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Besançon is the City of Time.
It has a rich clockmaking and historical past. Besançon clockmakers continue to exercise their craft and art today, and traces of their history can still be seen here and there in the streets of the city. There are also many architectural treasures (Renaissance facades, outdoor staircases, buildings of blue-beige stone) which will delight all heritage and history lovers. Besançon, with its tourist, heritage and clockmaking attractions, has made it into the ranks of the best!

It consistently comes in first, of all the “green” cities of France, thanks to its extensive network of green park areas. Life is good in Besançon and you can feel it in its daily rhythm of special events, festivals and exhibitions.
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all prices are quoted for 2020 and may be modified
ARTISTS

CLAUDINE GOUDIMEL  
(ca 1520–1572)  
Born in Besançon, Goudimel was a musician and a composer who put several of Ronsard’s odes and sonnets to music.

OUSMANE SOW 4  
This sculptor from Senegal created the statue of Victor Hugo for the Refusal of Exclusion and Poverty Day in 2002. It stands in the Rights of Man plaza in Besançon’s city centre. In 2013, Sow sculpted Man and Child for Besançon’s new memorial to the dead at the Memorial Space at Les Glacis Park.

LUC BRETON 5  
(1731–1800)  
Born in Besançon, Breton was a sculptor, who made his career in Italy. He returned to Besançon in 1771 and in 1773, with the Swiss painter Jean Wyrusch, founded the Besançon School of Painting and Sculpting. He is considered to be the best Franche-Comté sculptor of the 18th century. His works in Besançon include The Pieta in Saint Peter’s Church, the Angels in Adoration behind the high altar at Saint John’s Cathedral and the décor of the Fountain of the Ladies at 8 bis, rue Charles Nodier.

WRITERS

GABRIELLE SIDONIE “COLETTE” 1  
(1873–1954)  
Colette was a novelist, journalist and music hall artist. In September 1902, her husband Henry Gauthier-Villars (Willy), descendant of an old Franche-Comté family, bought a house and property at Monts-Boucons. She spent several summers there, using some of her time to write some of her novels. Some titles: Claudine at School, Claudine in Paris, Claudine Married, Seven animal’s conversations

JEAN-CHARLES EMMANUEL NODIER 2  
(1780–1844)  
Nodier was a journalist, writer and leader of the Romantics. He frequently mentioned the charms of his native province in his writings. He was born on April 29th, 1780, in a house — no longer extant — on Victor Hugo Square (site of the current No. 7).

VICTOR HUGO 3  
(1802–1885)  
Due to one of the military postings of his father, then General of the Empire, the Hugo family settled in the Doubs for a time. Hugo was born on February 26th, 1802 in Besançon at No. 104, Grande Rue. He was a poet, playwright and novelist and is considered one of the most important writers of the French language. He was also involved in politics and was an intellectual who played a major role in 19th century history. His birthplace is now a museum, which celebrates his talents and influence. Some of his most well-known novels are: The Miserable, The Hunchback of Notre-Dame, The Last Day of a Condemned Man, The Legend of the Ages.

“|I am one of the paving stones on the road of humanity.”|  
In a letter from Victor Hugo to the people of Besançon, 1880

JENS BOETTCHER 6  
This sculptor, born in Essen, Germany in 1933, came to live in France in 1968. He was appointed professor at the School of Fine Art of Besançon in 1975; he taught there until retirement. He now lives in Barjac in the Gard Department. He created The Minotaur, the huge fountain sculpture in bronze you can see in the river at the Denfert-Rochereau Bridge. The Minotaur is 7m high and weighs 10 tonnes. Another of his sculptures is at Victor Hugo square. The St. Quentin Fountain dates from 1756: it forms the background for Boettcher’s La Source.

GUSTAVE COURBET  
(1819–1877)  
Born on June 10th, 1819 in Ornans, near Besançon, Courbet was a painter and one of the leaders of the Realist School. He is known for the raw realism of his works, in particular, The Origin of the World (1866), which was considered scandalous at the time. Courbet was anticlerical, had anarchistic leanings, was a friend of the socialist theoretician, Pierre-Joseph Proudhon, and one of the elected members of the Paris Commune of 1871. He lived at No. 140, Grande-Rue in Besançon. There is a trompe-l’œil of him at the windows giving onto Victor Hugo Square. He died on 31 December 1877 in La Tour-de-Peilz in Switzerland.

BESANÇON  
FAMOUS PEOPLE

1

2

3

4

5

6
VAUBAN (SÉBASTIEN LE PRESTRE DE VAUBAN) 5
(1633–1707)
Louis XIV owed much to Sébastien Le Prestre de Vauban. From 1668 onwards, as the King’s Engineer, he designed and built the first defence system for France’s land and maritime borders. He studied attack procedures and created a method of siege that was used for 2 centuries. He provided the brilliant strategic and military advice that was largely responsible for the destruction of the Besançon (and Franche-Comté) forces, both in 1668 and in 1674. After the conquest in 1668, he designed the plans for the Citadel. And then, with the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, Franche-Comté was returned to the Spaniards, who continued to build according to his plans. From 1674 to 1688, he continued building and reinforcing the Citadel. From 1689 to 1695, he reinforced Fort Griffon, Besançon’s “second Citadel”, and rebuilt strong defensive bastions around the Loop. As garrison for the troops, barracks were built: another innovative idea.

SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS

AUGUSTE AND LOUIS LUMIÈRE 6
(1862–1954) (1864–1948)
The Lumière brothers were the inventors of the technology and the commercial exploitation of cinematography. They also made significant improvements to photography. They were born at No. 1, Saint Quentin Square (now Victor Hugo Square). There is a sculpture illustrating a scene from their film, The Sprinkler Sprinkled, done by Pascal Coupot in the courtyard of the Pierre Bayle Centre, rue de la République, in the city centre.

PASCAL COUPOT 7
Born in 1960 in Haute-Saône (Franche-Comté), Coupot followed artistic training at the Regional College of Fine Arts in Besançon. He describes himself as largely self-taught.

“If Louis XIV had listened to him, Vauban would have in many ways forestalled the Revolution.”

Adolphe Thiers, 2nd president of the French Republic

MILITARY AND POLITICAL PEOPLE

CHARLES FOURIER 1
(1772–1837)
After working in trade and banking, Charles Fourier, philosopher and utopian economist, designed plans for a harmoniously built city, a Phalansère (Phalanstery), whose citizens would find personal and professional fulfilment in their work. This economic, social and human reform project aimed at ensuring an ideal life for mankind, but attempts to bring this to fruition failed. Fourier was born in a 16th century house, today Nos. 81 and 83, Grande Rue.

LOUIS XIV
(1638–1715)
In 1674, Louis XIV conquered Besançon for the second and final time. It remained the capital of the province. On June 16th, 1683, he, Queen Maria Theresa and the dauphin arrived in the city and spent several days with the governor at Granvelle Palace.

NICOLAS PERRENOT DE GRANVELLE 2
(1486–1550)
De Granvelle was a lawyer, who became the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V’s First Advisor in 1524. He built the Granvelle Palace in Besançon.

ANTOINE PERRENOT DE GRANVELLE 3
(1517–1586)
Son of Nicolas, Antoine de Granvelle became a cardinal and succeeded his father in service to the Hapsburgs. He was a great statesman, patron of the arts and a collector. He added to art and literature collections begun by his father and thanks to him, the Besançon Municipal Library has a formidable collection.

PIERRE-JOSEPH PROUDHON 4
(1809–1865)
Born on January 15th, 1809 in Besançon at No. 23, rue du Petit-Battant, Pierre-Joseph Proudhon was the author of internationally recognised socialist theories. A sculpture honouring him stands in Sarrail Square. His letters are archived at the Besançon Municipal Library.
CLAUDE-NICOLAS LEDOUX (1736–1806)
A visionary architect from the Age of Enlightenment, Ledoux’s work was the precursor to functional architecture. He designed the Municipal Theatre, built between 1778 and 1784 by Claude-Joseph Bertrand. It was a totally new concept of design for the times. Ledoux created the auditorium in the form of an amphitheatre, got rid of the boxes, gave the parterre audience seats and created the first orchestra pit in the world, a century before Bayreuth. The auditorium was destroyed by fire in 1958, and it was renovated in 1994 in a contemporary style. He also designed the Royal Saltworks at Arc-et-Senans.

HUGUES SAMBIN (ca 1520–1601)
Born in Gray, Sambin was a Renaissance man; he was an architect, decorator, carpenter, engineer and designer. He designed the facade of the former Town Hall, which is today the Courthouse.

LOUIS PASTEUR (1822–1895)
Born in Dole, Pasteur spent his childhood in Arbois. While he studied in Besançon for his baccalaureates, he worked as a teaching assistant at the Royal Grammar School (today, the Victor Hugo Secondary School, 8, rue du Lycée) from 1839–1842. He was very interested in drawing with pastels and did the portrait of the head teacher. You can see a trompe-l’œil of him on one of the houses on Pasteur Square (No. 5). Jean-Joseph, his father, born at No. 53, rue d’Arènes in Besançon, was a tanner. (The house was rebuilt in the 19th century). Pasteur’s birthplace in Dole and his home and laboratory in Arbois are open to the public.

CLAUDE FRANÇOIS DOROTHÉE, MARQUIS DE JOUFFROY D’ABBANS (1751–1832)
The Marquis Jouffroy d’Abbans was a naval engineer who built the first steamboat, using the improved steam-driven machine by James Watt. His Pyroscaphe sailed on the Doubs in 1776. There are 2 statues erected to his memory: one on the Helvétie Promenade and the other at the Battant Bridge, cast in bronze in 1998 by Pascal Coupot.

ARCHITECTS

RENÉ TOURNIER (1899–1977)
Tournier came from the Jura, and was an architect for civilian buildings and historic monuments, an art historian and writer. He came to Besançon in the 1930s after getting his diploma from the College of Fine Arts in Paris. In 1929, he won the competition for the university halls of residence which line Vieil Picard Quai: one of the first in France. He also designed the Notre-Dame Liberation Monument at la Chapelle des Buis, a village which overlooks Besançon.

MICHEL DEMENGE
Demenge is an architect from Besançon: he designed the former Besançon Visitor and Convention Information Centre, situated in Micaud Park. The building is integrated seamlessly into the park and melts into the greenery because of its lightness and transparency.

