



#### Children's drawings from around the world illustrate the promises of the Aube

To highlight art and youth, the main themes of this press kit will be illustrated through the collection of children's drawings from the Louis François UNESCO Centre in Troyes. Unique in the world, the "Memories of the Future" art library, located in the heart of Troyes, hosts more than 100.000 artistic creations from 150 countries made by children and young people aged 3 to 25. As intercultural dialogues, these children's drawings are powerful indicators of the cultural diversity that form the richness of our humanity ...



# Aube en Champagne, a destination close by!

#### How to get there

By road: Aube en Champagne is located at the intersection of motorways A5 and A26 and at the crossroads of major European arteries;

By train; with the 1h30 Paris - Troyes line and the Paris - Belfort - Mulhouse SNCF line ;

By plane; with two business airports: the Troyes en Champagne (10 minutes) and Paris-Vatry (30 min) as well as, of course, the two international airports, Paris-Orly and Paris-CDG, which put the destination 1h30 from the capital.

In other words, at only 90 minutes from Paris, 3h30 from Lyon, and 4h from Strasbourg and Brussels, Aube en Champagne is an easily accessible department in the heart of the Grand Est.

## Aube en Champagne is...

Troyes, a city of tradition discoverable entirely by foot. Troyes, the "City of the Stitch", where visitors can shop in 300 designer outlet stores covering a surface of 90,000 m<sup>2</sup>.

A Champagne Trail about 200 km long and covering 8,000 hectares of vineyards, representing 1/4 of the Champagne vineyards. 47 "Vignobles & Découverte" wineries, who invite you to discover their Champagne cellars.

Family fun at Nigloland amusement park, considered the third best European park by European Star Awards.

An invitation to nature with 82,000 hectares of Regional Nature Park including 5,000 ha of lakes, 4500 km of hiking trails, and 1500 km of cyclable routes.

An exceptional heritage, with 200 churches, 7 of typically-Champagne halftimbered construction. 9,000 m<sup>2</sup> of stained glass windows, earning the Aube the privilege of being the European capital of stained glass.

## La Promesse de l'Aube (Promise at Dawn)

"What I want to say is that she had eyes in which it was so good to live that I have never since known where to go."

Romain Gary, Promise at Dawn

A visit to the Aube is the promise of a visit at your own pace, not the pace of a zealous mother but of a territory. Stroll through the medieval streets of Troyes, the historic capital of Champagne. Contemplate the Côte des Bar vineyards or listen to the song of cranes around the Lakes of the Orient... enjoy the gentle passing of time ...

Let the promise of "slow tourism" only 1h30 from Paris entice you to come enjoy authentic experiences in a preserved natural setting, in the company of enthusiastic operators. Winemakers welcome you to their cellars, where they share their special knowledge of harvesting and producing Champagne wines. You are invited to visit during the key moments of the vineyard: from the grape harvest at the end of summer to the tasting of cuvées during the Champagne Trail Festival.

Our strength is our ability to tell our story and bring our heritage to life, and to offer authenticity to tourists who are appreciative of and curious about our territory. A history surrounding Great Men; the sculptures of Camille Claudel in Nogent-sur-Seine, the Renoir House in Essoyes, the Rashi synagogue in Troyes, the Templars in Avalleur, Napoleon's youth in Brienne-le-Château ...

Visits marked by ideals and charmed by a rich diversity that makes each visit exceptional, which only the human link of a host can provide. These moments of human interaction are essential to understanding our true history, our heritage, and perhaps even some part of your own roots...

#### The sustainability actions of Aube en Champagne in a few words

The first Department of the Grand Est to engage in the 'Green Passport' initiative under the aegis of the UN Environment Program, Aube en Champagne, through its diversity, emphasizes respect for life through a sustainable and innovative rationale. The launching in 2017 of the Slow Tourism Lab, the 1st incubator dedicated to rural tourism that engages business owners from the Aube and the rest of France, is a perfect example.





# the promise of the Aube

# **JANUARY**

#### Sales at designer outlets in the Aube Wednesday 9 January to Tuesday 19 February /TROYES

Historic capital of factory outlets, Troyes is the place to be for those who love finding good deals. Take advantage of the summer sales, from 26 June to 6 August!

#### Saint Vincent Day celebration Saturday 19 January / TROYES

Saint Vincent, Patron Saint of winemakers, will be celebrated in Troyes with a day of festivities, including a gathering of the Champagne fraternities, a parade, and a ceremony at the Saint-Pierre-et-Saint-Paul Cathedral in Troyes ...

#### APRIL

#### ArKéAube Exhibit From 2 April to 29 September / TROYES

The Aube Department has launched the ArkéAube exhibition-event. From the first peasants to the Prince of Lavau (-5300/-450) at the Hôtel-Dieu-le-Comte in Troyes in May 2018. Visitors will (re)discover more than 200 objects that testify to the archaeological wealth of the territory. New sensory experiences await visitors for this new edition!

#### A Sunday in the Countryside 28 April / ÁUBE EN CHAMPAGNE

A day rich in discovery, focusing on agriculture in the Aube, with rurality and culture at the heart of our landscapes, unveils to visitors the strength and diversity of the territory's agriculture ...

#### Exhibition of original works at the Renoir House From May to October / ESSOYES

As part of the 100th anniversary of the death of Pierre-Auguste Renoir, come explore an exceptional exhibition of original works by the painter, in the heart of the Renoir family home.

#### JUNF

Events not to miss in Aube en Champagne ...

#### Heritage Marathon Saturday, 8 June / TROYES

A tourist course of 42.195 km, to be completed in small steps so participants can explore original and little-known sites. Discovery and conviviality are the key words of this sporty

#### Circle of Fire

#### Saturday 8 and Sunday 9 June / CHAOURCE

On a natural site, fireworks, shows, music, and lights combine to enchant the surrounding nature and create a magical atmosphere. Nearly 400 artists and craftsmen from all walks of life share their passion and knowledge.

#### Temporary exhibition at the Camille Claudel Museum From 15 June to 15 September

## NOGENT SUR SEINE

An exhibition combining sculptures, photographs, videos, paintings, and performances that combine dialogue with modern and contemporary works.

#### 11th festival of art & spirituality

#### 13 to 23 June / AUBE EN CHAMPAGNE

10 days of concerts, shows, dances, conferences, and free exhibitions in Aube en Champagne churches.

#### JULY-AUGUST

#### The Château de Taisne, where snacking in the garden is a special event...

#### Summer season / THE RICEYS

Take the time to savour a "snack in the garden" in the magnificent Château de Taisne. Let yourself enjoy on of life's Tittle pleasures, with a bottle of Champagne and local cakes.

#### Sound & Light Shows Summer season / CÔTE DES BAR

The former Cristallerie Royale de Champagne in Bayel, the Château des Riceys, and the village of Mussy-sur-Seine will host Sound & Light shows during the summer season!

#### Cape Verde Festival in Champagne 6 and 7 July / VILLENAUXE-LA-GRANDE

The national independence of Cape Verde celebrated beyond its borders with Champagne maker François OUDARD and the Union of Merchants of Villenauxe-la-Grande! A ball in the colours of Cape Verde and various activities throughout the entire event.

#### Festival en Othe From 19 to 21 July / PAYS D'OTHE

3 days of celebration, meeting, and sharing, in a magnificent cocoon of greenery, featuring musical acts from near and far.

#### The Champagne Trail en Fête 27 et 28 July / VÄLLÉE DE L'ARCE (Côte des Bar)

This is the largest event in the Côte des Bar area. The winemakers welcome you to the heart of a secular vineyard started by Bernard de Clairvaux 900 years ago. Bring along your champagne-flute passport to taste various vintages and share a festive moment with the winemakers

#### "One Day, One Church" guided tours From July to September / AUBE EN CHAMPAGNE

Aube en Champagne volunteers open the doors of churches usually closed to the public ... Fascinating visits led by fascinating volunteers!

#### Ervy-le-Châtel Medieval Festival 3 and 4 August / ERVY-LE-CHÂTEL

Discover the village of Ervy-le-Châtel plunged back in time to the Middle Ages: street shows, magic tricks, sword fighting, theatre, and lanterns released into the sky.

#### Hunting & Country en Fête at Château de Vaux Sunday 11 August / FOUCHÈRES

An authentic and festive atmosphere under the banner of the art of living, hunting and rural heritage, in a historic site beyond charming! Also at Château de Vaux: an electro-baroque festival during the summer season and the Nights of Horror in the last week of the All Saints Holiday!

# promise of the Aube **5**

p 26

#### **SEPTEMBER**

## Become a Grape Picker for a Day September (exact dates based on the harvest) CÔTE DES BÀR

What could be more interesting than a day picking grapes in Aube en Champagne? During the grape harvest, the wine growers of the Côte des Bar give you the opportunity to discover their estates bubbling with activity.

#### The Slow Food Festival September / EAUX-PUISEAUX

Between meeting local producers and discovering the artisans of the arts of the table, the aim of the Slow Food Festival is to promote the art of eating excellent local and seasonal products!

#### **OCTOBER**

Nigloween at Nigloland Every week-end in October and every day during All Saints Holiday DOLANCOURT

Each year for Halloween, Nigloland is transformed by spectacular decorations for which the park has become famous. Nigloween immerses guests in an atmosphere unique and full of surprises!

## Champagne Day 18 October / AUBE EN CHAMPAGNE

Celebrate the International Day of Champagne in the Aube and share a flute of this rare, golden, sparkling wine, whose name is synonymous with celebration!

