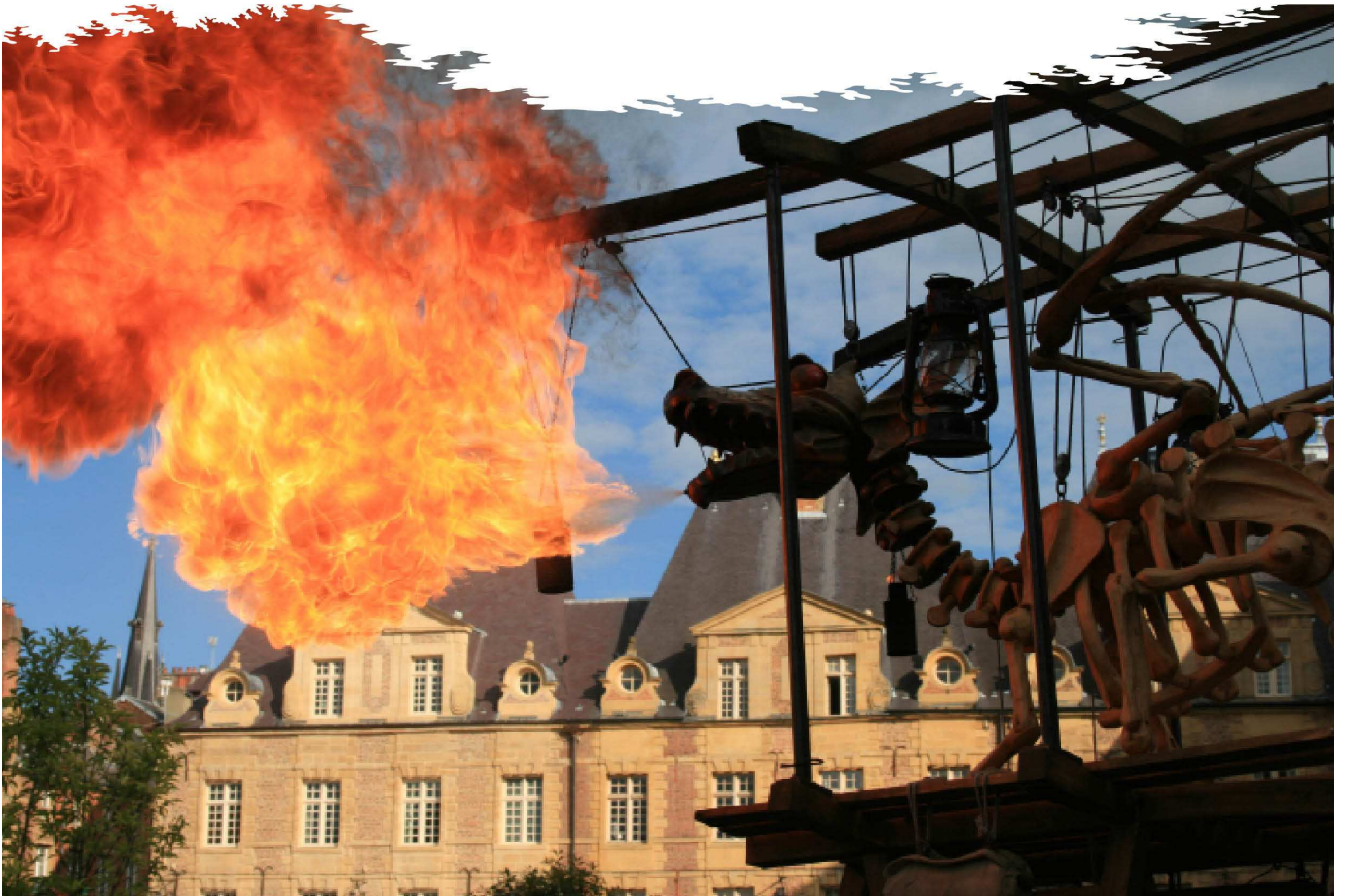




# Events & What's on in 2011



*Your next conquest*



## JANUARY - FEBRUARY

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### **In the wine cellars of the Côte des Bar – Aube (10)**

#### **First Saturday of the month**

Champagne tasting is an art which woos the spirit and the senses. The region's enthusiastic wine-growers invite all lovers of sparkling wine to two hours of wine tasting to learn about the essence of champagne. A leaflet is available on demand.

**Aube en Champagne Tourist Office** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 42 50 00 - [www.aube-champagne.com](http://www.aube-champagne.com)

### **Country walks – Throughout the Region**

All year round.

Walks organised by LPO Champagne-Ardenne (Birds' Protection League) in search of the region's landscape, wildlife and plants.

**LPO Champagne-Ardenne** - Tel.: 00 33 3 26 72 54 47 - <http://champagne-ardenne.lpo.fr>

### **Feast of Saint Vincent – Epernay (51)**

#### **January**

All the wine villages of Champagne celebrate Saint Vincent in the same way – a procession of wine brotherhoods, mass, concert, communal meal and more ... A detailed list of events open to the public is available from Epernay Municipal and Regional Tourist Office.

**Epernay Tourist Office** - Tel. : 00 33 3 26 53 33 00  
**CIVC (Wine Association)** Tel. : 00 33 3 26 51 19 30 - [www.ot-epernay.fr](http://www.ot-epernay.fr)

### **Festival Humour d'Hiver (Winter Festival of Humour)– Saint-Dizier (52)**

#### **15 January - 3 February**

This year, visitors to the festival will enjoy numerous humorists and high quality theatrical acts.

**Service Culture/Animations (Cultural/Activities Section) - Espace Camille Claudel** Tel.: 00 33 3 25 07.31 26 - [www.ville-saintdizier.fr](http://www.ville-saintdizier.fr)

### **Monte Carlo Historic Rally – Reims (51)**

#### **26 January**

This event brings together collectors of racing and tourist vehicles which have all taken part in previous Monte Carlo Rallies. The cars set off from Reims to Monaco after registration and briefing. Technical verification from 9am – 3pm at the Parc des expositions, Reims. Departure from Place de l'Hôtel de Ville at 7pm. The 14th Monte Carlo Historic Rally runs from 26 January to 2 February 2011 and celebrates the centenary of the original Monte Carlo Rally.

**A.S. Automobile Club** - Tel.: 00 33 3 26 47 34 76 - [www.acm.mc](http://www.acm.mc)

### **Festival “Les Enfants du Cinéma” (Children of the Cinema) – Ardennes (08)**

#### **1 - 18 February**

The festival runs over a two week period showing films throughout the Ardennes department in which children take the leading roles. More than 30,000 spectators will take their seats in front of this huge multicultural canvas.

**Les Enfants du Cinéma** - Tel.: 00 33 3 24 33 81 10 - [www.lesenfantsducinema.free.fr](http://www.lesenfantsducinema.free.fr)

## MARCH - APRIL

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### **23rd Tinta'Mars : Live Performance Festival – Langres & Surrounding Area (52)**

#### **10 – 26 March**

This is a gentle, comic festival, frequently hilarious and resolutely optimistic. Combining humouring, laughter, emotion, music and song, Tinta'Mars is a festival which has developed a true camaraderie with the public. Its annual youth programme and all-ages programme is put together by a score of talent scouts and offers irresistible and unconventional entertainment!

**Association Tinta'Mars** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 87 60 34 - <http://tintamars.pagesperso.orange.fr>

### **Festival Nature et Jardins (Countryside and Gardens Festival) – Châlons-en-Champagne (51) 11 – 14 March**

The third festival dedicated to countryside and gardens. A homage to the region's Towns and Villages in Flower ...  
**UCIA (Local business association)** - Tel.: 00 33 3 26 68 20 44 - [www.foiredechâlons.com](http://www.foiredechâlons.com)

### **Chaource Cheese Museum – Les Journées “Patrimoine Nature et Fromage” (Natural Heritage and Cheese Days) – Aube (10)**

**13 March and 9 October**

On the menu these weekends – rural cheese and butter-making demonstrations followed by tastings at the Chaource Cheese Museum.

