

## PROVINS TOURISME TOURIST OFFICE



This guide is offered to you by "Provins Tourisme, entre Bassée, Montois et Morin", your chosen intermediary during your stay in Provins and the whole territory. Our tourist agents welcome and inform you 7 days a week. You can choose a Pass card, book a medieval show or an activity... You can also visit Provins and its surroundings thanks to a free app for smartphone. Many services are at your disposal: welcome area with landscaped esplanade, sheltered picnic area, park and adventure playground for children, camper area, toilets, tourist train stop, cashpoint, souvenir shop, interactive boards and quizzes, scale model of Provins with an audiovisual presentation of the town's history, bread deposit and electric bike rental during the high season, post office.

### ■ OPENING HOURS:

- from 28 March to 1 November 2020: daily from 9 a.m. to 6.30 p.m.
- from 2 January to 27 March 2020 and from 2 November 2020 to 26 March 2021: weekend and public holidays from 9.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. - week from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- annual closure of Provins Tourisme and all the monuments on 1 January and 25 December

Welcome area "Villocan" - more services to accommodate you



## pass cards

### ■ Provins Pass and Family Pass

To see more and spend less! These packages include the entrance to the four monuments :

- Caesar Tower • Tithe Barn • Underground Galleries • Museum

Passes not available for 13 & 14 June, 23 August, and 19 & 20 September. Passes don't include the extra entrance to the events like the Medieval Festival of Provins or the Harvest Festival.

	This package includes	Price for adults	Price for children*	Cut-prices for visits, medieval shows, Tourist Train and Provins Rose Garden	Period of validity
Provins Pass	1 entrance for each monument	12 €	8,50 €	only on the purchase day	1 year from the purchase day according to the opening hours
Family Pass		2 adults and their children*: 35,50 €			

\*Children: 4-12 years old. Limited to 5 children for Family Pass

### ■ "Âme de Jardins" Pass

Discover the most beautiful gardens of the territory!

Designers' gardens or historical gardens, come and live a visual, olfactory and human experience... This theme takes you to the most beautiful gardens, three of which are listed as "Remarkable Garden". This ticket is valid for 1 year and gives access to every participant gardens.

■ PRICE : 15 €



## visits

### ■ The Priory of Saint-Ayoul

The Priory of Saint-Ayoul, cradle of the medieval town of Provins, opens its doors after 15 years of restoration! Visit this thousand year old architectural ensemble! Audio-guided visits available in English and in exchange for identity papers. No pets admitted.

- from 28 March to 30 August 2020: daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- from 31 August to 1 November 2020: weekend and public holidays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. - week from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- from 2 January to 27 March 2020 and from 2 November 2020 to 26 March 2021: weekend, public holidays and daily during the French school holidays (zones B & C) from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.
- Length: 45 min - Last admission 15 min before closure of the monument.

■ PRICES: adult 4,30 € - child 2,80 € (4-12 years old)  
Cut-prices with the Pass Cards: adult 2,80 € - child 2 € (4-12 years old)

### ■ The Tourist Train of Provins

An original way to discover the medieval town of Provins, inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List. In group or individually. Recorded comments about the history and the main monuments of Provins available in French and in English. The ticket is available all day round. (Information open to modifications).

- from 28 March to 30 April: weekend and public holidays from 11 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. (except from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.)
- from 1 May to 30 August: daily from 11 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. (except from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.)
- from 31 August to 1 November: weekend and public holidays from 11 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. (except from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.)
- no Tourist Train on 12, 13 & 14 June, and 22 & 23 August
- on 4 July and 1 August until 5 p.m., and on 4 October from 2 p.m.
- re-opening on 27 March 2021

■ PRICES: adults 7 € - children 5 € (5-12 years old)  
Enjoy reduced prices when you buy Pass Cards in Provins Tourisme or in the monuments: adults 6,30 € - children 4,50 € (5-12 years old)  
• Length of the complete tour: 30 min.

## ELECTRIC BIKES

Book your electric bike and discover our landscapes at your own rhythm!

Half-day, daily and weekend rental.

- PRICES: From 8 € for two hours
- Information and rental at Provins Tourist Office

## MEDIEVAL SHOWS



### ■ The Legend of the Knights

A medieval immersion, when Provins was home of foolhardy knights and princesses. At feet of majestic ramparts, where juggling, trick riding, acrobatics and cavalcades make you dream, you will celebrate the return from crusades of the Earl Thibaud IV of Champagne, close to the beautiful Blanche de Castille. While the luxurious city is desired by dark forces, our knights should fight and joust. Then, in the sound of the swords which collide, you will shiver because of stunts and medieval siege engines. An epic adventure to share with family and friends! Educational signs and shop. Show produced by Equestro. Ticket sales. No pets admitted.

- from 28 March to 2 July: weekend and public holidays at 3.45 p.m. - week at 2.30 p.m.
- 13 & 14 June: Medieval Festival of Provins: on Saturday, shows at 2 p.m., 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. on Sunday, shows at 1 p.m., 3 p.m. and 5 p.m.
- from 3 July to 2 September: weekend and public holidays at 3.45 p.m. - week at 3 p.m.
- from 3 to 20 September: weekend at 3.45 p.m. - week at 2.30 p.m.
- from 1 October to 1 November: weekend and public holidays at 3.45 p.m.
- re-opening on 27 March 2021
- Length: 45 min.



