Travel guide



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DISCOVERING THE REGION

Dear travelers,

Beyond your accommodations, we want you to discover the riches of our beautiful region. Whether you're a nature lover, a foodie, a culture lover, or simply looking for relaxation, you'll find something here to satisfy all your desires.

In this booklet, we've picked out the the best places to visit, can't-miss activities, and a list of restaurants, cafes, and bars that we love.

Between scenic walks, local specialties, and friendly spots, we hope this selection inspires you and makes you want to explore the area.

Feel free to to ask us for special recommendations!

Hope you have a great stay and enjoy some wonderful discoveries!



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PARKING

Parking is free. We kindly ask you to park in the gravel area. Since tractors and harvesters may be moving around, please make sure not to block their way.

TRANSPORT

TAXI POQUET

+336 10 90 57 88

TAXI FABIEN MARLAT

+336 03 15 02 97

TAXI RAMBOUILLET

+336 08 71 92 27

RAMBOUILLET RAILWAY STATION (15 MINUTES BY CAR)

From Rambouillet station, you can take the RER and get to Paris – Montparnasse in 34 minutes

THE KIDS AT HOME





AQUATIC CENTER AND ICE RINK ODYSSEY

POOL: WEBSITE SKATING RINK: WEBSITE 28 km

With over 5,000 square meters of pools, it's the largest swimming pool in France.

Enjoy their two 50m Olympic pools (indoor and outdoor), or have fun in the play areas with massage jets, giant slides (multislide and 6 lanes), a lazy river, and a wave pool! The little ones are also catered for with shallow pools and outdoor lagoons.

Come relax on their beaches and sun decks, or challenge your friends on the beach volleyball courts. The Odyssey is the perfect spot to swim, have fun, and unwind with family or friends!



THE NATIONAL SHEEPFOLD WEBSITE 16 km

Come and enjoy an authentic experience at our educational farm! Meet the animals, explore their daily lives, and learn where our food comes from.
An immersive and educational visit for the whole family, where you can reconnect with the earth in an exceptional setting. A wonderful adventure awaits you!



RAMBOLITRAIN MUSEUM WEBSITE 16 km

Climb aboard for a fascinating adventure at the Rambolitrain Museum! Dive into the amazing history of railways, from their beginnings to the present day, with a unique collection of over 4,000 toy trains and model railway pieces.
Both kids and adults will be amazed by the animated miniature displays and the train demonstrations that come to life right before their eyes.

TREASURE HUNT: "LOOKING FOR BIDULE"

WEBSITE 30 km

For 6 to 10-year-olds: a booklet, a pen, and Bidule the goldfish to find between the streets and the cathedral, through riddles and hidden animals. About an hour at your own pace over 500 m; €10 per child, booklet from the Maison du Tourisme on the cathedral square.



Photo: Eusebius · CC BY 3.0, Wikimedia Commons

THE ANIMAL CORNER



ECURIES DE GIROUDET

WEBSITE 500m

Right across from the house, the horses of the Écurie de Giroudet graze on 20 hectares of meadows – a soothing sight with your breakfast! Horse rides are on hold for the moment; we hope to offer them again soon.



ESPACE RAMBOUILLET

WEBSITE 16 km

Every autumn, the Espace Rambouillet invites you to a unique experience: witness the majestic deer rut! From September to October, you can observe this impressive ritual where stags clash while letting out their powerful calls.

For an unforgettable experience, pick one of these options: a morning exploration with breakfast, or a magical evening with drinks or a forest dinner. It's a wild and authentic adventure!



THE DEN - ZOO SANCTUARY

WEBSITE 27 km

Far from traditional zoos, this amazing space is fully dedicated to the care and rehabilitation of animals rescued from trafficking or abuse.
Come meet residents with touching stories, who find a new chance here, along with tailored care and a supportive environment. Immerse yourself in the unique atmosphere of this sanctuary where hope and kindness are the guiding principles. An emotionally rich and meaningful visit awaits you!

THE UNUSUAL STAY



LES AILES D'HORUS

WEBSITE 12 km

Hop on a microlight and experience the freedom of flying like a bird, all while staying safe.
Take in the beauty of the earth from the sky, and feel an amazing sense of well-being and freedom.
Even kids from 8 years old can join in on this activity.
Treat yourself to a magical moment where flying dreams come true.



HOT AIR BALLOON RIDE - AIR PEGASUS

WEBSITE 13 km

Treat yourself to a magical hot air balloon ride starting from Maintenon, and let the winds carry you over breathtaking landscapes.
Check out the stunning views as you soar over the majestic Château de Maintenon and its beautiful French gardens, taking in the beauty of the Eure-et-Loir region from the sky. It's a gentle and peaceful adventure that awaits you, where time feels like it stands still.



