

DON'T MISS ANYTHING ABOUT
ÎLE-DE-FRANCE

DISCOVER THE REGION THROUGH ITS 8 DEPARTMENTS



ESSONNE
EDITION

© Philippe Viard, @philippe_viard_nature

ENGLISH VERSION

ÉDITORIAL

Students in the fourth year of Biotechnology and Chemistry at the CYTech engineering school in Cergy, we spent several months to realize our project: the creation of a series of magazines highlighting the cultural and tourist heritage of the Île-de-France region. In total, we created 8 magazines, each corresponding to a department of this region.

Aware of the challenges involved in discovering such a rich territory, we have undertaken this project to promote our region during our student mobility in Italy. The magazines "Don't miss anything about Île-de-France" have the objective of listing the must-see sites of each department, while highlighting lesser known but equally interesting places to explore. Of course, this selection is not exhaustive!

This edition focuses on the department of Essonne. As far as possible, **you will find the website of each place and its access on Google Maps by hovering over its title and address respectively.**

To find out more about the other departments of the region, we invite you to go to the last page of this magazine: you will find a list of all available magazines, as well as a link to our website and Instagram account.

Enjoy your reading!

Jordane & Lucas



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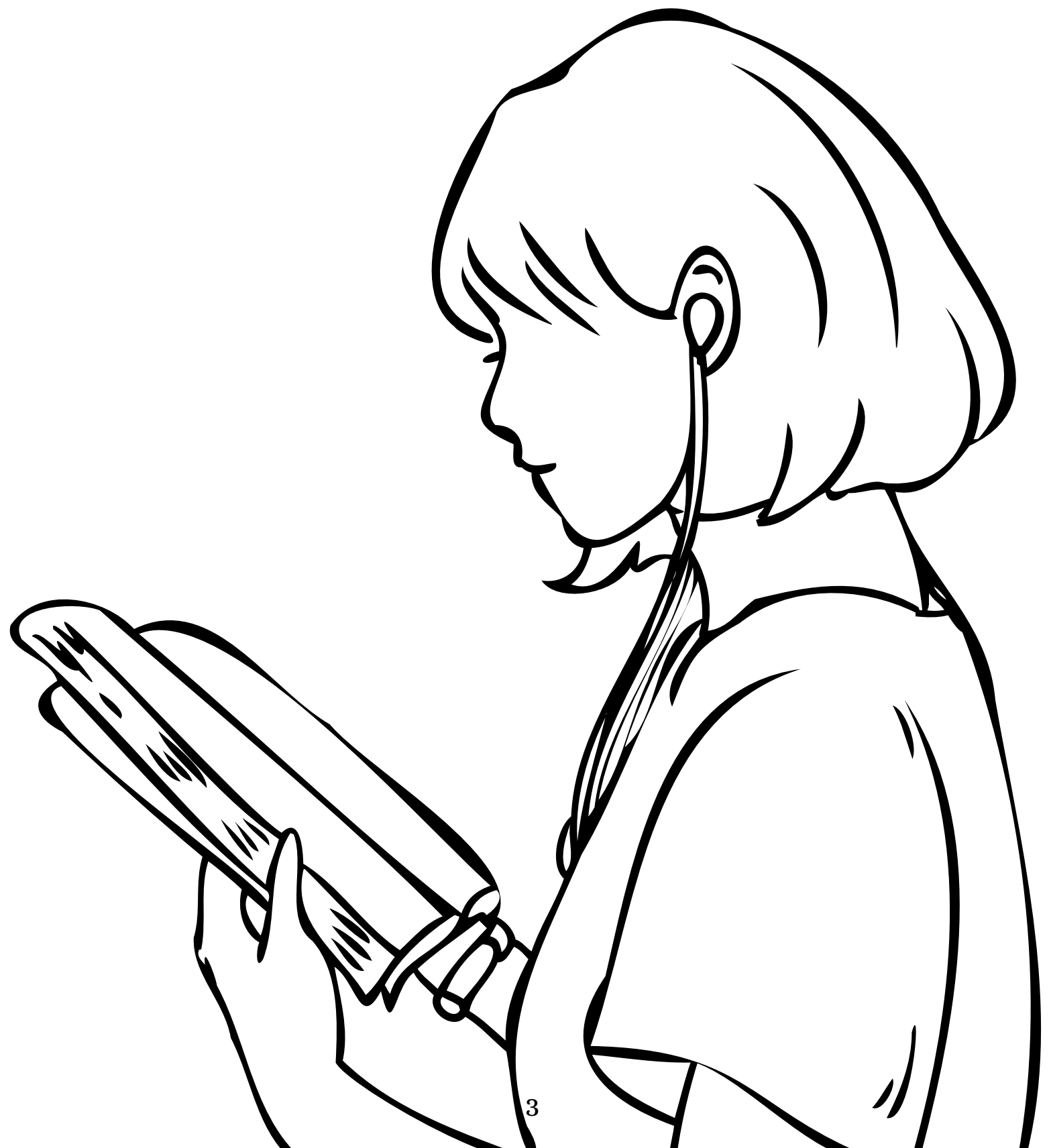
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ESSONNE

HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

The Essonne takes its name from the river Essonne that crosses it. Its history dates back to ancient times, with traces of settlement dating back to prehistoric and Gallo-Roman times.

In the Middle Ages, the region was dotted with castles and agricultural estates. It also played a key role during the French Revolution, with the creation of the department in 1790.



The coat of arms of the Essonne is thus blasonnent: from azure to a radiant golden bag of eighteen rais loaded with twenty-three smaller bags, all the same, and ancient France; to the wavy side of silver broaching on the score.

Geographically, Essonne is characterized by a diversity of landscapes, including fertile plains, wooded valleys and agricultural plateaus. Several rivers water the department, such as the Essonne and the Seine, but many ponds also contribute to the fertility of the land and offer a varied natural setting conducive to outdoor activities.

Today, Essonne is marked by its economic and cultural dynamism, with the presence of many companies, especially in the sectors of scientific research and technology. The proximity of Paris also makes it an attractive destination for residents and visitors looking for tranquility while staying close to the capital.



ESSONNE

MAP



MUST-SEE



MUST-SEE

Historical and natural heritage: castles and domains

Known for its many natural spaces, Essonne is also full of castles, estates and gardens, testifying to its rich architectural and natural heritage. Its landscape combines these preserved spaces with many forests and rivers, forming a harmonious and varied decor.

Castle and Domain of Chamarande

The largest public garden in Essonne, the Domain of Chamarande consists of a Louis XIII castle classified Historical Monument and a park labeled "Jardin Remarquable".

Many paths and paths are open to walks, offering visitors a multitude of options to explore the area. The signage facilitates orientation and provides detailed information on points of interest such as architectural heritage, landscaping and works of art.

The park is open from 9am until 5pm (January, November, December), 6pm (February, March, October), 7pm (April, May) or 8pm (June, July, August, September).

The opening days and hours of the exhibition spaces are different from those of the park. Find them [here](#).

Free entry and free programming.

38 rue du Commandant Arnoux
91730 Chamarande
+33 (0)1 60 82 52 01 / +33 (0)1 60 82 26 57
chamarande@cd-essonne.fr



ESSONNE

ON STAGE

Since its launch in 2019, *Essonne on stage* continues to attract thanks to its intergenerational programming, its friendly atmosphere and its unique setting.

Last year, for the first time in France, a radio station invested its image and its entire network, to make the “pop-rock sound” resonate in such an event, giving a new dimension to the festival and offering the best of the French scene in the magnificent setting of the Departmental Domain of Chamarande.

This year, meet Mika, Hoshi, Étienne Daho, Matmatah, Kyo, Santa, Clara Ysé, Nochka, Belle Vedhere, Vertiges, or Blanche Esther.

August 30 and 31, 2024.

Prices range from 15€ to 98€. Book your place [here](#).

Castle and Domain of Courances

Famous among garden lovers around the world, the Domain of Courances invites you to explore: explore a park labeled «Remarkable Garden» both romantic and classic, discover the century-old trees, the river, and the many springs and ponds.

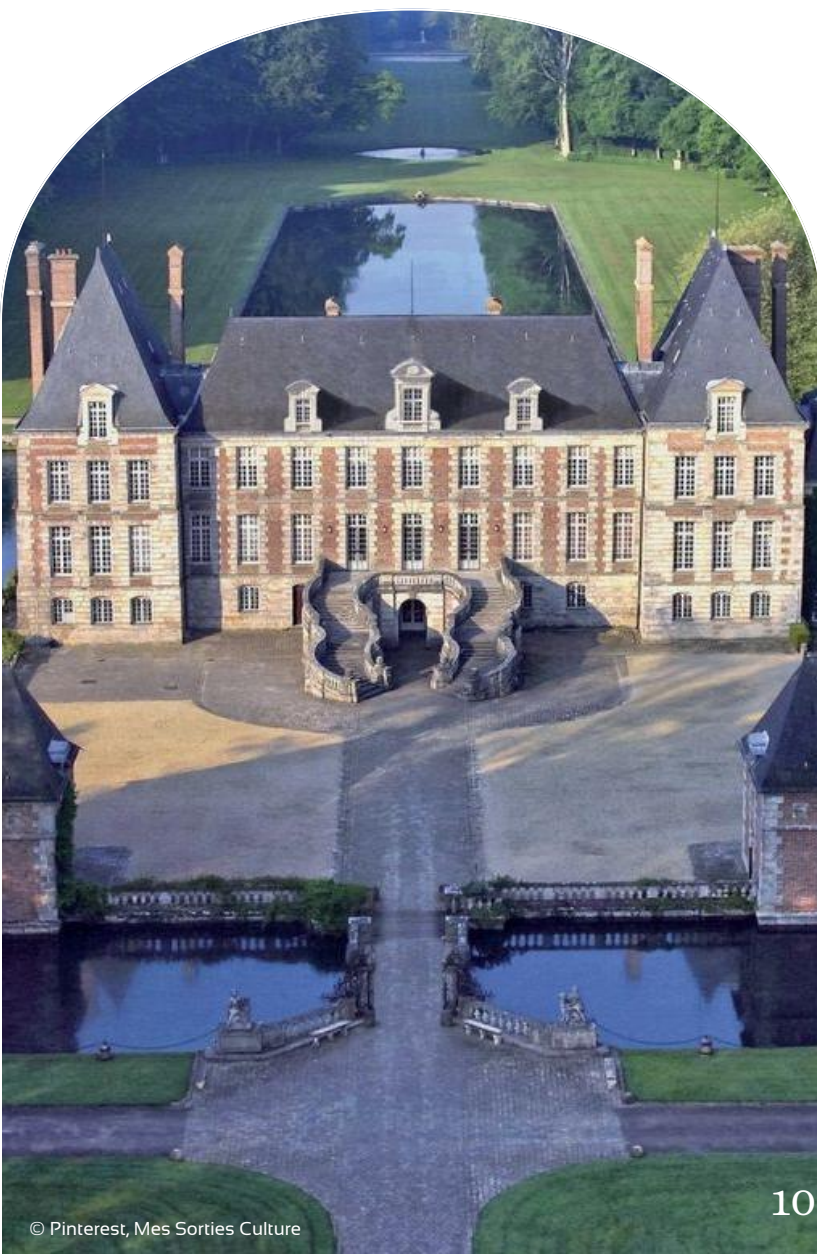
For a gourmet break, settle down at the Foulerie, where hemp was once trod in the 17th century.

Although the Castle is a private residence still inhabited, you can discover it during a guided tour.

Park open every weekend and holidays from 30/03 to 03/11 from 2pm to 6pm. Guided tours of the castle are organized from 30/03 to 30/06 and from 31/08 to 03/11 at the following times: 2:30pm, 3:30pm, 4:30pm and 5:30pm.

Full price: 9€ (access to the park) and 12€ (guided tour of the castle). Many free provisions and reduced rates are available. See all available rates [here](#).

15 rue du Château
91490 Courances
+33 (0)1 64 98 07 36



Domain of Montauger

Composed of an eighteenth century castle and a vast park of 15 hectares, the domain of Montauger is classified "Espace Nature Sensible" and now houses the Departmental House of the Environment.

Throughout the year, the House offers various activities on the themes of biodiversity, eco-citizenship, and sustainable development.

The whole range of landscapes of the department seems to meet here: orchards, ponds, marshes, hills, ponds and streams intertwine to form a natural mosaic to be discovered along the trails.

Opening of the park from Wednesday to Sunday, and the house of the Environment on Wednesdays and weekends. Closed on public holidays as well as the first 7 and the last 7 days of the year. Opening hours vary according to the season: access all opening hours [here](#).

Free access.



© Fête de la Nature



© Département de l'Essonne

RD 153
91090 Lisses
+33 (0)1 60 91 48 90

Archaeological Site of Étioilles

A must-see for archeology enthusiasts, the Étioilles Archaeological Site offers fascinating testimony to the life of the first inhabitants of Essonne, the Magdalenians, a nomadic people who settled along the banks of the Seine about 14,000 years ago.

