



Destination: Wine Country –
2024

WINE TOURISM

110 ANS CENTRE DES MONUMENTS NATIONAUX
1914-2024

CENTRE DES MONUMENTS NATIONAUX

DISCOVERING FRENCH HERITAGE



What better way to discover France's diverse winegrowing regions than by sipping wines at one of the historic monuments of the Centre des monuments nationaux?

Historic monuments in the CMN network with *Vignobles et Découvertes* designation and offering wine-tasting experiences



- Pays de la Loire region
 - **The Château d'Angers National Estate**
- Centre-Val de Loire region
 - **Château d'Azay-le-Rideau**
- Occitanie region
 - **Carcassonne castle and ramparts**
- Nouvelle-Aquitaine region
 - **Sauve-Majeure Abbey**
 - **Château de Cadillac**

THE CHÂTEAU D'ANGERS NATIONAL ESTATE

The Apocalypse Tapestry and its fortress



The Château d'Angers

National Estate

A site with “Vignobles et Découvertes” designation
Apocalypse Tapestry included in the UNESCO Memory of the World Register

- **A unique masterpiece**

The Apocalypse Tapestry is a unique mediaeval work of art that has no equal in terms of its history, display of technical skill, and age. The tapestry is included in the UNESCO Memory of the World Register.

- **A 17-towered fortress**

Cross the drawbridge and, inside the curtain wall, you will find the handsome residence of the Dukes of Anjou, comprising late-Gothic buildings and gardens.

- **A private, peaceful visit**

Come and enjoy an extraordinary visit to the château in the early morning or in the evening, when the castle is closed to the general public. These special visits can focus on a wide variety of topics.

- **Group lunch**

Looking for a bite to eat, whether savoury or sweet? Visitors to the Château d'Angers can now enjoy a little slice of heaven in the very heart of the castle: Le Clos du Roi.

Special group rates for groups of at least 20 adults and for resellers:

- **Self-guided tour:** €9.50 (instead of €11)
- **[Prix-fixe lunch menu:](#)** starting at €29/person
- **[Private tour:](#)** pricing by request





The chef and his team are proud to offer you a “bistronomic” menu featuring seasonal and local ingredients.

Pair your visit with a lunch in one of the sitting rooms of the governor’s residence, exclusively reserved for your group*.

Groups of 20 people minimum. Reservations: reservations.anger@monuments-nationaux.fr



LE CLOS DU ROI - 2 Promenade du Bout du Monde, 49000 ANGERS,
FRANCE ✉ leclosduroi.angers@gmail.com ☎ +33 (0)2.55.98.45.90

* Subject to availability

The Duke’s Menu €29

Start off your lunch with a glass of Crémant de Loire sparkling wine (€6) as you enjoy a platter of cheeses from our regions with mesclun and piccalilli (€9)

Fish meunière with black garlic aioli
or
Angers-style soft-boiled egg

Line-caught pollack, Anjou-style quinoa risotto,
chorizo cream sauce
or
Pork belly roasted on hay, mashed potatoes and
vegetables
or
Braised fennel with calamansi, Indian-style lentils

Crème brûlée with Cointreau
and blood orange sorbet
or
Rich chocolate cake with praline and tonka bean

A glass of wine, water, and a hot beverage



The Prince’s Menu €39

Pork belly rillauds, melon, and
verbena
or
Caramelised shallot tarte Tatin, smoked eel, Chenin
grape relish

Roasted zander, purée of charred celeriac, beurre blanc
or
Pressed beef with Anjou Rouge wine,
shallot French toast
or
Roasted aubergine with
miso, einkorn wheat risotto

Crémet d’Anjou with seasonal fruit coulis
or
Rich pistachio cake with roasted
apricot and white chocolate ganache

A glass of wine, water, and a hot beverage

Sample menu, depending on the season and availability of ingredients
Price per person, VAT included. Groups of 20 people minimum. Service charges included.