CHARTRES KARTING

WEBSITE 27 km

Put on your helmet and race down the only FFSA-approved two way track in France, designed by world champion David Terrien.

Experience thrilling sensations with our 100% electric and eco-friendly karts, perfect for exciting races with family, friends, or colleagues.



THE COLOSSEUM

WEBSITE 31 km

Concerts, shows, sports events, or cultural happenings, the coliseum welcomes you with a rich and diverse lineup.

THE UNUSUAL STAY

THE PICASSIETTE HOUSE

WEBSITE 29 km



Step into the fascinating world of Raymond Isidore, a man who turned his own home into a masterpiece of mosaics, using thousands of pieces of broken dishes, glass, and ceramics.

Every corner of this unusual home, from the floor to the ceiling, from the furniture to the garden walls, tells a story in vibrant colors. It's a tribute to creativity, patience, and the passion of one man.



FOULON CAVES

WEBSITE 75 km

Dive into the depths of the earth and explore an underground network shaped by time and water. It's an exceptional geological site!

Check out the stunning rock formations, wander through mysterious galleries, and let yourself be amazed by the quiet beauty of this hidden world.



THE "LITTLE VENICE OF BEAUCE"

WEBSITE 62 km

Let yourself be charmed by this medieval town where the Loir Valley winds through its streets. Hop on for a peaceful ride in an electric boat or canoe and discover the city from a fresh perspective, along the water. Take in the half-timbered houses, the mills, and the flower-adorned bridges that mirror in the calm waters of the Loir.

CHARTRES IN LIGHTS

WEBSITE 30 km



From 11 April 2026 to 3 January 2027, 21 iconic sites in Chartres light up every evening at nightfall. From 29 November 2026 to 3 January 2027, a dozen of them take on Christmas colours! Watch the projections on the cathedral and the theatre, each scene brought to life with light and music.

THE UNUSUAL STAY



Photo: rights reserved

VÉLORAILS DU PAYS CHARTRAIN

WEBSITE 9 km

Just down the road, pedal along the rails of the old Paris–Chartres line! From Gallardon–Pont station, 6.2 km across the plain, four or five to a rail bike (at least two pedalling). Booking recommended, no pets.



Photo: rights reserved

THE EURE BY CANOE, AFTER DARK

WEBSITE 30 km

On certain Fridays in June and July, paddle down the Eure at nightfall, under the bridges and past the lit-up wash houses of Chartres, with a qualified instructor. From age 8, swimmers only; booking required through the tourist office.

CASTLES AND MONUMENTS:



CHATEAU DE RAMBOUILLET

14 km

Dive into history at the Château de Rambouillet, the former residence of kings and emperors, nestled in the heart of a magnificent forest park.
Check out the stunning apartments, the lovely Queen's Dairy, and the Shell Cottage. Enjoy the expansive gardens for a stroll, a boat ride, or a bike ride.



CHARTRES CATHEDRAL

30 km

Come take a stroll through the streets of Chartres, known as the capital of light and perfume. Visit its historic quarter and enjoy its many restaurants.

Don't miss its iconic Cathedral, which is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site.



CHATEAU DE MAINTENON

20 km

Come and explore the Château de Maintenon and its beautiful French garden right in the heart of Eure et Loir, just 25 minutes away from us. Dive into the history of Madame de Maintenon, the wife of Louis XIV, in this stunning castle that offers unique and fun tours and activities for the whole family throughout the year.



PALACE OF VERSAILLES

49 km

Don't miss the stunning Palace of Versailles, the official residence of the kings of France and one of the most famous landmarks in the world heritage. From the palace with its famous Hall of Mirrors to the Trianon, the Royal Stables, and the beautiful French Gardens designed by Le Nôtre, you'll need a whole day to soak up all that history!

CASTLES AND MONUMENTS:



Photo: rights reserved

CENTRE INTERNATIONAL DU VITRAIL

WEBSITE 30 km

Fifty metres from the cathedral, in a 13th-century tithe barn, discover the art of stained glass: exhibitions, an open workshop and taster classes for children and adults. Open all year: weekdays 10 am–12 pm and 2–5.30 pm, weekends 2–5.30 pm.



Photo: rights reserved

CHARTRES MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

WEBSITE 30 km

At the foot of the cathedral, the former bishops' palace houses Renaissance enamels, paintings by Fragonard, Chardin and Vlaminck, and its gardens. Free entry (except temporary exhibitions), closed on Mondays.