### ■ The Eagles of the Ramparts

Great historical timeline about the art of falconry on horseback! In the Theatre of the Ramparts, immerse yourself in the Middle Ages, at the time when falconry became a real art of living... Discover the universe of falconry, as it was practiced in the steppes of Central Asia, in the Middle East and by Feudal Lords. You will be fascinated by the flight of eagles, hawks, falcons, kites, vultures, owls and secretary bird... This magnificent aerial ballet in perfect harmony with horses, donkey and dromedary will leave unforgettable memories to young and old alike. After the show, visit the aviary, with about 80 birds from 20 different species. Educational signs and shop. Show produced by Vol Libre Production. Ticket sales. No pets admitted (tourist train stop).

- from 28 March to 3 May: weekend and public holidays at 2.30 p.m. and 5 p.m. - week at 2.30 p.m. and 4 p.m.
- from 4 May to 2 July: weekend and public holidays at 2.30 p.m. and 5 p.m. - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 2.30 p.m. (at 11.30 a.m., 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. for groups) - Wednesday at 2.30 p.m. and 4 p.m.
- 13 & 14 June: Medieval Festival of Provins: at 2.30 p.m., 4 p.m. and 5.30 p.m.
- from 3 July to 31 August: weekend and public holidays at 2.30 p.m. and 5 p.m. - week at 2.30 p.m. and 4.30 p.m.
- from 1 to 30 September: weekend at 2.30 p.m. and 5 p.m. - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 2.30 p.m. - Wednesday at 2.30 p.m. and 4 p.m.
- from 1 October to 1 November: weekend and public holidays at 2.30 p.m. and 3.45 p.m. week at 2.30 p.m.
- re-opening on 27 March 2021
- Length: 45 min.

### ■ COMMON PRICES FOR BOTH SHOWS:

For 1 show, "The Legend of the Knights" or "The Eagles of the Ramparts":

- adults 12,50 € - children 8,50 € (4-12 years old)

- reduced price: adults 11 € - children 6,50 € (4-12 years old)

Reduced price for people with Pass Cards, students, senior, large family (only for children), people with reduced mobility and on Wednesday for children (except during school holidays). For more information, ask organizer.

For 2 shows, "The Legend of the Knights" + "The Eagles of the Ramparts":

- Price per show: adults 11,50 € - children 7 € (4-12 years old)

Only on weekend and extra holidays at the Saint-Jean's gate. This offer is not valid for the Medieval Festival of Provins and the Harvest Festival.



### ■ Swords and Donjon

Knights and real medieval war machines in action. Thibaud IV, the Lord of Provins, with his knights and his devoted and joker Raoul, invite you in his domaine in order to deliver all their secrets. Discover their lives through period weapons, heraldry and war machines like the Couillard, the Trebuchet and the Mangonel, which were used to attack or defend the castles and the cities. Between anecdotes and tomfooleries, our knights will show their skills and dexterity during equestrian games. This educational show full of demonstrations is a beautiful illustration of the Middle Ages to learn while having fun. Educational signs about medieval siege engines. Shop. Show produced by Equestro. Ticket sales. No pets admitted.

- from 20 April to 30 June: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday (groups), Thursday and Friday at 11.15 a.m.
- re-opening on 12 April 2021
- Length: 35 min.

### ■ PRICES: adults 8 € - children 5,50 € (4-12 years old)

Enjoy reduced prices when you buy Pass Cards in Provins Tourisme or in the monuments: adults 6,50 € - children 5 € (4-12 years old)

For combination ticket "Swords and Donjon" + "The Legend of the Knights", enjoy the "Knight Pass": adults 17,50 € - children 11,50 € (4-12 years old)



### ■ Fire Horses

Evening equestrian show during "Provins by Candlelight": fire horses will astonish you with equestrian acrobatic feats and stunts. Show produced by Equestro.

- 4 July and 1 August at 9.30 p.m. and 11 p.m.

■ PRICES: adult 10 € - child 6 € (4-12 years old).

Tickets sold at the entrance of the show from 12 p.m. the D-day.

Length: 30 min.



### ■ The Provins Rose Garden

Discover a quiet and charming rose garden covering 3 hectares, with a breathtaking view of the monuments. In a bucolic atmosphere, you will learn about the story of this emblematic flower, its colours, shapes, scents, and its virtues. You will know

everything there is about ancient roses - Rosa Gallica (rose of Provins), Alba, Damascena, and modern roses which flower until autumn. Presentation in preview of last creations of roses. Garden of medieval plants. During the period of hot weather, you can have a walk in this cool garden, bordered by streams; enjoy the cosy atmosphere around the fireplace from the arrival of the cold weather: Tearoom with terrace, sale of rose bushes, exhibition room and music concerts.

