
BETWEEN **ORLÉANS** AND **CHAMBORD**

Pamper yourself in our territory...

Beauce-la-Romaine, Beaugency, Cléry-Saint-André, Meung-sur-Loire

TRAVEL GUIDE

OFFICE DE TOURISME
TERRES
DU VAL DE LOIRE

HOW TO GET HERE?

By car, camping-car, train, bus, bike or walking, all road may lead to **Terres du Val de Loire** ! Ideally located **1h30 away from Paris**, it is easy to come and visit us!



> *By car* |

From Paris : take the A10 towards Bordeaux, then take the exit No.15 in Meung-sur-Loire.

From Tours : take the A10 towards Paris, then take the exit No.15 in Meung-sur-Loire.

From the A71 : take the exit No.2 in Olivet.

> *By train* |

From Paris : trains operate from the Gare d'Austerlitz to the towns of Beaugency and Meung-sur-Loire.

From Orléans : trains operate from Orleans train station to the towns of Beaugency and Meung-sur-Loire.

From Blois : trains operate from Blois train station to the towns of Beaugency and Meung-sur-Loire.

From Tours : Trains operate from Tours train station to the towns of Beaugency and Meung-sur-Loire.

See the full schedules on :
www.oui-sncf and ter.sncf.com

> *By bus* |

From Orleans bus terminal, rue Marcel Proust :

- Line No.8 serves the town of Cléry-Saint-André.

-Line No.9 serves the towns of Beaugency and Meung-sur-Loire.

See the full schedules on :
www.remi-centrevaldeloire.fr

> *By bike* |

The towns of Beaugency, Cléry-Saint-André and Meung-sur-Loire can be easily accessed by **the itinerary of the Loire à vélo (Loire by bike) which you can visit on : www.loireavelo.fr**

A **bicycle guide** regrouping all the Loiret biking roads can be bought 2€ in our offices.



CONTENTS

- > *Our tourist offices* 2 |
- > *Beaugency the timeless* 4 |
- > *Cléry-Saint-André the unexpected* 10 |
- > *Meung-sur-Loire the poetic* 16 |
- > *What you can discover elsewhere...* 22 |
- > *Our Loire, a savage river* 24 |
- > *Tales & stories* 26 |
- > *Handy : Our markets* 28 |

OUR TOURIST OFFICES

> *Guided tours* |

Follow and let us guide you! **The Terres du Val de Loire Tourist Offices** propose you throughout the year to discover the precious heritage of its charming medieval towns.

The days, schedules and rates can be found inside each category about our towns. You can also visit our web site to see them: www.entre-orleans-et-chambord.com

> *Bicycle rent* |



You want to rent an electrically assisted bike or an ordinary bike, for half a day, a day or more?

Meung-sur-Loire tourist office owns 30 adult bikes classic or electric (with some of them equipped with baby seats) and 10 child bikes (6-12 years old) ready to bring you wherever you want for an affordable price! (Reservations recommended)

Classic bikes : From 8€ for half a day to 10€ for a full day (sliding scale prices).

Electric bikes : From 15€ for half a day to 20€ for a full day (sliding scale prices).

You will be prompted to give some identity document which will be conserved during the borrowing and returned afterwards.



One website : www.entre-orleans-et-chambord.com
One mail address : contact@tourisme-terresduvalde Loire.fr
One phone number : +33 (0)2.38.44.32.28



> **Meung-sur-Loire** information desk |

1, rue Emmanuel Troulet
45130 Meung-sur-Loire
Free WI-FI
Bathroom and watering place inside
G.P.S coordinates: 47.824338 / 1.696369

Opening schedules on our website



> **Beaugency** information desk |

3, place du Dr Hyvernaud
45190 Beaugency
Free WI-FI
G.P.S coordinates: 47.777797 / 1.631142

Opening schedules on our website



> **Cléry-Saint-André** information desk |

74 bis, rue du Maréchal Foch
45370 Cléry-Saint-André
Free WI-FI
G.P.S coordinates: 47.820918 / 1.755203

Opening schedules on our website

BEAUGENCY

the timeless

If there is a charming pleasant place to live in, it is Beaugency! The “Balgentiens” are proud of their town... In fact, this small town of the Loire valley, marked by a deep and prolonged medieval history has everything to delight you!

