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to love Chalon  
and its **surroundings**



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# Chalon, a genuine capital at the heart of Southern Burgundy

Ideally located at the junction of the main European transport networks, Chalon-sur-Saône is a genuine capital at the heart of Southern Burgundy. Its strategic position makes it the ideal place to stop for a couple of days and make the most of all this region has to offer.

As the birthplace of the inventor of photography, Nicéphore Niépce, Chalon-sur-Saône remains a traditional town, offering an amazing setting, excellent food and where life is good.

Designated a town of Art and History, the historical centre unveils to those who take the time, many cultural and heritage marvels, including the St Vincent's cloister which has recently re-opened its doors after being closed for 10 years for restoration.

With the internationally renowned festival of "Chalon dans la Rue", the "Montgolfiades" hot-air balloon festival, as well as a host of other cultural events outside the town walls, our region welcomes hundreds of thousands of visitors each year.



Gilles PLATRET in front of the Cathedral Saint-Vincent  
© Jean-Luc PETIT

## "Everything you need to really make the most of a stay in the Chalonnaise area"

The Chalonnaise area has a wealth of natural resources that make it an ideal place for outdoor activities, on the water, in the vines, in the forest or up in the air. It is also an ideal place to discover Burgundian chateaux and Romanesque churches. On bicycles, on foot, on horseback along our Green Ways and hiking trails, or even on a boat for a trip along the Saône, all the means are there to really make the most of a stay in the Chalonnaise area.

Finally, you shouldn't miss out on discovering the Côte Chalonnaise and its famous wines, that you can try in the many wineries and cellars where they'll introduce you, glass in hand, to the wonderful secrets of the vine.

I wish you all an enjoyable stay and some great discoveries here in the Chalonnaise area.

**Gilles Platret**

Mayor of Chalon sur Saône

President of the Grand Chalon Tourist Office

Vice-President in charge of tourism in Chalon and Grand Chalon

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And its touristic offices in Givry, Rully and Saint-Léger-sur-Dheune

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Alcohol abuse can be dangerous for the health.  
Drink sensibly.

[www.achalon.com](http://www.achalon.com)

# Crise de la Quarantaine ? *Osez le Grand Chalon !*



## RESPIREZ !

Entre ville et campagne, l'air est forcément plus pur ! Profitez d'espaces naturels préservés et de loisirs de plein air : randonnée, vélo, sports nautiques et aériens.

## GAGNEZ DE L'ESPACE !

Les m<sup>2</sup> sont accessibles : dans les logements, dans les jardins, on peut réaliser son rêve d'espace et se poser en famille. Pas de stress sur la route non plus : ici les bouchons évoquent de bons moments passés entre amis !

## CHANGEZ DE RYTHME !

Fleurons industriels, PME-PMI innovantes, pôles de compétitivité, terrains disponibles... le Grand Chalon vous offre de nouvelles opportunités professionnelles dans un nouveau confort de vie.



[osezlegrandchalon.fr](http://osezlegrandchalon.fr)

# Welcome To Grand Chalon !

Located in the Burgundy-Franche-Comte region, more precisely in Southern Burgundy, the territory of Grand Chalon stretches over 51 communities and has a population of 119,000 (including 47,000 in Chalon sur Saône, the main town).



## GRAND CHALON IS AT THE CROSSROADS OF A MAJOR TRANSPORT NETWORK

Whether you arrive by plane, train, car, boat or on a bike, all roads lead to Grand Chalon!

### BY PLANE

Lyon Airport (90 mins) and Geneva Airport (2 hrs)



### BY TRAIN

TGV stations at Le Creusot (30 mins) and Mâcon-Loché (45 mins)



### BY CAR

A6 motorway, close to the A40 motorway and the RCEA



### BY BOAT

Arrival and departure point for river cruises on the Saône



### BY BIKE

Criss-crossed by a great many cycle routes: Green Ways, the Blue Way, the Bressan Way, EuroVelo 6...



## Enjoy the historic, cultural and gastronomic heritage of Grand Chalon!

Our territory is a land blessed by the gods, who satisfy everyone's desires. Those who enjoy the French "art of living" will take delight in our wines, among the best in the world: the vineyards of the Côte Chalonnaise are becoming more and more well known, and the "climats" of Maranges are classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

### Gastronomy

Gourmets will enjoy our culinary specialities, which are also world famous: Burgundy snails, Charolais meats, Bresse poultry, goat's milk cheeses... Moreover, our winemakers and farmers don't hesitate to open their cellars and farms to explain with enthusiasm, the passion that drives them!

### Heritage

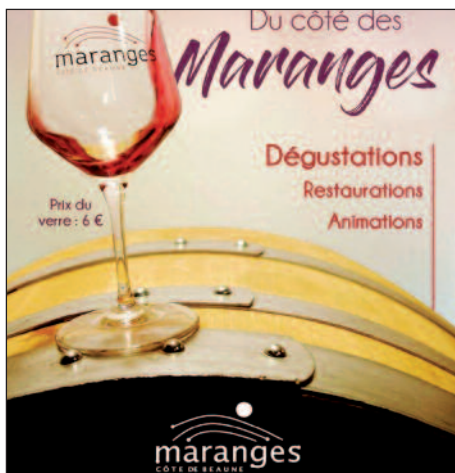
Those whose interests lie in heritage and old buildings will also find enough to satisfy their thirst for knowledge in Grand Chalon: from churches (Romanesque, Gothic, Neoclassical) to fortresses from the Middle Ages, from sumptuous chateaux to dry-stone shelters, from wash-houses to calvaries, each village is bursting with hidden treasures, you just need to open your eyes and look around!

### Nature

For lovers of nature and the great outdoors, there are numerous parks and gardens in the towns for relaxation, sport and to discover the local flora and fauna... The public forests give gatherers of Lily-of-the-Valley or mushrooms, bird watchers, tree spotters... the chance to take a breath of fresh air, while the "Accrobranche" treetop trails are just made for thrill seekers. The river Saône and the Canal du Centre offer the chance to freshwater sailors to go boating, fishing or play water sports (rowing, sailing, canoeing, wakeboarding), but to also stroll along the banks and the old towpaths, which now form the Blue Ways and Green Ways.

### Sport and Culture

Finally, fans of sporting and cultural events will surely find happiness in this bustling area; from the basketball matches of Elan Chalon played at the Colisée to the street theatre festival "Chalon dans la Rue" at the end of July, from European competitions at the Nautical Centre to the "Musicaves" festival in Givry, it's non-stop action here in Grand Chalon!



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tous les ans  
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dans la vallée des Maranges**



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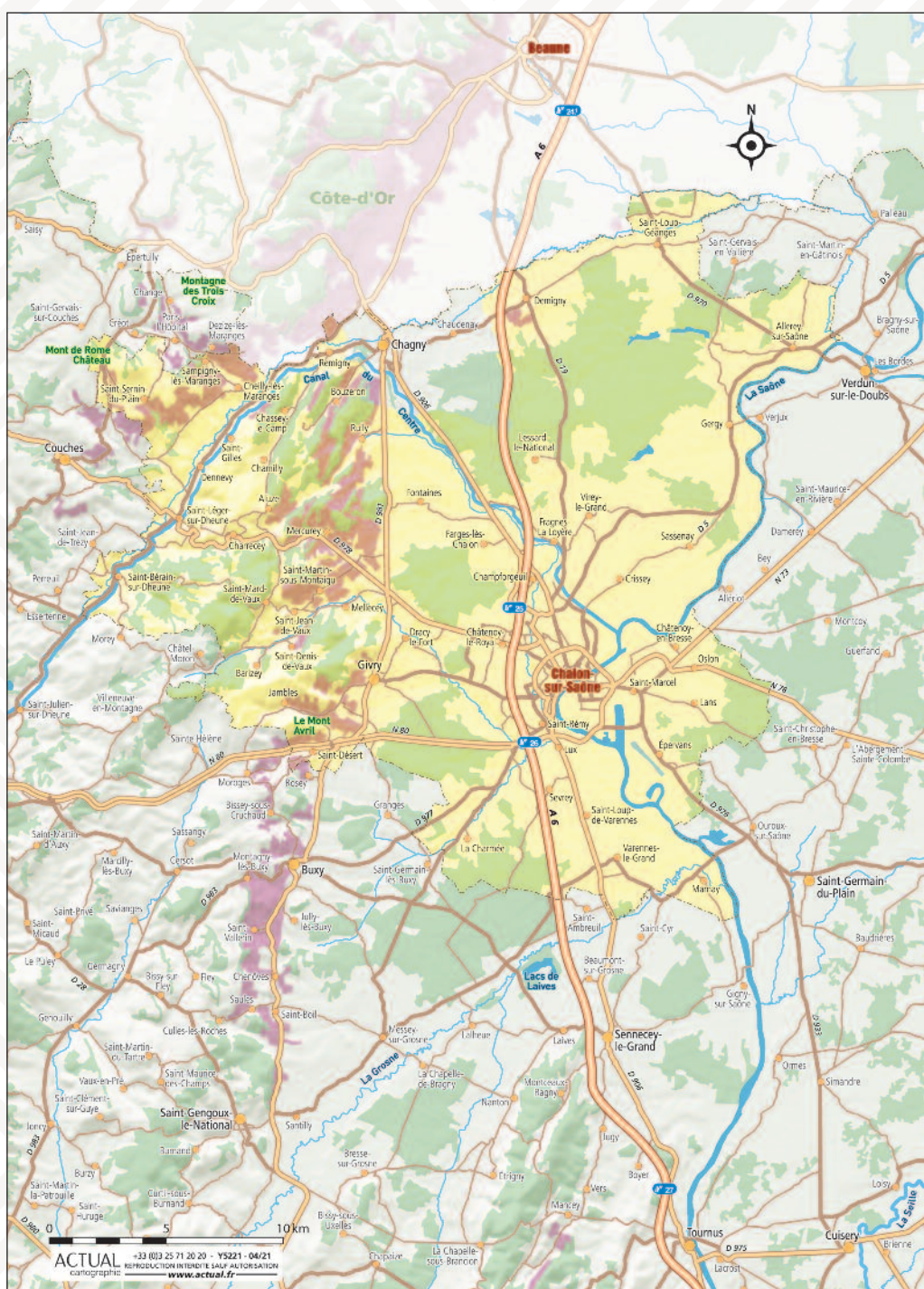
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# Grand Chalon Map

## HOME FROM HOME!

A great many types of accommodation, hotels, B&Bs, holiday cottages, campsites, modern or rustic, in the town centre or in the countryside... can become your "home from home" during your stay! The shopkeepers, artisans, restaurateurs and café-owners, taxi drivers, winemakers... know how to offer a warm welcome that characterizes the "Burgundy good life". You will discover in the pages that follow, the unmissable points of our region... designed to help you prepare your stay and really enjoy it! Start right now on an unforgettable journey in Burgundy, and let Grand Chalon surprise you! "Alone, in couples, as a family, with friends or colleagues... Grand Chalon has definitely got something to offer you!"





