Alsace

New for 2024

Press kit



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Alsace Destination Tourisme is the tourism agency of the European Collectivity of Alsace.
Through its CSR approach, Alsace Destination Tourisme is committed to leading Alsace towards more sustainable tourism.

www.alsace-destination-tourisme.com

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Contents

1. GENERAL PRESENTATION Page 4

2. BEER TOURISM Page 10

3. ALSACE'S TOURISM TROPHIES Page 16

4. SITES, FACILITIES, AND SERVICE PROVIDERS Page 17

5. ACCOMMODATION AND RESTAURANTS Page 28

6. EVENTS AND EXHIBITIONS Page 34

7. UPCOMING PROJECTS IN 2025 AND BEYOND Page 41



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1. General Presentation

Welcome to Alsace!

Vineyards, mountains, cities and villages, traditions, food and drink, heritage, culture, and well-being. Alsace's sites and attractions captivate visitors from around the world, charmed by the pragmatic, generous, optimistic, and welcoming locals. At the heart of Europe, bordering Germany and Switzerland and running along the Rhine, the region boasts international appeal, attracting lovers of travel and exploration.

Original and private

Alsace has a strong sense of identity. Along the streets of its towns and villages, traditional façades showcase vibrant colours, while half-timbered houses accentuate the geometric details of its architecture. On the culinary side, traditional recipes celebrate the flavours of the region's terroirs, with ingredients sourced directly from local producers. In the sky, the poetic flight of the storks draws the curious gaze of visitors. From atop the Vosges Mountains, diverse panoramas and undulating peaks bring unexpected surprises.

Key figures

Population		**1 937 653**
Eurometropolis of Strasbourg	*33 towns*	*511 552*
Mulhouse greater area	*39 towns*	*273 767*
Colmar greater area	*20 towns*	*113 968*
Alsace as a % of the Grand Est Region		*34,8 %*
Surface area		**8 280 km²**
Grand Est		*57 433 km²*
Alsace as a % of the Grand Est Region		*14,4 %*

Source : INSEE 2023

TOP 10 most visited paid attractions in Alsace

River boat tours / Strasbourg	*650 091*
Haut-Koenigsbourg Castle / Orschwiller	*525 338*
Montagne des Singes / Kintzheim	*281 569*
Strasbourg Cathedral's viewing platform	*257 320*
Ecomusée d'Alsace / Ungersheim	*198 000*
Cité de l'Automobile / Mulhouse	*188 757*
Natzweiler-Struthof concentration camp	*177 502*
Parc du Petit Prince / Ungersheim	*166 449*
Volerie des Aigles / Kintzheim	*161 325*
Unterlinden Museum / Colmar	*157 995*

Source : Observatoire Régional du Tourisme du Grand Est 2022



© Jean-Paul Krebs - OT Vallée de Villé



© Mon week-end en Alsace



© J. Kaufmann - OTMV

Alsace, an iconic destination with its own unique personality

Alsace is located in the east of France and at the centre of Europe. On the left bank of the Rhine, it offers easy access to Germany, Switzerland, Luxembourg, and Belgium. The departments of Haut-Rhin and Bas-Rhin merged on 1 January 2021 to form the European Collectivity of Alsace.



© B. Salmanski - ADT

From the north to the south of Alsace, 3 major cities stand out



© Philémon Henry - OTSR

> Strasbourg, home to numerous European institutions including the European Parliament, is a regional hub brimming with attractions. All year round, visitors can explore the city's history, architecture, and UNESCO World Heritage sites: the cathedral, the Petite France historic centre, and the former German imperial district of Neustadt.



© Odile Kanstinger - ADT

> Colmar, the capital of Alsace wines, enchants visitors with its beautiful historic centre. A typical countryside town, it invites visitors to discover its rich and well-preserved heritage including Bartholdi's Statue of Liberty and the Petite Venise district. The not-to-be-missed Unterlinden Museum houses a masterpiece of Rhenish Renaissance art – Matthias Grünewald's Isenheim Altarpiece.



© Lois Moreno

> Mulhouse, the European capital of science and technology museums, is home to a remarkable number of museums and exceptional sites. Visitors from all over the world come to admire the unique collections – vintage cars at the Musée National de l'Automobile, textile designs at the Musée de l'Impression sur Étoffes, and locomotives at the Cité du Train. Mulhouse also aims to make its mark through its creative industries and street art.

Unique things to see and do in Alsace

From iconic sites to hidden gems, Alsace has everything for an incredible journey. Rich heritage and surprises unfold through experiences meant to be shared. Unique and intimate moments for a new level of travel, a more authentic journey.



© INFRA

- Share a tarte flambée with good company
- Visit the oldest brewery in France
- Explore the iconic Alsace Wine Route
- Have fun border-hopping by bike
- Glide through the slow-moving world of the Rhine jungle
- Meet the legendary Alsatian Christmas characters
- Wonder at the traditions of Christmas in Alsace
- Be amazed in front of the Isenheim Altarpiece
- Visit France's largest ecomuseum
- Explore an intact German imperial quarter
- Dive into the heart of European democracy

And so much more...

Getting to Alsace

En train

> Grand Est TGV: Paris-Strasbourg (1 hr 44 min)
> Rhin-Rhône TGV: Lyon-Mulhouse (2 hr 50 min)
> Night train from Paris to Vienna via Strasbourg (since December 2021)
> Night train from Paris to Berlin via Strasbourg (since December 2023)

By bike

> EuroVelo 5 - Via Romea: from Canterbury (United Kingdom) to Brindisi (Italy).
> EuroVelo 6 Atlantic – Black Sea: from Saint-Brévin-les-Pins (France) to Constanta (Romania)
> EuroVelo 15 - Rhine Cycle Route: from Andermatt at the source of the Rhine (Switzerland) to Rotterdam by the North Sea (Netherlands).



By car

The motorway network links Alsace with Germany, Switzerland, the Rhône Valley, and Paris.

By plane

Flights via two international airports:
> EuroAirport Basel-Mulhouse-Freiburg
> Strasbourg-Entzheim Airport
> 4 international airport hubs within less than 2 hours

For more info

Getting around in Alsace: https://www.visit.alsace/en/getting-around-in-alsace/

Alsace is...

Unrivalled natural heritage

- 2 nature parks: the Northern Vosges and the Ballons des Vosges regional nature parks
- More than twenty nature reserves
- 700 remarkable trees
- 7 GR long-distance hiking trails, including France's first LQT Best of Europe trail
- 18,000 km of waymarked footpaths and trails
- 341 Towns and Villages in Bloom – more than one-third of the towns in Alsace
- 10 Nature and Environmental Initiation Centres (CINE)
- 76 lakes and bodies of water (65 km^2)

Rich architecture and cultural heritage

- *3 UNESCO World Heritage sites: Grande Île (1988) and Neustadt (2017) in Strasbourg, and the fortified town of Neuf-Brisach (2008)*
- *1 collection listed on the UNESCO Memory of the World Register: Beatus Rhenanus collection, kept at the Humanist Library in Sélestat (2011)*
- *10 funerary and memory sites of the First World War listed as UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Le Wettstein National French Necropolis, Hohrod-Bärenstall German Military Cemetery, Duchesne National French Necropolis, Kahm German Military Cemetery, Le Silberloch National French Necropolis, Hartmannswillerkopf National French Monument and Crypt, Uhlans' German Military Cemetery, Romanian Military Cemetery of Soultzmatt, Germania French Military Cemetery, Moosch National French Necropolis, Ensemble of stelae and ancient French and German tombs of Le Petit Donon.*
- *5 Towns and Regions of Art and History: Mulhouse, Pays de Guebwiller, Pays du Val d'Argent, Sélestat, Strasbourg*
- *6 Most Beautiful Villages in France: Bergheim, Eguisheim, Riquewihr, Hunawihr, Mittelbergheim, Hunspach*
- *4 Villages voted French People's Favourite Village (France 2 TV programme): Eguisheim 2013, Kaysersberg 2017, Hunspach 2020, Bergheim 2022*
- *14 Remarkable Gardens (label awarded by the French Ministry of Culture)*

Major visitor events

- *slowUp Alsace*
- *Carnivals in Strasbourg, Mulhouse, Sélestat, Mothern, Schiltigheim, Hoenheim-Bischeim, Hoerdt*
- *Easter celebrations at the beginning of spring*
- *St. John's Day celebrations*
- *20 music festivals*
- *Wine and harvest festivals, including the Alsace Wine Fair*
- *Advent festivities and Christmas markets*
- *And many more*

Sport and leisure facilities

- *3 skiing areas*
- *9 golf courses*
- *420 km of navigable waterways*
- *36 marinas and stopover areas*
- *2,500 km of cycle routes, including sections of three EuroVelo itineraries: 5, 6, and 15*

Alsace is...