CHÂTEAU D'AZAY-LE- RIDEAU

**A Renaissance masterpiece and
romantic treasure of the Loire
Valley**



Château d'Azay-le-Rideau

A site with “Vignobles et Découvertes” designation
UNESCO World Heritage Site

- **A masterpiece of 16th-century architecture**

The château boasts impressive, historic décor retracing four centuries of history, as well as sumptuous collections of objects, tapestries, and furniture.

- **Special deal: “Sip & savour at the château” on the grounds of the castle**

Enjoy a self-guided tour of the château, then sip on a glass of wine while savouring regional gourmet products at our restaurant & tearoom.

- Available from April to September, in French and English.
- Duration: 1 hour

- **The “History of Wine Country” wine-tasting tour on the grounds of the château**

A tour led by a guide or oenologist, along with a guided tasting of four wines.

- Available year-round in French, English, and German.
- Duration: 1 hour

- **“The sweet side of the Renaissance” food tour**

Accompanied by an expert tour guide, discover the château’s history and collections through the theme of how tastes and gourmet delights have evolved over the centuries.

Special group rates for groups of at least 20 adults and for resellers:

- **Self-guided tour: €11.50 (instead of €13)**
- **[Special deal: “Sip & savour at the château”](#) – starting at €18**
- **The “History of Wine Country” wine-tasting tour: starting at €30**
- **[“The sweet side of the Renaissance” food tour](#): €250 flat fee + €16/person**



CENTRE DES
MONUMENTS NATIONAUX

CITADEL OF CARCASSONNE CASTLE AND RAMPARTS

**A unique experience in France's
largest fortified citadel**



Mediaeval Citadel of Carcassonne

A site with “Vignobles et Découvertes” designation

UNESCO World Heritage Site

- **An authentic mediaeval citadel**

Restored by Viollet-le-Duc in the 19th century, the mediaeval citadel bears witness to 1,000 years of military architecture and 2,500 years of history.

- **A new visitor circuit!**

Discover France’s largest fortified citadel like you’ve never seen it before, with the entirety of the ramparts now open to the public.

- **A spectacular view from the ramparts**

Walk the ramparts and enjoy spectacular views of the Pyrenees, the Montagne Noire range, and the Lauragais plain. The new visitor circuit offers panoramic views of the local landscapes, from the forests of the Montagne Noire range, to the heathlands, to the vineyards producing Cabardès, Minervois, Corbières, and Malepère wines.

- **In vino fabula**

The Centre des monuments nationaux has teamed up with local winemakers, using an environmentally responsible approach to create a special vintage that will help preserve France’s historical heritage sites.

Special group rates for groups of at least 20 adults and for resellers:

- **Self-guided tour: €11.50 (instead of €13)**



CENTRE DES MONUMENTS NATIONAUX

SAUVE-MAJEURE ABBEY

Masterpiece of Romanesque art



Sauve-Majeure Abbey

A site with “Vignobles et Découvertes” designation
UNESCO World Heritage Site

- **Tour + wine tasting**

To go along with your tour, discover the wines of the Entre-deux-Mers area at the Maison des Vins, in the abbey’s former tithe barn!

- Duration: 2 hours
- Reservations 1 month in advance, by email sent to: reservationbordelais@monuments-nationaux.fr

- **Along the Way of Saint James**

This Benedictine abbey, built in the Middle Ages, features famous sculpted capitals and other decorative elements.

- **An easily accessible place, where time stands still**

Why not cycle from Bordeaux to the Abbey, through the vineyards lying alongside the Roger Lapébie bike path...

Special group rates for groups of at least 20 adults and for resellers:

- **Self-guided tour: €5.50 (instead of €7)**
- **Joint admission to Sauve-Majeure Abbey and the Château de Cadillac: €9 (instead of €11)**
- **[Tour + wine tasting](#): €9 (instead of €11) | Max. 30 people**



CHÂTEAU DE CADILLAC

A palace on the banks of the Garonne Riv



Château de Cadillac

A site with “Vignobles et Découvertes” designation

- **From river to hillsides to vineyards**

Located 35 km south-east of Bordeaux, this historic château in the very heart of Bordeaux wine country embodies the rise to power and fortune of the Duke of Epernon, a precursor to the Musketeers

- **The first women’s prison in France**

Explore a dark chapter in the history of the Château de Cadillac.

