller, Pascal Caffet and Jean Pierre Boissonnet, 16 praline-flavoured chocolate sweets accompanied by a magnificent collar with a silver pendant and a dark black cord.



NATURAL
HERITAGE

1

DO YOU FANCY WALKS AND MORE?

PARIS' GREEN LUNG, 1½ HOURS FROM THE CAPITAL, AUBE IS A MULTIFACETED INVITATION: TO NATURE, SPORTS ACTIVITIES AND CULTURAL DISCOVERIES. AUTHENTIC NATURE WALKS, THE ROUTE OF FLAVOURS AND EXPERTISES, EXPLOITS FOR ADVENTURE LOVERS, ETC. ALONE, WITH THE FAMILY OR IN A GROUP, EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE IN THIS LIVELY TERRITORY.



Great lakes, Seine River, plains, forests, vineyard, etc., Aube's natural treasures offer an amazing cocktail where everyone can concoct a recipe according to his desires. The tourist menu is rich and varied.

80,000 hectares, including 5,000 hectares of lakes

The Regional Nature Park of the Orient Forest, just 20 minutes from Troyes, is already in itself a journey full of discoveries: wildlife, flora, heritage, sport, etc., the choice is large. With two natural reserves, national and regional, the Park is part of the largest French humid zone

of international importance, especially for waterfowl, under the Ramsar Convention. More than 250 species have already been observed (migratory birds, nesting birds, etc.) like the black stork or the white-tailed eagle. The Orient Forest Park also shelters 106 ponds and 23,000 hectares of forest. But not only...

Three lakes for a multitude of activities

Originally, the first two lakes were created to regulate the courses of the Seine and Aube rivers to prevent major Paris floods. They have blended perfectly into the environment to become areas that are conducive to all kinds of escape.

■ **Orient Lake: 2,500 hectares reserved for sailing and rowing.** Ten clubs offer tailor-made plans for all ages: Training courses, holiday camps, etc. The Maison des Lacs is at your disposal to answer any questions or provide additional information.

Available activities include windsurf, kitesurf, diving, yawls, electric boats without permit, canoes, pedal boats, cruise boats, etc. plus mountain biking, VTT, archery, tree climbing, fishing, beaches, games, boules, volleyball, basketball, tennis and activities (circus workshops, visual arts, temporary tattoos, etc.). And even the Neolithic Park during the summer season in Mesnil-St-Père !



■ **Amance Lake: 500 hectares arranged for the thrill of motorised boats based in Port Dienville.**

Available activities include jet-skis, wake-boards, outboards with and without permits and water ski à la carte: ski jump, slalom and figures course plus three starting docks. And why not train and pass your boating permit in Port Dienville? Plus there is football, beach-volleyball, frisbeegolf, kite flying, ping-pong, tennis, barbecues, games, etc.

■ **Temple Lake: paradise of silence, for fishermen and lovers of nature**



on 2,000 hectares, classified mostly as a «National Nature Reserve.» A legend tells that the Templars would have buried their treasure here! Is that what the many enthusiasts who fish for carp at night actually are looking for ?

■ **View from the sky... The great thrill** From the nearby Brienne-le-Château airport : skydiving, as an expert or in tandem with an experienced instructor, ULM, four-seater airplane and hot-air ballooning.



By bicycle, on horseback, on foot, with rollers and even in a chair

On the 85 km of the **Vélovoie des lacs** cycle track that links Troyes to the Orient Forest and continues along the greenway towards the Northeast of the department. Parking areas are provided along the route so you can start where you like.

Route of flavours and expertises

To experience the rich heritage and natural treasures around the Orient Forest and make unique encounters with the farmers, artists and craftsmen who open their doors and talk to you about their expertise. Learn how to turn wood, how to make a stained-glass window or about the universe of jewellery. Visit the eco-museum, the wildlife area in the Orient Forest (89 hectare peninsula), the educational farms, etc. Take the Bateau Ivre for a mini-cruise on the lakes or the tourist train, without forgetting to taste the local natural products.



■ **21 May - Côte des Bar trail** : 30 km in two distinct loops of 13 km and 17 km.

■ **25 May - Day of plants in Bergères, Côte des Bar** : one hundred exhibitors and thousands of plants and advice for amateurs.

■ **9 July - Marathon 22 km river run in canoe kayak** on the Aube River from Lesmont to Ramerupt.

■ **End of September - Beginning of October**: - **The bellow of the stag in the Orient Forest** : Meeting place in the wildlife area of the nature park.

From a bucolic valley to a forest estate, while crossing an orchard or a lake, from the Nogent region to the Champagne plain, from the Pays d'Othe to the Chaource region and the Val d'Armanche or from the Côte des Bar to the Great Lakes, few people have managed to discover all of the imaginable Aube outings. Extracts...

The circuit of timber frame churches, unique in France

In the Northeast of Aube, discover these churches made simply from wood filled with clay and straw. Just imagine the talent the master Champagne carpenters deployed in building them, the ultimate success of the art of carpentry. Concentrated in the Region of the Great Lakes of the Orient Forest, such a collection and such a coherence is found nowhere else in France. This utterly original classified religious architecture is totally tied to its terroir.



