



PAYS DE  
**MONTBÉLIARD**  
TOURISME

*Vivre d'art, d'histoire et d'aventure*



# TOURISTIC GUIDE

DISCOVER  
THE PAYS DE  
MONTBÉLIARD



[www.paysdemontbeliard-tourisme.com](http://www.paysdemontbeliard-tourisme.com)



# THE SPOTS OF PAYS DE MONTBÉLIARD



#paysdemontbeliardtourisme



♥ Le Crêt des Roches (Pont-de-Roide)



♥ Christmas Light (Montbéliard)



♥ Grotte de la Tante Airie (Blamont)



♥ L'Aventure Peugeot (Sochaux)



♥ Landscape



♥ Château des Ducs (Montbéliard)



♥ Rhone-Rhine Canal

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## PAYS DE MONTBÉLIARD TOURISME

1 rue Henri Mouhot - 25200 Montbéliard  
Tél. +33(0)3 81 94 45 60  
accueil@paysdemontbeliard-tourisme.com

[www.paysdemontbeliard-tourisme.com](http://www.paysdemontbeliard-tourisme.com)



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# Pays de Montbéliard

Experience art, history and adventure

*Calling art and history lovers, adventure seekers, gourmet epicureans and inquisitive travellers, the Pays de Montbéliard region with its unique character, invites you to memorable experiences. Near Switzerland, on the Jura mountain range, the Pays de Montbéliard will prove to be an adventure you'll never forget.*

### Experience art

The city of Montbéliard has retained its colourful walls, a fairy tale castle and the creations of the urban architect **Heinrich Schickhardt**, who was commissioned by Prince Frédéric 1st of Württemberg to build the Logis des Gentilshommes au-Château, and **the temple Saint-Martin** (St Martin's Protestant Temple). Other note-worthy architecture in the area includes the stained-glass windows of **the church of Sacré-Cœur** d'Audincourt, designed by Fernand Léger, as well as all the military architecture, with **the fort du Mont-Bart** overlooking the Vallée du Doubs and **the Batterie des Roches** de Pont-de-Roide. There is also **the Gallo-Roman theatre** in Mandeure, which has Historical Monument status, and the archaeological dig that is taking place has not yet revealed all the remains on the site!

### Experience history

400 years of Württemberg presence has left its mark on the Pays de Montbéliard with defining elements such as, for example, that which can be seen in **the architecture** (major Renaissance buildings, Protestant churches, etc.), **the traditions** (the diari - the women's hat from the traditional costume - and the verqueure - traditional hemp fabric) or the agriculture: **Montbéliarde cow**, France's 2nd dairy breed, were in fact born at the end of the 19th century, thanks to the expertise of Swiss Anabaptists who took refuge in the Principality. Their milk is used for various cheeses that have AOP status (protected designation of origin), such as **Comté** produced directly at La Fruitière du Lomont and other local cheeses such as Wurtemberg, or the Tomme des Princes..., which can be eaten with the famous **Saucisse de Montbéliard** (smoked sausage) with its subtle taste, protected by the Confrérie des Compagnons du Boitchu.

This history is unique and includes the destiny of powerful families of inventors and internationally-renowned scientists: **the Japy and Peugeot families**, and of course **Georges Cuvier**, father of modern paleontology (1769-1832), one of the most prominent scholars of his century. This industrial and technical adventure is therefore extraordinary and linked to the development of the motor car and other innovative expertise, especially with **the company Cristel**, France's leading manufacturer of high-quality stainless steel culinary items.

### Experience adventure

If you're travelling around, natural sites provide remarkable view points over **the Jura mountains** (the Crêt des Roches in Pont-de-Roide, the fort du Mont-Bart in Bavans, etc.), crossed by various hiking trails, including the GTJ (the Great Jura Crossing). Down below, some prefer to take a gentle boat trip along the Rhône-Rhine Canal and the Doubs river, while those with more energy try the Eurovélo 6 bike route, which leads either to Nantes in one direction or to Budapest in the other. The adventure continues at **the Musée de l'Aventure Peugeot** (The Peugeot Adventure Museum), which presents more than 200 years of industrial history from this "lion" brand. This passion for science and technology can also be found at **the Pavillon des Sciences** (Science Pavilion) and the Parc Scientifique (Science Park) in Près-la-Rose near Montbéliard's river port.

And to crown it all, many events are organised, such as **the famous Lumières de Noël de Montbéliard** (Christmas lights), the traditional Christmas market for producers and craftsman, known as one of the best in Europe, and the illuminations that transform the City of Princes into a wonderland during Advent and for Christmas each year.



**Audio guide**

Discover Montbéliard freely through 12 audio points by renting an audio guide from the Tourist Office (price: €2). Includes the trail for young public.

Scan for download the visit in MP3.



**Audio points**

- 1 Office de Tourisme | Tourist Office
- 2 Pied du château | Below the castle
- 3 Rue de Belfort | Rue de Belfort
- 4 Plaque «Square Guillaume Farel» | «Square Guillaume Farel» street sign

- 5 Stèle de Denfert-Rochereau | Denfert-Rochereau's stele
- 6 Église Saint-Maimboeuf | St Maimboeuf Church
- 7 Maison natale de Fanny Durbach | Fanny Durbach birthplace
- 8 Temple Saint-Martin | St Martin's Protestant Temple
- 9 Hôtel Beurnier-Rossel | Hôtel Beurnier-Rossel
- 10 Statue de Georges Cuvier | The statue of Georges Cuvier
- 11 Ferme de la Souaberie | The Swabian Farm
- 12 Esplanade du Château | Castle esplanade

**Heinrich Schickhardt city walk**

Architectural walk to discover Renaissance buildings by the famous architect Heinrich Schickhardt. 3-km city walk. Duration: 2 hours. Departs from Montbéliard Tourist Office.