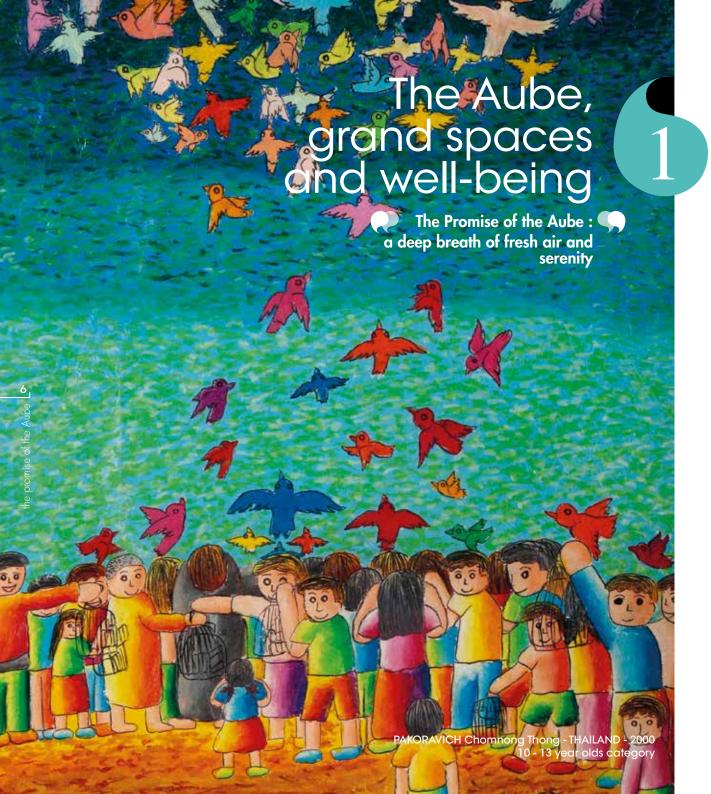
## Nights of Champagne From 21 to 26 October / TROYES

After more than 30 years of existence, the Nights of Champagne is part of the cultural and musical landscape of Troy. Beyond-the-wall concerts in the heart of Troyes and in the city's concert venues.



• The Louis François UNESCO Centre in Troyes

6	The Aube, Grand Spaces and Well-Being "The promise of the Aube: a deep breath of fresh air and serenity"  • The Forêt d'Orient Regional Nature Park, a nature area ideal for getting back to roots  • Sporting activities in the Great Outdoors  • Aube en Champagne, a place where you can take time to unwind	p 6 p 8 p 9
2	The Aube, Land of Great Men  "The promise of the Aube: be inspired by these native or adopted "Champagnites"  • "Get your peasant on" in Essoyes, village of the painter Pierre-Auguste Renoir  • Napoleon in Brienne-le-Château  • The Camille Claudel Museum in Nogent-sur-Seine, an artistic tribute  • The new space dedicated to Jewish history and Rashi  • The Knights Templar of the Aube	p 10 p 11 p 11 p 11 p 12
3	The Aube, land of exchanges and sharing "The promise of the Aube: well-being in the Aube as told by its inhabitants"  • Winemakers in Aube en Champagne, between tradition and sustainable innovation  • Volunteer guides of Aube en Champagne, serving to promote local heritage  • Craftsmanship and genuine expertise  • Gather around the local gastronomy	p 13 p 15 p 16 p 16
4	The Aube, an attractive and sustainable destination "The promise of the Aube: reinvigorate our heritage with sustainable innovations"  • The Slow Tourism Lab, 1st incubator dedicated to rural tourism  • A dynamic business destination  • Just as Paris is shaped like a heart, so Troyes is shaped like a champagne cork  • Aube, land of cinema  • Tourisme & Handicap and Logis de l'Aube, signs of quality	p 18 p 20 p 22 p 23 p 23
5	The Aube, an international beacon of light "The promise of Aube: on the route for authentic sightseeing"  • European Templar Route  • Other "Routes" in Aube en Champagne  • Long Walking Trails	p 24 p 25 p 26



#### The Forêt d'Orient Regional Nature Park, a nature area ideal for gettingback to roots

A green lung located 1h30 from the capital, the Grands Lacs de Champagne and the Forêt d'Orient Regional Nature Park are an invitation to nature, sports activities, and sustainable cultural experiences ...

Three lakes make up the Grands Lacs de Champagne; Lac d'Orient, where 2500 hectares are reserved for sailing and rowing, Lac Amance, converted for the intoxicating thrill of motor boats, and Lac du Temple, a paradise for silence, fishermen, and lovers of nature.

#### Did you know?

Originally, the first two lakes were created to regulate the Seine and Aube rivers and to prevent major Paris floods. Today they have blended perfectly into the environment to become areas conducive to all kinds of escapism.



#### A favourite area for birdwatchers

The Grands Lacs of Champagne, which cover 5,000 ha of the Forêt d'Orient Regional Nature Park, offer migratory birds immense aquatic spaces ideal for stopovers. The creation of large reservoir lakes has without doubt considerably enhanced the ornithological interest of this Champagne wet zone, which was already excellent for the staging of waterfowl.



Some species you may encounter during your green stopover ...

More than 250 species of birds have been observed on the lakes and in their forested surroundings, including some prestigious winged guests: the White-tailed Eagle, Bewick's Swans, and Gray Cranes, which can be seen on the lakes from October to November.

Forêt d'Orient Regional

their knowledge of fauna,

flora, and environmental

Nature Park, sharing

preservation.

The Park also hosts 12 species of amphibians, all of which are protected in France, as well as 8 species of reptiles.

## The Grands Lacs of Champagne, a paradise of silence and fishermen

The Champagne wet zone contains a number of diverse aquatic habitats to the delight of the fish fauna, which includes pike, roach, tench, trout, perch, carp, and perch.

Whether you are a fishing fanatic or just curious, you can try night carp fishing on your own or let distinguished and avid fisherman Thierry Lacombe guide you.

#### Did you know?

Today, almost all of the Lac du Temple is classified as a "National Nature Reserve", offering space and tranquillity to lovers of fishing.



#### Things not to miss in the Forêt d'Orient Natural Regional Park Nigloland amusement park, a family story

Considered the third best European amusement park according to European Star Awards, Nigloland features 39 attractions and shows in an exceptional natural setting.

\*\* The amusement devotes particular attention to its environmental impact, and the Hotel des Pirates \*\*\*\*, located in the park, is engaged in an environmental labelling initiative.

**2019**: The Eden Palace! This magical place invites you to explore a fantastic universe, from the era of travelling theatres to the opening of Nigloland.



## The Wildlife Area of the Forêt d'Orient, a 100% nature activity for young and old alike

At the Espace Faune, located on an 89 ha peninsula in the Lac d'Orient, you can discover mammals that populate the forests of yesterday and today. With a little patience you can see red deer, roe deer, wild boar, tarpans, aurochs, European bison, and even moose.

**Nature outing**: at the end September / beginning of October, "Call of the Deer" outings are organized here.

## Le Belvédère restaurant, a breathtaking view of the Lac d'Orient

Located opposite the port of Mesnil-Saint-Père, in the heart of the Grands Lacs of Champagne, the Belvedere Restaurant opened its doors in June 2018. With a breathtaking view of Lac d'Orient, this new contemporary brasserie invites you to savour a number of dishes.



Born of the childhood dream of Erwin Schriever, this traditional reconstruction is a reminder that 140 windmills once stood proudly in the Aube department. This superb windmill lives again, with its manufacture of flour and bread, its towable mill, and its two medieval gardens.

## $oldsymbol{n}$ ew in 2019

## The Lac d'Orient Hotel-Club at Mesnil-Saint-Père - opening in April

A few metres from the Lac d'Orient and the beach of Mesnil-Saint-Père, the Hotel Club of the Lac d'Orient will have 60 comfortable rooms situated in small hamlets in a lovely park, plus a restaurant and a wellness area where guests can relax after a day on the lakes.

#### Beaver Aqua Park, entertaining water activities

Beaver Aqua Park welcomes visitors to the Lac d'Orient, for a sporty day on the water! Various levels of difficulty let participants challenge themselves while enjoying a great time outdoors. "Healthy food" snacks are available, for a 100% healthy day.



## Sporting activities in the Great Outdoors

Aube en Champagne hosts over 70 providers of sporting activities and offers a range of activities so you can discover the destination in a different way, and in the outdoors!

## The Grands Lacs of Champagne are a place of play and sporting adventure

Looking for special sporting moments in the great outdoors? You will find many activities dedicated to young and old alike: sailing, kayaking, canoeing, kite-surfing, paddle-boarding, water skiing, diving ...

Want to stay on solid earth? A small tourist train, obstacle courses, an outdoor inflatable structures complex, mini-golf ... the Park and the Grands Lacs are the favourite territory for sporty types, whether expert or not, in search of sensational experiences!

## Gentle mobility in Aube en Champagne? The bicycle!

1500 km of cyclable itineraries and 24 cycling circuits, plus 40 establishments (hotels, bed and breakfasts, campsites, bike rentals, shops ...) labelled "Aube à vélo" or "Champagne à vélo" to delight people who are sporty or who just love nature!



Different routes to explore in Aube en Champagne:

- The "Vélovoie des Lacs", a route from Troyes to the Forêt d'Orient.
- The "Voie Verte du canal de la Haute-Seine", to reach the Northwest of the department.
- The "Boucles Cyclo Touristiques", cycling circuits for discovering vineyards and their peaceful villages.
- The Paris-Prague route; Aube is the first department on this European route featuring an entirely secure path!