A land of gastronomy

Wine tourism

- 119 wine-growing towns
- 51 Grands crus
- 50 wine trails
- 1 legendary itinerary: the Alsace Wine Route
- the only French vineyard awarded the Vignobles & Découvertes label for its entirety
- the French birthplace of biodynamic winegrowing: the largest vineyard cultivated with respect to natural resources and biodiversity



© Nis&For

Beer and brewing tourism

- 3 major industrial sites in France and the world
- top beer and hop producing region in France
- nearly a hundred breweries and micro-breweries
- a beer spa in Strasbourg
- visits to hop farms on foot or by bike



© cdumoulin.com - ADT

Gourmet restaurants

- 35 Michelin-starred restaurants in Alsace
- 7 two-star establishments
- 28 one-star establishments
- 6 Green Star establishments
- 24 Bib Gourmand establishments

Palmarès 2022



© Lukam - ADT

Plentiful and diverse accommodation :

- 582 hotels and 52 holiday residences – 50,000 beds in total
- 118 campsites – 10,000 pitches in total
- 6,340 holiday rentals – 32,000 beds in total
- 198 establishments offering group accommodation – nearly 12,000 beds in total

Source LEI Alsace – décembre 2023



© T. Devard - ADT

© M. Dossmann - ADT

2. Beer tourism

Once upon a time: Alsace, beer, and brewing tourism

Alsace is a region with a rich brewing tradition: beer has held a special place here for centuries. It's the cornerstone of the local products of Alsace's terroir. A reflection of the skill and talent of the master brewers and their expert craft. This artisanal approach produces a diverse range of beers with a variety of flavours and aromas.

Alsace has long been renowned for its superior beers. Its exceptional resources play a significant role, as quality water is a necessity for making exceptional beer. Brewing in Alsace dates back to the Gallo-Roman era, and the earliest written records of brewing in Strasbourg are from the year 961. At that time, most of Alsace's breweries were established by religious orders.

In 1259, the first independent brewer in Strasbourg, under the name Arnoldus Cervisarius, set up shop on Impasse de la Bière near the cathedral. His brewery also included a malting facility. Since then, the number of breweries has grown steadily alongside both legislation (lifting of brewing restrictions after the Revolution) and technological innovations (industrial use of steam boilers and the invention of refrigeration machines in the 19th century).

Today, Alsace is dedicated to celebrating its rich brewing heritage in a festive spirit. Beer tourism combines brewing traditions and modern methods, exploring hoppy landscapes, as well as learning about heritage and know-how. A wide variety of activities are on offer, including:

> *Brewery visits*
> *Tastings and brewing classes*
> *Fun and unique activities*
> *Hop field walks and themed cycling itineraries*
> *Festivals and events*
> *Beer gardens (a kind of brewery with a friendly and cosy atmosphere, where simple and local dishes are served)*



© Frank Morin - OT Kochersberg

Le saviez-vous ?

> *Alsace is the top producer of beer and hops in France :*
- 60% of French beer is made in Alsace
- 95% of French hops are grown in Alsace
> *Alsace is the only region in France renowned for both wine and beer.*
> *The people of Alsace consume around sixty litres of beer per year (double the French average).*
There's a favourite beer for every occasion, and brewers' creations follow the rhythm of the seasons. Traditional Christmas beer, smooth and spiced, is the special brew of the holiday season, while spring brings fresh and fruity beers enjoyed on café terraces when the first rays of sunshine appear.

The brewers of Alsace

There's a rich and diverse range of breweries in Alsace, including both well-known brands and smaller craft breweries. Some of the temples of beer in Alsace include:

- *Meteor (in Hochfelden), a family business that has been brewing in Alsace for 8 generations www.brasserie-meteor.fr,*
- *Kronenbourg (in Obernai), the largest brewery in France, producing nearly 700 million litres of beer every year kronenbourg.com,*
- *Brasserie Licorne (in Saverne) proudly offers a 100% Alsatian beer, exclusively harvested and brewed in the region www.brasserielicorne.com.*

The trend of microbreweries, like all across France, is reshaping the brewing sector in Alsace. Today, there are nearly a hundred craft breweries and microbreweries in Alsace, including:

- *Brasserie du Vignoble (Ribeauvillé) and its picturesque beer garden amidst the vineyards brasserie-vignoble.fr*
- *Brasserie Saint-Pierre (Saint-Pierre) and its brewing workshop for creating a unique beer www.lasaintpierre.com*
- *Brasserie Bisaigüe (Kaysersberg), housed in a centuries-old vaulted cellar www.bisaigue.alsace*
- *Les Brasseurs du Ried (Muttersholtz), a brewery that crafts beer 'the old-fashioned way' and hosts conferences on the history of beer brasseurs-du-ried.fr*
- *Brasserie du Grillen (Colmar), its brewpub, and its beers handcrafted in a former cotton mill brasseriedugrillen.com*
- *Brasserie Uberach (Val de Moder) and its diverse beers made from water sourced from the Northern Vosges www.brasserie-uberach.fr*
- *Bendorf (Strasbourg), an active participant in the local Strasbourg community brasserie-bendorf.fr*
- *Banz (Lautenbach), a young non-profit association brewery www.facebook.com*
- *Brasserie Radwulf (Vieux-Ferrette), a brewery-distillery-brewpub for hanging out and tasting bold and authentic beers www.radwulf.fr*
- *Brasserie Michel Debus (Schiltigheim), an artisanal brewery with a contemporary decor that serves refined cuisine www.brasserie-michel-debus.com*

In Alsace, as elsewhere, beer enthusiasts are known for their good humour and joie de vivre. Alsace's tumultuous history led to its inheritance of German customs, and the region continues to cultivate its long tradition of conviviality. Beer is enjoyed around a Stammtisch (a shared table), in a Bierstub (a type of brasserie with a warm and friendly atmosphere serving simple local dishes) or in a Biergarten (a concept originating in Bavaria, a beer garden is an outdoor shaded and welcoming terrace serving pub-style food).



© Fabien Voileau

Beer experiences in Alsace

> Brewery visits

- *The oldest brewing site in France*

In the town of Hochfelden surrounded by hop fields, Villa Meteor invites visitors to discover its unique brewing heritage and its carefully guarded secrets. Next to the famous brewery of the same name, Alsace's last remaining large independent brewery, the tour explores the beer-making process and the history of the company. The Haag family have been master brewers for eight generations, a success story spanning from 1640 to the present day. Their intimate memories are on display in the old family house. The tour is a dive into the history of malt, barley, hops, and the secrets to creating this bubbly nectar.
brasserie-meteor.fr



© Fabien Voileau

- *Inside the old Kronenbourg brewery in Strasbourg*

From 1862 until the 1990s, Kronenbourg brewed its beer in Strasbourg's Cronenbourg district. After relocating to Obernai, the historic brewery and canning factory gave way to the eco-district of La Brasserie, a project that preserved and restored the former brewing hall. On this site today is the Labbb, a brewpub and a space for brewing experiments. Besides enjoying the beers brewed on-site, visitors can see the preserved and renovated vats of the old Kronenbourg brewery. There's something for everyone at the brewing workshops held every Saturday, including brewery visits, beerology, and beer pairings.
restaurants.3brasseurs.com/fr

- *The new home of Brasserie Perle*

In 2023, the historic Perle brewery relocated to a brand-new building in the heart of Strasbourg's Marché-Gare district. Eco-friendly and larger than the former site in Meinau, the new facility has increased production capacity as well as more room for its spacious bierstub. There's even a beer garden for sunny days, much to the delight of visitors.
Brewery tours are offered every Saturday: after a brief introduction to the family history of the brewery and the brand, visitors learn about the three stages of making Perle: cooking, magic, and technology. The tour includes a tasting journey featuring 4 beers with diverse characteristics. The focus is also on the new building: a modern production facility designed to minimise energy consumption.
www.biere-perle.com



© Brasserie Perle

- *A craft brewery in the heart of the village of Lapoutroie*

While many recent breweries are located on the outskirts of cities, the Pays Welche brewery, founded in 2011, is nestled in the heart of a green oasis in the Kaysersberg Valley. This brewery is deeply rooted in the local area and sources a part of its hops and malt from Alsace. It is the first brewery awarded the Valeur Parc label from the Ballons des Vosges Regional Nature Park. Eager to share their passion for the brewing world, the brewers recently began offering daily guided tours with prior booking. Self-guided tours are also available with no reservation required.
brasseriedupayswelche.fr

> Tastings and brewing courses

- *Brew your own beer at Saint-Pierre*

Anchored in the heart of the Alsatian terroir since 2001, the Saint-Pierre craft brewery uses exclusively high-quality ingredients. Visitors can roll up their sleeves, tie up their apron, and become a brewer for a day. A fun and friendly way to hone the craft. Teams tackle all the steps to creating good beer: choice of ingredients, monitoring the fermentation process, and even printing labels. Alongside a passionate brewer, guests learn all about Alsace's world-renowned expertise. And after all that hard work, it's time for a tasting. Everyone leaves with their bottles, as well as a little kit of brewing equipment to practice at home.
www.lasaintpierre.com



© Charly Derouet

- *Alsace Beer Trip: a craft brewery tour in a minibus*

Olivier, a former lifeguard, now organises brewery tours. He takes passengers aboard his minivan to share his passion for craft beer in a friendly atmosphere. A great way to explore the incredible diversity of microbreweries in the Colmar region, meet passionate local brewers, and most importantly: taste their beer.
www.alsace-beer-trip.fr

- *Beerology workshop in a rural, shared-space microbrewery*

Elliott and Etienne founded Les Semblables in Mietesheim with the intention of modelling a new way to run a brewery. For example, it's the only brewery in France to use wood to heat its range of sustainable beers. At their beerology workshop, participants discover the microbrewery and its beers on a memorable, aromatic, and friendly adventure.
www.brasserie-semblables.fr

> Fun and unique activities

- *France's first beer spa*

Opened in January 2022, the Taaka Beer Spa is the first of its kind in France. Inspired by the concept well-known in Hungary and the Czech Republic, the spa offers an original experience combining the relaxing setting of a spa with the convivial values of the world of brewing. Following a sauna session, guests can unwind in a larch wood tub to soak up the benefits of the natural ingredients used in beer brewing (malt, hops, and brewer's yeast). The experience is paired with tastings of beers and beverages from local micro-breweries.
www.taakabeerspa.com/