Beaugency belongs for a long time to the **multiple treasures of the Loire Valley**, classified inside the UNESCO World Heritage.

Historic city, dynamic, cultural and sportive, elected among the “**100 plus beaux détours de France**” (France’s 100 most beautiful detours), she well deserves her label of “Ville Fleurie” (Most Flourished City) since her slogan is “Manibus date lilia plenis” (to give handfuls of lilies).

Caressed by the last European savage river, **the Loire**, Beaugency crossed the eras, facing winds and perils: From the power struggles of the French Revolution, passing by the religious wars, she managed to resist the whims of the Royal River and its regular floods...

Take your time strolling inside Beaugency streets and follow the steps of diverse famous French characters which, before you, walked its streets: **Louis VII and Eleanor of Aquitaine, Philippe the Good, Jean Dunois, Johan of Arc, Charles VII, Louis XI**, but also more contemporary such as **Gaston Couté** (a French poet) and the comedian **Edwige Feuillère**.

The town was even immortalized by the painter **J.M.W Turner** during a stay in the Loire Valley at the end of the years 1820.



The Cesar Tower and the Abbey Church ©service patrimoine de Beaugency



Saint Firmin's Tower Bell ©D. Daury



Saint-Etienne's Church ©OT Terres du Val de Loire



Beaugency Bridge ©OT Terres du Val de Loire

BEAUGENCY

the must-sees



> *The town Hall* |

Beaugency town hall was built in 1525. Admire its gracious Renaissance frontage... You will be able to see some finely sculpted details: delicate profiles, Francis I's salamander and the town coat of arms.

But some other treasure awaits you inside: eight exceptional embroidered drapes constituting a unique testimony of the 17th century Decorative Arts!

> *The embroidered drapes* |

The subtlety and the refinement of their drawings, as well as the brightness of their colors allowed them to be protected.

Restored between 2009 and 2015, they represent allegories of continents and sacrifices, depicted with an exceptional expertise.

> **Book your guided tour at the tourist office.**





> *Notre-dame Abbey Church* |

Jewel of the local roman architecture, this abbey church was edified at the end of the 11th century. Having a great sober interior, Notre-dame of Beaugency holds one of Loire Valley most remarkable choir!

Note: The bells of the town of Beaugency are not inside Notre-dame's tower bell but inside Saint-Firmin's tower bell.

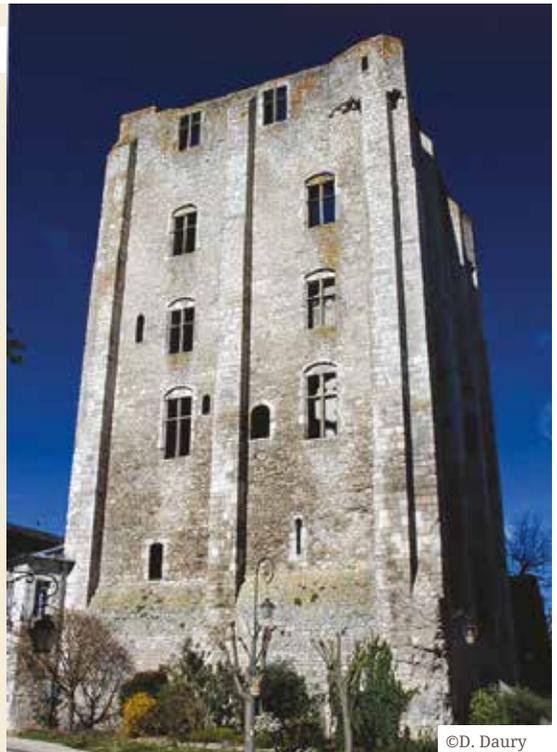
> *Cesar Tower* |

This 11th century dungeon, one France highest (118ft), is one of the most precious testimony of the roman military architecture.