A  
NICEPHORE NIEPCE  
INVENTEUR DE LA PHOTOGRAPHIE  
NE A CHALON S/S LE 7 MARS 1765

TO DISCOVER



# DÉ COU VRIR.



## Chalon-sur-Saône, town of Art and History

Built on the banks of the river Saône, Chalon has been a base for water-borne commerce since antiquity. Mentioned for the first time in "Gallic Wars" by Julius Caesar (58 BC) under the name of Cabillonum, the town was an important commercial hub during the Aeduens epoch, accessible from all over Europe just as easily by water as by land. The river Saône has always played a major role in the history of Chalon. It enabled early development of commerce and industry and has brought food and work to the local population. Today classified as a "Town of Art and History", Chalon-sur-Saône is bursting with a rich and historical heritage. Come and discover the town of Nicéphore Niépce, inventor of Photography !

[www.achalon.com](http://www.achalon.com)

# A diverse heritage

## Religious heritage

Although Christian culture suffered a lot during the French Revolution, it remains omnipresent in Chalon: the unmistakable St Vincent's cathedral, the imposing church of St Pierre with its architecture typical of the Catholic counter-reformation, the neo-gothic church of St Cosme, not forgetting the chapel of the Citadelle and the statue of the Virgin Mary, erected to thank the Holy Virgin for saving the town from the Prussians in 1870, and also the chapel of the Colombière, built by Auguste Perret. And sometimes all it takes is a quick glance upwards in the streets of Chalon to catch a glimpse of a statue of the Virgin tucked into the wall of an old building...

## Military heritage

A first protective wall was built by the Romans at the end of the 3rd and beginning of the 4th centuries: parts of it remain in the form of the Bishop's tower, the Marcilly tower and the Saudon tower. From the 16th century, after the appearance of iron cannon balls, the mediaeval battlements were no longer able to play their defensive role and so between 1547 and 1555, new fortification works were undertaken by the engineer Girolamo Bellamarto of Sienna. The ramparts and bastions (Royal, St Pierre, St Paul and St Vincent) surrounding Chalon make for a pleasant walk, and give the opportunity to discover a type of fortification little known in France, and constructed a century before those of the famous Vauban! The scarp gallery is still visible today at the bastion St Pierre and can be viewed at the Heritage Centre.

## Private Mansions

Don't miss the De Virey Mansion (1612), without doubt one of the finest houses in Chalon, which is now home to the Sous Prefecture. In addition, the Chiquet Mansion (1770), a private mansion flanked by a monumental interior staircase, which notably hosted Napoleon Bonaparte and Pope Pius VII; the Noirot Mansion (1710) built by a former mayor of Chalon; the Colmont-Fussetlet Mansion (1773) built facing the river, as well as the belfry or "Clock Tower" which is all that remains of the former Town Hall, and the many mediaeval tower staircases; the Doyenne tower, Coco Louvrier tower...

The old St Laurent hospital, founded alongside the Saône in 1530, and its 18th century apothecary are currently closed due to nearby works.

For more information contact the Heritage Centre,  
+33 (0)3 85 93 15 98



Laëtitia de Bazelaire  
© Jérôme Gorin

## TESTIMONY

### Laëtitia de Bazelaire, sculptor of the new capitals for the cloister

*"In 2017, Frédéric Didier, chief architect for Historic Monuments and Gilles Platret, mayor of Chalon, commissioned me to create 40 new capitals, destined to ornament the new north gallery of the St Vincent's cathedral cloister. This bold project gave me the chance to take a passionate voyage through the imaginary mediaeval period, because the capitals had to evoke the Middle Ages without being copies or becoming caricatures.*

*I was given a great deal of freedom in creating these capitals, which suggested 14th century subjects but with a contemporary look. To breathe life into these beasts, I took my inspiration from the history of Chalon. For example, the fish refers to the legend of St Gratus, bishop of Chalon in 658, who was late to mass one day. On the St Laurent bridge, he felt guilty enough to throw his episcopal ring into the Saône before retiring into penitence. A jewel that a fish returned to him eight years later! The fox, for his part, is a reminder that Chalon was once a centre for the fur trade. For centuries, the Fair of Sauvages gathered together each year in the Town Hall square, buyers and sellers from all over Europe... For each of these characters, I made the first models in clay, before carving them in St Marc limestone. Once each of the subjects was roughly marked into the stone, I put the details and finishing touches to them in the workshop, and then in place after the skylight had been installed. I am really proud to have participated in the renovation of this magnificent cloister!"*



Central Nave of Cathedral St-Vincent  
© Rozenn KREBEL



St-Vincent Cloister  
© Laëtitia de Bazelaire

## St Vincent's Cathedral and Cloister

The town of Chalon-sur-Saône is one of the rare towns in France that still has a complete cathedral close, made up of the Bishop's Palace, canon's lodgings, the church and the cloister. Constructed between the 9th and 16th centuries and given a new Neo-gothic façade in the 19th century, the cathedral is part Romanesque and part Gothic, however, both styles come together to form an harmonious whole. The cathedral also has the best collection of Romanesque capitals in Saône et Loire, the masons whose signatures they bear having honed their skills on the prestigious buildings of Cluny Abbey and St Lazare in Autun. The cathedral opens onto a pretty square which is bordered with stone and half-timbered houses that date from the 15th to the 18th centuries, and where the terraces soak up the first rays of the morning sun... The square has also been home to a market every Friday and Sunday since the 15th century!

### The Cloister : a rebirth!

Rebuilt at the end of the 14th century on walls dating from the year 1000, it is the only cloister remaining in Burgundy and Franche-Comté that still serves a cathedral. Originally wooden framed and covered by a simple tiled roof, similar to that of the cathedral in Bordeaux, in the 15th century this was replaced by vaulted stone. Damaged by the Huguenots in 1562, divided up following the Revolution, it was partly rebuilt on three sides at the beginning of the 20th century. Since 2013 the galleries and their decoration have been restored, the west side roof has been replaced and a covered roof has been replaced over the eastern and southern galleries. From 2018, the north gallery which disappeared in the 19th century was restored. This part of the cloister, never before seen, is re-opened to the public since autumn 2019.

### to note

At the entrance to the cathedral a tactile model of the building is available for visually impaired visitors.

# Museums

## The Denon Museum



musée de France

Writer and talented engraver, Dominique-Vivant Denon was Director General of the Louvre museum, and is considered today as a great pioneer of museums, art history and Egyptology. Founded in the 19th century, the Chalon museum that carries his name contains some fine collections of archaeology (notably a magnificent sculpture of a lion pinning down a gladiator), fine art (major Neapolitan works from the 17th century and from the Rembrandt school), as well as a rare set of wood engravings, unique in France. The graphic art section contains more than two thousand drawings, engravings and lithographs.

[www.museedenon.com](http://www.museedenon.com)

## The Niépce Museum



musée de France

For the Nicéphore Niépce museum, a photograph is at once something that is technical, aesthetic and social. Its aim is to explain all aspects of photography from its invention by Niépce (1827) to digital images. The museum's collections of over three million photographs and objects make it possible to follow a different route each time you visit. The most important piece in the collections is the world's first ever camera, used by Niépce. In addition, the museum regularly changes its temporary exhibitions, giving space to contemporary creations. Chalon-sur-Saône is both the birthplace of the inventor and the viewscreen for photography today.

[www.museeniepce.com](http://www.museeniepce.com)

### The Niépce Museum is...

- 4 million photographs
- 8000 cameras
- 3,500 sq. metres of exhibition space
- 1500 works exhibited
- 11 exhibition rooms
- 6 temporary exhibitions per year
- 1 specialist bookshop
- 1 production laboratory
- 1 library containing 30,000 works

## The Veterans Memorial Museum

Housed in the former chapel of the Knights Hospitaler (13th century), the only remaining part of the residence of the Knights Templar, is dedicated to paying homage to soldiers who fought in the different conflicts in which France has been involved. Uniforms, weapons, photographs and objects linked to warfare, enable an understanding of the history and help to conserve their memory.

**+33 (0)9 71 28 74 18**



The Denon Museum  
© Rozenn KREBEL

## Discover Chalon with the Heritage Centre

During the course of general or themed tours, the town's heritage service tour guides will lead you through areas of Chalon that are sometimes not well known and/or normally closed to the public... An alternative way of learning about the wealth of history and architecture of the town!

As for the Architecture and Heritage Interpretation Centre, it unscrambles the history of the town and shows the evolution of the urban development of Chalon by the way of its exhibition. The centre also hosts temporary exhibits.

**For more info :** [www.chalon.fr](http://www.chalon.fr)  
[animation.patrimoine@chalonsursaone.fr](mailto:animation.patrimoine@chalonsursaone.fr)  
 +33 (0)3 85 93 15 98

### NB.

There is no entry fee for Denon and Niépce museums and the Cultural Centre!



# Chalon and the Saône, A long history

The river Saône has played an important role in the construction and evolution of Chalon.

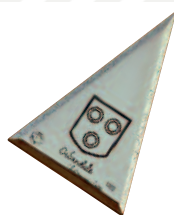
From the first century BC, the town of Chalon (Cabillonum) developed rapidly because of its strategic location on the banks of the Saône. In effect, from the very beginning the town flourished commercially due to the exchanges between the Mediterranean peoples and those of Celtic Europe. Via the Saône, the merchant boats transported spices, wines and oils but also wood and earthenware goods. There are Roman amphorae which transported wine on display in the Denon Museum.

From 1477 to 1678 Chalon became a frontier town, the left bank of the Saône belonging to the Hapsburg Empire. Thus, Chalon found itself in a strategic position on the border between Burgundy, which became French, and Franche-Comté which belonged to the Holy Roman Empire. Then from 1940 to 1942 the Saône became the line of demarcation. Chalon was cut in two, the right bank was in the Occupied Zone and the left in unoccupied Vichy (or "Free") France. Today Chalon, as the 5th largest river port in France, lives to the rhythm of the Saône, with pleasure boating (river cruise liners, hotel barges, individual pleasure boats...) participating in the development of tourism in the town.

## Did you know?

2000 years ago, the inhabitants of Cabillonum worshipped Souconna, goddess of water and rivers. In Rue au Change the base of a statue dedicated to the divinity was discovered, in addition to numerous ex-voto which were found on the river bed beside Chalon.

## Did you say Orbandale?



The Orbandale Way is a tourist trail you can follow at your own pace, that takes you around the historic old town of Chalon and the St Laurent Isle, on the hunt for more-or-less hidden treasures.

The remarkable facades of interior courtyards, 35 points of interest that spring up all over the town. The trail is available in French, English, German, Italian, Spanish, Dutch and Chinese from the Tourist Office. It is also available as a version for children (5 – 7 years and 8 – 12 years) called "Orbidule".