© Sophie Balland

- *The treasure hunt from Échappée Bière*

This treasure hunt is a fun and original way to discover Strasbourg and its brewing history, all while savouring a few beers. Participants set off through the streets of Strasbourg in the footsteps of a 16th-century brewer, Beatus Cervisus, to unveil the secret hiding place of the recipe for his Humanis beer.
The game booklet is filled with riddles that lead players around the city to find the four places to stop for a blind beer tasting. A great way to discover the city and its brewing history, all while learning about beer.
echappee-biere.com



© Sophie Balland

- *"Bierburg Games" in the castles of Alsace*

A fun activity showcasing the region's castral heritage, these escape-game tastings are held in several castles in Alsace throughout 2024. Participants have one hour to help a lost soul trapped within the castle walls by finding the Rhine chalice that will set them free. This interactive experience is led by actors and paired with a beer tasting.
The activity is supported by the European Union as part of the "Rhine Castles - Burgen am Oberrhein" project
www.billetweb.fr/chateau-fortescape

Hop field walks and cycling routes

The landscapes of Alsace have been shaped in part by brewing traditions, especially in Kochersberg, the region's top hop producer. Self-guided or guided walking and cycling tours are a perfect way to explore and appreciate the area.

> Walking
In Wingersheim-les-Quatre-Bans, the hop capital of Alsace, the hop discovery trail (4.5 km) offers unparalleled views of the hop fields. Walkers can follow the signposted trail or join a guided tour organised by members of the Au Cœur des Houblonnières d'Alsace association from mid-April to late September.
www.visit.alsace



© F. Morin - L'instant T

> *Cycling*

There are two itineraries on the Alsace by Bike website:

· *The Beers and Hops loop (25 km), starts in the brewing hub of Hochfelden and explores the hills overlooking Strasbourg Cathedral, passing through charming little villages including Hohatzenheim with its Romanesque basilica. In the hop capital of Wingersheim, cyclists can explore the culture and virtues of the plant while savouring its aromas with a farm-brewed craft beer. The return journey follows the canal along the twists and turns of the Zorn River.*
www.cyclinginalsace.com

· *The itinerary From Val-de-Moder to the Land of the Hop Fields (72 km) follows an easy forest road through the forest of Haguenau. Starting in Pfaffenhoffen, the main town in Val-de-Moder, the journey explores the agricultural villages of the Hanau area. Hills, forests, and cereal crops shape the landscape. The arrival in the brewing town of Hochfelden marks a change in scenery. After crossing the Zorn Valley and the Marne-au-Rhin Canal, the ride to Haguenau is bordered by hop vines. www.cyclinginalsace.com*



© Mon week-end en Alsace

· *For the more sporty, a cross-border cycle route of almost 400 km entitled "Beer & Brewing Culture" takes you on a discovery of the brewing heritage and the many breweries in Alsace, the southern Palatinate and the Land of Baden.*
As well as crossing a variety of landscapes, from the Rhine plain to charming little villages and big cities, this pleasant tour also promises to give you a chance to appreciate beer in all its aspects and to discover the diversity of the art of brewing in France and Germany. vis-a-vis-pamina.eu

Festivals and events

Of the numerous festivals and events held in Alsace every year, several are dedicated to beer:

- *April: Bendorf Festival (Strasbourg): Created by the brewery of the same name, the event has concerts, entertainment, and beer tastings.*
- *May: Fête des Brasseurs (Val-de-Moder): A traditional brewer's celebration honouring Val-de-Moder's brewing heritage.*
- *Early June: Au Gré des Bières (Strasbourg): Organised by the Syndicat des Brasseurs d'Alsace, the event highlights the diversity of Alsatian brews, their unique qualities, and the art of tasting (held every two years, next edition in 2025).*
- *End of June: Expo de la Bière (Strasbourg): A beer trade show catering to both enthusiasts and curious drinkers.*
- *Early Juli: Fête de la Bière d'Alsace Schiltigheim (beer festival): held for more than 40 years in this brewing town, the event is a cherished tradition. A festive, popular, and family-oriented summer beer festival.*
- *Late August: Saverne beer festival: Live music and tastings of Licorne, locally brewed in Saverne.*
- *September: s'Meteor Bierfescht in Hochfelden: A three-day authentic Alsatian beer festival held under a lively big tent.*
- *End of September: Strasbourg Craft Beer Festival (Strasbourg): A festival dedicated to local artisanal beer.*

3. Alsace's 2023 tourism trophies

Sponsored by 3 partners - the Alsace Tourist Office Network, Crédit Agricole, and Alsace Destination Tourisme - the Alsace Tourism Trophies recognise and celebrate initiatives that enhance the tourism potential of the Alsace destination, by both associations and private businesses of all sizes. The organising sponsors offer their skills and expertise to support the candidates in their projects.

The Trophies feature 5 categories, 2 Jury's Favourite awards, and 1 Village by CA award.
Here are the 8 winners:

ACCOMMODATION

Bleu Minuit, for their new estate of La Source - Wolxheim
To sleep under the stars

GASTRONOMY

The Little Roof bar - Eguisheim
For a cargo atmosphere

WINE AND AGRICULTURE TOURISM

Brasserie Eschenbrenner - Hochfelden
From garden to brew

TOURIST SITE AND HERITAGE

Brasserie Perle - Strasbourg
For its guided tour and its urban biergarten

ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES

Traces Vosges du Nord incoming tourist agency - La Petite-Pierre
For self-guided hiking

JURY'S FAVORITE AWARDS

Strasbourg Obscur - escape game and tour of Strasbourg - Strasbourg
Like you never dreamed

The wooden postcards by the Vallée de Villé Tourist Office - Villé
Know what your Alsace memories are made of

VILLAGE BY CA AWARD

Au Heimbach hotel and restaurant - Lembach
In the heart of forests and sandstone cliffs

The initiatives showcased by the candidates reflect the spirit of the local tourism actors who bring a refreshing renewal of tourist offerings in Alsace, both in terms of facilities and services. They demonstrate the determination, energy, and significant investments needed to bring these projects to life, all while catering to the evolving expectations of visitors.
The winners represent the drive of the Alsace region that depends on these committed, ambitious, and determined project leaders who are confident in the appeal of Alsace. Continuously improving hospitality, diversifying offerings, and above all making sure visitors are happy. A source of success and emotion!

Explore the projects here:
www.tropheesdutourisme.alsace

TROPHÉES DU TOURISME ALSACE

by

4. Sites, facilities and service providers

10 remembrance sites in Alsace recognised by UNESCO > VOSGES MOUNTAINS

This historic decision is the culmination of a project spanning over 10 years.
During the 45th extended session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee held in September 2023 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 139 funerary and memory sites of the First World War were added to the list. The sites are spread across Belgium and France, including 10 in Alsace and 3 in the Vosges Mountains:

- *Le Wettstein National French Necropolis, Orbey*
- *Hohrod-Bärenstall German Military Cemetery, Orbey/Hohrod*
- *Duchesne National French Necropolis, Orbey/Le Bonhomme*
- *Kahm German Military Cemetery, Lapoutroie*
- *Le Silberloch National French Necropolis, Hartmannswillerkopf National French Monument and Crypt*
- *Uhlans' German Military Cemetery, Hartmannswiller*
- *Romanian Military Cemetery, Soultzmatt*
- *Germania French Military Cemetery, Stosswihr*
- *Moosch National French Necropolis*
- *Ensemble of stelae and ancient French and German tombs of le Petit Donon, Wisches*

www.visit.alsace/patrimoine-et-histoire/lieux-de-memoire/1914-1918/



Hartmannswillerkopf - ©AAA-IllProd

Château des Défis®, a new itinerary at Fleckenstein Castle > LEMBACH



© Fleckenstein

The Château des Défis® tour at Fleckenstein Castle features a new manga-inspired character that combines the Middle Ages with fantasy, leading families on a 3-hour medieval adventure through the troglodyte castle and the surrounding forest. 25 soundful stops set the scene along the way. All ages work together to help young Kim free the baron and the lands of Fleckenstein from the evil forces disturbing the balance of nature. The interactive games require agility, observation, memory, logic, and spatial reasoning, all in a convivial and collaborative experience. A fun and educational outing to bond as a family. The course is trilingual (French, German, and English), both written and spoken.

www.fleckenstein.fr/visites/le-chateau-des-defis/

Culinary workshops at Moulin Burggraf-Becker > DOSSENHEIM-SUR-ZINSEL

The Moulin Burggraf-Becker offers individual workshops for baking, pastry making, and cooking led by dedicated and passionate professionals eager to share and impart their expertise and knowledge. Participants keen on learning how to prepare healthy and delicious recipes get hands-on guidance, tips, and tricks in a welcoming and friendly setting.
There's a wide range of workshops available all year long: sourdough bread, leavened doughs, brioches, kougelhopf, pretzels, pastries, puff pastry, choux pastry, macarons, pâté en croûte, pies, fougasse, foccacia, pizza dough, and many more.

www.burggraf-becker.com



© 31 Photography - Visit Alsace

Cloître des Récollets > SAVERNE



© Office de Tourisme & du Commerce du Pays de Saverne

This 14th-century Gothic architectural gem is one of the most beautiful cloisters in Alsace. Initially a convent, it later became a Latin school. In the 17th century, it housed shops and passing troops before becoming a women's college and later an annex of the Poincaré middle school. Today it hosts cultural events, performances, exhibitions, and houses the Tourist Office of Pays de Saverne.
Murals under its arches depict biblical and religious scenes inspired by the Counter-Reformation. This serene site also includes a monastery garden cultivating vegetables as well as medicinal, aromatic, and ornamental plants.
The cloister is open for self-guided visits during the opening hours of the Tourist Office.

www.tourisme-saverne.fr



© Mathieu Holdrinet



© Catherine Schröder / Unistra

The new planetarium at the Jardin des Sciences > STRASBOURG

In the Neustadt district, at the heart of the historic university campus, the Jardin des Sciences of the University of Strasbourg is a true cultural hub with a planetarium, museums, and gardens. Open to everyone, it's a place for stargazing, admiring heritage collections, participating in workshops and guided tours, or engaging with figures from the scientific community. There's also a full cultural programme of events held in Strasbourg and throughout Alsace.