**Cheese Museum** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 40 10 67

### **Exhibition “Chrétien de Troyes et la Légende du Roi Arthur” (Chrétien de Troyes and the Legend of King Arthur) – Troyes (10)**

**14 March – 30 June**

With almost 1750 manuscripts, the library at Troyes has the biggest collection in France after the National Library. This exhibition highlights the importance of Chrétien de Troyes in medieval literature. It also brings to life the Champagne of the 12th century and presents Chrétien's successors up to the last century. Some 50 works linked to Chrétien de Troyes and his descendants will be on show.

**Médiathèque de l'Agglomération Troyenne (Library)** – Tel.: 00 33 3 25 43 56 20  
[www.mediatheque-agglo-troyes.fr](http://www.mediatheque-agglo-troyes.fr)

### **Salon Tendances Nature (Natural Trends Fair) – Reims (51)**

**18 - 20 March**

Annual fair at Reims dedicated to ecology, tourism, plants and gardening.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 26 84 69 69 - [www.tendancenature.fr](http://www.tendancenature.fr)

### **Jazz Festival – Montier-en-Der (52)**

**25 – 27 March**

Launched in 2006, this festival is organised by Jazz O Der and mounts an extensive programme with three days of a wide variety of jazz artists. The programme this year includes Marc Laferrière, Fabrice Eurly, Jam Session, Suiss Yerba Buena rice creole jazz band etc.

**Pays du Der Tourist Office** - Tel : 00 33 3.25.04.69.17 - [www.tourisme-paysduder.fr](http://www.tourisme-paysduder.fr)

### **Festival des Arts de la Parole (Spoken Word Festival) - Canton Conte, Fumay, Haybes – Ardennes (08)**

**30 March – 9 April**

Story-telling is transforming, expanding and elbowing out of the way its normal format to include other artistic forms. Here, the stories will be accompanied by opera, 'slam', song, artefacts - expect a creative and artistic medley.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 40 00 33 3 18 - [www.fumay.fr](http://www.fumay.fr)

### **Les Journées des Métiers d'Art (Arts and Crafts Days – Throughout the Region)**

**1 – 3 April**

A three day event exploring arts and crafts with visits to open house events at craft studios or training centres and special activities throughout Champagne-Ardenne. The programme includes a fun car rally from studio to studio discovering arts and crafts, guided visits explaining the heritage behind the craft skills, thematic exhibitions in specialist sites: Metallurgic Park, Museum of Cutlery, European Centre for Arts and Crafts... Reims and Langres provide the settings for numerous displays of craftsmanship. And of course, working craftsmen and women invite you to visit their studios to share their passion for their chosen profession.

**Programme Régional de Développement des Métiers d'Art (Regional Development Programme for Arts and Crafts)**- Tel.: 00 33 3 26 47 22 55 - [www.metiersdart-champagne-ardenne.org](http://www.metiersdart-champagne-ardenne.org)

## **Champagne Exhibition! De la Vigne en Champagne au Vin de Champagne (From the Champagne vine to champagne wine) – Troyes (08)**

**7 April – 4 September**

This exhibition tells the marvellous story of champagne, from the discovery of sparkling wine, the development of the champagne houses, to the daily life of wine-growers. Times of crisis are also mentioned, particularly the scourge of phylloxera which ravaged the champagne vineyards at the end of the 19th century. The final part of the exhibition is devoted to the period of restoration, i.e. the birth of the controlled appellation, its economic triumph, and everything that has contributed to making this wine famous throughout the world.

**Les Archives Départementales de l'Aube (Aube County Archives)-** Tel.: 00 33 3 25 42 52 62  
[www.archives-aube.com](http://www.archives-aube.com)

## **Circuit des Ardennes (Round the Ardennes Race) – Charleville-Mézières (08)**

**8 -10 April**

The Circuit des Ardennes cycling road race is back for the 37th year and passes through Charleville-Mézières.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 35 36 93 - [www.circuitdesardennes.fr](http://www.circuitdesardennes.fr)

## **Exhibition “Afrique, Collections Croisées” (Africa, Intersecting Collections)- Troyes (10)**

**8 April – 19 September**

350 works of traditional African art, of which 250 stem from an exceptional private French collection. The close connections between African art and the avant-garde schools of the 20th century such as cubism are also illustrated.

**Musée d'Art Moderne (Museum of Modern Art) –** Tel.: 00 33 3 25 76 26 80 - [musart@ville-troyes.fr](mailto:musart@ville-troyes.fr)

## **Randonnée Pédestre pour Commémorer le Centenaire de la Révolte des Vignerons (Walk on the Hundred Years' Anniversary of the Wine-Growers' Revolt) – Aube (10)**

**9 – 10 April**

In 1911 a revolt of wine-growers, under the leadership of Gaston Cheq, saw conflict between the wine-growers of Aube with the merchants of Marne in an attempt to keep their vineyards under the “Champagne” appellation.

These two circular routes will take walkers along tracks used by our forefathers round Bar sur Aube on 9 April and Bar-sur-Seine on 10 April. Each of the two municipalities will mount an exhibition of their own experiences.

**Bar-sur-Seine Tourist Office –** Tel.: 00 33 3 25 29 94 43 - [www.ot-barsurseine.fr](http://www.ot-barsurseine.fr)

**Bar-sur-Aube Tourist Office –** Tel.: 00 33 3 25 27 24 25 - [www.tourisme.barsuraube.org](http://www.tourisme.barsuraube.org)

## **Fête du Pissenlit et de l'Artisanat (Dandelion and Crafts Day) - Montcy-Notre-Dame (08)**

**10 April**

Another outing for the Dandelion and Crafts Day in heated marquees. On the programme: contributions from gardening writer Hubert le Jardinier, exhibition of crafts and culinary arts, drama in the circus tent. A communal meal of salade au lard (bacon and potatoes) will be put on, accompanied by beer and of course dandelion wine.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 33 27 52

## **Rock sur El'Mont (Rock Concert)- Aiglemont (08)**

**15 - 16 April**

The 5th Rock sur El'Mont, with a dozen or so local, national and European bands, returning in its 2010 marquee format with camping free of charge.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 36 12 68 - [www.associationflap.com](http://www.associationflap.com)

## **La Fête de l'Ortie au Musée du Pays du Der (Nettles Festival at the Pays du Der Museum) – Sainte-Marie-du-Lac (51)**

**17 April**

A market of produce, flavours and advice professional gardeners at the Pays du Der Museum, with tastings of produce made from fruits and spring vegetables.

**Musée du Pays du Der (Museum)-** Tel.: 00 33 3 26 41 01 02 - [www.museedupaysduder.com](http://www.museedupaysduder.com)

## **25th Anniversary of Centre National des Arts du Cirque (National Circus Arts Centre) – Châlons-en-Champagne (51)**

**30 April – 1 May**

A residential school for former pupils, a public presentation, the inauguration of the restored historic circus and three themed seminars, the publication of a new book and the making of a documentary.

These contemporary anniversary celebration reviews the past 25 years with an eye on the future, maintaining the circus as a living, breathing artform.

**Châlons-en-Champagne Tourist Office** – Tel.: 00 33 3 26 65 17 89 – [www.chalons-tourisme.com](http://www.chalons-tourisme.com)

## **MAY - JUNE**

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### **Les Jardins Médiévaux (Medieval Gardens) – Troyes (10)**

**May - October**

For the 5th year running, temporary medieval gardens will be created in the heart of Troyes - the Garden of the Innocents by Sainte Madeleine's church, and the gardens of the Tool Museum, the Vauluisant Museum and of Hôtel Dieu le Comte Apothecary.

**Troyes Tourist Office** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 82 62 70 - [www.tourisme-troyes.com](http://www.tourisme-troyes.com)

### **Classical Music Festival “Notes d’Argonne” – Argonne (08)**

**May**

The “Notes d’Argonne” Music Festival once again celebrates the strong identity of the region with a traditional classical music festival. A varied programme of concerts provide a showcase for internationally famous artists in a noteworthy architectural setting.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 71 97 57

### **Randonnée des Cadoles (Walk Round the Vineyard Workers’ Huts) – Les Riceys (10)**

**1 May**

A country walk followed by a rustic meal, held every year on the same date, departing from Les Riceys through the vineyards in search of the old vineyard workers’ stone huts (“cadoles”).