KENGO KUMA
Born in 1954 in Japan, Kuma is a world-renowned architect. His goal in his structures is to reinterpret Japanese tradition in 21st century terms, putting nature at the centre of his works. He designed and built the Centre of the Arts, inaugurated in 2013.

“Architecture is to masonry what poetry is to literature.”
Claude-Nicolas Ledoux
FROM VESONTIO TO BESANÇON

A historically fascinating city, Besançon is on the UNESCO World Heritage List because of its Vauban fortifications. Located in an exceptional natural setting, Besançon has a rich and diverse past.

A proud city of a Gallic people, the Sequanes, it became Gallo-Roman under Julius Caesar, and was, for a long time, a free and imperial city, functioning as a small republic. After it was conquered by Louis XIV, Vauban constructed strong defensive bastions on its high, surrounding hills, making it impregnable. It became the new capital of Franche-Comté.

Here, history greets you at every turn on your walks, and Gallo-Roman archaeological remains, Renaissance palaces, bastioned fortifications and private mansions with classical facades prepare to delight you.

Besançon is also the birthplace of many writers, artists and philosophers. Victor Hugo, Charles Nodier, Auguste and Louis Lumière, and Pierre-Joseph Proudhon have contributed strikingly to the prestige of Besançon.

IDEAS AND MEN

THEY MADE FILMS!

Auguste and Louis Lumière, physicists and DIY enthusiasts, filed more than 193 patents. They were born in Besançon, in Victor Hugo Square; they are the inventors of cinematography and made significant contributions to the development of photography.

FRENCH LITERATURE CHANGED FOREVER

Besançon, capital of Franche-Comté, is proud to be the birthplace of Victor Hugo (1802-1885). Hugo was a playwright, poet, writer and intellectual. Through his personal life, by the quality of his work, his fight against poverty and commitment to the freedom of mankind, Hugo brought French literature to its apogee. In Besançon, two schools are named after him and there are two statues which pay him homage.

STEAMBOATS

The Marquis Jouffroy d’Abbans was a naval architect and engineer, and constructed the first steamboats.

SOCIOLOGY AT WORK

Pierre-Joseph Proudhon, philosopher and sociologist, was born in Besançon. He is one of the main theorists of French socialism and was the father of the Mutualist Movement and a pacifist. He was an activist for social revolution through peaceful means and not class struggle, putting him in opposition with Karl Marx.

ARCHITECTURAL ORIGINALS

OUTSIDE STAIRCASES

All the courtyards in the old town have one! Spiral or straight flight, these staircases are mostly in stone, decorated with wrought iron to the first floor and then wood balusters for the upper rental floors. The outside stairs in the inner courtyards are specific to the urban architecture of Besançon.

TIME AND Sundials

In the City of Time, many building facades are decorated by sundials. These sundials show the sun’s movements in the morning or the afternoon and are perfect examples of the rigorous expertise of the artisans who created them.

THAT PALE BLUE-BEIGE LOCAL STONE

The city centre owes its sense of harmony to both its architectural unity and to the stone used for its buildings. This stone, called Chailluz stone (from the old quarries in Chailluz Forest) is a limestone of blue and ochre tones, lending a soft light to the old town.

OUT-OF-THE-ORDINARY THINGS

THE MOST COMPLEX WATCH IN THE WORLD

This watch, the Leroy 01, manufactured between 1900 and 1904, is one of the jewels of the collection at the Museum of Time. It is a showcase of mechanical knowledge: it performs 24 complications besides indicating the seconds (as a unity of measure): a record that is still unbeaten!

TELL TIME DIFFERENTLY AT SAINT MADELEINE’S CHURCH

This church, a splendid example of the beauty of Neo-classical architecture, has an astonishing sundial, which is a large noon mark sundial whose hour lines are carved into the paving stones in the church.

“Plût à Dieu”

THE MOTTO OF BESANÇON

Or UTINAM (in Latin) is the official motto of Besançon. It was a favorite expression of Holy Roman Emperor Charles V, and it means “God Willing”. It is carved above the fountain at Jean Cornet Square.
Besançon was established on an exceptional site that has marked its destiny. The old town nestles in a loop of the Doubs River, surrounded by hills and dominated by the rocky outcrop upon which stands the impressive citadel, designed by Sébastien Le Prestre, Maréchal de Vauban.

In 2008, Besançon, along with the 11 other network member cities, became a UNESCO World Heritage Site. There are, in all, 18 key fortification sites in Besançon.

1 TOUR NOTRE-DAME
Notre Dame Tower - This mediaeval tower was part of the fortified entryway called Notre Dame Gate. It allowed access to Besançon from the South. Vauban had the gate dismantled and then had it rebuilt nearer the bank of the Doubs, adding a bastion in 1691.

2 BASTION DE LA VILLE
City Bastion - This defence structure once encircled the old mill.

3 TOUR BASTIONNÉE DE CHAMARS
Chamars Bastioned Tower - This bastioned tower was built by Vauban between 1688 and 1695 and, except for some modifications made around 1840, is still largely intact.

4 TOUR DU MARAIS
Marais Tower - In the 19th century, an extension to the Tower was removed and an outside staircase was added.

5 BASTION DE L’ARCHEVÈQUE
The Archbishop’s Bastion - This bastion encircled the mill belonging to the Archbishop of Besançon until the 18th century.

6 TOUR DES CORDELIERS
Cordeliers Tower - In the 19th century, a part of the tower was removed and an outside staircase was added.

7 QUAI VABAUN
Vauban Embankment - Designed by the engineer Robelin, the Quai Vauban was built between 1690 and 1695. Its only defence structures are at its ends: the Cordeliers, Poitune, the Holy Spirit casemates. The Battant casemate no longer exists. This harmonious architectural ensemble, set back from the embankment, was what Jean-Jacques Rousseau saw in 1733 when he came to Besançon.

8 BASTION DU MOULIN SAINT-PAUL
Saint Paul’s Mill Bastion - This bastion originally encircled a mill belonging to Saint Paul’s Abbey and in the 19th century it was leased to a professional miller who supplied the garrison with bread.

9 TOUR BASTIONNÉE DE BREGILLE
Bregille Bastioned Tower - In the 19th century, one part was removed; in the early 20th century it became a dovecote for the military.

10 TOUR BASTIONNÉE DE RIVOTTE
Rivotte Bastioned Tower - At one time, it was connected to the Rivotte Gate by a defensive wall with a gun gallery to defend the perimeters of the gate.

11 PORTE RIVOTTE
Rivotte Gate - This is one of the gates into the old town of Besançon. It dates from medieval times and had a drawbridge to guard the road to Switzerland via Pontarlier. It was renovated in 1546 under Emperor Charles V, and other changes were made in the 17th century. Vauban reworked the central portion, giving it a protruding avant-corps. On the upper part, you can see the coat of arms of France, with the Royal Sun symbol above it.

12 PORTE TAILLÉE
The Stone-cut Gate - This gate dates from medieval times. The tower was redesigned by Charles V and again in the 17th century by Vauban, who added a guardhouse. Modifications made in the 19th century can be seen in the passage above the vault when you come from the South.

13 + 14 FORTIFICATIONS DE BATTANT
Battant Fortifications - The Arenas and Charmont Gates, which were identical, no longer exist. Only the guardhouses remain on either side.

15 FORT GRIFFON
Built by Vauban between 1680 and 1695, it is the second citadel of Besançon. It protected the area outside the city walls and watched over the newly conquered city.

16 PORTE BATTANT
Battant Gate - This gate was demolished in 1872 and rebuilt in 1873 with two entries and a new guardhouse. In 1957 it was demolished, but the guardhouse is still there.

17 BASTION DE BATTANT
Battant Bastion - This bastion is intact. Montmart Tower was built in medieval times and was kept by Vauban and used as a powder magazine.

18 TOUR DE LA PELOTE
Pelote Tower - Vauban kept this medieval tower; he built a bastion around it, defending the eastern end of the fortification.
VAUBAN FORTIFICATIONS: UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE

One visit won’t be enough!

The Besançon Citadel, a Vauban masterpiece, is one of the most beautiful citadels in France.

Towering more than 100 metres over the old town which is enclosed in the loop of the Doubs River, it offers spectacular panoramas from its ramparts. The Citadel is an important cultural and tourist centre and it makes heritage come alive for all who visit.

Besides the beautifully restored architectural ensemble of 11 hectares, the Citadel is home to three Museums of France, all of which offer exciting tours.

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www.citadelle.com

MULTIMEDIA IMMERSION SHOW
Experience a total immersion into the past. This show takes you through time and space to explore the moments that have marked the history of Besançon and the Citadel.

It is all in Saint Stephen’s Chapel at the Citadel, where the walls, the chancler and the vaulted ceiling become huge expanses of historical image and sound: exciting episodes of history are related for your eyes and ears. In 15 minutes, experience key events of the Citadel’s past that will make the rest of your visit that much richer.

MUSEUM
The museum demonstrates biodiversity and helps preserve endangered species in its Zoological Garden, Aquarium, Insectarium, Noctarium and a small farm. Nowhere else in France can you find a place with so many species of animals on the same site.

MUSEUM OF FRANCHE-COMTÉ
This museum is all about Franche-Comté. You will see exhibits on many of its traditions (clothing, tools...).

THE RESISTANCE AND DEPORTATION MUSEUM
The Museum is closed for renovation.

CHOOSE YOUR TOUR...

The Citadel offers a number of different tours, depending on what you want to see and the time you have available. Unguided tour (explore the site, the museums and animal areas on your own). Actor-accompanied tour (An actor will accompany you, combining performance with history). Interactive tours (accompanied by a multilingual audioguide (French/English/German). Guided tour (French/English/German). Children’s tour (a booklet for children provided for the 7-11 year-olds).

Let the app Ma Citadelle (6 languages :F/E/G/I/S/D) be your guide as you discover the Citadel. It’s interactive and fun! Circuit around the Museum and investigation game for family tours.

A REALLY DIFFERENT TOUR
Guided tour only.
Go into one of the Citadel tunnels, dug into the earth, that was used for troop movement within the Citadel; it was especially useful for protection during an attack.

PLAYS, CONCERTS, EXHIBITIONS, SHOWS...
The Citadel is a place where culture comes alive. All year long, things are happening!

For more details, visit www.citadelle.com
CITADEL

Recommended length of visit at the Citadel: at least one half-day on your own, and at least 2 hours for a Discovery Day.

ACCESS

From the Besançon city centre.

Parking your car in the city-centre at Chamars car park and from there, take the bus marked Chamars-Citadelle.