Originally, its 4 half-timbered rooftop covered with slates and lead was flanked on the northern and western corner with bartizans. This rooftop was destroyed in 1568 by a great fire.

In 1840, during excavations realized in its foundations, the whole interior of the tower collapsed, letting the stone walls being the only remains of the tower.

> **Opened during the Tourist office's guided tours and the Heritage Day.**



©D. Daury

BEAUGENCY

it is also...



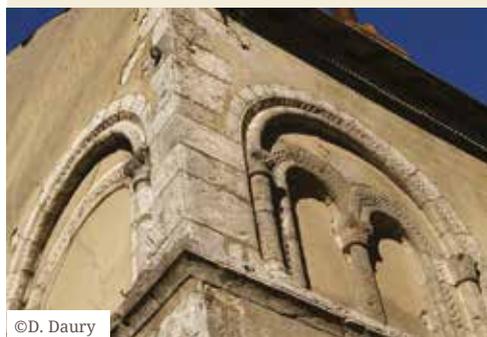
©D. Daury

< *Beautiful timber-framed houses* |



©D. Daury

> *The Clockwork tower* |



©D. Daury



©service patrimoine de Beaugency

< *The Devil's tower* |



©OT Terres du Val de Loire

> *Peaceful flourished streets* |



> *Tourist Office's guided tours* |

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR:

> **Guided tour in French for the groups:** On reservation only | Length: 1h30 | Price: To see with us | 10 pers. min.

IN JULY AND AUGUST :

> **Guided tour in French of the historical center: rendez-vous every Thursday at 10am** at Beaugency Information Desk. Reservations are encouraged. | Length : 1h30 | Adults : 6€ | Children from 12 to 18 : 3€ | Children under 12 : free | 5 pers. min.

> **Guided tour in French of the town hall, hall of honor and the 17th century embroidered draperies, rendez-vous every Tuesday at 10am** at Beaugency Information Desk.

Tour on reservation only | Length : 45 min | Adults : 3€ | Children from 12 to 18 : 2€ | Children under 12 : gratuit | 5 pers. min.

CLÉRY-SAINT-ANDRÉ

the unexpected

Must-see pilgrimage stop on the way of Saint-James, Clery-Saint-Andre is ideally located **between Orléans and Chambord, Loire Valley and Sologne...**

Whatever the road you take to come to Clery, you will see on the horizon the elegant profile of Notre-Dame, stunning beautiful monument from the **flamboyant gothic** era which attests of the special place the city hold in French kings hearts.

Clery-Saint-Andre still holds, along its streets, some ancient inns which used to welcome pilgrims. Take the time to stop by one of them and admire their precious architectural details.

You shall be agreeably surprised by the richness of its terroir, which, crossed by the **Ardoux river**, is a privileged place inviting you to discover it and relax...

You will be able to, according to you desires, choose the walking path of the Loire banks, of the vineyard or of the Sologne, to taste the **A.O.C Orléans-Cléry** wines and the local products, but also to appreciate the subtle charms of the local architecture.

These cultural, sportive or ludic activities will make you love the authenticity of this territory.



The Basilica ©V. Bauza



The vineyards road ©ADRT45



Old dormer window



Dry's ancient train station

CLÉRY-SAINT-ANDRÉ

the must-sees



©A. Rue, ADRT45

> *Notre-Dame Basilica* |

Our belle dame, masterpiece of the flamboyant gothic dominates from its 125ft the pleasant Ardoux Valley.

Its history begun at the end of the 13th century as the ploughmen discovered a **statue of the Virgin** in one of Cléry's field.

Quickly, many pilgrims flocked to pay homage to her.