# Discover Montbéliard

## City of the Princes

**CHÂTEAU DES DUCS DE WURTEMBERG (CASTLE OF THE DUKES OF WÜRTEMBERG)**

Built on a rocky promontory, this stronghold, already erected in the 10th century, was constantly transformed over the centuries. All that is left of the château, built in the 15th and 16th centuries, are two massive towers with roof lanterns: the Henriette tower (1422-1424), the Frédéric tower (1572-1595) as well as the main building (18th c). All the other elements were destroyed in the mid-18th century to make way for Classical-style buildings. The porch of the Henriette tower boasts some beautiful wrought iron railings, made by Jean Messagier (1920-1999).

The castle houses a museum, which recounts the history of the Pays de Montbéliard, from prehistory to current times. There is a historical tour through its former kitchens, superb vaulted rooms that have been very well restored.

**MUSÉE DU CHÂTEAU (MUSEUM OF THE CASTLE OF THE DUKES OF WÜRTEMBERG)**

As it was the residence of the Counts of Montbéliard, the history of the castle is closely linked with the story of the families that held power in the County for more than eight centuries. The museum exhibits Natural history collections (about Georges Cuvier), archaeological collections (engraved Rochedane pebbles), evidence of the Iron and Bronze Age, as well as relics from the Gallo-Roman presence in Mandeure. A history trail in the two towers recounts the history of the castle and presents beautiful pieces of furniture from Montbéliard (a Carlin sideboard, a Briot platter) as well as portraits of the Dukes and Duchesses of Wurtemberg. The museum is developing a section for contemporary art and owns works by the painter Jean Messagier in particular. Temporary exhibitions on a wide variety of themes mean that these collections can be enjoyed.

> Guided tour (in French) to explore the castle's history and architecture, at 11am and 3pm (subject to guides' availability). No booking necessary.  
 > Admission price: full rate €6 / reduced rate €4. Tickets valid for both museums in Montbéliard. Ticket office closes at 5:30pm. Free Admission to the Museum on the first Sunday of the month.  
 > Open every day except Tuesdays. Closed on national holidays except on 15th August.

Cour du château, Montbéliard  
 Tel. +33(0)3 81 99 22 61  
[www.montbeliard.fr](http://www.montbeliard.fr)





## MUSÉE DE L'HÔTEL BEURNIER-ROSSEL (BEURNIER-ROSSEL ART AND HISTORY MUSEUM)

The Beurnier-Rosel mansion, located opposite the temple St. Martin (St. Martin's church), is an elegant building dating from 1774, waiting for your visit...

Today it houses the Museum of Art and History. On the first floor, time is frozen during the era of the Würtembergs. Romantic paintings and marquetry set the scene of a bourgeois interior from time past. On the second floor, the time machine stops between the 18th and 19th centuries, presenting a collection of popular images, craft tools, clothing and culinary objects, signs and furniture from Montbéliard, showing domestic, social and religious life. In the attic, music boxes made by Manufacture L'Épée play their charming songs.

> **Opening times:** Saturdays and Sundays, from 1:30pm to 6pm. Free admission on the first Sunday of each month.

From June 1st to August 31st and during the Christmas market: open from Wednesday to Sunday from 1:30pm to 6pm. Closed on national holidays (except August 15th). Ticket office closes at 5:30pm.

> **Admission price:** full rate €6 / reduced rate €4  
Tickets valid for both museums in Montbéliard. Free admission to the Museum on the first Sunday of the month.

8 place Saint-Martin, Montbéliard  
Tel. +33(0)3 81 99 22 61  
[www.montbeliard.fr](http://www.montbeliard.fr)

## LE 19, CRAC (REGIONAL CENTRE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART)

Le 19 presents temporary art exhibitions to allow the public to discover artists from all backgrounds and countries in its unique space. One of its main objectives is to raise awareness of contemporary art, especially to younger visitors. The centre supports and promotes contemporary artistic creation via support for the production of works, editions of artists' catalogues and regional partnerships. Le 19 offers events based on its exhibitions throughout the year (meetings with artists, personalised tours, conferences, thematic visits, workshops for children, and more).

> **Opening times:** all year (except when exhibitions are being set up), Tuesdays to Saturdays from 2pm to 6pm. Sundays: 3pm to 6pm. Closed on Mondays and bank holidays.  
> **Admission free.**

19 avenue des Alliés, Montbéliard  
Tel. +33(0)3 81 94 43 58  
[www.le19crac.com](http://www.le19crac.com)



## TEMPLE SAINT-MARTIN (ST MARTIN'S PROTESTANT TEMPLE)

Built more than 4 centuries ago (1601) under the direction of Heinrich Schickhardt, the Würtemberg architect, this building reflects the particularities of the Pays de Montbéliard region: French-speaking, an island of Lutheran Protestantism, governed for more than four centuries by a German dynasty, the Würtemberg family. In its time, the construction of the church was the crowning moment of the religious policies of Prince Frédéric, Duke of Würtemberg, marking the triumph of Lutheranism.

As well as its architectural qualities, not to be missed are the coffered ceiling, the organ and the spiral staircase. Following the archaeological excavations of 2019, which revealed a stunning backdrop in «trompe l'oeil»: murals from the building. The temple is the subject of a project of rehabilitation and developing the edifice tourism.