Opening of the site during open days organized regularly by the Department of Essonne.

For more information, visit the official website of the [Archaeological site of Étioilles](#).

Site archéologique des Coudrays
91450 Étioilles



ÉTIOLLES

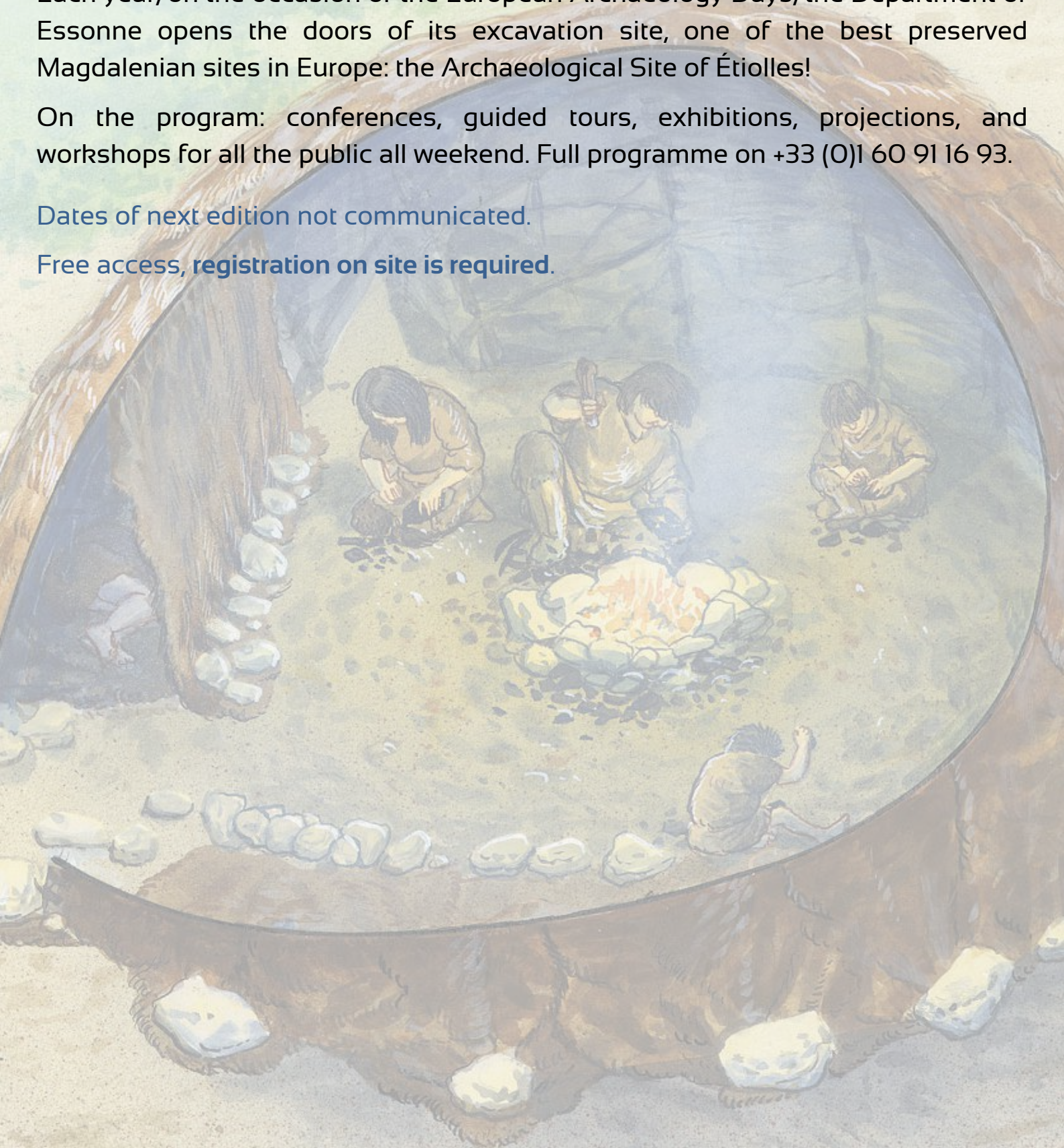
EUROPEAN DAYS OF ARCHAEOLOGY

Each year, on the occasion of the European Archaeology Days, the Department of Essonne opens the doors of its excavation site, one of the best preserved Magdalenian sites in Europe: the Archaeological Site of Étioilles!

On the program: conferences, guided tours, exhibitions, projections, and workshops for all the public all weekend. Full programme on +33 (0)1 60 91 16 93.

Dates of next edition not communicated.

Free access, **registration on site is required.**



Castle and Domain of Méréville

An emblematic landscape park of the Anglo-Chinese gardens of the late eighteenth century, the Domain of Méréville is part of the picturesque gardens, symbolizing a break with the traditional concept of regular garden that prevailed until then.

Site classified as a Historical Monument and labeled "Jardin Remarquable", the estate also hosts, since June 2023, a new artistic creation: the Pont aux Boules d'Or. Created by the artist Jean-Michel Othoniel, this work is a reinterpretation of the original bridge built in 1784.

Open from 01/04 to 31/10, every Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday. From 10am to 6pm or from 10am to 8pm depending on the period.

Free access, and guided tours at the full rate of 7€. A reduced rate (3€50) and many free arrangements are available. See all available rates [here](#).



© Alain Sauzéat, @alainsauzeat

Rue Voltaire
91660 Le Mérévillois
+33 (0)1 69 92 69 00



Cultural heritage: museums and workshop houses

The diversity of the cultural heritage of Essonne is reflected in its museums, which highlight the arts, archaeology or science, but also in its houses-workshops, which offer a glimpse of the life of emblematic local artists.

The French Museum of Photography

With more than 25,000 objects, one million photographs, as well as a library and a unique technical documentary collection, the French Museum of Photography contains one of the most important internationally.



The museum is currently closed for work. Date to reopen.

Free admission, with guide and booklet-discovery available. Guided tours and educational workshops available upon reservation (at least 6 weeks in advance) on +33 (0)1 69 35 16 50.



© Musée Français de la Photographie



© Musée Français de la Photographie



© Musée Français de la Photographie

78 rue de Paris
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musee.photo91@cd-essonne.fr



© Musée Français de la Photographie

How are photos taken in 1850, during the First World War or at the end of the 20th century?

How were images distributed at a time when they were not yet known to reproduce in books?

How does chemistry make photos appear in the dark of the laboratory?

Foujita House Workshop

Today used as a museum and labeled "Maisons des Illustres", the Foujita House Workshop invites you to enter the intimate atmosphere of one of the most prominent painters of the early twentieth century: Léonard Foujita.

On the top floor of the house, the artist's studio is preserved intact: brushes, pigments, models and wall paintings reveal all the wealth and secrets of the creator.

Many artistic activities and events are also offered throughout the year.

Open all year from Tuesday to Friday from 9:30am to 4:30pm only by appointment and on weekends from 1:30pm to 6:30pm (5.30pm from 01/10 to 31/05) without appointment.

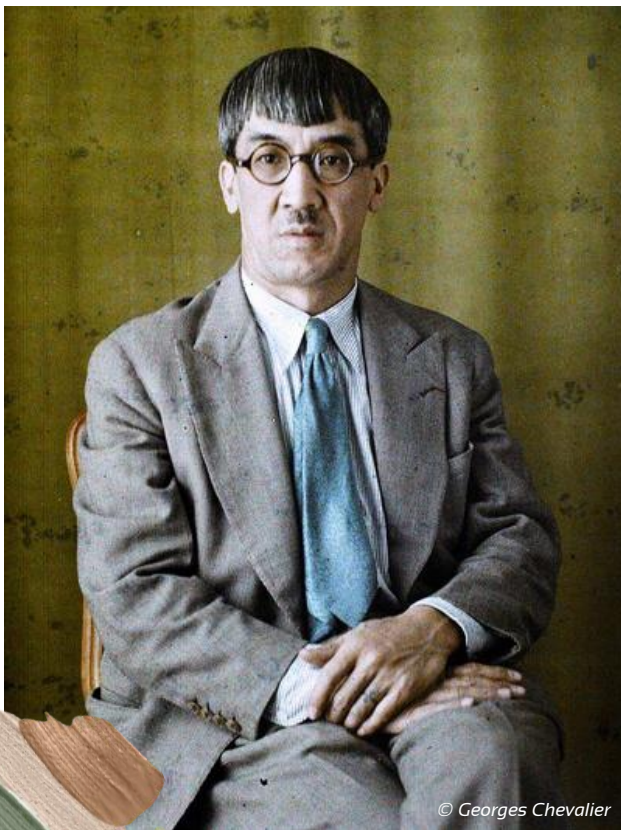
Free admission and free programming.



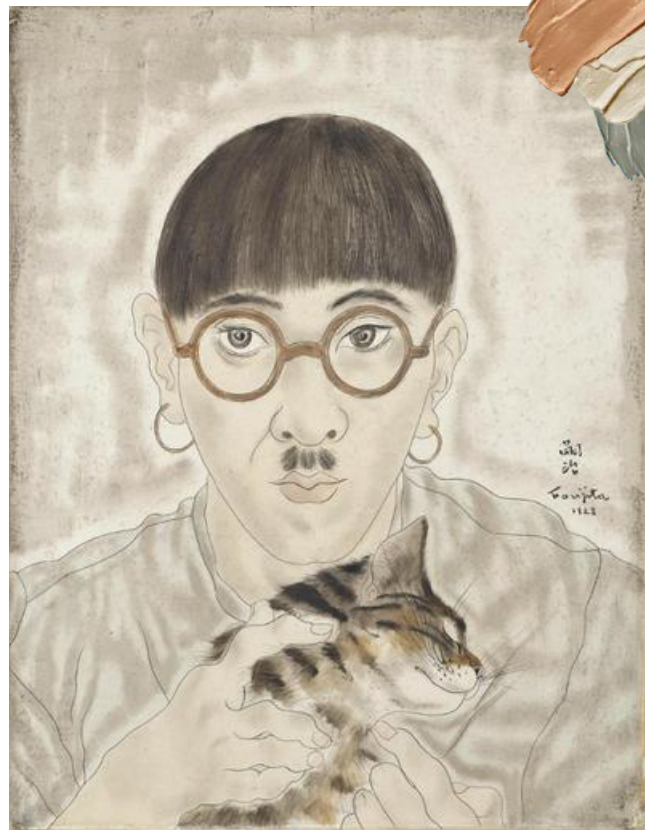
© Laurence Godart - Fondation Foujita



7-9 route de Gif
91190 Villiers-le-Bâcle
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maison-foujita@cd-essonne.fr



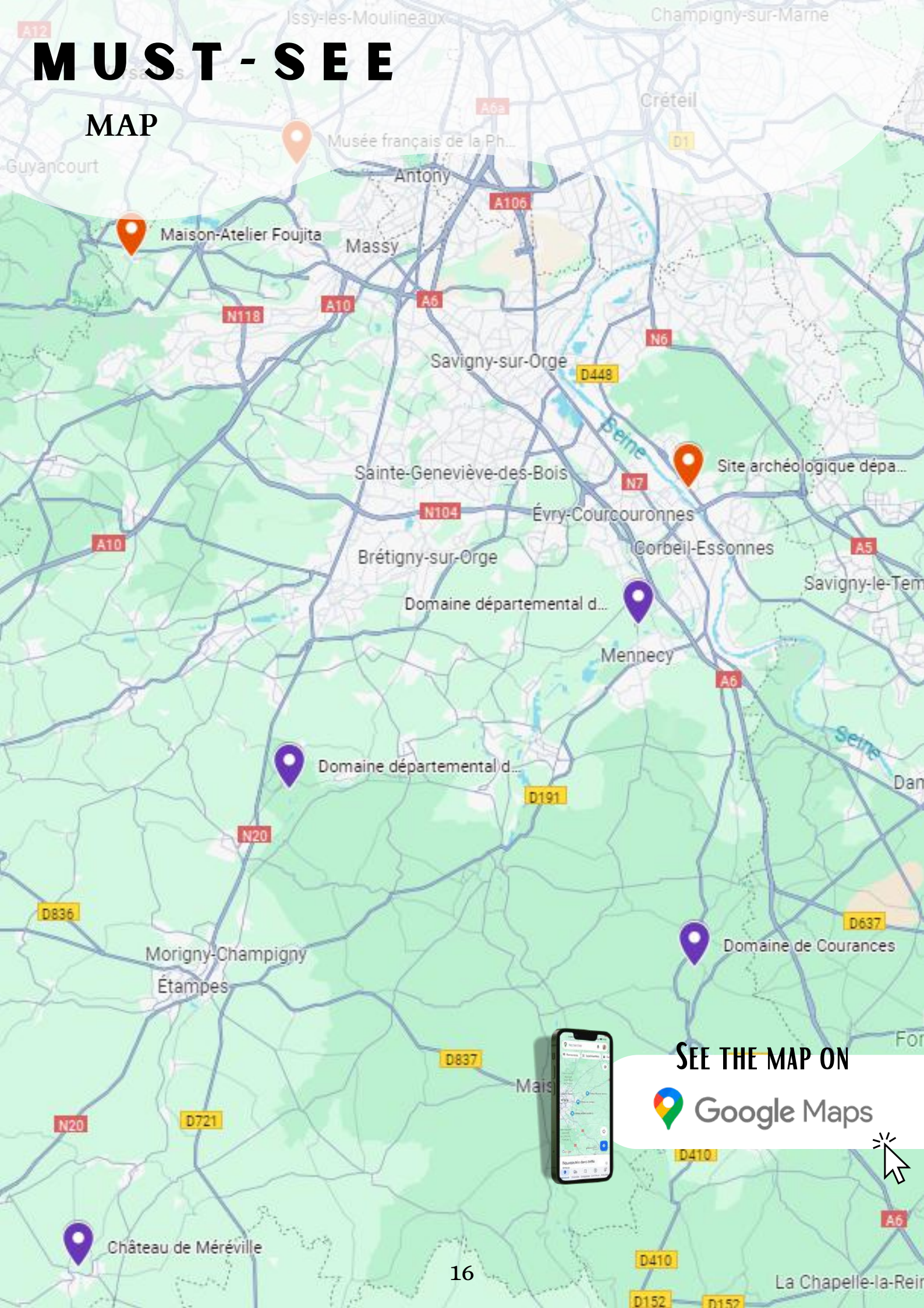
© Georges Chevalier



Portrait de l'artiste
(Léonard Foujita (dit Tsuguharu Foujita), 1928)