- **Tour and wine tasting**

Explore the castle’s history through the theme of wine, then follow up your tour with a wine tasting in the incredible setting of the castle’s historic kitchens.

- Duration: 1 hr 30 min
- Available in French and English
- Reservations 1 month in advance, by email sent to: reservationbordelais@monuments-nationaux.fr

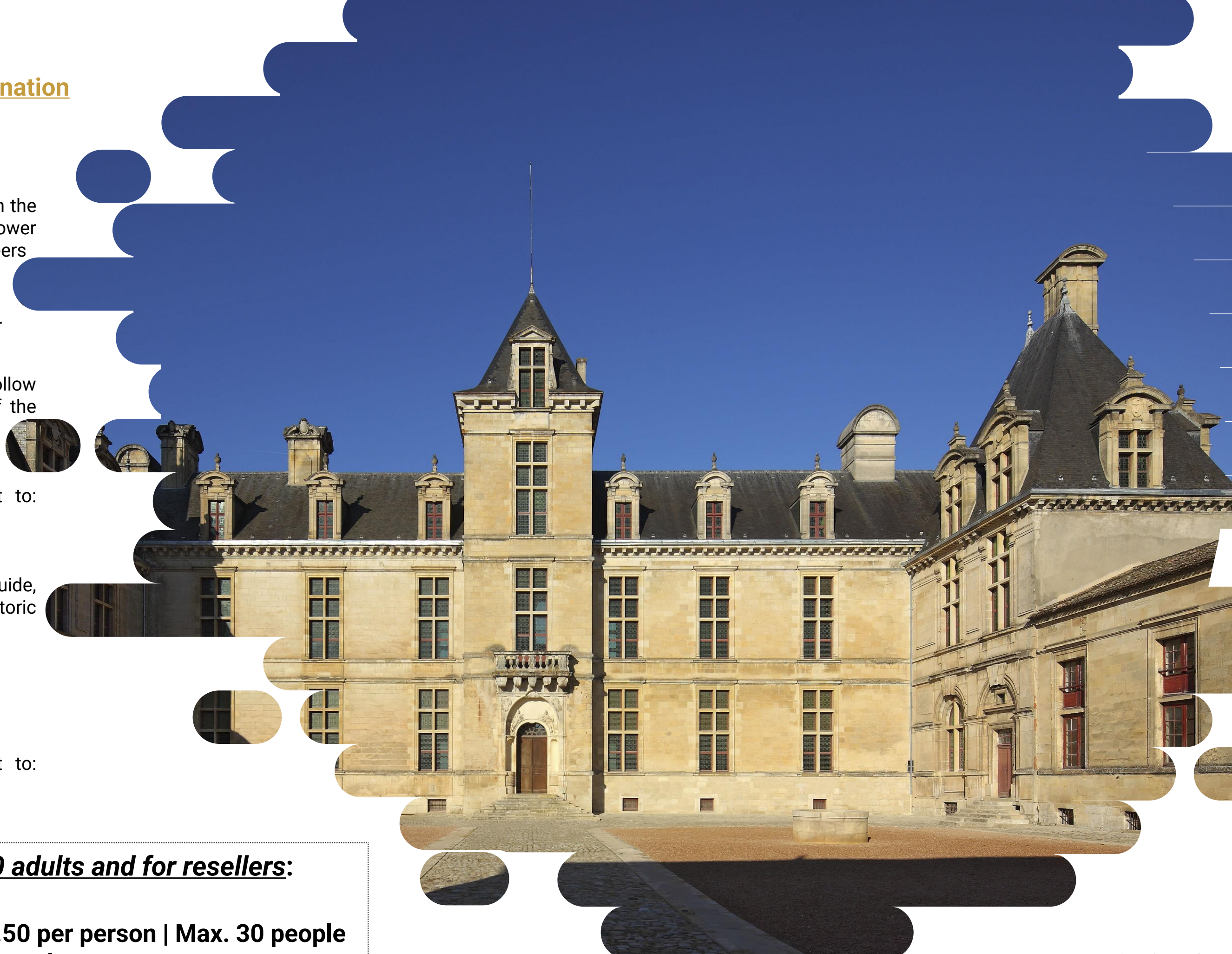
- **Private tour + wine tasting**

In the evening, enjoy a private tour of the château, led by a guide, then taste a series of Bordeaux wines in the castle’s historic kitchens. Enjoy having the château all to yourselves!