- from 28 March to 11 November 2020: daily from 10 a.m. to 7.30 p.m.
- from 1 February to 27 March 2020 and from 12 November 2020 to 26 March 2021: Friday from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. - weekend and Monday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- daily during French school holidays (zones B & C) from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- annual closure from 1 to 31 January 2021

■ PRICES: Spring/Summer 7 € - The rest of the year 4,50 €

annual ticket 21 € - free for visitors 12 years of age and under

Enjoy reduced prices when you buy Pass Cards in Provins Tourisme or in the monuments during spring and summer: 6,50 €



"OUTSTANDING GARDEN" LABEL

## KEY INFO

- High season from 28 March to 1 November 2020
- Low season from 2 January to 27 March 2020 and from 2 November 2020 to 26 March 2021

The Count Thibaud Tour

The Rose Road

The Rampart Tour

Meeting point between walks: the Count of Champagne's coat of arms

Electric bike rental

Tourist train stop

Picnic area

Camper area

"Tourism & Handicap" stamp

Prices for information only and open to modifications.

### ■ The House of local products and handicrafts

In the heart of the upper town, discover and share the know-how behind traditional products and handicrafts: shops, periodic demonstration and making. Tourist information office and Pass Card sales. Special access for the disabled persons. Tourist train stop.




### Opening hours of the Tourist information office:

- from 28 March to 30 August 2020: daily from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Closed on Monday.
- from 31 August to 1 November 2020: daily from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Closed on Monday.
- from 1 February to 27 March 2020 and from 2 November 2020 to 26 March 2021: weekend from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.
- annual closure: 11 November 2020, and from 28 December 2020 to 31 January 2021.

■ FREE ENTRANCE

## SUGGESTED SIGHTSEEING WALKS

To help you discover the history and sites of medieval Provins, why not try one of these three sightseeing walks. The only costs involved in these walks are entrance fees to the various monuments. You can follow them only thanks to this guide, no sign or panel in the medieval city.

- Where a walk itinerary includes this sign , it indicates the site of an information board by the monument. The explanations given on these boards provide further information about the monument's history.
- Why not spoil yourself? take a moment during your sightseeing walk to discover the shops, craftsmen, restaurants and accommodation mentioned on the back of this sheet.

### Orange Itinerary: The Count Thibaud Tour

- Length: 1h30 hour
- Difficult part of the walk: The steeply sloping Rue Saint-Thibault

Thibaud IV is the most famous of the Counts of Champagne. Known as "The Songster", he was a poet and skilled horseman who took part in several crusades for the French crown. He instituted the safe conduct system to protect merchants and their wares from highway robbery by means of an armed escort, thereby enabling the town of Provins to become the capital of the medieval Champagne Fairs.

### Blue Itinerary: The Rose Road

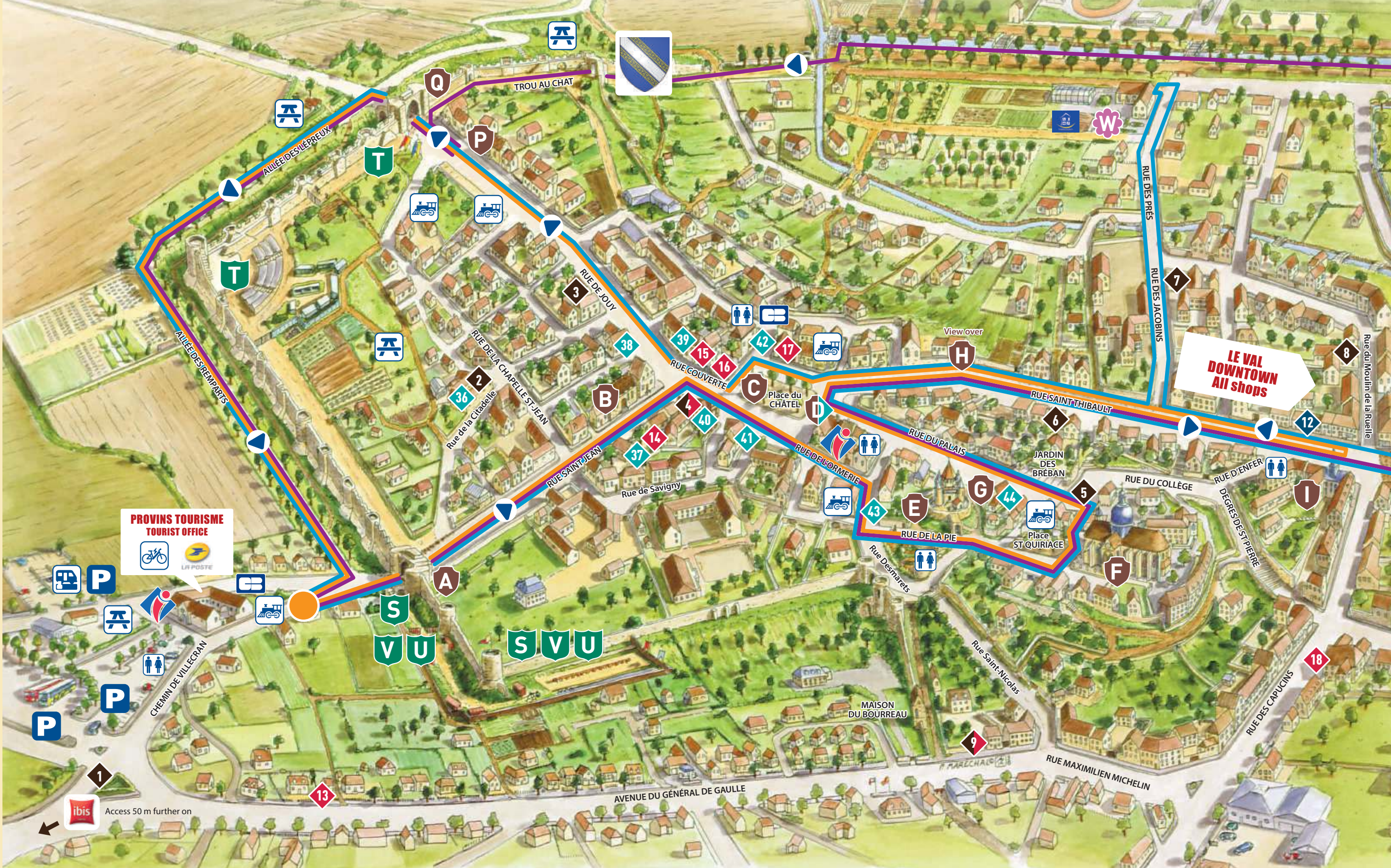
- Length: 2.30 to 3 hours
- Difficult part of the walk: The steeply sloping Rue Saint Thibault and Rue des Jacobins

