Welcome to







editorial



Patrick Imbert President of Essonne Tourism Vice-President of Essonne Departmental Council

Essonne, "the secret garden of the Paris region", is filled with gems of heritage, culture and nature. You can stroll in the forests or through outstanding parks and gardens; explore the riches of the Chamarande, Méréville and Saint-Jean de Beauregard estates; take a journey back in time and visit historic towns, castles and museums; experience the spirit of the salons of Victor Hugo, Jean Cocteau and Léonard Foujita, or follow in the footsteps of the Impressionist painter Gustave Caillebotte. Here you can meet craftsmen and artisans who will be delighted to talk about their skills, share their experiences and give you a glimpse into their lives. You can put yourself in the shoes of a château-owner, a glass-maker, a brewer, a beekeeper or a ceramicist just for one day, while enjoying our exceptional heritage.

If you are a fan of the unusual, authentic and prestigious, we look forward to introducing you to the wonders of Milly-la-Forêt, the charming town of Dourdan, the architectural richness of Évry-Courcouronnes and Corbeil-Essonnes, the treasures of Étampes and the sciences of Paris-Saclay. Get to know all the fascination of Essonne and, as you discover our ideas for visits, savour the surprising treasures on offer in the region. We will be delighted to welcome you.

To help and guide you, feel free to contact our sales Club. Our team is on hand to give recommendations and advice about your choices, to adapt to your needs in line with your budget and to guarantee the best conditions for your visit.



The Tourism Essonne sales department and the Essonne Tourist Offices together form the Sales Club. We promote and sell excursions and stays in the region.

'Our aim is to meet your needs and wishes. Tell us about your projects, and we will make them come true!'

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a secret garden 30km from Paris

Just outside Paris, protected forests, marshes, meadows, orchards and natural sites combine to form a varied and original landscape. Essonne combines a wide variety of natural and town environments blending the charm of unspoilt nature and urban leisure activities. The gardens, château parks and estates, the sensitive nature areas (biodiversity reserves) and outstanding geographic sites - all the areas are a wonderful chance to enjoy some fresh air. Don't hesitate to get in touch with Tourism Essonne if you would like to combine hiking and sightseeing!



26% of green spaces,55 sensitive nature areas



400 km of rivers, **75** hectares of nature parks



155 km of cycling paths



45% farmland1400 km of hiking trails



Set off to see the natural treasures of Essonne with the Explor'Essonne application. The mobile app features around 40 hiking trails and sites to see.

Using geopositioning, the app signals the cultural and heritage sites nearby: castles, churches, washing places and archaeological sites. Plus information about the fauna, flora and landscapes.





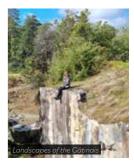
























French most famous people based in Essonne and visit their houses!



[LITTERATURE] Victor Hugo House *Bievres*

Victor Hugo and his family spent their holidays in the home of his friend Bertin L'Aîné at the heart of the Bièvre valley. In the Château des Roches, Bertin L'Aîné presided over a literary salon attracting the major writers of the period, including Chateaubriand, who lived nearby. The fine property later became the Victor Hugo House.

It contains a host of treasures, such as original manuscripts and documents, and period photographs. The park alongside the River Bièvre, where Victor Hugo liked to stroll in search of inspiration, is still a great place for a walk.

The house is open for guided visits - From $\notin 8$ per person.

[PAINTING] Foujita House & Studio ◀ Villiers-le-Bâcle

A stone house in the centre of the country village of Villiersle-Bâcle was the residence and studio of a renowned 20th century painter: Léonard Foujita, a master of the Expressionist movement. In the early 1960s, the French-Japanese artist arranged the small country house to his taste, not far away from the Chevreuse Valley. In a preserved site, the private world of the painter from the School of Paris is unchanged. In the house, time





has stood still. Each object and piece of furniture are in their place, as if Foujita had only just left. On the top floor of the house, his studio is preserved intact. Brushes, pigments, models and wall paintings (preparations for the work painted in the chapel of Our Lady Queen of Peace in Reims) show all the richness and secrets of the artist.

The house and studio are open for guided and non-guided visits -From €5 per person. €8 per person.