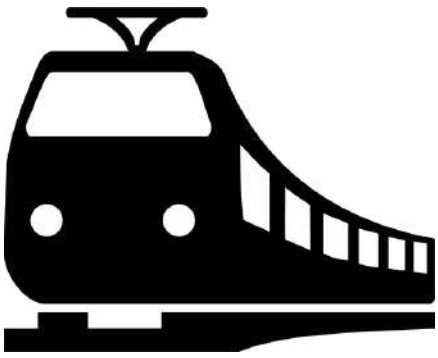
The new planetarium invites visitors on a journey through the universe to explore planets, nebulae, and galaxies on a 15-m-tall, 360° dome projection screen and an astronomical simulator. The film on astronomy and the efforts of the educational team aim to raise awareness on observing the starry sky. This space immersion takes places in a brand-new cone-shaped building next to the welcome area of the Jardin des Sciences. A place for experimenting and encounters, the planetarium hosts numerous events related to both current space developments and scientific research data. Visitors can also enjoy concerts, screenings, and other festive and artistic events.

www.jardin-sciences.unistra.fr

Reopening of the Paris-Berlin night train via Strasbourg > STRASBOURG

The Berlin-Paris night train, discontinued in 2014, resumed service on 11 December 2023. Currently running three times a week, daily service will start in October 2024, as announced by the historic Austrian company ÖBB that operates the trains. This new service serving Strasbourg allows for a stopover in the European capital.

The train consists of 12 cars from Paris, with 6 continuing to Berlin and 6 to Vienna, offering seated places, berths and sleeping cars.



Route of the train line

Cooking workshop at La Cuisine Pédagogique in the Bains Municipaux of Strasbourg > STRASBOURG

The educational kitchen at the former public baths offers weekly 2-hour cooking classes followed by a tasting of the prepared dishes, all led by a nutritionist-dietitian. Each workshop focuses on a theme related to a special occasion or to well-being through food. The workshops aim to teach healthy, delicious recipes using organic, seasonal produce that participants can easily make at home using basic kitchen equipment.

www.bainsmunicipauxdestrasbourg.fr



© Bains Municipaux de Strasbourg

Boat tour of Strasbourg's port with Batorama > STRASBOURG



© Batorama

The history of Strasbourg and its port on the Rhine river are closely intertwined. The river has long contributed to the vitality of the city. A two-hour guided boat tour of the Port of Strasbourg, France's 2nd largest river port, aboard Batorama explores Strasbourg's rich industrial heritage and history.

www.batorama.com/fr/circuits/strasbourg-sur-mer

Au Péché Vigneron - Immersive tasting room and restaurant > GERTWILLER

A one-of-a-kind project in Alsace: the tasting room at Au Péché Vigneron offers food and wine pairing in a uniquely historic setting in the former labelling room of the winery. Inside the beautifully refurbished and decorated space, tastings are coupled with video projections showcasing the Alsace vineyards. During an aperitif or a sampling of dishes and Alsatian wines, a 180° immersive film transports guests into the world of Céline and Yvan Zeyssolff. A flavourful and visual journey accompanied by lounge music.

www.zeyssolff.com/bar-a-manger/



© Au Péché vigneron

Labonal factory tour > DAMBACH-LA-VILLE

Labonal, the renowned sock maker in Alsace, offers a free one-hour visit to explore its workshops and the various stages of the manufacturing process. Visitors will meet the expert employees who have mastered the creation of these socks made in France since 1924. The tour is an inviting and immersive discovery of the textile industry and its close link to the history of Alsace.

www.labonal.fr

Gourmet itinerary & Randojeu smartphone app at the Maison du Pain d'Alsace > SÉLESTAT

A unique gourmet experience that awakens all the senses at the Alsace Bread Museum. This convivial guided tour invites visitors to explore the history of bread and Alsatian specialities while tasting them along the way. The 1.5-hour visit includes 5 gourmet stops paired with Alsatian dishes and drinks. Booking required.
Families can also (re)discover the museum in a fun way with the new free mobile app Randojeu. Users explore the museum in search of clues to answer questions and unlock the secrets of the baking and milling trades.

www.maisondupain.alsace



© 2019-Sylvie Petit Photography





© EI M. Didierjean Raphael

Potes en mob's > KAYSERSBERG

A nostalgic journey astride Peugeot 103 mopeds for an extraordinary road trip along the Alsace Wine Route. For young riders, it's a genuine, slow-moving discovery of this beautiful region on an iconic two-wheeler. This vintage-themed activity is perfect for friends or couples, age 20 and up with a valid license.

www.facebook.com

Beauvillé opens its museum > RIBEAUVILLÉ



© *Beauvillé*

Beauvillé, renowned for its high-end linen, has opened a museum space in its Ribeauvillé boutique, offering the public a glimpse into its expertise. This cultural gem will delight lovers of art, history, and design. The new Beauvillé Museum pays homage to French elegance and the refinement of the Beauvillé company, known around the world for its luxury textile creations. This museum invites visitors on a captivating journey through the history of the brand, highlighting its commitment to exceptional craftsmanship and artistic creation. Explore the stages of production behind the iconic tablecloths and fabrics, from the design to the final product. The exhibition also showcases unique pieces that have left a mark on Beauvillé's history, like the Japanese panel recognised at the 1900 World's Fair. Creativity and innovation have been hallmarks of this company for decades.

www.beauville.com

Albert Schweitzer Centre for peace > KAYSERSBERG

A tribute to the great humanist doctor and 1952 Nobel Peace Prize recipient.
The Albert Schweitzer Museum originally portrayed the Nobel Peace Prize laureate's journey in Africa, his humanitarian health efforts, and his fight against nuclear weapons. The site has evolved into a more ambitious project: the Centre Schweitzer - In the Footsteps of the Nobel Peace Prize, an interpretive centre focused on raising awareness of the universal message of peace.
With its bold installations and use of technology, visiting this unique place in Alsace is a fun and original experience, centred around the humanist principles dear to the 'first doctor without borders': freedom, tolerance, and mutual respect. By upholding these values, the Schweitzer Centre is an international reference on the theme of peace.

www.centreschweitzer.org



© OTVKB

Memorial Museum of the Colmar Pocket > TURCKHEIM



© source MMPC

In the heart of a medieval town, the Memorial Museum of the Battles of the Colmar Pocket – Winter 1944/45 is housed an 18th century cellar that sheltered the inhabitants of Turckheim during World War II. The site bears witness to two intense months of fighting around Colmar, focusing on the participants in the conflict and the technology and equipment of the time. The museum examines every phase of the battle while highlighting the plight of the civilians. Recent additions include new characters in the dioramas: a Moroccan Goumier from the 1st French Army, German mountain hunters, and even a young soldier—a 3-year-old child dressed in military attire alongside a magnificent blue, white, and red rocking horse. Visitors can explore the museum with an audio-guided tour or on a smartphone. New signage accompanies the pieces on display, and QR codes bring the objects and characters to life. Because what matters here is also THEIR story.

musee.turckheim-alsace.com



© Christophe Meyer

Bivouac area at the Markstein ski resort > ODEREN

Tucked away in a quiet area, far from the buildings of the resort, are three 3-by-3 m elevated larch platforms equipped with hooks for setting up a tent or sleeping under the stars. The platforms are primarily intended for hikers to bivouac on a trek.
Forest tables, shared spaces, and sustainable toilets are also on site. The facilities are free and open to everyone.
The site was designed and set up by the joint association in charge of the development of Markstein Grand-Ballon.

www.lemarkstein.net/fr/



© L'Alsace Édouard COUSIN

La Maison Luquet - Knife-making > ESCHBACH-AU-VAL

This forge workshop, dedicated more particularly to knife-making, is nestled at the foot of the Vosges Mountains near Munster. The owners are passionate about their craft and aim to revive the excellence of handcrafted, tailor-made items while fostering connections and encounters.
La Maison Luquet offers forging workshops for the public, ranging from one to three days, where participants can forge their own knife or axe. For knife connoisseurs, one of the immersive workshops even includes legendary Damascus steel. A unique and exceptional experience!
Tours of the workshop will be available starting in 2025.

