



Christmas in Chambord

2022



PRESS BOOK
www.chambord.org



Introduction

As 2022 draws to a close, the Domaine national de Chambord invites families to enjoy a captivating experience in an enchanting setting.

Enjoying traditional decors, contemporary inspirations, costumed performances and the Christmas show, visitors are the king's guests. Invited to a lavish reception, they are immersed in Renaissance splendor.

Outside, the alleys and the French gardens will be adorned with approximately sixty Christmas trees illuminated by photovoltaic power.

Christmas at Chambord from 1 December 2022 to 2 January 2023

Activities every weekend and during the school Holidays

Christmas show from Saturday the 17th to Friday the 30th of December

Except 25 December and 1 January

Advent calendar on Instagram*

24 days of surprises on Instagram!
Play on the @chateaudenchambord account and try to win a prize, whatever your age!

#Metschambordsoustonsapin
#ChambordMetLePaquet

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2 Introduction

3 Press release

6 Lighting of the trees and energy sobriety

6 Christmas decors

8 The Christmas show

10 Workshops and activities

12 The children's lodge, the books of riddles

13 Chambord 360°, a fabulous journey

14 Food services

15 Chambord under the Christmas tree

16 Practical information

17 Partners

Christmas in Chambord

From 1 December 2022 to 2 January 2023



As 2022 draws to a close, the Domaine national de Chambord invites families to enjoy a captivating experience in an enchanting setting.

Outside, the French gardens and the lawns will be highlighted and adorned with an alley of Christmas trees illuminated by photovoltaic power.

Enjoying decors, costumed performances and the Christmas show, visitors are the king's guests. Invited to a lavish reception, they are immersed in the atmosphere of Renaissance galas.

The outskirts of the château illuminated by solar energy

A pioneer in sound and light since 1952, Chambord perpetuates its traditional illuminations while respecting its commitment to energy sobriety, utilising solar energy to highlight its Christmas tree alleys.

The Domaine national de Chambord has renewed its partnership with *Groupe Roy Energie**, illuminating its "LED" Christmas tree garlands by means of a self-sufficient and sustainable technological solution, through which a photovoltaic power system consisting in 54 solar panels has been set up on the ground and enables the lighting of the trees along its alleys. Independent and reusable, the system functions off-grid, with a 25,000 Wh battery ensuring eight hours of autonomy.

* Chambord and *Groupe Roy Energie* previously used this equipment on the 28 June 2022 Sting concert.

Inside the château, decorations in the spirit of royal splendor

From 1 December to 2 January

Garlands, suspensions, fir trees, buffets, Holiday tables and ornamental panels enchant the visitor's pathway. Additionally, young and old alike can acquaint themselves with the 16th-to-18th-centuries sovereigns' games and activities.

A pedagogical partnership with the *Ecole Nationale des Fleuristes de Paris*

Accompanied by four instructors, 41 apprentices from the *Ecole Nationale des Fleuristes de Paris* enriched their artistic and artisanal skills during a week of installation (from the 21st through the 25th of November). On the field, they implemented professional techniques of monument-scale mounting and installation.

Domaine national de Chambord

Contact: Irina Metzl
Château de Chambord - 41250 Chambord
Tel. +33(0)2 54 50 50 49 - irina.metzl@chambord.org



The Christmas show: "The (almost) true story of François I"

New in 2022, from 17 to 30 December

On a stage, four costumed comedians, artistic fencers, a female singer and four instrumentalists specialised in the Renaissance repertoire embark the spectators in a picturesque journey back in time.

A creation of Midnight-Première directed by Jean-Paul Bouron

Workshops and activities

December weekends and during the school Holidays from 17 to 30 December

Chambord comes into full gear for Christmas festivities: reading of tales, Renaissance music and dance, costumed deambulation and demonstrations, falconry, painting on chocolate, horn concerts. For the complete program, see chambord.org

**PRESS LAUNCH
THURSDAY, 1 DECEMBER 2022**

www.chambord.org

Lighting of the trees and energy sobriety

From 1 December to 2 January

For several years, Chambord has been **engaged in sustained development initiatives and the implementation of energy transition programs**, which have an impact on the functioning of the estate and the services offered to visitors. With this in mind, the Christmas illuminations will be powered by solar energy from nightfall up until 10 P.M.