The circuit of the cadoles

In spite of their thousand-year-old look, these small dry stone buildings are only 200 years old. Erected hastily by the wine growers of the last century to protect themselves from the harshness of the local climate, they are located exclusively in the region of Courteron, Gyé-sur-Seine and les Riceys. None are the same and each took two tonnes of stones. A must see !

The Dosches windmill

This traditional building erected using 18th century techniques recalls that 140 windmills stood

proudly in the Aube department at the time and showcases rare know-how. This superb windmill relives through the old-fashioned fabrication of flour and bread and its two medieval gardens: the medicinal and herb garden and the vegetable garden. Open house every month and group visits on demand.

Marnay-sur-Seine botanical garden

A veritable living museum of plants and a tremendous conservatory of biodiversity, the Marnay-sur-Seine botanical garden prompts us to reconsider our relationship with the plant kingdom. This educational wandering for all ages is a sensual and poetic approach to nature. More than 3,000 plant species are grown on 2 hectares.

Nigloland celebrates its 30th anniversary

Connoisseurs are ready and waiting for the opening of the 2017 season on 1 April at 10:30 a.m. and its lot of surprises. Located between the Côte des Bar and the Great Lakes, the park that is considered by the European Star Awards as the third best European amusement park celebrates its 30th anniversary this year.



It has 4 theme villages (Swiss, wonderland, Canadian & rock'n'roll) and 39 attractions, offering gentle sensations to the strongest and even wildest sensations.

In 2016 it introduced two new attractions: The Tower of the Extreme, the highest rotary free-fall tower in the world and the more reasonable Tower of Small Ghosts. It also has 8 restaurants and the Hotel of Pirates 4*.

AUBE WITH THE FAMILY

Many structures and activities let children and parents discover Aube in Champagne under the best conditions. Geocaching/scavenger hunts, circuit games, puzzles, etc. to have fun discovering the heritage and nature, participate in creative workshops (apprentice glass worker, pastry chef, etc.) and more.

■ **26 February - Carnival at the Château de La Motte Tilly** organised by the Centre des Monuments Nationaux (National Monuments Centre), a masked ball at the court of France in an 18th century castle. Free for children dressed in costumes.

■ **24 February to 19 March - March fairs in Troyes.** They have existed since 1848. 30,000 sq.m. and nearly 200 attractions.

■ **16 April - Egg hunt at the Château de la Motte Tilly.** Discover the castle and its gardens in a fun and unexpected way.

4 500 km
hiking trails

1 500 km

of cycling itineraries

24 bicycle touring loops

475 ha of golf : Three 18-

hole courses (Vendeuvre-sur-Barse, Chaource and Rouilly-Sacey)

31 clubs and organisers of equestrian activities



1

TRADITION AND INNOVATION, AUBE ON THE MOVE

The strength of the Aube department is based on the **variety and dynamism of its industry** with traditional sectors (textile, mechanical-metallurgy, wood, packaging and food processing) and **fast growing activities** like the eco-industries, logistics, agro-industry, high technology and customer relations centres. Like its **diversified and competitive economic fabric**, Aube offers **varied training courses in an advanced research environment**.

So close to Paris but far from its hustle and bustle, Aube appeals for its quality of life, its positive energy and its cultural, architectural and natural heritage.

The ten leading industries

- Food processing
- Electricity production
- Textiles
- Tyres
- Locks and cylinders
- Chocolate and candy making
- Automobile rims
- Moulding and stamping
- Engraving and marking

Aube companies agree to open their doors during the special «**Company Visit**» days dedicated to

IN A FEW FIGURES

- 6 004 km² of surface area in Aube
- 150 000 ha of woods and forests
- 315 000 inhabitants
- including 134,000 in Greater Troyes
- 51 inhabitants / km²
- 10 708 CCI member companies in 2016
of which 21,3 % in Industry
36,9 % in Commerce
41,8 % in Services
- 1470 companies created in 2015

discovering local skilled tradesmen and entrepreneurs.

An exporting mission thanks to world-class participants

- Zannier, Lacoste, Olympia, Petit Bateau, Le Coq sportif... ready-to-wear and fashion.
- Champagne, Caffet chocolates and Rosé des Riceys.

- And other companies, often leaders in their market: Michelin, Mefro Wheels France, Petitjean / Al Babtain, RPC Tedeco-Gizeh, Groupe Soufflet, Vachette/Assa Abloy, Pok, Piscines Magiline, etc.

Leading producer of hemp in France

Second leading producer of sauerkraut after Alsace

(source : Aube chamber of agriculture - 2016)

An idea for an **excursion based around energy in Champagne** with a visit to the National Agency for the Management of Radioactive Waste (ANDRA), the Moulin de Dosches and its medieval gardens and the public information centre at the nuclear power plant in Nogent-sur-Seine.