- **Trail 1** (the old town); 2.7km/ 45 mins to 1 hr
- **Trail 2** (St Laurent Isle); 1.7km/20 to 30 mins
- **The trails** are available with an audio guide during the tourist season.

## More info

The Orbandale is symbolised by 3 golden circles (orbes in old French) which decorate the town's coat of arms.









TO DISCOVER



# À DÉCOUVRIR



## The Grand Chalon, discoveries on discoveries

Grand Chalon is full of examples of history and heritage. From churches to chateaux, museums to mills, the territory of Grand Chalon offers a multitude of propositions for young and old, to discover as a family, as a couple, alone or with friends. From the princess of Germolles to the lord of Rully, the Neolithic remains at Chassey-le-Camp to the photographic invention of Nicéphore Niépce, Grand Chalon offers in invitation to travel through time!

# The Chateaux

Rully and Germolles, both built between the 12th and 14th centuries are complementary and contemporary. One is a fortified castle which has kept its defensive appearance despite the modifications made throughout the centuries (Rully), the other is an old fortified manor house that became a luxurious home for a Duke (Germolles). One epoch, two buildings, two destinies!

## The Chateau of Rully

On a defensive site perched on a rocky outcrop and enjoying a magnificent panorama across the Côte Chalonnaise, the chateau stands out proudly amongst the vineyards. The old mediaeval fort is still visible in the form of a large part of its military architecture; 12th century square keep, rounded corner towers and a flanking tower, the whole brought together by major curtain wall topped by a walkway and battlements, machicolations and corbels. A series of successive improvement works transformed the old fortified manor house into a comfortable home. The interior bears the marks of a range of improvements made across the centuries. On the ground floor of the keep, the rib-vaulted kitchens contain an enormous 15th century fireplace and an impressive set of copper cooking pans. As for the bedrooms and reception rooms, these display a vast range of decorative styles from the 18th and 19th centuries. The main courtyard of the castle is surrounded by matched outbuildings from the 18th century, covered with the largest collection of stone roofs that exist in Burgundy, as well as a 19th century English style park which is behind the chateau. The current owner, a descendant of the original nobleman who built the chateau 800 years ago, leads the guided tours himself!

[www.chateauderully.com](http://www.chateauderully.com)

## The Chateau de Germolles

Originally, Germolles was also a fortress. When Philip the Bold, Duke of Burgundy gave the fortified manor house of Germolles to his wife Margaret of Flanders in 1380, she undertook major work that transformed the austere feudal fortress from the 12th and 13th centuries into a luxury home. Today, Germolles is the best preserved of the Ducal residences. This palatial chateau shows both the opulence and the modernity of this refined, nature loving Duchess. Tucked into the heart of a valley and opening onto bucolic landscapes, the princely residence is resolutely avant-garde with its gardens, rose garden and sheepfold. The subtle blend of luxury and nature makes this an unusual residence, combining the splendours of a palace with the pastoral grace of a country house.

Today, a guided tour takes you around the cellar, the lower chapel and entrance towers from the 13th century, the 14th century main lodgings, the Duke and Duchess's private chapel (renovated in 2010) and their private apartments, finishing in the 19th century romantic English style gardens. Admire, as you go around, the décor by the major artists of the Burgundy Court, the painter Jean de Beaumetz and the sculptor Claus Sluter. The collection of paving stones that once adorned the floors is also worth a look!

[www.chateaugermolles.fr](http://www.chateaugermolles.fr)



### MEET

### Matthieu Pinette, co-owner of the Chateau de Germolles

As a member of the "Association de la Route des Chateaux en Bourgogne de Sud" and treasurer of the "Association de la Route des Ducs de Bourgogne" Matthieu Pinette is also one of the enthusiastic and erudite owners of the Chateau de Germolles (Mellecey) the country palace of a "princess shepherdess".

*"Germolles gives us a view of the princely life in the court of the Dukes of Burgundy. There is a level of ostentation at Germolles, all across the chateau, Margaret of Flanders had wanted to demonstrate her power and stamp her image. She was a member of the royal family and she wanted it to be known!"*

*"Germolles is the best preserved of the residences of the Dukes of Burgundy and one of the rare examples of a princely palace from the end of the Middle Ages. There remain today many of the elements of interior decoration that date from the 14th century, and that is pretty exceptional, even unique!"*

*"Margaret of Flanders also gave this home a close link to nature. The bucolic aspect of the palace of Germolles can be found in the wall paintings of repeated roses and thistles or on the floor tiles with representations of trees and animals"*



The Chateau of Rully  
© OT du Grand Chalon



The Chateau of Germolles  
© OT du Grand Chalon



# The Museums, the heritage

## The Nicéphore Niépce House



First photograph  
taken in 1827  
© Spéos

At Saint-Loup-de-Varennnes, visit the house where photography was invented! It was here that Nicéphore Niépce took the first ever photograph from the window of his workshop in 1827, "Le Point de Vue du Gras". It is also here that, along with Louis Daguerre, they perfected the daguerreotype, and also, with his brother Claude, where they invented the first ever internal combustion engine.

[www.photo-museum.org/fr](http://www.photo-museum.org/fr)

## The Chalonnaise School Museum

At Saint-Rémy, dive into the atmosphere of classrooms of old, from the school of Jules Ferry to those of the 1980s. Wooden desks, violet ink, Banda machines or mimeographs... will all turn you back into a schoolkid!

[www.museedelecole.jimdofree.com](http://www.museedelecole.jimdofree.com)

## The Centre for Archaeological Interpretation

55 archaeological finds explore the Neolithic presence at the site of Chassesey-le-Camp.

The remains found there have given their name to a prehistoric period: the Chasséen! (4350 to 3300 BC)

+33(0)3 85 87 14 56

[mairie.chasseylecamp@wanadoo.fr](mailto:mairie.chasseylecamp@wanadoo.fr)

## The Heritage Centre

The interpretation centre enables us to revisit the history of the Fontaines quarries through the permanent exhibition "From the stone to the work". The exhibit also has on display the tools used by stonemasons and sculptors.

[www.fontainesenbourgogne.fr](http://www.fontainesenbourgogne.fr)

## The Rail Museum

The museum traces the life of the Châtenoy-le-Royal turntables and offers an exhibit of model trains.

[www.rmc71.fr](http://www.rmc71.fr)

## On the trail of a more vernacular heritage



Wash House of Fontaines  
© Quentin Demouron

In the course of your wanderings through Grand Chalon, you will fall for the charm here or there, of a mill, a fountain or a wash house. Of which, there are some excellent examples at Crissey, Epervans, Fontaines, La Charmée and Varennes-le-Grand. At Mercurey, there are the "cadoles", little dry-stone shelters used by wine-growers, which may catch your eye. At Givry, in the hamlet of Russilly, you may possibly remark on a calvary recalling the memory of an ancient Romanesque church, while you come across a dozen or so well-preserved road-side crosses around Jambles. At the top of the village of Saint-Denis-de-Vaux, you will see a lovely wayside cross dated 1662 and classified as an historic monument. On the back of this cross is a Piéta, remembering the pilgrimage, once very popular, to the chapel of Notre-Dame-de Pitie in the Chalonnaise region. All these little pieces of rural heritage demonstrate a life that was abundant in the relations between heaven and earth.

## Attacking the heritage trails

Some communes offer discovery trails around their heritage. At Givry, Rully, Saint-Rémy or Crissey, these pathways give you the chance to stroll around the villages at your own pace, whilst learning about their history.

**For more information contact the Tourist Office and its branches or the local Mairie (Town Hall).**



© School  
Museum

## One church can follow another!

Each town or village can count at least one church, witness to the time when life was organized around the parish. Grand Chalon has many beautiful Romanesque churches; the fortified church of Saint-Isidore in Saint-Désert, the church of Saint-Senoch at Sassenay (11th century) or the church of Saint-Benigne at Jambles where the nave meets a Romanesque choir covered in stone tiles (laves). Fans of the Gothic style will find pleasure at Crissey (church of Saint-Symphorien), Fontaines (church of Saint-Just), Gergy (church of Saint-Germain) or Mercurey (church at Touches). For those who favour the classical period, a visit to the church of the Virgin Nativity in Allerey-sur-Saône. Finally, the admirers of the Neo-classic will be enthralled by the churches of Saint-Jean l'Evangéliste at Barizey and Saint-Pierre-et-Saint-Paul at Givry, both created by the architect Emiland Gauthey, who also designed the Canal du Centre between Digoin and Chalon.

**More  
information**

[www.achalon.com](http://www.achalon.com)



St-Isidore Church  
in St-Désert  
© OT du Grand Chalon



« In Burgundy, when one speaks of a "Climat" one doesn't lift one's eyes to the skies, but lowers them to the ground »

Bernard Pivot



TRY IT, TASTE IT



# ACHALON DÉGUSTER



## The vine, Burgundy's gold

For more than two thousand years, the great vineyards of Burgundy have forged the reputation of our region. These exceptional crus are known and appreciated worldwide! In Burgundy, wine professionals can initiate you with passion into the secrets of the "terroir", in the middle of superb landscapes that are full of tales and history. Between the prestigious Côtes de Beaune and Côtes de Nuits (to the north) and the hills of the Mâconnais (to the south), the winemakers of the Côte Chalonnaise and the Maranges invite you to try their red wines, the colour of rubies, and their delicate white wines...

Set sail on an unforgettable voyage of the senses in the middle of this blessed land.

[www.achalon.com](http://www.achalon.com)

# Appellations; how do you decipher them?

The Burgundy vineyards are extremely diverse: more than 100 appellations, 4,000 producers, and in the end, more than 60,000 different wines! To find your way around this multitude of choices, you have to understand that the Burgundy vineyards are divided into 4 levels of appellation, according to a classification by geographic provenance.

## The Regional Appellations

These wines are produced throughout the whole of the Burgundy vineyards. They are easy to recognise by their name, which (almost) always contains the denomination “Bourgogne” or Burgundy: Crémant de Bourgogne, Bourgogne Aligoté, Bourgogne Côte Chalonnaise...

The regional appellations represent more than half the production of Burgundy wines. They are also the most reasonably priced wines.

## The Village Appellations

These wines are produced on the “terroirs” of the wine villages that give the wines their names. There are five Village appellations on the Côte Chalonnaise: Bouzeron, Rully, Mercurey, Givry and Montagny.

## The Premier Cru Appellations

These wines are produced on precisely delimited parcels of vines called “climats”, in the midst of a village. One wine in ten is produced under this appellation: Mercurey 1er Cru, Givry 1er Cru...

## The Grand Cru Appellations

These wines come from the best parcels (or “climats”) of the villages. If these Grand Crus – numbering 33 – only represent 1.5% of the regions wine production, they are the most renowned Burgundy wines... and the most expensive! There are no Grand Crus on the Côte Chalonnaise, but you will find here marvellous wines, whites and reds, that offer excellent value for money.