One of the town's strongest symbols, the Damascus rose is an ancient variety brought back from the crusades by Count Thibaud. This ancestor of all our present-day rose varieties was formerly renowned for its medicinal properties. The Damascus rose flowers at the end of May and in June and is often likened to a dog rose. You can admire the Provins Rose Garden and even try some rose petal jam, sweets, syrup, ice-cream, etc. in our local shops.

### Purple Itinerary: The Rampart Tour

- Length: 2.30 to 3.30 hours
- Difficult parts of the walk: The steeply sloping Rue Saint Thibault, plus the steep gradient of the Trou-au-Chat at the end of Boulevard d'Aligre

The impressive town ramparts have dissuaded many enemies from attacking Provins. They developed as the town grew, eventually measuring as much as 5 kilometres in length. The ramparts are fortified by a unique variety of tower shapes - square, rectangular, polygonal, round or almond-shaped.



Cross the shop of the Tourist Office and head towards the old town to admire:

Why not spoil yourself? 1 - 13



### ■ The Saint-Jean's gate and the ramparts

These splendid fortified walls were built in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. They are being restored. The gate's purpose with its two almond-shaped towers, was to ensure the protection of the old road to Paris. On the right, you can find the medieval shop area for "The Age of the Ramparts" and "The Legend of the Knights".



Go under the archway and along Rue Saint-Jean. Stop in front of the fine 13<sup>th</sup> century merchant's house on your left:

Why not spoil yourself? 36 - 2 - 37 - 14



### ■ The Tithe Barn

This typical Provins house with its superb vaulted cellar used to be rented to the merchants of Toulouse when they came to town for the Champagne Fairs. The audioguided visit takes you back to this lively era thanks to the scenography, which brings to life the main crafts and merchants of this time. Loan of the audio-guide against identity paper. Ticket and Pass Card sales. No pets admitted.

- from 28 March to 30 August 2020: from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- from 31 August to 1 November 2020: weekend and public holidays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. - week from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- from 2 January to 27 March 2020 and from 2 November 2020 to 26 March 2021: weekend, public holidays and daily during French school holidays (zones B & C) from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.
- 12 & 13 December 2020: Christmas in Provins: from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

■ PRICES: adults 4,30 € - children 2,80 € (4-12 years old)

Length: about 35 min - Last admission 15 min. before closure of the monument.



Turn right at the end of the road, and enter:

Why not spoil yourself? 38 - 3 - 39 - 4 - 15 - 16

40 - 41 - D - 17 - 42



### ■ La Place du Châtel

This is the very heart of the upper town. In its centre stand an ancient well and the "Exchange Cross" dated from the 13<sup>th</sup> century, where there were financial transactions. Also called the "Cross of the Edicts", it was used as a public notice board for the edicts of the Counts and later for those of the King. All around you can see the Four Gable House, the Minor Offender's court, the Cockle-Shell House, the remains of the Saint-Thibault church... (tourist train stop).

At the far side of the square walk down Rue de l'Ormerie and Rue Desmarests. Can you see the typical facades of the stone built houses? The smallest door in each house leads to the cellar, 150 of which lie scattered throughout the town. These cellars are usually vaulted, with carved pillar capitals. They were occasionally used as store-rooms during the Champagne Fairs, and some even did duty as shops. After Rue Desmaret, the Rue de la Pie will lead you to the impressive:

Why not spoil yourself? 43



On your right at the end of the road you will find:

### ■ Caesar Tower

This keep was built in the 12<sup>th</sup> century as a symbol of the Counts of Champagne's power. It was used as a watch tower, prison, bell-tower... The last floor offers a panoramic view over the town. At the end of your visit, a scenography will take you back in time to give you a glimpse of the reign of Henri the Liberal. Ticket and Pass Card sales. No pets admitted.