- Duration: 2 hours
- Available in French and English
- Additional fee for guide: starting at €160
- October–May: 6 to 8 p.m.
- June–September: 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
- Reservations 1 month in advance, by email sent to: reservationbordelais@monuments-nationaux.fr

Special group rates for groups of at least 20 adults and for resellers:

- **Admission: €5.50 (instead of €7)**
- **[Tour and wine tasting](#): flat fee of €250 + €5.50 per person | Max. 30 people**
- **[Private tour + wine tasting](#): €660 | Max. 30 people**



Other CMN historic monuments with “*Vignobles et Découvertes*” designation

➤ Occitanie region

- Towers and ramparts of Aigues-Mortes → **Self-guided tour: €7.50 (instead of €9)**
- Ensérune archaeological site → **Self-guided tour: €7.50 (instead of €9)**

➤ Nouvelle-Aquitaine region

- Pey Berland Tower → **Self-guided tour: €7.50 (instead of €9)**
- The Gallo-Roman villa of Montcaret → **Self-guided tour: €4 (instead of €5)**

➤ Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur region

- Glanum archaeological site → **Self-guided tour: €7.50 (instead of €9) | Joint admission for Glanum and Hôtel de Sade: €10 (instead of €12) | Joint admission for Glanum and Montmajour Abbey: €12 (instead of €14)**
- Le Thoronet Abbey → **Self-guided tour: €7.50 (instead of €9)**
- Cloister of Fréjus Cathedral → **Self-guided tour: €5.50 (instead of €7)**

➤ Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region

- Château de Villeneuve-Lembron → **Self-guided tour: €5.50 (instead of €7)**



Offerings for foodies from the Centre des monuments nationaux

➤ Hauts-de-France region

- Château de Pierrefonds

➤ Normandy region

- Château de Carrouges

➤ Burgundy-Franche-Comté region

- Cluny Abbey

➤ Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region

- Château de Chareil-Cintrat
- Royal Monastery of Brou



CHÂTEAU DE PIERREFONDS

A 19th-century recreation of the Middle Ages



Château de Pierrefonds

- **A castle recreated by Viollet-le-Duc**

In the 19th century, having been asked by Napoleon III to restore the château, the architect Eugène Viollet-le-Duc put his architectural theories into practice and rebuilt the property according to his conception of an ideal mediaeval castle.

- **Somewhere to dream**

The “*Bal des Gisants*” (Ball of the Tomb Effigies) exhibition takes you on an enchanted stroll through the underground vaults of the castle.