**Les Riceys Tourist Office** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 29 15 38

### **800 ans de la Cathédrale de Reims (800 years of Reims Cathedral) – Reims (51)**

**6 May - 22 October**

Reims Cathedral, a masterpiece of Gothic architecture and coronation seat of the Kings of France, was one of the first world human heritage sites to be registered by UNESCO. On 6 May 2011, Our Lady of Reims will celebrate its 800th birthday. Opening ceremony, High Mass, Marian vigil, lectures, exhibitions, concerts, scientific colloquium, inauguration of new stained glass, illumination of facade, competitions in painting and sculpture, photography and video etc.

**Reims Tourist Office** - [www.reims-tourisme.com](http://www.reims-tourisme.com) / [www.cathedrale-reims.culture.fr](http://www.cathedrale-reims.culture.fr)  
Public information : 00 33 892 701 351 – Press enquiries : 00 33 3 26 77 45 20

### **Mézières, Festival des Confréries (Festival of Brotherhoods)- Charleville-Mézières (08)**

**30th April – 1st May**

French and European Wine and Food Brotherhoods meet at Charleville-Mézières to share their passion for gastronomic specialities with the general public. This is an opportunity to taste “Cacasse à Cul Nu” (“bare-bum hash” - made from potatoes and lard), gâteau mollet and galette à suc.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 6 15 70 02 17 - [www.ambassade-ardenne.confreries.org](http://www.ambassade-ardenne.confreries.org)

### **Festival Bernard Dimey – Nogent (52)**

**10 May**

A festival of French poetry and song for young and old alike, in honour of Nogent poet Bernard Dimey. Every year a competition is held on 8 May to reward young talents.

**Association Bernard Dimey** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 30 28 43 - [www.villedenogent52.com](http://www.villedenogent52.com)

### **Festival Mai'Scènes (Amateur Dramatics) – Saint Dizier (52)**

**11 - 22 May**

This festival of amateur and school drama from Champagne-Ardenne showcases around 30 different dramas on various venues around the town.

Organised by Alternative Culturelle, in partnership with the town of Saint-Dizier, Mai'Scènes is a special encounter and exchange between actors and the public.

**Ville de Saint Dizier – Service Culture/Animations (Saint-Dizier Culture and Activities Service)**

Tel.: 00 33 3 25 07 31 26 - [www.ville-saintdizier.fr](http://www.ville-saintdizier.fr)

### **Randonnée Gourmande dans le Vignoble de Champagne (Food-lovers' Walk in the Champagne Vineyards) – Aube (10)**

**15 May**

This walk is organised by M. and Mme LEPRUN.

**Gite « LE GOLURET »** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 27 90 25

### **Salon Vino Passion at Epernay (Wine Tourism Fair) (51)**

**20 – 22 May**

Vino Passion, the first open fair for wine tourism in France, aims to unite and present the French wine-growing regions and their production along the themes of : French wine and French art of living.

Le Milleium at Epernay stages this first fair with 160 exhibitors divided into three elements: French wine tourism, the European and Foreign Pavilion and the Agritourism Pavilion. Discovery workshops, oenology, vinotherapy and also gastronomy over three days, with activities by wine societies and visits to wine cellars and museums. More than just a fair, Vino Passion is THE wine tourism event in France.

**Salon Vino Passion** - Tel.: 00 33 4 37 22 15 15 - [www.salon-vinopassion.fr](http://www.salon-vinopassion.fr) / [www.vino-passion.fr](http://www.vino-passion.fr)

### **Le Festival Médiéval (Medieval Festival) – Sedan (08)**

**21 - 22 May**

Medieval encampments, street activities, historic procession, in a town which is home to the biggest castle in Europe.

**Sedan Tourist Office** – Tel.: 00 33 3 24 27 73 73 / 00 33 3 24 29 98 80 - [www.tourisme-sedan.com](http://www.tourisme-sedan.com)

### **La Fête du Pétard (Street Performance Festival) – Langres (52)**

**29 May**

The Fête du Pétard celebrates live street performance in its various forms (drama, dance, circus, music etc.). A “symbolic celebration of the heritage of Langres in a huge celebration with an unusual and playful character” with a varied programme of performances.

**La Compagnie des Hallebardiers (Company of Halberdiers)** – Tel.: 00 33 3 25 90 77 40 – [www.hallebardiers.com](http://www.hallebardiers.com)

### **Festival Artisanal de Champagne (Champagne Crafts Festival) - Launois sur Vence (08)**

**28 -29 May**

35th regional festival of arts and crafts.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 35 06 36 - [www.launoissurvence.com](http://www.launoissurvence.com)

### **Festival BD - Le Thour (08)**

**29 May**

The association « Bulles en Drôme » (BD - Bubbles in Drôme) will be mounting its 12th Festival BD with lots of surprises in store.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 38 29 02 - [www.opalebd.com](http://www.opalebd.com)

### **Servimage (Amateur Photography) - Rouvroy-sur- Audry (08)**

**Late May – Early June**

The 9th Festival of Amateur Photography. Activities include : choir, exhibitions in the village and in Servion Church Cultural Centre, demonstration workshops for photographic techniques and evening slide shows.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 6 82 20 55 00

## **Animations Carnavalesques (Carnival Activities) - Charleville-Mézières (08)**

### **Late May – Early June**

From the end of May to the beginning of June, the streets of Charleville-Mézières will be filled with carnival festivities.

**Charleville-Mézières Tourist Office**- Tel.: 00 33 3 24 55 60 87

## **Aux Détours des Chemins (Where the path winds) – Throughout the Department (52)**

### **1 June – 30 September**

Guided theme walks

The Foyers Ruraux (Rural Clubs) invite you to walk the paths of Haute Marne and explore its nature, landscape and rural heritage. Volunteers from 12 clubs have joined together to welcome you and share your discoveries. Themed with gastronomic stop-offs and artistic jaunts, explore and enjoy the winding paths and country lanes.

**Fédération Départementale des Foyers Ruraux de Haute-Marne (Departmental Federation of Rural Clubs)** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 32 52 80 - [www.foyersruraux52.org](http://www.foyersruraux52.org)

## **Festival Contrebande (Contraband Festival) – Revin (08)**

### **1 – 2 June**

The festival takes its name from the tobacco smuggling which was rife across the Franco-Belgian frontier. A score of French and Belgian companies are engaged in another kind of 'artistic' fraud - putting on over fifty street theatre productions!

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 40 20 91 - <http://contrebande.fmr-arel.com>

## **Journée des Plantes (Plants Day) – Bergères (10)**

### **2 June**

Every year the village of Bergères on the Côte des Bar, opens its doors to horticultural specialists in village streets, yards and barns loaned by inhabitants. Over 100 exhibitors offer all kinds of plants, rosebushes, cacti, orchids etc. and gladly share their knowledge with amateur gardeners.

**M and Mme PETIT** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 27 45 47

## **Fête de la Vigne et du Vin (Vine and Wine Day) – Marne (51)**

### **2 - 5 June**

Tours of production facilities, wine tastings, art and champagne at local wine-growers. Activities and games linked to vines and wines, introduction to oenology, concerts, crafts etc.

**Action Champagne Tourisme (Tourism Association)** -Tel. : 00 33 3 26 64 96 87  
[www.champagne-tourisme.com](http://www.champagne-tourisme.com)

**Phare de Verzenay (Museum)** - Tel.: 00 33 3 26 07 87 87 - [www.lepharedeverzenay.com](http://www.lepharedeverzenay.com)

## **Les Rendez-vous aux Jardins (Gardening Events) – Whole Region**

### **3 – 5 June**

A national event, dedicated this year to the garden as a source of food. Special open days, activities, guided visits, lectures in the parks and gardens of Champagne-Ardenne.

**Information:** [www.rendezvousauxjardins.culture.fr](http://www.rendezvousauxjardins.culture.fr)

## **Salon de la Coutellerie (Cutlery Fair)– Nogent (52)**

### **4 - 5 June**

This fair promotes the skills of cutlery and engraving with exhibitions and demonstrations. Exhibitors in all areas of the subject from France, Netherlands, Belgium, Germany and Northern Europe.

