

DOMAINE NATIONAL DE CHAMBORD

LAUNCH OF THE 2026 SEASON

Agenda and New Highlights



Photos © Léonard de Serres



VISITING CHAMBORD

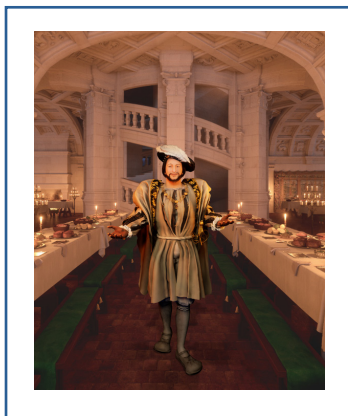
As visitors explore the château's 80 open rooms and its remarkable double-helix staircase, the architecture and history of the castle unfold in dialogue with the broader history of France. The visit concludes on the terraces, where the rooftop landscape offers a striking view over the gardens and the estate.

HISTOPAD, WITH A NEW RENAISSANCE ROUTE

2026 NEWS

The HistoPad visitor companion has guided guests through the château for over ten years. Building on its success, Chambord will offer in 2026 an enhanced visitor experience focused on the Renaissance. Through the "Portes du Temps" (interactive stations) along the route, visitors can discover at their own pace:

- Nine historical 3D reconstructions created with Renaissance experts, allowing visitors to travel back in time alongside King François I
- Narrative sequences in which François I, builder of Chambord, introduces the château and its inhabitants
- The architecture of Chambord and its symbols, presented through enriched 360° imagery with multimedia content, as well as virtual access to several areas closed to the public
- An interactive map to help visitors easily navigate the château



3D view above: the new Renaissance route of the HistoPad © Histoverly

THE EQUESTRIAN SHOW

***Chambord, History on Horseback*: a new equestrian show directed by Mario Luraschi**

Since its construction in the 16th century under the influence of François I, a great patron of the arts and chivalry, the Domaine national de Chambord has always maintained a close connection with the equestrian world. This architectural masterpiece has witnessed kings, riders, and military strategists, including the Marshal of Saxe, whose 18th-century stables have, since spring 2025, hosted a new and exceptional equestrian performance.

Since 2025, Chambord has offered an immersive journey through five centuries of history with *Chambord, History on Horseback*, an original creation by the undisputed master of equestrian spectacle, Mario Luraschi. In collaboration with the Cavalcade company and narrated by the French actor Jean Dujardin, this grand-scale show combines spectacular stunts, haute école dressage, and video projections to retrace the major moments in Chambord's history and its illustrious inhabitants.

■ **Language:** French with English subtitles

■ **Dates:** April 4th to September 27th, 2026, and October 17th to November 1st, 2026

■ **Duration:** 45 minutes

■ **Showtimes:** April 4th to September 27th:

- One performance per day on weekdays at 11:45 a.m.
- Two performances per day on weekends at 11:45 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.
- No performances on Mondays

During the Easter holidays, May public holiday weekends, and from July 1st to August 31st:

- Two performances daily at 11:45 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

October 17th to November 1st:

- Two performances per day at 11:45 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

2026 PROGRAM THE FOUR SEASONS OF CHAMBORD



Chambord is one of the only monuments in the world where, in a single location and within the same day, visitors can explore an iconic Renaissance chateau, attend an equestrian show or a concert, and listen to the bellow of the stag.

SPRING

From April onwards, the equestrian show, family workshops, and leisure activities allow visitors to enjoy Chambord throughout the day.

- First performances of the **equestrian show**: from April 4th;
- Opening to the public of part of the vegetable gardens in the Marshal of Saxe's stables;
- **Photographic exhibition "Solaris"**: March 20th–June 21st. The exhibition presents the solargraphs of photographer Robert Charles Mann, a specialist in pinhole photography. Created during an artist residency at Chambord, these works capture the chateau and the forest estate from one solstice to the next, revealing them in a new light;
- **European Crafts Days**: April 11th–12th.

2026 NEWS

SUMMER

In Chambord, summer rhymes with "music": *Chambord Live*, the Classical Music Festival, and Les Étoiles au chateau celebrate festivity, sharing, and excellence.