- **The Duke’s private tour**

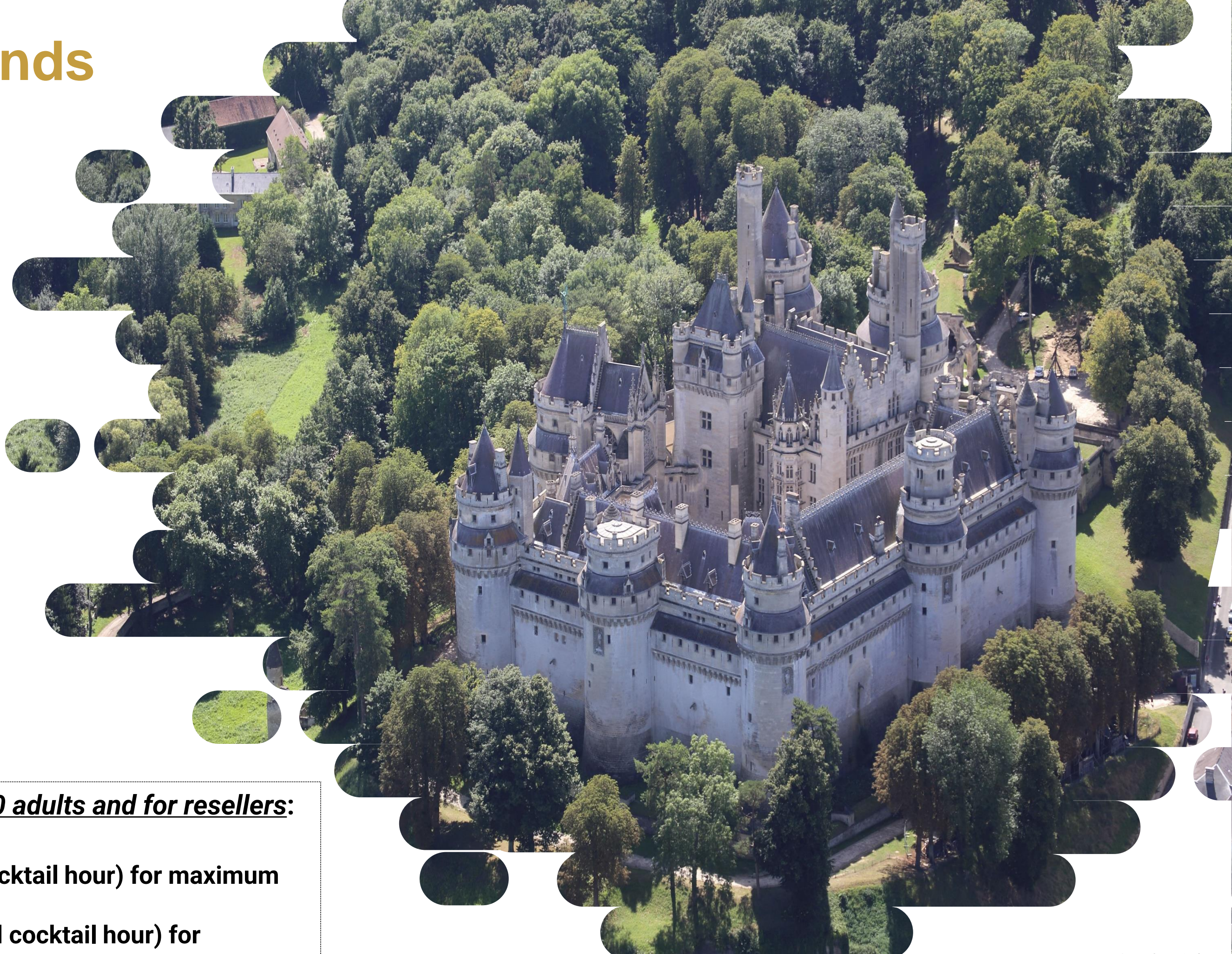
An expert guided tour, followed by a cocktail hour in the main courtyard or chapel

- **The Emperor’s private tour**

An hour-long expert guided tour, followed by a cocktail hour in the empress’s bedchamber or on the patio by the chapel.

Special group rates for groups of at least 20 adults and for resellers:

- **Self-guided tour: €7.50 (instead of €9)**
- **[The Duke’s private tour](#) (guided tour and cocktail hour) for maximum 100 people: pricing by request**
- **[The Emperor’s private tour](#) (guided tour and cocktail hour) for maximum 10 people: pricing by request**



Château de Carrouges

- **A jewel of Normandy's heritage**

With its original furnishings and collections put together over seven centuries by the same family, this incredible château immerses visitors in the history of the great French aristocratic families of old, and bears witness to their *art de vivre*!

- **“Dining with the Lords of Carrouges”**

Stand in the former bakery or guardroom, look around, and see the juicy meat grilling in one of the monumental fireplaces... Dine with the Lords of Carrouges, as King Louis XI and Queen Catherine de' Medici once did, and immerse yourself in the castle's history and cuisine!