Solar energy to shine light on the Christmas trees

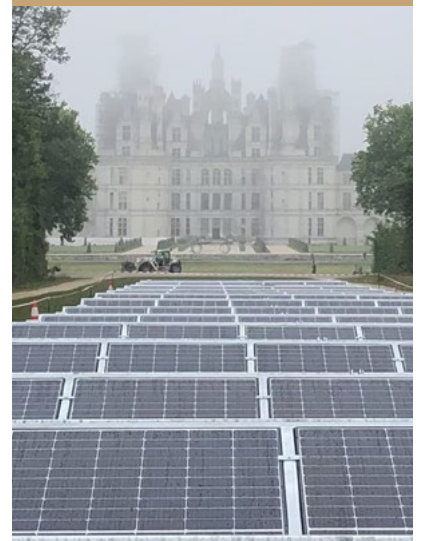
The Domaine national de Chambord has renewed its partnership with Groupe Roy Energie, illuminating the “LED” Christmas tree garlands along the alleys by means of a **self-sufficient and sustainable** technological solution. A **photovoltaic power system** consisting in 54 solar panels has been set up on the ground and enables the **lighting of the trees**. Independent and reusable, the system functions off-grid with a 25,000 Wh battery ensuring eight hours of autonomy. Using this system, sun rays are captured during the day and brought back at nightfall, thereby independently lighting the Christmas tree alley.

The circadian lighting of the façade

Since 2018, a partnership with EDF and Citélum has enabled **reasoned and permanent lighting of the château’s façade**. “LED” bulbs are spread out over a 156-meter span. The mobile lighting is similar to the natural light provided by the sun and the moon. A 28-minute circadian cycle showcases the beauty of Chambord architecture.

* Chambord and Groupe Roy Energie previously used this equipment on the 28 June 2022 Sting concert.

The temporary installation of 150 solar panels over a span of 80 meters offset the concert’s carbon footprint.



■ Environmentally committed partners

The Naudet nurseries

As eminent specialists in reforestation in France and as the country's number #1 Christmas tree manufacturer, for nine years the Naudet nurseries have been partners of Chambord, enchanting the southern alleyways with approximately sixty trees. Their activity is threefold: seedling raising, reforestation, and Christmas tree production. Drawing on their expertise and cumulative experience since 1876, six generations have perpetuated a tradition of French know-how, helping private proprietors to plant, protect and maintain their plots of land. Each year, the nursery's 80 planters contribute to the reforestation of 4,000 hectares.



Groupe Roy Energie

A major contributor to preservation of the environment in France, Groupe Roy Energie is located in Orléans. It designs and installs photovoltaic solutions adapted to the specific needs for construction or renovation of farmers, communities, companies and manufacturers, individuals and real estate specialists.

All services are carried out in-house, without sub-contracting. Company teams collaborate with top-quality local partners anchored in their territories and guarantee premium service at a fair price in 60 French departments.



A pioneer in sound and light displays since 1952, Chambord perpetuates its traditional illuminations by respecting its commitment to energy sobriety.



Christmas decors

From 1 December to 2 January



■ In the château, the spirit of royal splendor

This winter, the decors are suffused with Royal splendor, as though Francis the Ist were inviting visitors to celebrate Christmas in the castle. From the ground floor to the furnished apartments, along with the entrance porch, the renowned double-helix staircase and the chapel, the visitors' trail is rendered sublime, thanks largely to the long-standing engagement of partners contributing year in and year out to Christmas in Chambord.

The entrance and the facade are magnified by starry panels and gold-colored garlands. On the ground floor, the decorations recall sumptuous banquet tables and culinarily festive childhood, with gilded panels adorned with representations of candy cane, giant lollipops and nutcrackers galore. Grand buffets with vegetables from the Chambord garden are proudly displayed.

The chambers, offices and antechambers are adorned with garlands of everlasting roses, fir trees and botanical cascades. The first-floor gallery and the chapel contain



birch tree lights and embellished medallions. This year, a wishing tree for visitors has been installed in the château.