- from 28 March to 1 November 2020: from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- from 2 January to 27 March 2020 and from 2 November 2020 to 26 March 2021: weekend and public holidays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. - week from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.
- 12 & 13 December 2020: Christmas in Provins: from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- PRICES: adults 4,30 € - children 2,80 € (4-12 years old)
- Length: about 35 min. - Last admission 15 min. before closure of the monument.

Turn left on leaving the tower to discover charming Saint-Quiriac square. You may have noticed the dome as you arrived, and you are now in front of:

### ■ The Saint-Quiriac Collegiate church

Erected in the 12<sup>th</sup> century by the will of Count Henri le Liberal, it has never been completed due to the French kingdom's financial difficulties under the reign of Philippe le Bel. The nave and the portal should have raised up to the end of the square. The dome was built in the 17<sup>th</sup> century following a fire. Illumination at nightfall (tourist train stop).

Thibaud de Champagne High School (Lycée), former Palace of the Counts of Champagne, is on your right at the end of Rue Pierre Yhiner.

Take the stairway of "Jardin des Brébans" and find the information board. There you will see the place in the schoolyard and read interested discoveries over the churches of Provins. Then, walk up Rue du Palais. The strange, uneven building at n° 7 is:

Why not spoil yourself? 44 - 5



### ■ The Provins and the Provins area Museum

Situated in the Romanesque House (12<sup>th</sup> century), one of the oldest of the town, it houses collections related to the town and its areas' history from Antiquity to the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Ticket sales. No pets admitted.

- from 8 February to 12 June 2020: daily from noon to 5.30 p.m.
- 16 May 2020: European Night Museums: from 5.30 p.m. to midnight
- from 13 June to 13 September 2020: daily from 11 a.m. to 6.30 p.m.
- from 14 September to 1 November 2020: daily from noon to 5.30 p.m.
- from 11 January to 7 February 2020 and from 2 November 2020 to 20 December 2020: weekend and public holidays from noon to 5.30 p.m.
- PRICES: adults 4 € - reduced price 2 €
- Length: about 45 min. - Last admission 30 min. before closure of the monument.

All roads lead to Castle Square. Leave the square on your right by Rue Saint-Thibault, but be careful of the slope! Half-way down this road the astonishing building that you see far off to your left is:

Why not spoil yourself? 6 - 7



### ■ The Franciscan Abbey

Located out of the ramparts, this religious monument was built in the 13<sup>th</sup> century by the Earl Thibaud IV, on the hill face to his palace, after a vision of Sainte Catherine. It became a hospital in 1749, by order of Louis XV. The archives of the National Department of Patrimony and Historic Monument, and a college of tourism are kept in this building, which only opens to the public on rare occasions.

On your right at the end of the road you will find:

Why not spoil yourself? 12 - 8 - 18 - 9



### ■ The Underground Galleries and the General Hospital

The guided tour will lead you through this wonderful network. Regular departures with 25 persons maximum. Ticket and Pass Card sales. No pets admitted. Above, the ancient palace of the countesses became the general hospital for the most disadvantaged in the 12<sup>th</sup> century.

- ENGLISH GUIDED TOUR DEPARTURES:
- from 28 March to 3 July 2020: weekend, public holidays and extra day at 2.30 p.m. - week at 2 p.m.
- from 4 July to 30 August 2020: weekend, public holidays and extra day at 2.30 p.m. - week at 2 p.m.
- from 31 August to 1 November 2020: weekend, public holidays and extra day at 2.30 p.m. - week at 4.30 p.m. - week during French school holidays at 4.15 p.m.
- Please notice that guided tours in French language are available all year long. Information and booking in Provins Tourist Office.

■ PRICES: adults 4,50 € - children 3 € (4-12 years old)

Length: about 45 min. To be booked when purchasing ticket at the Tourist Office or in the monuments (ask for tour in English).

FROM THIS POINT YOU HAVE TWO OPTIONS:  
If you want to take The Count Thibaud Tour, go back up Rue St-Thibault and follow the itinerary starting from monument "P" (see below).

If you prefer to continue The Rose Road or The Rampart Tour, follow the instructions on the other side of this sheet, before returning to the Count of Champagne's coat of arms for more discoveries...

In the middle of the Rue St-Thibault, take the Rue des Jacobins and the Rue des Prés if you want to visit The Provins Rose Garden. If not, continue to walk up. Cross Castle Square and go along Rue de Jouy to n° 34, which is:

At the top of the slope, go through the Faneron Postern. The interior passageway formed by this semicircular stone arch enabled the town's inhabitants to come and go in safety. Bear left as you come out of the archway into Rue de Jouy and go to n° 34, which is:

### ■ The Holy Ghost Cellar

This sumptuous vaulted cellar is the remnant of a general hospital for mendicants and pilgrims. Built in the 12<sup>th</sup> century, it has been destroyed by fire in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Nowadays, it is used as a function room (tourist train stop).