www.lamaisonluquet.eu



© Hervé KIELWASSER - La Maison Luquet

Dan Gerbo Contemporary Art Museum > MULHOUSE

Dan Gerbo, as he is known in the art world, has opened his museum in Mulhouse. The central theme revolves around "pointing out greed, not to lecture, but with humour". The artist captivates with his fearless audacity and approach to societal topics. His works, displayed in Paris, Shanghai, Miami, and Houston, are creations that blend provocation and contemplation. The sensual display showcases paintings, but is mostly dedicated to conceptual sculptures, often representing luxury objects turned into something else. Two-thirds of the all-white, 1,000 m² space features around fifty works from Dan Gerbo. The rest is divided into an area for emerging or established artists from the tri-national region, and another for galleries of local and international pictorial art.

museumdg.com

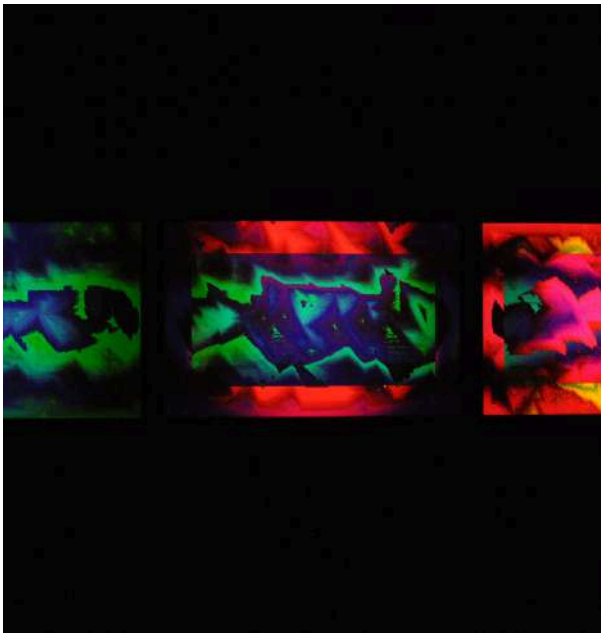


© Musée Dan Gerbo

New Art and Electricity space at the Electropolis Museum > MULHOUSE

The new Art and Electricity space at Mulhouse's Electropolis Museum showcases around ten spectacular works, highlighting the fundamental relationship between art and electricity. It tells the story of how artists initially depicted electricity and later utilised its magnetic, luminous, and sonic effects. From Raoul Dufy's famous painted fairy to Bernard Caillaux's algorithmic digital paintings, and Man Ray's rayographs, this new space establishes a connection between art and industry. Its creation was made possible by a significant deposit of works from the EDF Group Foundation collected over more than thirty years of art exhibitions in its Parisian space.

www.musee-electropolis.fr



© musée Electropolis





© East Park

East Park water sports centre> BARTENHEIM

Parc des eaux vives > VILLAGE-NEUF

Saint-Louis 3 Pays is the perfect spot for enjoying water activities in Alsace.
The new East Park leisure area in Bartenheim boasts a cable water ski where beginners can try out wakeboarding, skiing, or kneeboarding. Visitors to the aquapark can also enjoy the inflatable games, stand up paddleboarding, or sipping a cocktail while listening to a concert with their feet in the sand. What could be better for a refreshing family day of discovery?

There's also the Parc des eaux vives in Huningue, the perfect place for thrill seekers, with kayaking, canoeing, rafting, hydrospeed, and whitewater swimming. The 3 Frontières water sports centre in Village-Neuf features water skiing, wakeboarding, and sailing; all on the Rhine!

east-park.fr

Africa area at Mulhouse's Zoo and Botanical Park> MULHOUSE

In 2024, the Zoo and Botanical Gardens of Mulhouse (m2A), a European centre for conservation and knowledge, will welcome around fifty species as ambassadors of African biodiversity in a new space named Horizon Afrique. For the first time in Mulhouse, giraffes, pygmy hippos, venomous snakes, and amphibians will be showcased to the public. This is the largest project undertaken by Mulhouse's Zoo and Botanical Gardens (m2A) since its creation 155 years ago. It required significant developments over 1.5 ha, including 1 ha of savannah, an immersive 1,200 m^2 building for giraffes, 11 terrariums, a multi-species aquarium, a 500 m^2 immersive tropical greenhouse featuring aquavision for the pygmy hippos and crocodiles, as well as 2 islands to host guenon monkeys.

The project aligns with the park's missions and aims to:

• Raise awareness among visitors about the conservation of two endangered African ecosystems (the Upper Guinean rainforest, shrub savanna) by presenting species in their natural habitats and providing an immersive and educational experience,

• Offer an immersive visit with different viewing areas to observe the animals both on land and in aquariums and terrariums,

• Introduce new species as a part of conservation programmes: giraffes, gazelles, red-necked ostriches, pygmy hippos, amphibians, reptiles, and endangered insects.

Other species already in the park will join the new African space for their well-being: to support their conservation in optimal conditions and promote breeding for reintroduction into their original natural habitats once they have been protected.

www.zoo-mulhouse.com



© m2A



Château du Spesbourg ©INFRA

5. Accommodation, restaurants



© Kiara Gressel - la cachette ludique

La Cachette Ludique > PETERSBACH

In the heart of the Northern Vosges Regional Nature Park are two fully renovated studios, one with a countryside decor and the other in an industrial style. The owners are board game aficionados, and guests have access to games, books, and the retrogaming area. Extras: Nordic bath session, homemade breakfast, or a meal in the game bar.

www.lacachetteludique.fr

Villa Golden Nature > DETTWILLER

This modern 230 m² luxury villa is located between city and countryside near Strasbourg in the town of Dettwiller, accessible by train. The villa sleeps up to 14 guests on a 30-acre, lush-green, enclosed estate. A haven of peace with a relaxation & spa area (jacuzzi and sauna), infinity pool, and paddling pool for children. Leisure activities include table football, billiards, ping-pong, air hockey, pinball, and a pétanque court.

villa-golden-nature.com



© Melanie Rohrfritsch



© Nico Pfister

La maison 1717 > BIRKENWALD

In the town of Birkenwald less than an hour from Strasbourg or Colmar and ten minutes from Saverne, this large, 4-star charming rental is a fully renovated former presbytery dating back to 1717. The house can accommodate up to 15 guests in five bedrooms, each with an en suite bathroom with toilet, ideal for holidays with family or friends. The property offers high-end amenities including a heated outdoor swimming pool in a lush green setting, all close to the major tourist sites in Alsace.

lamaison1717.com

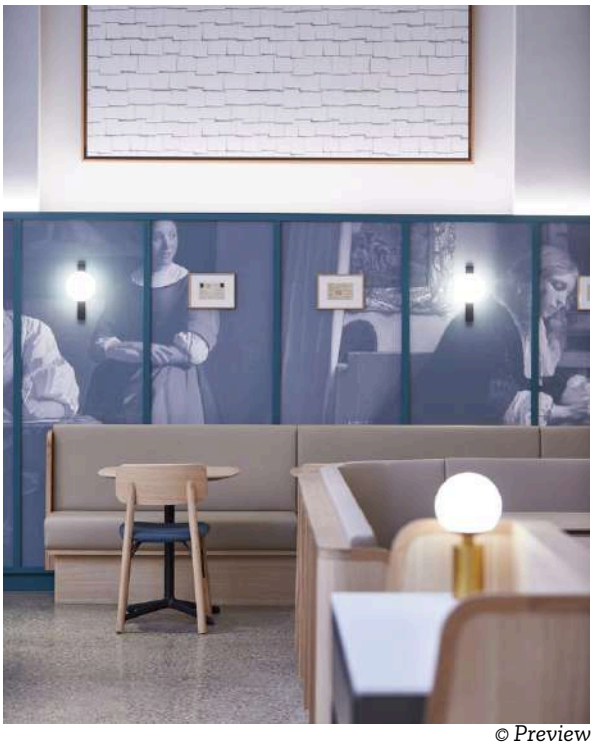
Hotel ClapClap > STRASBOURG

A new design hotel in Strasbourg's city centre facing La Petite France, ClapClap blends styles to assert its personality around culture and entertainment. The 88 rooms with different configurations can accommodate up to 8 guests. The hotel offers dining with local products, a cocktail bar, a coffee shop (selected coffees and juices, homemade pastries), and is a complete living space with meeting rooms and work areas. ClapClap hosts exhibitions, quizzes, DJ Sets, painting classes, conferences, and debates.

clapclap-strasbourg.com



© Hotel Clap Clap



© Preview

Brasserie Chère Amie > STRASBOURG

Housed in the former main post office built between 1896 and 1899 in the neo-Gothic style by the architects Von Rechenberg and Hacke, Chère Amie is a living space, open every day from noon to 1:30 am (kitchen until midnight).

The Brasserie de L'Hôtel des Postes is subtly inspired by the area's history (Neustadt is a UNESCO World Heritage Site) and offers customers an area just under 500 m² out of a total space of 800 m². Designed around a 300-m² main room stretching under a triple glass roof, Chère Amie is centred around a 12-m long bar, where seafood specialities mingle with pastries.

An adjoining 125-m² space opens onto the inner courtyard, and a 55-m² annex for private events completes the layout of this new Strasbourg establishment.

chere-amie.fr

L'Archipel restaurant and sky lounge > STRASBOURG

Strasbourg's first panoramic restaurant and bar opened in 2023. Located on the top floor of the new AC Hotel by Marriott and just a stone's throw from the European Parliament, it boasts a decor that blends a lounge atmosphere with a cabinet of curiosities. The bar offers a wide variety of original and signature cocktails. At the top of a beautiful staircase wrapped around a wine cellar, the restaurant offers reimagined French cuisine. The rooftop terrace boasts breathtaking views of the city.