Place Saint-Martin, Montbéliard



## ÉGLISE SAINT-MAIMBOEUF (SAINT-MAIMBOEUF CHURCH)

Built between 1850 and 1875 on request of Cardinal Mathieu to assert the Catholic reconquest over Lutheranism, the church of Saint Maimboeuf dominates the city. It has rich facade adornments in Neo-Renaissance style. Inside, a polychrome wood altarpiece faces the wooden organ of the same proportions (10 metres high) at the other end of the church. It was listed as a historic monument in 1994.

> **Open every day 8am to 6pm (except during religious services).**

1 Parvis Jean Flory, Montbéliard



## LE PAVILLON DES SCIENCES (THE SCIENCE PAVILION)

Located in the Parc du Près-la-Rose in Montbéliard, the Pavillon des Sciences is a pure marvel of scientific discovery that gives you a new perspective on science. Its main strengths: a determination hit the mark every time in making the carefully prepared exhibitions accessible to the general public, with facilitators permanently present in the exhibitions. Whether these are temporary or permanent exhibitions, the facilitators will transport the visitor to the heart of their subject with incredible ease. A children's area, interactive and fun, is also provided by the team, who takes undisguised pleasure in welcoming curious people of all ages.

**Espace Galilée permanent exhibition:**

L'Île de la Découverte (The Island of Discovery): On the trail of a shipwrecked captain, explorers aged 4 to 9 will have to use their 5 senses to reach the island's treasure. Each step guides them through exotic flora and fauna to discover other cultures.

> **Open:** Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, from 9am to 12 noon and from 2pm to 6pm (closes at 5pm between March and November); Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays from 2pm to 6pm. Closes at 7pm during the summer school holidays. Closed on 12/12, 01/01 and 01/05.

> **Admission prices:** Adult €4.50 / children aged between 6-18 €3 / under 6s free

1, impasse de la Presqu'île (Parc du Près-la-Rose), Montbéliard  
Tel. +33(0)3 81 91 46 83  
[www.pavillon-sciences.com](http://www.pavillon-sciences.com)



**PARC SCIENTIFIQUE DU PRÈS-LA-ROSE (SCIENCE PARK)**

Leisure park located on the edge of Montbéliard city centre, along the EuroVélo Route 6 cycle track. The Parc du Près-la-Rose is home to more than 100 plant varieties, a majestic poplar grove, a vegetable maze and a family-orientated sports park. This urban garden skilfully combines scientific and technical culture (in the science pavilion) and fun activities (playgrounds, fishing and canoeing).

Surface area: 10 ha  
Facilities: playground, skate park, science pavilion, restaurant with patio in the summer. The Coulée Verte cycle route links the Parc du Près-la-Rose to the Pays de Montbéliard recreation centre.

> Access via Impasse de la Presqu'île, via the bridges over the Allan Canal or the river port. Open all year round.



**PORT DE PLAISANCE (RIVER PORT)**

This large, welcoming river port is situated only a few steps from the city centre. It offers 30 moorings close to the Parc du Près-la-Rose and Ile en Mouvement. A large dock with a launching ramp, electrical points, drinking water, showers and toilets, are available to all boaters, in a pedestrianised, landscaped area that reflects the city's 4-flower status given by France's « Town in Bloom » awards. Showers, toilets and washing machines are accessible via a payment terminal. Maximum boat length: 15 metres. A supermarket and laundromat service stand on the other bank.

> Access via Impasse de la Presqu'île, via the bridges over the Allan Canal or the river port. Seasonal office (harbour master's office) from April to September, provided by the Tourist Office.



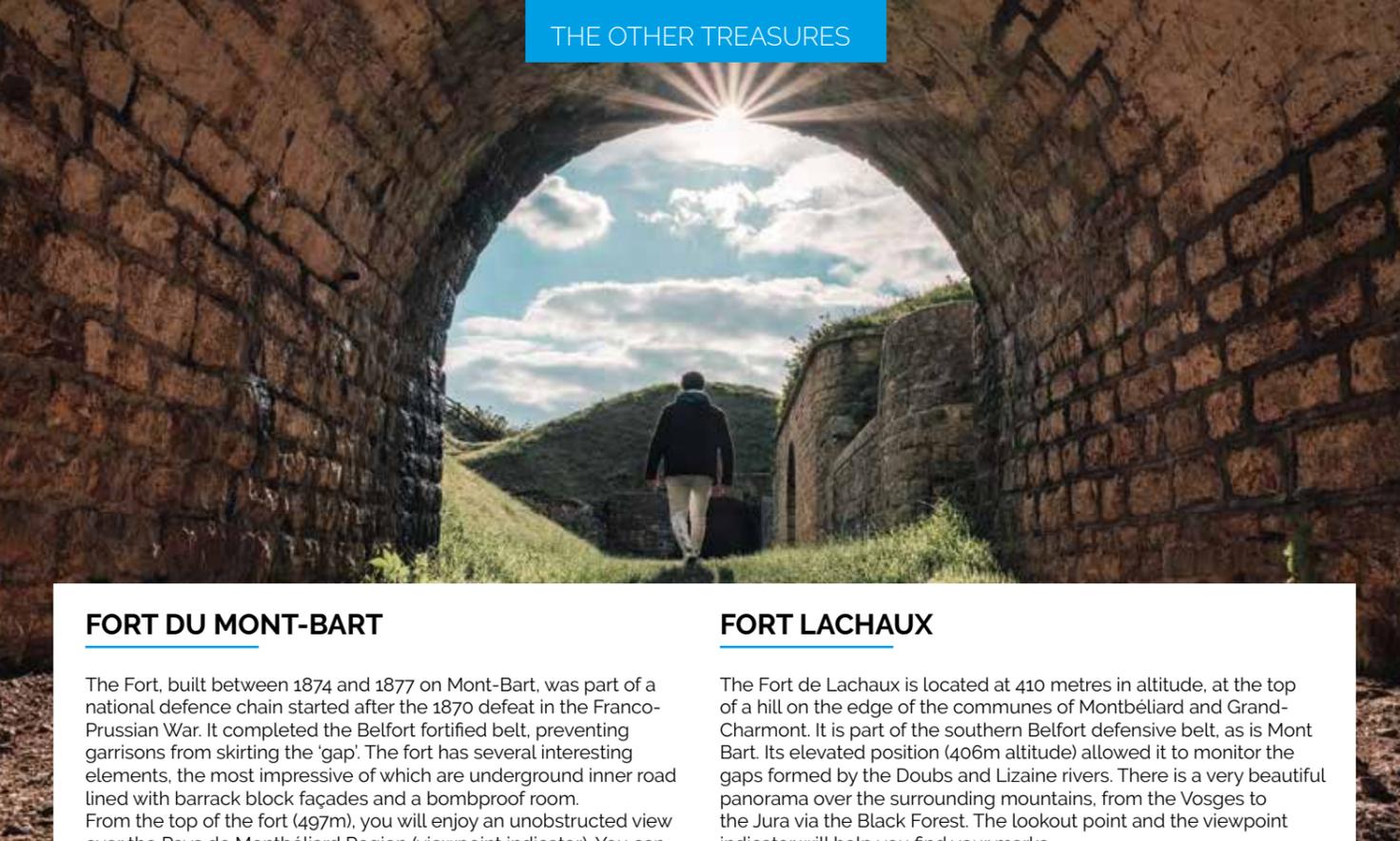
*The Pays de Montbéliard*  
The other treasures