As of the 1st of December, visitors of all ages can acquaint themselves with 16th-to-18th centuries sovereigns' favorite games and preferred pastimes. As for the aficionados of the Grand Siècle (the 17th century), they can hone their skills at the trou-madame board game, which was very much in fashion during the life and times of Louis XIV. As for more traditional games, the goose game, the draughts game (checkers) and the fox game have been placed at the disposal of the public.

KEY FIGURES:

Approximately 60 Christmas trees outside
76 yews in the French gardens
Forty Christmas trees inside the château
50,000 "LED" lights

■ The flourishing florists in Chambord



A pedagogical partnership with the *Ecole Nationale des Fleuristes de Paris*

Accompanied by four instructors (Garry Taffin, Best Craftsman in France; Cathy Cossec; José Afonso; and Marc Doise, Best Craftsman in France), 41 apprentices from the *Ecole Nationale des Fleuristes de Paris* enriched their artistic and artisanal skills in Chambord. On the field, they implemented professional techniques of monument-scale mounting and installation.

Holder of a master's qualification, Garry Taffin trains florists-to-be in northern France (Arras) and is committed to taking apprentices along the pathways of excellence in multiple events and competitions (World Skills/Trade Olympics, contests determining “the best apprentices in France”, Fleuramour...). In 2020, he joined the *Ecole Nationale des Fleuristes de Paris* to contribute to its ongoing development.

Since 1950, the *Ecole Nationale des Fleuristes de Paris* has been at the forefront of the profession. Managed by the *Chambre Syndicale des fleuristes d'Ile de France*, each year it schools over 500 apprentices and trainees. On a European scale, it is the first vocational training center for florists.

Julian Tonnelier, florist in Paris

Best Craftsman in France (*Meilleur Ouvrier de France*)

Drawn from the cumulative experience of five generations of florists, in May 2003 at 27 years old, Julian's “French know-how” enabled him to open the boutique known as “Julian Fleuriste Paris”. A singularly artistic and creative florist, he created a baroque and romantic ambience in the heart of Paris (15 boulevard de la Tour-Maubourg). The texture and colors of the flowers are the essence of the inspiration and innovation characterising Julian's brainchildren.





NEW

A new show

from 17 to 30 December

"The [almost] true history of François I"

Spectators of all ages are to attend a show associating historical evocation and whimsical anachronism.

The play tells the tale of Florent, a comedian preparing for the château of Chambord a show on Francis the 1st. Devoid of inspiration, he calls upon a hypnotiser and finds himself catapulted four centuries backward, into the king's court in the company of key historic figures.

Much to the dismay of schemers in the court, with a history manual at hand he can predict the future...

On the stage, four costumed comedians, artistic fencers, a female singer and four instrumentalists specialised in the Renaissance repertoire embark the spectators in a journey back in time.

"The (almost) true history of Francis the 1st" features the comedians of the Midnight-Première troupe, directed by Jean-Paul Bouron.

The cast:

Stéphane Debruyne: Francis the 1st
André Fauquenoy: La Palice
Marine Lafdal Lefranc: soprano
Jonathan Deléglise: Nostradamus
Florent Robin: Florent

The musicians of the Giroudina ensemble:

Victorien Disse: lute and Renaissance guitar
Carine Moretton: oboe, Renaissance flute
Boris Winter: violin and speaking role
Manon Duchemann: percussion

Direction: Jean-Paul Bouron
Text: Jonathan Deléglise
Musical direction: Victorien Disse



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

From 17 to 30 December 2022

Two performances a day: 11 am and 3 pm (except 24 December at 11 am and 2 pm)

Duration: 1 hour

Prices of the twinned ticket (château & show): adults 30€, children (3-17 years old) 14.50€, 18-25 years old 18€

Reservations on chambord.org



Spectacle
La [presque] véritable histoire
de François 1^{er}
Du samedi 17 au
vendredi 30 décembre
(sauf 25 décembre)