**Confrérie du Bassin Coutelier Nogentais (District Cutlery Guild)** - Tel : 00 33 6 80 52 60 43  
[www.confrerie-bassin-coutelier-nogentais.com](http://www.confrerie-bassin-coutelier-nogentais.com)

## **Les Fêtes Johanniques de Reims et Les Sacres du Folklore (St. John's Holidays at Reims and Folk Festival) – Reims (51)**

### **4 - 5 June**

Recreating the Middle Ages, visitors stroll through the booths of a medieval market, watch a gigantic music and light show, admire the Great Procession of the Kings of France crowned at Reims (2000 participants in historic dress accompanying Joan of Arc and Charles VII). Procession: 3.30pm.

**Reims Tourist Office** - [www.reims-tourisme.com](http://www.reims-tourisme.com) / [www.reims-fetes.com](http://www.reims-fetes.com)

Public information : 00 33 892 701 351 – Press enquiries : 00 33 3 26 77 45 20

Tel 00 33 3 26 00 33 3 16 31 – [www.sacresdufolklore.fr](http://www.sacresdufolklore.fr)

### **La Foire aux Fromages (Cheese Fair) - Bar-sur-Aube (10)**

**11 - 12 June**

On the programme: sale and tasting of cheese, wine and bread from the length and breadth of France, stands with craft products, cheese-based refreshments available. Numerous activities are planned throughout the day.

**Bar-sur-Aube Tourist Office** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 27 24 25 - [www.tourisme.barsuraube.org](http://www.tourisme.barsuraube.org)

### **Foire Bio (Organic Fair) - Wadelincourt (08)**

**11 - 12 June**

The fair is organised by the Ardennes association of organic food producers, Agrobio Ardennes, in partnership with the municipality of Wadelincourt and the Ardennes Chamber of Agriculture.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 33 71 29 - [www.ardennes.chambagri.fr](http://www.ardennes.chambagri.fr)

### **Fête de la Bière (Beer Festival) - Charleville-Mézières (08)**

**11 - 13 June**

Over three days, Charleville-Mézières and its brewers invite you to a time of good cheer at the Beer Festival! Come and taste Ardennes beer (in moderation) and discover regional traditions. An unmissable festival of cultural and culinary experiences await you.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 6 86 07 13 99

### **Course de Voitures à Pédales (Pedal-Powered Car Race) - Amagne (08)**

**12 June**

Don't miss this traditional race for pedal-powered cars - the only one of its kind. Take part in this popular event or admire these strange-looking racing vehicles.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 72 00 87

### **Bénéteau Cup (Regatta) - Lac du Der (51)**

**16-17 July**

Lac du Der - Port de Giffaumont : regatta for cruising yachts

**Lac du Der Tourist Office** - Tel.: 00 33 3 26 72 62 80 - [www.cng-der.com](http://www.cng-der.com) / [www.lacduder.com](http://www.lacduder.com)

### **22ème Festival International de l’Affiche et des Arts Graphiques (22nd International Poster and Graphic Arts Festival) - Chaumont (52)**

**18 June - 3 July**

Exhibitions of posters by French and international graphic artists, symposiums, activities, workshops and concerts held at various locations in the town. International poster competition for graphics students and professional graphic artists. This year the festival has expanded to include “new media” elements.

**Festival de l’Affiche et du Graphisme (Poster and Graphic Arts Festival)** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 86 80 - [artsgraphiques.affiches@wanadoo.fr](mailto:artsgraphiques.affiches@wanadoo.fr)

### **Festival Furies (Circus and street theatre) - Châlons-en-Champagne (51)**

**6 - 12 June**

An international festival of contemporary circus and street theatre.

**Furies** - Tel.: 00 33 3 26 65 90 06 - [www.festival-furies.com](http://www.festival-furies.com)

### **Ronde des Feux, Festival de la céramique et des Arts du Feu (Ceramics and Fired Arts Festival)- Chaource (10)**

**11 - 12 June**

An unusual event bringing together potters, painters, sculptors, metalworkers and art lovers of all kinds over a weekend. There are demonstrations, workshops and introductions to artistic practice, performance, concerts, dance - some in the magical evening ambience of glowing forges and kilns.

**Artitude 10** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 40 17 19 - [www.artitude10.fr](http://www.artitude10.fr)

### **Les Flâneries Musicales (Concert series) – Reims (51)**

**17 June – 21 July**

22nd Flâneries Musicales – Over 100 concerts, mostly with free admission. A varied programme of classical music, jazz etc., with two concerts per day, performed both in the traditional temples of culture and in more unusual settings, such as cafés or parks.

**Reims Tourist Office** - [www.reims-tourisme.com](http://www.reims-tourisme.com) - Public information : 00 33 892 701 351

Press enquiries : 00 33 3 26 77 45 20

**Flâneries Musicales de Reims** – Tel.: 00 33 3 26 36 78 00 – [www.flaneriesreims.com](http://www.flaneriesreims.com)

### **Les Sacres du Folklore (Folk Festival) – Reims (51)**

**18 – 21 June**

Concerts, performances, activities and folk groups provide a window on the best of world culture. Midsummer fireworks, folk dancing, free outdoor performances or ticketed indoor events mark the Reims Folk Festival.

**Reims Tourist Office** - [www.reims-tourisme.com](http://www.reims-tourisme.com) / [www.reims-fetes.com](http://www.reims-fetes.com)

Public information : 00 33 892 701 351 - Press enquiries : 00 33 3 26 77 45 20

Tel 00 33 3 26 00 33 3 16 31 – [www.sacresdufolklore.fr](http://www.sacresdufolklore.fr)

### **Festival Musical'Été (Summer Music Festival) – Saint Dizier (52)**

**21 June – mid-August**

This year, the Festival Musical'Été bids a welcome in the Parc du Jard and around the town to contemporary artists who are also shaping the future, together with new talents from the world of contemporary music. A festive series of concerts all summer long, from the Fête de la Musique Music Day to the open-air stages of August.

**Ville de Saint Dizier – Service Culture/Animations (Saint Dizier Culture/Activities Section)**

Tel.: 00 33 3 25 07 31 26 - [www.ville-saintdizier.fr](http://www.ville-saintdizier.fr)

### **Rencontres « Guitare et Patrimoine en Ardenne » (Ardennes Guitars and Heritage) - Sedan (08)**

**24 June – 8 July**

Performances and music and dance workshops open to all and in all musical genres, from Celtic to Flamenco via light and contemporary music. All events take place at the Castle and other jewels of the urban heritage of Sedan.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 27 09 75

### **Festival des Musiques d'Ici et d'Ailleurs (Festival of World Music) – Châlons-en-Champagne (51)**

**25 June – 7 August**

A shop window for contemporary world music. Free concerts in Châlons-en-Champagne and elsewhere, revealing diverse musical influences, tapping into the « sono mondiale » and anticipating the big names of tomorrow.

**Musiques sur la Ville (Festival Association)** - Tel.: 00 33 3 26 68 47 27 - [www.musiques-ici-ailleurs.com](http://www.musiques-ici-ailleurs.com)

### **Fête des Cerises (Cherry Festival) - Chesnois-Auboncourt (08)**

**25 – 26 June**

An unmissable event for both cherry-lovers and just casual visitors looking for things to do in the area. The Cherry Festival remains the leading event of the Association "Vallées Animation" which, as it does every year, provides the music.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 72 55 98

### **Balade Gourmande du Briennois (Food-Lover's Ramble in the Briennois) – Brienne-la-Vieille (10)**

**26 June**

This 8 km walk, suitable for all, has been specially devised for exploring the Briennois district and its local products.

**Brienne le Château Tourist Office** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 92 82 41 - [www.ville-brienne-le-chateau.fr](http://www.ville-brienne-le-chateau.fr)

### **Raid VTT des Cadoles (Mountain Bike Trek) – Essoyes (10)**

**26 June**

This 15th trek offers four mountain bike routes of 25, 42, 65 and 82 km, for fans to enjoy their sport in the of Côte des Bar: vineyards, forests, and the traditional vineyard workers' stone huts ("cadoles") mark the way.