**VINTAGE CAR TOUR IN PAYS DE MONTBÉLIARD**

Discover the Pays de Montbéliard from a vintage car and learn about local history from the Vieux Volants of the Franche-Comté vintage car club. During your tour, you will see such sights as: the Fort du Mont-Bart, the Château des Ducs de Wurtemberg, the Musée de l'Aventure Peugeot, the historic centre of Montbéliard, the Rhône-Rhine Canal, and more.

> Price: €100/car (max 3 passengers)  
> Duration: 1.5-2 hours  
Option: aperitif or tea possible with supplementary cost.  
Reservations at the Tourist Office: +33 (0)3 81 94 45 60 / reservations@paysdemontbeliard-tourisme.com





## FORT DU MONT-BART

The Fort, built between 1874 and 1877 on Mont-Bart, was part of a national defence chain started after the 1870 defeat in the Franco-Prussian War. It completed the Belfort fortified belt, preventing garrisons from skirting the 'gap'. The fort has several interesting elements, the most impressive of which are underground inner road lined with barrack block façades and a bombproof room. From the top of the fort (497m), you will enjoy an unobstructed view over the Pays de Montbéliard Region (viewpoint indicator). You can also enjoy the 7km of forest paths with playgrounds and picnic areas.

> *Opening days and times:*

- *In April and May: open at weekends and on national holidays. Closed on Easter Monday.*

- *In May and June: open at weekends and on national holidays, self-guided visits from 2pm to 6pm (last admission at 5pm). Closed on Monday 1st June, Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st June.*

- *In July and August: open every day, self-guided visits from 2pm to 6pm except Mondays (last admission at 5pm), guided tours at 3pm on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays. Closed on Saturday 4th July.*

- *In September: open weekends, self-guided visits from 2pm to 6pm (last admission 5pm).*

- *In October: open Sundays, self-guided visits from 2pm to 6pm (last admission 5pm).*

> *Ticket prices: Adults €3 / Reduced rate €2 / 12-18 years old €1. The fort may be closed occasionally for maintenance or event preparations.*

Rue du Mont-Bart, Bavans

[www.patrimoine-pays-de-montbeliard.fr](http://www.patrimoine-pays-de-montbeliard.fr)

## FORT LACHAUX

The Fort de Lachaux is located at 410 metres in altitude, at the top of a hill on the edge of the communes of Montbéliard and Grand-Charmont. It is part of the southern Belfort defensive belt, as is Mont Bart. Its elevated position (406m altitude) allowed it to monitor the gaps formed by the Doubs and Lizaine rivers. There is a very beautiful panorama over the surrounding mountains, from the Vosges to the Jura via the Black Forest. The lookout point and the viewpoint indicator will help you find your marks.

> *To discover the site of the fort and other local heritage sites, the Club des Marcheurs de Grand-Charmont (walking club) has 6 signposted hiking routes. Information available at the tourist office.*

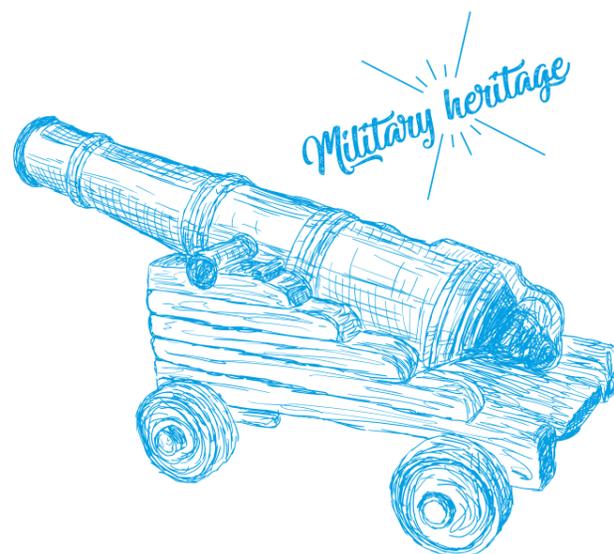
Access via Rue du Fort Lachaux from Montbéliard.