[PAINTING] Caillebotte House

Caillebotte House is one of the Impressionist sites not to be missed in the Paris region. It was the home of Gustave Caillebotte and his family between 1860 and 1879. The famous painter had a strong influence on the Impressionist movement. Here, in Yerres, he painted almost 80 pictures. We can still see the landscapes and atmosphere that inspired him. The family house was refurnished and restored in period style and has preserved the spirit of a late 19th century holiday home. The Orangerie and the Granges are today exhibition galleries. The park is enriched by some 30 species of trees with the chance to enjoy a walk and some wonderful views, a great source of inspiration to Gustave Caillebotte.

The house is open to visitors - Admission from €5 - Free access to some exhibitions, the garden and workshops.



[PAINTING] [LITTERATURE] Jean Cocteau House & Saint-Blaise des Simples Chapel Yerres

Jean Cocteau, the famous 20th century French poet, painter, draughtsman, playwright and filmmaker, a member of the Académie Française, made his mark on the French language and the artistic and literary works of his age. His family home in Milly-la-Forêt in Essonne is today open to the public, providing an introduction to his mythological and baroque world. As well as the house with the furnished and decorated rooms, it is possible to visit the poet's gardens. Not far away, the Saint-Blaise des Simples Chapel is an essential element in understanding the artist. The 12th century chapel was once a leper house. It saw a surprising renaissance with the help of Jean Cocteau's paintbrush. It now houses his tomb.

Visits from €14.50 per person.



An immersion in the Middle Ages...



Dourdan Castle

∢Dourdan

Often, when we think of a castle, the first image that comes to mind is an impressive stone building perched above a wooded valley. Dourdan Castle, however, is not on a hilltop, but stands proudly in the town centre, opening a window onto the past. Explore the mysteries and secrets of the 8-century-old castle. Its history, although not well known, was crucial for France. After facing the clamour of history, you can admire an exceptional view over the valley and the town from the top of the castle keep. An enchanting experience guaranteed!

Free admission to the castle grounds and ramparts, a visit to the museum and the castle keep from €5.

Farcheville Castle

Right at the heart of the Essonne countryside stands the discreet but majestic Domaine de Farcheville. The castle is a wonderful fortress in the plain and one of the few examples of this type in the medieval period. Here, daily life was organised in a harmonious way, in complete safety. There is a wooden chapel with a very fine painted decoration still intact, a dovecot, a bakery, a prison, a chapel, a guard room, the ramparts, a vegetable garden and many other surprising things to see... The tall arcades of the building's outer walls recall the Palais des Papes in Avignon. An incredible castle filled with 1001 treasures.

Visits from €28 per person (visit + refreshments).



Discover the charms of the French Renaissance.

Saint-Jean de **Beauregard Castle**

◀Saint-lean de



Courson Castle ▲ Courson



The remarkably wellpreserved Château de Saint-lean de Beauregard still has all the charm and elegance of its classical 17th century setting. In a country and woodland setting, you can visit the château, the seven courtyards, the park and French-style garden. The colourful vegetable garden is one of the few château gardens to have survived to this day.

The vegetable garden covers

This is a light-filled residence made from brick and stone, dating from the 17th and 18th centuries. It opens onto nature and its decoration and furniture are inspired by it. The exquisite and romantic park is the result of the work of the finest landscapers in the 19th and 20th centuries. Long avenues wind their

two hectares. It provided selfsufficiency to dozens of people living in the château. During the visit, you can get to know the way of life of the period. The courtyards and forecourts, the furniture in the château. the impressive dovecot and the park and vegetable garden listed as a Historic Monument and a Remarkable Garden

From €13 per person.

way around a lake in 35 hectares of rich vegetation: camellias, magnolias, lilacs and azalea bloom in spring, hydrangeas and roses in summer and the spectacular colours of the beech. oak and maple trees are sure to enchant you in autumn!

From €15 per person.

Courances Castle

Courances



Right at the heart of the Gâtinais region, the Domaine de Courances extends over 75 hectares, surrounded by water, trees and the sky. The magnificent building in Louis XIII-style is still a private residence and is open for visits with a quide. The Château, the Gardens, the Fulling Room and the Vegetable Garden are all filled with charm and history.

Stroll through a park that is both romantic and classical, see the two-century-old trees, walk across the lawns and enjoy a relaxing afternoon. To enjoy some tea and cake, take a seat in the Foulerie, where hemp fulling took place in the 17th century. Opposite, a magnificent Japanese garden rounds off the delights.

From €13 per person.

ginal visits

Go off the beaten track.