#### And what about the city of Troyes?

Since 2015, the Troyes urban area has wanted to develop the use of cycling in the city and make it a key component of tourism development. This has come to fruition today with the obtaining of the "Territoire Vélotouristique" label, delivered by the Fédération Française de Cyclotourisme.

#### How about going on a hike?

In the vineyards and near the lakes, Aube en Champagne sports a variety of hiking trails by which you can explore the cultural and natural riches of the destination!

#### Aube en Champagne seen from the sky

Do you dream of taking to the heights in Aube en Champagne? Aerodromes and tourist service providers offer activities in the air, for sensational experiences.

#### Where to go:

- The Brienne-le-Château aerodrome near the Grands Lacs of Champagne, for parachuting, microlights, paramotors and four-seater aircraft ...
- The Barsuraubois flying club, for pilot training or simply for a first flight or piloting initiation flight.
  The flying club of Celles-sur-Ource, where visitors can
- The flying club of Celles-sur-Ource, where visitors can share a unique moment with Côte-de-Bar winemakers who will decipher the wine slopes through the windows of the cockpit.

How about aboard a hotair balloon? The Champagne Air Show, Montgolfière Evasion, and Montgolfière du Lac d'Orient offer flights over vineyards or lakes!

\*\*Progolfing enthusiasts\* The La Cordelière Golf Course of Troyes, the Forêt d'Orient Park Golf Course, and the Ermitage Golf Course invite you to come play this outdoor sport! And to combine golf and gastronomy, Champagne maker R. Dumont & Fils invites you to taste different cuvées following an introduction to golf.





#### Aube en Champagne, a place where you can take time to unwind

Aube en Champagne invites you to take a little break, have a change of scene, and unwind in an accommodation designed for your well-being ...

## Our favorite establishments for a moment of well-being

After a cultural getaway in the city of Troyes ...

#### La Maison de Rhodes\*\*\*\*\*

Imagine staying in a traditional half-timbered Templar house featuring a large medieval garden and cobblestone-paved inner courtyard ... La Maison de Rhodes welcomes you for a stay in the historic centre of Troyes, a stone's throw from the cathedral ... A pool with massage jets in the former garden of the parish Priest, a double whirlpool and hydromassage shower, Ayurvedic massage, and Swedish sauna, for a truly out-of-sight well-being getaway.



## A perfect complement to a breath of fresh air in the Forêt d'Orient Regional Nature Park

#### The Auberge du Lac\*\*\*

The Auberge du Lac Hotel Spa, located a stone's throw from the Lac d'Orient, offers unusual and innovative treatments based on "Champagne grape musts, gold and caviar"! The skincare line "Dionyzos by Patrick Gublin", master of the

house, offers a veritable cocoon of softness. Combat stress with body and facial treatments, a Turkish bath, a themed shower experience, an ice fountain, a swimming pool, and a private solarium.



#### Domain de la Forêt d'Orient \*\*\*\* Natur'Hotel Golf and Spa

The Domain de la Forêt d'Orient invites you to let go and enjoy a sensorial experience inspired by nature and terroir. In the "Aqualis" space you can take advantage of the hydromassage pool, the new Jacuzzi, and the multi-sensory area consisting of a sauna, steam room and sensorial showers. A la carte treatments, to perfect this day of relaxation.



#### After a tasting of cider from Pays d'Othe ...

#### Aux Maisons\*\*\*

A place where well-being, treatments, relaxation, and serenity reign, just 30 minutes from Troyes. Treatments for face and body further enhance the benefits of the relaxation area, which includes a steam room, sauna, Jacuzzi,

experiential shower, ice waterfall, and indoor pool. "The joy of sharing, and of treating yourself" is the motto of this establishment!

## After succumbing to the effervescence of Champagne bubbles ...

#### Aqua Val – Le Val Moret\*\*\*

Near the sparkling vineyards of Côte des Bar, with a breathtaking view of the surrounding countryside, come unwind in the indoor pool and heated relaxation area, and enjoy the infrared sauna and Jacuzzi.



#### After a cultural visit to the Camille Claudel museum ...

#### Auberge de Nicey\*\*\*

The S 'de Nicey, the Spa, a few minutes from Nogent-sur-Seine and the Camille Claudel museum, offers a blend of well-being and culture. An indoor heated pool, a Jacuzzi, an infrared cabin, a treatment room, and a gym for recharging your batteries.

#### Beauty products 100% "Made In Aube"

Chanvria, the first range of dermocosmetic products based on organic hemp oil, features an active ingredient derived from plants grown in the heart of Aube en Champagne without pesticides, fungicides, herbicides, or fertilizers.



## "Get your peasant on" in Essoyes, village of the painter Pierre-Auguste Renoir

Essoyes, where you sense the presence of the painter with each step, is an ideal destination for romantics and those who love Renoir ... Explore the private life of this impressionist master in his family home, and let yourself be guided by your emotions ...

Pierre Auguste Renoir permeates Essoyes, a typical Champagne village where his wife Aline was born. Charmed by this village, from 1885 he spent each summer in the family home. It was in this environment of charming landscapes, among the villagers with whom he enjoyed sharing his daily life, that he drew inspiration and found his models: the washerwomen, his children, and his model Gabrielle, the young Essoyes woman who was nanny to his son Jean.

## 2019, a year of anniversaries

- the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of the painter Renoir
- the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Gabrielle
- the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Jean Renoir
- the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Claude Renoir, known as Coco



**Find out about ...** The Renoir family home, opened in June 2017. Luncheon of the Boating Party, Young Girls at the Piano, and Bouquet des Fleurs all evoke a happy era and the joyfulness of parties in the countryside ... Let yourself be seduced by the art, the atmosphere, the light, and the era, and experience the love the painter had for his dear village ... The Interpretation Area, the workshop, and the cemetery where the painter and part of his family are buried are all waiting to be discovered as well.

#### gastronomy and history"

Do not miss a visit to one of the "Champagnes de Renoir" partner cellars; each cuvée is associated with a painter's painting. Cultural and gastronomic voyage assured!



#### **Napoleon** in Brienne-le-Château

Classified as a Historical Monument in 1933, the Napoleon Museum is housed in the remaining building of the former Royal Military School at Brienne-le-Château, where Napoleon arrived in 1779. The Napoleon museum recounts in detail Bonaparte's youth and the France campaign of 1814. A territory dear to his heart, where he devoted five years to forging his rigour and strong work ethic, the Aube is the cradle of famous battles.

The Napoleon Museum was redesigned in January 2018 and now has an expanded exhibition space, modern mediation tools, and innovative museology. Various facets of Napoleon Bonaparte are presented throughout the museum.

#### "gastronomy and history"

The "Napoleon" cuvée, developed in partnership with the Nicolo & Paradis Champagne cellar, gives you the chance to link together, as one should, local gastronomy and history.

## The new space dedicated to Jewish history and Rashi

Rashi, also known as "Commentator par excellence of the Torah" was born in Troyes in 1040. At Rachi House, located in the heart of the city of Troyes, a scenographic space helps visitors better understand the lewish culture and the major role played by Rashi, great commentator of the Bible and the Talmud.

Between the library classifying works of Jewish culture in different languages, touch pads for viewing the scrolls of the Torah (otherwise rarely accessible outside services), and a visit to the Synagogue, at the Rashi House you can take a true voyage in time.

### "stained glass and history"

Follow in the footsteps of the prosperity and progeny of Rachi de Troyes, thanks to the magnificent stained glass window of Flavie Serrière Vincent-Petit, Master Glassmaker, a tribute to the historical heritage of the city.







#### 2019, a year of anniversaries

- the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Napoleon
- the 240<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival of Napoleon in Brienne-le-Château



## The Camille Claudel Museum in Nogent-on-Seine, an artistic tribute

Few people know that the gifted adolescent took her first artistic steps in Nogent-sur-Seine. Born on 24 December, 1864 in Aisne, where she spent her early childhood, the young Camille Claudel arrived in Nogent-sur-Seine in 1876.

A world-class museum, this architectural showcase brings together the world's largest quantity of the artist's works: The forty works on display offer a complete overview of

her artistic career. At the same time, the museum's collection of sculptures offers an opportunity to understand the context in which Camille Claudel learned. evolved and emerged. More than 400 works to discover

#### #gastronomy and history"

Camille Claudel's cuvée, in all its finesse, can be found at Champagne maker François-Oudard in Villenauxe-la-Grande





#### The Templars of the Aube

The birthplace of the Knights Templar, Aube en Champagne is a territory rallied together to (re)live its history. Follow in the footsteps of the Templars, between innovation and heritage ...

## The Templars of today welcome you to the Commanderie d'Avalleur

José, Jean, Alain, Claudine and Yolande receive you at the Commanderie d'Avalleur as it was before 1142, the time of Hugues de Payns, when the Templars owned land in Avalleur. Dressed in white albs with Templar crosses on theirs chest, they take you back to the time of the knights ....

Considered one of the best-preserved sites of the Templars of Northern Europe, the Commanderie Templière d'Avalleur is a typical example of a rural commandery in the West.

Comprising a chapel dating from the 13th century plus communal and agricultural buildings, this small fortified monastery belonged to the Templars until 1312, when all properties of the Order of the Temple fell to the Hospitallers.

## Take a historical breath of fresh air in the Forêt du Temple

On this 5km discovery circuit, located in the heart of the Forêt d'Orient Regional Nature Park, discover the history of the largest forested estate in the West that was owned by the Knights Templar. Explore the ruins and key areas in

the Temple Forest, a source of provisions and considerable income for the Knights Templar.