## BATTERIE DES ROCHES

Built between 1877 and 1879, this is one of the masterpieces of the Lomont fortified pier. Its altitude at 614 metres makes it an unmissable spot at Pont-de-Roide-Vermondans. It offers a panoramic view across the Vallée du Doubs (with viewpoint indicator), a visit to a historical building and the possibility of going climbing, hiking or mountain biking.

> *Admission free.*

Vehicular access is via the D124 from Pont-de Roide, Fort des Roches.



## MUSÉE DE LA PAYSANNERIE ET DES VIEUX MÉTIERS (MUSEUM OF COUNTRY LIFE AND TRADITIONAL CRAFTS)

Built in 1766, the farm which houses the museum was extended in the 19th century. In the outbuildings, you will see agricultural machines, old equipment and a presentation of traditional crafts (shoemaking, joining, coopering, tinkering, clog-making, wood-turning, etc.).

In the main building, you will find a 19th century Montbéliard interior (kitchen, dining room, bedroom with furniture and characters dressed in historical costumes) on the ground floor. On the first and second floors is a documentation room dedicated to local heritage, as well as permanent and temporary exhibition spaces.

There is also a room exhibiting the works of Etienne Oehmichen, the inventor of the modern helicopter who spent all his teenage years in the village. Another room presents works by painter Louis Vuillequez, who was born in this farm.

> *Open from May to the end of October on Sundays and bank holidays from 2pm to 5.30pm, on Mondays from 2pm to 5pm.*

> *Admission price: adults and over 12s €3 / 4-12 years old: €1 / under 4s free.*

25 rue Villedieu, Valentigney

Tel. +33(0)3 81 34 39 90

[www.musee-paysannerie.org](http://www.musee-paysannerie.org)



## MUSÉE DE L'AVENTURE PEUGEOT (PEUGEOT ADVENTURE MUSEUM)

200 years of industrial history! The flagship site for the Franche-Comté, industrial tourism and Peugeot culture, the Peugeot Adventure Museum is laid out over a 6,000sqm area and presents 200 years of industrial history, stretching from the Pays de Montbéliard to the whole world, from 1810 to nowadays. From saw blades to modern and futurist vehicles, this is an adventure of extraordinary longevity that is both lively and exciting. With its permanent collection and temporary exhibition space, events, a shop and restaurant, the Musée de l'Aventure Peugeot is an unmissable site of industrial culture in the Franche-Comté, to be visited alone, with your family, with a guide or an audio guide.

> *Open every day from 10am to 6pm. Closed on December 25th and January 1st.*

> *Admission price: full rate €9 / reduced rate €5 / audio guide (€2.50 per person on top of the ticket price).*

Carrefour de l'Europe, Sochaux

Tel. +33 (0)3 81 99 42 03

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



## THEATRE GALLO-ROMAIN (GALLO-ROMAN THEATRE)

Stand in the centre of this vast arena with its 142-metre diameter, where there would have been 4 tiers of seats. Imagine 18,000 spectators around you. The noise of the public would be comparable to that which would have been experienced in the Roman Coliseum at the same time. Across the millennia, the emotion is still there, enduring. Linked to a temple facing it, the building against the wall was an integral part of a sacred enclosure, a high place of pilgrimage in Antiquity. The site is accessible all year round. More than 5,000 archaeological items found on the site are in the Château de Montbéliard museum.

> *Free admission all year round.*

Rue du Théâtre, Mandeuve  
[www.patrimoine-pays-de-montbeliard.fr](http://www.patrimoine-pays-de-montbeliard.fr)



## Vandoncourt

### Village of character

With up to 300 inhabitants in the 16th century, Vandoncourt had lost two-thirds of its population. Strong immigration from Switzerland allowed the village to be repopulated, and it became mostly Protestant, which allowed the church that was destroyed during the Thirty Years' War to be rebuilt. After the Revolution and the reunification of the Pays de Montbéliard with France in 1792, the population increased, despite a strong emigration to the USA and Northern Europe. The end of the 19th century was a time of industrial and artisanal development, small factories with large bay windows framed in red brick, built at this time, still exist: the village's event room, the parish house and the workshop on Rue Sous-Fresnois. The inhabitants of Vandoncourt are known as « Damas », from the

name of a blue plum that ripens around 15th August and is still much sought-after for making plum pies.

The protestant church, built in 1769, includes a rectangular nave and a square bell tower with thick walls, which has two large 19th-century bells as well as a recent sundial. The church's ceiling, in one piece, is suspended from the building's structure. The church appears on the register of heritage sites. It is one of the rare churches built in France after the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685.

> *A discovery tour allows you to explore this site.*



## L'ÉGLISE DU SACRÉ-COEUR (THE CHURCH OF THE SACRÉ-COEUR)

Erected after the Second World War, between 1949 and 1951, in the « Autos » quarter in Audincourt, thanks to a learned association of parishioners, volunteers from the church and inspired artists, the church of the Sacré Coeur is a jewel of light. Fernand Léger, the remarkable 20th century artist, turned this church into an unmissable monument to Sacred Art. He created 17 stained glass windows and the tapestries behind the high altar. The different stages of the passion of Christ are depicted with much symbolism for the faithful and visitors alike. The stained-glass windows in the crypt were made by Le Moal, those from the baptistery were created by Jean Bazaine. The latter also made the abstract and coloured mosaic which decorates the main façade.