Bus line Chamars-Citadelle daily from April to October

For more information www.ginko.voyage

Low season: Up near the Citadel

Follow the “Citadelle” signs from the city centre. There is a car park up near the entrance. The number of places is very limited.

Board the Little Tourist Train in the Rivotte quartier! On your way to the Citadel, you’ll go through the city-centre: the commentary will give you a glimpse into Besançon’s history.


OPENING PERIODS

From February to December, every day except 25 Dec., 1st Jan.

OPENING HOURS

Low season from February 22th till 29 March : 10am to 5pm
Mid season from 30 March till July 3th : 9am to 6pm
High season from July 4th till August 30th : 9am to 7pm
Mid season from August 31th till October 24th from 9am to 6pm
Low season from 25th October till December 31st : from 10am to 5pm

PRICES

Adults 10,90 €
Adults during Low season: (25th October to 29 March), 8,80 €
Students, apprentices, job seekers 8,80 €
Disabled and carer free entrance

Children:
Under 4 Free entrance
From 4 to 7 5,10 €
From 8 to 17 8,80 €
Family day pass (2 adults + any number of children) = 33 €

EATING FACILITIES

Brasserie-restaurant ‘Le Grand Couvert’ and snack bar ‘La Taverne’: open seasonally. Please contact beforehand.

PORTE NOIRE

The Black Gate

This Roman triumphal arch was erected around 175 CE, during the reign of Marcus Aurelius, at the southern entrance to the city, where the road from Italy became a major north-south crossroads. The original architecture and sculptures are basically intact.

Its proportions were uncommonly high. It has lost 3 metres in height, since its foundation is buried more than a metre underneath the modern road, and its attic, which supported the imperial statue at the top, is missing. In Roman times, the arch stood on its own, and its short sides, now hidden by the Archdiocese and the Rectorat (local education authority) were entirely decorated with images, such as those on the facades, drawn from mythology and religion. There are only a few scenes of war, which can be seen in the passage. Thus the arch, a part of local history, transmits a political message via philosophy and the analogy made between the worlds of the gods and human beings.

At the time of the Later Roman Empire, when danger threatened and inhabitants had to flee to the slopes of the hill, the arch became a town gate, defending the town. Neglected for centuries, the arch was saved from destruction by P. Marnotte in the 19th century. Thanks to its recent restoration, its original elegance can be appreciated once more.

GALLO-ROMAN MOSAICS

Julius Caesar wrote of Besançon (Vesontio in those days) in his “Commentary on the Gallic War”, calling it “oppidum Sequani” (town of the Sequanes). His strategist’s mentality was attracted to the site where the Sequanes had built their town for its superior strategic possibilities. The town, protected by its ramparts, occupied the entire loop where neighbourhoods were set up. Its streets were lined with wood frame buildings.

When Vesontio became an administrative town under Roman rule, it changed. Affluent neighbourhoods and open squares were marked by masonry architecture, richly decorated with sculptures, frescoes and mosaics. The mosaics were discovered by chance during the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries; today archaeological excavations are programmed whenever construction requires digging.

The mosaics discovered over the last 30 years have been restored, and either preserved in museums or replaced at, or nearby, the site where they were discovered. If you go to the corner of the rue d’Alsace and rue de Lorraine, you will see a beautiful mosaic under glass in front of the Lumière Middle School, right in the heart of Besançon! It has a geometric design and dates from the 2nd century CE.
BIRTHPLACE OF VICTOR HUGO

The house where Victor Hugo was born is on the same square where Charles Nodier and the Lumière brothers were born and where Gustave Courbet lived. Its doors were opened to the public in 2013.

Hugo’s battles and his commitments come alive through sets designed with the latest technology. No. 140, Grande Rue is the place to learn about and reflect upon the extraordinary heritage, both literary and political, that he left for us. Objets d’art, some of them major, and some that belonged to him, are also on display. Ten years after the celebration of the bicentenary of his birth, the City of Besançon now has a permanent tribute to Victor Hugo.

For more information
Maison Victor Hugo
140, Grande Rue
maisonvictorhugo.besancon.fr

OPENING HOURS
Every day except on Tues.
From the 1st Apr. to the 31th of Oct. 10.30 am to 6 pm
From the 1st of Nov. to the 31th of March 10.30 to 5.30 pm
During school holidays and on the week-end 10.30 to 6 pm

PRICES
Full price 2.50 €
Reduced price 1.50 €
Free entrance under 18 years and every Sunday and bank holidays for all the visitors.

Guided tours with audio guide are available (in French, English and German).

Combined tickets with the Museum of Fine Arts and Archaeology:
Full price 8 €
Reduced price 4 €

Obtained the «Qualité Tourisme» label

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS AND ARCHAEOLOGY

After a four-year closing to carry out renovation work, the Besançon Museum has reopened its doors in the heart of the city.

The expanded spaces, new showcasing of two existing architectures (Pierre Marnotte, 1842 and Louis Miquel, 1970) and importance given to incoming daylight by the firm Architectures A. Scaranello, offer visitors the opportunity to truly rediscover the site and its collections.

Part of the French and international cultural landscape, the oldest public collection in France, born in 1694, can take pride in the breadth and depth of its collections. In addition to the international renown of its European graphic arts collection (more than 6,000 drawings), it also boasts significant archaeological holdings (Egyptian, Mediterranean and regional collections), numerous sculptures, ceramics, goldsmiths’ pieces and an exceptional collection of paintings representative of the main currents of Western art history from the end of the 15th to the 20th century.

OPENING HOURS
From 1st. Nov to 31th March (except during school holidays): Mon., Wed., Thu., Fri. from 2 pm to 6 pm
From 1st. Apr to 31st Oct., Wed., Thu. Fri., 10 am to 12:30 and 2 pm to 6 pm
Every day except on Tues.
All year on Saturdays and Sundays from 10 am to 6 pm.

PRICES
Combined tickets with the Museum of Fine Arts and Archaeology:
Full price 8 €
Reduced price 4 €
Free entrance on first Sun. of the month.
Free guided tour every Sun. at 3 pm

For more information
1, place de la Révolution
www.mbaa.besancon.fr

MUSEUM OF TIME

Granvelle Palace is a beautiful example of Renaissance architecture in Franche-Comté. It was restored (1988-2002) so that it could house the Museum of Time, which combines Besançon history, science and clockmaking. Time, which encompasses history and clockmaking, is the link that connects the rooms on your tour. From the collection of Abbot Boisot in the 17th century, to the historical one of time measurement objects, to the collections of clocks reflecting Besançon as the capital of watchmaking... your tour presents time from the broadest sense, to its most technical and scientific, to its most universal and poetical.

OPENING HOURS
Every day except on Mon.
From 1st. Nov to 31th March (except during school holidays): from Tues. to Fri. from 2 to 6 pm
From 1st. Apr to 31st October, and during school holidays: from Tuesday to Friday from 10 to 12:30 am and from 2 to 6 pm.
All year on Saturdays and Sundays from 10 am to 6 pm.

PRICES
Combined tickets with the Museum of Fine Arts and Archaeology:
Full price 8 €
Reduced price 4 €

For more information
Palais Granvelle - 96, Grande Rue
www.mdt.besancon.fr
ARCHITECTURAL AND HERITAGE INTERPRETATION CENTRE (CIAP)

The CIAP’s purpose is to give Besançon residents and visitors an understanding and appreciation of the heritage and identity of the city (its urban changes, its history, its people, its architectural features...). There is a permanent exhibition at the Town Hall. Discover the architecture and heritage of Besançon. Watch some films on the history, from the times of the Gauls and the Romans until today.

THE ASTRONOMICAL CLOCK AND SAINT JOHN’S CATHEDRAL

The Astronomical Clock was classified an historic monument in 1991. It was designed and built (1858 to 1860) by the master watchmaker, Auguste-Lucien Vérité. It has its own special room in the lower part of St. John’s bell tower, and one of its functions is to operate the outside and inside clocks of the cathedral and those in 2 Comtois bell towers. The upper part of the clock displays automatons. They come alive every hour and perform scenes inspired by the Catholic Bible.

OPENING HOURS
Every day except on Tues.
from the 1st Apr. to 30 Sep.
Every day except on Tues. and Wed.
from the 1st Oct. to 31 March
Guided tour: 9:50 am, 10:50 am, 11:50 am, 1:50 pm, 2:50 pm, 3:50 pm

PRICES
Full price 3,50 €
Reduced price 3,30 €
Free under 18 years and for persons from UE, disabled, on each first Sunday of the month.

GPS N 47°14.016’ E 006°01.849’
St. John’s Cathedral - Rue du Chapitre
www.horloge-astronomique-besancon.fr

THE FRAC

The Franche-Comté FRAC is a unique venue created to introduce audiences to contemporary artistic creation. It is intended as a place where people from all walks of life can meet and interact. The Frac is located in the Cité des Arts, a building created by architect Kengo Kuma, with the agency Archidev (Hervé Limouzin and Séverine Fagnoni) and landscape architect Jean-Marc L’Anton. The building, with its personable feel and soft, luminous aesthetic, was designed to facilitate visitors’ first experience of the works, as they amble through the spaces. They are offered an ever-changing range of programming, with an ambitious mix of temporary exhibitions and multidisciplinary cultural offers.

The programming is built around the Frac’s collections, rich with 626 works by 316 artists, giving prime status since 2006 to works that take on the vast question of Time, an issue chosen for its permanence in the history of art, its latest news and its anchoring in regional history.

OPENING HOURS
Closed on Mon. and thu.
From Wed. to Fri. 2 pm to 6 pm
On Sat. and Sun. 2 pm to 7 pm
Closed 1st Jan., 1st May, 24, 25 and 31 Dec. and during the (dis)assembly of exhibitions

PRICES
Full price 4 €
Reduced Price 2 €
Free under 18 years and on Sunday

BESANÇON AS TIME GOES BY

BESANCON OBSERVATORY

The observatory opened on August 5th, 1885; it celebrated its 130th anniversary in 2015.

It was originally designed to be a chronometric, astronomical and weather observatory. Adapting to the times, chronometry gave way to time-frequency analysis and astronomy to astrophysics. The observatory and its grounds were classified as an historical monument on 3 May 2012.

SUNDIALS

“‘The sun lies; the clock tells the truth’ was the watchmakers’ motto. The Besançon sundials testify to this.