Go towards the fortified gate. The stairway here leads to the rampart walk, which you can follow freely as far as "The Eagles of the Ramparts" show area



# SIGHTSEEING WALKS (contd.)

This is the Count of Champagne's coat of arms. On a blue ground that symbolizes loyalty, beauty and perseverance, it is formed of a wide silver band (symbolizing wisdom and purity) and a T-shape formed by two bands of gold (the symbol of strength, intelligence, virtue and greatness). The vocabulary employed by students of heraldry when they describe a coat of arms is very specific: gold and silver hues are called metals, while other colours such as azure (blue) sinople (green) and gules (red) are known as enamels.

Take the Rue du Val. This part of the town was all marshland, until the water was drained off into a man-made artificial river.

Along your way there are a number of admirable half-timbered houses, shown on the map by symbol . Some of them have been home to France's famous sons: Honoré de Balzac, Jules Verne, Edmond Nocard,... Commemorative plaques, squares and streets bear witness to their passage. After Général Leclerc Square, follow Rue de la Cordonnerie through to Saint-Ayout square, where you will find:

Why not spoil yourself? 19 - 20 - 21 - 10 - 22 - 23 - 45 - 24 - 25 26 - 27 - 11 - 28 - 29 - 30 - 46 - 31 - 32 - 33 - 34

**The Saint-Ayout Church**

The church square here was one of the earliest trade and commercial fair areas in Provins. It has been rebuilt many times since the 11<sup>th</sup> century. The modern sculptor Georges Jeanclos carved its remarkable portal. This church has recently reopened its doors following major restoration work, the most significant since the 16<sup>th</sup> century: roofs, framework and facings; floors, walls and vaults; new stained glass windows and furnishings; and new lighting to add to its splendour.

NEW: Discover the architectural ensemble Saint-Ayout through an audio-guided visit. You will find all the information in the "VISITS" part, on the other side of the brochure.

On leaving the church, cross over to your right and follow Rue Vieille Notre-Dame to:

Why not spoil yourself? 35 - 47

**The Bell Tower of Notre-Dame-du-Val**

Recently restored, this 16<sup>th</sup> century bell tower is all that remains of the church and cloister of Notre Dame du Val, destroyed during the French Revolution. Its bells come originally from Saint-Ayout church.

Take Rue de la Cordonnerie once again, and turn right onto Avenue Alain Peyrefitte, then left into Rue du Petit Cimetière Sainte-Croix. You are in Rue Sainte-Croix facing the portal of:

**The Sainte-Croix Church**

Built in the 12<sup>th</sup> century on the site of an ancient chapel, the church here owes its name to a piece of the True Cross supposedly brought back to Provins by the son-in-law of Saint Louis, Count Thibaud V. Following a fire in 1305, the church was largely reconstructed in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries, hence its Renaissance-style main portal. (No interior visits).

Once again you have to make a choice at this point: If you want to complete **The Rose Road** walk, go to the end of Rue Sainte-Croix on your right, then turn right in to rejoin Rue du Val and walk back up Rue Saint-Thibault. You can then follow the final part of this walk as indicated on the back of the plan - your meeting point between walks is as shown at monument "P".

If you want to continue **The Rampart Tour** and discover more of the sights of Provins, turn left into Rue Toussaint Rose, then right just before the entrance to the Garnier Gardens and follow Rue du Durteint as far as the little bridge:

**The Durteint and Voultzie Rivers**

Woolen cloth was the great speciality of medieval Provins. Renowned for its good quality, the cloth's very dark blue colour (known as "ners" blue) was obtained thanks to the hardness of the River Durteint's water. Further, water was indispensable for many trades: dyer, tanner, butcher,... At several points indicated on the map by the symbol , you will find picturesque view points over the rivers and their small private washhouses.

Retrace your steps and enter the magnificent:

**Garnier Gardens**

These gardens and their majestic house are named after Victor Garnier, a rich benefactor who bequeathed his estate to the town in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Formerly owned by a teaching order of nuns who looked after the education of the town's girls, the site was once used as a training ground for the town's crossbowmen. Today it still holds a number of traces of 13<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries Provins, including the portico of the nuns' chapel (visible to the left of the house).

Cross the garden. Go into the Square du Souvenir Français and take the stairway. Go up to your left:

**The Boulevard d'Aligre (or Aligre Walk)**

Much used by the people of Provins, this large boulevard follows the line of the old ramparts that have been almost completely destroyed in this part of the town. The river Voultzie running alongside the boulevard marks the old moat ditch. A pleasant stroll along this boulevard affords some surprising views of the medieval town.

When you reach the end of the boulevard, cross over the little bridge on your left and go through the wooden gate. This point marks the start of your climb up what is known as the Trou-au-Chat, a name derived from one of the most formidable of medieval siege engines, the "Chas". This engine was a match for the strongest fortifications, and a nearby rampart tower was in fact breached by a "Chas" during one of the sieges of Provins.

If you want to continue this walk, return to the Count of Champagne's coat of arms, situated at the top of the map as indicated by monument "P".