Facing the scale of the phenomena, **Philippe the Good** decided to begin to build a more ambitious church. **The first stone was placed in 1339...**

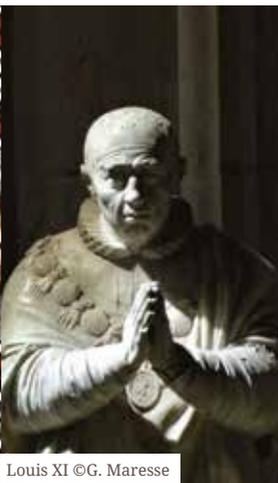
> *Discover in the old sacristy* : *the movie "Basilica"* |



©V. Bauza



Jean de Dunois



Louis XI ©G. Maresse

> *The graves* |

In 1444, the **Count of Dunois** chose to build a funeral chapel in which he would be buried alongside his spouse.

Multiplying the donations and very dedicated to Notre-Dame, **Louis XI** allowed it to be elevated to the rank of a royal chapel by the Pope in order to be buried there. Nowadays, its grave is still present.

> *Saint-Jacques's Chapel* |



©G. Maresse

> *Hollow core spiral staircase*



> *Tourist Office's guided tour* |

Take part in the guided tours which will reveal to you the Basilica's secrets: **The oratory and Louis XI's grave** and the magnificent **hollow core staircase**.

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR > **Group guided tours:** On reservations only | Length : 1h30 | Price : consult us | 19 pers. min.

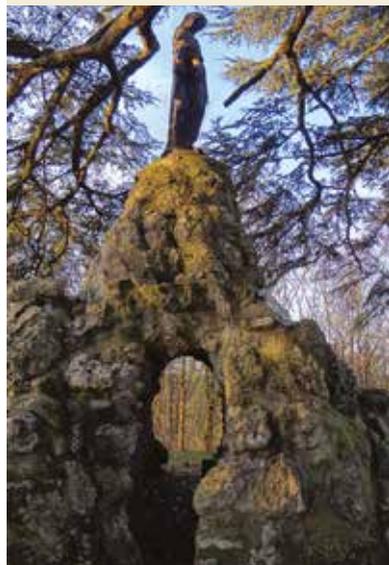
FROM MAY THE 1ST TO SEPTEMBER THE 30TH > **Basilica guided tour: rendez-vous every Wednesday at 3pm** at Clery-Saint-Andre information desk. Visit on reservation only | Length : 1h30 | Adults : 4€ | Reduced rates : 2,50 € | Children under 18 : free | 5 pers. min. | **No guided tour during services and ceremonies.**

CLÉRY-SAINT-ANDRÉ

it is also...



> *The 'butte des élus'*
(Mound of the chosen ones) |



> *Precious architectural details* |

Follow **the Ardoux**, river which crosses the village. At a turn in the path, it will reveal charming laundries and stoned wells, some of them dating back to the medieval era.



> *The water route*

They were real everyday life meeting places and fortuitous stop for the thirsty pilgrims.



In **Mézières-lez-Cléry** there is a curiosity still raising several questions...

This huge 12m tall, Gallic tumulus is said to have been overcome by a statue of the Virgin, to thank her for the protection she granted to the village during the 1870 war.



> *Strolls in the Val d'Ardoux* |

Pedestrian and equestrian walks allow you to discover, from the villages center, the heritage, the still savage Sologne and Ardoux nature. Following the **Isles recreational path**, you could come across beavers and could approach Loire's aquatic life.

> *Discover it with our mobile app: **Loiret Balades***



©OT Terres du Val de Loire

> *Orléans Vineyards* |

When it comes to wine production, the **Val d'Ardoux** is a name to reckon with!

You are there on the western bank of Loire, in the heart of Orleans Vineyard. It is classified in two distinct AOC, **Orléans and Orléans-Cléry** and is flourishing over 65 hectares.