- **“Time stands still at Carrouges”**

Discover the Normandie-Maine Regional Park, designated a UNESCO Global Geopark, whose visitor centre is housed in the château's former collegiate church. Enjoy a tasting of pear cider and discover the history of the Château de Carrouges, whose fireplaces will stay lit just for you...

Special group rates for groups of at least 20 adults and for resellers:

- Self-guided tour: €5.50 (instead of €7)
- [Special offer “Dining with the Lords of Carrouges”](#): starting at €27 per person
- [Special offer “Time stands still at Carrouges”](#): starting at €44 per person



DINING WITH THE LORDS OF CARROUGES

IMMERSE YOURSELF IN THE CHATEAU'S HISTORY AND CUISINE!



STARTING
€27
PER PERSON



MEAT GRILLED IN THE CASTLE'S MONUMENTAL FIREPLACES

EXPERIENCE 700 YEARS OF NORMANDY HISTORY

CENTRE DES MONUMENTS NATIONAUX

www.chateau-carrouges.fr

DINING WITH THE LORDS OF CARROUGES

Surprise your fellow diners: taste the history of Carrouges and experience Normandy's art of living when you organise a group outing to a prestigious castle, considered one of the jewels of Normandy's cultural heritage, alongside Mont Saint-Michel.

Accompanied by your own personal guide, explore the castle's grand apartments, which showcase Normandy's *art de vivre*, and discover the history of this château, whose noble lord went down in mediaeval history for having taken part in France's last trial by combat, or judicial duel. Then, enjoy some delicious meat roasted for you over a wood fire in the château's historic, monumental fireplaces.

Following in the grand tradition of French gourmet meals, dine with the Lords of Carrouges, just as King Louis XI and Queen Catherine de' Medici once did!

Practical information:

- Price: starting at €27 / person (drinks included)
- Several prix-fixe menus available
- Pricing for a minimum of 20 people includes: the caterer's services, room rental, and a guided tour of the château
- Dine in one of the rooms of the château, with meat grilled in the castle's fireplaces
- Château open year-round, except 1 January, 1 May, 1 and 11 November, and 25 December
- Located just 25 km from Bagnoles de l'Orne - Normandie and 30 km from Alençon
- Free parking for buses and cars on-site



For information and reservations:

Château de Carrouges - 61320 Carrouges, France
Tel. +33 (0)2 33 31 16 42 or (0)2 33 27 20 32
chateau-carrouges@monuments-nationaux.fr www.chateau-carrouges.fr

Examples of dishes that may be included on the menu:

TUREEN OF SWEETBREAD WITH MUSHROOMS AND ARMAGNAC ***

CREPE CAKE ****

BEEF CHOP GRILLED IN THE FIREPLACE WITH A CAMEMBERT AND MOREL SAUCE ***

HAM GRILLED IN THE FIREPLACE WITH MADEIRA SAUCE

CHOCOLATE BAVARIAN

CREAM



In partnership with the caterer
SARL COULBAULT & ASSOCIÉS
15, place du Général Leveueur
61320 Carrouges, France

CENTRE DES MONUMENTS NATIONAUX

Special Invitation

CENTRE DES MONUMENTS NATIONAUX



Time stands still at Carrouges



You are cordially invited to the Grand Estate of Carrouges, a truly exceptional site in the heart of the pristine, peaceful wooded countryside of Normandy. Explore the castle's grand apartments, which showcase Normandy's *art de vivre*, then dine with the Lords of Carrouges for a meal in the great tradition of French gourmet cuisine. To continue delighting your taste buds, why not partake in a time-honoured tradition with a glass of *poiré*, or pear cider, at the Maison du Parc, and then go on to explore the Normandie-Maine Regional Nature Park and Geopark. Let time stand still for a moment as you explore the worlds of gastronomy, cultural heritage, and nature!