Noël à Chambord

Du 1^{er} décembre 2022 au 2 janvier 2023



Entrée gratuite au château
jusqu'à 25 ans inclus*

Programme détaillé sur chambord.org

Création : Dominique de la Morinière / Scénario : Dominique de la Morinière / Mise en scène : Dominique de la Morinière / Costumes : Dominique de la Morinière / Musique : Dominique de la Morinière / Régie : Dominique de la Morinière / Photographie : Dominique de la Morinière / Vidéo : Dominique de la Morinière / Montage : Dominique de la Morinière / Son : Dominique de la Morinière / Titres : Dominique de la Morinière / Production : Dominique de la Morinière

**“The [almost] true history
of Francis the 1st”**



Workshops and activities

December weekends and school Holiday

Free activities accessible without reservation



■ Storytelling

10, 11, 17, 18, 21 and 24 December from 2 am to 5 pm

With playful and entertaining stories, one reader after another enthralles children in a relaxing fireside atmosphere.

The reading of tales takes place in the *Salle des Illustres* on the ground floor of the château.



■ Meeting Santa Claus

3, 4, 10, 11 and 18 to 24 December

In the heart of the château, children have the chance to meet and be photographed with Santa Claus.



■ Renaissance activities

3, 4, 10 and 11 December from 3 pm to 5 pm

The “Cléry Son Histoire en Lumière” (light shed on Cléry history) association offers an immersion in Renaissance festivities

- Processions, Medieval and Renaissance dances in the château with costumed characters
- Ancient games in the Salle des Chasses (hunters’ room) on the ground floor
- Presentation of arms and armor in the eastern part of the ground floor and on the 1st floor of the château



NEW

■ Chocolate painting workshops

3, 4, 10 and 11 December from 3 pm to 5 pm

With Max Vauché

Children are invited to paint “fir tree” or “Santa Claus” chocolate bars with cocoa butter and food colorant; they will leave with their work.

Workshops and activities

During school Holiday only

Free activities accessible without reservation

■ Renaissance activities, proposed by the Midnight Première troupe

Continuously from 17 to the 30 December from 10 am to 5 pm

24 December until 4 pm

Lansquenets (15th and 16th centuries mercenaries) deliver **artistic fencing demonstrations** and exhibit the arms and weapons of the epoch: spears, two-handed swords, Renaissance rapiers.

Francis the Ist and his court stroll through the château, meeting and greeting visitors.

Using reproductions of instruments of the epoch, the “Olivia ensemble” performs **Renaissance songs and dance tunes** (works by Clément Janequin, Thomas Créquillon, Pierre de Machicourt).

With *Julien Rinçon* (Renaissance oboe and recorder), *Abraham Gomez* (Renaissance guitar and lute) and *Yüla Slipovicj* (percussions).

A falconer presents birds and raptors of the races utilised for hunting in France during the 16th century, the golden age of falconry.



■ Nature activities

19, 20, 22, 23 and 30 December, from 2 pm to 5 pm

A nature guide fosters discovery of the estate's flora with a creativity workshop. Children are invited to manufacture a Christmas suspension or a greeting card with plants collected in the estate forest. When the workshop ends, the children depart with their creative souvenir.



■ Horn concerts

21, 22 and 27 December, from 4 pm to 5:30 pm

The concerts are given by the sonneurs of the school of Chambord; the traditional convivial spirit of these offerings is appreciated by one and all.



The children's lodge

NEW

A permanent space of mediation and discovery dedicated to families and youth, the children's lodgings, opened its doors in spring 2022.

The Francis the 1st tower on the 2nd floor of the château has been comprehensively reconfigured to welcome an array of recreational workshops. The lodge is a site propitious to discovery, questioning, experimentation; highly original, it was specifically designed for young children.

Sixteen activities featuring digital devices, playful experiments, sensory discovery and majestic decors are grouped around four major themes:

- Francis the 1st
- Building Chambord
- The children's forest
- Exploring the château

Children will have the opportunity to deepen their knowledge on the Monarch and the history and architecture of the château by means of sound-making devices, models and mock-ups to be manipulated (digitised or not...) in a grand materials library or playful furniture space.



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Permanent mediation space located on the 2nd floor of the keep – the Francis the 1st tower

Open every day from 9 am to 5 pm

The activities are accessible to children at least three years old.