MUST-SEE

MAP



SEE THE MAP ON

 Google Maps

CASTLE

TO ADMIRE



CASTLE

TO ADMIRE

The Essonne is renowned for its wealth of gardens, estates and castles, housing no less than 7 of the 21 prestigious sites listed along the road "Jardins et Châteaux autour de Paris". A destination of choice for lovers of nature, history and architecture!

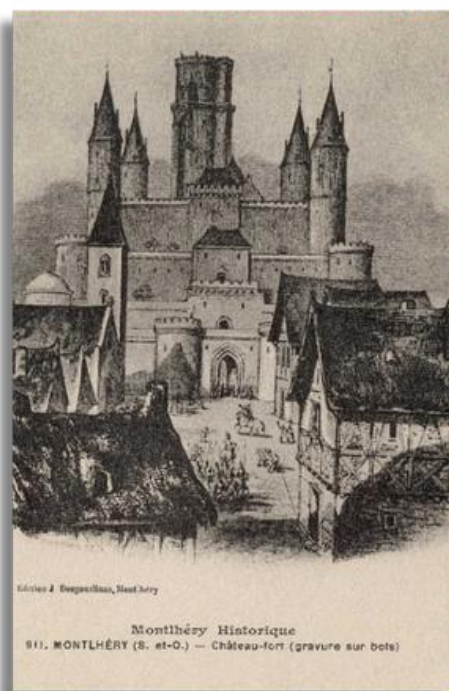
Monthéry Tower

As a major historical site of France and crucial point because of its strategic position between Paris and Orléans, the castle suffered considerable damage between 1104 and 1107, although its tower was spared.

It was not until the early 13th century, under the reign of Philip Augustus, that the castle was rebuilt in its present form. In the 19th century, the castle acquired a new vocation in the field of scientific research, and it now enjoys the status of Historical Monument.

Open from 16/04 to 29/10, every Saturday and Sunday from 2pm to 6pm.

Full price: 3€. Free for children under 6. Guided tours of the tower and the city for 8€.



Château fort, d'après gravure sur bois [Editeur Desgouillons]. Archives départementales de l'Essonne.



© HSZ HumanScanZone

Castle of Dourdan

Completed around 1222 by Philippe Auguste, it is one of the few buildings of the thirteenth century that has preserved most of its structures.

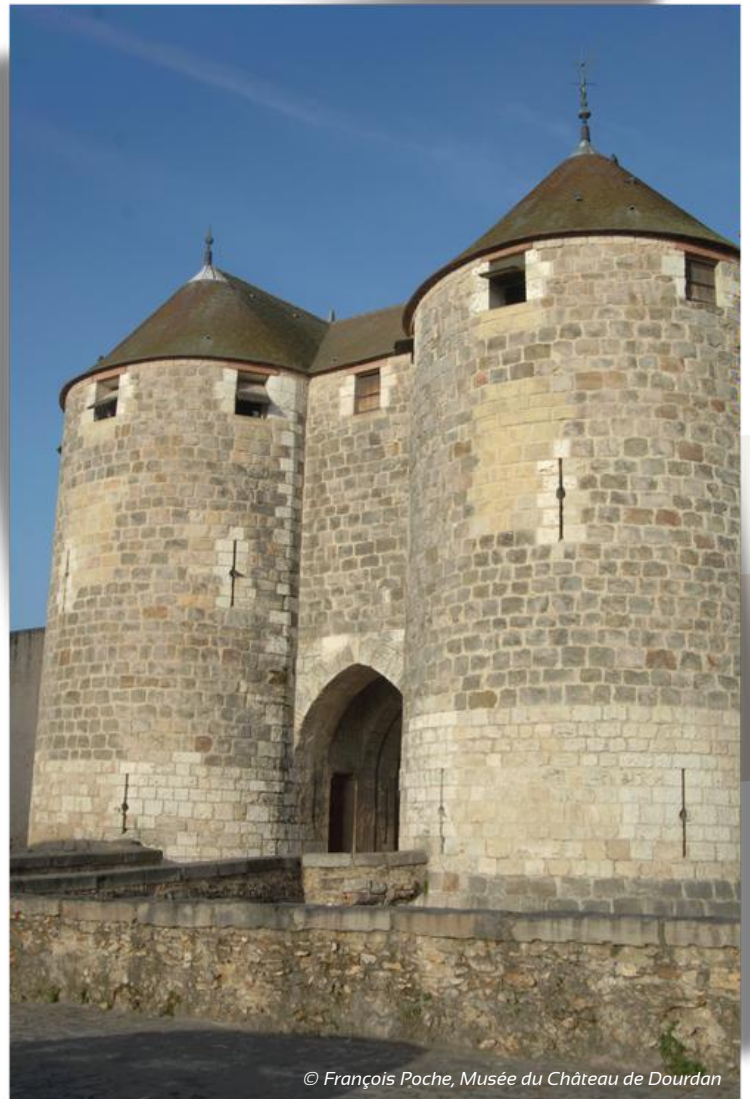
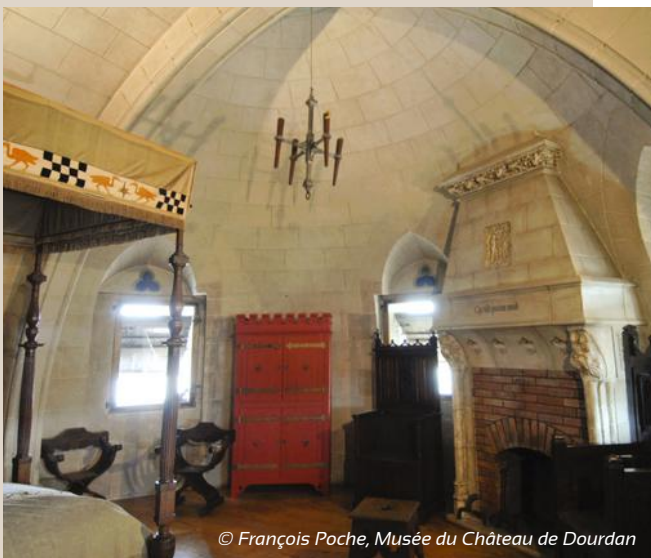
However, this medieval castle was the scene of many wars. He suffered, among others, the Hundred Years War, the Wars of Religion, the siege of 1591 and finally his transformation into a prison and then a private residence.

It now houses the Dourdan Museum, which benefits from the "Musée de France" label and houses quality collections.

Open on Wednesdays and weekends from 10:30am to 12:30pm and from 2pm to 6pm, and on Thursdays and Fridays from 2pm to 6pm. From 01/10 to 30/04, the closure is early at 5pm. Closed from 24/12 to 01/01 inclusive, as well as 01/05.

Full price: 5€ (free visit), 7€ (guided visit). Many free provisions and reduced rates available. Find all the rates [here](#).

Place du Général-de-Gaulle
91410 Dourdan
+33 (0)1 64 59 66 83
museeduchateau@dourdan.fr



Castle of Saint-Jean de Beauregard

With its seven courtyards, its park and its French garden in which integrate chapel, stables, vegetable garden, dovecote, orangery, waterer or moat, each element testifies to everyday life in the seventeenth century.

The flower garden of Saint-Jean de Beauregard was once vital for the livelihood of the castle's residents. Today, he elegantly mixes flowers, rare or old fruits and vegetables, in sumptuous compositions that evolve with the seasons. The huge dovecote, meanwhile, was once essential to the vegetable garden: it provided meat, eggs and fertilizer.

Classified Historical Monument and "Jardin Remarquable", the domain attracts visitors from all over the world, seduced by its timeless charm.

Opening of the domain from 15/03 to 15/11, only on Sundays and holidays from 2pm to 6pm. Guided tours of the interior of the castle at 2:30pm, 3:15pm, 4:15pm and 5:15pm.

Full price: 8 € (dovecote, vegetable garden and park). A reduced rate is available at the price of 6 € and access is free for under 6 years. A supplement of 2€ is required for the guided tour of the castle and the dovecote.

*Rue du Château
91940 Saint-Jean de Beauregard
+33 (0)1 60 12 00 01
info@chateaudesaintjeandebauregard.com*



Mixed words

Castles

Walk the winding paths of medieval Île-de-France and explore castles with a variety of words to decipher.

Can you find them all?

Words can be placed horizontally, vertically or diagonally.

It's up to you!

Chamarande / Courances / Méréville / Dourdan / Courson / Segrez / Villeconin / Montlhéry /
Montauger

C	D	M	N	A	D	R	U	O	D	X	V
A	W	O	L	U	O	P	G	P	O	I	D
M	O	N	T	L	H	E	R	Y	L	M	C
U	H	T	V	C	H	Y	O	L	E	H	U
N	U	A	V	U	A	S	E	R	A	F	E
N	N	U	B	B	Z	C	E	M	L	H	R
O	Q	G	F	W	O	V	A	G	E	S	L
S	Z	E	X	N	I	R	O	Z	R	C	Y
R	K	R	I	L	A	Q	W	R	R	E	R
U	E	N	L	N	C	T	G	U	C	V	Z
O	B	E	D	I	P	I	L	J	N	N	O
C	N	E	S	E	C	N	A	R	U	O	C

Castle of Villeconin

The Castle of Villeconin is a typical medieval monument, with its keep, round tower, guard room, and moat on the edge of the park.

The guided tour organized by the owner's family ends with a walk in the park, offering everyone the freedom to walk at their own pace.

Open from 01/06 to 10/07, from 2:30pm to 6pm.

Full price: 2€ (free visit of the park) or 5€ (guided visit of the park and the castle). A reduced rate of € 3 is available and access is free for under 14 years. Find all rates [here](#).



Château de Villeconin
91580 Villeconin
+33 (0)6 07 88 14 77
rlongevialle@wanadoo.fr

Castle of Saussay

Built in the 17th century, the Castle of Saussay offers a glimpse of its past and remarkable architecture during guided tours.

Beyond the sumptuous interior, the castle park offers a peaceful setting to stroll and relax enjoying the surrounding nature.

Open from 01/04 to 31/08, every Sunday and public holidays from 1pm to 7pm, and from 01/09 to 30/09, every day from 1pm to 7pm. In August, unique opening of the park.

Various rates are available depending on the period of visit and the type of visit chosen.



Château du Saussay
91610 Ballancourt-sur-Essonne
+33 (0)1 64 93 28 05
bourbon.busset@gmail.com



© Saittonnay, Charmes méconnus du Hurepoix

Castle and Domain of Courson

Recognized "Jardin Remarquable", the romantic English park of Courson testifies to the talent of great landscapers such as Berthault or the Bühler brothers. Spread over 35 hectares, its long paths meander around a pond, offering a sumptuous setting where lush vegetation thrives.

The castle, classified Historical Monument, embodies a French tradition of opulent and refined aristocratic residences, while affirming its own identity with its brick and "transparent" stone structure.

Opening of the castle and park from 15/03 to 15/11.

Free visit of the park from Monday to Saturday from 2pm to 5pm, Sunday and public holidays from 12pm to 6pm and every day from 12pm to 6pm during the Easter holidays of the Paris region.