Photo: rights reserved

BOIS-RICHEUX MEDIEVAL GARDEN

WEBSITE 20 km

On a farm founded in the 12th century near Maintenon, wander through a medieval-inspired garden: aromatic and medicinal plants, a kitchen garden behind woven fences, hornbeam cloisters. Open weekend afternoons in the warmer months (check dates before you go).

THE TOURIST OFFICE SHOP

Local shops · 30 km

Pâté de Chartres, Mentchikoff (a praline coated in chocolate and meringue, created in 1893), Chartrenser, Eurélienne beer, Beauce Cola… The tourist office shop at the Maison du Saumon gathers the town's specialities – perfect for a tasty souvenir!

Maison du Saumon, 8 rue de la Poissonnerie, 28000 Chartres · 25 min · WEBSITE

CASTLES AND MONUMENTS:



Photo: Fab5669 · CC BY-SA 4.0, Wikimedia Commons

SAINT-PIERRE CHURCH, CHARTRES

WEBSITE 30 km

Ten minutes' walk from the cathedral, in the lower town, the former abbey church of Saint-Pierre is an overlooked Gothic masterpiece. Look up: its tall 14th-century windows flood the nave with colour. Check opening hours with the tourist office.



Photo: Txllxt TxllxT · CC BY-SA 4.0, Wikimedia Commons

THE LOWER TOWN OF CHARTRES

WEBSITE 30 km

Walk down from the cathedral through the terraced gardens and the Rue des Écuyers, past Queen Bertha's half-timbered staircase, to the banks of the Eure: stone bridges, old wash houses and ancient houses. A free stroll, best in the late afternoon when the light turns the façades gold!



Photo: Claurin · CC BY-SA 4.0, Wikimedia Commons

CHÂTEAU DE VILLEBON

WEBSITE 52 km

Six crenellated towers, moats still full of water and a drawbridge raised every day: this 14th-century fortress was Sully's last home. Guided tours on the 1st and 3rd Sundays from May to October (3 pm and 4.45 pm), and daily except Mondays from 14 July to 23 August.

CASTLES AND MONUMENTS:



Photo: Eric HOUDAS · CC BY-SA 4.0, Wikimedia Commons

AUNT LÉONIE'S HOUSE

WEBSITE 55 km

The house where young Marcel Proust spent his holidays became Aunt Léonie's in his novel. Restored from 2022 to 2024, it opens up the aunt's bedroom and the magic lantern. Open daily except Mondays, 11 am–5.30 pm; €11, free for under-18s.



Photo: Claurin · CC BY-SA 4.0, Wikimedia Commons

PRÉ CATELAN GARDEN

WEBSITE 56 km

A short walk from Aunt Léonie's house, the garden laid out by Jules Amiot, Proust's uncle, on the banks of the Loir: shady paths, a dovecote and ponds. It became the Tansonville park in Swann's Way. Free entry, open daily.



Photo: David Merrett · CC BY 2.0, Wikimedia Commons

CHÂTEAU DE CHÂTEAUDUN

WEBSITE 73 km

Standing high above the Loir, the castle of Dunois, Joan of Arc's companion, brings together a keep, a Sainte-Chapelle, Gothic and Renaissance wings and tapestries. Open daily (closed 1 Jan, 1 May, 25 Dec); €7, free for under-18s. Save the afternoon for the Foulon caves, a few streets away.

HIKING

Set off on an adventure through the picturesque trails of the area. From breathtaking views to encounters with wildlife, every step brings you closer to an unforgettable outdoor experience.



For walks:

1. In Forêt de Rambouillet (around la Bergerie Nationale)
   -> Recommended itinerary : "Le Palais du Roi de Rome à Rambouillet" Palais du Roi de Rome
2. Loop around la Drouette (from Saint-Martin-de-Nigelles)

-> Recommended itinerary: "Boucle autour de la Drouette from Saint-Martin-de-Nigelles

3. Rochefort en Yvelines

Bike rides :

1. La Véloscénie : Maintenon / Chartres (along la Vallée de l'Eure)
   -> Recommended itinerary : La Véloscénie – Maintenon / Chartres Château de Maintenon
2. Forêt de Rambouillet
3. GR 655 (chemin de Compostelle)

GOLF, HORSE RIDING AND FISHING



Photo: Selbymay · CC BY-SA 3.0, Wikimedia Commons

CHÂTEAU DE MAINTENON GOLF COURSE

WEBSITE 19 km

The château park's 18-hole course winds between ponds and the arches of Vauban's aqueduct. Visiting players welcome every day except Tuesday; 18-hole green fees from €37 to €79 depending on season and day (2027 rates). Book tee times at reception or online.