> *From June to the end of September, open Friday from 4 pm to 6 pm, or on request at +33 (0)9 80 61 66 51 (except during religious services).*

Rue du Pauvrement, Audincourt



## LE PONT SARRAZIN (SARRAZIN BRIDGE)

is a natural calcareous arc situated deep in the forest. Under threat of damage by frost and rain, its deck is covered with a waterproof screed. The natural amphitheatre of which it is the central element has served for the past four years as a backdrop to a son et lumière (sound and light show), which tells the history of the village. As the legend goes, in the 8th century, a Saracen on expedition caught a young girl and tried to run away with her by crossing this strange bridge-shaped rock. The captive struggled for freedom and fell unharmed at the foot of the rock. Her kidnapper who fell with her was killed outright. A comic strip also recounts this legend.

## LA DAMASSINE, MAISON DE LA NATURE ET DES VERGERS (HOUSE OF NATURE AND ORCHARDS)

La Damassine is a teaching space dedicated to local fruits. It has an exhibition space, a landscaped teaching garden, a bar and an eco-shop with local produce, a fruit press, a teaching kitchen, a honey farm, a meeting room for groups and a programme of events all year round that combine knowledge, expertise and tasty delicacies...

- Museum displays on the themes of "orchards", "landscape" and "energy".
- Landscaped garden, playgrounds and relaxation areas.
- Fruit press. Events and workshops for the public and schools.
- Bar / shop area.
- Workshop area where you can press fruit, taste regional produce, obtain advice and help for orchard maintenance...

> *Admission free. Opening times:*

- *During the French school holidays (zone A): open from Tuesday to Sunday, from 2pm to 6pm. Outside of school holidays (zone A): open Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays, and national holidays, from 2pm to 6pm.*
- *Closed on Mondays (except on national holidays) and 1st May.*
- *Annual closure from 24th December until the 1st Saturday of the February school holidays (zone A).*

23, rue des Aiges, Vandoncourt. Tel. +33 (0)3 81 37 78 30  
[www.damassine.agglo-montbeliard.fr](http://www.damassine.agglo-montbeliard.fr)





## The Pays de Montbéliard

### Activities & Nature

### GRANDES TRAVERSÉES DU JURA (THE GREAT JURA CROSSING)

Conquer the 370 km of the GTJ, from Mandeuve in the north to the mountain of Ain in the south. Between 5 and 10 days of adventure on a strenuous trail as far as Fourgs, then a gentler ride to Giron and Hauteville. From May to October, the GTJ welcomes you into the heart of rich, wild, unusual countryside, leading you from peaks to valleys, up to 1500m altitude.

The route is divided into five geographically-consistent sectors. Generally, unless you are very well-trained, it is advisable to complete it in more stages. The GTJ mountain bike guide map is based on this division of the route and provides a detailed description of 23 sections, each 12 to 23 kilometres. The route can be taken in either direction, except where marked, but the description favours the north-south direction.

Although it is highly urbanised, the Pays de Montbéliard GTJ will enable you to access the countryside in the first kilometre of your route. Before setting out, you can visit the Peugeot Adventure Museum in Sochaux and the remains of the Gallo-Roman theatre in Mandeuve, near to where the GTJ starts.

Route: Mandeuve > Ecurcey > Pont de Roide > Chamesol > Saint Hippolyte.

[www.gtj.asso.fr](http://www.gtj.asso.fr)



### LA CITÉDO (AQUATICS CENTRE)

The Citédo is a swimming facility in the Pays de Montbéliard, which consists of a single, large facility for practising numerous sports, leisure and relaxation activities. Enjoy this experience on your own or with friends and family, and make the most of the 5 pools in the aquatics area or the spa facilities.

> Open during term time:

- Monday, Friday, Tuesday and Thursday: 10am to 7:30pm

- Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday: 9am to 6pm

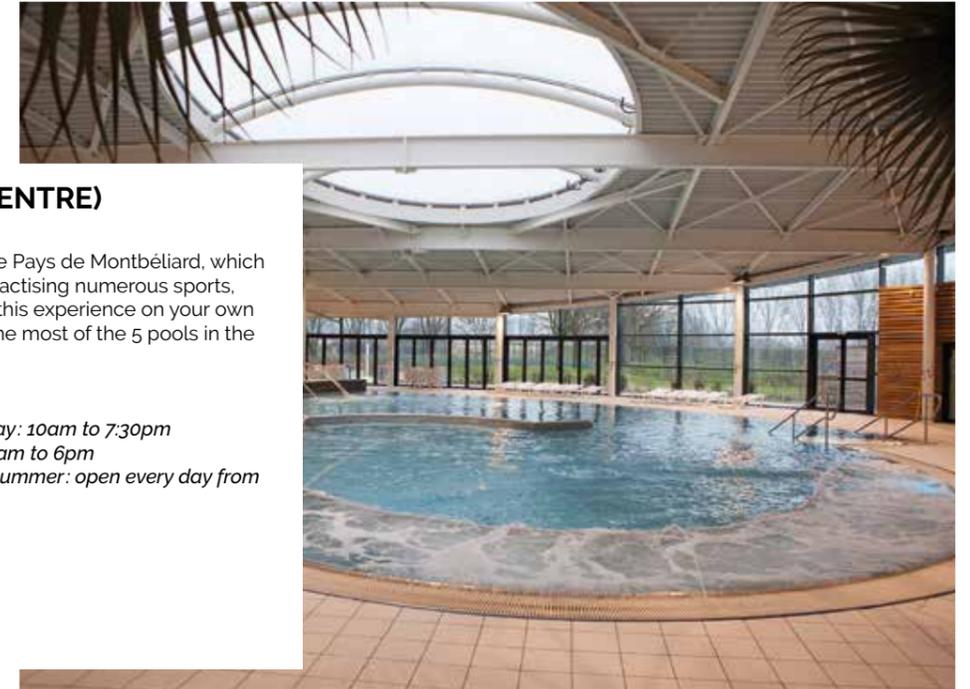
During the school holidays and in the summer: open every day from 10am to 8pm.

