

THE « DOMAINE NATIONAL DE CHAMBORD » LAUNCHES ITS TOURISTIC AND CULTURAL SEASON



Ever since its construction, Chambord has embodied a utopia built around human genius. Since 2011, in conjunction with its history, the estate has transformed itself into a laboratory for creation, hosting artists, performing arts companies and writers, while organizing spectacles, concerts and diversified events throughout the year.

Part and parcel of a long-term cultural program, these initiatives generate a new perspective on Chambord and contribute to the transmission of culture in rural environments.

Chambord is also exemplary as regards the welcoming of young visitors and families. In this singularly unique estate, where everything is conducive to learning and discovery, the past and the future forge links through educational activities and mediation schemes.

ACTIVITIES AND VISITS

NEW 2024: The explorer's notebook

Alongside Jade, apprentice nature guide for the chateau of Chambord, visitors set out to make the acquaintance of the estate's new star! Will it be the stag, the salamander, the boar, the black bee of Sologne or, this year, the osprey?

Cassandre the salamander's notebook

Cassandre the salamander invites young visitors to discover the secrets of Chambord. Two notebooks lead child and family to the not-to-be-missed attractions of the chateau and the French-style gardens.

- rate: 4€ (in addition to entrance fee);
- for 7-to-12-year-olds with family;
- throughout the year.

Pedagogical workshops

Several educational and entertaining activities are proposed, with wide-ranging themes: initiation to stone-cutting, construction of a chateau mock-up, detection of animal footprints in the forest, land-art creation, etc.

- information and reservations: chambord.org

Histopad

A digital tablet offers a dive into the past through 3D reconstructions of nine rooms in the chateau, from the Renaissance through the Second World War.

- rate: 6.5€ (in addition to the entrance fee);
- throughout the year.

The children's quarters (The *logis des enfants*)

In space exceeding 100 square meters, children can deepen their knowledge of François I and the history and architecture of the chateau through digital acoustic devices, manipulations, mock-ups and playful sensory experimentations.

- open seven days a week

Observation and assessment of animal populations

From twilight through nightfall, visitors accompany Chambord forestry officers to the observation posts scattered throughout the estate. The two evenings provide a unique form of immersion in the daily routines of the officers who watch over a protected natural environment.

- Tuesday 16 and Tuesday 23 April
- nominative registration only: [link](#) (subject to availability, reserved for inhabitants of the Centre-Val de Loire region)

Guided visits

Day in and day out, the Chambord guides allow visitors to discover the must-see attractions of the monument, the estate -- and more out-of-the-way places, usually closed to the public:

- guided chateau visits: 1h30 (every day of the week) ;
- in-depth chateau visits: 3h (weekends, legal holidays + July and August) ;
- prestige chateau visits: exclusive access, after chateau closing or during the day, tasting of a glass of champagne;
- a playful visit, a dramatized visit to meet a figure from the past in period attire (school holidays and long weekends);
- visits of the natural reserve: 1h30 (throughout the year).



EXHIBITIONS

DEHORS DEDANS / OUTSIDE INSIDE

Julien des Monstiers in Chambord

The National Estate of Chambord offers visibility to emergent as well as nationally recognized artists, proposing to visitors (at no supplementary cost) the discovery of an artistic universe intrinsically linked to the monument and its collections. This year, the National Estate of Chambord has invited the artist Julien des Monstiers for a residence starting in April and to be followed by an exhibition from 26 May through 3 November 2024.

More than thirty works of art, of which a substantial number have been produced for the occasion, will be exhibited on the second floor of the château. The public will discover representative samples of the artist's diversified production: real or fantastic wild animals, carpets and tapestries, landscapes, fragments of architecture or reinterpretations of the celebrated scene of Saint George slaying the dragon. Based in Faye-la-Vineuse (near Richelieu, in Indre-et-Loire), the artist is in residence in the château during the weeks preceding the exhibition. In situ, on the floor and on the walls, he is in the process of creating a gigantic fresco, in which visitors will be immersed.

- exhibition from 26 May to 3 November 2024
- residence in April and May 2024



Julien des Monstiers,
Le Réel, 2021,
oil on canvas,
230 x 170 cm
© Jean-Louis Losi

Chambord and us – itinerant exhibition

In 2023, over 1000 photographs and dozens of testimonies by Grand Chambord inhabitants were collected, underscoring the intimate and diversified bonds between the territory and “its” monument. The traveling exhibition entitled in French *Chambord et nous* showcases an abundance of experience in Chambord: weddings, births, family reunions, field labor, fishing in a pond, official visits, forest hunting...

- until June 2024
- detailed program: chambord.org

From one regard to another - Cultural Olympiad

In the framework of the Cultural Olympiad, the National Estate of Chambord is hosting a photography exhibition in conjunction with the Olympic and Paralympic games. The photographer Jacques Cohen will shine a spotlight on any person with a visible or invisible handicap. Named in French *D'un regard à l'autre*, this series of ongoingly created portraits represents a regard not only on parasport and adapted sport, but also on inclusive handicap in society and institutions.