## « Climats » : the philosophy of Burgundy in one word!

The Burgundy vineyards are a patchwork of small parcels of vines, each of a recognised and identified quality.

They are called “climats”, a term that dates back to the Middle Ages.

The “Climat” is the genie of the place. It is the characteristic and unique expression of a micro “terroir”. Each “climat” is defined by a particular slope, a unique exposition, an original geological nature, a character, a knowledge... Thus, at only a few metres apart, the same appellation doesn't produce the same wine!

The personality of a “climat” is expressed in its wine vintage after vintage, thanks to the skills and knowledge of the winemaker. Nowhere else in the world has man sought to link, in a manner so precise and intimate, the production of wine with its place of production.

The Burgundy vineyard “climats” constitute in this way, the essence of the model of Burgundian viticulture, which resulted in their being inscribed on the list of UNESCO World Heritage for their “Exceptional Universal Value” in 2015.

The classified area extends from the south of Dijon (Côte d'Or) down to Maranges (Saône et Loire).

Source / [www.vins-bourgogne.fr](http://www.vins-bourgogne.fr)



# Good Burgundies at sensible prices

## On the Côte Chalonnaise

In the natural extension of the Côte de Beaune, we find the Côte Chalonnaise, where fields and woodlands mix with the vines. The Côte Chalonnaise stretches from Chagny down to Montagny-les-Buxy and Saint-Vallerin, along a strip of land measuring 25km long by 7km wide. Its slopes, which rise in some places to over 400 metres, produce wines of great quality, the limestone-marl soils enabling the Burgundy grape varieties (Pinot Noir and Chardonnay) to flourish in the best conditions. The Côte Chalonnaise contains some good appellations – Bouzeron, Rully, Mercurey, Givry, Montagny – which are becoming more and more recognised and offer great value for money. It has become an unmissable stop for fans of good Burgundies at sensible prices.

### Did you know?

If Chardonnay dominates the Côte Chalonnaise – as the rest of Burgundy – for the production of white wines, there is all the same, an exception: Bouzeron, where they only grow the very old variety Aligoté!

## The wineries open their doors

### An initiation with a glass in your hand!

In every village on the Côte Chalonnaise, you will find welcoming cellars and splendid wine estates where they will introduce you, with a glass in your hand, to the secrets of the vine and the magic of vinification. The winemakers love to drip advice and secrets about their parcels, discuss the richness of their profession, tell the story of their estate and of course, offer their wines to be tasted. Burgundy is a land of conviviality and there are numerous winemakers who today, offer wine-tourism services to their guests: a guided tour through the vines with tasting and a Burgundy snack, discover the “cuvée” and what happens behind the scenes when making wine, hiking through the vineyards... Come and meet these men and women who are passionate about their land and love to share.

## The Different Appellations

### Bouzeron (100% white)

The heritage variety Aligoté produces a wine that is typical of its “terroir”. The village appellation is only for white wines. It is produced in the villages of Bouzeron and Chassey-le-Camp. It gives a wine that is rounded and delicately powerful. Bouzeron is the only appellation dedicated exclusively to the Aligoté grape.

### Rully (62% white, 38% red)

This appellation produces red and white wines of which some are classed as Premier Cru. Rully is produced in the villages of Rully and Chagny. The white is fruity, lively and round; the red is supple and complex, but needs time to develop!

### Mercurey (82% red, 18% white)

This village appellation is the most spread out over the Côte Chalonnaise. The production is shared between Mercurey and Saint-Martin-sous-Montaigu. The red is powerful and its dark garnet colour can remind one of a Pommard or a Volnay. The white, floral and round is, in the mouth, close to that of a Côte de Beaune.

### Givry (83% red, 17% white)

This was the favourite wine of King Henri IV! The vines spread all the way around the town, fortified since the Middle Ages. The appellation produces mostly red wines in the villages of Givry, Dracy-le-Fort and Jambles. Spicy and slightly tannic when young, the reds become supple and smoother with age. The whites, fine, harmonious, divided between sweetness and acidity, last well in the mouth.

### Montagny (100% white)

This wine is exclusively white. It was one of the first Burgundy wines to benefit from an AOC. The appellation “Aux Douces Collines” is spread across the villages of Montagny, Buxy, Jully-les-Buxy and Saint-Vallerin. It is a mineral and well balanced white, with a delicate bouquet and an elegant character.

### The “Vignobles et Découvertes” Label

This is a national label created in 2009 and attributed for a period of 3 years to a tourist and viticulture destination, where the discovery of multiple complementary activities (accommodation, food, visits to cellars and tastings, museums...) is possible.



## Maranges, gateway to the "Climats" of Burgundy, UNESCO World Heritage Site

On the edge of the Côte Chalonnaise the vineyards of Maranges constitute the link between Côte d'Or and Saône et Loire. It produces essentially red wines from the Pinot Noir grape with, at the same time, a few vines of white Chardonnay. The Maranges appellation contains 7 "climats" classed as Premier Crus, producing at Cheilly-les-Maranges, Dezize-les-Maranges and Sampigny-les-Maranges. Although the place of production is found in the department of Saône et Loire, the appellation is part of the Côte de Beaune. The Maranges vineyards are at the boundary of the "climats" that were, in 2015, classified as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

### Tasting Notes

The light, gravelly soils of Cheilly give a wine with remarkable delicateness. Structure and firmness characterise the wines of Dezize and Sampigny. While the amounts of white wines produced are small, they have a flowery temperament..

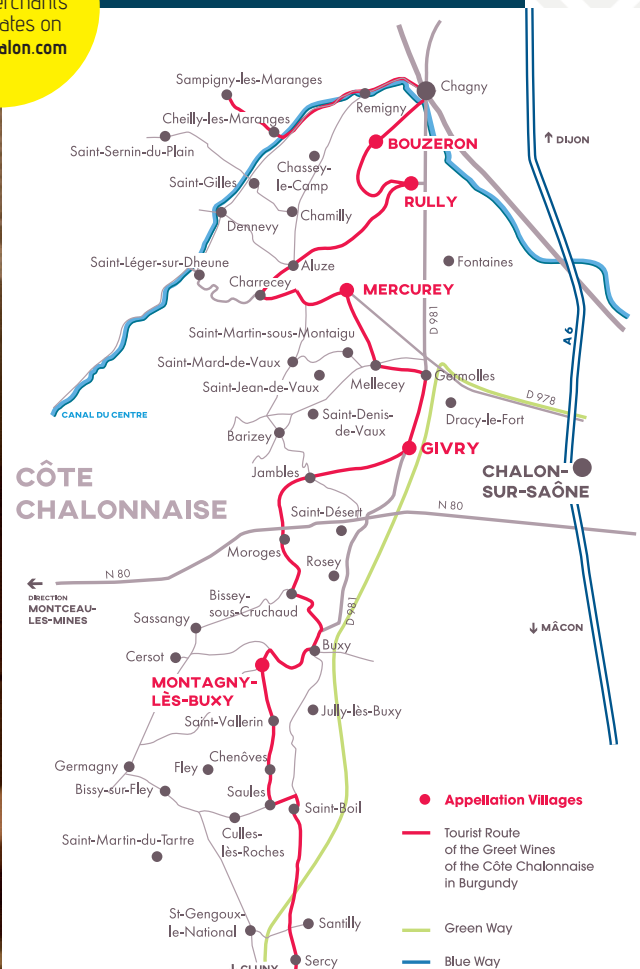
Source / [www.vins-bourgogne.fr](http://www.vins-bourgogne.fr)

### Note

Find our partner wine merchants and estates on [www.achalon.com](http://www.achalon.com)



CLIMATS DU  
VIGNOBLE DE  
BOURGOGNE  
PATRIMOINE MONDIAL



Source / [www.vins-bourgogne.fr](http://www.vins-bourgogne.fr)

# Where to taste and buy the wines of the Côte Chalonnaise

## Maison des Vins de la Côte Chalonnaise

Created in 1982 in Chalon-sur-Saône in order to promote the wines of the Côte Chalonnaise and to assemble in one place all the different appellations (Bouzeron, Rully, Mercurey, Givry, Montagny and Crémant de Bourgogne), the Maison des Vins is both a tasting cellar and a shop. Twice a year, a jury of professionals and enthusiasts blind taste 300 wines and mark them. The wines that score the highest form the selection for autumn/winter or spring/summer, which aligns with the life of the Maison des Vins de la Côte Chalonnaise.

[www.maisondesvins-chalon.com](http://www.maisondesvins-chalon.com)

## Caveau Givry Vins and Caveau Divin Mercurey

The Caveau Givry Vins offers 32 wines from Givry produced by the 22 estates, for tasting and for sale. Alongside this, the Caveau Divin Mercurey presents 64 different wines from the Mercurey appellation, produced by 44 estates. Both cellars are equipped with the "Enomatic" system for distributing wine by the glass, which means that the wines are kept in their best condition, maintaining their organoleptic qualities and avoiding oxidation. This system also allows you to taste the wines at your own pace; a pre-paid magnetic card (5€, 10€, 15€...) gives you access to the tasting area and you serve yourself. There is always someone available to guide your tasting, if required.

[www.mercurey.com/fr/le-caveau](http://www.mercurey.com/fr/le-caveau)

[www.facebook.com/givryvinsettourisme](https://www.facebook.com/givryvinsettourisme)

### Did you know?

In these cellars, all wines are bought at the same price as direct from the producer.

## The Female side to the Vine



### Sandrine Dessauge

Domaine France Dessauge  
in Cheilly-les-Maranges

Sandrine and her brother Jean-Baptiste took over the family estate, situated in the middle of Maranges, in 2005. "At the start, the older generation of winemakers only spoke to my brother, but happily today the mentality has changed and sexist attitudes have stopped!" she confirms. Very involved in sustainable viticulture, the Dessauge estate was awarded the High Environmental Value (HVE) label in 2019. In the same year, they collected 4 gold medals at the "Feminalise" wine competition for the 2018 vintage of their Maranges white, Maranges red, Maranges 1er Cru and Santenay. "Our wines, mainly from old vines, are produced with the greatest respect to the Burgundy traditions." Sandrine says.

[www.dessauge-bourgogne.fr](http://www.dessauge-bourgogne.fr)



### Floriane Duvernay-Dirifo

Domaine Duvernay P et F  
at Mercurey

Though pursuing her studies in Chemistry and destined for research work, Floriane realised that her life was on the estate. "In 2011, my father had some health concerns and so I came home to lend a hand for the harvest. I was heavily involved in the vinification and that for me was a sort of trigger!" she explains. She then achieved her diploma in Oenology and joined the family business in 2014. Since then, she has never regretted her decision. "My place is here", she underlines, as she now manages the 20-hectare estate with her father Jean-Luc. The estate's best seller; Mercurey red 1er Cru Le Clos l'Eveque. It is the quintessence of the savoir-faire of the house in a bottle!