> Paid entry.

11 rue du Collège, Sochaux

Tel. +33 (0)3 81 32 90 25

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



### BASE DE LOISIRS DU PAYS DE MONTBÉLIARD (RECREATION CENTRE)

The Pays de Montbéliard recreation centre is spread over 120 ha and has 5 bodies of water along with many sporting pleasures: sailing, windsurfing, water skiing, jet skiing, canoeing, kayaking, beach volleyball, fishing, stand-up paddle board and petanque. Lessons (reservation required), equipment rental (pedalo boats, bat boats, sailing dinghies, etc.) and events in the summer. Snacks for sale. For relaxation, unfold your towel on the sandy beach before taking a dip. Tiralo beach chairs available for people with disabilities. Supervised swimming in June, July and August (11:30am-7:30pm). Admission free. The bathing area has Tourisme & Handicap status: for people with mental, hearing, motor and visual disabilities. The site is also accessible to joggers, hikers and mountain bikers, thanks to the various pathways in the nature.

> Access via exit 10 Grand-Charmont on the A36 motorway, 900-place car park. Admission free. Site accessible via the Coulée Verte route (cycle path), and via the "L'Estivale" bus line between mid-June and end of August.

Rue du Pâquis, Brognard

[www.agglo-montbeliard.fr](http://www.agglo-montbeliard.fr)

### LA PLAGE DE PONT-DE-ROIDE VERMONDANS (PONT-DE-ROIDE VERMONDANS BEACH)

Located in a bend in the Doubs River, where the Pont de Roide bridge spans it, in July and August the beach offers a few different services: a relaxation area, a small bathing area, security perimeter, lifeguards, fast food and alcohol-free bar. Saturdays, Sundays, and national holidays: canoe / kayak rental.

> Information from the Pont-de-Roide Vermondans Tourist Office (16, rue du Général Herr. Tel: +33 (0)3 81 99 33 99).





### GOLF DE PRUNEVILLE (GOLF COURSE)

The Pruneville golf course offers golfers an 18-hole wooded course, in the heart of 60 hectares in the countryside. It is accessible to all, beginners and more experienced players. Covered driving range, on grass, putting-greens, shop, restaurant... Golfing school for new golfers aged 5 and over.

> **Opening times:**  
Open every day from March to November. Open only during the week from December to February. Annual closure during the Christmas and New Year period.  
> **Admission prices:** 18-hole green fee for adults from €45.

Ferme les petits bans, Dampierre-sur-le-Doubs  
Tel. +33 (0)3 81 98 11 77  
[www.golf-pruneville.com](http://www.golf-pruneville.com)



### MINI-GOLF DE LA PEUPLERAIE (PEUPLERAIE MINI-GOLF)

In a beautiful green park, an 18-hole miniature golf course awaits you, for leisure and outdoor sport with family or friends. Picnics possible near the Parc de la Peupleraie.

> **Opening times:**  
Open May-June and September: Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday from 2pm to 6pm. In July and August: from Tuesday to Sunday, from 2-6pm. Closed when raining.  
> **Admission prices:** Adults €2,50 / Under-12s €1.60.

Rue Paul Fleury, Exincourt  
Tel. +33 (0)3 81 94 31 92  
[www.ville-exincourt.fr](http://www.ville-exincourt.fr)



# The Pays de Montbéliard

by Bike

### EUROVÉLO 6

From the Black Sea to the Atlantic, from Budapest to Nantes, EuroVélo 6 invites you on an exceptional journey among culture and nature, taking you beyond boundaries to encounter remarkable, and sometimes surprising, sites.

#### 1,300 km of routes

Over the 1,300 km of routes, almost half cross or border the Bourgogne-Franche-Comté region!

#### Easy, pleasant green routes

The easy, pleasant green routes, mostly along canals and rivers, alternate in places with spells on small marked roads. You'll discover everything about the region that is most charming: the landscapes of the Doubs, the Saône and Loire valleys, the Côte de Beaune and Côte chalonaise vines, the cities of Montbéliard, Besançon, Dole, Chalon-sur-Saône, Nevers and La Charité-sur-Loire.

#### A clean, safe, flat route

Crossing the Pays de Montbéliard over 32 km, the EuroVélo 6 has the particularity of running along the Rhône-Rhine canal and the Doubs river, offering a route that is clean and safe, with no hills. You can explore: the Montbéliard river port and the Parc du Près-la-Rose, important architectural works such as the Pont-Canal d'Allenjoie (Canal bridge, 1926), the Pont-Levis de Courcelles-les-Montbéliard (Lift bridge, 1914), and the Ecluse de Brognard (lock).

> **Brochure and guide available at the Tourist Office.**  
[www.eurovelo.com](http://www.eurovelo.com)



### BIKE RENTALS

The Office de Tourisme offers bikes for rent so that you can enjoy rides along the EuroVélo 6 and Coulée Verte cycling routes. Electric and classic bicycles for adults and children are available.

> **Reservation at the Tourist Office on +33 (0)3 81 94 45 60.**



### CYCLE ROUTES

More than 150km bicycle path to browse and 14 paths in Pays de Montbéliard to discover.

> **Map available from the Tourist Office.**  
**Download cycle route on**  
[www.paysdemontbeliard-tourisme.com](http://www.paysdemontbeliard-tourisme.com)



# Hiking

## in Pays de Montbéliard

- **In the Rupt Valley:** 150 km of marked trails allowing to discover the « Pound of the princes » or the charming village of « Saint Julien-Les-Montbéliard ».
- **In the « Pays du Lomont »:** 94 km of marked trails, sometimes crossed by the GR5 and the GTJ and ploding on the cliffs and the valley of the « Lomont mountain ».
- **Thematic trails:** On the landmarks of the old principality of Montbéliard, Andre Beucler literary trail, discovery trail of the wind turbine of West Lomont, peace and memory walk.
- **Walking in perserved locations:** Natural regional reserve of Crêt des Roches in Pont de Roide (ranked Natura 2000 site and site of interest of the observation of migratory birds).