Step on the “**Route du vignoble d’Orléans**” (road of Orleans Vineyard), the winemakers will gladly welcome you in their domain, propose you a stroll amid their vineyards and reveal you their wine secrets...

Already during the Roman Antiquity, the vine was largely present on these terraces and hills. A bunch of grapes figuring on the town coat of arm testimonies of this attachment.

MEUNG-SUR-LOIRE

the poetic

Isn't Meung-sur-Loire this place of "verdure où chante une rivière" (verdure where a river sings) as Arthur Rimbaud wrote in "Le dormeur du Val".

Yes, Meung really is that. A beautiful medieval city located **between Orleans and Chambord**, at the crossroad of Beauce and Sologne, at the heart of the **Loire Valley and the Kings Valley**.

Located on the banks of the Royal River, **Loire**, the ancient city offers its charms and its poetry. A dynamic but peaceful place where we take our time, the time to live, but where everybody is full of energy.

Wander in its beautiful street labyrinth full of stone timber-framed houses, strange statues and flourished gardens...

Discover at the corner of a street, a statue, a mullioned window, a place bordered by lindens, let yourself be soothed by the sweet sound of **the Mauves**, small rivers crossing the city and which drove the many wheels of **its ancient watermills**.

Follow the steps of the most famous poet of Meung-sur-Loire. If bend the ear and listen closely, you will hear **Francois Villon** whispering some verses from the bottom of the prison he used to be captive of while **Jehan de Meung** will count you its Roman de la Rose.

To know the life of the so-called "dirt eaters", read **Gaston Couté**, there, in its parents' mill... Let yourself be seduced by the Beauceron slang to go back to the sources and discover our roots.



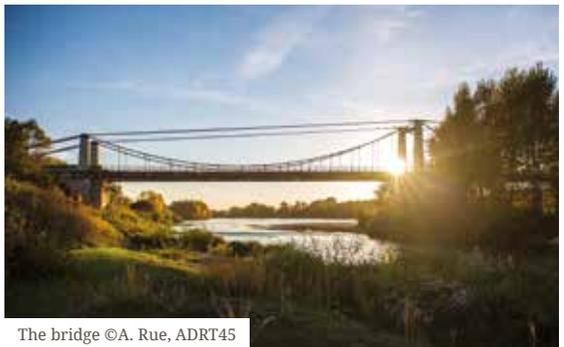
The Mauves ©MC Lion



Statue of Jehan de Meung ©A. Rue, ADRT45



The hall ©A. Rue, ADRT45



The bridge ©A. Rue, ADRT45

MEUNG-SUR-LOIRE

the must-sees

> *The castle* |

It belongs to the oldest and widest castle of the Loiret and has the particularity of having **2 frontages from different eras**: the first one, medieval, is from the 13th century and the second one, more classic is from the 18th century.

Dwelling of Orleans bishops, lords of Meung, the castle used to host **Johan of Arc** who delivered France from the English, as well as the kings Louis XI and Francis 1st.

Discover the underground part of the castle with its chapel and cells where prisoners such as Nicolas d'Orgemon or **Francois Villon** had the misfortune of being held captive.

> www.chateau-de-meung.com



©Meung-sur-Loire castle



©Meung-sur-Loire castle



©Meung-sur-Loire castle



©A. Rue, ADRT45

> *The collegiale* |

It stands magnificently and contemplates the Loire from its 1000 years.

On **Saint-Liphard's** grave (? – 565), a monastery was erected and replaced from the 11th century by a canon chapter.

The bell tower, in its lower part, dates from this era but the bell tower and the spire are from the 13th century.

Leaning on the nave and on the bell tower, a fortified building was built by Orleans's bishop and Mannassès de Garland, the **Manassès de Garlande tower**.



> *The remarkable gardens* |

Roquelin's Gardens: Let yourself be surprised by the diversity of the essences and the shimmer of the flower, the collection of old roses and all sorts of vivacious and shrubs plants. Colors and perfumes will be definitively present!