The vertical noon mark sundial at the Town Hall, made in 1786, uses the sun’s movement in the morning. It is a perforated disc supported by three legs, and it gives the local time according to the sun from 10.00 am to 12.30 pm. Sundials often have sayings engraved on them, which give food for thought. Something functional has a philosophical or moral message. “Gaudium et luctum fero” (I bring joy and pain), the inscription on this sundial, is a good example.
ÉGLISE SAINT-PIERRE
Saint Peter’s Church
Place du 8 Septembre
In 1780 the architect C.J. Bertrand presented the plans for a new church in a royal square in the heart of the city. The church, in the shape of a Greek cross, was built between 1782 and 1786. The French Revolution interrupted the completion of the project.

The painting *The Resurrection of Lazarus* by Martin de Vos, 1580, from the Granvelle collection, and *The Pieta*, a group sculpted by Luc Breton, 1787.

BASILIQUE DES SAINT-FERRÉOL ET SAINT-FERJEAUX
Basilica
Rue de la Basilique
The basilica, begun 1884 and finished in 1901, is the work of architect Alfred Ducat, with the collaboration of artists of the late 19th century. It contains many Besançon and Franche-Comté works of art.

CHAPELLE NOTRE-DAME DU REFUGE
Our Lady of Refuge Chapel
18, rue de l’Orme de Chamars
The chapel, begun in 1739 and completed in 1745, is the work of the Besançon architect Nicolas Nicole. It was initially part of the Convent of Refuge and was annexed to St. Jacques Hospital in 1802.

ÉGLISE DE LA MADELEINE ET LE JACQUEMART
Saint Madeleine’s Church and the Jacquemart
Rue de la Madeleine
(right bank of the Battant Bridge)
Saint Madeleine’s Church is the magnum opus of architect Nicolas Nicole. Work on it began in 1746 and continued for the rest of the century. The two towers were completed in 1830. The church is divided into three naves, harmoniously proportioned by paired columns, standing on imposing stylobates. The architectural unity makes this church a model of Neo-classical architecture.

A *jacquemart* is a special antique automaton sculpted in wood or metal whose job is to tell the time by striking a bell with a hammer.

CATHÉDRALE SAINT-JEAN
Saint John’s Cathedral
10, rue de la Convention
Construction was begun in the 12th century (the pillars and large Romanesque arches of the nave) and completed in the 13th century (cross-ribbed vaults), according to an unusual plan, which featured two opposing apses.

From the end of the 17th century until the Revolution, *the Holy Shroud of Besançon*, a relic venerated throughout region, was kept in the Holy Shroud apse. The decoration of the apse, baroque-inspired, is, today, the background for an iconographic ensemble of paintings and sculptures, representing the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. There are paintings by J.F. Detroy, Natoire and Vanloo, *The Madonna with Saints*, a masterpiece of the Italian Renaissance by the Florentine Fra Bartolomeo (1512), and the tomb of Ferry Carondelet (1543).

SYNAGOGUE
Quai de Strasbourg
Of all the synagogues built in the east of France under the Second Empire, this is one of the most markedly influenced by the Middle Eastern style of architecture.

GALERIE DU SAINT-ESPRIT
Holy Spirit Gallery
1, rue Goudimel
Established in Besançon in 1203, the Hospitaller Order of the Holy Spirit began the construction of a chapel and hospital buildings as of 1207, thanks to the generosity of Jean de Montferrand. Their main mission was the reception and care of the sick, the poor, pilgrims and abandoned children. Over the centuries architectural changes were made on the buildings and in the chapel, and a tower was built in the 15th century. Later, a gallery was built, carved in wood. Its decor is a harmonious blend of Medieval and Renaissance styles.
INTERIOR COURTYARDS AND SPLENDID STAIRCASES

In the heart of the city, mansions and bourgeois homes line the main streets. The high rocky crags of the Citadel and the loop of the Doubs River which surrounds the old town were constraints the builders of the past had to deal with. Building space was limited, which is why the houses in Besançon were built on narrow but long parcels.

BUILDINGS, mansions and rentals, were separated by courtyards or indoor gardens. To gain space, the stairs were built outside, affixed to the party walls. Flights were coupled to serve two main buildings. Most staircases were made of stone, and decorated with wrought iron up to the first floor; wood balusters were used for the upper rental floors. The outside stairs in the inner courtyards are distinctive to the city centre of Besançon.

CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE

PALAIS DE JUSTICE

The Courthouse
1, rue Mégevand
The modern section of this courthouse was designed by Henri Gaudin. The preserved old section, entrance at Hugues Sambin Street, houses the Court of Appeal.

IN MEMORIAM

Glacis Park
The monument to the dead was moved to Glacis Park where a new memorial site has been created that honours soldiers who died for France. We offer a guided tour for the sculptures from the old war memorial and the contemporary creation by Ousmane Sow: Man and Child.

DELTA DU DOUBS

At the Neuchâtel Roundabout and the Huddersfield-Kirklees Roundabout (at each end of the Citadel Tunnel), you can see half of one huge sculpture. Created by the artist François Morelet, it was erected in 1996, to commemorate the drilling of the tunnel under the Citadel.

LA CITY

Rue Gabriel Plançon
Both a business centre and a communication hub, La City, designed by the architectural firm Studio, symbolises Besançon’s commitment to state-of-the-art technologies.

THE HISTORIC PAVILION OF THE CONVENTION AND TOURISM BUREAU

Place de la 1ère Armée Française
The centre is located in Micaud Park, and is the work of Besançon architect Michel Demenge. It is integrated seamlessly into the park and melts into the greenery because of its lightness and transparency.

LA RODIA

4, avenue de Chardonnet
La Rodia, built on stilts, is located near the city centre of Besançon. It was designed by the architecture firm of Denu et Paradon.

THE CENTRE OF THE ARTS

12, avenue Arthur Gaulard
It was designed by the Japanese architect Kengo Kuma, whose design symbolises “the place where nature and the city meet, where inhabitants and river banks meet and where people meet with culture in its multiple forms.”
**MANSIONS**

“Hôtel particulier”, shortened to “hôtel”, in this section, is a mansion.

**HÔTEL DU CHAMBRIER
11, rue de la Convention**
This mansion, with a mediaeval past and rebuilt in the 18th century by François Gaspard de Grammont, Bishop of Arethusa and suffragan to the Archbishop of Besançon, today houses the Regional Council.

**HÔTEL DU BOUTEILLER
2, rue des Granges**
This mansion was built in 1582 by Claude de Jouffroy, Lord Marchaux. Its facade is decorated similarly to the Courthouse, built at the same time. Some sentences engraved on the facade, such as “Do not wish for praise: be worthy of it.”

**HÔTEL GAUTHIOT D’ANCIER
15, Grande Rue**
This mansion was built in the early 16th century by Simon Gauthiot d’Ancier, co-governor of Besançon and rival of Nicolas de Granvelle. The facade on Grande Rue, with its ogee-arched bay windows, is Late Gothic. It was in this house that Simon Gauthiot d’Ancier hosted the Supreme Commander of the French Armies, Charles III, Duke of Bourbon, who offered his services to the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V.

**HÔTEL DE TERRIER-SANTANS
68, Grande Rue**

**HÔTEL DE COURBOUZON
20, rue Chifflet**

**HÔTEL BOITOUSET
5, rue de la Convention**
This mansion was built in the second half of the 18th century for Canon Boitouset, and is today the residence of the Archbishop of Besançon.

**BESANÇON FOUNTAINS**

**FONTAINE BACCHUS
Rue Battant**
The very name of this fountain commemorates not only the wine industry which existed in the Battant section of Besançon, but also the existence of an old fountain decorated with a stone Bacchus, sculpted by Claude Lullier in 1579. Alphonse Delacroix, a city architect, designed the present fountain in 1854. He also designed the impressive Arcier aqueduct in 1850. To celebrate the arrival of the water supply from Arcier, the city voted to create three new fountains, one of which was the Bacchus Fountain.

**LE MINOTAURE**
This modern fountain, The Minotaur, built near the Robert Schwint Bridge, is right in the middle of the river. It was designed by the Besançon artist Jens Boettcher and is 7 m high, in bronze. Boettcher also designed the statue, La Source, which stands in the basin of Saint Quentin’s Fountain.

**FONTAINE DES DAMES
Fountain of the Ladies
Rue Charles Nodier**
This fountain, in its stone niche at a corner of the Prefecture, was created in 1785 after the designs by architect Claude Joseph Bertrand. It was decorated by the sculptor Luc Breton. Against a background of stone, treated to resemble limestone formations, two intertwined dolphins support a shell: a lovely setting for a little bronze mermaid. Claude Lullier sculpted the little mermaid, who first graced the courtyard of Granvelle Palace in the 16th century.

**FONTAINE DE LA PLACE JEAN CORNET**
The Jean Cornet Square Fountain
This monumental fountain, which is at an intersection, was sculpted by Albert Pasche in 1900, after the designs by the architect E-B St. Ginest. It replaced a fountain which was built in 1740 and destroyed during the Revolution. “Utinam”, the inscription engraved under the pediment, is the motto of Besançon, in Latin. On other monuments, this motto appears in French “Plût à dieu” (“God Willing”).

**LA SOURCE**
This fountain is at Place Victor Hugo (Victor Hugo Square): its background and lighting enhance its presence.

**L’ARROSEUR ARROSÉ**
The Tables Turned on the Gardener or The Sprinkler Sprinkled
Rue de la République, Centre Pierre Bayle
This sculpture, by Pascal Coupot, pays tribute to the Lumière brothers. It depicts a scene from their film, Tables Turned on the Gardener. It was the first fiction film and what may be the first sight gag in cinema history.

“In 1559, the spring in the small Bregille valley was harnessed to feed six fountains in the heart of the city, and from 1560 to 1580, the Franche-Comté sculptor Claude Lullier, commissioned by the city, decorated each of them. In a niche, the Fontaine des Carmes with its stone basin embellished by a sculpted Neptune astride a dolphin is a testimonial to his talent.”

“Do not wish for praise: be worthy of it.”
Other ways to discover the charm of our city and our river: sightseeing boat rides or small rental boats, with or without a driver..., they will take you, moving with the current, to a waterfall, a lock or a tunnel...

**VEDETTES DE BESANÇON**
**BOAT LE BATTANT**

Take the Loop of the Doubs Cruise, passing through locks and through the Citadel Tunnel. Learn about Besançon during the live commentary. Length of tour: **about 1 hour and 15 min.**
Departure from the Pont de la République (Republic Bridge)
www.vedettesdebesancon.com
Christmas Cruise (reserve at the Visitor and Convention Information Centre).