L'archipel



© Hamel Fotografie

Orangerie du Manoir > OBERHASLACH

The Relais du Gensbourg, built around 1830, was Kaiser William II's hunting lodge, then a holiday camp, before being transformed into a holiday home. Reopened in April 2023 after renovations, it is now an event venue for weddings, seminars, and corporate conventions, offering an area of 350 m² and a capacity of 240 guests. The Orangerie also offers 3 holiday rentals on the estate (for 7, 8, or 15 guests), 3 safari tents (ecolodges) for 6 people each, as well as a cabin, for a total capacity of 50 guests.

lorangeriedumanoir.com



© www.photographiebychloe.com



© @hungryno_

Bleu Minuit's La Source > WOLXHEIM

Bleu Minuit, a hotel operator of unique eco-lodges, has opened La Source, its second estate, just a stone's throw from Strasbourg.
Nestled in the heart of the Alsace Wine Route and only 20 minutes from Strasbourg, this estate offers a chance to stay in eco-lodges open to the sky above, for an unforgettable night under the stars. These wooden and glass tiny houses, inspired by nature and crafted in Alsace, offer unparalleled comfort. In a green setting, Bleu Minuit offers wellness stays in partnership with the Sulzbad Spa for guaranteed relaxation.

bleu-minuit.com/bleu-minuit-la-source

Le Hêtre Rouge & Spa luxury rentals > BARR

This lovely Alsatian residence from 1930 has two accommodations (L'Écureuil and Le Geai), each one fully renovated with high-end amenities and furnishings (bedding, en suite bathroom, high-speed internet, sauna, jacuzzi, wooded garden, private parking, and more). Each 90 m² accommodation sleeps up to 4 guests and is carefully decorated and furnished, recognised with a 4-ear classification.

www.lehetrerouge.com



© Scholly



© @Julie Limont

5 Terres hotel & spa - extension in 2024 > BARR

Recently awarded the Green Key label, this 5-star establishment is also a part of the Accueil Vélo and Vignobles & Découvertes tourism initiatives. The hotel plans to expand with an extension that should double its capacity. The construction of a second spa and an outdoor swimming pool is also scheduled for summer 2024.

www.5terres-hotel.fr

Domaine des Constellations > ORBEY

The Domaine des Constellations in Orbey is a true haven of peace surrounded by nature.
Nestled on an 80-acre wooded plot, the site revolves around six charming wooden nano houses, each with a different decor. The 24 different gardens also each have their own universe, creating a unique atmosphere that awakens the senses and inspires creativity. Each rental contributes €5 towards adding elements to the garden. The lodgings each boast an interior space of 20 m² and a private terrace. Three of them also have a private Nordic bath. Marie John, the creator and owner, offers clients therapeutic treatments and energetic massages. There's also an art therapy workshop for releasing emotions and expressing oneself through artistic creation.

domainedesconstellations.fr



© byJohn



© Domaine de Haslach

Domaine de Haslach > HOHROD

Nestled at an altitude of 670 m above the Munster Valley, at the heart of the Ballon des Vosges Regional Nature Park, Domaine de Haslach is a remarkable place steeped in history. At the heart of a 5-ha park, the fully renovated former sanatorium will open in 2024 as a luxury destination entirely redesigned for reconnecting with nature. The accommodation offer includes modern apartments in the 4-star residence, ecolodges with terraces scattered throughout the vast park, as well as treehouses. The site also offers a complete range of eco-friendly services for the comfort and well-being of guests (spa and wellness offerings), as well as nature activities for authentic and sustainable experiences. Scheduled to open in June 2024.

www.domaine-haslach.com

On 6 March, the prestigious Michelin Guide awarded its 2023 Stars in Strasbourg.

Spotlight on Alsace's starred chefs.

In Alsace 6 restaurants have 1 Green Star:

De:ja in Strasbourg, 1st Michelin star and 1st Green Star in the 2023 Michelin Guide
Alchemille in Kaysersberg (68)
La table du Gourmet in Riquewihr (68)
Auberge Frankenbourg in La Vancelle (67)
Au vieux couvent in Rhinau (67)
Thierry Schwartz in Obernai (67)

The Green Star of the Michelin Guide recognises establishments committed to sustainability in their approach to gastronomy, especially in their daily operations.
It rewards concrete initiatives that increase awareness and encourage prompt action by everyone.

Alsace is the region in France with the most stars, with 34 Michelin-starred restaurants

★★ *La Merise in Laubach (Bas-Rhin)*
★★ *La Fourchette des Ducs in Obernai (Bas-Rhin)*
★★ *Villa René Lalique in Wingen-sur-Moder (Bas-Rhin)*
★★ *Auberge du Cheval Blanc in Lembach (Bas-Rhin)*
★★ *JY'S in Colmar (Haut-Rhin)*
★★ *La Table d'Olivier Nasti in Kaysersberg (Haut-Rhin)*
★★ *L'Auberge de l'Ill in Illhaeusern (Haut-Rhin)*



Family photo at the end of the ceremony on 06/03/23
(c) Michelin

★ *Enfin in Barr (Bas-Rhin) - New star*
★ *Au Gourmet in Drusenheim (Bas-Rhin)*
★ *Le Cerf in Marlenheim (Bas-Rhin)*
★ *Kasbür in Monsviller (Bas-Rhin)*
★ *Thierry Schwartz in Obernai (Bas-Rhin)*
★ *Au vieux couvent in Rhinau (Bas-Rhin)*
★ *Les Plaisirs gourmands in Schiltigheim (Bas-Rhin)*
★ *Auberge au boeuf in Sessenheim (Haut-Rhin)*
★ *De:ja in Strasbourg (Bas-Rhin) - New star*
★ *Au Crocodile in Strasbourg (Bas-Rhin)*
★ *1741 in Strasbourg (Bas-Rhin)*
★ *Les Funambules in Strasbourg (Bas-Rhin)*
★ *Buerehiesel in Strasbourg (Bas-Rhin)*
★ *Umami in Strasbourg (Bas-Rhin)*
★ *Le relais de la poste in La Wantzenau (Bas-Rhin) New star*
★ *Le Jardin secret in La Wantzenau (Bas-Rhin)*
★ *Auberge Frankenbourg in Lièpvre / La Vancelle (Bas-Rhin)*
★ *Girardin in Colmar (Haut-Rhin)*
★ *L'Atelier du Peintre in Colmar (Haut-Rhin)*
★ *Il Cortile in Mulhouse (Haut-Rhin)*
★ *L'Orchidée in Altkirch (Haut-Rhin)*
★ *Le 7e Continent in Rixheim (Haut-Rhin)*
★ *La Nouvelle Auberge in Wihr-au-Val (Haut-Rhin)*
★ *L'Alchémille in Kaysersberg (Haut-Rhin)*
★ *La Table du Gourmet in Riquewihr (Haut-Rhin)*
★ *Auberge St-Laurent in Sierentz (Haut-Rhin)*
★ *Julien Binz in Ammerschwihr (Haut-Rhin)*



From May 4 to September 23, 2024, the Unterlinden Museum in Colmar, the Beaux-Arts et d'Archéologie Museum in Besançon and the Beaux-Arts Museum in Dijon are presenting 3 parts of an original exhibition devoted to German painting in French collections.

At the Unterlinden Museum, the exhibition entitled "Color, Glory and Beauty. Germanic paintings in french collections (1420-1540)" is designed to echo the museum's collections of early paintings, whose holdings include exceptional ensembles of painted panels, including its masterpiece, the Issenheim Altarpiece. It focuses on paintings produced in the Upper Rhine region, and features over sixty works attributed to renowned artists such as Martin Schongauer, Albrecht Dürer and Hans Baldung Grien, as well as (re)discoveries by Caspar Isenmann, Jost Haller, Wilhelm Stetter and the Master of Drapery Studies.

musee-unterlinden.com or visit.alsace

(c) Musée Unterlinden

6. Events and exhibitions

2024 - 2025: 80th anniversary of the Liberation of Alsace

The public interest group "Mission of the 80th anniversary of the Landings, the Liberation of France, and Victory" is the organising committee in charge of the design, organisation, and promotion of the commemorative programme of events for the 80th anniversary of the landings, liberation of France, and victory. Throughout 2024 and 2025, numerous festivities and commemorations will be held to mark the 80th anniversary of the Liberation of Alsace. Commemorative events will be organised throughout Alsace, in both small towns and big cities.