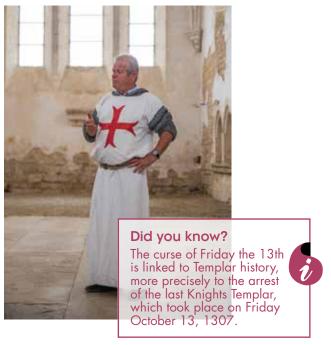
# Entertaining activities encourage young people to engage with the history of the Knights Templar.

Enter into the world of the Knights of the Order of the Temple and complete the quest that guides you to their treasure! This free online site spans two episodes, leading you on a temporal journey in the footsteps of the Knights Templar. www.templiersdelaube.com

## A total immersion into the history of the Templars

Don the costume of a Knight of the Order of the Temple and enter the world of knights with the Escape Game 1.10.2.3. An original scenario, for an introduction to the Knights Templar.





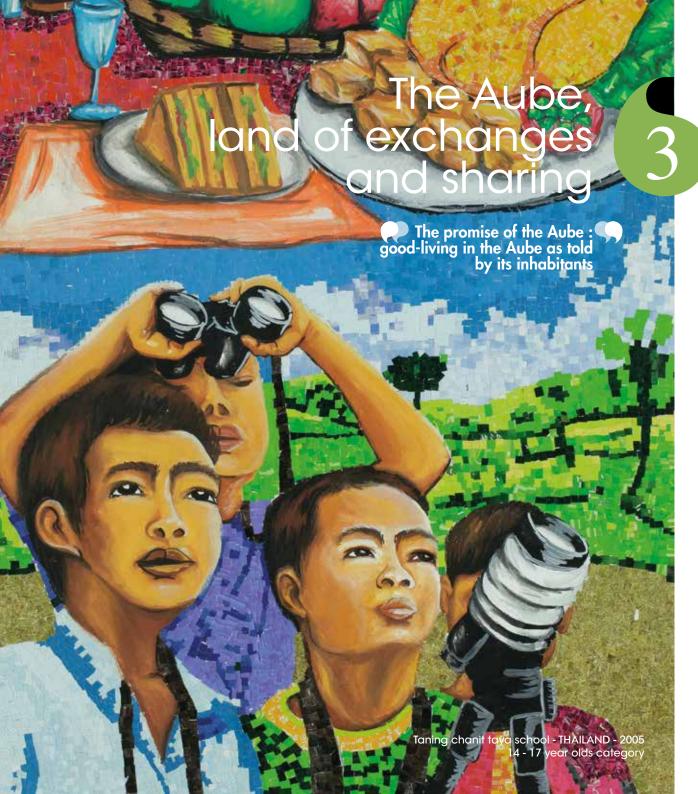
#### "gastronomy and history"

Two Champagne cellars wish to highlight the history of these Great Men through gastronomy ... Two "Templar" cuvées have thus been developed which echo the development of the Templars Route.

- The Grand Master cuvée by Champagne maker Rémy Massin & Fils.
- The Templar Treasure cuvée by Champagne maker R. Dumont & Fils.

#### One of our favourite books

"Templars d'Avalleur" by François GILET and Valérie ALANIÈCE. Recognized Aube specialists, and members of the Templar Route steering committee, Valérie ALANIECE and François GILET provide a better understanding of the Templar organization and economy.



## Winemakers of Aube in Champagne, between tradition and sustainable innovation

The Aube gives birth to a rare wine, a sparkling golden wine whose name is synonymous with celebration: Champagne.

To the south of Troyes, the Côte des Bar offers you astonishing panoramas of forests, rivers, and the vine-covered hillsides that wine-growers work to produce Champagne wines.

Travel along the Champagne Trail for over 220 kilometres for a sensorial and cultural journey full of colour! The Aube, land of Pinot Noir, introduces 47 "Vineyards & Discoveries" labelled cellar partners, who would be thrilled to open the doors to their cellars for you ...

#### Did you know?

Along with the Côte des
Blancs, the Montagne de Reims
and the Vallée de la Marne,
the Côte des Bar is one of
the major areas that make up
Champagne vineyards. Two
other wine terroirs can also be
found in the Aube: Villenauxe
la Grande, in the Northwest,
and the hill of Montgueux, on
the doorsteps of Troyes, mainly
planted with Chardonnay.



## Winegrowers engaged in a sustainable approach

Where the harvest is still done by hand and where patience is mandatory for producing the King of Wines, the men who work the vines are well aware of the importance of engaging in a sustainable approach to honour this noble product. A few concrete examples of the engagement of our Champagne cellars ...



The only carbon neutral wine grower in Champagne, Drappier Champagne was EcoAct certified in 2016. It also carries the label "agriculture biologique". This globally eco-friendly approach earned it the trophy for "eco-responsible approach" last October, issued by Les Trophées Champenois.

Certified "Haute Valeur Environnementale", the winery of Richardot Champagne also embodies the spirit of "sustainable development". Natural grassing has been mastered, the biological life of the soil is maintained, preference is given to mechanical work rather than chemical, and photovoltaic panels have been installed.

Beehives have also recently been put in place to help maintain pollinators and thus biodiversity.

For several years now R. Dumont & Fils Champagne, "Terra Vitis" certified, has used just a drop of weed killer for the entire vineyard.

The energy consumption in the cellar is reduced to a minimum by combining fermentations (alcoholic and malolactic) and letting the wines cool naturally.

Cheurlin Dangin Champagne combines the know-how and tradition of ten generations. Certified "Terra Vitis" and "Haute Valeur Environnementale", this family winery is committed to respecting the environment through rational and sustainable viticulture (reduction of pesticides, reduction of spraying ...) In 2018, this Champagne cellar developed an Vegan Extra-Brut cuvée and a Vegan Rosé cuvée!

Denis Chaput Champagne, also carrying the "Terra Vitis" label, works to maintain an optimum balance of natural soil, which allows vines to draw water and minerals from deep down in the earth.

Grass is cultivated between vine rows to encourage biodiversity, trellising is maintained, and defoliation is mastered so the grapes can breathe ... A rational viticulture respectful of the natural balance of the soil, the vine, and its ecosystem.





#### Côte des Bar, 100% original activities and events

The Côte des Bar holds its own in dynamism and originality Have fun with original events and unusual activities!

#### Our idea of activities

- Stunning hot air balloon dinner
- Fly over the vineyards with a winemaker pilot
- Canoe trip on the Seine
- Picnic or gourmet meal in the vineyards
- Explore the vineyards by foot, horse, electric bicycle, or Seaway®
- Cruise the vineyards in an electric car
- Introductory tasting workshops: the "Macaroons & Champagne" workshop at Champagne de Barfontarc, the "Chocolate - Cheese & Champagne" workshop at Champagne Devaux or the "Saffron & Champagne" workshop at Champagne Rémy Massin & Fils.
- Walk among the cadoles and explore these small dry stone constructions, which protected winemakers from the rigours of the climate.

#### From the uprising of the wine growers to UNESCO labelling, Champagne in a few dates ...

- 1911: the Aube winemakers rise up against an administration that denies them the appellation.
- 22 July 1927: the law created which officially gives the wine growers the prestigious "Champagne" Appellation d'Origine Contrôlée (AOC)
- 4 July 2015: ultimate worldwide recognition is attributed to the Champagne vineyards; "Champagne Hillsides, Houses and Cellars" is officially registered in the "Cultural Landscapes" category of the UNESCO World Heritage list.



#### **Terra Vitis**

Certified winegrowers work the vines with respect and commit themselves to observing nature by using the vines' natural mechanisms of defence.



#### Sustainable viticulture in Champagne

Certification encourages the Champagne wineries to pursue a system of respectful and respon-



#### Haute Valeur Environnementale

benefit from highest of the three levels of environmental certification



#### Visitation ideas in the Côte des Bar

#### Château de Vaux, a young "chatelain" at the head of an extraordinary tourism project

In 2015, at the age of 21, Edouard Guyot bought one of the most beautiful monuments in the Aube: the Château de Vaux, a construction designed by Germain Boffrand, architect of the King ... A little-known monument abandoned in 1964, the Château de Vaux found new life in 2015 when it opened for visits.

#### The Clairvaux Cistercian Abbey

This Cistercian abbey, founded in the 12st century by Saint Bernard, is a French masterpiece of monastic architecture. Explore the various buildings recalling the history of the place: the splendid building of the lay brothers, the 16th century barn, the hostelry of the ladies, and the classic Great Cloister dating from the 18th century.

#### **10** 2019: Viviers-sur-Artaut Priory

The Viviers-sur-Artaut Priory will open in early 2019 and give you the opportunity to dive into the history of Aube winemaking. This wine tourism site, managed by Champagne Robert Grandpierre, will host an eco-museum and a giant barrel for tasting various wines in an original space!

#### **6+** Délice Décadol, for Champagne delicacies ...

Sample Champagne cuisine at Délice Décadol. From the 18th century, Champagne has regularly been simmered to make sauces, and to be incorporated into various dishes ... Denis Aubry offers up a large collection of preserves made with Champagne wine!

#### Volunteer guides of Aube en Champagne seek to promote local heritage

"Tours led 100% by humans, for discoveries 100% authentic" is the motto of the Áube en Champagne volunteers. "Aubites" by origin or by adoption, these volunteers unite around the same passions: love of their territory and the desire to help others discover it.