**DEPARTURE TIMES**
Daily in July and August: 10am, 11:15am *, 2:15pm, 3:30pm, 4:45pm and 6pm **.
From April to June, and from Sep. to Okt., 2:15pm and 3:30pm (+4.45pm on weekend and bank holiday).

**PRICES**
Full price 13 €
Children (from 4 to 16 years) 10 €
* cancellation in case of a meal cruise - updating on the website.
** only with reservation

**BATEAU DE BESANÇON**
**BOAT LE VAUBAN**

Discover Besançon differently! Our boat, **Le Vauban**, takes you all around the Loop of the Doubs. You pass through two locks and through the impressive, 375-metre-long underground canal, dug under the Citadel. From the boat, you have a stunning view of the Vauban fortifications and the Citadel (both are on the UNESCO World Heritage List).

Take **Le Vauban** for a dinner cruise, or as a venue for your corporate seminars, weddings, parties with shows.

Departure from the Pont de la République (Republic Bridge)
info@visitezbesancon.com
www.visitezbesancon.com

**DEPARTURE TIMES**
For **individuals**, scheduled departures in season: for precise times, go to visitezbesancon.com
For **groups**, daily (except in winter), reservation necessary

**PRICES**
Full price 13 €
Children (from 4 to 16 years) 10 €
Combined ticket
Boat + Little Tourist train 19,50 € and 14,50 € children

**MONSIEUR CANAL**

**Lock 56 at Thoraize**: a river tunnel with magical lightworks! Created by Jeppe Hein (artist) and Olivier Vadrot (architect/design).

At Villers-le-Lac, visit the river basins and the Falls of the Doubs River (le Saut du Doubs) by boat.

**CNFS VEDETTES PANORAMIQUES DU SAUT DU DOUBS**
2, place Maxime Cupillard
25130 Villers-le-Lac
www.vedettes-panoramiques.com

**BATEAUX DU SAUT DU DOUBS**
DROZ-BARTHOLET COMPANY
Les Terres-rouges
25130 Villers-le-Lac
www.sautdudoubs.fr

CNFS Vedettes Panoramiques and Bateaux du Saut du Doubs provide cruises with and without dinner on the Doubs River basins at Villers-le-Lac and include a visit to the Falls. Reservations essential for dinner cruises.
GREATER BESANÇON RIVER PORT AND MARINAS: 3 SITES, 75 MOORINGS

If you are transiting or want to rent a short- or long-term mooring at any of the 3 marinas:

Doubs Plaisance
www.doubsplaisance.com
contact@doubsplaisance.com
0033 3 81 81 75 35

ST. PAUL’S RIVER PORT AND MARINA IN BESANÇON
The marina accommodates vessels for short-, medium- and long-term mooring during the summer season. Because the marina is on flowing water, it is closed in winter. See St.Paul’s Marina for winter moorings.

PETROL PUMP
(diesel only)
Call to 06 71 17 91 29
www.grandbesancon.fr/portdagglomeration

THE CENTRE OF THE ARTS MARINA IN BESANÇON
Flowing water marina
20 moorings for boats up to 20 metres + 2 berths for big boats (passenger boats, boat hotels... reservation required for boats over 20 metres long). Facilities: floating pontoons for moorings, power and water hook-ups, a pump-out station, and a gangway to the dock for people with reduced mobility. Maximum Draught: 1.80 metres Maximum Air Draught: 3.50 metres
The marina accommodates vessels for short-, medium- and long-term mooring during the summer season.

DOUBS PLAISANCE BOAT RENTALS

ELECTRIC BOAT
Electric boat rental: so you can see Besançon from the Doubs, safely and at your own rhythm. Allow 2 hours for reception, getting settled in the boat and to tour the Loop. You will go through 2 locks at Tarragnoz and Moulin St Paul (St. Paul’s Mill).

OPENING TIMES
15th April to 15th October

RIVER CRUISES
Cruises organised for disabled adults (approved by Vacances Adaptées)

OPENING TIMES
April to September
www.grandbesancon.fr/portdagglomeration

DELUZ RIVER MARINA
Accommodates all types of boats up to 15 metres long. 30 Moorings. Full-service marina (painting and mechanical service, winter berthing...) Facilities: floating pontoons for moorings, power and water hook-ups, a pump-out station, access ramp, picnic tables.
MUSÉE DE PLEIN AIR DES MAISONS COMTOISES DE NANCRAY

Franche-Comté Houses Museum

The purpose of this museum is to show the diversity of rural Franche-Comté houses.

In a 15-hectare park, 30 buildings of various local styles, rebuilt stone by stone, stand amidst gardens, telling the story of daily life from the 17th to 19th centuries. Events are scheduled throughout the year: for children, there are workshops (building huts, looking at nature through a magnifying glass...) and for adults (baking bread in a bread-oven, making preserves the old-fashioned way...). There are daily demonstrations of savoir-faire, tastings of local products, thematic tours on housing, environment, gardens...

MAISON DU COMTÉ

Come enjoy a guided 1 hour 15 minute tour on Comté Cheese and emerge an expert!
The tour is divided into 4 stages:
A model and fully automated programming showcases selected professionals and their passion for their trade.
As you engage with our guide, you will find out all about the work and world of milk producers, cheese makers and affineurs, as well as the rules governing the Comté AOP.
The mystery of aromas: the aroma game will call both on your past experiences and your olfactory memory.
The tasting session, a ritual: a lively, engaging and rarefied moment of interaction over 2 Comté cheeses, to close out your tour... The way you experience Comté cheese will never be the same.

CHÂTEAU DE VAIRE-LE-GRAND

This chateau, built in the 18th century, is famous for its formal French gardens. It offers you a panoramic view of the Doubs Valley.

GPS
N 47°17.012' E 006°09.047
11 km from Besançon. Take RN 83 10, rue de Charmont 25220 Vaire-Arcier
v.lg.free.fr

ACCESS
Free parking in front of the chateau for both cars and buses/coaches.

GUIDED TOURS
Group tours and tours for the disabled by appointment.

CHÂTEAU DE MONCLEY

The chateau was built in 1778 by the Marquis Terrier-Santans, “président à mortier” at the Besançon Court of Appeals, according to the plans of the architect Claude Joseph Alexandre Bertrand. It is one of the finest examples of Neo-classical architecture in France.

GPS
N 47°18.698' E 005°53.300'
17 km from Besançon: take RN 57 towards Vesoul

GUIDED TOURS
Two-hour guided tours all year round: for requests and registration (required), contact the Besançon Visitor and Convention Information Centre.
SALINE ROYALE D’ARC-ET-SENANS

The Royal Saltworks of Arc-et-Senans, a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1982, is the magnum opus of Claude-Nicolas Ledoux (1736-1806), a visionary architect from the Age of Enlightenment. It is also a rare living example for the history of industrial architecture.

Louis XV ordered the construction of The Royal Saltworks (salt factory), and it was built between 1775 and 1779. The Royal Saltworks was created to function as an integrated factory in which most of the working community worked and lived. It became obsolete with the advent of new technologies, and the Royal Saltworks closed its doors in 1895. It was abandoned, looted, and damaged by fire in 1918; in 1927, the Doubs Department acquired it, saving it from total ruin. It took three successive periods of restoration, the last completed in 1996, to give it back its original splendour.

The architecture of the Royal Saltworks, its history and restoration make it a unique monument.

GPS
N 47°01'923" E 005°46.711"
www.salineroyale.com

GUIDED TOURS
Guide-accompanied, audioguide or smartphone/tablet applications

For more information, go to www.salineroyale.com

SALINE ROYALE HOTEL***
25610 Arc-et-Senans

The Royal Saltworks is one of the few sites on the UNESCO World Heritage List which offers accommodation possibilities for groups and individual tourists. Each room has been renovated by the great contemporary architect Jean-Michel Wilmotte and guests can enjoy the night lighting of the site created by internationally renowned multimedia artist Michel Verjux.

Sleeping at the Saline Royale means you have access to the grounds and gardens before opening time: a moment to be treasured.

GRANDE SALINE DE SALINS-LES-BAINS

Great Saltworks of Salins-les-Bains

For nearly a millennium, the prosperity of Salins-les-Bains was linked to the channeling and management of the salt springs. The 18th and 19th century tunnels and a hydraulic pumping system, vestiges of which can be seen today, show the water drawing method used. The drying ovens area demonstrates the sweltering job of the saltworkers. The production of “white gold” demanded great effort: the brine was pumped from a bench of rock salt 246 metres down. The Saltworks closed down in 1962. In June 2009, the Great Saltworks of Salins-les-Bains became a UNESCO World Heritage Site, joining the Royal Saltworks of Arc-et-Senans.

For more information
Place des Salines
39110 Salins-les-Bains
www.salinesdesalins.com

GUIDED TOURS
The guided tour lasts one hour and ends with free entry to the Salt Museum (museum visit: about 30 minutes).

THE SALT MUSEUM

It was discovered in the 13th century, and from 1504 on, has attracted visitors, making it, along with Antiparos in Greece, one of the oldest tourist cave known. It was made famous by Loys Gollut (1535-1595), who chronicled his exploration of it; by William Buckland, who found the first full skeleton of a cave bear in 1826, which he exhibited at the British Museum; by Benjamin Silliman’s journal (American Journal of Science and Arts, July 1828), the Royal Society of London (scientific catalog, 1800 to 1863) and Georges Cuvier, the inventor of paleontology.

There is a covered eating area and bike storage area.

For more information
BP 67 - 25410 Saint Vit

GPS
N 47°08.316' E 005°50.197'
grottes.osselle.free.fr

GROTTE D’OSSELLE AT ROSET FLUANS

Because of the beauty of its natural setting, the variety of stalagmites and stalactites and colours, because of its geological phenomena and its historical and prehistoric treasures, Osselle Cave is one of the world’s most amazing caves.

It was discovered in the 13th century, and from 1504 on, has attracted visitors, making it, along with Antiparos in Greece, one of the oldest tourist cave known. It was made famous by Loys Gollut (1535-1595), who chronicled his exploration of it; by William Buckland, who found the first full skeleton of a cave bear in 1826, which he exhibited at the British Museum; by Benjamin Silliman’s journal (American Journal of Science and Arts, July 1828), the Royal Society of London (scientific catalog, 1800 to 1863) and Georges Cuvier, the inventor of paleontology.