[www.domaine-duvernay-mercurey.com](http://www.domaine-duvernay-mercurey.com)

Caveau de Givry Vins  
© Rozenn Krebel



# The Crémant that makes Burgundy sparkle

Although the appellation "Crémant de Bourgogne" was born in 1975, crémant itself, a subtle effervescent wine, has been produced throughout Burgundy since the 19th century using the traditional method for sparkling wines. It is produced using the white juice from the Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and Gamay Noir grape varieties. The Côte Chalonnaise has producers of both white crémant and rosé crémant. Picamelot and Vitteaut-Alberti, based at Rully, are the two principal crémant houses on the Côte Chalonnaise. The former was founded in 1926 by Louis Picamelot, which makes it one of the oldest crémant houses in Burgundy. The latter was founded in 1951 by Lucien Vitteaut. In addition to the excellence of their production, the two houses have another point in common: they are both managed today by the grand children of their founders.

[www.louispicamelot.com](http://www.louispicamelot.com)  
[www.vitteaut-alberti.fr](http://www.vitteaut-alberti.fr)

Check out our section on gastronomy for ideas about matching food and wines...

## The Burgundy party spirit

In Burgundy, we have much more than just wine to share, it is a whole life-style that we are offering! There are numerous events throughout the year that are organized around wine; take part in these gustative and cultural get-togethers, which pay homage to the conviviality and festive spirit of Burgundians!

### Our favourite: The Côte Chalonnaise Paulée

The Paulée is the traditional festival marking the end of the grape harvest, with the St Hubert's mass, parades of the wine brotherhoods and wine tastings open to the public in places all over Chalon. It takes place on the 3rd weekend in October and allows the winemakers to present the wines from their last harvest. Taste it and see if the wine is good!

### "Du Côté des Maranges"

This festival organised at Easter by the producers of the Maranges appellation, offers two days of festive tastings letting you discover the secrets of the appellation.



**Agnès Vitteaut**  
Estate Vitteaut-Alberti  
in Rully

Grand-daughter of the founder of the house Lucien Vitteaut, Agnes has been at the head of the estate since 2010.

"When I first arrived in 2004, I wasn't always taken seriously, but competence was the best response!" says she who holds two diplomas in Oenology and in Vine Science. "I was always immersed in the world of the vine, but I was destined for the profession of lawyer... However, I couldn't bear to do that and leave my parents to sell the estate" says the wine-maker who now orchestrates a vineyard of 23 hectares spread across the Côte Chalonnaise and the Hautes Côtes de Beaune. The "Cuvee Agnes" delights especially those fans of opulent and fruity Crémants.

[www.vitteaut-alberti.fr](http://www.vitteaut-alberti.fr)



**Caroline Fyot  
and Alexia Russo**

Estate Château  
de Garnerot in Mercurey

Alexia and Caroline established their estate in 2018. "We were spending our lives in planes and trains, we needed to reconnect with nature" explained the pair. "Originally from Burgundy, I'd always dreamed of having my own winery, but it seemed to me to be difficult as I'm not from a winemaking family. It was meeting Alexia, who had spent her early years growing up among the olive trees of Italy, that enabled this dream to come true. We have a common goal, which is to create something with our own hands" finishes Caroline. The prospective wine-makers bought 6 hectares of vineyards on the Côte Chalonnaise (Bourgogne, Mercurey and Bouzeron) and on the Côte de Beaune at Chorey-les-Beaune, as well as a nice property in Mercurey in which to base their business. "Our vines are being converted to organic, which is in tune with our convictions. Each parcel is worked without pesticides or herbicides" specifies the pair, who are also focused on developing the welcome at the Chateau and making it one of the main forces of the idea of "immersing" their visitors in the world of the wine and vine.

[www.chateaudegarnerot.fr](http://www.chateaudegarnerot.fr)

The Côte Chalonnaise  
Paulée  
© Studio Piffaut







TO SAVOUR 

# TO SAVOUR

## Gastronomy in Burgundy: A way of life!

In Burgundy, gastronomy is a way of life! The region is basically heaven for good living epicures. A culinary heritage inherited since the Middle Ages, where the Dukes of Burgundy organized huge banquets. Herons, partridges, pheasants, capons, venison, suckling pigs were all offered in abundance to guests... and generously washed down with quality red and white wines. Today, we still like to make merry in Burgundy! Producers and restaurateurs continue to share this passion for good things. It isn't by chance that Chalon-sur-Saône is on the route of the "Valley of Gastronomy", a gourmet and gastronomic journey of over 600 kilometres that links Dijon to Marseille!

# Chalon, a position at the forefront of gastronomy

## A multitude of local producers

Surrounded by the Bresse, the Charolais and the exceptional vineyards of Burgundy, the Chalonnaise region benefits from a multitude of local producers, who offer consumers produce that is fresh and diverse. Products of the region, sold locally either at the markets of Grand Chalon, or direct from the farm-gate.

« This gastronomic wealth translates to the secular culture of eat well and drink well which is at the heart of Burgundy »

## Eat well and local in Chalon!

From Bresse poultry to Charolais beef, by way of snails, wines but also charcuterie, cheeses, fruits and vegetables, it is easy to eat well and local in Chalon! The Friday and Sunday morning markets and the Wednesday morning organic market make it simple to buy quality local produce.

## Burgundy dishes and wines a perfect marriage

Whatever the dish chosen, whatever the reason to celebrate, there is always a Burgundy wine to enhance it! A Montagny accompanies perfectly the river fish of the Saône (carp, pike, zander, perch), Bouzeron is excellent with a blanquette of (Bresse) chicken, a white Rully is ideal with "Pochouse" (fresh-water fish stew), a red Mercurey will subtly reveal the aromas of dark chocolate and a Crémant de Bourgogne makes red fruit sparkle. And to accompany a good Epoisses cheese, there is nothing better than a red Maranges! Don't hesitate to open the doors of the cellars that are dotted along the Burgundy Wine Route; the winemakers of the Côte Chalonnaise are welcoming souls, they know how to advise you on the best food and wine matches.

[www.maisondesvins-chalon.com](http://www.maisondesvins-chalon.com)



## UNMISSABLE

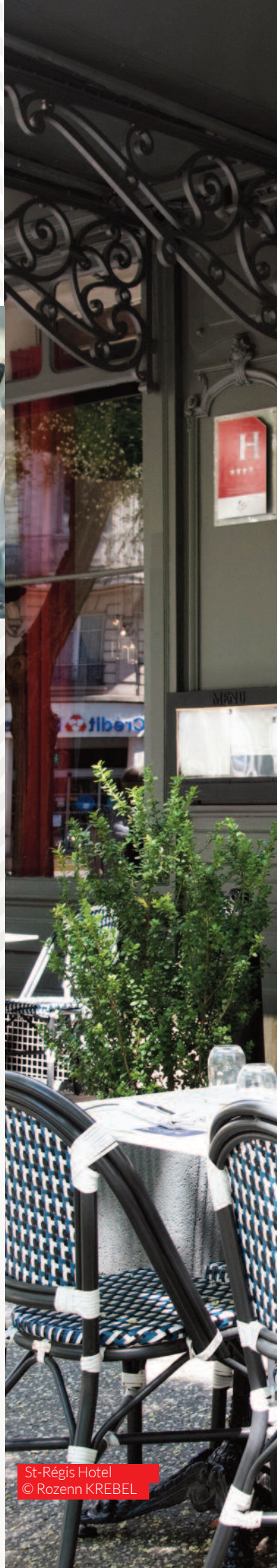
### L'Amaryllis: the Michelin starred restaurant

#### Sublime floral cuisine

*It is difficult to pass by Saint-Rémy without stopping at L'Amaryllis, with its Michelin star, and whose name is derived from the floral cuisine of the chef. In this transformed former mill – where some parts of the machinery have been conserved – Cédric Burtin conducts his creative kitchen, which oscillates between tradition and modernity. Trout, Charolais beef, snails, Bresse chicken, "coq au vin"... he loves to work with these Burgundy dishes and serve them in his own way!*

*The Michelin starred chef, who was born in the Charolais pastures, loves to make "good and beautiful"; his inventive style of cuisine is amplified by the intricate dressing of the plates. Very involved in the eco-responsible movement, he favours local producers, buying locally and everything nature can offer – he has even created a vegetable garden at the restaurant to supply the kitchens. This can be clearly seen on the plate; the menu offers a variety of propositions which change according to the season and the markets.*

[www.lamaryllis.com](http://www.lamaryllis.com)



St-Régis Hotel  
© Rozenn KREBEL

## The St Laurent Isle, the spot for those in the know

In Chalon the St Laurent Isle has little by little become the gourmet's quarter. The picturesque Rue de Strasbourg is lined with restaurants, from the traditional to the exotic. In this swarm of culinary suggestions, some establishments play the originality card by reinventing the local dishes, whilst others stick with tradition. Of course, the traditions have all got their place there; Bresse chicken, "oeufs en meurette", snails, Charolais beef... In winter, one eats in warm, cosy places, in summer out on the terrace. Whatever the season, your wishes and your budget, the chefs know how to tickle your tastebuds with subtle flavours and gourmet plates.

**More  
infor-  
mation**

[www.achalon.com](http://www.achalon.com)



Market Day  
St-Vincent Square  
© Rozenn KREBEL

# Burgundy, emblematic culinary specialities!

"Bœuf bourguignon", Burgundy snails, "oeufs en meurette", "pochouse" (a stew of freshwater fish in white wine), "jambon persillé"... a great many of our culinary specialities are well known all over the world !

The "jambon persillé" is still made according to a 14th century recipe, and is one of the unmissable dishes in Burgundy. Made up of the best pieces of ham contained in a delicious jelly flavoured with garlic and parsley, it is one of the authentic Burgundy foods, particularly appreciated during the Easter festivities. Another popular dish; Burgundy snails. Prepared according to the traditional recipe, the snails are cooked in a court bouillon before being replaced in their shells which are then stuffed with a parsley, garlic and butter mix. They are then popped into the oven... and success is guaranteed! Another traditional dish from the Burgundy repertoire is "oeufs en meurette". Poached eggs are accompanied by a sauce "meurette", based on red wine and prepared with lardons, shallots and onions softened in butter. A starter normally served on toast and accompanied by a glass of red wine... a Burgundy of course!

## A meal without cheese is like a beautiful woman with only one eye!

Burgundy is also a land of cheeses... Goat's milk cheeses are undoubtedly the most popular; perfectly designed for a snack in the vineyards, these little cheeses in the form of a truncated cone can be eaten at any time during the day, with an aperitif or for an afternoon snack! And as Brillat-Savarin, celebrated gastronome from the 18th century, who gave his name to a famous Burgundy cheese, "a dessert with cheese is like a beautiful woman with only one eye!"