Source: Strasbourg municipal archives

Mulhouse and Strasbourg, liberated on the 21st and 23rd of November 1944 respectively, are both preparing for this significant commemoration. 2025 will see events in Colmar and the famous Colmar Pocket, in particular in February 2025. It will be a reflection on a highly symbolic victory. More information to come.

www.visit.alsace/patrimoine-et-histoire/

The Vodou Museum celebrates its 10th anniversary with a new temporary exhibition > STRASBOURG > starting 17 February 2024

Vodoun Treasure: At the Heart of Sacred African Arts

Marc and Marie-Luce Arbogast founded this exceptional site, dear to their heart: the Château Vodou in Strasbourg. And it is also with their hearts that they have selected the most fascinating pieces of the collection. For ten years, the team at Château Vodou has played the role of conveyors: of ideas, memories, and humanity. Conveyors of objects, knowledge, art, and the sacred. Creators of bridges, exchanges, and blends. This journey between culture and memory, everyday needs and plasticity, flora and diverse materials, functionality and secrets, invites visitors to replenish their emotions with sensory experiences in the heart of this Vodoun treasure of sacred arts from Africa.

www.chateau-vodou.com



700th anniversary of the marriage of Joanna of Pfirt and Albert II of Habsburg > ALSACE > March to November 2024

Alsace, the cradle of the Habsburg dynasty, will celebrate the 700th anniversary of the marriage of Joanna of Pfirt and Albert II of Habsburg, sealed on 17 March 1324 in Thann.
All the Habsburgs, sovereigns of Europe for six centuries, are descendants of this union. The collegiate church of Thann, one of Europe's most remarkable Gothic churches, was built during the time of the early dukes of Austria.
Numerous festivities will take place in Alsace:
·Thann: conferences, solemn mass, concerts, and more. With the presence of HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco on 16 and 17 March 2024.
·Ferrette (Pfirt): Medieval festival around Joanna of Pfirt in June and the exhibition "The Counts of Ferrette and Their Legacy" at the Espace Muséal from 15 May to 22 September.
·Ottmarsheim: 4 concerts of ancient music at the abbey from March to May 2024 and the exhibition "Joanna of Pfirt" from 2 April to 22 May.
·Ensisheim: international expert symposium with 11 conferences dedicated to the Habsburgs on 15 and 16 September, and an exhibition with archival elements from the 15th to 18th century from 18 October to 17 November.
The association "Jeanne de Ferrette 1324-2024" is coordinating the festivities in Haute-Alsace. More information to come:

More information to come: **Jeanne de Ferrette 2024**



© Mon week-end en Alsace

Strasbourg, 2024 UNESCO World Book Capital > STRASBOURG > from 23 April 2024 to 22 April 2025

On 22 April 2022, the City of Strasbourg officially applied for the title of 2024 UNESCO World Book Capital. Strasbourg was selected from the 10 international cities that applied to be named the UNESCO World Book Capital in 2024, succeeding Accra (capital of Ghana). The label is awarded for one year. From 23 April 2024 to 22 April 2025, more than 200 events and activities related to books and reading in their various forms will take place all across the city, in line with the values of UNESCO. 2024 will be the year of Strasbourg's consecration as the UNESCO World Book Capital with a series of major events including the Great Reading of Strasbourg.

lirenotremonde.strasbourg.eu

Colmar fête le Printemps > COLMAR > from 28 March to 21 April 2024

Colmar welcomes the arrival of Spring in its own festive and convivial way. Visitors bask in the first rays of sunshine on a stroll through the mini-farm set up in the town and the two markets, Easter and Spring, in the enchanting, flower-filled historic centre. The colourful chalets of the market host 70 artisans, rigorously selected for their authenticity.
For three weeks, the city is decorated in the colours of Easter and Spring: mischievous rabbits in flower beds, chickens and eggs along the river, and vibrant leaves in the trees. The atmosphere is cheerful and colourful, perfect for leaving the winter blues behind and celebrating the arrival of sunny days.
It's a wonderful event to share with family or friends, for exploring Colmar in a different light and experiencing the inter-religious Easter traditions, another highlight in the calendar of Alsace.

www.printemps-colmar.com



© Colmar Tourisme



© Studio Y Langlois - musée Lalique - Coll privée

Exhibition Réné Lalique, the inventor of modern jewellery > WINGEN-SUR-MODER > from 1 May to 3 November

Before becoming the great master of Art Deco glass, René Lalique (1860-1945) made a name for himself during the Art Nouveau period. Regarded by Émile Gallé as the inventor of modern jewellery, he brought unexpected innovations to his creations, in terms of both inspiration and materials. A keen observer of nature since childhood, René Lalique drew inspiration from exploring the plants and wildlife of the Northern Vosges, a significant part of his imagination. Allegories, winged figures, aquatic divinities, and also women are also omnipresent in his work. Curious and open-minded, he enriched his creative realm through reading, museum visits, and exchanges with his artist friends. He was well-informed about discoveries from Egyptian, Greek, or Etruscan excavations, treasures of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, and the distinctive creations of Byzantium, the Caucasus, the Far East, and even America.
The exhibition will showcase Lalique's creations through the materials used and the artist's sources of inspiration.

www.musee-lalique.com

Trail Alsace Grand Est by UTMB > from 17 to 20 May 2024



The new Trail Alsace Grand Est by UTMB® is a journey through castles, vineyards, and time. This extraordinary event is part of the world's largest trail running circuit that unites the best events around the world, set in exceptional locations and unspoilt nature. The race has four magnificent courses for runners of all levels, each providing a gateway to the UTMB® Mont-Blanc.

The itineraries lead runners through the heart of Alsace, within the Grand Est region and the Vosges Mountains, exploring castles and villages along trails where nature remains both wild and pristine. The castles of Alsace have stood the test of time, nestled in lush green landscapes with magnificent panoramas of the Alsace Plain, the Black Forest, and sometimes even the Alps.
For the participants, it's an opportunity to begin their journey towards the UTMB® World Series Finals. The Trail Alsace Grand Est by UTMB® is part of the UTMB® World Series circuit, enabling participants to earn the Running Stones required to enter the UTMB® Mont-Blanc lottery.

alsacegrandest.utmb.world

Exhibition "Sport in Alsace-Moselle under Nazism - 1940-1945" - Alsace Moselle Memorial > SCHIRMECK > 18 May to 15 September

The exhibition tells both the famous and lesser-known histories of sport in Alsace and Moselle between 1940 and 1945 through posters, unpublished photographs, and portraits of athletes. Following France's defeat in June 1940, these territories were de facto annexed by the Third Reich. The swiftly established totalitarian regime affected all aspects of daily life. Controlling leisure activities proved an effective means of surveillance over the population. The Nazi regime thus immediately took over all sports federations. They were used to control the population, indoctrinate the youth, and glorify new heroes of the nation. Football, gymnastics, boxing, swimming: all sports in Alsace and Moselle were under Nazi control. Nevertheless, the practice of sports persisted. Some viewed sports as a means of escape from the Nazi grasp, while others used it as a form of resistance. Starting in 1942, however, engaging in sports became increasingly challenging due to compulsory conscription and the deployment of young men to the Eastern Front. A different approach to sport for an Olympic year!

memorial-alsace-moselle.com


© 100kmautour.com


© 100kmautour.com

slowUp > Alsace Wine Route > 1 June 2024

slowUp is the foremost tourist event in Alsace, with tens of thousands of participants. It's a not-to-be-missed day for cycling and wine tourism in Alsace. Held on the first Sunday of June from 10 am to 6 pm, the route is closed to traffic and reserved for cyclists and pedestrians, with or without rollerblades. The itinerary connects the towns of Dambach-la-Ville, Châtenois, Bergheim, and Sélestat, to name a few, weaving through the Alsatian vineyards at the foot of Haut-Koenigsbourg Castle. The full route covers 31 km, but there are shorter loops starting from 8 km. There are 13 festive stops along the way offering fun activities and tastings. This celebratory, sporty, and gourmet day honours the Alsace Wine Route, the winemakers opening their wineries, and the Véloroute du Vignoble. Activities all day long, free access with no registration required all along the route.*

** The Véloroute du Vignoble is a nearly 140-km cycle route, mostly on bike paths, running along the foothills of the Vosges Mountains from Marlenheim to Thann.*

www.slowup-alsace.fr



© J. SARAGO-CD67- ADT

Alsace Rocks! The Tour of Terroirs > Wine Route > 2 June to 21 July 2024



© Illprod - SHKT

The Tour of Terroirs in an is an original and ambitious initiative for a French vineyard, catering to audiences of all kinds, from the curious to connoisseurs.

The 2nd edition of this touring festival will take place every Sunday from 2 June to 21 July 2024 across the most renowned terroirs of Alsace.

Each date will showcase a different event set in the heart of the vineyards, put on by the producers themselves: a pop-up bar serving exclusively local wines, alternative tastings, culinary demonstrations, and fun and educational introductions to wine, all in a musical atmosphere with a group of DJs and a chill & lounge area.

www.latourneedesterroirs.fr

www.routedesvins.alsace

Passage of the Olympic flame in Alsace > ALSACE > 26 June 2024

After crossing in 1967 and 1992, the Olympic flame will once again grace Alsace. Momentum is underway across the towns and villages in its path, reflecting the diversity of Alsace's urban and rural areas. Activities, demonstrations, and sports events will take place along the route, with active involvement from schools focusing on Olympic values.



The Olympic flame will cross Alsace on 26 June 2024, one month before arriving in Paris for the start of the games. Carried by a hundred people, it will sail along the Rhine and journey through seven cities: Huningue • Mulhouse, • Colmar • Marckolsheim • Strasbourg • Saverne • Lembach.

alsace.eu/

Exhibitions at Hartmannswillerkopf > WATTWILLER > March to November 2024

In 2024, Hartmannswillerkopf will commemorate the centenary of the National Monument Committee with two exceptional exhibitions.

The first, entitled Tracing the Funeral and Memorial Sites of World War I in the Vosges Mountains, will introduce visitors to the sites added last autumn to the World Heritage list - from 29 March to 26 May 2024.
The second exhibition called The Man Eater will portray the destinies of the French and German soldiers who fought the intense battles of December 1915 at Hartmannswillerkopf - from 1 June to 17 November 2024.