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BP 67 - 25410 Saint Vit

GPS
N 47°08.316' E 005°50.197'
grottes.osselle.free.fr

GROTTE D’OSSELLE AT ROSET FLUANS
THE JURA
THE HOMELAND
OF LOUIS PASTEUR

Louis Pasteur, the inventor of the vaccine against rabies, is one of the iconic figures dearest to the people of the Jura.

Born in a modest tannery in the small town of Dole in 1822, he spent his childhood in the Arbois House, to which he remained attached throughout his life. Tireless going about his research, he conducted his work on wines in this home, eventually developing pasteurisation, a process now widely used throughout the world. He built a personal laboratory inside the home, the only one used by Pasteur and still intact today.

Based on experimentation, his research enabled him to show the power of microorganisms. By setting off a revolution in the areas of food, hygiene and health, this major advance has benefited the whole of humanity.

“Science has no country.”

Louis Pasteur

LOUIS PASTEUR’S
HOUSE AND
LABORATORY
IN ARBOIS

Pasteur invested a lot of energy and money in the Arbois home. He transformed and expanded his father’s tannery, making it into a comfortable house that he and his family could happily live in and to which he could welcome his friends.

All the interiors of the house have been preserved, especially including his private laboratory: the only one of his that survives today. It was restored in 1995 and faithfully represents Pasteur’s day-to-day life. You can take a guided tour, or take a tablet self-guided tour (available in English and German). Visitors can even take a selfie with the great man!

BIRTHPLACE OF
LOUIS PASTEUR,
DOLE

In a picturesque neighbourhood of the old town, along the Canal des Tanneurs, stands the house in which Louis Pasteur was born -- the starting point of an astounding journey and an exceptional mind. Pasteur loved this modest house overlooking the Canal des Tanneurs. It was always with great emotion that he returned to his native Jura. This symbolic edifice was the backdrop to many memories dear to the researcher: the tannery where, as a child, he enjoyed watching his father work, the pastels which he sacrificed to science, and the crystals and microscopes that would lead him down the road of scientific research. Last but not least, the museum is home to a number of treasures from other Pasteurian researchers, including Alexander Fleming’s famed penicillin culture.

A serious game developed for the home offers visitors a resolutely modern digital approach to his experimentation methods. A varied event calendar helps audiences remember just how much he contributed to modern science.

For more information
Musée de l’EPCC
Terre de Louis Pasteur
43, rue Pasteur
39100 Dole
www.terredelouispasteur.fr

Les maisons de Louis Pasteur Dole - Arbois
contact@terredelouispasteur.fr

For more information
83, rue de Courcelles
39600 Arbois
www.terredelouispasteur.fr

For more information
43, rue Louis Pasteur
39100 Dole
www.terredelouispasteur.fr
9 SITES TO EXPLORE
- Besançon and the Citadel
- The Great Saltworks of Salins-les-Bains – the Salt Museum 1
- The Royal Saltworks of Arc-et-Senans 2
- Sites of prehistoric pile dwellings (on stilts) in and around the Alps, dating from 5000 to 500 BC. Some of the most remarkable of these lakeside settlements are located on Clairvaux Lake and the western shore of Chalain Lake in the Jura.
- Ronchamp Chapel (Haute-Saône)
- Vézelay Basilica 3
- Fontenay Abbey
- «Les Climats» of Bourgogne
- Charité-sur-Loire Chapel 4

Switzerland
- La Chaux-de-Fonds and Le Locle (Switzerland) The architecture and planning of these two towns have been predominantly influenced by their main industry: watchmaking
- The Old Town of Berne

FRANCHE-COMTÉ

UNESCO SITES

When cities, landscapes and monuments have a unique beauty, then it behooves all of humanity to protect them.

"If wars start in the minds of men and women, it is in the minds of men and women that the defences of peace must be constructed."

This is the founding principle of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), founded in 1945. Its ultimate goal is to preserve peace; one of its tasks is managing the natural and cultural heritage of humanity.

BESANÇON, AN INTERNATIONAL CITY

Besançon is a city which is connected to the world, both inside and outside.

In Besançon, at the University of Franche-Comté, over 2,500 of its students come from all over the world, and the Centre of Applied Linguistics counts more than 4,000 course participants yearly who come to Besançon to learn French and other languages. With all the foreign residents, students and course participants who are in Besançon, there are 129 nationalities!

Visit our site, migrations.besancon.fr, to learn about the incredible richness that the people who have come to live in Besançon have provided.

And beyond its borders, Besançon has partnerships with 14 cities, the first of which was signed in 1955. Opening up to others is a long tradition in our city. Projects have ranged from:
- The SC Clémenceau football tournament and the Handi’Forts Raid: each year Besançon invites participants from its twinned cities
- At "Instants Gourmands" and at the Christmas Market: regional products and crafts from partners are on display
- Cultural exchanges: loans of our museum works to Japan, Franco-German concerts; a contemporary music project with Switzerland...
Besançon is present at events in partner cities too. Constant sharing goes on.

BESANÇON IS TWINNED WITH

Visit our site, migrations.besancon.fr, to learn about the incredible richness that the people who have come to live in Besançon have provided.

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VILLAGES AROUND BESANÇON

BOUSSIÈRES
Visit its Romanesque church. Under the control of the Madeleine Church Chapter (Besançon), it was declared independent in 1092. The bell tower, a beautiful example of Romanesque architecture, has 5 levels with Lombard arches. The porch of the church, an intersecting ribbed vault, was built in the latter half of the 16th century.

ARGUEL
From the ruins of a feudal castle, you have a panorama of the Doubs Valley.

DELUZ
Deluz and its surroundings are located in the heart of the Doubs Valley. Its flora and fauna are an exceptionally rich heritage (Natura 2000 European (green) networking programme). Its water-related activities bear witness to the past (paper mill), and the present (small hydro-electric power plant, marina and boat service).

PIREY
The Church of St. Martin and the Cloaked Madonna. Accessible to persons with reduced mobility.

CHAUDEFONTAINE
The fountains and the covered wash house are near the chapel at rue des Fontaines and rue Moncey.

MONTFERRAND-LE-CHÂTEAU
Only the outer walls and the dungeon remain from this 13th century castle built by Jean II de Montferrand. If you stand on its esplanade, you have a breathtaking view of the Doubs Valley. The town has two religious institutions: the Benedictine Sisters of Bethany and the Congregation of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, whose nuns and nurses have ministries throughout the world.

THORAISE
Nearby, you can see the castle ruins of Montferrand-le-Château, see the Doubs Valley spread out below you from the lookout point, and visit the double lock at Rancenay, the Freycinet Canal and Osselle Cave.

VORGES-LES-PINS
A stone quarry, a plaster factory and a mill were active into the second half of the 19th century. There is also an open iron mine.

NOVILLARS
Paper mills from the 19th and 20th centuries.

MARAIS DE SAÔNE
There is a great variety of flora and fauna in this wetland ecological preserve. The GR 59 (national hiking trail) goes through it.

MONTFAUCON
The open-to-the-sky remains of an 11th century mediaeval dungeon stand on a rocky spur overlooking the Doubs Valley. As you walk around the castle, the vaulted caves and cellars and the foundations of church walls bear testimony to the old village, abandoned after it was destroyed by a fire during the Ten Years’ War. On a cliff above, at 617 m, is the Montfacon Fort, built between 1874 and 1878 to watch over the plain of Thise. It is part of the fortification line developed by General Séré de Rivières.

ÉCOLE-VALENTIN
Château du Saint-Esprit. This castle (Renaissance period) is on the Historic Monuments List.

MUSÉE DES ARMÉES
“LUCIEN ROY” IN BEURE
This museum is dedicated to Lucien Roy, soldier 2nd class born in Beure and killed in 1915. It houses a large collection of French and foreign uniforms, and rare objects, such as the flag from the house where Napoleon lived on Elba. It also treats the role of women in war. 12 exhibit rooms.

OPENING TIMES
Besançon Visitor and Convention Information Centre
museelucienroy.e-monsite.com
70, rue de Besançon
25720 Beure
La Rodia is located near the city centre of Besançon in Près de Vaux, a neighbourhood under vibrant urban reconstruction, where cultural experiences abound. Le Bastion, mainly for young people, has 12 rehearsal areas and more than 220 music groups use them. La Rodia is built on stilts, and was designed by the architecture firm of Denu and Paradon.

For more information
4, avenue de Chardonnet
www.larodia.com

THE CENTRE OF THE ARTS
The Centre of the Arts exists due to the combined efforts of Greater Besançon, the Franche-Comté Regional Council and the City of Besançon. This imposing cultural centre, located at the old river port of Besançon, houses the CRR (Greater Regional Conservatory) and the FRAC (Regional Collection of Contemporary Art of Franche-Comté).

It was designed by the Japanese architect Kengo Kuma, whose design symbolises “the place where nature and the city meet, where inhabitants and river banks meet and where people meet with culture in its multiple forms”. Kuma has said, “I want to make architecture disappear. It’s what I have always wanted to do, and I doubt that I will ever change my mind.” With the Centre of the Arts, Kuma created an architecture that symbolises a new generation of interdisciplinary cultural exchanges and discoveries. Its sculptured forms invite experimentation. It is also a place of exchanges and meetings, symbolised by the “Passage des Arts” which connects the FRAC and the Conservatory, the city and the river, people and culture.

For more information
www.citedesarts.grandbesancon.fr
fr-fr.facebook.com/citedesartsetdelaculture

“Music expresses that which cannot be said and about which it is impossible to remain silent.”

Victor Hugo
BESANÇON
ANOTHER POINT OF VIEW

BIEN URBAIN / JUSTE ICI
THE URBAN GOOD
ART IN (AND WITH) THE PUBLIC SPACE
9TH EDITION
FROM 8 TO 23 JUNE 2019

Since 2011, the association Juste Ici has organised the festival, Bien Urbain, the Urban Good, inviting ten artists from around the world to catch audiences by surprise with their understated and sensitive creations, all across Besançon. Over the years, 245 works were created in Besançon (by more than 100 artists of 23 nationalities), 95 of which (mainly wall art) continue to be visible to passers-by. Contextual in concept, the ephemeral installations, wall art or collective performances call out to passers-by and venture beyond the supposed aesthetic codes of graffiti or public art. For this 9th edition, David Demougeot came up with the programming, in collaboration with an artist: Hyuro! The guest artists’ creations will be experienced by visitors as they walk or cycle along, or through conferences, workshops and other events offered to all audiences. With each edition, it has become a festival tradition to erect a pop-up meeting and information centre in Besançon. This year, you will find the Bien Urbain team every weekend in a different neighbourhood in Besançon, during the proposed themed events. All the details will be available on the festival website, from as early as April!