#### Push open the doors of churches normally closed to the public with "One Day, One Church"

The "One Day, One Church" operation started in 2014 in collaboration with the Pastoral Ministry to Tourism, the Diocese of Troyes, voluntary organizations, the Aube Departmental Committee of Tourism, and the Departement of the Aube (Departmental Archives and the City of Stained Glass). A program rich in free visits and events is made available during the summer season, to present the churches of Aube en Champagne to as many people as possible.

**L+** The operation "One Day, One Church" also features the numerous stained glass windows in the area ... With more than 200 churches and 9,000 m<sup>2</sup> of stained glass, the collection in Aube en Champagne, the European Capital of Stained Glass, is unique in Europe. The Saint-Pierre-and-Saint-Paul Cathedral of Troyes alone features 1500 m<sup>2</sup> of stained glass windows from the 13th to 19th centuries.

#### Volunteer "ambassadors" of the city of Troyes

For the past 6 years, Troyes Champagne Tourism has been engaged in the concept of "participatory tourism" by involving locals in the promotion and enhancement of tourist sites. To become an "ambassador" is to become an emissary of the destination in the company of relatives or visitors.



#### Did you know?

The operation "One Day, One Church" was given the "European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018" label by the Ministry of Culture, via the DRAC Grand Est.



#### The Half-Timbered Churches Trail. a collection unique in France

Located in the north-east of the Aube, the Half-Timbered Churches Trail takes you down lovely country roads. The seven half-timbered churches, dating from the end of the 15th to the 18th centuries, illustrate the perfection of half-timbered construction.

Concentrated in the Land of the Grands Lacs of the Forêt d'Orient, a collection like this exists no where else in France.

#### In the great outdoors, explore the fauna, flora, and heritage of the Forêt d'Orient

The "Les Amis du Parc" association will inspire you to fall in love with hiking and exploring in the heart of the Forêt d'Orient. In its mission to raise awareness of the need to protect the environment and heritage, "Les Amis du Parc" proposes a number of cultural events, nature outings, hikes, circuits, and guided tours ...

#### Volunteers in the spirit of the times

The story of the Knights Templar, a strong theme in Aube en Champagne, is told by passionate volunteers ... At the doors of the Commanderie d'Avalleur in Bar-sur-Seine, volunteers in Templar costume invite you to return with them to the past.

#### Operation One Day One Church 2018 in figures...

- 250 participating communities with more than 260 churches and chapels visited
- 486 tours offered to visitors
- Nearly 300 volunteers mobilized
- More than 6500 participants counted in 2018





## Authentic craftsmanship and know-how

A land of culture proud of its heritage and history, Aube en Champagne is committed to highlighting its talent. Artists and excellent artisans, traditional craftsmanship and design ... every encounter is a return to the past. Passion and rigour are the keywords of Aube artisans, much to the delight of visitors ...

#### Flavie Serrière Vincent-Petit, Master Glassmaker

Restorer of stained glass heritage and creator of contemporary works usually integrated into historical monuments, Flavie Serrière Vincent-Petit makes the most beautiful of tributes to the many stained glass windows found in Aube in Champagne ... La Manufacture Vincent-Petit invites you to discover this ancestral work, where passion and precision rhyme with perfection ...

Discover the stained glass windows of Flavie Serrière Vincent-Petit at the Rachi house in Troyes, the Centre de Congrès de l'Aube, and the church in Eaux-Puiseaux.

#### Did you know?

Flavie Serrière Vincent-Petit, Master Glassmaker, was distinguished with membership to the Legion of Honour, under the Ministry of Culture.

## Boissonnet, an extraordinary jewellery designer whose work celebrates Champagne

Jean-Pierre Boissonnet is committed to promoting the region and pays homage to Champagne through the "Pétillante"

collection. A symbol of joie de vivre and celebration, this collection is inspired by the cap and muselet of Champagne bottles. A visit to the workshop can be organized where visitors can learn more about his extraordinary craftsmanship.



## Slow Fashion with 2-Mai, a story that highlights the textile industry in Troyes

Alice Rio-Derrey and Benjamin Hanafi, creators of 2-Mai, offer a mixed line of limited edition jackets, made in Troyes from upcycled fabrics. A unique production method and a human adventure make this visit 100% original.

#### Did you know?

Claudie Pierlot, renowned fashion designer, was born and raised in Troyes. After an international career, she decided to be buried in her homeland. Her grave, overlooked by an elegant bronze tree made by artist Barbara Soïa, is found in the Troyes cemetery, . The Claudie Pierlot boutique is now open for business in the McArthurGlen Designer Outlet.

Don't miss the glass-blowing demonstrations at the former Champagne crystal factory in Bayel. You can even create your own Christmas ball!

## Gather together around local gastronomy

Fans of rustic or refined cuisine alike will find themselves united in their appreciation of Aube gastronomy, whether for the quality of its products or the variety of its specialities. A tasty escapade led by passionate producers who respectfully watch over their land.

#### The Prunelle of Troyes

A speciality of the Cellar Saint-Pierre, Prunelle de Troyes is a liqueur developed from the stones of blackthorn fruit. Distilled since 1840 in Cellier Saint-Pierre, Prunelle de Troyes won the gold medal at the World Fair in Paris in 1900.

#### The Rosé des Riceys AOC, Louis XIV's favourite wine ...

Which town is home to the largest wine area in all of Champagne? Which is the only Champagne town with 3 AOCs? There is only one answer: Les Riceys! Les Riceys in figures: 866 hectares, 288 wine growers, 35 wine grower-producers, and Champagne, Coteaux Champenois and Rosé des Riceys AOCs . The rarity of this still wine is explained by its production techniques; developed on only 30 to 35 ha and only in years of strong sunshine.



#### Pays d'Othe cider

It is in the <sup>16</sup>th century that we find the first traces of cider making activity in the department. More than 300 apple varieties are catalogued and saved thanks to "orchard refuges". For four generations La Ferme d'Hotte has welcomed visitors to taste their products and marvel at their old-fashioned press.



#### **AOP Cheese from Chaource**

Chaource is a lovely village located at the headwaters of the Armance, in farming country. It is the land of gastronomes. It is known far and wide for its ladle-moulded cheese made from cow's milk. Classified "Appellation d'Origine Contrôlée", this delicious cheese is recognized by its flowery rind, soft paste, and inimitable taste.

#### **5A Andouillette**

Made by hand, the AAAAA Andouillette is a type of charcuterie long a tradition in Troyes. Gilbert LEMELLE enthusiastically unveils the secrets of this subtle assembly of pork, cut into thin strips and simmered for hours in a fragrant broth rich with herbs.

#### Aube en Champagne, second French producer of squerkraut

In Briennois, cabbage is a permanent fixture, having been cultivated for a century. Saverkraut made with Champagne, or with Cider of Lavines - let your desires run wild! Discover it yourself at LAURENT Choucrouterie and LARIQUE Choucrouterie.

#### Pascal Caffet Chocolate

Pascal Caffet invites you to share his unrestrained fondness for high quality praline. A passion that has guided him in the creation of a collection of exceptional sweets, the fruit of artisanal expertise worthy of the greatest chocolate makers. Pascal Caffet was awarded the titles "Best Pastry Craftsman" in France" in 1989 and "World Champion of the Dessert Professions" in 1995.



#### The Comptoir des Confitures

Artisan iam and chutnev maker Catherine Manoël develops and creates the most refined of flavours for amazina austatory discoveries! Crazy and exciting flavours intermingle in small copper cauldrons, in the accordance with the tradition. Discover up to 600 varieties of confiture, derived from 57 different fruits! Litchis - raspberries - rose, pineapple caramel, nougat-style apricots ... Let yourself be astounded!

#### Looking for souvenirs and local products? Come discover the products "à la Une de Troyes"!

Located in the heart of the cork-shaped centre of Troyes, the "à la Une de Troyes" shop features a range of delicious items made within 100 km of Troyes, for a taste of local gastronomy. Take home a basket of local products, a tastefull and unique gift!





#### Chef profiles

#### Chef Lionet Seret at the La Rosita restaurant

Lionet Seret creates healthy, homemade, seasonal cuisine using quality local products. The chef welcomes you in a warm and friendly atmosphere that reflects the history of his family, the inspiration for this beautiful adventure.

"La Rosita" is the name of his Spanish grandmother, who gave him his passion for cooking ...

#### The Trattoria of Bruno Caironi, the Caffe Cosi restaurant

Bruno Caironi welcomes you to this 100% Trattoria restaurant, referenced in the Culinary College of France (where Bruno Caironi is referent chef for the region), as well as in the Michelin Guide, Gault & Millau and others ...

Bruno Caironi honed his skills in prestigious palaces alongside Alain Ducasse, with whom he still collaborates regularlv.