> www.lesjardinsderoquelin.com

Ilex's Arboretum Garden: Created on a marshland of 2 hectares, in a chilly place on the banks of the Mauves.

Water and vegetation live in harmony here for a long time. Natural flora thrived there. Throughout the years, the gardeners keeps implementing new vegetal species in the Arboretum.

> www.jardinarboretumdilex.com



©A. Rue, ADRT45

MEUNG-SUR-LOIRE

it is also...



©A. Rue, ADRT45

> *Beautiful timber-framed houses* |



©A. Rue, ADRT45

> *The hall fountain* |



©A. Rue, ADRT45



©A. Rue, ADRT45

> *The charms of the historic neighborhood* |



©MC Lion

< **Saint-Liphard's fountain** |

> **Old watermills** |



©MC Lion



©A. Rue, ADRT45

> **Amont's door** |

> Discover inside the Tourist Office historical or artistic exhibitions throughout the year.

> **Tourist Office's guided tour** |

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR :

> **Group guided tours:** on reservations only | Length : 1h30 | Price : consult us | 19 pers. min.

IN JULY AND AUGUST :

> **Historical center guided tour: rendez-vous every Wednesday at 10pm** at Meung-sur-Loire information desk. Visit on reservation only | Length : 1h30 | Adults : 6€ | Children from 12 to 18 : 3€ | Children under 12 : free | 5 pers. min.

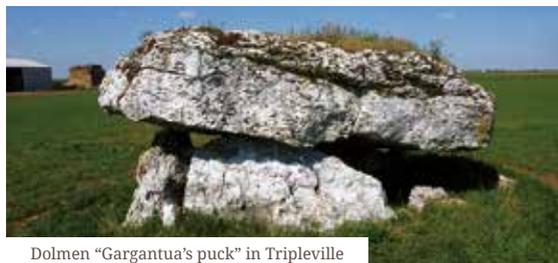
DISCOVER

elsewhere...

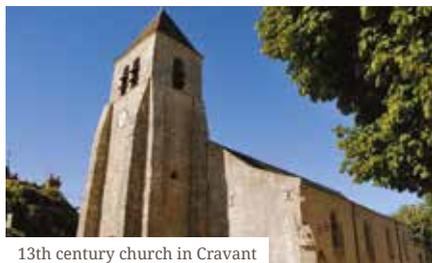
Our territory expands from **Beauce** to the **Loire Valley** and to the **Sologne**. The richness of its landscapes should surprise you!

Leave the walking path and start exploring the small heritages of our villages which contributes to the identity and cultural diversity of our **Loire Valley Lands**.

Beautiful stone churches, discreet chateaux, traditional houses, watermills, wells and flourished laundries, charming thirst-quenching fountains or thousand years old dolmens, there is something for every one.



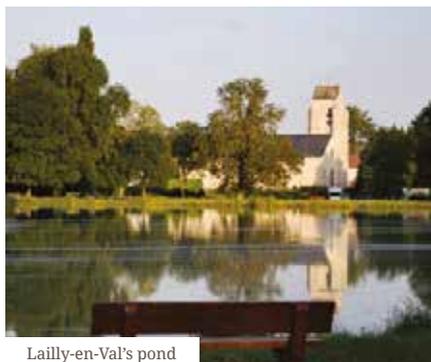
Dolmen "Gargantua's puck" in Tripleville