Free entrance without supplement to the château admission fee

Books of riddles, Cassandra the Salamander

One-time emblem of Francis the 1st, the “salamander” mascot has been amusing and instructing young visitors for twenty years. Cassandra the Salamander accompanies children in their discovery of Chambord and its gardens through two books of riddles to solve, the objective being to learn while having fun:

■ “in the château”

■ “in the French gardens”



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

The notebooks of Cassandra the Salamander are available at the château's ticket office.

Price: 4€, which includes a notebook, a pencil and a reward to be collected in the château's boutique

Recommended for 7-to-12-year-olds in family

The French gardens close 30 minutes before the closing of the château.

Cassandra's notebooks for the gardens are available and for sale until 3:30 pm.



Chambord 360°, a fabulous journey

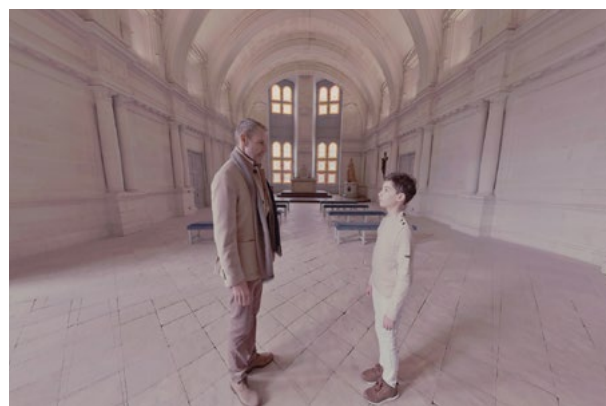
This immersive movie, integrally shot at 360°, offers a fabulous voyage in the sky and presents Chambord at an angle previously inaccessible to the human eye; a dream of Leonardo de Vinci has been transformed into reality.

While Lambert Wilson plays the main character of the film, Claire Chazal lends her voice to the commentary and summarizes the main steps culminating in today's Chambord.

Produced by Kemmel production, the film was written and directed by Arnaud Lemaire and Arnault Berthou. Intervening in fields as diversified as sports, fashion, luxury and culture, the objective of this firm is to develop connected activity in the production of immersive films dedicated to heritage and culture.

Lambert Wilson : *I was very happy to act in this film, which brings together the most innovative of technologies and a fabulous monument; I literally fell in love with Chambord.*

Claire Chazal : *I was very happy to be the voice that welcomes and raises the spectator to the sky of Chambord, where he or she is offered a timeless experience.*



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

On the ground floor of the château

From 17 to 30 December 2022
except for 24, 25 and 31 December
and 1 January 2023

Price: 8€ in addition to the château's entrance fee

Reservations on Chambord.org



Food services

A convivial Christmas in Chambord

Chambord has become a “local produce” site:

- Creamy soup and organic recipes from the Chambord vegetable garden
- Assorted charcuterie from the hunt of the estate
- Organic wines of Chambord
- « Tartiflette » and hot wine

For the year-end Holidays, the “Café d’Orléans” and “Autour du puits”, the two eateries of the château, welcome visitors in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

The dishes and desserts on the menu are homemade, courtesy of the Chambord chef, and will please visitors of all ages, who will appreciate the family atmosphere.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Café d’Orléans: in the château’s courtyard, open every weekend of December and every day from 17 to 30 December (except 24 December)

Autour du puits: at the foot of the château, every day from 17 to 30 December (except 24 December)



Chambord “under the Christmas tree”

The themes proposed – the forest, children, the arts of the table, exceptional products – offer multiple opportunities to find the ideal Christmas gift.

Top-quality products are drawn from the natural resources of the estate. As they originate from an exceptionally salutary and preserved environment, their authenticity is guaranteed.



■ The estate gift shops

The château's boutique and the reception hall's boutique are freely accessible during a visit or as visitors pass by.

The online gift shop

Online, more than 200 references may be found, in the six following categories:



Youth. A series of stuffed animals, playful activities and historical tales designed for young and not-so-young children (up to 13 years old).

Gastronomy. Vegetables, honey, charcuterie, organic wine. The estate showcases authentic locally made products contributing to a territory-based dynamic.