Visit the castle from 2pm to 6pm on Sundays and public holidays, and every day during the Easter holidays of the Paris region. Departure of visits at 2pm, 3pm, 4pm (reserved for children), and 5pm.

Full price: 12€ (castle and park) or 8€ (park only). Reduced rate available at the price of 10€ (castle and park) or 6€ (park only), and free access for under 6 years. Access all rates [here](#).

Domaine de Courson
91680 Courson-Monteloup
+33 (0)1 64 58 90 12
domaine-de-courson@orange.fr



Domain of Segrez

The Domain of Segrez includes a castle dating from the eighteenth century, surrounded by ponds, gardens, fountains and a vast arboretum classified "Jardin Remarquable". The Arboretum Segrezianum has more than a thousand species of trees planted in the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. It also houses a cave of the eighteenth century classified Historical Monument.

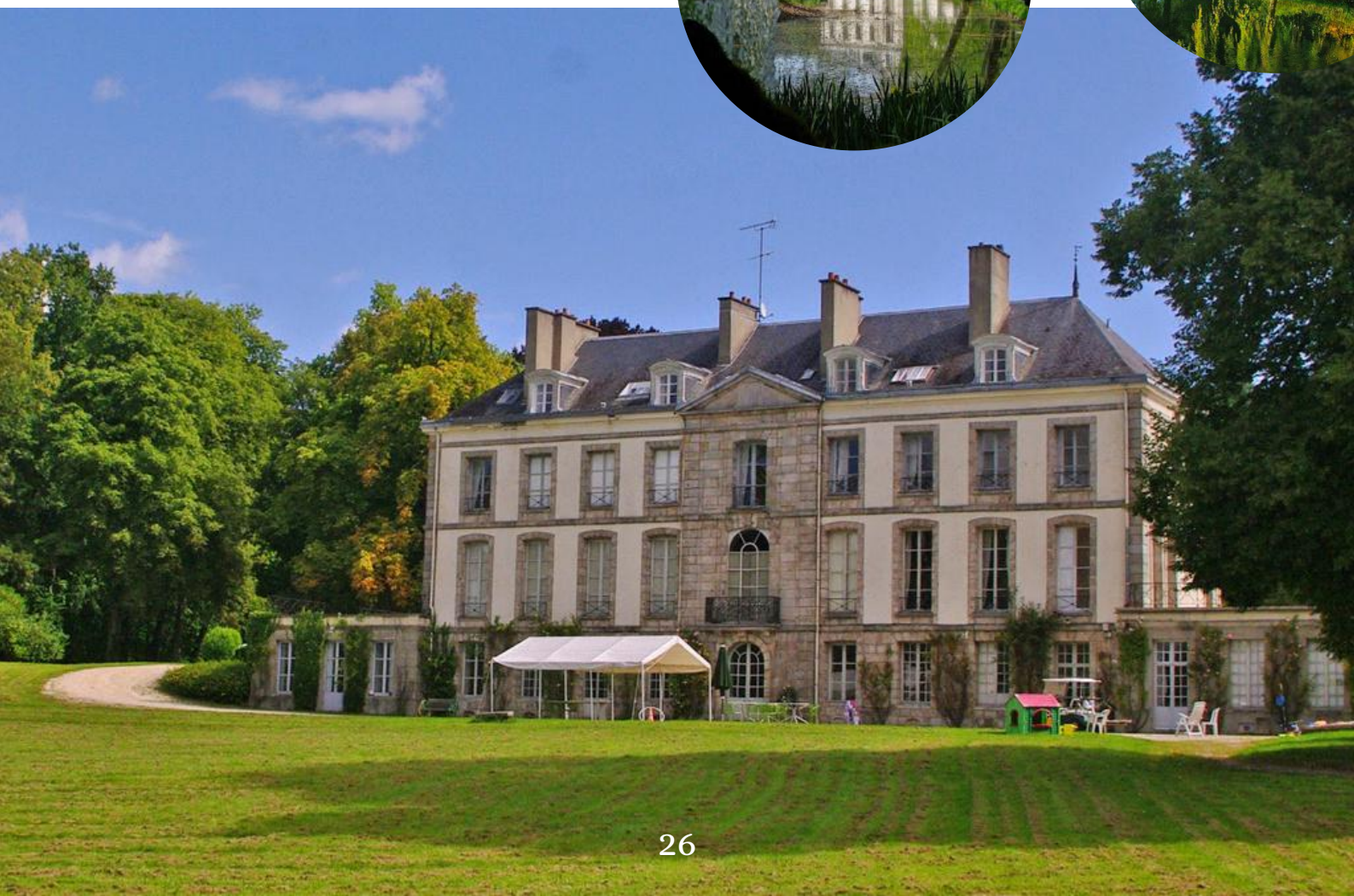
The Domaine de Segrez is a private domain: visits are by appointment during the week for groups of 10 or more people.

The Arboretum of Segrez can also be visited by appointment during the week, for groups of 5 people minimum.

Rates not communicated.

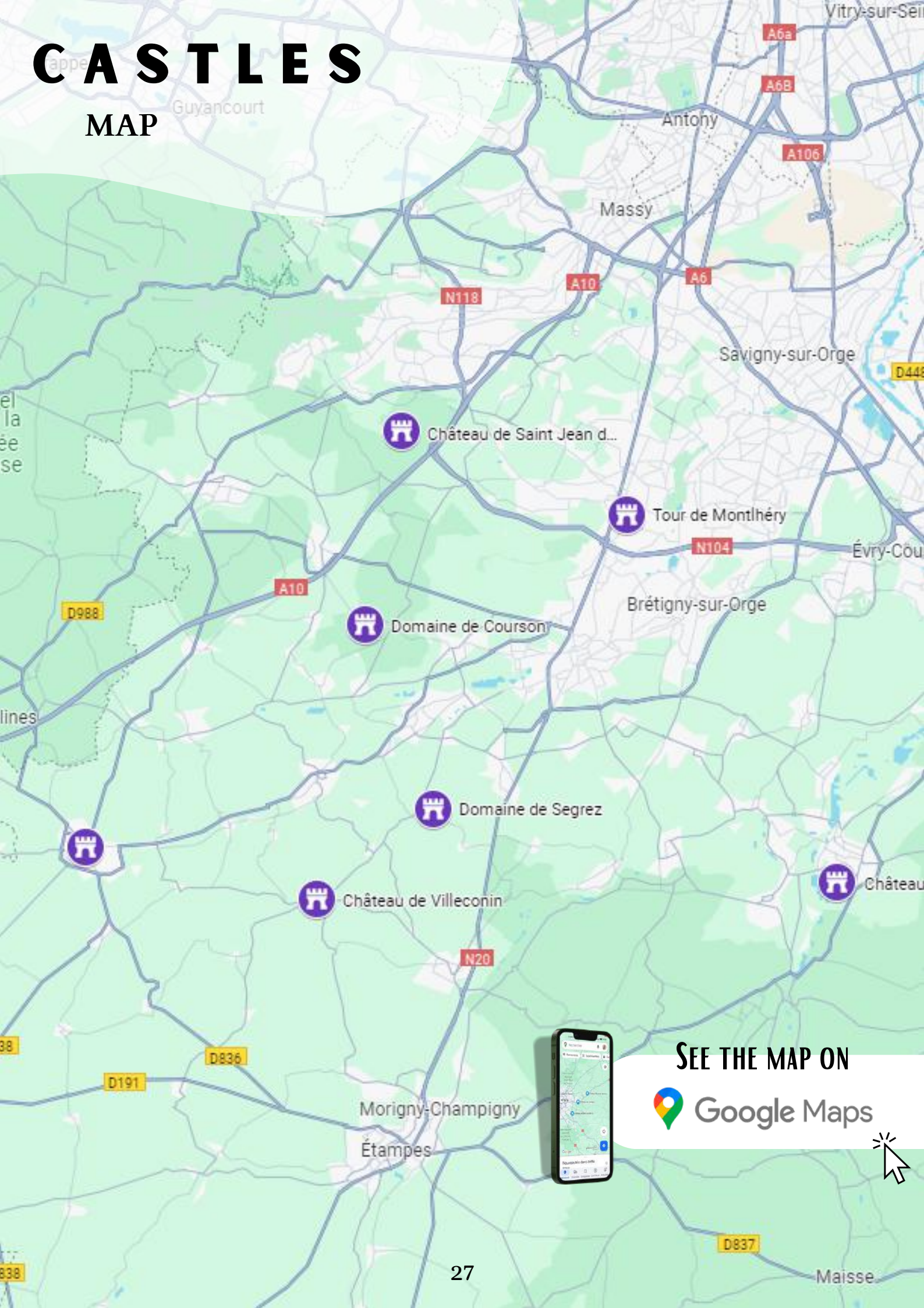
Domaine de Segrez
91910 Saint Sulpice de Favières
arboretumsegrez@gmail.com

© Sattonnay, Charnes méconnus du Hurepoix



CASTLES

MAP



Château de Saint Jean d...

Tour de Montlhéry

Domaine de Courson

Brétigny-sur-Orge

Domaine de Segrez

Château de Villeconin

Château

Morigny-Champigny

Étampes



SEE THE MAP ON

 Google Maps



MUSEUMS

NOT TO MISS



MUSEUMS

NOT TO MISS

Various museums can be found in the department of Essonne. Between literary houses, unusual and original museums, or houses of famous artists, there is something for everyone, whether for adults or children!

Delta Museum

Explore the Delta Museum and its exhibition dedicated to aircraft emblematic of aviation history, centered on the theme of the delta wing.

Thanks to technical and historical explanations, discover the technological advances through examples such as the Concorde or the Mirages, and dive into varied topics such as the sound wall, onboard equipment, transatlantic flights and aircraft design.

Currently, the museum houses 6 different aircraft, ranging from the PA-100, a race plane project, to the pre-series Concorde O2, a supersonic airliner.

Open from April to July, Wednesdays and weekends from 2pm to 6pm.

Rates: 5€ (adults) and 2€ (5-12 years). Free for under 5 years.

1 avenue Bernard Lathière
91200 Athis-Mons
+33 (0)6 23 63 55 10
musedeltainfo@gmail.com





Salis Flying Museum

When Louis Blériot made the first crossing of the English Channel in 1909, he inspired Jean-Baptiste Salis a passion for aviation, which would guide his entire career. His son realized this dream by creating a remarkable collection of aircraft and encouraging the formation of aeronautical associations. Together, they bring to life the Salis Flying Museum, a reference in the field of aviation.

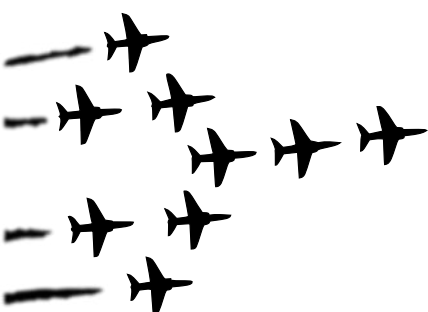
Explore the first steps of aviation, the Second World War memorial, leisure and sports aviation, pioneering figures and events of the First World War, as well as the Morane-Saulnier collection... Or book a first flight aboard one of the 4 vintage aircraft available!

Open from Monday to Friday from 2pm to 5pm and on weekends and public holidays from 2pm to 6pm.

Full price: 9€ (from 16/11 to 14/03) or 12€ (from 15/03 to 15/11). Discounted rates are available for children under 14, people with disabilities, or families. Access all rates [here](#).



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91590 Cerny
+33 (0)1 64 57 52 89
contact@musee-volant-salis.fr

AVIATION QUIZ



1 WHO IS CREDITED WITH THE INVENTION OF THE AIRPLANE IN 1890?

- 1 CLÉMENT ADER
- 2 LOUIS BLÉRIOT
- 3 HENRI FABRE
- 4 ARMAND PEUGEOT

2 WHEN WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT THE ATLANTIC WAS FLOWN NON-STOP?

- 1 1886
- 2 1899
- 3 1907
- 4 1919

3 WHAT IS THE NAME OF THE FIRST WOMAN PILOT TO CROSS THE ATLANTIC BY PLANE?

- 1 EMMA LILIAN TODD
- 2 THÉRÈSE PELTIER
- 3 AMELIA MARY EARHART
- 4 RAYMONDE DE LAROCHE

4 WHAT WAS THE CRUISING SPEED OF THE SUPERSONIC PLANE THE CONCORDE?

- 1 550 KM/H
- 2 1050 KM/H
- 3 1550 KM/H
- 4 2150 KM/H

5 WHY DID THE AIRCRAFT NAMED THE ANTONOV AN-225 MAKE A SPLASH IN 2022?

- 1 HE DISAPPEARED AT SEA
- 2 IT IS THE FIRST PLANE TO HAVE FLOWN AROUND THE WORLD WITHOUT A STOP
- 3 THIS IS THE PRIVATE JET OF A FAMOUS FOOTBALLER
- 4 IT WAS DESTROYED BY THE RUSSIAN ARMY AFTER THE INVASION OF UKRAINE

[Click here to discover the solutions!](#)



Intercommunal Museum of Stamps

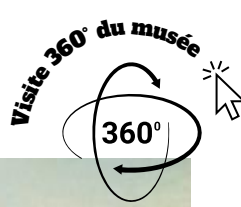
The Museum of Stamps is famous for its remarkable set of sculptures dating from the nineteenth century.