The calendar also includes several events at the Historial and on the battlefield. On 28 May, a string quartet from the Mulhouse Symphony Orchestra will interpret works accompanied by readings of soldiers' texts. On 19 and 20 October, Living History Days will be introduced for the first time, aiming to establish a connection between soldiers of the past and present.
Starting on 29 March 2024, the memorial site is open 7 days a week.

www.memorial-hwk.eu



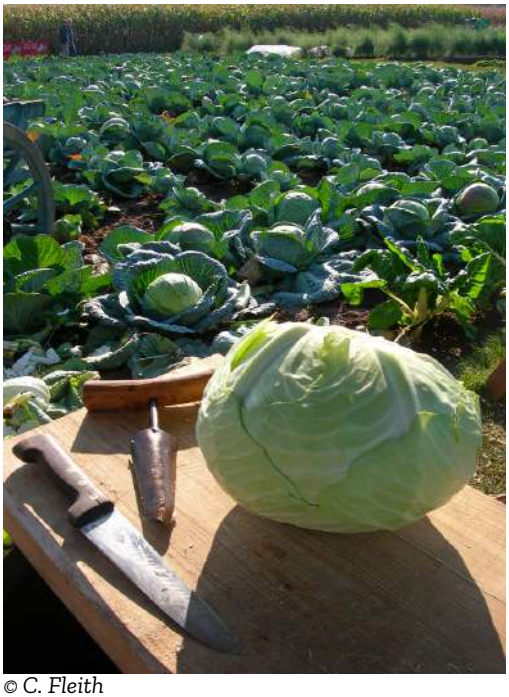
© CMNHWK

“On va vous chouchouter à Obernai” event > Krautergersheim > the month of September

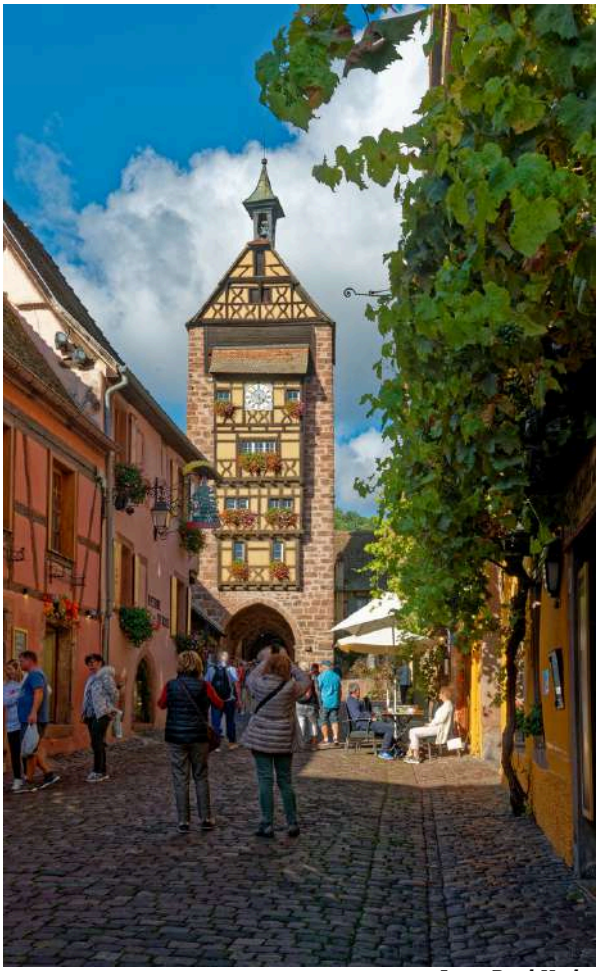
In Alsace, September is synonymous with harvests, both grapes and the emblematic sauerkraut cabbage. Half of the sauerkraut consumed in France is primarily produced in two villages near Obernai: Meistratzheim and Krautergersheim, the capital of sauerkraut (literally the "cabbage village" in Alsatian).
The end of summer marks the arrival of new sauerkraut, celebrated with grand festivities.

www.tourisme-obernai.fr

"On va vous chouchouter" traduction: "We will pamper you"



© C. Fleith



© Jean-Paul Krebs

700e anniversaire

700 years Treaty/Duchy of Württemberg

Under the rule of the Counts of Württemberg from 1324 to 1796, Riquewihr honours a European royal family in its own way in 2024.
Riquewihr will host an exhibition from 14 July to 14 October to celebrate the 700th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Württemberg. The event is curated by the State Archives of Baden-Württemberg, based in Stuttgart, under the guidance of Professor Peter Rückert.
The historical and cultural exhibition, open to all, will immerse visitors in the history of Württemberg on a site that once belonged to this illustrious House. It will focus on politics, religion, and art, as well as the economic ties and cultural interdependencies between France and Germany.

More information here: **ribeauville-riquewihr.com**

7. Upcoming projects in 2025 and beyond

Project for a 4-star hotel & spa at the Royal Palace > KIRRWILLER

The management of the highly renowned Royal Palace music hall in Northern Alsace is planning a 96-room hotel with a 1,000-m² spa and a panoramic restaurant for 200 guests. The hotel will be on a section of its current parking lot, and an underground car park with 50 spaces is planned to compensate.

This €30 million project is scheduled to open in 2026.

royal-palace.com



© Royal Palace

A site for biking > WANGENBURG-ENGENTHAL



© ComCom de la Mossig et du Vignoble



© ComCom de la Mossig et du Vignoble

This project, led by the towns of Mossig & Vignoble as part of their nature and sports development policy, is a leisure park dedicated to developing bike skills, featuring mountain biking trails in the forest. The welcome building offers diverse services including bike rentals, small equipment for sale, washing and repair stations, a snack bar, changing rooms with showers, a seminar room, and more.

The fun and adaptive learning park includes a pump track, an area for learning manoeuvring and technical skills, downhill tracks for different levels, jump lines, and a landing mattress. The activities can be supervised or unsupervised. This new offering complements a range of open-access outdoor activities in the surrounding forest and throughout the entire area (hiking, mountain biking, trail running, climbing passes, etc.).

Expected opening in spring 2025.

mossigvignoble.fr

Musée d'Orient > STRASBOURG



© BNU



© BNU

A museum of the Orient at the National and University Library of Strasbourg (BNU) is planned to open in 2025. This new space of 500 to 600 m² will offer visitors a fascinating dive into the history and culture of the Orient, taking advantage of the BNU's vast collection on religion. The museum will be housed in the former exhibition halls of the library, which have been renovated and adapted to showcase the precious objects of oriental art. Visitors will be able to admire a vast collection of art and crafts from different countries in Asia and the Middle East.

Highlights of the collection are the Persian carpets, Arabic calligraphy, Buddhist sculptures, Chinese ceramics, Indian textiles, and clay tablets with cuneiform writing. Other wonders include one of the most significant French collections of Egyptian papyrus. Experienced guides will be available to provide detailed explanations for each exhibited piece, helping visitors better understand the historical and cultural contexts in which they were created.

With its rich collection and experienced staff, the museum will be an essential visit for anyone looking to discover and appreciate the wonders of the Orient.

www.bnu.fr/fr

Renovation and redevelopment of the Zoological Museum > STRASBOURG

An intriguing cabinet of curiosities, the objectives of the museum's renovation include modernising the collections, streamlining the scenography, showcasing the reserves, improving the visitor experience, and developing scientific engagement programmes for diverse audiences. Upon completion, 2,600 m² will be dedicated to the museum, including 2,000 m² for exhibitions (compared to 1,500 m² previously) and 600 m² for the reception area, school groups, and educational workshops. There will also be administrative areas, reserves, logistical spaces, higher education facilities, and technical rooms. The four exhibition spaces will address different themes: the animal world, local ecosystems, global biodiversity, and nature in the laboratory. The reopening is scheduled for 2025.

www.musees.strasbourg.eu/musee-zoologique



© Chloé Moulin / Pokaa

Immersive memorial monument on the site of the Alsace-Moselle Memorial > SCHIRMECK

The memorial monument project selected by the Grand Est Region pays tribute to the Alsace-Moselle citizens who died or went missing during the Second World War. The project is designed by the Benoît Zeimett Architecte agency, in collaboration with Scénographia and the museographer Martine Thomas-Bourgneuf.
The building aims to be immersive and interactive. The names of nearly 40,000 Alsace-Moselle residents who lost their lives during the Second World War will be displayed on a wall, except for those who voluntarily joined the Nazi forces. The display will include photographs, archival documents, and an outdoor space for contemplation. The building will be situated below the Alsace-Moselle Memorial. The monument, estimated at €1.88 million, is expected to open in 2025. Its name has not yet been released.

www.memorial-alsace-moselle.com



© Benoit Zeimett Architecte

Villa Cose 5-star hotel & spa > COLMAR





© Villa COSE

A 5-star hotel project is set to flourish in Colmar's quaint and charming Petite Venise district in 2025. In the heart of the city, on the banks of the Lauch River, 47 acres of wooded land and an Art Nouveau villa are the incredible and sublime setting of this high-end establishment that will naturally complement Colmar's hotel offerings. Spearheaded by Nicolas Decker, owner and manager of Cheneaudière & Spa (Relais & Châteaux in Colroy-la-Roche, 45 km from Colmar), this future upscale hotel will offer 23 rooms and suites, an exceptional spa, and an intimate restaurant concept. The historic villa will house the bar, lounges, and dining areas, while the rooms, suites, and spa will be situated in a new building. The site is next to the departure point for boat rides and boasts a tranquil and magical ambiance despite being in the historic centre. The ensemble will create a peaceful and harmonious space.
A project valued at €12 million, excluding VAT.

https://vimeo.com/806357587

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