**Les Riceys Tourist Office** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 29 61 34 - [www.raiddescadoles.com](http://www.raiddescadoles.com)

### **Escapade Pétiliante et Gourmande (Food and Sparkling Wine Excursion) – Marne (51)**

**26 June**

A weekend of walking, regional gastronomy and champagne tasting at local wine-growers'. A walk in the vineyards of Coteaux Sud d'Épernay with a special wine glass suspended from the neck.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 26 59 92 78 - [www.escapade-petillante-et-gourmande-en-champagne.com](http://www.escapade-petillante-et-gourmande-en-champagne.com)

### **Troyes, Ville en Musiques (Music Festival) – Troyes (10)**

**Late June – Mid August**

Every year on Friday and Saturday evenings from 9pm the city of Troyes resounds to the rhythms of a gigantic music festival. Around a hundred free concerts are given on various city squares.

**Maison du Boulanger (Cultural Centre)** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 43 55 00 – [www.maisonduboulangier.com](http://www.maisonduboulangier.com)

### **Evocation « Musique et Lumière » à la Basilique Saint-Rémi (Musical Illuminations at St. Rémi Basilica) – Reims (51)**

**Late June – Early October**

The basilica, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is illuminated every Saturday at 9.30pm.

**Reims Tourist Office** - [www.reims-tourisme.com](http://www.reims-tourisme.com) / [www.reims-fetes.com](http://www.reims-fetes.com)

Public information : 00 33 892 701 351 - Press enquiries : 00 33 3 26 77 45 20

## **JULY - AUGUST**

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### **Coulées de Bronze – (Bronze casting) Val d'Osne (52)**

**July and August**

On Sunday afternoons and three Saturdays evenings, the Compagnons de l'Histoire Historical Association brings to life the ancient foundry at Val d'Osne with impressive bronze casting sessions.

**Les Compagnons de l'Histoire (Historical Association)** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 94 81 02

### **Rassemblement d'Attelage (Harness Meeting) – Sedan (08)**

**Early July**

Second European Harness Meeting.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 6 30 39 07 37

### **Tournois de Chevalerie au Château de Sedan (Medieval Tournament at Castle of Sedan) – Sedan (08)**

**2 July – 28 August**

A unique opportunity to attend one of the most impressive medieval tournaments where knights battle in spectacular encounters echoing to the galloping of their horses. A once-in-a-lifetime experience and extraordinary spectacle in the unique setting of the biggest castle in Europe.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 29 98 80 - [www.chateau-fort-sedan.fr](http://www.chateau-fort-sedan.fr)

### **30 Ans du Tropic Carolo Combo (Brazilian Percussion Group) – Charleville-Mézières (08)**

**2-3 July**

Founded in 1981 by Yannick Honet and Jean-Pierre Vercella-Danna, Tropic Carolo Combo aims to liven up all occasions, festivals and events. This summer the association celebrates its 30th year with boisterous rhythms in Charleville-Mézières at Plaine du Mont Olympe.

**Information:** Tel: 00 33 3 24 55 60 87

### **Fête du Cheval (Horse Festival) – Hargnies (08)**

**3 July**

Come to the Horse Festival with its flea market and crafts fair. There's a grand horse pulling competition at 10am and to round off the day, nothing beats the communal meal served in a marquee hosting Ardennes refreshment stalls.

**Information:** Tel: 0810 810975

### **Fête du Pays Rethelois (Local Fête) – Rethel (08)**

**3 July**

Including a presentation of craft skills (craft village), performance group, palm-reader, 'renaissance song' concerts, history of château, tour of church, horse carriage rides, nature rambles and excursions, activities for children, story-telling etc.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 38 91 16

### **Spectacle Son et Lumière “Le Règne des Maitres de Forges” (Son et Lumière “The reign of the forgemasters” – Vendresse (08)**

**9, 16, 23 and 30 July**

This season, the Cultural Association of the Château of Cassine is pleased to present its Son et Lumière show “The reign of the forgemasters”.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 35 44 84 - [www.la-cassine.com](http://www.la-cassine.com)

### **Douzy'k Rock Festival – Douzy (08)**

**16-17 July**

The Douzy'k Festival, traditionally held in a lakeside marquee, now offers an eclectic programme united under the banner of rock music to rally fans of hip hop, heavy metal, jazz, reggae etc.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 26 31 48 - [www.myspace.com/douzyfestival](http://www.myspace.com/douzyfestival)

### **Aymon Folk Festival – Bogny-sur-Meuse (08)**

**29 - 30 July**

“La Platelle” is a fabled rock guarding chivalric saga of the Four Sons of Aymon. It is set in the middle of the river Meuse, which burrows its way here through the dark forests of the Ardennes. The festival was originally devoted to Celtic music, but has since widened to take in all traditional and world music. Guest bands take the audience on a musical journey, while the natural setting of La Platelle adds a pastoral charm.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 32 75 04 - [www.myspace.com/aymonfolkfestival](http://www.myspace.com/aymonfolkfestival)

### **5ème Edition du Festival des Brasseurs (5th Brewers' Festival) – Montier-en-Der (10)**

**30-31 July**

Held at a stud farm at Montier-en-Der, visitors learn about brewing through activities and tastings. Numerous events over the weekend include a prize for the best beer, music bands, children's games, beer-based refreshments and a craft market.

**Pays du Der Tourist Office** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 04 69 17 - [www.tourisme-paysduder.fr](http://www.tourisme-paysduder.fr)

**Montier-en-Der Tourist Office** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 04 69 17 - [otpaysduder@orange.fr](mailto:otpaysduder@orange.fr)

### **Festi'Meuse (Festival) – Vallée de la Meuse (08)**

**Late July**

Festi'Meuse is an eco-friendly free festival in a magnificent setting along Banks of the Meuse in the Ardennes. A free festival combining music, street performance, fireworks, concerts and lots of good humour.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 40 59 14 - [www.festimeuse.com](http://www.festimeuse.com)

### **Troyes, Ville en Lumières (Walk with illuminations and drama) (10)**

**Late July to Late August**

Every Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening: a poetic and educational night-time stroll, friendly humorous accessible for all. Ville en Lumières is an invitation to learn little-known facts about the heritage of Troyes.

**Troyes Tourist Office** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 82 62 70 - [www.tourisme-troyes.com](http://www.tourisme-troyes.com) / [www.villeenlumieres.com](http://www.villeenlumieres.com)

### **Itinéraire: Musique, Théâtre et Patrimoine (Music, Theatre and Heritage Routes) – Marne (51) August - October**

The Regional Council of Marne and the Institute of France invite you to discover the heritage of Marne with an artistic programme of events.

**Conseil Général de la Marne (Regional Council)**- Tel.: 00 33 3 26 69 52 78 - [www.marne.fr](http://www.marne.fr)

### **Spectacle Son et Lumière “Le Règne des Maitres de Forges” (Son et Lumière “The reign of the forgemasters” – Vendresse (08)**

**3, 13 and 20 August**

This season, the Cultural Association of the Château of Cassine is pleased to present its Son et Lumière show “The reign of the forgemasters”.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 35 44 84 - [www.la-cassine.com](http://www.la-cassine.com)

### **L’Estival des Hallebardiers – (Halberdiers' Summer Festival) Langres (52) August weekends**

An historic tour and show lasting 1½ hours through the streets of the fortified town of Langres. In costume, visitors are transported through the whirlwind of history. Langres, a town forever coveted, but never taken, surrenders its charms, secrets, wounds and misfortunes. Several shows held simultaneously are an unconventional way for spectators to explore the heritage of the town and choose what they would like to discover. Spectators become the actors too and this unique event immerses them in the heart of the town and history itself. The evening closes in the good cheer of a large tavern and the offer of a glass. Friday and Saturday evenings from 21:00.

**La Compagnie des Hallebardiers (Company of Halberdiers)** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 90 77 40  
[www.hallebardiers.com](http://www.hallebardiers.com) / [cie.hallebardiers@free.fr](mailto:cie.hallebardiers@free.fr) / <http://hallebardiers-langres.over-blog.com>

### **15ème Edition du Festival du Chien à Plumes (15th Chien à Plumes Pop Festival– Lac de Villegusien (52)**

**5, 6 and 7 August**

On the same dates as the renowned Woodstock Festival, the “Feathered Dog” Pop Festival welcomes you to three days and three stages, with headline acts and new discoveries. All on the banks of the Lake of Villegusien with a free campsite for the event.