Essonne, an innovative and dynamic department

The Saclay Plateau is a scientific and technological centre with a high national and international reputation. It is a genuine cluster, a driving force in the renewal of French and European industry, taking inspiration from the success of Silicon Valley. It is home to a major scientific centre with Paris-Saclay University, 14 higher-education establishments and research bodies and 280 laboratories, as well as a vast economic hub with a range of start-ups and companies with their research and development laboratories. The concentration of major groups and innovative small and medium-sized firms, together with an internationally renowned university, make the Paris-Saclay cluster one of the top 8 innovation centres in the world.



[SCIENCE] Synchrotron

The Saclay Plateau is also home to a synchrotron, a big research facility, a source of synchrotron radiation, a laboratory and a particle accelerator. It is open for visits with a scientific quide, who will recount the history of the SOLEIL synchrotron and explain how it works. A visit to the research centre - the synchrotron building, the control room and the experimental hall - is also scheduled to see the various beamlines that attract scientists from all over the world each year.

From €5 per person.

[VINTAGE AIRCRAFT] Volant Salis Museum Cerny - La Ferté-Alais

The Volant Salis Museum takes you back to the golden age of aviation. The museum displays and preserves some fifty aircraft in a 6,500m² indoor exhibition area. Explore the early days of aviation in an exceptional collection of vintage propeller aircraft, unique in Europe. On the site with its vast hangars dedicated to the first planes, aviation enthusiasts share a range of historic anecdotes and films about the aircraft. They evoke the daring techniques and adventures of the "magnificent men in their flying machines", from Blériot crossing the Channel to cinema stuntmen.

From €16 per person.

To round off your visit, take a break at



In the aerodrome, close by the museum, you can set off on a taste journey from the starter to the dessert. But you won't be going too far away, since the ingredients served in this traditional restaurant are fresh, organic and mainly local. The menu changes every two weeks for a range of dishes based on market-fresh produce!



taste the skills of Essonne

J'ADORE LE MADE IN ESSONNE

Discover our local specialities



FABRIQUE À ALCOOLS

(CRAFT BEVERAGES

Come and experience one of the few traditional distilleries in the Paris region. During the guided visit to the facilities all the secrets of the distillation process will be revealed. You can then (responsibly!) taste some gin and vodka, as well as whisky (you can also make purchases).

From €15 per person.

KUBLI

[INDUSTRY, CONFECTIONERY]

The Kubli company, founded in 1900 and based in Morangis, is one of the last traditional confectionery-makers still in existence. Their speciality is boiled sweets. During an exceptional visit you can discover their products and the manufacturing process, including the sweet manufacturing workshop and the wrapping and packaging areas. At the end of the visit, there is a tasting and the chance to take home some tasty souvenirs.

From €8 per person.





THE OX BREWERY (CRAFT BEVERAGES)

At the OX brewery, a love of beer is handed down from father to son. Go behind the scenes and see how the craft and organic beers are made. The experience begins with a sensory discovery of the raw materials, including the taste of roasted grains and the surprising aroma of hops. The brewer shows his tools and explains how beer is made from blending to fermentation and bottling. The visit concludes with a tasting of the firm's best-known beers, as well as limited-edition beverages.

From €10 per person.



Do you have a meeting on the way?

Here is a special selection of places for you.











Château de Farcheville 91880 Bouville chateaudefarcheville.com 4 meeting facilities

Domaine de Courson 91680 Courson-Monteloup domaine-de-courson.fr 3 meeting facilities

Domaine de la Beauvoisière 1 allée des Postes, 91630 Avrainville domainedelabeauvoisiere.com 4 meeting facilities

Domaine de Quincampoix Route de Roussigny, 91470 Les Molières domainedequincampoix.com 8 meeting facilities

Les Gâtines 167 route des Gâtines, 91370 Verrières-le-Buisson lesgatines.fr 200 rooms, 24 meeting facilities

Get some rest...