**KEY INFO**

- Upper Town "Le Châtel"
- Downtown "Le Val"
- Fortified walls, ramparts
- World Heritage Area
- "Zone d'Activités" & "Zone Industrielle"
- The Count Thibaud Tour
- The Rose Road
- The Rampart Tour
- Meeting point between walks: the Count of Champagne's coat of arms

- Camper area
- Electric bike rental
- Tourist shuttle
- Bus station
- Historic houses
- Picturesque river viewpoints
- Holiday accommodation rated by "Gîtes de France"
- "Tourism & Handicap" stamp
- Pharmacies

## why not spoil yourself?

### ACCOMMODATION

#### Upper Town

**1 IBIS \*\*\***  
Hotel - Restaurant  
Night stopover on request  
Terrace - Free WiFi  
Closed car park  
77, avenue du Général de Gaulle  
Tel.: 01 60 67 66 67  
h0856@accor.com

**2 LA FERME DU CHÂTEL**  
5 guest rooms at Annie and Claude Lebel's house, in a typical farm from the Brie region - In the heart of the upper town - Private car park - WiFi  
5, rue de la Chapelle Saint-Jean  
Tel.: 06 73 79 36 68  
www.fermeduchatelprovins.com

**3 HAUT JARDIN**  
In the heart of the upper town  
Holiday cottages for 2 and 4 pers.  
Garden - Terrace - Private car park  
21 rue de Jouy  
Tel.: 06 78 96 86 66  
www.gite-haut-jardin-provins.com

**4 AUX VUEZ REMPARTS**  
In the heart of the upper town  
Charming hotel with 42 rooms  
Bistro cuisine restaurant - "Lounge Bar des Remparts" in a 12<sup>th</sup> century vaulted cellar - Spa with indoor swimming pool, sauna, hammam, balneo, 3 booths including one for couples - Terrace - Car park  
3, rue Couverte  
Tel.: 01 64 08 94 00  
www.auxvieuxremparts.com

**5 LA MAISON DU PALAIS**  
Apartment in the heart of the upper town for 6 pers. - Fully equipped  
WiFi - Car park  
1, rue du Palais  
Tel.: 06 66 95 47 72  
reservation@nice-place.fr

**6 LES VOILETS BLEUS**  
Self catering cottage for 4 to 6 pers.  
All mod cons in a medieval house  
WiFi - Terrace - Garden - Close to the tourist sites and shops  
45, rue Saint-Thibault  
Tel.: 06 81 67 32 86  
http://les-volets-bleus.jimdo.com

#### LE CLOS DE PROVINS

Bed & Breakfast for 6 pers. - WiFi  
Terrace - Garden - Closed car park  
Close to the tourist sites, shops and sports facilities  
4, rue des Jacobins  
Tel.: 06 85 80 86 45  
www.leclosdeprovins.com

**8 DEMEURE DES VIEUX BAINS**  
High-quality Bed & Breakfast in a listed 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century house  
All mod cons with bathes and chromotherapy baths, massage showers, hammam, lounge with billiard  
Restaurant d'hôtes on booking  
Garden - Closed car park - Approved by the French tourist guide "Guide Michelin"  
7, rue du Moulin de la Rueille  
Tel.: 06 74 64 54 00  
www.demeure-des-vieux-bains.com

**9 STELLA CADENTE CREA TEUR**  
Wonderful house of the extraordinary fashion designer: Stella Cadente  
High quality rooms for a fairytale experience - Enchanting restaurant  
28, rue Maximilien Michelin  
Tel.: 06 10 22 88 30  
www.stellacadente-provins.com

**10 LE CÉSAR HÔTEL \*\*\*\***  
High quality design hotel with 27 rooms in the heart of the medieval town - Bar Lounge - Landscaped terrace - Lounge - Well-being space  
Seminar - Secure car park  
13, rue Sainte-Croix  
Tel.: 01 60 520 520  
http://lecesarhotel.com

**11 LES GÎTES GIVERS**  
2 duplex for 2 to 4 pers. with all mod cons - WiFi - Ideally located near the historical monuments, station, market and shops - Close to a free car park  
17, rue Edmond Nocard  
Tel.: 06 86 04 45 66  
https://gitegivers.mon-site-orange.fr

### MEDIEVAL BANQUET

#### Upper Town

**12 BANQUET DES TROUBADOURS**  
Lunch & dinner show: medieval feast with performers and musicians in a 12<sup>th</sup> century vaulted cellar  
Open Saturday midday & evening, Sunday midday - From 14 March  
14, rue Saint-Thibault  
Tel.: 06 70 50 08 58  
www.provins-banquet-medieval.com

**13 LA CURE D'AIR**  
French traditional cooking  
2 restaurant rooms one of which is a private dining room - Rates for groups  
Large terraces in summer time - Car Park - Closed on Monday, Tuesday evening and Sunday evening  
54, avenue du Général de Gaulle  
Tel.: 01 60 58 02 87

**14 LA TABLE SAINT JEAN**  
Traditional cooking made on site by professionals - In the heart of the upper town in a 13<sup>th</sup> century house  
Chimney - Terrace Rates for groups  
Closed on Tuesday & Sunday evenings, and Wednesday midday and evening  
3, rue Saint-Jean  
Tel.: 01 64 08 96 77  
tatalablenstjean@wanadoo.fr

**15 LES BISTROPHILES**  
French traditional cooking - Food and groceries carrying the "Locally produced, locally cooked" label  
Air conditioning - Terrace - Open every midday, public holidays, and on Friday and Saturday evenings  
44, rue du Val  
Tel.: 01 64 08 97 00  
www.auxvieuxremparts.com