#### Daniel Phelizot, chef at Chez Daniel's restaurant

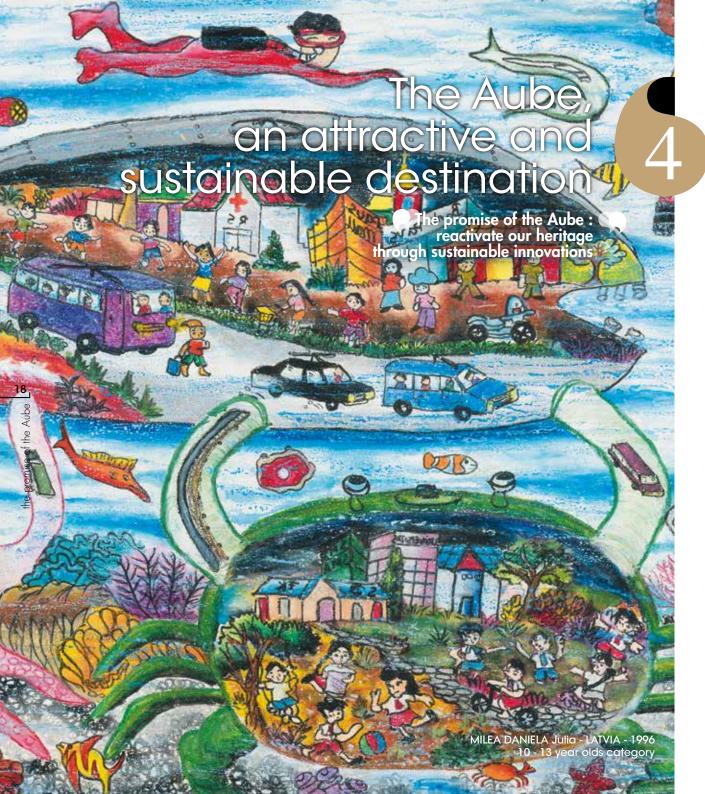
It all started with his grandmother, who passed on her love of family and traditional cuisine using products from farms and the garden. After learning the trade alongside great chefs, he returned to settle with his wife Sylvie in his land of birth

His gastronomic restaurant "La Toque Baralbine" in Bar-sur-Aube was a success, listed 16 years as a Michelin Guide "Bib Gourmand" restaurant, and in the Routard, Gault & Millau ...

Daniel Phelizot opens a new page with Chez Daniel's restaurant, located in the heart of Troyes ...



Charcutier Patrick Maury of Troye was elected 2017 Champion of France for Best "Andouillette de Troves" by the Commanderie des Fins Goustiers of the Duchy of Alencon.



## The Slow Tourism Lab, 1<sup>st</sup> incubator dedicated to rural tourism

## Slow tourism, ecotourism, practices in tune with the times

With 80% of its territory located in rural areas, a natural heritage, and a wide diversity of landscapes, France possesses many qualities to make it a flagship destination for slow tourism.

Naturally attractive and federative, the countryside is acclaimed by visitors seeking liberty, authenticity, flavourful experiences, and personal encounters.

Aube en Champagne wishes more than ever to promote rurality while developing tourism innovation (innovative accommodation, unusual experiences, gentle exploration ...).

That's why the destination has included in its strategy the accompaniment of local start-ups of touristic and innovative enterprises, in order to promote and stimulate initiatives and develop new ways of providing authentic tourism.

Five themes are therefore highlighted through the Slow Tourism Lab: Silver and Health, Culture and Heritage, Grand Spaces and Nature, Wine Tourism, and the Development, Management and Method of Sustainable Recruitment.



#### **Engaged partners**

The structuring of the Slow Tourism Lab is based on the expertise of CDT Aube and the 9 CDT/ADT of the Grand Est for Tourism. It also draws on the experience of the Aube Technopole and Y Schools for the acceleration and incubation of start-ups.

Launched in 2017, the Slow Tourism Lab is an open and collaborative network

It meets the needs expressed by project promoters for structures and takes the form of a program of actions: accompaniment in engineering, exchanges of good practices, development of monitoring, setting up a collaborative platform, training workshops, events, and shared promotional and communication operations.

More broadly, the network is open to all innovative initiatives and new players who wish to bring their expertise to start-ups and young accompanied enterprises.

It answers in particular the following questions:

- How to better communicate and promote its commitment to sustainable development?
- How to use innovative tools to improve the customer relationship?
- How to integrate and adapt innovation in silver tourism and wellness tourism?
- How to enhance the visitor experience in cultural and historical monuments?

#### Innovative companies, to boost environmentally-friendly tourism

A variety of start-ups, in connection with the Slow Tourism Lab, have been accompanied in recent years.

#### Moodyx, the personalized tourist web guide

"Find everything you aren't looking for and you're bound to find an idea for your leisure activities." is the promise of Moodyx. A number of events and ideas for outings are available in accordance with your mood and situation,

#### House&Friends, holiday organizer

House&Friends is a new way to organize holidays and discover French regions far away from mass tourism, in authentic family homes.

#### Fairtrip, a collaborative application

FairTrip gives everyone the opportunity to easily access fair and sustainable tourism and consumption, via a collaborative application that allows users to share new locations in one click and which references engaged businesses.

#### AuCalme, for a weekend that is eco-friendly, local, and authentic

What is an AuCalme weekend? It's a weekend without smartphone or watch, in a secret refuge less than 3 hours from home, where you can have quality time just for two. AuCalme references places that correspond to an eco-responsible, local, authentic tourism ethos.

#### Fred, the link between tourists and local artisans

Fred's wish is to connect tourists with local artisans who include participatory activities as a core part of their exper-

#### Templars of the Aube, the Serious Game

Templars of the Aube is a Serious Game created by Aube en Champagne and the start-up Fremen Corp. Delivered in two episodes, this free online game gives players the chance to explore, in a fun and entertaining way, the history of the famous Order of the Templars, founded in the Aube.

#### Hot! Cold! Ricochet, the sensorial stone

Let yourself be guided by this smart connected stone that heats and cools depending on your geographic location. Set off to discover a destination with Ricochet, which guides you from point A to point B using hot and cold sensations.



2013: Aube en Champagne is a leader in environmental labelling, with 1/3 of Aube's network of hotels labelled

**2014**: The Departmental Tourism Committee of the Aube becomes the 1st tourist organization to obtain ISO 20121 certification (Responsible management system applied event activities)

2017: The CDT becomes a member of the Actors of Durable Tourism and launches the Slow Tourism Lab at the IFTM Top Résa salon.

2018: Accompaniment of 15 innovative projects and launching of the Slow Tourism Lab networking platform.







The Centre de Congrès de l'Aube



The Cube Troyes Champagne Expo

#### A dynamic business destination

## The Centre de Congrès de l'Aube, a brilliant idea

Only 1h30 from Paris, the Centre de Congrès de l'Aube opened in 2014, following an initiative of the department. Designed as a "tribute to medieval Trojan architecture", the Centre de Congrès de l'Aube, with its revisited medieval appearance, fits perfectly into the historic heart of the city of Troyes . Notably, it was awarded the prestigious Morena Mansilla Spanish architecture award. Modular and innovative, it hosts all kinds of professional events from 100 to 800 participants and benefits from high-tech equipment in an architectural setting, combining tradition and modernity.

#### An innovative and sustainable events venue

Certified 20121 for the responsible management of its events, the Bureau of the Congrès is the second largest conference organizer in the world to receive this certification. It is committed, through the Centre de Congrès de l'Aube, to effective waste sorting and management, reclaiming surplus food not consumed for zero-waste events, choosing local Champagne providers and producers, and working with the APEI ...

Aube en Champagne and the Centre de Congrès are also forerunners in the implementation of an environmental display system for tourist accommodation, with a third of the network of hotels labelled. Thanks to Ecologes, the Centre de Congrès also offers its MICE partners an assessment of their carbon emissions.

#### Espace Argence, everyone off the train!

A former train station converted into an events venue, the Espace Argence is a  $6,000~\text{m}^2$  complex situated on 4 ha in the heart of the historic centre, and consists of a large modular room and 20 adjoining committee rooms, including an amphitheatre. It can host conferences along with receptions, workshops, seminars, concerts, shows, and meals for up to 900 people.



The Espace Argence

#### The Cube for large volume needs

With the Centre de Congrès and the Espace Argence, the Cube-Troyes Champagne Expo completes this Trojan triangle. This modern and versatile complex in the heart of the city has a total surface of 21,000 m². Its various halls are a driving force for exchanges and entertainment throughout the region, its structure is adapted to a very wide range of events, and its auditorium can accommodate major events for up to 6,500 people.

#### For events of all sizes

#### n 2019: The Quai, a few steps from the station ...

Christian Brendel and Maria Naudin, actors, authors, and directors for over 30 years and animators of a theatre group, can accommodate about 250 spectators in their theatre.

#### The Cellar of the Champagnes

The Cellar of the Tithes, or Cellar of the Cathedral, built at the beginning of the 13th century, was once used for diocese receptions. Composed of an upper floor room, the Cellar of the Champagnes is an ideal place for hosting events.

#### L'Atypique

L'Atypique is a  $3800~\text{m}^2$  plot of land on which sits a reception hall and a green area of more than  $800~\text{m}^2$ . An event venue hidden from view, in proximity to Troyes.

#### The Camille Claudel Museum

The Camille Claudel Museum can be tailored for businesses as a unique venue for hosting their organisation's events. An auditorium on the 3rd floor offers a magnificent view of Nogent-sur-Seine. In addition, the museum can provide a private, guided tour of the collections.

#### The Napoleon Museum

The Napoleon Museum, reopened in 2018, features a meeting room for businesses which can accommodate about 50 people. Located in an old chapel, this room, full of character and full of history, has available all the necessary equipment.

Champagne caves, accommodations, and tourist sites are also included as places that host events professionally.





#### 100% Made in Aube Activity Incentive

The Bureau of the Congrès de l'Aube can recommend a number of unusual activities in addition to "business" activities that allow clients to discover this tourist destination.

#### For sparkling activities ...

Whoever says Aube, says Champagne! We offer sparkling activities around this famous local product: tastings, food & wine pairings, the grape harvest, a coronation at the Commanderie du Saulte Bouchon Champenois, Segway® outings, and scenic flights over the Côte des Bar ...