### PORTRAIT OF A CHEF

#### Julien VIOLETT

Chef at the restaurant  
Les Fables in Fontaines

Originally from Yonne, Julien Viollet worked in different Michelin starred restaurants, including ten years at L'Espérance in Saint-Père-sous-Vézelay, before resting his chef's hat in Fontaines in July 2019, with his wife Adeline who is in charge of front of house. "We wanted to live in the country but not in the middle of nowhere! The restaurant is on a main road, and close to commercial and trade zones, so we benefit from the potential clients of the businesses around us" says Julien, who creates "a timeless cuisine". The menu is "short and changes" because the produce is local and of the season. "The menu is changed according to what nature gives us" underlines the chef. His speciality is *pâté en croûte*. "What is pleasing is the crunchy crust. The recipe for the stuffing changes in conjunction with what is available; pork, pheasant... I am continually trying to make it perfect!" insists this butcher's son, who has always been "fascinated" by *charcuterie*.

### For lunch

Julien offers a business lunch menu – starter, main course, dessert – at €23.50. "It is whatever I find at the market that determines the menu of the day" he explains, as someone who champions quality cuisine at acceptable prices. The customers are there: the regulars from the Ti Coz, which Julien and Adeline took over, have adopted this traditional restaurant which subtly revisits Burgundy cuisine. "We can count on a regular local clientele, but we also attract those who are passing by. This is a dynamic region for tourism and it is partly for that reason that we chose it!" concludes the chef who loves the Chalonnaise. "We lived in Lyon and in Paris and we have definitely found a better quality of life here!"

[www.lesfablesrestaurant.com](http://www.lesfablesrestaurant.com)



The Forge Restaurant  
© Rozenn KREBEL

## Cook like a chef!

Cookery classes are going full steam ahead throughout the Grand Chalon area... Pull on your pinny and come and discover the kitchen secrets of these talented chefs and pastry chefs. They will teach you best practices and how to select the best products from our region to succeed with your dishes and spoil your guests. Group courses, for beginners or the more experienced, reveal tips and hints from the chefs in a convivial atmosphere. Even better, you get to take home your dishes to share with family or friends!

«Terrines», «pâté en croûte», «jambon persillé», «bœuf bourguignon»... these cookery workshops help you to discover Burgundy gastronomy first hand. You can then reproduce the recipes at home and treat your guests to perfect dinners!

**More  
infor-  
mation**

[www.achalon.com](http://www.achalon.com)



TO EXPLORE

# à PAR COU RIR

**On a bike, on foot, by boat...  
sample the joys  
of fresh air!**

More and more of us are coming to enjoy the pleasures of the slow movement! Around the area of Grand Chalon, there are many different methods of travel available to you, each offering a multitude of experiences either contemplative or sportive. On a boat, on a bike, on foot, on horseback or even on roller skates, electric scooter or Solex bike, head off to discover the territory, in a different way, taking your time and respecting the environment...

# Cyclo-tourism The Green Way

With its rolling landscapes, Southern Burgundy is a land of verdant nature made for escape. As a consequence, there are numerous cycle paths and itineraries here; a network of 6,600km of cycling circuits, 221km of Green Ways, 134km of cycle paths cover the department of Saône et Loire. It is therefore, no surprise that the first Green Way in France was created here in 1997, linking Givry and Cluny and following the route of an old railway line.

« 21 places of interest to discover along the 145km of the Southern Burgundy Big Loop itinerary »

The itinerary today links Chalon to Mâcon via the Green Way along the Côte Chalonnaise crossing the vineyards, and Mâcon to Chalon via the Blue Way which follows the banks of the Saône, along former tow paths. There are 21 places of interest to discover along the 145km of the Southern Burgundy Big Loop... on foot, by bike, on roller skates... but always in connection with nature!

## Travel a bit further...

Prolong the experience of the Southern Burgundy Big Loop with the Tour of Burgundy by bike! It enables you to cross Burgundy thanks to an incredible network of canal banks prepared for cycling and Green Ways created on old railway tracks. You follow the Vineyard Way from Dijon to Santenay, the Canal de Bourgogne from Auxerre to Dijon, the Nivernais canal from Auxerre to Decize, the canal du Centre from Chalon to Digoin and the lateral canal to the Loire, the Ariane Thread through the pretty historical towns of Digoin, Bourbon-Lancy, Decize or Nevers... Well known for its wines, Burgundy can offer a surprise practically every kilometre or so; a chateau, a chapel, a village, a lock, a wine cellar... This lovely cycling loop of 872km is a real playground for a family holiday or for your first experience of a bike tour... Saddle up!



© Rozenn KREBEL

## Chalon, at the crossroads of lots of cycle routes!

Many cycle routes pass through Grand Chalon. A stroke of luck for the area which is particularly well developed for cyclists with many suppliers who have the "Accueil Vélo" bicycle friendly label..

- The green ways from Cluny to Givry (73km) and along the canal du Centre (35km as far as Saint-Bérain-sur-Dheune).
- The Blue Way "Moselle-Saône by bike" from Luxembourg to Lyon (Veloroute 50) over 700km including 106km from Mont-les-Seurre to Mâcon.
- The Bressane Way, from Chalon-sur-Saône to Lons-le-Saunier (68km)
- The Tour of Burgundy by Bike (872km) and the Southern Burgundy Big Loop (Veloroute 51); 145km from Chalon-sur-Saône to Mâcon
- The Route "Between the Vines and the Saône" (or Tacot Way) linking Beaune to Chalon-sur-Saône and Verdun-sur-le-Doubs, passing by Saint-Loup-Géanges, Allerey-sur-Saône and Gergy (12.5km)



# River Tourism River Escapes

Given its ideal situation at the confluence of the river Saône and the canal du Centre, Chalon is a place made for pleasure boating. The Saône is one of Europe's most important axes of river navigation. As a result, a great many river cruise liners moor each year in Chalon between the Port Nord and the town quays, while the marina has 150 mooring points available on pontoons to welcome permanent or passing pleasure boats. From May to September, the Harbour Master's office rents boats (with or without licence) for a few hours or a few days, giving beginners a chance have fun on the river, and enjoy both nature and culture. Quite a few pleasure boaters are also cyclists: once moored at the quay, they get on their bikes to go and have a look at the area, alternating between the riches of heritage and those of gastronomy.

The marina has 150 mooring points available on pontoons to welcome permanent or passing pleasure boats as well as 180 metres of moorings along the Quay Ste-Marie.

Finally, the Saône is also a playground appreciated by anglers and water sports enthusiasts (wakeboard, water skiing, jet skis). It is also possible to rent canoes or hire a private boat with skipper and set off on a relaxing meander down the river with friends or family, at your own pace...

## Did you know?

The canal du Centre was constructed between 1783 and 1793 by the engineer Emiland Gauthey. Linking Chalon to Digoin over 114km it has 61 locks, one with a drop of 10.3 metres.

## The Numbers

15,000 private pleasure boats sail each year on the 1000km of navigable waterways in Burgundy.



## TESTIMONIAL Léo Beilmann

### Director of Operations for AGIS (River cruises)

"Of the 24 cruise liners in our fleet, 20 stop regularly at Chalon between mid-March and mid-November. What pleases the passengers most, 85% of whom are foreigners, is the market and the tour of the town centre with its lovely historic houses and its shops dedicated to food... They can also be attracted by an event; the street theatre festival "Chalon dans la rue" or the arrival of the Tour de France! Contrary to what you might think, the passengers are very happy to eat ashore, and they are very fond of little French restaurants. In addition, on board there are menus from the Chalon restaurants as well as brochures from the Tourist Office. The Americans, who represent over 50% of our clientele and generally have solid buying power, are also great fans of Burgundy wines; they buy a lot of them, drink them here or have them shipped home to share with their friends when they get home. As for the Swiss and the Germans, they perhaps spend a little less, but when they find a region they like, they keep coming back... Finally, many of our boats spend the winter in the Port Nord, which is also important for the local economy."



The Marina  
© OT du Grand Chalon



© Rozenn Krebel

## The Marina at Chalon

Just a stones' throw from the pedestrian shopping area and right next to the Ile St-Laurent, the Marina offers 150 berths on pontoons all year round, all with water and electricity, including 20 that are available just for short stays. A little further away, the marina at St-Léger-sur-Dheune also offers 20 berths for boats. Not forgetting the mooring points at Fragnès-la-Loyère, first available stopping point from Chalon on the Canal du Centre, as well as those of Gerçay, Fontaines, Rully, Cheilly-les-Maranges, all pretty winemaking villages, where you can tie up and enjoy one of the many picnic spots. All these serve as a fun way to add to your boating experience.

## ZOOM

### Also available at the marina...

A fuel pump is available from May to September, a crane for up to 5 tonnes, the Harbour Master's office, resupplying and putting your boat in the water, a washing machine and tumble dryer, a closed dustbin area, WIFI, sale of wines and hot drinks, an ice machine, a gift shop with postcards and souvenirs, tourist information.

## Other means of getting around

# On foot, on horseback, on wheels!

Walking, on an electric scooter or on a horse... there are lots of other ways of getting around Grand Chalon !

### On foot

There are lots of footpaths and hiking trails that are signposted all over Grand Chalon. Whether you are a beginner or a confirmed hiker, alone or with your family, the area offers a lovely range of itineraries between the vineyards, forests and valleys. For those of you who practice Nordic Walking, you will also find your pleasure in these landscapes of different facets and well preserved.

### On horseback

There are a great many bridle paths and routes dedicated to horseback riding across our region. Pony Clubs and riding groups offer excursions by the day or trips of several days for experienced riders (gallop level III or IV)

### On roller skates

Between Chalon and Buxy, the green way is great for fans of roller skating. The route of the old railway line winds through the centre of the magnificent landscapes of the Côte Chalonnaise, which gives you the chance to take everything in with your eyes whilst burning off some energy!

### On a Solex

You know how to ride a bike? Then you have all the skills you need to ride a Solex! You can hire one for a couple of hours and set off on the assault of the Vineyard Way on your mount...

### On an E-scooter

You want to go touring in a fun and innovate way, but without getting tired? Then jump on an E-scooter and fill up on sensations in the enchanting surroundings of the Côte Chalonnaise, between vineyards and chateaux. Discovering on an electric scooter is much quieter than on a motorbike!

Free practice with GPS

Contact: +33 (0)6 08 99 98 26 - [contact@etrott71.fr](mailto:contact@etrott71.fr)

## 2 Apps to download



### Voie Verte 71

From Mâcon to Chalon, it is the mythic itinerary, the

one where the first Green Way in France was born in 1997! Nothing is better than discovering a landscape by bike. So, jump on yours and let the App guide you. Almost 73km unroll to the rhythm of chateaux, villages with typical historical buildings, vineyards and fine dining, Roman remains and much, much more... Experienced cyclists, keen amateurs, cyclo-tourists or as a family... each at their own pace! But for everyone, the pleasure of peddling, enjoying and making the most of the countryside around you.