Photo: Lionel Allorge · CC BY-SA 3.0, Wikimedia Commons

CHÂTEAU DE ROCHEFORT GOLF COURSE

WEBSITE 24 km

Laid out in 1964 by Frederic William Hawtree over 110 rolling hectares around a 1904 château, near Rambouillet. Open all year, 8 am–7 pm in high season and until 5 pm in low season; book green fees online, with free taster sessions on offer regularly.



Photo: Lionel Allorge · CC BY-SA 3.0, Wikimedia Commons

LE GOLF NATIONAL

WEBSITE 42 km

Home of the 2018 Ryder Cup and the 2024 Olympic tournament, the Albatros reopened on 1 September 2026 after two years of work, with the Aigle course alongside. Open to the public: without a licence, €80–95 on the Aigle and €160–290 on the Albatros depending on the season.

GOLF, HORSE RIDING AND FISHING

HORSE RIDE · HARAS DE LA CENSE

WEBSITE 24 km



Photo: Rémih · CC BY-SA 4.0, Wikimedia Commons

With our own rides on hold, head to Bonnelles: 1½ hours in the Rambouillet forest, at a walk or trot, four riders at most, beginners welcome from age 11 (€75). Little ones from age 3 can try a first pony walk with their parents (30 min, €15). Book online.

FISHING AT THE GIROUDET POND

WEBSITE 2 min



Two minutes from the houses, the Giroudet pond is looked after by the Écrosnes fishing society, which has stocked it with trout, carp and roach. Society card: €27 a year, €12 for ages 10 to 16, free for under-10s with a card-holding adult, plus a €7 day option. Cards are sold at the Le Marly bar-tabac in Gallardon.

LOCAL COMMERCE

The cherry tree farm

Check out the local freshness at La Ferme des Merisiers, where seasonal flavors take center stage. They showcase products grown with care by local farmers, bringing you fresh, healthy, and eco-friendly fruits, vegetables, and other delights straight from the producer to your table.

Chemin de Prunay, 28320 Écrosnes

The farm of Bretonvilliers

Direct from producer to consumer, a varied range of fresh, locally-grown products.
.

4 Hameau de Bretonvilliers, 28700 Aunay sous Auneau

Carrefour Market

Open seven days a week, from 8:30 AM to 7:30 PM on weekdays and until 12:30 PM on Sundays, it offers you a wide selection of fresh products, groceries, and services for convenient and quick shopping.

Cd 28, 28320 Gallardon 9 km / 9 min

Hyper U Hanches and drive

This hypermarket offers a wider shopping experience and extensive services.

As well as a huge choice, take advantage of practical services such as vehicle rentals, a space for your photo developments, or even a ticket office for your outings.

Shopping Center, Gallardon Road, 11km / 13 minutes

BOULANGERIE







Boulangerie Marchand Père et Fils in Épernon, a gourmet place!

Located at 17 Rue Paul Painlevé, 28230, this bakery welcomes you from Monday to Sunday (except Wednesday) to offer you a variety of quality breads, pastries and cakes!

Les Traditions du Roi, a very good bakery and patisserie. Located at 7 Rue du Général de Gaulle, 78120 Rambouillet. It offers a great variety of breds viennoiseries and pastries.

WHERE TO EAT?



LE 28130

226 REVIEWS

★★★★★

20 €

Discover 28130, a unique place where restaurant, lounge bar and delicatessen come together in a warm, modern atmosphere! Immerse yourself in authentic French cuisine, enhanced by fresh local products.

02 37 21 24 23



REFLETS GOURMANDS

220 REVIEWS

★★★★★

20-25€

Local products and French regional specialties chosen for their quality and history. You can buy these products at the gourmet shop and enjoy them on-site at the restaurant, as well as throughout the day at the tea room and bar.

01 34 85 86 21



LA MAISON DU BOEUF

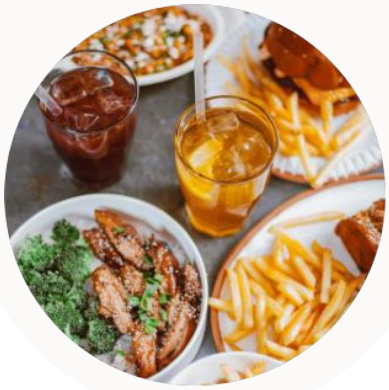
1490 REVIEWS

★★★★½

40 €

Experience the historical refinement of La Maison du Bœuf, where every meal is a celebration of French culinary art in an elegant and prestigious setting. The restaurant offers a selection of quality meats, grilled to perfection on the plancha.