Elias Robert's work, completed in 1875, is enriched by a variety of drawings, paintings, archaeological remains, historical documents and fossils.

The museum's collections cover a wide range of disciplines such as paleontology, archaeology, fine arts, contemporary art and ethnology. In total, the intercommunal museum of Étampes exhibits 260 paintings, 358 sculptures and 3000 prehistoric objects.

Closed for work. Normally open from Wednesday to Sunday from 2pm to 5pm, except holidays.

Full price: 2€ (workshops: 1€). Many reduced rates and free provisions are available. Access all rates [here](#).



Dans les Fleurs (Louise Abbéma, 1892)

Place de l'Hôtel-de-Ville
91150 Étampes
+33 (0)1 64 59 59 96
musee@caese.fr

Dourdan Museum

Located in the Dourdan Castle, the museum began in the 1960s, when the private house was gradually transformed into a museum. It now benefits from the label "Musée de France".

Through its varied collections, the museum explores a multitude of themes, including archaeology, portraits and artists' collections. Discover a wide range of antique objects, ceramics, paintings, sculptures, furniture, photographs and postcards.

Open on Wednesdays and weekends from 10.30am to 12.30am and from 2pm to 6pm, and on Thursdays and Fridays from 2pm to 6pm. From 01/10 to 30/04, the closure is early at 5pm. Closed from 24/12 to 01/01 inclusive, as well as 01/05.

Full price: 5€ (free visit), 7€ (guided visit). Find the conditions for reduced rates [here](#).



Place du Général-de-Gaule
91410 Dourdan
+33 (0)1 64 59 66 83
museeduchateau@dourdan.fr

House Jean Cocteau

In 1946, after completing the shooting of the film *Beauty and the Beast*, Jean Cocteau felt the desire to leave Paris to find refuge in the countryside. He moved to the Maison de Milly-la-Forêt in 1947 until his death in 1963.

A part of the first floor of the house has been converted into an exhibition room, in order to welcome each year a temporary exhibition. A screening room offers the opportunity to conclude the visit by screening a film or documentary highlighting the cinematographic work of Cocteau.

The second floor of the house houses the bedroom of Jean Marais and the workshop of Jean Cocteau.

Open from 03/05 to 03/11, from Thursday to Sunday from 11am to 6pm (reservation recommended).

Full price: 9€50 (museum, exhibition and garden) or 3€ (garden only). Many reduced rates and free provisions available. Find all rates [here](#).

15 rue du Lau
91490 Milly-la-Forêt
+33 (0)1 71 63 89 85

reservation@maisonjeancocteau.com

“
In Milly, I found the rarest thing in
the world: a frame.”

Translated from French

Jean Cocteau



© Luc Fournol



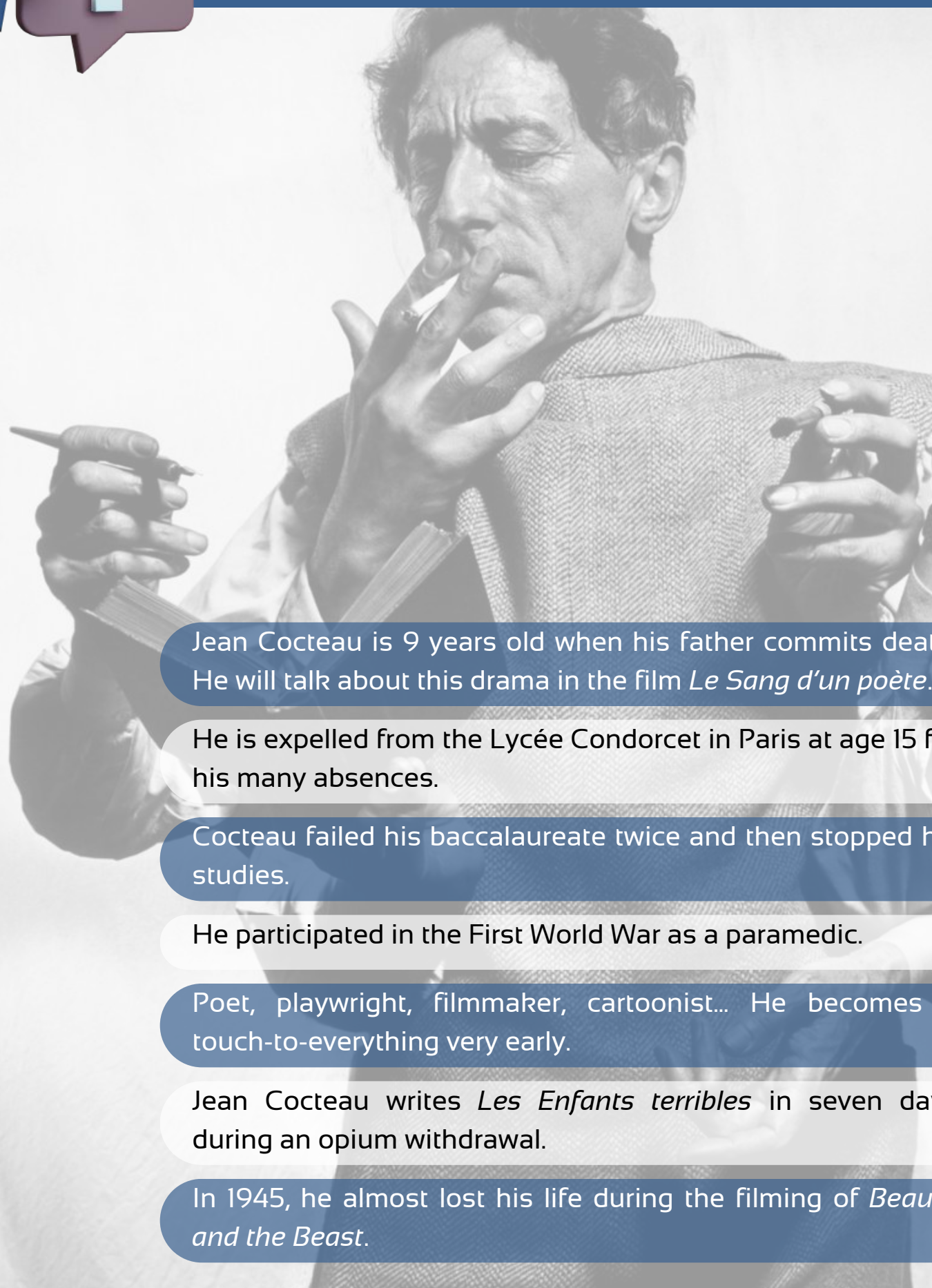
© Frédéric Beauclair

© Maison Jean Cocteau



UNUSUAL FACTS ABOUT JEAN COCTEAU

D I D Y O U K N O W ?



Jean Cocteau is 9 years old when his father commits death. He will talk about this drama in the film *Le Sang d'un poète*.

He is expelled from the Lycée Condorcet in Paris at age 15 for his many absences.

Cocteau failed his baccalaureate twice and then stopped his studies.

He participated in the First World War as a paramedic.

Poet, playwright, filmmaker, cartoonist... He becomes a touch-to-everything very early.

Jean Cocteau writes *Les Enfants terribles* in seven days during an opium withdrawal.

In 1945, he almost lost his life during the filming of *Beauty and the Beast*.

Robert Dubois-Corneau Museum

Established in the residence of the historian Robert Dubois-Corneau and labeled "Musée de France", this establishment took shape around the collection he bequeathed before his death in 1951.

It gathered a variety of testimonies reflecting the history of the city and the Yerres valley: paintings, drawings, engravings, sculptures and art objects retrace the evolution of the region through a museographic journey focused on its past as a holiday resort.

The museum now exhibits various works dating from the 18th century to the present day, including those of renowned artists such as the tragedian Talma, the painter Maurice Eliot, and the sculptor Maurice Pros.

Open from Wednesday to Sunday from 2pm to 5pm (from 02/11 to 01/05) and from 2pm to 6pm (from 02/05 to 01/11). Summer closure from 14/07 to 16/08 and exceptional on 12/05, 09/06 and 01/09.

Free admission.



Fête de Soullins (Lucien Caussat, 1946)



Iris (Alice Dubois-Corneau, non daté)

16 rue du Réveillon
91800 Brunoy
+33 (0)1 60 46 33 60
musee@mairie-brunoy.fr

Hurepoix Museum

An essential place to discover the history and culture of the Hurepoix region, the museum presents artifacts, works of art and historical documents that testify to the daily life, traditions and significant events of the region.

Open on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 2pm to 6pm. Tours are guided.

Full price: 10€. A reduced rate for children is available at the price of 5€.



5 Place de la Victoire
91120 Palaiseau
+33 (0)1 69 31 45 70
musee.hurepoix@free.fr

Literary House of Victor Hugo

In the 19th century, the poet and writer Victor Hugo stayed at the Roches Castle whenever he could. Today, the castle houses the Literary House of Victor Hugo and exhibits more than 6,500 pieces, such as books, engravings, manuscripts and drafts by Victor Hugo.

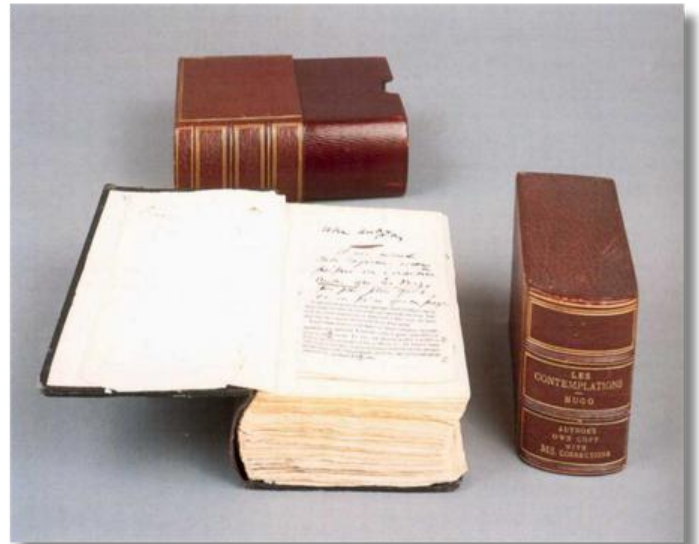
For example, the Literary House owns the “printing proofs” of *Les Misérables* and *Les Contemplations*, works entirely corrected by hand by Victor Hugo before their publication.

Open on weekends from 2:30pm to 6:30pm. Annual closure from December to February included.

Full price: 6€ (guided tour of the museum and free visit of the park), or 3€ (access to the park only). A reduced price of 5€ is available for the visit of the museum and the park. Find all the rates applied [here](#).



Épreuves corrigées des *Misérables*



Épreuves corrigées des *Contemplations*

45 rue de Vauboyen
91570 Bièvres
+33 (0)1 69 41 82 84
mlvh@wanadoo.fr

“ It is a sad thing to think that nature speaks, and that mankind does not listen. ”

Translated from French

“ It is a sad thing to think that nature speaks, and that mankind does not listen. ”

Victor Hugo

37





VICTOR HUGO

T R U E O R F A L S E ?

Victor Hugo was a well-known politician in his day.



Hugo claims to talk regularly with spirits.



Victor Hugo's funeral went completely unnoticed.



Victor Hugo's greatest struggle was the law on secularism.



Victor Hugo wrote *Notre-Dame de Paris* because it was there that he was baptized.



[Click here to find the answers!](#)

Moulin de Dannemois

An emblematic residence of the legendary Claude François from 1964 to 1978, the Moulin de Dannemois now houses a museum and a restaurant.

The guided and commented tour of the museum allows to discover the entire house, but also the American House, which was the wing of the mill reserved for the personal use of the artist, and finally the exhibition room, where are presented costumes of scenes of the artist and several personal objects.

Guided tours organized from Thursday to Monday at 11am, 2:30pm, 3:30pm, and 4:30pm.

Full price: 15€. Admission is free for children under 5 and reduced rates are available. See all rates [here](#).



32 Rue Du Moulin
91490 Dannemois
+33 (0)1 64 98 45 54

contact@moulinedannemois.com

House of Alphonse Daudet

The Essonne became the territory of Alphonse Daudet from 1867 until his death in 1897. He wrote most of his work there and was inspired by the region in many tales and novels.