**Le Chien à Plumes** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 88 78 82 - [www.chienaplumes.fr](http://www.chienaplumes.fr) / [chienaplumes@wanadoo.fr](mailto:chienaplumes@wanadoo.fr)

### **La Route du Champagne en Fête (Champagne Route Celebration) – Eguilly sous Bois/Bertignolles/Chervey/Buxières sur Arce/Ville sur Arce/ Merrey sur Arce/Bar sur Seine (10)**

**6 -7 August**

Champagne is unquestionably the king of every celebration and at this event, a champagne glass is the password for opening every door. Purchase this precious vessel for 8 Euros at the entrance to each village allows access to champagne tastings on offer in numerous cellars opened especially for the public. There are activities on offer in all the villages, which are decorated for the occasion e.g. gourmet lunches hosted by wine experts, exhibitions on champagne, street performance, etc.

**Association de Promotion du Vignoble Champenois (Vineyard Promotion Association)**

Tel.: 00 33 3 25 43 72 72 - [www.routeduchampagne.com](http://www.routeduchampagne.com)

### **La Régate des Vacances (Sailing Regatta) – Lac du Der (51)**

**13 August**

Lac du Der – Port de Giffaumont : regatta for cruising yachts

**OT Lac du Der (Tourist Office)** - Tel.: 00 33 3 26 72 62 80 - [www.cng-der.com](http://www.cng-der.com) / [www.lacduder.com](http://www.lacduder.com)

### **Fête du Rail (Railway Festival) – Attigny (08)**

**15 August**

The South Ardennes Vintage Railway Association (C.F.T.S.A.) will be holding its traditional Railway Festival on 15 August 2011.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 38 58 41 - <http://cfsa.free.fr>

## **Compétition Internationale de Tracteur Pulling (International Tractor Pulling Competition) - Bouconville (08)**

**20 - 21 August**

A major competition held every year at Bouconville in the French Ardennes, the results of which count towards the French and European Tractor Pulling Championships.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 30 42 62

## **Cabaret Vert (Music and Arts Festival) - Charleville-Mézières (08)**

**26 -28 August**

Cabaret Vert is THE end-of-holiday event in North-East France. With two stages featuring star names and musical newcomers, a street arts stage, a village of associations and organisations, a marquee for showing short films and a cartoons space, Cabaret Vert is a festival of festivals, and almost unique in Europe. This event is organised by the association FLAP in the Ardennes Department.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 36 12 68 - [www.cabaretvert.com](http://www.cabaretvert.com)

## **Salon des Plaisirs de la Chasse et de la Nature (Hunting and Nature Fair) - Châteauvillain (52)**

**27-28 August**

Now in its 19<sup>th</sup> year, this traditional end-of-holiday fixture opens its doors in the wonderful Parc aux Daims (Deer park) at Châteauvillain. The exhibitors' village houses more than 200 stands and a multitude of products: firearms, clothing, gunsights, footwear, animal art. Among the activities are pointer and truffle hound demonstrations, presentations of harness, falconry displays, demonstrations of tiger training and a circular space dedicated to a reproduction of Haute Marne wildlife scenes. Several hunting groups on horseback or foot offer hunting displays with the use of hunting horns. Test-drive quad bikes or 4x4s, try paint-ball, clay pigeon shooting, shotgun shooting or running boar shooting in a village to bow hunting. There's also an auction of all articles of interest to hunting fans. A huge musical firework show will be held on Saturday night. Refreshments available all weekend.

**Déclic Haute-Marne (Hunting Association)** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 03 01 03 - [www.salon-chasse-nature.com](http://www.salon-chasse-nature.com)

## **Festival de l'Image (Festival of the Visual Image) - Mont-de-Jeux (08)**

**28 August**

Every August, painters, illustrators, drawers and photographers exhibit and practise their talents in the street and barns of Mont-de-Jeux. Various activities are on offer with exhibitions, tour of home of André Dhôtel, film shows, bookbinding demonstrations, picture frame gilding, stained glass, all relating to the visual image.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 26 40 35 77 - [www.imagesdorigine.org](http://www.imagesdorigine.org)

## **Marché du Terroir et de l'Artisanat (Local Produce and Crafts Market) - Blanchefosse-et-Bay (08)**

**28 August**

From 10am - 6pm, produce and crafts market with some 25 exhibitors and live demonstrations of ancient crafts, such as wood turning and basket making. A musical interlude rounds off the day.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 35 21 46

# **SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER**

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## **16ème National de Pétanque (16th National Pétanque Competition) - Charleville-Mézières (08)**

**2 -4 September**

The exhibitions park hosts the 16th National Pétanque Competition on 2, 3 and 4 September. This popular National Competition at Charleville-Mézières is one of around 200 national and international competitions this year on the official calendar of the French Federation of Pétanque and Jeu Provençal.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 6 65 29 38 41

## **Festival "Mouvements de Rue" (Street Arts Festival) - Sedan (08)**

**3 - 4 September**

Artists from all over France present their work in different disciplines: hip-hop, beatbox, rap, graffiti, slam, *street surf* etc. in an overview of urban culture. Troupes invited to this travelling festival all reflect movement as represented by dance, circus, mime and music. On tarmac, paving stones, the grass in the park, movement turns into magic, fantasy, dreams ... in a word - art!

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 6 84 83 00 84 - [www.aidt.over-blog.com](http://www.aidt.over-blog.com) / <http://aidt.asso-web.com>

## **Festival de Théâtres de Rue (Street Theatre Festival) – Houldizy (08)**

**4 September**

The 13th Street Theatre Festival at Houldizy will be held on Sunday 4 September 2011 from 1.45 – 8 pm. Throughout the afternoon, nine international companies turn the village streets into an arena for live performance. An eclectic programme where “street theatre” is taken literally - namely an original, popular and creative vision of live performance. (Theatre, dance, juggling, acrobatics etc....)

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 32 47 52 - [www.festivalhouldizy.fr](http://www.festivalhouldizy.fr)

## **Foire au Boudin Noir (Black Pudding Fair) – Saint Germainmont (08)**

**11 September**

A number of pork butchers will be along to show off their skills . The village streets also hosts a flea market and artist-craftsmen (from 7:00 to 19:00)

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 72 51 02

## **Route du Champagne “En Champagne, devenez vendangeurs d’un jour” (Champagne grape pickers for the day) – Aube en Champagne (10)**

**Mid-September**

Three wine-growers welcome tourists to their properties to immerse them in the magic of the grape harvest, the source of the King of Wines. The day commences with a hearty breakfast before leaving to join the grape-pickers for a “secateur session”. At mid-day return to the property to share in the grape pickers’ lunch then enjoy an afternoon visit to the cellars in full fizz. All participants return home with a sparkling gift to mark their day.

**Aube en Champagne Tourisme (Tourist Office)** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 42 50 00 - [www.aube-champagne.com](http://www.aube-champagne.com)

## **The Troyes Heritage Marathon**

**17 September**

To celebrate the European Heritage Days, the tourist office of Troyes has come up with an original day out that combines the pleasure of a gentle jog with the discovery of unusual places of interest in and around the town. This event, which will take place on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2011 from 8.45am to 6pm, is the first of its kind. The course covers 42.195 km (the official distance of a full marathon), with frequent stop-offs for a guided visit of original places of interest along the way. Since a greater distance can be covered in this way than the traditional walking guided tour, lesser known sites become accessible to the visitor, who will appreciate a larger overview of the town of Troyes.

Participation in the full marathon costs 25 €, including lunch and a tee-shirt, or 20 € for a half-marathon (morning or afternoon), also including the lunch. All proceeds will go to the local Association for Autism in the Aube. To request a registration form, email [contact@tourisme-troyes.com](mailto:contact@tourisme-troyes.com)

## **Journées du Patrimoine (Heritage Days) – Throughout the region**

**17-18 September**

Open house events, guided tours, activities at historic monuments, museums and various locations in Champagne-Ardenne.