- **Chambord Live**: Orelsan on June 26th, Maroon 5 on June 27th, and DJ Snake on June 28th – (all concerts are sold out)
- **Chambord Festival** (classical music): July 4th–11th. Under the artistic direction of Vanessa Wagner, the program features orchestras, recitals, and concertos in the chateau's most emblematic spaces. Guests include Renaud Capuçon, Les Siècles, and the Orchestre de l'Opéra Royal de Versailles.
- **Les Étoiles au chateau**, with the association "Hugo Marchand pour la danse": July 14th–15th
- **Hunting horn concert**: September 5th
- **European Heritage Days**: September 19th–20th, themed "Heritage at Risk: Revive, Resist, Reimagine"

AUTUMN

As the forest turns its most vivid colours and the stag's rut echoes through the estate, Chambord presents two monumental works by renowned American sculptor Alexander Calder, alongside a heritage exhibition exploring grand banquets and the chateau's culinary history. In 2026, visitors are invited to dine at the table of Chambord!

- **Stag rutting season** outings: mid-September to mid-October
- **Exhibition "The Banquets of Chambord"**: September 26th, 2026–January 24th, 2027. This exceptional exhibition retraces the chateau's culinary history from the 16th century to today through four major banquets that shaped its political, diplomatic, and cultural life.
- **Virtual reality experience**: produced by Gédéon, this experience immerses visitors in the atmosphere of the Renaissance and recreates the meeting between François I and Charles V.
- **Calder at Chambord**: October 2026–June 2027. As part of the AR(t)CHIPEL festival, a joint initiative between the Centre Pompidou and the Centre-Val de Loire Region, around fifteen heritage and cultural sites celebrate the centenary of the sculptor's arrival in France, in the Loire Valley, and the fiftieth anniversary of his death. Two monumental stable sculptures will be installed in the French formal gardens of Chambord.
- Final performances of the **equestrian show**: October 17th–November 1st

WINTER

From the end of November, Chambord lives to the rhythm of Christmas.

- **Christmas at Chambord**: November 28th, 2026–January 17th, 2027. This year, continuing the theme of the exhibition, gastronomy and Gargantua take centre stage. Decorations, illuminations, events, and performances will celebrate culinary arts and the tradition of the table.

And ongoing:

- **Exhibition "The Banquets of Chambord"**: September 26th, 2026–January 24th, 2027.
- **Calder at Chambord**: October 2026–June 2027.

ACTIVITIES AND VISIT OFFERS: CULTURE AND NATURE FOR EVERYONE

Guided tours

Chambord's guides introduce visitors daily to the monument's essential highlights, the estate, and more unusual spaces usually closed to the public.

- English or French château guided tours: 1h30 (daily)
- English or French in-depth château tours: 3h (weekends, public holidays, July and August)
- English or French prestige château tours: exclusive access, at closing time or during the day, including a glass of champagne
- French nature reserve tours by off-road vehicles: 1h30 (year-round)

Educational workshops (only in French)

A variety of educational and fun activities are offered on different themes: stone carving, building a model of the château, nature workshops, and more.

- Available all year round
- Information and bookings: chambord.org

The Children's Lodge

Spread over more than 100 square meters, children can deepen their knowledge of François I, as well as the history and architecture of the château, through digital and audio installations, hands-on activities, models, and playful sensory experiences. The "Forest of Little Ones" discovery area, designed for ages 3 to 6, encourages play, multisensory exploration, and relaxation.

- Open daily, from age 3 and up

Nature visits: guided tours and nature hikes (only in French)

By off-road vehicle or on foot, the nature guides take visitors into the heart of the Chambord forest to discover its history, biodiversity, and landscapes. This is a rare opportunity to enter on foot into the estate's restricted area and learn more about the management of its wildlife and flora.

- Off-road guided tours: year-round
- Nature hikes: spring and summer school holidays

2026 RATES

Château and gardens – self-guided visit

Full price: €21 (EEA residents) / €31 (non-EEA residents)

Reduced price: €18.50

Free admission: Under 18s, EU citizens aged 18–25, Visitors with disabilities + 1 accompanying person, Beneficiaries of minimum social welfare (with valid proof)

Family Day Pass: €38 instead of €45.50 (EEA residents)
€48 instead of €55.50 (non-EEA residents)

Includes: one admission to the château and gardens, HistoPad rental, an equestrian show ticket, and a discount on a leisure activity

Valid: April 4th, 2026 – September 27th, 2026 and October 17th, 2026 – November 1st, 2026

List of European Economic Area (EEA countries):

Germany, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Croatia, Denmark, Spain, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Czech Republic, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden



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For more information and reservations: chambord.org

Practical Information

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