#### An idea organized in conjunction the OenoSpheres wine tourism agency!

Escape Game in an estate! Locked up in a Champagne producer's estate, will you solve the various riddles you encounter and escape the estate in the allotted time?

#### ... Or cultural and recreational...

Rallies in the heart of Troyes, Segway® outings, themed workshops (murder party, stained glass or gastronomy workshops, boot camp ...) or the Escape Game - give free rein to your desires! The Nigloland amusement park also welcomes you for a day rich in adventure (aperitif on the 60 meter high Ferris wheel, treasure hunt, or murder party).



#### ... And finally, a note about "shopping" ...

With a VIP welcome and discounts in 280 stores featuring 459 factory-outlet brands, it will be hard to resist the great deals I



# Just as Paris is shaped like a heart, so Troyes is shaped like a champagne cork

Troyes invites visitors to get lost in its maze of cobbled streets lined with richly coloured half-timbered houses dating from the late Middle Ages and early Renaissance.

#### Take the time to discover the city of Troyes

Troyes offers a multitude of possibilities, seducing young and old alike, culture enthusiasts, and lovers of architecture ...

- Enjoy the quays of the Seine in the city centre. Formerly nicknamed "Little Venice," for the past several years Troyes has been actively reclaiming its water courses, fountains and wells. The quays along the old canal that cuts through the city have become a favourite walking place for tourists and natives.
- Go green in Troyes! Parks, squares and gardens dot the Tricassian city where the old ramparts once were. From May to October, the ephemeral medieval gardens reappear ...
- Lose yourself in the cobblestone streets. This juxtaposition
  of popular half-timbered houses and bourgeois private
  mansions built of stone is entrenched in Troyes' DNA.
- Let love blow your mind. A city of romance, Troyes embraces its new landmark: the Heart of Troyes. Located on the Quai de Seine, this sculpture is a testament to local craftsmanship, its stainless steel lace designed by a couple of Aube artists.

#### Our favourites in the Tricassian city

#### The 3x+, a unique Café-Theatre in Champagne

The "Troyes Fois Plus" café-theatre hosts a varied programme: A One Man, Woman Show, comedies, children's shows, concerts ... A veritable place of life, Troyes Fois Plus promises visitors 3 times more shows, 3 times more concerts, and 3 times more ambience.



## The Maison de l'Outil et de la Pensée Ouvrière (House of the Tool and the Worker's Mind)

In 1966, the City of Troyes acquired the Hôtel de Mauroy and entrusted it to the Compagnons du Devoir, who restored it magnificently and installed the MOPO. Created through the leadership of Father Paul Feller, it has become the world's biggest museum for hand-made tools, known for the quality, quantity and comprehensiveness of the tools presented as well as for its unique scenography.



#### Le Rucher Créatif, the 1st "third-place" in Troyes

Le Rucher Créatif, a true "third-place" for interaction and creativity, has a space for meeting and sharing, helping accelerate the creation of projects. Come network in a fast-changing place punctuated each week with events.

**The KantinetiK** at the Rucher Créatif! A canteen/restaurant that offers good food for your body and participatory workshops on the theme "health on the plate".

#### The Nights of Champagne, music in the heart of the city

After more than 30 years of existence, the Nights of Champagne are part of the Troyes cultural and musical landscape. In addition to the usual concerts, the Nights of Champagne extends beyond walls (bars, streets of Troyes, and public transport ...)!

When the Nights of Champagne Festival goes green. Respect for the environment is one of the essential values of the Nights of Champagne. Since 2009, the festival is committed to an eco-friendly approach called "For Sustainable Nights" (control and reduction of the impact of the festival on the territory, assessment of the carbon footprint ...)



## lbis Styles, an environmentally conscious accommodation

Following the environmental labelling policy conducted in Aube en Champagne, the Ibis Styles hotel in Troyes has ranked as the hotel with the highest rating in the nation.

#### Aube, land of cinema

Because of its proximity to the capital, Aube en Champagne is positioned as a privileged place for European co-productions. Through its history and its heritage, the department features many industrial and historical sites that can be used as authentic backdrops.

Many personalities have been charmed by this innovative and sparkling territory. Director Victor Saint Macary notably filmed a few scenes for his film "(Girl)Friend" in Troves during the March Fair. Antoine Blossier transformed the Vauluisant district for his film "Rémi Sans Famille" and Claude Lelouch sponsored directors Daniel Blaudez and Sandrine Montagu'd for their film "l'Histoire de Jean", shot around the Lakes of the Forêt d'Orient.



#### Did you know?

Aube en Champagne saw Jean Renoir, director and son of the famous painter Auguste Renoir, as he grew up, his holidays spent in Essoyes with his family.



#### **Tourisme & Handicap and Logis** de l'Aube, signs of quality

#### The Tourisme & Handicap brand in Aube en Champagne

Aube en Champagne works for the development of the national Tourisme & Handicap brand with the destination's tourism service providers. A total of 9 sites are marked "Tourisme & Handicap", including 3 tourist sites, 3 lodgings, 1 guest room, 1 hotel-restaurant and 1 hotel.

Some tourist sites, although not marked, offer a special welcome to visitors impacted by these deficiencies. The Champagne Air Show features a hot-air-balloon basket adapted to people with reduced mobility. The Camille Claudel museum offers tours and activities in French Sign Language.

> 779 partners throughout the Aube en vacances", including 36 travel and transport 263 restaurants, 263 accommodations, and 168 sports activities, to facilitate the greatest number of visitors.

#### The Logis de l'Aube, supporting rural tourism

Each Logis hotel-restaurant is different, but all share the same values: personalised hospitality, quality accommodation, region-inspired dining, and conviviality.

There are 18 establishments spread throughout the Aube en Champagne department, each committed to sustainable development, an essential condition specified in the Logis referencing system. More than 1/3 of the Logis de l'Aube, 7 establishments, have integrated the environmental labeling initiative.

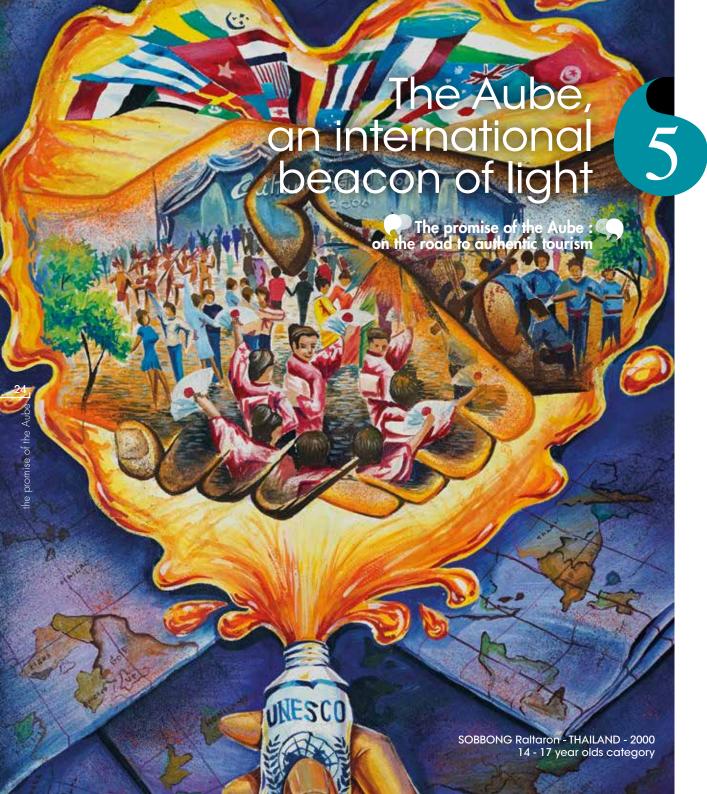
The establishments are committed to promoting local products and fostering short distribution channels by offering local "Selections of the Earth" menus developed in collaboration with Aube partners.



#### The Logis de l'Aube in Champagne consists of:

- 18 referenced institutions
- Holidays and leisure for everyone and for all budgets: from 1 to 3 fireplaces for accommodation, from 1 Stewpot to Distinguished Table for restaurants.
- 3 partner establishments for environmental labellina
- 1 establishment labelled Green Key
- 1 establishment marked Tourisme & Handicap





#### **European Templar Route**

Aube en Champagne, cradle of the Order of the Temple, is filled with historic sites highlighted and promoted by means of the Templar Route.

**2012**: On the occasion of the International Symposium of the "Templars" thematic year. One history, our treasure ", the idea of the Templar Route was born.

**2016**: After the linking of Aube en Champagne with the city of Tomar, these two communities founded the Templars Route European Federation and embarked on the creation of a European Cultural Route. Since then, the cities of Perugia in Italy and Ponferrada in Spain have joined this common project of highlighting and promoting the Templar Heritage.

#### Why a Templar Route?

Aube en Champagne and the member countries of this project wish to develop cultural activities and events while promoting scientific and cultural exchanges between universities, cultural institutions and associations of history.

By encouraging sustainable and responsible cultural tourism, by increasing the attractiveness of destinations and the attendance of historical sites, and by promoting exchanges between the different members of the project, the Templars Route is a real tool for the development of Aube en Champagne.

#### What to see on the Templars Route?

- The Commanderie Templière d'Avalleur and its chapel, one of the best preserved Templar compounds in northern Europe.
- The Hugues de Payns Museum, which traces the route of the first Grand Master and Founder of the Order of the Temple.
- The Troyes Cathedral, where the first religious and military order of Christianity was made official.
- The Clairvaux Abbey, and Saint Bernard, great Cistercian figure who showed unfailing support to the Templars.
- The Forêt du Temple and its marked route unveiling the history and presence of the Templars.