Pascal Caffet, Troyes chocolate maker, won the title of Meilleur Ouvrier [Best Worker] of France Pastry Chef in 1989 and the World Champion title in the Dessert Professions. He offers gourmet courses to share his expertise

Training - Research - Innovation

Nearly 2,000 apprentices in
2014-2015

Nearly 10,000 students in
higher education

Main higher education institutions in Troyes

- University Faculty of Medicine
- Institute of Technology for Women - School of Generalist Engineers
- Business School (Management, International, Tourism and Design)
- Nurse Training Institute
- Healthcare and Social Care Training Institute
- Rachi European University Institute
- Heritage Professions University Institute
- SUPINFO International University (Ecole supérieure d'informatique/ College of Computer Science)
- University of Reims Champagne-Ardenne - University Centre of Troyes, 3 Departments (Letters and Languages, Human Sciences, Law, Economics and Management), College of Teaching and Education, Institute of Preparation for General Administration, University Institute of Technology
- UTT Troyes University of Technology.

Main research centres

- IBT Biotechnology Institute of Troyes
- IFTH French Institute of Textiles and Clothes
- Charles Delaunay Institute of the Troyes University of Technology
- Test and Research Centres at the Troyes in Champagne Technology Park
- IMS Institute of Sports Medicine

Innovation and competitiveness centres

- Industries and Agro-Ressources, labelled «globally-oriented cluster,» partnership between the regions of Grand Est and Hauts-de-France
- Matériaux Materials and Processes, Grand Est.

TOURISM

Visitors (number of visitors/year/2016)

- Brand centres 5,000,000
- City of Troyes 4,000,000
- Nigloland 540,000
- Cathedral and churches of Troyes 400,000
- Champagne Tourist Route 45,000

Accommodation

- 54 classified hotels
- 19 campgrounds
- 700 structures: B&Bs, furnished cottages, unusual accommodations
- 92 accommodation/food service companies created in 2015

Brand centres : 90,000 sq.m. of sales area, 300 shops

The Aube department seeks to be a proactive player in the development of tourism. To better understand the current problems and innovate, a **Champagne tourist incubator** is in the process of being created in partnership with the Aube Technology Park.

Sources

Figures for 2015 and 2016

INSEE, Observatoire régional du tourisme, CCI Champagne Ardenne, CCI Troyes et Aube, Aube Développement, Aube en Champagne Tourisme et Congrès



2

PERSONALISED AND SUSTAINABLE SERVICES FOR BUSINESS TRAVEL

At just 1^{1/2} hours from Paris, every year Aube in Champagne strengthens its position as a **MICE destination**.

The department relies on its cultural richness and its architectural heritage to offer a seminar and congress clientele **high-quality** infrastructures and services

The territory offers a diversified range of hosting locations like **castles, champagne cellars, museums and hotels**, which can be adapted to any type of professional gathering.

Congress centre 2.0, a model of modernity and durability

Visitors can view the available rooms, observe the building from the sky and above all visit and **move about** in the various areas using a «Cardboard» **virtual reality** helmet sent on demand. It will never have been so easy to organise seminars and congresses.

■ The service providers listed in the Business Club.

■ A Hotels, conventions & congress charter: 23 hotels with 1,000 rooms.
 ■ ISO 20121 certification for the organisation of eco-responsible events

360° virtual visit available at : 360.congres-champagne.com

For any event organised at the Congress Centre, a glass of champagne is offered to each participant*!

**Certain conditions apply*



COMING EVENTS

- **ROCK OPERA - Past ages, Future ages and Templars**
- From 27 to 29 January

- **Aube Symphonic Orchestra** - 14 and 15 January, 3 to 5 February, 4 and 5 March, 7 to 9 April and 13 and 14 May

- **Conference around Renoir**
- 22 June and 21 September

- **Congress and General Assembly of the Petites Cités de Caractère (Small Cities of Character)** - 9 to 12 May

- **Conference of the National Federation of Yoga Teachers**
- 24 to 28 May

- **5th National Conference of Towns and Villages in Bloom CNVVF** - 30 November - 1 December

All the events at the Aube Congress Centre can be found at

www.congres-champagne.com

Responsible events

A forerunner in the implementation of an environmental labelling system for hotels, with a third of the hotels already labelled, Aube en Champagne Tourism and Convention Bureau is also the first congress office certified ISO 20121 for the responsible management of its events.

The Departmental Tourism Committee is heavily committed in favour of sustainable development. Moreover, the Congress Centre is an example of eco-responsible infrastructure with its natural materials and its low consumption system.



AUBE

en Champagne

PRESS CONTACTS

Marine D'Hyèvre

marine.dhyevre@aube-champagne.com

Tél : 03 25 42 50 92 | 06 87 71 37 22

Yacine Diallo / Corinne Hennequin

y.diallo@agencehemispheresud.com

Tél : 01 42 65 27 16 | 06 78 64 97 07

Twitter : @PresseAube

Aube en Champagne Tourisme et Congrès
34 Quai Dampierre - 10000 Troyes

www.aube-champagne.com