- exhibition from 8 July to 8 September 2024 ;
- the Olympic Flame will traverse Chambord on 8 July 2024.

ARTISTIC AND CULTURAL EDUCATION

As a national public body implanted in the heart the rural Loir-et-Cher department, for many years Chambord has assigned importance to the dissemination of culture in nearby villages by means of “outside-the-walls” cultural programming, territorial cultural projects and artistic and cultural education initiatives (EAC) conducted in conjunction with schools, associations and retirement homes (EHPAD).

***Ninon and the ospreys* - From the illustrated album**

This artistic and cultural education project known as PEAC offers fifth-grade (CM1) students at the school of Mont-Près-Chambord an opportunity to meet book professionals and to create, drawing from the children's album *Ninon et les Balbuzard* published by the Chambord estate, their own illustrated classroom album in partnership with *éditions Faton*, to be released in June 2024. At the same time, the schoolchildren will be sensitized to biodiversity protection by considering the example of the osprey, a protected migratory raptor nesting in Chambord since 1995.

- For further information: [ospreys at Chambord](#)



History et cinema

A *Histoire et cinema* program initiates local middle school students and residents of the *La Bonne Eure* EHPAD in Bracieux to the film professions as they participate in the writing, direction and post-production process of the fifth episode of the *Raconte-moi Chambord* series on the history of the château, with VLAM! Production.

- To view the episode: [raconte moi Chambord](#)

ENCOUNTERS

Writers in Chambord

After having organized over recent years more than 50 public readings in the château, the “Écrivains à Chambord” cycle proceeds in 2024 by inviting, on certain Sundays, a writer to come and read extracts from his or her work. Open to one and all, these encounters with the literature of our times conclude with discussion of the author and the audience, followed by a signing session.

- 4 April: Léna Ghar;
- 5 May: Katrina Kalda;
- 6 October: conference by Marc-André Selosse;
- 3 November: Mathias Enard.
- Free admission, reservation: culture@chambord.org

CONCERTS AND SPECTACLES

Horse and bird of prey show: *François I, the king chevalier*

In the one-time stables of Maurice of Saxony, the public embarks on a grand cavalcade to the rhythm of the horses. Birds of prey brush against the visitors' shoulders as the show immerses them in the atmosphere of the court of François I.

- from 30 March through 29 September 2024
- from 19 October through 3 November 2024

Fête de la musique – the 18th edition

No less than 15 groups have been invited to the courtyard and the outskirts of the château to musically celebrate the arrival of summer.

- Friday 21 June from 20h
- Free access – Free parking – Meals available on site

Chambord Live - David Guetta

Following the concerts by Sting (2022) and Imagine Dragon (2023), "Chambord Live" is back for a third edition. On 29 June, welcoming David Guetta for a unique concert, Chambord will be transformed into a festive center of artistic creation.

- 29 June 2024 – SOLD OUT

13th Festival of Chambord

For the 13th edition, invitations have been extended not only to big names in music, but also to young but already recognized and prize-winning talents, including four artists rewarded in the Victoires de la Musique Classique 2024! The program has been conceived as a two-week voyage in the history of music, from the songs and melodies of the Middle Ages through a sampling of contemporary compositions. This year on certain evenings, poetry (Olivier Oy), prose (Eric Reinhardt, Boccaccio and Margaret of Navarre) and hip-hop choreographies (the Entité company) will come together with their words and scores.

- From 6 July through 20 July 2024
- Rates: 18 € to 55 € (free seating according to category); Pass Festival (all concerts in category A): 200 €; Pass 5 concerts (category B): 100€
- Each reservation includes château entrance on the day of or the day after the concert.
- Online reservation: chambord.org



Les Étoiles au Château (stars in the château)

In 2022, Hugo Marchand, French performer and lead dancer at the Paris Opera Ballet, created the Hugo Marchand dance association, his objective being to create high-quality shows accessible to one and all. *Les Étoiles au Château* is tasked with contributing to the diversity of local cultural life throughout the country and to spotlighting historic monuments by associating them with recognized dancers and musicians. In the Centre-Val de Loire region, performances will take place on Sunday 21 and Monday 22 July at the *Domaine national de Chambord*.

The Paris Opera dancers will be accompanied onstage by Julie Sevilla-Fraysse, grand cello virtuoso and Elena Bonney, Paris Opera pianist.

- 21 and 22 July 2024
- Duration of the show: 1h20
- Single rate: 13 euros
- Free seating
- An Alexandra Cardinale Opéra Ballet Production

Live performances of the Académie du Concert idéal

For the academy's second edition, the *Concert Idéal* sets up shop in Loir-et-Cher to provide seven young European musicians (three violinists, two violists and deux cellists) with an opportunity to come together for five days of work and four days of public concerts.

- One of the concerts will be given in the royal chapel of Chambord on Saturday 7 September.

Domaine national de Chambord

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