Saint-Pierre Saint-Paul Cathedral in Troyes

#### Other "Trails" in Aube en Champagne

Aube en Champagne, through its international outreach and history, features many routes, a sign of pilgrimage or return-to-roots for many tourists, foreign or French.

#### **Impressionism Routes** in Europe and The Renoir Route

The Impressionism Routes in Europe project aims to create a link between the sites that have inspired European impressionist painters since the middle of the 19th to the middle of 20th centuries. Essoyes, a typical Champagne village, is honoured to be included on the Renoir Route, which travels through the Ile-de-France, Normandy, Brittany and various cities in Europe ...



The Renoir House

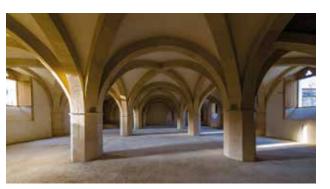
#### The Foires de Champagne

From the 5<sup>th</sup> century the existence of a fair in Troyes has been mentioned. The gallo-roman city of Augustobona (the name of Troyes at the time) was a stopover for many European travellers since was located on the Via Agrippa road network and near the Seine river. Then, in the Middle Ages, the Counts of Champagne began to call the fairs in Troyes "Foires de Champagne".

#### The Route of Cistercian Abbeys

In 1098 Robert of Molesme founded the Abbev of Cîteaux and thus gave birth to the Cistercian Order. From that moment this branch of the Benedictines developed throughout Europe, eventually numbering 750 abbeys and 1000 monasteries. Today the European Charter of Cistercian Abbeys and Sites lists more than 200 sites open to the public, spanning 11 European countries.

In Aube en Champagne you can visit the Cistercian Abbey of Clairvaux, founded in the 12th century by Saint-Bernard and French masterpiece of monastic architecture ....



The Cellar of the Convers - Clairvaux Abbey

#### Did you know?

The Napoleon Museum and the city of Briennele-Chateau have become part of the "Destination Napoleon" European Cultural Route. We recall that the emperor, who trained at the Military School of Brienne, maintained a strong attachment to the Champagne area throughout his life.



#### Route of the Quebecois

Champagne-Ardenne has given birth to famous founders of "New France". Multiple initiatives aim to recall the important contribution of this region to the growth of French influence in North America in the 17th and 18th centuries. In 1999, the Federation of North American Friendships of Champagne-Ardenne was created and currently includes 8 associations in 4 departments (Ardenne, Marne, Aube, Haute-Marne).

Aube en Champagne invites you to follow in the footsteps of four founders: Marguerite Bourgeoys in Troyes, Paul Chomedey de Maisonneuve in Neuville-sur-valve, Jessé Fléché in Lantages, and Claude de Ramezay in Lagesse.

#### The Thibaud de Champagne Route

The Thibaud de Champagne Route spans regions between Vincennes and Troyes formerly divided between the Royal Estate and the County of Champagne. It takes its name from the five Thibaud who have been Counts of Champagne.

On this route you can explore castles and churches dotting the countryside from the East of Paris, via Provins, to Troyes, including the Château de la Motte-Tilly, a few minutes from Nogent-sur-Seine ...



#### Long Walking Itineraries

#### La Via Francigena

Certified in 2004 as a "Cultural Route of the Council of Europe", the Via Francigena consists of routes taken in the Middle Ages by pilgrims travelling from the Frankish kingdom to Rome, seat of Christendom in the West. They mainly used the network of Roman roads of the time.

In the Aube you can follow this historical itinerary to discover the cultural and architectural heritage of the territory: The Forêt d'Orient, Cistercian Abbey of Clairvaux, or Bar-sur-Aube, nestled among the vineyards ...



#### The historical trail of Joan of Arc

Linking Poissons (Haute-Marne) to Cunfin (Aube), the 130 km historic Jeanne of Arc trail is a real step back in history. In Aube en Champagne you can discover the Abbey of Clairvaux, important place in religious history and site steeped in Cistercian spirituality, Champagne cellars and passionate winemakers, peaceful winegrowing landscapes, and the Bayel Crystal Museum, located next to the former Cristallerie Royale de Champagne.



The Clairvaux Abbey - refectory - chapel

#### Santiago de Compostela

Three main paths can be found in Aube en Champagne; one passing by Bar-sur-Aube, another passing through Troyes coming from Reims, and a third passing to the west of the department via Villenauxe-la-Grande and the Forêt d'Othe.

Other "Routes of Santiago de Compostela" once existed in the Aube, though their trajectory no longer allows them to be entirely followed by foot; motorways, roads, and crops have of course considerably modified the network of roads and trails of the Middle Ages.

## The Louis François UNESCO Centre in Troyes

The only Centre for UNESCO in France and only international organization to recognize and promote the artistic work of children and young people, it conducts for them activities positioning them as actors and creators.

Benefiting from the "Memories of the Future" art library, which hosts more than 100,000 artistic creations from across the globe made by young people aged 3 to 25 years from more than 150 countries, the Louis François UNESCO Centre in Troyes promotes from Aube en Champagne the values of the international organization regarding education, science and the culture.

These creations made by young people from throughout the world show that drawing is a full-fledged language of expression. With all the transformations and mutations, these creations become strong indicators of the cultural diversity that makes up the richness of our humanity ...

The Louis François UNESCO Centre in Troyes in a few lines...

- A Centre unique in the world concerning the theme "art and youth",
- An art library that houses more than 100,000 artistic creations of young people aged 3 to 25, from 150 countries,
- An international competition created in 1994 to stimulate artistic creations by young people and start a project of intercultural dialogue.

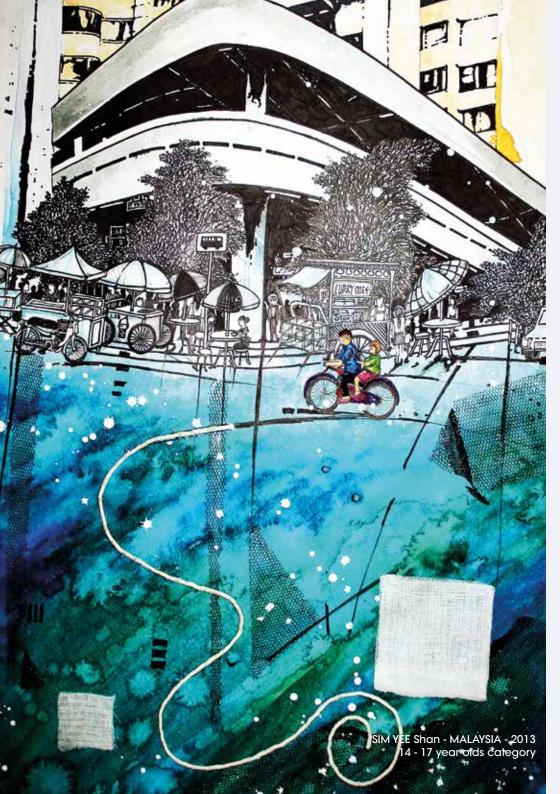
The Aube en Champagne destination is proud to be able to count on the Louis François UNESCO Centre in Troyes to register childhood and youth in the memory of Humanity.

The Art Library
"Memories of
the future"



#### **Event**

Visit the exhibition "Graines d'artistes du monde entier" from 21st to 25th May 2019 at Espace Argence (Troyes)





# Conclusion the promise of the Aube

Aube en Champagne invites you on a liberating journey, over a weekend or a for several days, to truly rejuvenate.

Whether you nature lover or history buff, or simply looking for a new getaway, take the time to discover the roots of Champagne and perhaps rediscover yourself ...

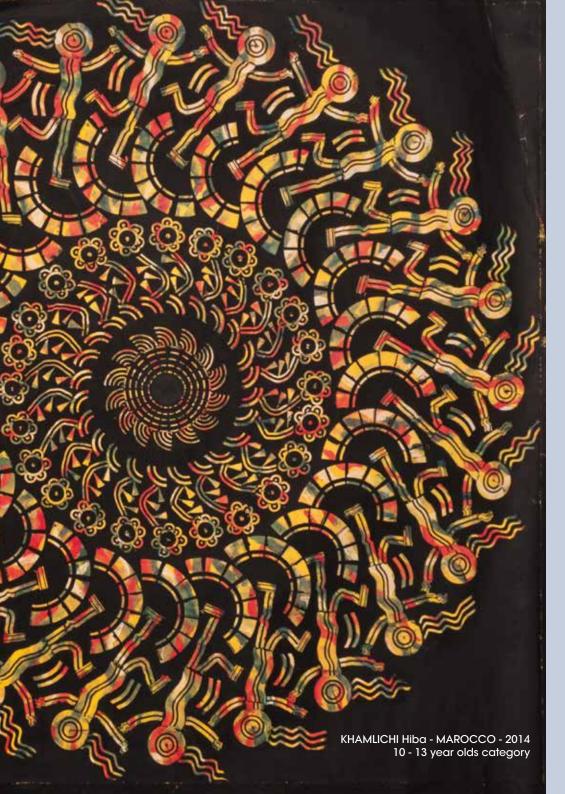
#### Illustrations

Many thanks to the Louis François UNESCO Centre in Troyes, Michel GIRÓST, Carolina SALDANA and Anthony CARDOSO, for their help in selecting and making available these artistic creations.

#### **Photo credits:**

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