01 30 59 48 89



AU BUREAU

3053 REVIEWS

★★★★

20-

Immerse yourself in the authentic atmosphere of a brasserie pub with a retro Anglo-Saxon decor. Au Bureau offers juicy burgers, tasty bistro cuisine and local specialities.

01 34 85 55 25

WHERE TO HAVE A DRINK?



THE CHARTRES GUINGUETTE €€

Called “La Petite Venise”, it’s a true haven of peace right in the heart of Chartres!
Step into a charming setting where simplicity and freshness take center stage. Enjoy fresh, artisanal products, mostly sourced locally, thanks to a partnership with passionate producers. Whether you’re looking for a delicious meal or a special moment to share, La Guinguette de Chartres is the perfect spot to raise a glass and soak in the warm, artistic atmosphere. In fine weather, you can also hire a pedal boat and drift along the Eure!

THE BLACK RIVER €€

Check out the vibrant atmosphere at The Black River, your must-visit beer and vibe bar in Rambouillet! Since 2022, dive into a festive and friendly world where an impressive selection of 120 types of beers, cocktails, and soft drinks awaits you.
Treat yourself to their 100% homemade tapas and appetizer boards, made with fresh, artisanal ingredients. Every month, The Black River comes alive with live concerts and themed nights, usually on Friday evenings.





THE BOWLING ALLEY IN RAMBOUILLET €

At Laser Bowling Rambouillet, you'll discover 18 modern lanes suitable for all skill levels, including equipment for kids. You can also enjoy the bar and unlimited bowling packages, which are often available on Wednesday and Sunday evenings, sometimes featuring a DJ for a full relaxation and entertainment experience!

ITINERARIES BY CAR

For families (distances by car):

- Écuries de Giroudet (horses in the meadow; rides on hold): 550 m ≈ 1 minute
- Espace Rambouillet / Deer rut: 15 km ≈ 15 minutes
- Rambolitrain Museum, Rambouillet: 14 km ≈ 20 minutes
- Bergerie Nationale (national sheepfold): 15 km ≈ 20 minutes
- Vélorails du Pays Chartrain (Gallardon–Pont station): 9 km ≈ 12 minutes
- Zoo Le Refuge: 26 km ≈ 25 minutes
- Gardens of the Château de Maintenon: 20 km ≈ 25 minutes
- L'Odyssée aquatic centre: 27 km ≈ 30 minutes

Exploring the region:

- GR 655 (Way of St James): 11 km ≈ 15 minutes
- Château de Maintenon: 19 km ≈ 25 minutes
- Bois-Richeux medieval garden (Pierres): 20 km ≈ 25 minutes
- Chartres Cathedral: 29.5 km ≈ 25 minutes
- Chartres Museum of Fine Arts: 30 km ≈ 25 minutes
- Centre international du Vitrail (Chartres): 30 km ≈ 25 minutes
- Saint-Pierre church and lower town, Chartres: 30 km ≈ 25 minutes
- Palace of Versailles: 48 km ≈ 45 minutes
- Château de Villebon: 52 km ≈ 50 minutes
- Illiers-Combray: Aunt Léonie's house, Pré Catelan: 55 km ≈ 50 minutes
- Paris: 65 km ≈ 1 h 20
- Château de Châteaudun: 73 km ≈ 1 h

Fun experiences:

- GR 655 (Way of St James): 11 km ≈ 15 minutes
- Microlight flight (Les Ailes d'Horus): 11 km ≈ 15 minutes
- Hot-air balloon flight (Air Pegasus): 12 km ≈ 15 minutes
- Chartres karting: 26 km ≈ 25 minutes
- Lutinopark tree-top adventure park: 28 km ≈ 35 minutes
- Le Colisée (sports and events venue): 30 km ≈ 35 minutes
- Maison Picassiette: 29 km ≈ 28 minutes
- Grottes du Foulon (caves): 74.4 km ≈ 1 h
- Chartres en lumières (April to early January): 30 km ≈ 25 minutes
- The Eure by canoe after dark (Fridays in June and July): 30 km ≈ 25 minutes
- Bonneval by electric boat or canoe – Little Venice of the Beauce: 61 km ≈ 1 h

Golf, horse riding and fishing:

- Giroudet pond (fishing): 2 minutes
- Château de Maintenon golf course: 19 km ≈ 22 minutes
- Haras de La Cense (horse rides, Bonnelles): 24 km ≈ 30 minutes
- Château de Rochefort golf course: 24 km ≈ 35 minutes
- Le Golf National (Guyancourt): 42 km ≈ 45 minutes