For more information
www.bien-urbain.fr

CINEMAS
MÉGARAMA BEAUX-ARTS
3, rue Gustave Courbet

PLAZZA VICTOR HUGO
6, rue Gambetta

MÉGARAMA
1, rue des Sources
25480 École Valentin

PETIT KURSAAL
1, place du Théâtre

BESANÇON BY NIGHT
CASINO JOA

Discover Besançon’s casino, which was an integral part of a 19th century spa. Relax and enjoy your evenings as you experience our game universe of slot machines and card games!

Dine at “Le Comptoir”, where the Chef proposes seasonal fine cuisine with exceptional tastes. And, for an unforgettable evening, we propose dinner shows every month. Relax with your friends at the Tourbillon Bar. Enjoy its modern, original décor, delicious cocktails and free concerts every Saturday night.

Place your bets, ladies and gentlemen! And get ready for a unique and innovative experience at the Joa Casino!

For more information
2, avenue Édouard Droz
www.casino-besancon.com
**BESANÇON**

**FAMILY ACTIVITIES**

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**DINO-ZOO**
When you go to Dino-Zoo, you drop right into the history of the evolution of the world, you experience the thrill of seeing these huge creatures, the dinosaurs, you understand in one glance what life was like on our planet several million years ago. You have a passport to an extraordinary Jurassic adventure in a 15-hectare park, where you can wander among the dinosaurs and other prehistoric life-size animals. Explanatory panels line your way for a tour of 2.5 km. There are also cartoons about prehistory, 4D films and a dino-galloping merry-go-round to be discovered. We have a self-service restaurant and café.

For more information
1, rue de la Préhistoire
25620 Charbonnières-les-Sapins
Opening hours, 3 different periods with different prices, see on:
www.dinozoo.com

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**GOUFFRE DE POUDREY**
The Poudrey Chasm in Étalans is like taking a journey to the centre of the Earth! An exceptional natural site – so vast that it could easily contain the Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris – opens at your feet for a unique underground walk. For 1 hour, wonder is guaranteed as you see countless stalactites and great stalagmites a hundred thousand years old. And with its light and sound show on the theme of earth and water, the Chasm will seem even more fabulous and supernatural to you. Feel the magic of this place and the powerful but silent work of water on rock: a visit not to be missed!

For more information
1 lieu-dit Puits de Poudrey
25580 Étalans
www.gouffredepoudrey.com

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**THE LITTLE TOURIST TRAIN**
Discover the old Besançon. Vauban, Caesar and Victor Hugo will tell you the history of Besançon (commentaries by actors). In addition to the boat tour: advantage combined ticket. Departures at Faubourg Rivotte in front of the restaurant "Le Manège" or Place du 8 Septembre (in front of the Town Hall). It takes you 30 minutes to go from the city centre to the Citadel. You can get off at the Citadel to visit it and then take the train back, 15 minutes to Rivotte.

**Departure times**
Every hour
10, 11, 12 am and 2, 3, 4, 5 pm
From the Parking Rivotte with stop Place du 8 Septembre and at the Citadel
Every day from the 15th May to 15th Sep.
At the beginning and at the end of the season: departure on Wed., Sat., Sun. and on public holiday

**Prices**
Full price: 8,50 €
Children: 6,50 €
Combined tickets boat + train: 19,50 €
14,50 € for children

For more information
www.bateau-besancon.fr

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**THE BESANÇON CITADEL**

With a Zoological Garden, an Aquarium, an Insectarium, a Noctarium and a small farm (see page 18, 19, 20, 21)

For more information
Tel. +33 (0)3 81 87 83 33
www.citadelle.com

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**BESANÇON BY BIKE**

L’échappée is a unique concept in Besançon, simultaneously a bar, a snack and a cyclo accessories store are proposed, as well as the rent and repair of electric bikes.

For more information
7, place Victor Hugo

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**GARDENS**

**LE CLOS BARBIZIER**
Le Clos Barbizier, on the Chemin de Ronde at Fort Griffon, is an old-variety rose garden with Gallic roses, hundred-leaf roses and roses of Damascus.

**LE JARDIN DES SENS**
The Garden of the Senses
Avenue d’Helvétie. This garden is at one end of the Micaud Promenade and it is filled with plants that have been carefully selected for their beauty, fragrance and tactile qualities: accessible to all.
PARKS WITH CHILDREN’S PLAY AREAS
PARC MICAUD,
PLACE GRANVELLE 1
AND THE PARC DE LA GARE D’EAU
The Parc de la Gare d’Eau along the Doubs: walking, rollerblading, bicycling, and in summer the Chamars Tower offers activities for families.

SKATE PARK
Located at Chamars near the Pont Canot (Canot Bridge).

ADVENTURE PARK FRANÇOIS MARCHAUX
Follow this adventure trail in the forest: real outdoor adventure for kids and adults.

PONY RIDES
Pony rides at Parc Micaud. 2.00 pm – 6.00 pm Wednesdays, weekends, and every day during school holidays and bank holidays. We are weather dependent!
For more information www.ferme-elite.fr

OUTDOOR POOLS

CHALEZÉULE POOL
Children’s playground protected from the sun with water games, flume, beaches, solarium, diving board and other activities (table tennis, beach volleyball...).
For more information 12, route de Belfort 25220 Chalezeule

POOL NEAR THE RIVER PORT
The Pool Port Joint is situated on 2 hectares of green lawn and shade. The complex has a large, 25-metre pool, a small pool and a wading pool.

INDOOR POOLS

LA FAYETTE POOL
Slide, sun lounge, water games, jacuzzi. Swim cap mandatory. Correct swimwear required (no Bermuda shorts). All bathers must be out of the pool 15 min before closure.
For more information 5, rue Louis Garnier www.besancon.fr

MALLARMÉ POOL
One 50-metre pool with high diving boards, one small children’s pool. Children under 8 years must be accompanied by an adult wearing a swimsuit. Swim cap mandatory. Correct swimwear required (no Bermuda shorts). All bathers must be out of the pool 15 min before closure.
For more information 2, rue Mallarmé

BEACHES

PLAGE D’OSSELLE
Osselle Beach (Gingko bus stops here) The beach is sandy and lifeguard-protected. There are outdoor games and day fishing. There are picnic tables, a restaurant, and a bar.
For more information Lieu-dit La Corvée 25320 Osselle www.grandbesancon.fr/infos-pratiques/sports-loisirs/base-de-loisirs-osselle

PATINOIRE
Skating Rink
PATINOIRE LA FAYETTE
One big track, one small track for beginners.
For more information 5, rue Louis Garnier www.besancon.fr

FORET DE CHAILLUZ
Just outside of Besançon, the Chailluz and Bregille Forests occupy over 1,780 hectares of natural parkland. Signposted trails, picnic areas, animal parks where you can observe wild boar, fallow deer, roe deer and other species of deer. This is a place where people and nature coexist in peace.
Greater Besançon is a unique combination of heritage and nature spaces. From family walks to sporting activities, a whole range of offerings have been developed, to give everyone -- families, curious passers-by or athletes looking to push back their limits -- the chance to have a LARGER THAN LIFE experience of our territory, in line with their preferences and passions.

Keep your feet firmly on the ground:
- 2 long-distance hiking trails: GRR59 and GRR145-Via Francigena (European cultural route) linking Canterbury to Rome via Greater Besançon
- 33 short hiking trails inviting walkers to the hills of Besançon, the Lower Plateau of the Jura or the Doubs Valley upstream and downstream from Besançon, including 3 trails featuring heritage discovery opportunities, assisted by a special pamphlet and sound track (MP3): a fun experience for the youngest walkers, and a new take on hiking for the more experienced.
- 13 bicycle touring loops from Besançon and spanning the Doubs Valley, travelling on certain portions of the EuroVélo6, or venturing into the Chailluz Forest and the First Plateau, for visitors perched on their traditional or electric bicycles.
- 17 varied mountain bike routes, from green to black on the First Plateau, the Doubs Valley and the Chailluz Forest

On water or high in the sky:
- 3 Kayak bases in Besançon, Saint Vit and Avanne-Aveney on the Doubs offering activities, and a roving hiking offer on the Ognon Valley
- 1 climbing site in Montfaucon (10 min from the city centre)
- 7 free flight sites on the hills around Besançon!

For more information
www.grandes-heures-nature.fr

EUROVÉLO 6 BIKEWAY 2
Atlantic Ocean-Black Sea
Cyclists, rollerbladers, walkers, people with reduced mobility: Explore the Doubs along its towpaths. From Dole to Belfort, passing through the city centre of Besançon: 187 km are secure and signposted, waiting to give you unforgettable memories. Would you like to go farther? The EuroVélo 6 Bikeway is 3,860 km long and passes through 9 countries.

For more information
www.eurovelo6-france.com

THE FRANCIGENA WAY
(from Canterbury to Rome)
The Francigena is a major cultural walking trail of the Council of Europe – 2004. The Francigena, 195 km of which are in Franche-Comté (mid-way between Canterbury and Rome) crosses Switzerland, going through the gorge of Saint Maurice and Great Saint-Bernard Pass. About 1,500 walkers following the Way cross through Franche-Comté each year.

For more information
viefrangigene.org/fr

CHEMIN DE COMPOSTELLE
St. James’s Way
The association and its members offer guidance to the Pilgrims, both materially and spiritually, upon request.

For more information
Association Franc-Comtoise du Chemin de Compostelle afccc.fr

NATURE HIKES
Besançon Visitor and Convention Information Centre organises nature hikes around Besançon and in the communities of Greater Besançon. Join us as we take our time, exploring nature: which is often ignored and yet so accessible to us all.

You will be accompanied by a nature guide as you walk along trails which cross limestone fields, follow cliffs overlooking the Doubs River and pass through forests. The picturesque landscapes, the richness of Franche-Comté’s natural heritage and the magnificent lookout points will make this a hike to remember. (See the Guided Tours programme for more information)

N.B. the commentary will be in French.

For more information
www.besancon-tourisme.com
ASSOCIATION DES PETITES CITES COMTOISES DE CARACTERE
Association of Small Franche-Comté Towns with Character
This organisation was founded in 1989 and today it has 38 small rural community members. They each have the label “Small Franche-Comté Towns with Character” because they have an urban, architectural and landscape heritage of the first order.