Arts of the table. Symbol of a certain French art of living, Chambord proposes its collections of tableware, engraved glasses and the implements essential to the testing of Chambord wines.

Bookstore and souvenirs. Films, books, office supplies, collectors' items... Chambord delivers certified contents conducive to the learning and sharing of culture

Fashion and decoration. Between nature and culture, Chambord delivers a wide range of handcrafted leather goods, soaps and artisanal vegetable wax candles

Nature and well-being. Respectful of the environment, the organic products are drawn from the natural resources of the Chambord estate and transformed by local craftsmen.



Practical information

Domaine national de Chambord

41 250 Chambord
+33 (0)2 54 50 40 00
info@chambord.org
www.chambord.org

Reservation:

www.chambord.org
+33 (0)2 54 50 50 40
reservations@chambord.org

OPENING

Opening days: the château is open all year long, except for 1 January, 25 December and the last Monday of November

Opening hours:

- April to October: 9 am – 6 pm
- November to March: 9 am – 5 pm
- NEW: From 17 to 30 December: 9 am – 6 pm

Last access ½ hour before the château closes.
The French gardens close 30 minutes before the château closes.

Access to the château, the gardens and the Christmas decors

14,5€

Full price

12€

Reduced price

*Free for under 18-year-old and 18-to-25-year-olds
(European Union citizens)*

30€

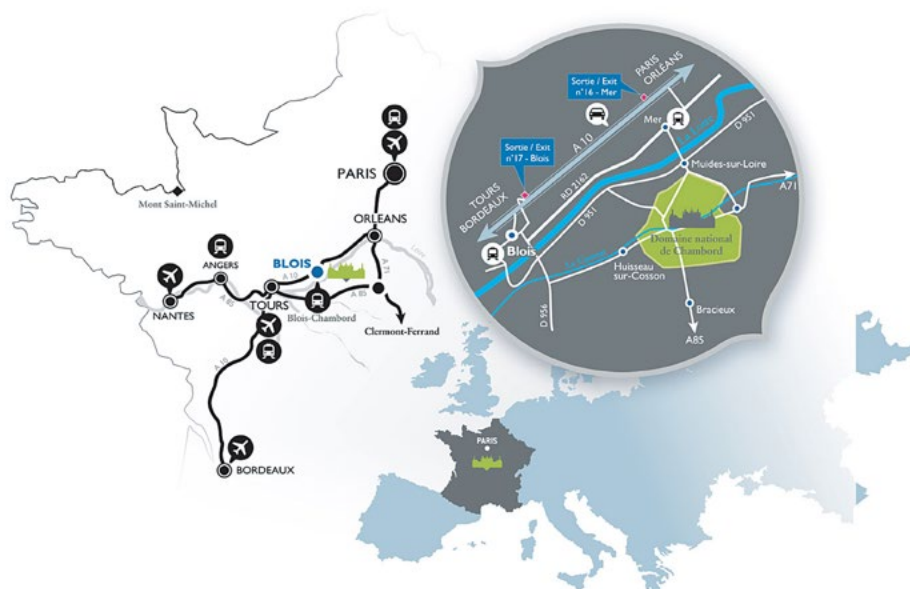
Twinned ticket
château entrance and Christmas show

Join us! Château of Chambord

Buy your tickets online now!



www.chambord.org



Access

From Paris (less than 2 hours), 15 km from Blois

By motorway A10, direction Bordeaux, exit Mer (n° 16) or Blois (n° 17)

By train, depart from Austerlitz station, get off at Blois-Chambord or Mer

Chambord/Cheverny
Christmas château shuttle:
from 17 December 2022 to
2 January 2023



Partners

The Domaine national de Chambord conveys warm thanks to its partners.





domaine national de Chambord

www.chambord.org

INFORMATION

41250 Chambord - FRANCE

Tel: +33 (0)2 54 50 40 00

info@chambord.org

PHOTOS

<https://www.chambord.org/fr/communication-presse/images-a-telecharger/chambord-a-noel-phototheque/>

PRESS CONTACT

Irina METZL

Tel: +33 (0)2 54 50 50 49

Mob: +33 (0)6 82 02 89 94

irina.metzl@chambord.org