On the agenda

- ✓ A guided tour of the Château - 1 hr
- ✓ Lunch at the Château (catering, drinks, and room rental included) - about 2 hrs
- ✓ Introduction to the Normandie-Maine Regional Park and Geopark, guided tour of the visitor centre - 1/2 hr
- ✓ Self-guided tour of the exhibition spaces and shop, featuring local products
- ✓ Pear cider tasting - 1/2 hr

starting at
€44 *
per person

**based on 20 people paying*

- ▶ Château and park visitor centre located a 5-minute walk apart
- ▶ Sites located just 20 km from Bagnoles-de-l'Orne-Normandie and 30 km from Alençon
- ▶ Free parking for buses and common room where the driver can relax



The *Château de Carrouges*, built during the Hundred Years' War, is a jewel of Normandy's cultural heritage. Discover the castle's grand apartments, with their original furnishings and amazing collections, assembled by a single family over the course of seven centuries! Continue your experience in the guardroom or bakery, where you can enjoy a traditional French lunch. The delectable meat is grilled right in front of you over a wood fire in the château's monumental fireplaces.

The *Regional Park and Geopark visitor centre* invites you to immerse yourself in the region's natural environment. Discover the history that connects the château to the park's visitor centre. You will learn more about France's regional nature parks and their mission, as well as the park's UNESCO Global Geopark designation. Enjoy a tasting of *poiré* to discover this typical Normandy pear cider made with expertise passed down from generation to generation. To finish your visit, you can browse through the exhibition spaces and shop filled with local products.



Example menu
Poiré cocktail & warm toast
-
Plate of preserved gizzards in raspberry vinegar
-
Beef roasted in the fireplace & sauce Tender roasted potatoes – French beans
-
Platter of Normandy cheeses
-
Warm apple tart with a scoop of vanilla ice cream
-
An assortment of wines and cider Coffee



For reservations, contact
Escap'Orne groupes@orne.fr
or +33 (0)2 33 15 00 06
www.escaporne.fr

CLUNY ABBEY MUSEUM OF ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY

An abbey with great influence throughout Europe in the Middle Ages



Cluny Abbey

- **Cluny Abbey**

Explore the abbey's many monastic buildings and the remains of its great church, the "Maïor Ecclesia", which was partially destroyed after the French Revolution.

- **Museum of Art and Archaeology**

Here you can see many sculpted elements from the abbey and the mediaeval town.

- **"The monks and their wine" tour and wine tasting**

Special group rates for groups of at least 20 adults and for resellers:

- Self-guided tour: €9.50 (instead of €11)
- "The monks and their wine" tour and wine tasting: pricing by request



CHÂTEAU DE CHAREIL- CINTRAT

A castle with remarkable Renaissance interiors



Château de Chareil-Cintrat

- **Exceptional interiors featuring examples of the Second Renaissance in France**

The painted décor comprises a series of grotesques that is unique in France in both number and quality of execution.

- **At the foot of a vine-clad hill**

Outside the château, you can go on to visit the *Conservatoire des Anciens Cépages des Pays de Chareil et Saint-Pourçain*, where old varieties of grape vines grown locally are carefully preserved.

Special group rates for groups of at least 20 adults and for resellers:

- **Self-guided tour: €4 (instead of €5)**



ROYAL MONASTERY OF BROU

Love, culture, and audacity since 1532!



Royal Monastery of Brou

- **At Margaret of Austria's behest**

Brou Monastery is a masterpiece commissioned by Margaret of Austria to perpetuate her glory and her love for her husband, Philibert the Handsome.

- **A jewel of the Flamboyant Gothic style**

The church is richly ornamented with examples of 16th-century Flemish sculpture, including tombs, an altarpiece, statues, and choir stalls.

- **A wine tour of the monastery**

From the garden to the Bresse-style cloister, from the vaulted cellars to the old refectory, on this tour, you will discover the monastery like you've never seen it before.

Special group rates for groups of at least 20 adults and for resellers:

- Self-guided tour: €9.50 (instead of €11)
- Wine tour, organised by the [Bourg-en-Bresse Tourist Information Centre](#)



CONTACTS



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<https://www.monuments-nationaux.fr/en/adult-groups-and-tourism-professionals>