Visit the House of Alphonse Daudet and access the ground floor and garden, discover three slideshows of your choice, or attend the interventions of musicians, actors or storytellers.

Opening at events, shows and exhibitions, as well as at major national events. Open by appointment the rest of the year.

Rates vary depending on the reservation made.

33 rue Alphonse Daudet
91210 Draveil

+33 (0)6 30 56 79 08
maison.daudet@laposte.net

Translated from French

“ Sometimes there's courage to run. ”

39

Alphonse Daudet



Caillebotte House

Between 1860 and 1879, the Caillebotte House was owned by the Caillebotte family: this is where Gustave Caillebotte practiced his art and made more than 80 paintings.

The visit of the house refurnished as at the time plunges you into the spirit of a holiday home of the late nineteenth century: discover the dining room and the living room, the adjoining billiard room, the family room with its original furniture, and the artist's studio.

Finally, in the museum rooms, follow the history of the family and the property, now considered one of the highlights of Impressionism.

Open from Tuesday to Sunday, from 2pm to 6.30pm (holidays included). The park is open every day at different times depending on the time of year. Find the schedule details [here](#).

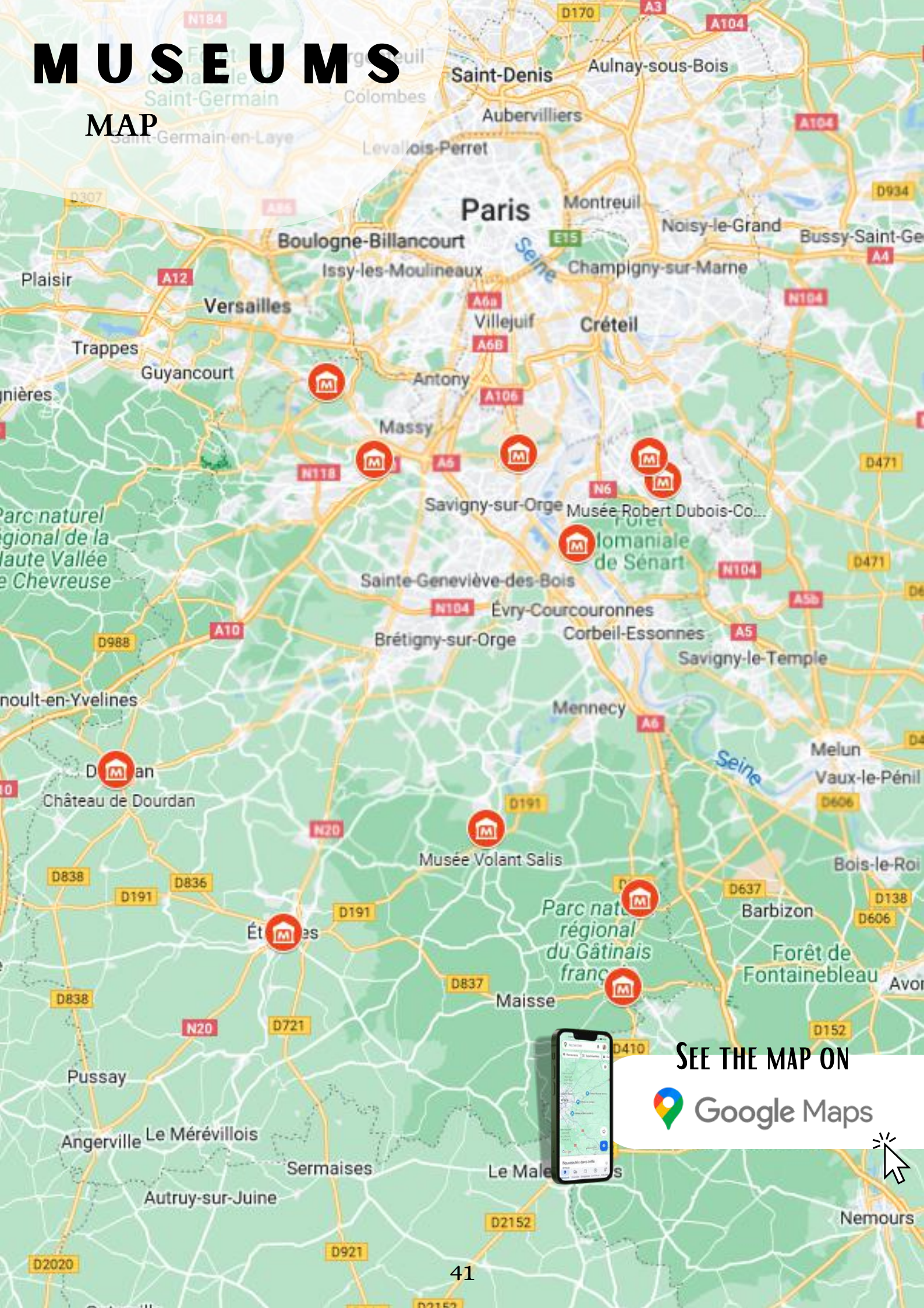
Full price: 8€. Admission to the park is free. Many provisions of reduced rates and free are available. See all rates [here](#).

8 rue de Concy
91330 Yerres
+33 (0)1 80 37 20 61
culture@yerres.fr



MUSEUMS

MAP



SEE THE MAP ON



NATURE

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES



NATURE

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

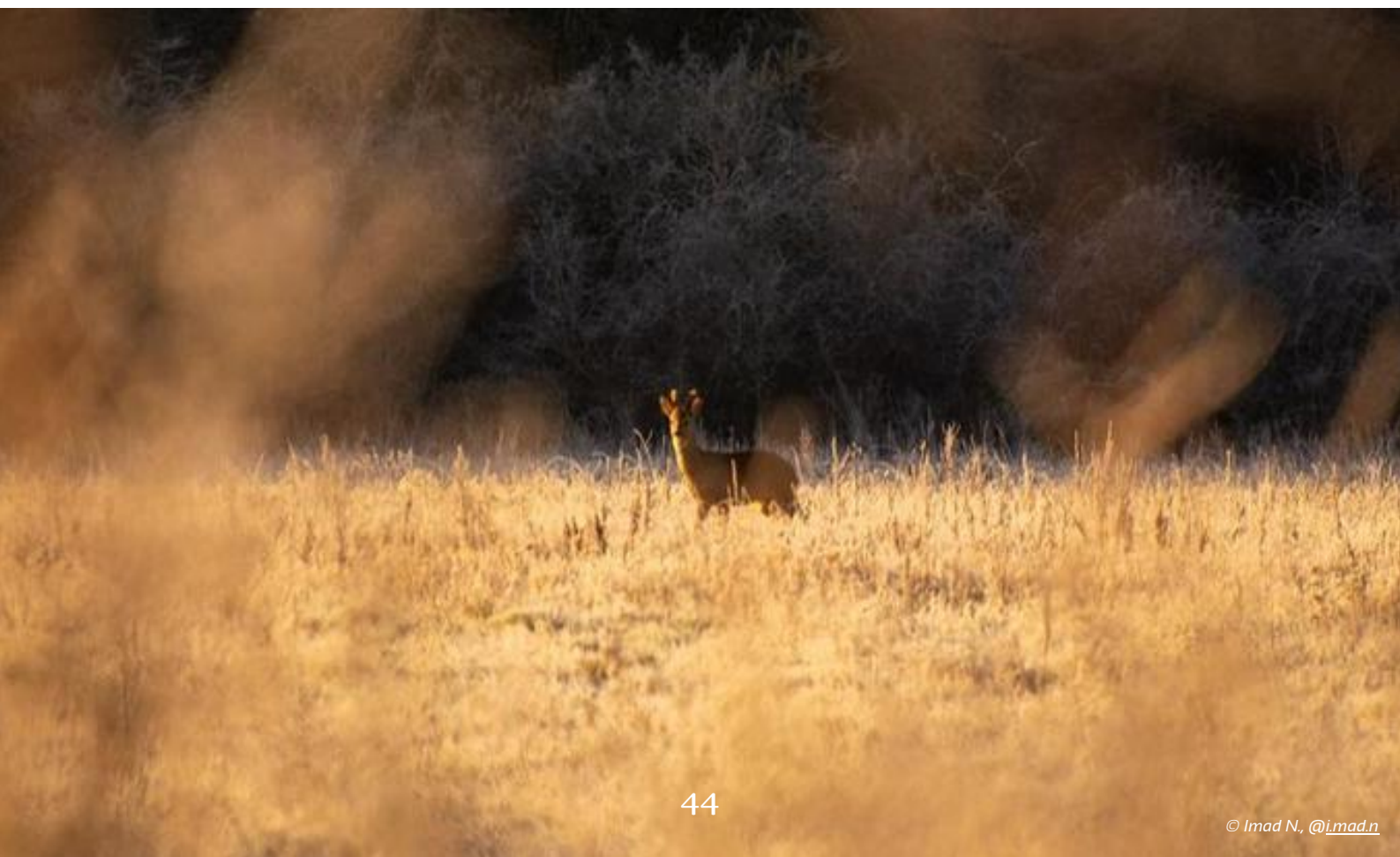
The Essonne reveals a diverse natural heritage, combining green valleys, majestic forests and winding waterways. Between vast forests like that of Sénart and wetlands such as the marshes of the Lower Essonne Valley, each corner of this department of Ile-de-France has natural treasures to discover.

Sénart forest

Straddling the departments of Seine-et-Marne and Essonne, the Sénart forest attracts nearly three million visitors each year.

Its attraction lies in its many marked trails, its remarkable biodiversity as well as its education center run by the National Office of Forests, offering children the opportunity to discover the forest nature through various workshops.

Perhaps you will come across a squirrel leaping from one oak to another, a lizard stumps or a viper pelagia. It would be rarer, but not impossible with patience, to fall on wild boars, roe deer or foxes.



National nature reserve of the geological sites of Essonne

The Essonne is home to one of the first nature reserves to preserve exceptional geological layers, witnesses of the past of the department. Today, 11 geological sites are being developed to welcome you:



Carrière des Sablons



Sablière du Four blanc



Grotte des Buis



Coteau des Verts Galants



Sablière d'Orgemont



Carrière des Cailles



Sablière de Villemartin



Penten de la Vallée aux Loups



Carrière de la Troche

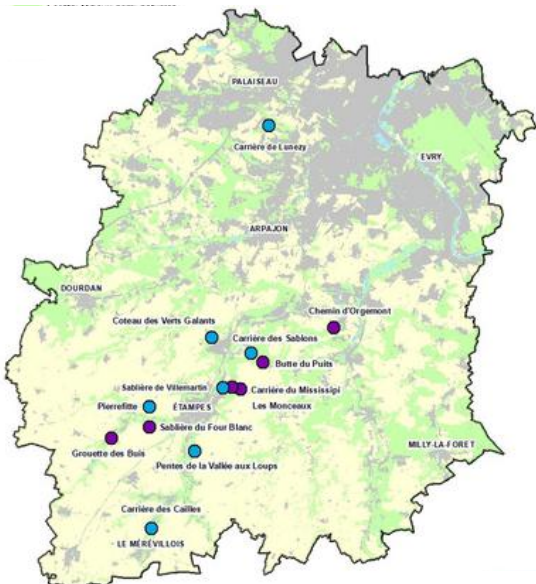


Géosite de Pierrefitte



Butte du Puits

MAP OF THE GEOLOGIC SITES OF THE RESERVE



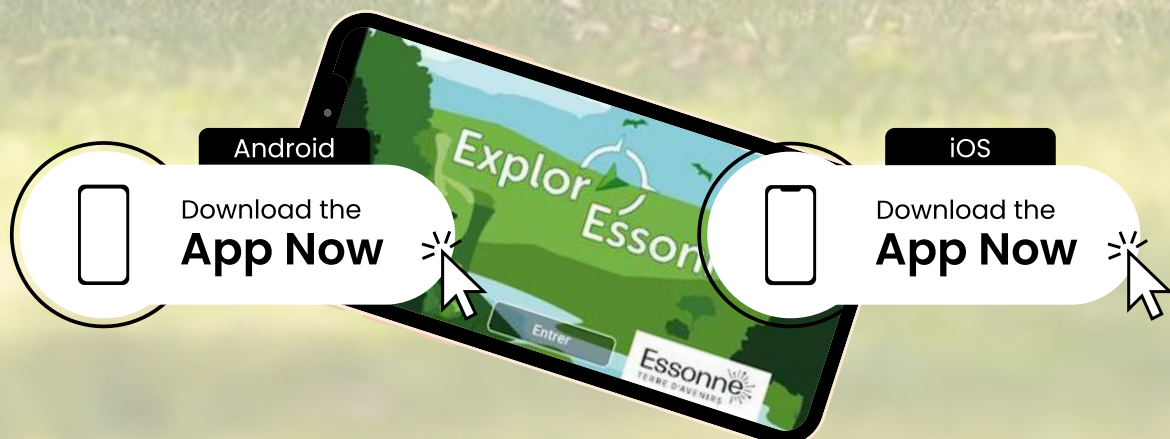
EXPLOR' ESSONNE

THE HIDDEN TREASURES OF THE DEPARTMENT

As part of its promotion of tourism and the discovery of the natural wonders of Essonne, the Department makes available to all a free mobile application: Explor'Essonne. Whether you are an experienced hiker or a simple walker looking for relaxation, whether you live in the department or you are just passing through, this application invites you to explore the varied landscapes of the region.