**Information:** [www.journeesdupatrimoine.culture.fr](http://www.journeesdupatrimoine.culture.fr)

## **Festival Mondial des Théâtres de Marionnettes (World Puppet Festival) – Charleville-Mézières (08)**

**16 - 25 September**

This unique festival, unlike any other in the world and a major event in French culture, brings more than 120 troupes from 5 continents to Charleville-Mézières from 16-25 September. There are more than 500 shows in around 40 performance spaces specially created for the occasion, in locations as prestigious as they are unexpected.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 59 94 94 - [www.festival-marionnette.com](http://www.festival-marionnette.com)

## **Foire à la Choucroute (French Sauerkraut Fair) – Brienne le Château (10)**

**17 -18 September**

The Sauerkraut Fair is one of the best-established gastronomic events in the Aube region. The Fair has a fine reputation for this traditional local speciality, sauerkraut with champagne. On the programme are tasting in the indoor market and restaurants, a processions of floats and folklore groups.

**Brienne le Château Tourist Office** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 92 82 41 - [www.ville-brienne-le-chateau.fr](http://www.ville-brienne-le-chateau.fr)

## **Festival “Ombres et Lumières” (“Shadow and Light” Festival) – Cistercian Abbey of Clairvaux (10)**

**23 -25 September**

This historic monument linked to great questions of the human condition is the traditional setting for this long-established ‘Shadows and Light’ Festival. Supported by the Association for the Renaissance of the Abbey of Clairvaux, it allows artists of international repute to use their talents to support a unique artistic project: reflecting the double identity of Clairvaux as an abbey and a prison, the aim is to breathe fresh life into this location preserving its extraordinary history and legacy

**Abbaye de Clairvaux (Abbey)**- Tel.: 00 33 3 25 27 52 55 - <http://abbayedclairvaux.com/>

## **Cuisson de Poteries au Four à Bois (Wood-Fired pottery) – Passavant-en-Argonne (51)**

**24 September**

Meet outside the earthenware factory at Passavant-en-Argonne and see the firing of pottery in a wood-fired kiln, from 16:00 until nightfall. Free entry to all.

**Faïencerie Lange (Earthenware Factory)** - Tel.: 00 33 3 26 60 37 01 – <http://faïencerie-passavant.monsite-orange.fr>

## **Musée du Cidre Pressé à l'Ancienne (Old-Fashioned Pressed Cider Museum) – Eaux Puiseaux (10)**

**25 September**

Gérard Hotte grows his own apples, presses his cider, sells it and recounts the history of the drink he loves in his museum. During the day more than a ton of apples will be pressed into 800 litres of golden liquid. There will be stalls in the orchard offering products from surrounding Aube countryside, particularly cider.

**La Ferme d'Hotte (Farm)** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 42 15 13 – [www.lafermedhotte.com](http://www.lafermedhotte.com)

## **Randonnée Pédestre Nocturne dans le Vignoble: Le Défi Riceton (Night Hike in the Vineyards) – Les Riceys (10)**

**Early October**

This night- hike in the vineyards is open to all. The route follows tracks to the old vineyard workers’ stone huts, illuminated with candles on a hike of 14 or 23 km.

**Les Riceys Tourist Office** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 29 15 38 - [www.lesriceys-champagne.com](http://www.lesriceys-champagne.com)

## **Festival Ailleurs (Rimbaud Festival) – Charleville-Mézières (08)**

**October**

Every year the town of Charleville-Mézières celebrates the birthday of renowned poet Arthur Rimbaud with activities and explorations of the poet's work.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 32 44 65

## **Exhibition “Rétrospective Claude et Isabelle Monod” – Troyes (10)**

**October - April**

Presentation of works by these two master glassmakers from the South of France, as a counterpart to the collections of pieces by Marinot, the Troyes master glassmaker, held by the Museum of Modern Art.

**Musée d’Art Moderne (Museum)**- Tel.: 00 33 3 25 76 26 80 - [musart@ville-troyes.fr](mailto:musart@ville-troyes.fr)

## **Festival Interpol’art (Polar Art Festival) – Reims (51)**

**October**

Seven days of “polar art”. A multi-disciplinary festival devoted to all things polar: literature, cinema, cartoons, seminars, dedications, lectures, exhibitions, etc.

**Association Interpol’art (Arts Association)** - Tel.: 00 33 6 07 60 38 87 - [www.interpolart.com](http://www.interpolart.com)

## **Le Grand Spectacle de la Nature (Bird Watching) – Lac du Der (51)**

**October to December**

Leaving winter in Spain, migratory birds pass over the Lake of Der before continuing towards the peat bogs of Scandinavia. From October to March the Lake of Der is the province of migratory birds: geese, widgeon, common cranes, common teal, merganser, mute swans; and of birds of prey such as white-tailed eagle, peregrine falcon etc.

**Lac du Der Tourist Office** - Tel.: 00 33 3 26 72 62 80 - [www.lacduder.com](http://www.lacduder.com)

**LPO Champagne-Ardenne (Birds Protection League)**- Tel.: 00 33 3 26 72 54 47  
<http://champagne-ardenne.lpo.fr>

## **Nuit Blanche (Arts Festival) – Charleville-Mézières (08)**

**1st October**

The “White Night” Arts Festival returns on the evening of 1<sup>st</sup> October 2011. As usual, pride of place goes to live performance in all its forms with some thirty highlights, including a jazz concert at the Protestant church, a circus show at the Mohon roundhouse, a motorbike version of Carmen on the paving stones of the Place Ducale, a solo magic performance in the public toilets, video installations in shop windows and on the sides of the Old Mill, release of the living cardboard boxes etc.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 32 44 40

## **21ème Edition Diseurs d'Histoires (21st Story-Tellers' Festival) – Throughout Haute-Marne From 8 October – 26 November**

Every Autumn, Rural Clubs, libraries and schools prepare to welcome story-tellers and all sorts of speakers for the Story-Tellers' Festival. Professional artists specialising in the spoken word, accompanied or not by musicians, criss-cross the Department to share dreams, emotions and the world of the imagination. Coming as they do from Quebec, Africa, Northern France and other regions, they invite you to experience many other cultures. More than 50 shows suitable for adult, family or young audiences.

**Fédération Départementale des Foyers Ruraux de Haute-Marne (Rural Clubs Association)**

Tel.: 00 33 3 25 32 52 80

[fdfr.52@mouvement-rural.org](mailto:fdfr.52@mouvement-rural.org) / [www.foyersruraux52.org](http://www.foyersruraux52.org)

## **Fête des Champagnes du Massif de Saint-Thierry (Champagne Festival) – Chenay (51)**

**8 - 9 October**

An 'old-time' grape harvest. Tasting of champagne from Massif de Saint-Thierry (with a small charge). Food and crafts fair in the streets.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 26 03 58 47 - [boulard-bauquaire.denis@orange.fr](mailto:boulard-bauquaire.denis@orange.fr)

## **Marché aux Noix et Noisettes (Walnut and Hazelnut Market) – Chesnois-Auboncourt (08)**

**16 October**

In the market hall and marquees, some 50 exhibitors offer walnuts and hazelnuts, as well as other fruits and vegetables, most produced without the use of pesticides. Bread and other traditional delicacies from the Ardennes, such as gâteau mollet will be on offer. Children's activities laid on.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 72 55 98

## **Marathon International “Reims à Toutes Jambes” (International marathon) – Reims (51)**

**16 October**

This marathon attracts over 12,000 participants each year, from élite to amateur.

**Ville de Reims (City of Reims)** - Tel.: 00 33 3 26 77 78 79 - [www.reims.fr](http://www.reims.fr)

**Reims à toutes jambes (Marathon Organiser)**- Tel.: 00 33 8 00 42 21 10

## **Fête des Saveurs et du Terroir Champenois (Festival of flavours and produce of Champagne) – Marne (51)**

**17 - 23 October**

During the Week of Taste, wine-growers do their best to help visitors discover the diversity of champagne wines, complimented with flavours of local produce. Free open house arrangements.