For more information www.petites-cites-comtoises.org

COMITE DE PROMOTION DES PRODUITS REGIONAUX DE FRANCHE-COMTE
Gastronomy & promotion of regional products from Bourgogne Franche Comte
With nearly 220 products recognised by official quality labels, Burgundy Franche-Comté definitely isn’t short on flavours to share! We are dedicated to promoting the region’s wealth of agricultural and food products on behalf of its sectors and players. From the pitchfork to the silver fork, GPPR is the voice of the agri-food sectors of Bourgogne Franche-Comté with the general public and buyers. True to its mission statement, it works daily to unite, support and promote sectors and their partners.

For more information www.unpeubeaucoupfranchecomte.fr

MADE IN CHEZ NOUS
How was your Peugeot manufactured? How was the high-quality Cristel cookware made? And what about the Obertino bells, the Maty jewelry collections and those delicious regional products you eat or those accessories you like to wear?
The members of Made In Chez Nous provide group tours. Each company invites you to discover their exceptional know-how. Tours include visits to factories, farm production crafts, unusual trades...
Welcome to Doubs businesses which are paradoxically “natural” par excellence and some of the most industrialised in France.

For more information
Departmental Committee for Tourism in the Doubs
83, rue de Dole
www.doubs.travel

EVERYTHING YOU CAN IMAGINE MARKET
BATTANT
2nd Monday of the month
6.00 am – 6.30 pm

BEAUX-ARTS COVERED MARKET
2, rue Goudimel
Tuesday – Saturday 7.00 am – 7.00 pm
Sunday mornings 8.00 am – 1.00 pm

ALL KINDS OF THINGS MARKET
Place de la Révolution
Tuesdays 7.00 am – 7.00 pm
Fridays 7.00 am – 7.00 pm
Saturdays 7.00 am – 7.00 pm

OUTSIDE ORGANIC FOOD MARKET
- Place du Jura (De Lattre de Tassigny)
  Every Tuesday 5.00 pm – 8.30 pm
  Mid-April to end October
- Gare Viotte
  Every Thursday 4 pm to 7 pm

NEIGHBOURHOOD MARKETS
PALENTE
Place des Tilleuls
Wednesdays 7.00 am – 1.00 pm
Saturdays 7.00 am – 1.00 pm

BATTANT
Place Jouffroy d’Abbans
Sundays and Bank Holidays
7.00 am – 1.00 pm

SAINT FERJEUX
Place de la Bascule
Sundays 7.00 am – 1.00 pm

PLANOISE
Place Cassin
Wednesday and saturday
7.00 am – 6.00 pm

FARMERS’ MARKETS
For more information www.grandbesancon.fr

ANTIQUE/SECOND-HAND MARKETS
MICROPOLIS
2nd Sunday of the month,
8.00 am – 1.00 pm (admission free)

AUCTION HALLS
CHAPRAIS
11, rue de l’Eglise
For more information www.interencheres.com

RENOUD GRAPPIN
4, rue Robert Demangel
25000 Besançon
Tél. 03 81 82 14 14
Fax 03 81 82 14 15
renoud-grappin@wanadoo.fr
USEFUL ADDRESSES

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
MAIRIE
Town Administration Centre
2, rue Mégevand
25034 Besançon Cedex
Tel 03 81 61 50 50
www.besancon.fr

GRAND BESANÇON
4, rue Gabriel Plançon
25000 Besançon
Tél. +33 (0)3 81 87 88 89
www.grandbesancon.fr

PREFECTURE
8 bis, rue Charles Nodier
25035 Besançon Cedex
Tel 03 81 25 10 00

TOURISM
GÎTES DE FRANCE DOUBS
5, rue Maitre
www.gites-de-france-doubs.fr

MISSION RÉSEAU VAUBAN
2, rue Mégevand
25034 Besançon Cedex
Tel. +33 (0)3 81 87 82 18

UNIVERSITÉ DE FRANCHE-COMTÉ
1, rue Claude Goudimel
25000 Besançon
Tel. +33 (0)3 81 50 11 03
www.univ-fcomte.fr

CENTRE RÉGIONAL D’INFORMATION JEUNESSE
27, rue de la République
25000 Besançon
Tel. +33 (0)3 81 21 16 16
www.jeunes-fc.com

BESANÇON CONGRÈS
52 Grande Rue
Hôtel de Ville
place du Huit septembre
25000 Besançon
Tel. +33 (0)3 81 80 92 00

MICROPOLIS
Kongresszentrum
3 boulevard Ouest
CS 82019
25050 Besançon Cedex
Tel. +33 (0)3 81 41 08 09
www.micropolis.fr

AVF
ACCUEIL DES VILLES FRANÇAISES
Centre Mendès France
3 rue Beauregard
25000 Besançon
Tel. +33 (0)6 51 50 25 36
www.avf.asso.fr/fr/besancon

WEATHER NEWS
(Weather forecasts for the ‘departments’)
Tel 08 99 71 02 25 (for Doubs)
(For other departments, change the last two digits)
Only in French
www.meteofrance.com

DRIVING CONDITIONS
www.inforoute25.fr

CAR PARKS
www.besancon.fr

TRAIN STATION CAR PARK
Besançon-Viotte
www.resaplace.com

EMERGENCIES
AMBULANCE SAMU
Tel 15

FIRE BRIGADE
Tel 18

POLICE
Tel 17

EUROPEAN NUMBER
Tel 112

EMERGENCY NUMBER FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED
Tel 114 (text messages)

SOS DOCTORS
Tel 0 826 88 24 24
20, avenue de l’Île-de-France

JEAN-MINJOZ HOSPITAL
3, bld Fleming (Planoise)
Tel 03 81 66 81 66

DOCTOR ON DUTY
Tel 36 24

CHEMISTS ON DUTY
Tel 32 37
From 9.00 am – 7.00 pm

LOST AND FOUND
6, rue Mégevand
Tel 03 81 61 51 33

LA POSTE PROUDHON
Proudhon Post Office
23, rue Proudhon
Tel 36 31
COMING AND GOING

IN AND AROUND BESANÇON

BY BUS AND BY TRAM
Run by Ginko, the public transport company. A network of buses and trams serves Besançon and Greater Besançon.

SPECIAL CAR PARKS
This sign tells you that this is a car park on the outskirts of the city with a bus or tram station right nearby.

BY BIKE
If you have your own bike, there are bike racks especially for you at 2 car parks: Marché Beaux-Arts/Cusenier and the Mairie, and in most public areas of the city. You can also rent a bike from VéloCité. They have bike racks and 200 bikes all around the city centre. Rental is via a ticket-dispensing machine.
Rates: 1 day/€1 or 7 days/€2 (first 30 min are free)

3 PUMPING STATIONS:
Town hall parking, Viotte station and Micaud Park.

GETTING TO THE CITADEL
Park your car in Chamars and take the Ginko Bus : Chamars/Citadelle (This bus only runs from April to October.)

PARK AND SPEND A LATE NIGHT IN TOWN
For €1 per night (7.00 pm – 9.00 am) you can park your car at the Marché Beaux-Arts/Cusenier Car Park or the Mairie Car Park. Both have security surveillance. All other car parks are free from 7.00 pm – 9.00 am.

CARAVAN SITES
Besançon 25000
Quai Veil Picard, Open all year

Chalezeule 25220
Camping de la Plage de Besançon***

For opening times, go to www.campingdebesancon.com

TAXIS
Taxis Radio
Tel 03 81 88 80 80
Taxi stands: rue du Palais de Justice, Besançon Franche-Comté TGV Train Station, Besançon-Viotte Train Station, Jean-Minjoz Hospital

CITIZ
The car sharing service
Easy to book and to use, economic and ecological. Available 24/7

BY TRAIN
Besançon Franche-Comté
TGV Train Station
25870 Les Auxons
Besançon-Viotte Train Station (city centre)

TGV – RHIN-RHÔNE
For information, go to www.voyages-sncf.com

TER FRANCHE-COMTÉ
TER: regional trains
These trains are shuttles between the TGV Train Station and the Besançon-Viotte Train Station

For information, go to www.ter.sncf.com/franche-comte

BY CAR
Motorway A36
No. 3 Besançon ouest > Besançon West
No. 4 Besançon centre
No. 4.1 Besançon nord > Besançon North
RN57 Direction Metz/Pontarlier
RN83 Direction Metz/Pontarlier
RN73 Direction Dole/Besançon

USEFUL LINKS
www.grandbesancon.fr
www.ginko.voyage
www.velocite.besancon.fr
www.besancon.fr
www.campingdebesancon.com
www.maisons-comtoises.org
www.etobesancon.com
www.besancon.fr
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Allow yourself a getaway just 30 minutes from Besançon on a multi-faceted territory ideal for relaxation, cultural discovery and outdoor activities!

THE LOCALS RECOMMEND YOU...

THE TOP 10 things not to miss!

1. DISCOVER the secrets of the ROYAL SALTWORKS during the garden festival.

2. APPRECIATE the view from the ORNANS BELVEDERE by surveying the course of rocks.

3. STROLL around the COURBET MUSEUM and discover the life and work of the painter in his birthplace.

4. PICNIC near the magnificent LISON SPRING and wander the site.

5. CRISS-CROSS the LOUE VALLEY and appreciate its beautiful landscapes.

6. HIKE along the Loue River and through the NOUAILLES CANYON searching for the Wivern’s escarbuncle.

7. DESCENT the LOUE RIVER and admire the relief of the valleys. On your paddles, ready, row!

8. IMMORTALIZE your getaway in Ornans with a selfie in front of the LOUE RIVER HOUSES.

9. INDULGE in our LOCAL FLAVOURS: the Comté cheese, the sausage from Ornans...

10. HAVE SOME FUN with your family at the DINO-ZOO PARK with his life-size prehistoric creatures.

The tourist office Destination Loue Lison is at your disposal for the preparation of your getaway. Contact us, we will advise you on the choice of your walks, visits, activities, restaurants...

7 rue Pierre Vernier
25290 ORNANS
0033 (0)3 81 62 21 50
contact@destinationlouelison.com
www.destinationlouelison.com
LA DESTINATION MODE

GALERIES LAFAYETTE BESANÇON
44 RUE DES GRANGES
DU LUNDI AU VENDREDI DE 10H À 19H30
ET LE SAMEDI JUSQU’À 20H