Explor'Essonne offers a selection of departmental walking tours, but also sports courses and adventure games. With about forty itineraries to discover, everyone will find something for them to explore at their own pace.

This magazine presents only a selection of natural sites accessible in the department, go to the application for an exhaustive exploration of the Essonne nature!



Animal Park of Janvry

The Janvry Animal Park is a haven of peace where you can discover a wide variety of animal species in a preserved and green setting.

This human-sized park is distinguished by its friendly atmosphere and its commitment to animal welfare.

During your visit to the park, let yourself be charmed by a variety of pets such as goats, donkeys and pigs, while discovering more exotic species such as lemurs, wallabies and alpacas.

In addition, you will have the opportunity to feed some park residents, cuddle them and even participate in care and maintenance sessions, which adds an enriching and unforgettable dimension to your experience.

Open all year round from 8am to 8pm.

Free access.

*Rue du Bois de Montmarre
91640 Janvry
+33 (0)1 64 90 51 63*



© Parc Animalier de Janvry



Educational farms

The educational farms of Essonne offer an immersive experience where you discover the agricultural world while having fun, through meetings with animals, demonstrations and fun workshops to raise awareness of environmental preservation.



© Ferme pédagogique du Bel Air

Bel Air Educational Farm



© Ferme pédagogique de la Grange aux Moines

Educational farm of the Grange aux Moines



© Ferme pédagogique Le P'tit brin d'Paille

Educational farm Le P'tit brin d'Paille



© Ferme Saint-Lazare

Saint-Lazare Farm



© Essonne Tourisme

Les Frères d'Armes Educational Farm



© Mairie de Bièvres

Relais Nature de Bièvres



Viry-Chatillon Lakes

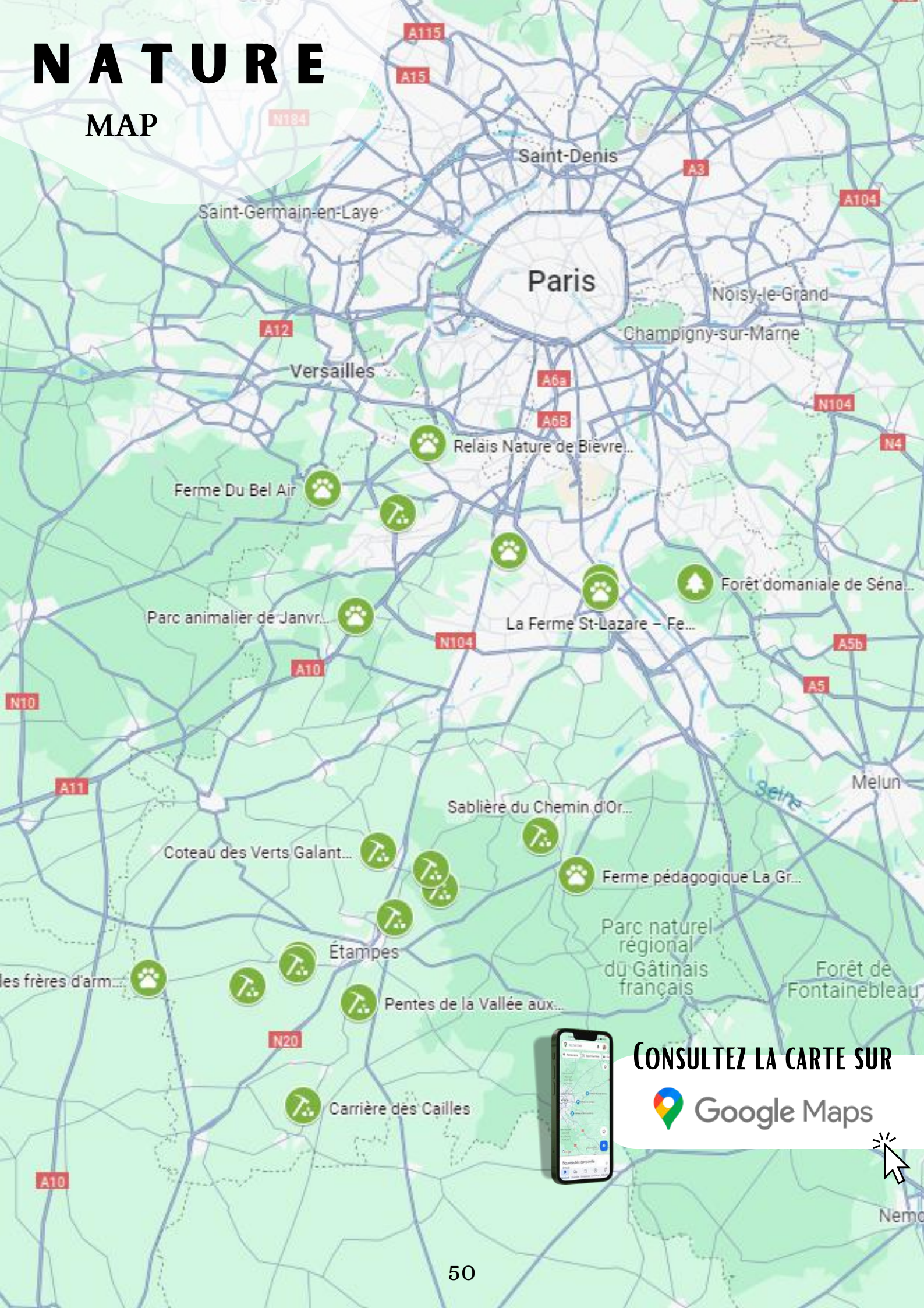
Recognized “Espaces Naturels Sensibles” and classified “Zone Naturelle d’Intérêt Écologique, Faunistique et Floristique”, the lakes of Viry-Châtillon constitute one of the largest lake complexes of the Paris region.

These spaces are dedicated to recreation and biodiversity development. Indeed, the lakes offer an ideal setting for sports, with 7.7 km of walk, fitness modules, and water activities.



NATURE

MAP

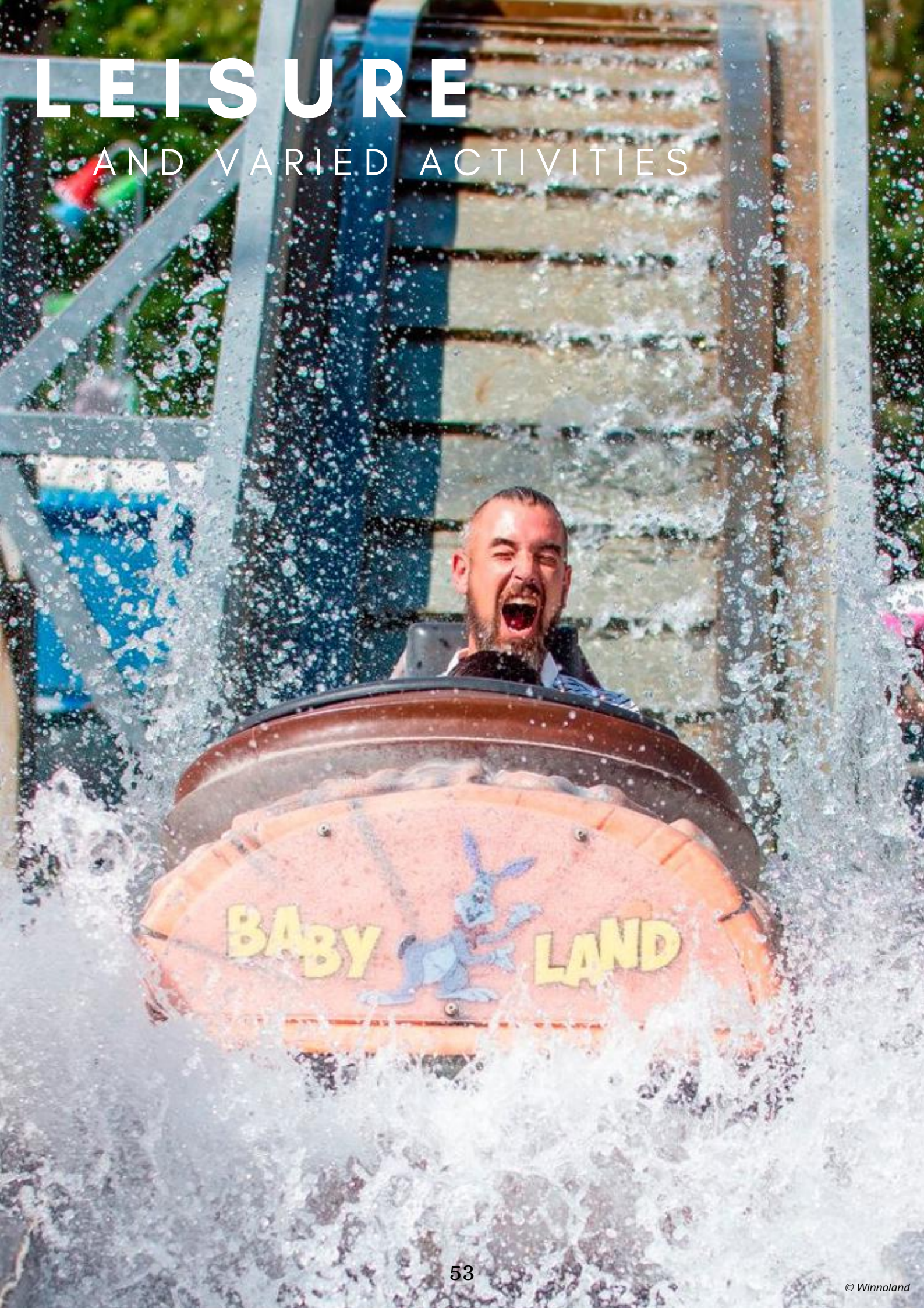


CONSULTEZ LA CARTE SUR



LEISURE

AND VARIED ACTIVITIES



LEISURE

AND VARIED ACTIVITIES



Essonne takes advantage of its rich natural heritage to offer a multitude of leisure activities adapted to all tastes. Dive into this section to discover a selection of essential activities to experience during your stay in Essonne.

Winnoland

In the heart of the lush Rougeau forest, the Winnoland amusement park offers a range of 34 attractions for all ages, fully dedicated to family happiness.

From the charm of the carousels to the excitement of the Pteranodon, the majesty of the Ferris wheel and the thrills of the water attractions, the park promises to charm you and offer you memorable memories with your family.

The dates and opening hours are variable. Find the calendar of the park [here](#).

Full price: 18€50. Access to the park is free for children under 90cm, and many discounted rates are available. Find all the rates applied [here](#).



214 Route de Melun
91280 Saintry-Sur-Seine
+33 (0)1 69 89 24 39 / +33 (0)6 99 14 26 48



Floreval Adventure Park

The Floreval Adventure Park is a true paradise for lovers of sensations in the heart of nature.

Nestled in the Gravelle Forest, this park offers an immersive and entertaining experience with its acrobatic treetops, zip lines, monkey bridges and jumps in the void. Find mini-golf, tree climbing, escape game, laser game, archery battle, animal park, labyrinth or addicted spider in the park.

Whether you are a seasoned adventurer or a beginner in search of adrenaline, the Floreval Adventure Park promises moments of emotion and fun for the whole family.

The dates and opening hours are variable. Find the calendar of the park [here](#).

Many rates are available depending on the chosen activities. See all rates [here](#).



© Aventure Floreval

Route de Limours
91680 Bruyères-le-Châtel
+33 (0)1 60 80 09 00
contact@aventure-floreval.fr



Leisure islands



Haven of relaxation and fun the Leisure Islands of Essonne offer an ideal getaway for families, friends and nature lovers.

Their bodies of water offer the opportunity to practice canoeing, sailing, pedalo or water ski lift. Fans of outdoor games will also find their happiness with beach volleyball, football, basketball, tree courses, or sledging!

For those who prefer peace and quiet, the vast green spaces of the Leisure Island are perfect for a walk or a picnic: perfect for relaxing with family or friends.



© Île de Loisirs Le Port aux Cerises



© Île de Loisirs d'Étampes

The Port aux Cerises

Open daily from 7am to 8pm (9pm in July and August). Opening hours are variable and can be found [here](#).

Free access. Activities are paid: find all rates [here](#).