13th century church in Cravant



13th century church in Ouzouer-le-Marché



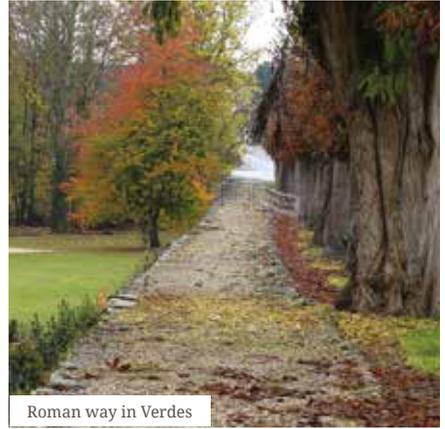
Lailly-en-Val's pond



Old well in Messas



“Les Eaux bleues” hike in Tavers



Roman way in Verdes



Huisseau-sur-Mauves' Castle



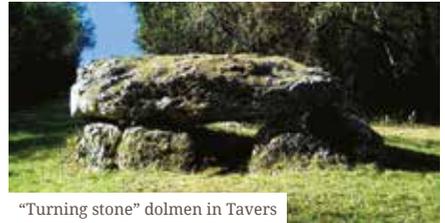
Chappe Tower in Baccon



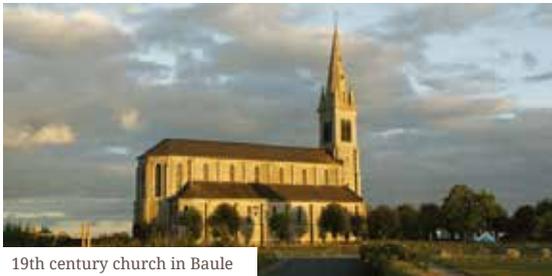
1870 war funerary monument in Coulmiers



15th century cross in Chandry



“Turning stone” dolmen in Tavers



19th century church in Baule



Stroll along Loire River

OUR LOIRE

a savage river...



©D. Voyer

The destiny of the towns in the **Loire Valley** was always linked to the existence of the Loire River. Nowadays, if the Loire River does is not as essential to them, it still is one of the most beautiful jewel of the region.

With the rhythms of the floods and low-waters, the **Loire River** has shaped a variety of habitats closely interwoven and forming a mosaic of natural habitats.

There, being privileged, we never get bored by its astounding and moving spectacle it creates: alluvial forests, golden sandbanks, **preserved wildlife and flora**, blazing sunsets and sunrises...

Its beauty and authenticity allowed her to be registered in the **world patrimony of the UNESCO** which recognize the precious and universal value of its exceptional cultural landscape.



©A. Rue, ADRT45

> *Loire by bike* |

It crosses the Loiret department from East to West over more than 150km.

Clery-Saint-André, Meung-sur-Loire and Beaugency are all three on its itinerary... A stop on our territory is necessary!

> www.loireavelo.fr

> *Loire river at Meung-sur-Loire*

Meung-sur-Loire port is located in the so-called “le bout du monde” neighborhood. Following the hauling way you will be able to see the caves dug into the hillside where the merchandizes used to be stored before the boarding.

Give yourself a change to wander on the Loire on a traditional flat-bottomed boat.

> www.coeur2loire.com



©L. Simonnet



©OT Terres du Val de Loire

> *Beaugency riverbanks* |

This natural place offers, close to the town, a succession of colors, odors, sounds and ambiances, from the natural or rough grasslands, passing by the woods and others wild lands, to the Loire shoreline...

TALES & stories

> **Beaugency Bridge**, it is a case of the biter bite! |

Beaugency Bridge, the eight wonder, is a **Devil's masterpiece**, an incomparable one... The Devil built it in just one night and without even one single hammer sound to be heard. However, he set aside for himself the first soul who would dare to cross the bridge, old, young, men, women... People of Beaugency - who are cunning folks – got easily through this tough time. They took a seemingly strong tomcat and on the new bridge threw it!

The Devil lodging in the tower nearby, in the middle of the quarry, surprised to see a cat step on its work, followed him promptly. The animal, being agile and spotting him leaped on a pile and in just three jumps quickly crossed the bridge. Continuing its course, in one last jump, he finally reach a place full of green.

The demon very sullen about his misadventure, in one shouldering tried to undermine the bridge, which well-built could not collapse but kept from this event a twisted ark. As for the inhabitants, very clever in this place, they retained the name of “**Beaugency Cats**”.