**Action Champagnes Tourisme (Tourism Association)** - Tel.: 00 33 3 26 64 96 87

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

## **15ème Fête des Sorcières (15th Witches Festival) – Fort de Cognelot - Chalindrey (52)**

**29 -30 October**

The Sorcerers invite you to the dark passageways of the Fort of Cognelot, a 19th century construction just outside Chalindrey near Langres. From 2pm on Saturday and 10am on Sunday, ongoing activities (ghost maze, procession of witches and other fantasy characters, interactive exhibition, outdoor games, face-painting, barrel organ), numerous exhibitors, (decorative items, jewellery, local crafts and produce). Refreshments available in Sorcerers' Tavern with its bread oven. A weekend of fun and enchantment for all the family.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 25 88 82 03

## **Fête du Pressoir (Apple-Pressing Festival) – Margy (08)**

**16 October**

At Margy, a hamlet of Viel-Saint-Rémy, they still press apple juice with a press almost four centuries old. This takes place at the 6<sup>th</sup> Apple Pressing Festival, planned for 16 October from 6am – 8pm. Come and admire this ancient construction and discover a totally rural extraction technique!

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 38 16 88

## **Fête de la Truffe (Truffle Festival) – Joinville (52)**

**29 - 30 October**

The magnificent setting of the Château du Grand Jardin at Joinville invites you to the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Truffle Festival. Throughout the day, visitors can discover this jewel of the woodlands, namely Tuber Uncinatum, which grows in the forests of Haute-Marne. Events include a truffle and local produce market, culinary workshop, demonstrations of truffle hunting, lectures, etc.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 25 94 17 54 - [www.haute-marne.fr/legrandjardin](http://www.haute-marne.fr/legrandjardin)

## **Festival “Les Nuits de Champagne” (Music Festival) – Troyes (10)**

**Late October to Early November**

Every year, authors and composers of French song are honoured at the Nuits de Champagne Music Festival in Troyes. The entire programme and organisation of the festival focuses on one particular author or composer who thereby becomes the emblem of the city and the region for the week.

**Maison du Boulanger (Cultural Centre)** - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 43 55 00 -

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

# **NOVEMBER – DECEMBER**

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## **Reims Jazz Festival – Reims (51)**

**November**

A major jazz fixture in Champagne-Ardenne, combining great names and young talents of the French and international improvised music scene. Cultural Centre Saint-Exupéry et Domaine Pommery.

**Djaz 51 (Organisers)** - Tel.: 00 33 3 26 47 00 10 - [www.djaz51.com](http://www.djaz51.com)

## **Noël en Champagne (Christmas in Champagne) – Marne (51)**

**November - December**

The Christmas Village at Reims: over 100 huts offer a multitude of gastronomic, craft and seasonal products. The Chemin des Crèches (the Christmas Crib Route), takes in 41 municipalities the length and breadth of the Champagne countryside between Reims, Epernay, Châlons en Champagne and Fismes. There are hundreds of cribs of all sizes and origins for visitors to discover as they stop off in these typical Champagne towns and villages. Exhibitions, excursions, markets or Christmas villages, concerts, Advent calendars, all of them typical Champagne activities, mark out this route, a path of delight and wonder.

**Reims Tourist Office** - [www.reims-tourisme.com](http://www.reims-tourisme.com) - Public information : 00 33 892 701 351

Press enquiries : 00 33 3 26 77 45 20 / [www.noelsdechampagne.com](http://www.noelsdechampagne.com) / [www.reims-destination-noel.fr](http://www.reims-destination-noel.fr)

**Fismes Tourist Office** - Tel.: 00 33 3 26 48 81 28 - [www.fismes-tourisme.fr](http://www.fismes-tourisme.fr)

**Châlons en Champagne Tourist Office** - Tel.: 00 33 3 26 65 17 89 / Tel. : 00 33 3 26 68 37 52

[www.chalons-tourisme.com](http://www.chalons-tourisme.com) / Tel.: 00 33 3 26 68 37 52 - [www.noelsdechampagne.com](http://www.noelsdechampagne.com)

**Epernay Tourist Office** - Tel.: 00 33 3 26 53 33 00 - [www.ot-epernay.fr](http://www.ot-epernay.fr)

## **15ème Festival International de la Photo Animalière et de Nature (15th International Animal and Nature Photography Festival) – Montier-en-Der (52)**

**17 – 20 November**

A stone's throw from the Lac du Der-Chantecoq Lake, at Montier-en-Der, the International Animal and Nature Photography Festival welcomes the greatest international, national and regional animal photographers, national associations of amateur photographers and also nature photography agencies. Visitors will discover more than 60 exhibitions of photographs of animals, wild flowers and landscapes. Various events over the three day programme include a forum of nature associations, representatives of the Regional and National Natural Parks, demonstrations of animal art, a Nature Book Fair and lectures and multivision/slide. Visits to the Lac du Der will allow the public to try out bird and nature watching.

**Festival International de la Photo Animalière et de Nature (Festival)**- Tel.: 00 33 3 25 55 72 84

[afpan@wanadoo.fr](mailto:afpan@wanadoo.fr)/[www.festiphotomontier.org](http://www.festiphotomontier.org)

### **Maison de Père Noël (Santa's House) – Novion Porcien (08)**

#### **December**

Santa's house opens its doors in an amazing 4000 m<sup>2</sup> location at Novion-Porcien, between Charleville-Mézières and Rethel. Santa, accompanied by his elves, welcomes visitors to discover an imaginative world. While exploring a world of fairytale, visitors will also see one of the most sumptuous nativity puppet shows in the world.

**Information:** [www.lamaisondupere Noel.fr](http://www.lamaisondupere Noel.fr)

### **Marché de Noël au Moulin à Vent (Christmas Market at the Windmill) – Dosches (10)**

#### **Early December**

In the run-up to Christmas, the windmill at Dosches gets dressed up to host a small Christmas crafts market at which food-lovers can enjoy local products: cider from the Pays d'Othe, gingerbread or Christmas Ale from St Martin's Mill at Bossenay. This mill has been renovated since 2004 by carpenter Erwin Schriever.

**Association « Les Moulins à Vent Champenois (Windmill Association) - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 41 55 88 - [moulinedosches.free.fr](http://moulinedosches.free.fr)**

### **Salon d'Automne des Métiers d'Art (Autumn Arts and Crafts Fair)- Chouilly – (51)**

#### **2, 3 and 4 December**

This fair brings together some 50 professional craftspeople, workers in wood, metal, stone, earth, glass and textiles from the region and from all over France and selected by the fair organisers for the skills and original creations.

**Association Art et Artisanat en Champagne (Arts and Crafts Association) - Tel.: 00 33 3 26 67 65 03 <http://aachampagne.cabanova.fr>**

### **Salon de St-Nicolas et Noël (Christmas and St. Nicholas Fair) – Launois-sur-Vence (08)**

#### **4 December**

Fair organised by local history magazine "Terres ardennaises". A Christmas-themed fair with food and drink and decorations for your celebrations.

**Information:** Tel.: 00 33 3 24 57 45 06 - [www.launoissurvence.com](http://www.launoissurvence.com)

### **Habits de Lumière (Festival) – Epernay (51)**

#### **9 -12 December**

Three days of celebration organised by the town of Epernay and the champagne houses. Street performances, champagne bars, musical activities, fireworks and illumination on the Avenue de Champagne with the residing companies which have made its reputation. Demonstration/tasting with star chefs associated with the regional producers and champagne houses. Exhibitions, cellar tours, performances. The festival also includes an impressive Procession of more than 400 historic vehicles.

**Epernay Tourist Office - Tel.: 00 33 3 26 53 33 00 - [www.ot-epernay.fr](http://www.ot-epernay.fr)**

### **Grande Vente Promotionnelle à la Cristallerie Royale de Champagne (Promotional Sale of Crystal) – Bayel (10)**

#### **Mid December**

An annual event held just before Christmas, this sale is an opportunity to buy, for oneself or others, carafes, glass sets or royal crystal vases at a more than reasonable price.

**Bayel Tourist Office - Tel.: 00 33 3 25 92 42 68 – [www.bayel-cristal.com](http://www.bayel-cristal.com)**





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