### The Grand Chalon Tourist Office



What to see?  
Where to eat?  
Where to sleep?  
Where to go out?

Where to taste?  
To accompany you throughout your stay in Grand Chalon, this app will be your personal tour guide! Chose a winemaker to meet, a chateau to visit, a museum or even an activity close to where you are. Select a walk, a hike or a bike ride and set off to discover typically pretty villages...

Download them from Google Play or the Apple AppStore

## The label « Accueil Vélo » (Cyclists Welcome) a guarantee of quality

Cyclists, you should know that someone who carries the label "Accueil Vélo" will always keep the best welcome for you! The label is, for travellers by bicycle, an indicator that the quality of the welcome and the appropriate services offered are suitable to help you throughout your journey. It is guaranteed that these establishments are found a maximum of 5km from a cycle route, and that they have all the equipment you may need. To qualify for the label, the establishments must demonstrate that they have all the necessary criteria, depending on their type of activity, to assure a quality welcome to cyclo-tourists. Cyclists, keep an eye out for the many establishments in Grand Chalon (accommodation, bike hire, restaurants, Tourist Offices, places of interest) that display the "Accueil Vélo" sign.

**More  
information**  
[www.achalon.com](http://www.achalon.com)







TO BREATHE

# à RES PI RER

## Sportingly Yours

In 2016, Chalon was named European City of Sport, and then in 2018 Active and Sportive City (2 awards). With its 250 sports clubs and the numerous International level sporting events it hosts, the urban area of Chalon shows great sporting energy! Nearly all sports can be found in Grand Chalon, interior or exterior, on the water, in the air or in the parks and gardens equipped with sports facilities.

Whether you are into intensive sport or looking for something a little gentler, you will find something here to satisfy your wish for action or search for contemplation!

# Grand Chalon, Land of sports

## Sport for all!

Whether at amateur level or professional, sport has a prominent place in the urban area of Chalon. High level sport wears the Chalon colours: Elan Chalon, French champions in 2016-2017, has been in the basketball elite for over 20 years, the "Cercle Nautique Chalonnais" regularly hosts the major European championships in its Olympic-sized swimming pool, the Tango Chalonnaise Rugby Club plays in the Federal 3 division and Adrien Hardy won Olympic Gold for rowing in 2004!

Rowing has always been a sport that has brought pride to Chalon! The first races took place at the end of the 19th century and were immediately popular with the Chalonnaise public.

## In our parks and gardens

Amateur sport also has its place in Grand Chalon! It takes place notably in the parks and gardens, where sports equipment has been installed, like the Eugene Freyssinet park in Saint-Rémy (basketball courts, Padel-Tennis, cross-fit...) and fitness trails like those in Saint-Rémy, Dracy-le-Fort, Fontaines or that of the Saint-Nicolas leisure park.

The Prés-Saint-Jean lake in Chalon offers a foot and cycle path of 3.1km, children's playground and a City Stadium. At Châtenoy-le-Royal, the Chaumont pond, surrounded by 8.5ha of forest, is a popular place for walking and discovering the flora and fauna, while at Epervans, the ornithology reserve of the Ile Chaumette offers a pleasant walk along the banks of the Saône. Finally, the Pont-Latin pond in Mercurey is the starting point for some lovely hikes through the vineyards and the Gravalou pond at Virey-le-Grand has a nice landscaped footpath around it. Note that the network of Green Ways that cover the territory are not open to motorized vehicles. Safety is the key word on these pathways, that are well maintained and regularly checked. Use them peacefully!

## Try these in Grand Chalon!

Walking, hiking, running, horse riding, cycling, go-karting, golf, ball-sports (football, rugby, tennis, handball, basketball, squash, badminton), climbing, rowing, sailing, canoeing, swimming, flying ultra-lights, parachuting...

## Chalon; hosting major sports events!

A stage finish on the 2019 Tour de France, a stage start on the 2021 Paris-Nice cycle race, major swimming competitions, prestigious car rallies...



The Chalon Golf Course  
© OT du Grand Chalon

## The Chalon Golf Course

Coming to Chalon without playing a round of golf is like coming to Burgundy and not having a glass of wine!

The Chalon-sur-Saône golf course at la Roseaie is an 18 hole, par 71, created in 1976 by the designer Michel Rio. A flat course with narrow fairways and 60 bunkers, it has the particularity of being located in a public sports and leisure park and in the middle of a magnificent rose-garden. Play unfurls among 26,000 rose bushes and an arboretum of 4,000 trees. It's a ball!

### For more info:

Prairie Saint-Nicolas  
71380 Châtenoy-en-Bresse  
+33 (0)3 85 93 49 65  
[contact@golfchalon.com](mailto:contact@golfchalon.com)  
[www.golfchalon.com](http://www.golfchalon.com)

More  
infor-  
mation

[www.achalon.com](http://www.achalon.com)



Le Grand Chalon  
© Jean-Luc Petit

# Leisure for young and old !

## Lovely discoveries

In the Chalonnaise, you have access to a multitude of possibilities for discovery, here a cultural site, there a historical monument, elsewhere a little-known skill... The town's Heritage Animation Service organises themed guided tours throughout the year.

## For the younger ones

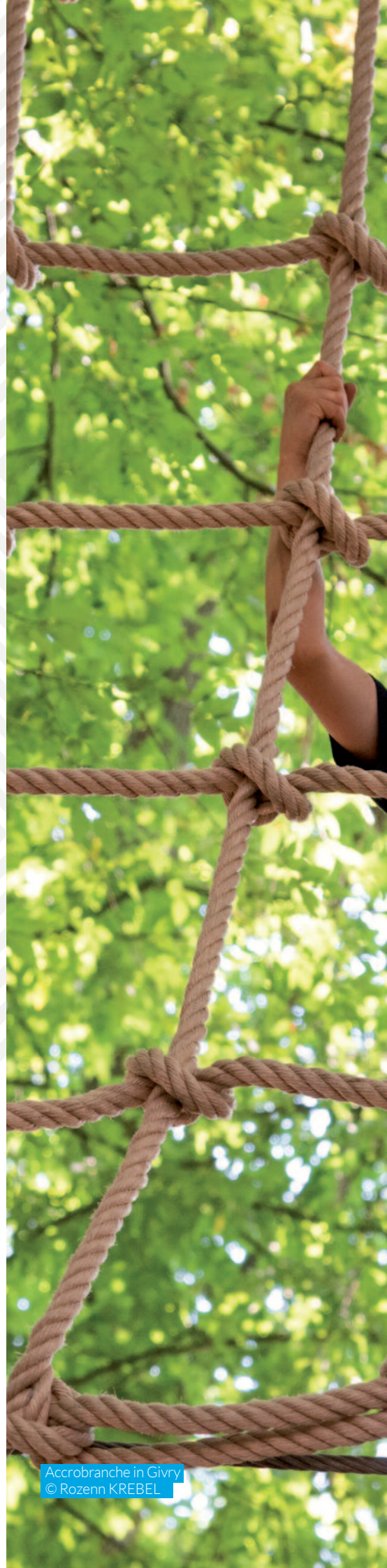
The younger generation are not forgotten, with workshops for children and adolescents offered in the museums and at the Heritage Centre, in partnership with architects, story-tellers, photographers...

The Orbandale Way tourist trail, which offers the chance to discover the historic heart of Chalon, is also available in a children's version, called "Orbidule", for 5-7 year olds and 8-12 year olds. The "Randoland" treasure hunt game takes children on a voyage of discovery through the different villages of Grand Chalon! And for rainy days, there are the indoor play parks, fitted with slides and ball pits!

Throughout the year, the many festivals, shows, concerts, theatre performances or dance recitals punctuate the Chalonnaise life.

## Take to the air

Grand Chalon also offers the opportunity to have a bird's eye view of the region by going up in a plane, a helicopter, a hot-air balloon...have your head in the clouds or keep your feet on the ground by having a go at fishing in the lakes, ponds and rivers of the area. And for those who prefer to travel in their imagination, the public libraries in Grand Chalon are full of novels and books to free the mind... Elsewhere, a variety of different "book boxes" have been created in different communities so that books can pass from hand to hand! Escape can also be found on the big screen; the Chalon Multiplex cinema offers the best conditions of comfort and technology, and the "Ciné sous les étoiles" (outdoor cinema) offers relaxation in the open air. And of course, throughout the year, the many festivals, shows, concerts, theatre performances or dance recitals punctuate Chalonnaise life.



Accrobranche in Givry  
© Rozenn KREBEL

## Acrogivry, adventure in the forest!

Burgundy's largest adventure park welcomes you in the middle of the forest! Suitable for 3 years old and upwards, it offers 30 different tree-top trails for all ages and all levels. 320 aerial games, 46 zip lines and 6km of trails are there to ensure the biggest thrills in complete safety for all the family. You will also find mini-golf and an escape game at the park.

### For more info:

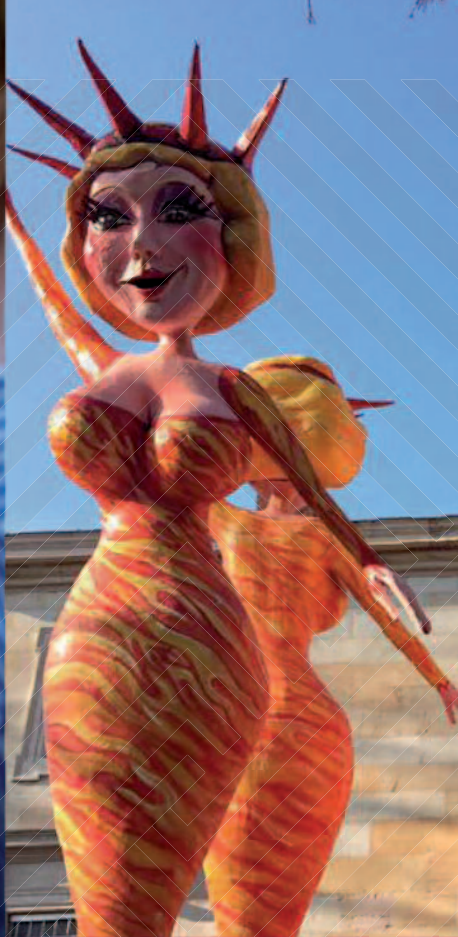
D 104 / Forêt Communale de Givry  
71640 Givry  
+33 (0)6 80 00 35 45  
acrogivry@gmail.com  
www.acrogivry.com

More  
information

[www.achalon.com](http://www.achalon.com)



Elan Chalon  
© Le Grand Chalon



TO SHARE



# PAR TAGER



## Events throughout the year !

Whatever the season, Grand Chalon vibrates to the rhythms of events, be they musical, theatrical, oenological, sporting... come and join in!

Enjoy a glass of good wine while listening to great sounds, burst out laughing, roar with pleasure, reach for the skies, run for a good cause, open wide your ears and eyes... Summer and winter alike, awaken all your senses.