> **Topos-guides sold at the Tourist Office and brochures available upon request.**





# The Pays de Montbéliard

Local produce & expertise

## LA CÂLE À DIAIRI (THE CALE A DIAIRI, A TRADITIONAL HAT)

The word « diari » means « bun ». The « câle à diari » is simply a hat used to cover the bun. The diari is a particularity of the Pays de Montbéliard. It symbolises not only Protestantism but also the connections with the Württemberg family in the area.

The « câle à diari » was the very last part of the traditional costume worn by women in the countryside. It was generally abandoned in the early 20th century, but during that time, a few older people still wore the hat every day.

The hat was usually made from black satin or black, blue, brown and dark red velvet. Elderly women and widows used to wear a black « câle à diari » embroidered all over with tiny black beads. White « câle à diari » with coloured beads were made in cotton pique and kept for special events such as engagements or weddings. It was customary for the design to be kept a secret between the hat maker and the bride; no one was allowed to see the hat before the day of the wedding. There was also often rivalry between young ladies who felt a sense of pride from wearing the most beautiful « câle à diari ».

> On sale at the Tourist Office. Shop on line: [www.boutique.paysdemontbeliard-tourisme.com](http://www.boutique.paysdemontbeliard-tourisme.com)



## LA VERQUELURE (VERQUELURE FABRIC)

A woven fabric characteristic of the Pays de Montbéliard (France). Originally, this was a rough hemp cloth, known in the 16th century as « verquelée », but whose manufacture dated back to the Middle Ages. Cultivated, then spun on spindles in the villages of the Pays de Montbéliard, it was hand-woven in the form of a simple canvas (to cover pillows, bolsters, eiderdowns) or a damask (for tablecloths, napkins). Verquelure always has a classic design made up of checks in two or three colours (white, blue and madder red). Today, this « Montbéliard fabric », which was exported to the markets of Basle and Cologne, is woven in the Pays de Montbéliard thanks to a rediscovered expertise and the determination of the Tourist Office to restore it to its former glory.

> The shop in the Tourist Office has various items in verquelure for sale: tablecloths, napkins, pastry bags, various cushions, aprons, table sets and more. On sale at the Tourist Office. Shop on line: [www.boutique.paysdemontbeliard-tourisme.com](http://www.boutique.paysdemontbeliard-tourisme.com)



## LA MONTBÉLIARDE (MONTBÉLIARDE COW)

Montbéliarde cow, recognised in 1889, are the result of selection and cross-breeding carried out by Anabaptist farmers who came to the Principality of Montbéliard in the 18th century to settle with their herds from the « red magpie » breed.

The Montbéliarde is France's 2nd dairy cow and is known internationally.

Montbéliardes produce the milk used to make the region's cheeses (Comté AOP, Morbier, Cancoillotte, etc.) but also for butter, cream, and other cheeses such as Tomme des Princes, du Wurtemberg, etc. that can be found on the farms and from the cheese-makers in the Pays de Montbéliard.

## LE COMTÉ (COMTÉ CHEESE)

Comté is an uncooked pressed cheese. Its place of manufacture is the Massif du Jura, a middle mountain region that extends over the Jura and the Doubs (two départements in the Bourgogne-Franche-Comté region) and the Ain (a département in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region).

Montbéliarde and Simmental Française cattle are the only cows whose milk is authorised to produce milk for manufacturing Comté. Each day, Comté is made by hand in around 150 small village cheese workshops, known as « fruitières ».

It takes time for Comté to develop its full taste. It needs a minimum of 4 months maturing in a cellar, but it is often matured for longer. Comté is characterised by its surprising aromatic richness. It is not a cheese with a uniform taste. Each round of Comté has a different taste profile, depending on the micro-region in which it was made, the season, the particularity of the cheese-maker's hand, and the cellar in which it was matured. Due to this, Comté is a unique cheese.

> Available at the farms and from cheese-makers in the Pays de Montbéliard.

## LA SAUCISSE DE MONTBÉLIARD (THE MONTBÉLIARD SAUSAGE)

You cannot mention Pays de Montbéliard without talking about this famous, filling authentic sausage!

The Montbéliard sausage has been made since the 14th century by farmers in the Pays de Montbéliard.

However, its reputation has endured since the 1st century B.C. as traces of it have been found among the Mandubii, a Gallic tribe who had developed great skills at salting in order to preserve their meat. They then passed on this expertise. By the 14th century, the Montbéliard sausage had become known as an 'andouille' or 'andouille'. It is different to other sausages thanks to the unique recipe. This contains a mix of lean meat and fat from local pork seasoned with garlic and caraway (or meadow cumin) and dried for a long time in a chimney where softwoods are burnt. Present in every pantry, the Montbéliard sausage was part of the daily diet of every Montbéliard resident. Served warm with potatoes and salad, it was enjoyed at every opportunity - during fairs and market days, at funerals or during an unannounced visit, etc.

Labelled since 1992 and benefiting from a PGI (Protected Geographical Identity) since spring 2013, it holds a special place in regional local cuisine. It is served with lentils, cancoillotte (a mild local cheese), or in « paipéfié » or « paipé-fier » (a Montbéliard potato stew).

> It can be enjoyed in restaurants and can be bought from butcher in the Pays de Montbéliard.

**TIP**

At the restaurant, order the « Assiette franc-comtoise »