Rue du Port aux Cerises
91210 Draveil
+33 (0)1 69 83 46 00
contact@le-port-aux-cerises.iledeloisirs.fr

Étampes

Open every day from 8am to 8pm (9pm from 01/04 to 31/10). The opening hours of the activities are variable and can be found [here](#).

Free access. Activities are paid: find all rates [here](#).

5 avenue Charles de Gaulle
91150 Étampes
+33 (0)1 69 78 33 06
reservations@etampes.iledeloisirs.fr

And many more...

The Essonne is full of a multitude of parks and offers a wide range of diverse activities, both outdoor and indoor. Explore this section to discover a more exhaustive list of the countless activities available.

Outdoor leisure

Discover below a selection of outdoor activities to practice in the department of Essonne. Find all the activities available [here](#).



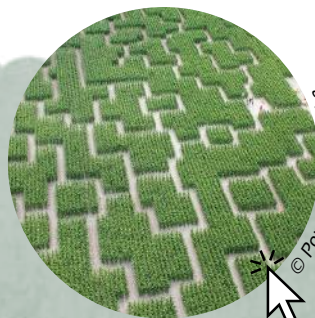
Atout Branches

© Atout Branches



NoLimit Aventure

© NoLimit Aventure



Pop Corn Labyrinthe

© Pop Corn Labyrinthe



Yacht Club de Draveil

© Yacht Club de Draveil



Ecopark

© Ecopark



Vélorail de la Vallée de la Juine

© Vélorail de la Vallée de la Juine



Char à voile à la BA217

© BA217



Paintball Select Park

© Paintball Select park



Cirrus Montgolfiere

© Cirrus Montgolfiere



France Copter

© France Copter



Outpaintball Loisir

© Outpaintball Loisir



Aeriance

© Aeriance



Étampes Paramoteur

© Étampes Paramoteur



Aéro Vintage Academy

© Aéro Vintage Academy

Indoor leisure

Discover a selection of indoor activities to practice in the department of Essonne. Find all the activities available [here](#).



© B14

B14



© SpeedPark

SpeedPark



© Extra LaserBowl

Extra LaserBowl



© Urban Jump

Urban Jump



© Laser Game Evolution

Laser Game Evolution



© Trampoline Park

Trampoline Park



© Fort Boyard Adventures

Fort Boyard Adventures



© Arkose

Arkose



© Dundee Parc

Dundee Parc



© KoJump

KoJump



© Hapik

Hapik



© Block'Out

Block'Out



© Essonne Tourisme

Escape Yourself



© Enigmatic Live

Enigmatic Live

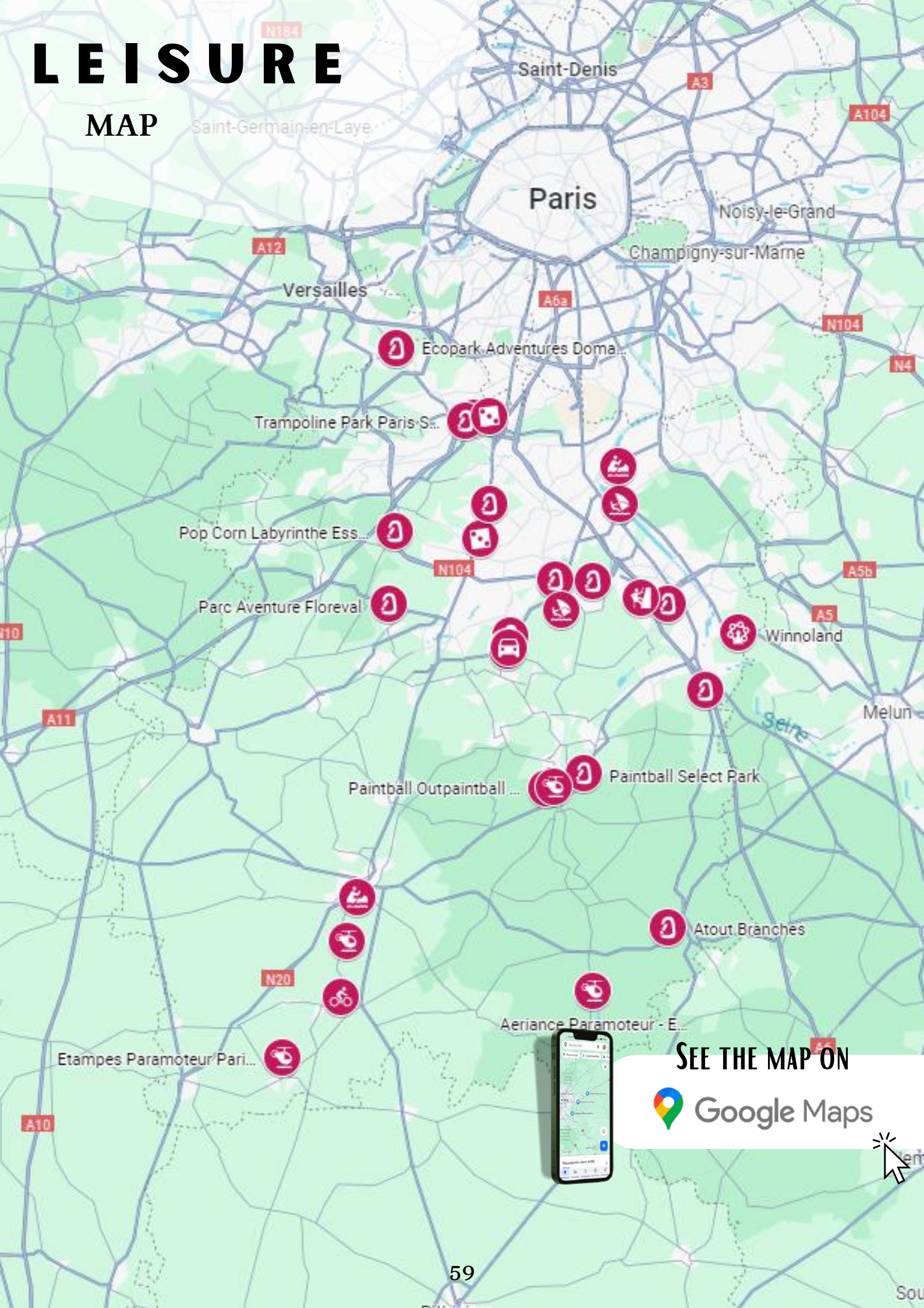


© Brainstorm Escape Game

BrainStorm Escape Game

LEISURE

MAP



SEE THE MAP ON



CULTURE

CULTURAL WORKS AND SITES



CULTURE

CULTURAL WORKS AND SITES



The department of Essonne includes some works of art and unusual sites that are worth a visit! In this section, discover the works and places that make Essonne a unique department of the Paris region.

The Cyclop

Located in the heart of the woods of Milly-la-Forêt and designed by the artist Jean Tinguely, Le Cyclop is a monumental sculpture. This gigantic head, devoid of body, shines with a thousand lights thanks to its sparkling mirrors.

Sporting a single eye, a mouth letting water escape and an ear weighing nearly a ton, it contains within it a fascinating universe to discover through a labyrinthine journey punctuated by works of art.

The Cyclop remains a singular monument, truly extraordinary in the history of art.



Open on weekends from 06/04 to 03/11, from 10:30am to 6:30pm (5.45pm from 27/10). Open from Wednesday to Sunday at the same hours in July, August and during school holidays in the Paris region. Closed on public holidays, except July 14 and August 15.

Free access. The tours of the Cyclop are guided and are at full price of 12€. Many free and discounted rates are available. See all applicable rates [here](#).

19 chemin de Moigny
91490 Milly-la-Forêt
+33 (0)1 64 98 95 18
association@lecyclop.com

Nymphée, domain of Piédefer: “Grotte aux coquillages”

Built during the seventeenth century and now classified Historical Monument, the cave was built inside with shells brought back from distant islands to evoke the atmosphere of a marine cave.

Visitors strolled through the vast gardens before taking refuge in the shade in this cool room to contemplate the shells. At the time, this place evoked the cabinets of curiosity in vogue in the eighteenth century, before later acquiring a religious dimension.

Open the following Saturdays from 2:30pm at 5:30pm: 25/05, 08/06, 15/06 and 29/06, 06/07, 20/07, 03/08, 10/08, 24/08, 14/09 and 28/09. Exceptional opening during the heritage days on 21/09 and 22/09 from 2pm to 6pm.

Free access.

21 rue Maurice-Sabatier
91170 Viry-Châtillon
+33 (0)1 69 12 62 19



© Mairie de Viry-Châtillon, F. Depecher

Russian cemetery

The Russian Cemetery of Sainte Geneviève des Bois is an emblematic place steeped in history, hosting the graves of many Russian emigrants, including soldiers and civilians who fled the 1917 revolution.

This site, rich in symbols and testimonies, offers a unique place of meditation and memory, where cultures and traditions mingle in a peaceful and solemn setting.

Open every day from 8am to 5pm from 01/10 to 31/03 and from 8am to 1pm from 01/04 to 30/09.

Free access.

4 rue Léo Lagrange
91700 Sainte Geneviève des Bois
+33 (0)1 60 15 11 40
secretariat@cimetière-russe.org



CULTURE

MAP



SEE THE MAP ON



Google Maps



AVIATION QUIZ

- 1 WHO IS CREDITED WITH THE INVENTION OF THE AIRPLANE IN 1890?**

 - 1 CLÉMENT ADER
 - 2 LOUIS BLÉRIOT
 - 3 HENRI FABRE
 - 4 ARMAND PEUGEOT
- 2 WHEN WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT THE ATLANTIC WAS FLOWN NON-STOP?**

 - 1 1886
 - 2 1899
 - 3 1907
 - 4 1919
- 3 WHAT IS THE NAME OF THE FIRST WOMAN PILOT TO CROSS THE ATLANTIC BY PLANE?**

 - 1 EMMA LILIAN TODD
 - 2 THÉRÈSE PELTIER
 - 3 AMELIA MARY EARHART
 - 4 RAYMONDE DE LAROCHE
- 4 WHAT WAS THE CRUISING SPEED OF THE SUPERSONIC PLANE THE CONCORDE?**

 - 1 550 KM/H
 - 2 1050 KM/H
 - 3 1550 KM/H
 - 4 2150 KM/H
- 5 WHY DID THE AIRCRAFT NAMED THE ANTONOV AN-225 MAKE A SPLASH IN 2022?**

 - 1 HE DISAPPEARED AT SEA
 - 2 IT IS THE FIRST PLANE TO HAVE FLOWN AROUND THE WORLD WITHOUT A STOP
 - 3 THIS IS THE PRIVATE JET OF A FAMOUS FOOTBALLER
 - 4 IT WAS DESTROYED BY THE RUSSIAN ARMY AFTER THE INVASION OF UKRAINE

TRUE OR FALSE: VICTOR HUGO

- Victor Hugo was a well-known politician in his day.

Recognized for his commitment as a writer, he was elected to the Paris Assembly in 1848. Opposed to the authoritarian regime of Napoleon III, he was exiled from 1851 to 1870.
- Hugo claims to talk regularly with spirits.

Ten years after the death of his daughter Léopoldine, Hugo turns to spiritualism and claims to have communicated with hundreds of spirits. It is likely that he was actually suffering from psychosis.
- Victor Hugo's funeral went completely unnoticed.

On the death of Hugo, the government organizes a national funeral, and nearly 2 million people accompany the funeral procession from the Place de l'Étoile to the Panthéon.
- Victor Hugo's greatest struggle was the law on secularism.

Victor Hugo's greatest struggle concerns the abolition of the death penalty. He will fight hard for this abolition, to the point of becoming a real obsession.
- Victor Hugo wrote *Notre-Dame de Paris* because it was there that he was baptized.

At the time, the cathedral is in such bad condition that it is planned to destroy. But thanks to the success of his book, Notre-Dame will benefit from renovation works in 1845.

MIXED WORDS: CASTLES

Chamarande / Courances / Méréville / Dourdan / Courson / Segrez / Villeconin / Montlhéry / Montauger

C	D	M	N	A	D	R	U	O	D	X	V
A	W	O	L	U	O	P	G	P	O	I	D
M	O	N	T	L	H	E	R	Y	L	M	C
U	H	T	V	C	H	Y	O	L	E	H	U
N	U	A	V	U	A	S	E	R	A	F	E
N	N	U	B	B	Z	C	E	M	L	H	R
O	Q	G	F	W	O	V	A	G	E	S	L
S	Z	E	X	N	I	R	O	Z	R	C	Y
R	K	R	I	L	A	Q	W	R	R	E	R
U	E	N	L	N	C	T	G	U	C	V	Z
O	B	E	D	I	P	I	L	J	N	N	O
C	N	E	S	E	C	N	A	R	U	O	C

Thank you for reading
our magazine!

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ÎLE-DE-FRANCE



ESSONNE

EDITION



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