---

Find all these unmissable gatherings  
in the Events Calendar of Grand Chalon  
[www.legrandchalon360.fr](http://www.legrandchalon360.fr)

[www.achalon.com](http://www.achalon.com)

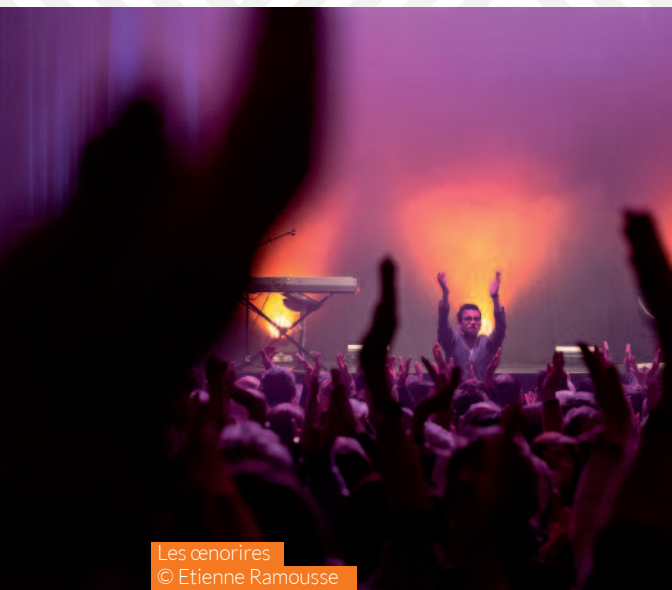
# The Major Events

## February Les œnorires

### Givry

When the talents of the French comedy scene associate with the talents of the winemakers and restaurateurs of Givry and its environs, it results in the "Oenorires" a "vintage" festival of comedy...

Contact : [www.lesoenorires.fr](http://www.lesoenorires.fr)



Les œnorires  
© Etienne Ramousse



Carnival of Chalon  
© Julien Piffaut

## February / March Carnival and Carnaband's Show

### Chalon-sur-Saône

Evening parade, gleaming cavalcades with coloured floats, jolly giant heads, European Music, "Gôniots" and the "Carnaband's Show" concert.

Contact : Comité des Fêtes de Chalon :  
[infos@carnavaldechalon.com](mailto:infos@carnavaldechalon.com) - +33 (0)3 85 48 03 39



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06 36 20 13 37 - [contact@velou-bourgogne.com](mailto:contact@velou-bourgogne.com)

[www.velou-bourgogne.com](http://www.velou-bourgogne.com)



# April Wine Market

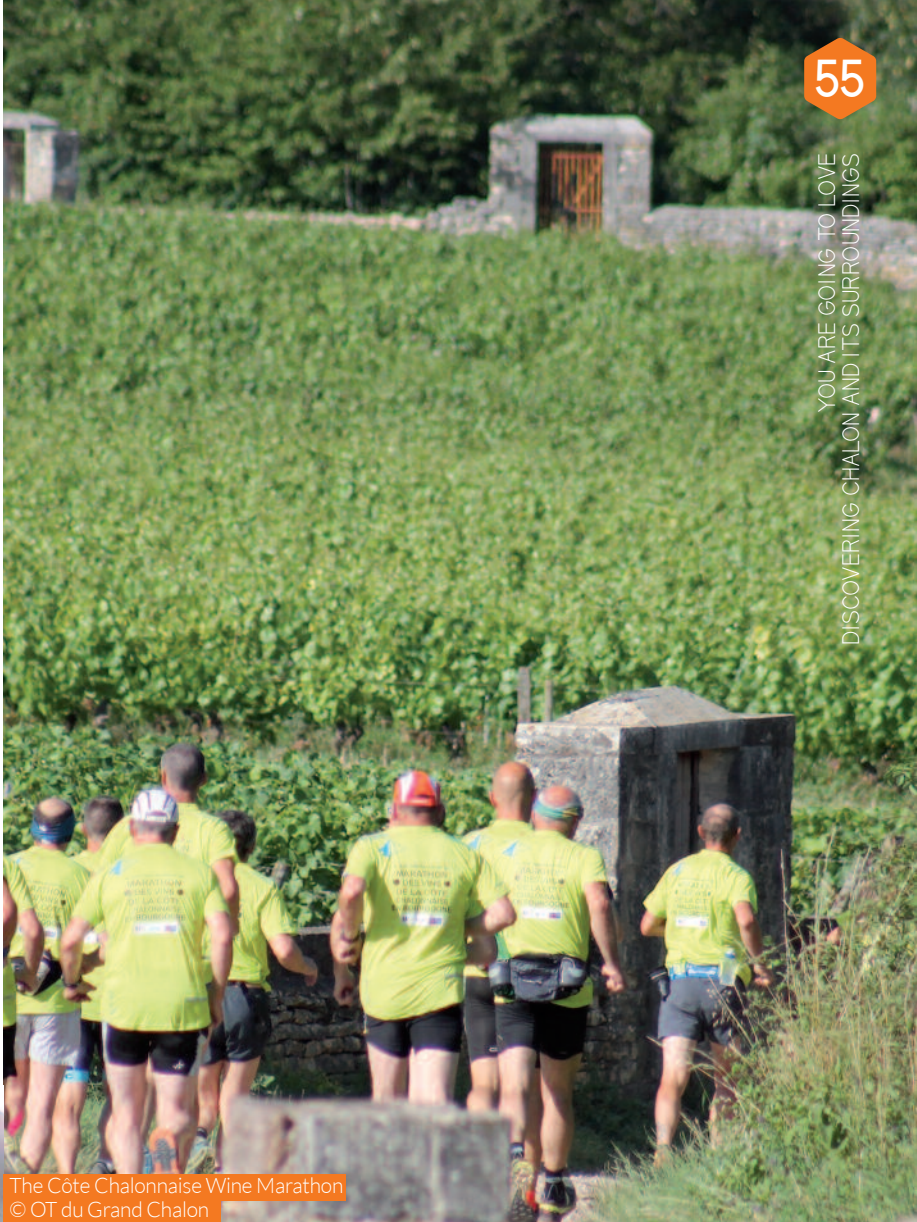
## Givry

The chance for you to (re)discover the famous appellation Givry from the Côte Chalonnaise.

Contact : [www.givry.com](http://www.givry.com)  
+33 (0)3 85 94 16 30



Halle ronde de Givry  
© OT du Grand Chalon



The Côte Chalonnaise Wine Marathon  
© OT du Grand Chalon

# April Côte Chalonnaise Wine Marathon

## Givry

For its first edition in 2017, the Côte Chalonnaise Wine Marathon was a great success, with over 2,500 participants. This event is organized by an active and enthusiastic team of 450 volunteers, and offers a course through the vineyards with runners in fancy-dress, and a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Contact : [www.marathondesvinsdelacotechalonnaise.fr](http://www.marathondesvinsdelacotechalonnaise.fr)  
[contact@marathondesvinsdelacotechalonnaise.fr](mailto:contact@marathondesvinsdelacotechalonnaise.fr)

# The Major Events

## May / June Les Montgolfiades

### Chalon-sur-Saône

The Chalon-sur-Saône and Côte Chalonnaise Montgolfières festival brings together hot-air balloons from towns, departments, regions or European countries. On Sunday afternoon in the Prairie St Nicolas there are numerous attractions. Entry free of charge

Contact : [www.montgolfiades71.com](http://www.montgolfiades71.com)



Denon Museum  
© Rozenn Krebel



Les Montgolfiades  
© Le Grand Chalons

## May A Night in the Museum

Contact : [www.nuitdesmusees.culture.gouv.fr](http://www.nuitdesmusees.culture.gouv.fr)

[www.maisondesvins-chalon.com](http://www.maisondesvins-chalon.com)



2, Promenade Sainte-Marie  
71100 Chalon-sur-Saône  
T. 03 85 41 64 00

Du lundi au samedi  
de 9h à 19h  
[contact@maisondesvins-chalon.com](mailto:contact@maisondesvins-chalon.com)

# June / July Les Musicaves

## Givry

Festival (AOC without borders): world music, ethno-electro rock, classical music... and wines from Givry to celebrate the new summer season

Contact : [www.lesmusicaves.fr](http://www.lesmusicaves.fr)  
[musicaves@aol.com](mailto:musicaves@aol.com)



Les Musicaves  
© Etienne Ramousse

# July Les Nuits du Mont-Rome

## Saint-Sernin-du-Plain

Festival of music and theatre  
Contact : +33 (0)3 85 45 52 78  
[www.nuitsdumontrome.com](http://www.nuitsdumontrome.com)



© Le Grand Chalon



Chalon dans la Rue  
© Le Grand Chalon

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YOU ARE GOING TO LOVE  
DISCOVERING CHALON AND ITS SURROUNDINGS

# July Chalon Dans la Rue

## Chalon-sur-Saône

An international festival of street theatre, "Chalon dans la Rue" has become the don't-miss event of street theatre in France. Theatre, dance, circus, urban installations, strolling players, performances... are all on the programme each year. Five days of discovery and wonder on each street corner.

Contact : [www.chalondanslarue.com](http://www.chalondanslarue.com)  
[communication@chalondanslarue.com](mailto:communication@chalondanslarue.com)

# July / August Garçon la Note Festival

Chalon et  
Grand Chalon

One evening

One bar

One concert.

The "Garçon la Note"  
festival arrives  
to liven up your  
evenings out.

Contact :

[www.achalon.com](http://www.achalon.com)

+33 (0)3 85 48 37 97



© OT du Grand Chalon

# September European Heritage Days

Programmes available from the Tourist Offices in September.

Contact : +33 (0)3 85 48 37 97 / [officedetourisme@achalon.com](mailto:officedetourisme@achalon.com)

# October Grand Chalon Fair

Chalon-sur-Saône

With 200 exhibitors and 35,000 visitors, the Grand Chalon Fair is  
an unmissable event linking tradition and modernity

[www.foire-salons-chalon.com](http://www.foire-salons-chalon.com) / [foiredechalon@wanadoo.fr](mailto:foiredechalon@wanadoo.fr)



Les Guinguettes  
© Julien Piffaut



Grand Chalon Fair  
© Julien Piffaut



The Côte Chalonnaise Paulée  
© Salva

# The Côte Chalonnaise Paulée

The Côte Chalonnaise Paulée  
celebrates the end of the grape harvest in  
Chalon; tastings, parade, Paulée banquet,  
and many other events are on  
the programme.

Contact : +33 (0)3 85 90 50 90

[www.chalon.fr](http://www.chalon.fr)

# July / August Les Guinguettes

Chalon-sur-Saône

Food, musical entertainment. Share  
a moment to the sound of the accordion  
or a variety of musical ambiances.

Contact : +33 (0)3 85 90 50 90 / [www.chalon.fr](http://www.chalon.fr)



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