> **In Chaingy**, we cry wolf! |

On December 6th of 1814, women and children who were gathering wood in the forest, were attacked by a she-wolf that left two people dead and some injured. A battered was organized by the **Tayllerand Baron**, was also prefect at this time and the animal was killed near Cercottes.



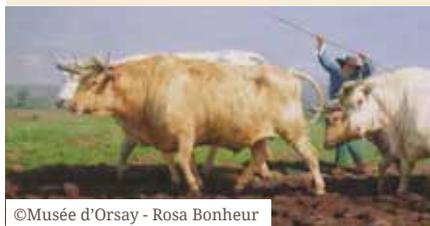
This even begun the writing of a series of tales and laments about **The Beast of Chaingy**. In 1868, the last wolf of our region was killed by Father Blaise Basset, a famous poacher. The remains of the beast is now exposed in the Natural Science Museum in Orleans.

> **Notre-Dame de Cléry:** *Follow the cattle, they know where they are going!* |

It is said that a peasant, who was working its land, discovered in a bush a polychrome oak **statue of the Virgin** of about 1m high. Wearing an elaborate crown, she was holding her divine child on her knees.

The peasant tried to bring back his discovery to **Mézières-Lez-Cléry** priest, but the cattle of its hitch went in the opposite direction and stopped suddenly in a clearing near the Loire River...

It was decided that a chapel would be built where the bovines stopped!



©Musée d'Orsay - Rosa Bonheur



> **A giant have fun in Tripleville!** |

The tales surrounding the famous character **Gargantua** are many... Tripleville's is about the ancient game of the Palet: «Gargantua, sitting on Tripleville church, a feet on **Ouzouer-Le-Marché's** one and the other one on Verdes' one was playing a game, having as a puck the dolmen table and as keels the menhir next to it.»



> **Meung donkeys:** *The Magdunois are far from being idiot!* |

During the **One Hundred Years War**, the bad weather ravaged the harvests and a band of raiders devastated the campaign.

Orleans was threatened by starvation and ask **Meung-sur-Loire** who was near, to help them. But the roads were not sure... Despite the danger, it was decided that the city would try, since Meung was a city of mills and donkeys. Thus, donkeys were charged with flour bags and the convoy left at night to **Orleans**.

Early in the morning from the top of the ramparts, the inhabitants of Orleans seeing the donkeys coming cried "Meung donkeys are here!"

This nickname could have stayed for Meung-sur-Loire inhabitants, but these cunning folks answered maliciously "In Meung, we see donkeys coming every day, but none of them stay!"

HANDY

our markets

Here is an ideal occasion to meet our local growers, whom always listening, will be able to give you valuable tips.

Awake your senses and smell the perfumes of our terroir products... Vegetables, fruits, delis, cheeses, cooked dishes, honeys and some other delicacies, you will find everything that you need to cook delicious meals during your holidays or throughout the years!

Also ask in our Tourist Offices, the guide “**Produits d’ici & de saison**” (“Seasonal products from our territory”) in which you will be able to find all the addresses of our local growers...



> *Our markets* throughout the year |

Wednesdays

in Beaugency,
place du Martroi | 7am-12:30 am

Thursdays

in Mareau-aux-Prés,
place de la Halle | 4pm-7pm

Fridays

in Ouzouer-le-Marché | 7am-12:30am
in Saint-Ay | 4pm-8pm

Saturdays

in Beaugency,
place du Martroi | 8am-1pm
in Cléry-Saint-André,
In front of the Basilica | 8am-12:30am

Sundays

in Meung-sur-Loire,
place du Martroi | 8am-1pm



©OT Terres du Val de Loire



©MC LION



©OT Terres du Val de Loire



©A. Rue, ADRT45



©OT Terres du Val de Loire

OFFICE DE TOURISME
TERRES
DU VAL DE LOIRE

TERRES DU VAL DE LOIRE TOURIST OFFICE

www.entre-orleans-et-chambord.com

contact@tourisme-terresduvalde Loire.fr

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