
American Friends of Chambord



Supporting
Chambord

Become a patron



A few words about Chambord



Chambord, the Renaissance's legacy to humanity, is much more than a château. It is an unprecedented, ingenious, almost fantastic work of art that symbolizes the encounter between culture and nature.



Pierre Dubreuil,
General Manager,
Domaine national de Chambord



Chambord is the second most visited château in France, after Versailles (1,148,506 visitors in 2023 of which 32,686 were Americans). It is also one of the largest châteaux in the world. It has aroused admiration and fascination around the world for over **500 years**. Placed on France's first list of French historical monuments in 1840, and classified as a **UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1981**, it is one of the most breathtaking constructions of the Renaissance. Chambord's history bears the stamp of multiple illustrious figures – from François I to Louis XIV, by way of Molière, Victor Hugo and so many others – who imagined, restored, brought to life and handed down this architectural utopia.

Far from being solely a residential palace or a hunting lodge, Chambord embodies the values of humanism, inventiveness and human genius. **François I** invited **Leonardo da Vinci** to stay at his court as the "Premier Painter, Architect and Engineer of the King" in 1516 and the architectural choices made for Chambord (like the keep's central plan and the double helix staircase) suggests that the Italian Master left a mark on the château's construction.

Preserving this heritage means constantly questioning how it can be made accessible to the widest possible audience. With this objective in mind, each year, restoration works, **new developments** and **innovative projects** are presented to visitors, a rich program of cultural events punctuates the life of the estate, and ecological actions are implemented. The estate is also developing a strategy to diversify its own resources.

Many of these projects are often made possible with the support of our patrons.

Key figures

400+ rooms, including
80 open to the public

77 staircases

282 fireplaces

183.73 feet tall

134 acres of land

20 miles of surrounding wall

30 acres vineyard

Why support Chambord?

Chambord's ambitious projects are structured around four development priorities.

Heritage preservation

Managing Chambord's monumental heritage is an ongoing challenge. Restoration, acquisition and development projects, whether one-off or over several years, involve the château itself, the collections, all the buildings on the estate and the road system (farms, cottages, walls, moats, roads, etc.).

Examples of past, current and future projects:

- ✦ Restoration and refurbishment of the François I wing (2025-2030)
- ✦ Equestrian hub development (2025-2030)
- ✦ Restoration of the lanterns (2021-2023)
- ✦ Restitution of the formal gardens (2016-2017)

Educational and social projects

Welcoming the widest possible public and ensuring equal access to culture for all are at the heart of the missions entrusted to the Domaine national de Chambord.

The educational and social projects implemented by Chambord aim to contribute to the knowledge of the monument, its history and its collections, as well as the forest estate. This has led to the creation of a special area in the château for young children, the creation of dedicated workshops and a variety of mediation activities.

Examples of past, current and future projects:

- ✦ Videos on the theme of biodiversity and the seasons (2025)
- ✦ Web resources designed for teachers and available to all (2022-2025)
- ✦ Educational project with the ospreys of the Chambord forest (2024)
- ✦ Virtual reality experience "Chambord 360° - Leonardo da Vinci dream becomes reality" (since 2021)



Cultural and artistic season

The arts have shaped Chambord since it was built. Since 2011, the estate has been a laboratory for creativity, welcoming artists and writers in residence (exhibitions, music festival, *Chambord Live*, Christmas at Chambord, etc.).

Chambord's mission is to make culture accessible to as many people as possible. The cultural events that punctuate the seasons contribute to cultural transmission.

Examples of past, current and future projects:

- ✦ Alexander Calder exhibition (2026)
- ✦ Christmas at Chambord (since 2013)
- ✦ *Botticelli : deux madones à Chambord* exhibition (2024-2025)
- ✦ *Les Étoiles au château* ballet show at the château (2024)
- ✦ *Chambord Live* with Sting, Imagine Dragons and David Guetta (2022-2024)

Ecological transition and biodiversity

Chambord's ambition is to become a place of ecological innovation. Preserving biodiversity and the forest is essential and must be accompanied by changes. In conjunction with several scientific partners, the domain intends to work towards making Chambord a responsible tourist destination that creates sustainable value.

Examples of past, current and future projects:

- ✦ Bird study and monitoring program (2024-2027)
- ✦ Installation of electric charging stations in public parking lots (2025-2026)
- ✦ Reintroduction of emblematic plant and animal species (2024-2026)
- ✦ Development of new cycle paths, promoting soft mobility (2024)
- ✦ Reforestation of the Chambord park (2022-2024)

Benefits may include

As a token of appreciation for its patrons, the Domaine national de Chambord offers them the opportunity to benefit from incomparable experiences tailored to each of its patrons. These bespoke and customised proposals include the best that Chambord has to offer.

Non-exhaustive list of benefits offered:

- ✦ Stay in a private room within the château's Royal wing (reserved for distinguished guests);
- ✦ Evening galas at the château;
- ✦ Plaque with the patron's name in one of the Chambord rooms;
- ✦ Privatisation of a watchtower in the hunting and wildlife reserve to listen to stag rutting;
- ✦ Private visit of the château by night;
- ✦ Private 4x4 visit of the Chambord hunting and wildlife reserve;
- ✦ Gold section invitations to concerts and shows organized at Chambord (e.g.: David Guetta, sound and light, classical music festival) with a pre-show cocktail event on the château's rooftop;
- ✦ Meetings with artists: musicians, writers, photographers, visual artists;
- ✦ Oenology workshop at Chambord's winery, visit to the vineyard, tasting of the domain's wine.



Join the American Friends of Chambord

Chambord is a partner of Myriad USA, an international fundraising organization.

Myriad USA (former King Baudouin Foundation US) enables American private and corporate donors to support the Domaine national de Chambord whilst benefitting from the tax advantages provided by US law.



every.org/chateau-de-chambord-fr





The sponsoring team is mobilized to work with you to build a personalized partnership:

Mathilde Fennebresque

Head of Communications and Sponsorship

mathilde.fennebresque@chambord.org

+33 (0)7 52 65 36 18



domaine national de Chambord

DOMAINE NATIONAL DE CHAMBORD

41250 Chambord
FRANCE

CHAMBORD.ORG



@chateaudechambord



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Val de Loire entre
Sully-sur-Loire et Chalonnes
Inscrit sur la Liste du
patrimoine mondial en 2000