ACE Hôtel Paris Sud Villabé

1 route de Villoison, 91100 Villabé ace-hotel-villabe.com 76 rooms



Best Western Blanche de Castille

7 rue Demetz, 91410 Dourdan hotel.hotelblanchedecastille.fr 47 rooms, 3 meeting facilities

Best Western Hotel Journel Paris Sud

8 rue du Clos, 91130 Ris-Orangis parissud.hoteljournel.com 20 rooms, 2 meeting facilities

Best Western Plus Paris-Saclay

2 route D'Orsay, 91400 Saclay bw-paris-saclay.com 144 rooms, 8 meeting facilities

Campanile Paris-Saclay

3 rue Joliot-Curie, 91190 Gif-sur-Yvette campanile.com 110 rooms

Domaine d'Orgemont

6 rue Robert Canivet, 91590 Cerny domaineorgemont.fr 15 rooms, 5 meeting facilities

Hôtel de France

2 place du Marché, 91670 Angerville hotel-de-france-paris.fr 20 rooms, 3 meeting facilities

Ibis Étampes

14 rue du Rempart, 91150 Étampes ibishotel.com 67 rooms



Ibis Style Évry Cathédrale

52 boulevard des Coquibus, 91000 Évry-Courcouronnes accorhotels.com 110 rooms, 8 meeting facilities

La Marquise Barbot

7 avenue de Beauvoir, 91000 Évry-Courcouronnes marquise-barbot.fr 2 apartments & 2 rooms, 4 meeting facilities



Le Clos Saint Lubin

3 rue De L'Église, 91750 Nainville-les-Roches leclossaintlubin.fr 5 rooms, 1 meeting facility

Le Hameau de Courances

Place du Général de Gaulle, 91490 Courances pierresdhistoire.com 3 apartments, 2 meeting facilities

Les Demeures de Varennes

2 rue de Brie, 91480 Varennes-Jarcy demeuresdevarennes.com 25 rooms, 4 meeting facilities

Mercure Demeure de Campagne Parc du Coudray

Route de Milly, 91830 Le Coudray Montceaux all.accor.com 127 rooms, 12 meeting facilities



Novotel Évry-Courcouronnes

3 rue de la Mare Neuve, 91080 Évry-Courcouronnes all.accor.com 153 rooms, 7 meeting facilities



Residhome Paris-Évry 1 rue Ambroise Croizat, 91000 Évry-Courcouronnes residhome.com 149 rooms, meeting facilities

Novotel Sénart Route de Villepecle D402, 91280 Saint-Pierre-du-Perray all.accor.com 81 rooms, 8 meeting facilities

... and be ready for a new adventure



Essonne Tourist Offices are on hand to give you the best recommendations for your visit.

Tourist Office « Destination Paris-Saclay »

4 bis, rue de la Division Leclerc 91300 Massy 17, rue de l'Yvette 91400 Orsay destination-paris-saclay.com

Must-see places : Foujita House & Studio, Montlhéry Tower, Massy Opera House, Mus'X, the Polytechnic university museum

Tourist Office « Dourdan Tourisme »

Place du Général de Gaulle 91410 Dourdan dourdan-tourisme.fr

Must-see places : Dourdan Castle, Dourdan Medieval Festival, Dourdan Forest, Visit of the historical heart of Dourdan

Tourist Office « Grand Paris Sud »

11, Place du Comte Haymon 91100 Corbeil-Essonnes tourisme-grandparissud.com

Must-see places : Evry Cathedral, Chùa Khánh Anh Pagoda in Evry, Domain of Montauger, Sénart Forest sculptures park (Faisanderie)

Tourism department of « Communauté de Communes du Val d'Essonne »

Parvis des Communautés 91610 Ballancourt-sur-Essonne valessonne.fr

Must-see places : Airshow "Le temps des Hélices", Volant Salis Museum, Fontenay-le-Vicomte swamps, Grands Avaux Forest

Tourist Office « Val d'Yerres Val de Seine »

2, rue Philisbourg 91800 Brunoy vyvs.fr

Must-see places : Port aux Cerises leisure island, Caillebotte House, Sénart Forest, Saint-Médard church

Tourist Offices of « Communauté d'agglomération Etampois Sud-Essonne »

Hôtel Anne-de-Pisseleu - Place de l'hôtel de Ville 91150 Etampes Place de la Halle 91660 Méréville caese.fr

Must-see places : Etampes city centre, Bikerail in Juine valley, Etampes leisure island, Domain of Méréville

Tourist Office « Milly-la-Forêt, Vallée de l'Ecole, Vallée de l'Essonne »

47, rue Langlois 91490 Milly-la-Forêt millylaforet-tourisme.com

Must-see places : Jean Tinguely's Cyclop, the National Conservatory of Perfumed, Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Art glassworks of Soisy-sur-Ecole, Courances Castle