**16 CHEZ MAMMY**  
In the heart of the upper town  
Pancakes, salads, meats, today's menu, etc. - Rose and honey specialties - Covered and warmed terrace - Air conditioning - Open 7/7  
No reservation  
16, place du Châtel  
Tel.: 01 60 67 78 10

**17 LA TERRASSE DU CHÂTEL**  
French traditional cooking  
Seasonal cooking - Pizza Bar - Theme parties - Terrace  
Wheelchair access  
8, place du Châtel  
Tel.: 01 64 00 01 16  
terrasseduchatel@gmail.com

**18 HOSTELLERIE DE LA CROIX D'OR**  
Listed as the oldest Hostelry in France (1270) - French season gourmet cooking - Terrace - Closed on Sunday evening, Monday & Tuesday  
36 avenue Alain Peyrefitte  
Tel.: 01 64 00 01 96

**9 IL ÉTAIT UNE FOIS...**  
Inside the enchanting world of the Maison Stella Cadente - Elegant and original cooking - around the fireside during cold weather - Terrace  
Wooden park - Set menu for lunch and brunch on weekends - Open from Tuesday evening to Sunday midday  
28 rue Maximilien Michelin  
Tel.: 06 10 22 88 30  
www.restaurantrosalie77.com

**20 P'TIT REST'O**  
Traditional cooking and homey food - Salads - Biscuits, burgers, home-made fries and desserts - Local and fresh products  
Theme parties - Terrace - Join us on Facebook  
45, rue du Val  
Tel.: 01 60 58 86 72

**21 LES BISTROPHILES**  
French traditional cooking - Food and groceries carrying the "Locally produced, locally cooked" label  
Air conditioning - Terrace - Open every midday, public holidays, and on Friday and Saturday evenings  
44, rue du Val  
Tel.: 01 64 08 97 00  
www.auxvieuxremparts.com

**22 LA MALOUMIÈRE**  
Breton crêperie - Traditional salads - Specialties and fresh products from Brittany - Air conditioning - Wheelchair access  
Closed on Sunday evening & Monday 19, rue de la Friprie  
Tel.: 01 60 58 73 97  
lamaloumiere77@free.fr

**23 L'APPART**  
Traditional cooking - Menu with local produce on weekend  
Wine bar - Terrace - Open from Thursday to Monday, midday & evening  
Closed on Tuesday and Wednesday  
37, rue du Val (pedestrian street)  
Tel.: 01 64 08 32 91

**24 RESTAURANT CASQUINHAS**  
Portuguese specialties - Grilled food baked in a wood-fired oven  
Fresh products - Dish of the day  
Terrace - Rates for groups - Event catering - Open from Tuesday to Sunday midday - Join us on Facebook  
36 avenue Alain Peyrefitte  
Tel.: 01 64 08 19 06

**25 LE ROSALIE**  
Grill restaurant  
Home-made products - Group menus  
Serving you since 1989 - Covered and warmed or outside terrace  
Join us on Facebook: Rosalie Grill  
7, place Honoré de Balzac  
Tel.: 01 60 67 62 10  
www.restaurantrosalie77.com

**26 DAIKICHI**  
Japanese specialties  
Sit-down meals, carry-out food  
Open daily except on Sunday midday  
13-15, rue Hugues le Grand  
Tel.: 01 64 08 95 28  
www.daiikichissushi77.fr

**27 L'ESSENTIEL**  
Home-made cooking  
Fresh seasonal products - Selection of meat - Fish according to availability  
Bar Lounge - Theme parties  
33, rue Hugues le Grand  
Tel.: 01 64 01 46 94  
lesbistrophilis@gmail.com

**28 BELLA PIZZ'Z**  
Elected the 4<sup>th</sup> best pizzeria of Seine-et-Marne - Hearty salads and tagliatelli with choice of sauces - Lunch menu: half-pizza + salad - Dessert or beverage - Free WiFi - Closed on Sunday midday  
Open from Thursday to Sunday midday & evening  
Closed on Tuesday and Wednesday  
2, place St-Ayout - Downtown  
Tel.: 01 64 00 00 62  
www.bellapizz.fr

**29 SAVEURS ET PLAISIRS**  
Traditional brasserie - Simmered dishes - Lounge atmosphere  
Warmed terrace - Closed on Sunday and Monday - Join us on Facebook  
6, place St-Ayout - Downtown  
Tel.: 01 60 58 41 70

**30 LE PROVENÇOIS**  
French Traditional cooking  
Fresh seasonal products - Takeout service - Terrace - Garden - Private car park - Free WiFi - Closed on Sunday evening and Monday - Find us on lafourchette.com and join us on Facebook  
17, rue du colonel Arnaud Beltrame  
Tel.: 01 60 67 64 32  
leprovencois@free.fr

**31 MC DONALD'S**  
Open 7/7 from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. & from 10 a.m. to midnight on Friday & Saturday - Air conditioning  
Meal service - Self-service machines and online orders - WiFi - Terrace  
Adventure playground - Car park  
Drive in  
Avenue de la Voultzie Industrielle Zone  
Tel.: 01 64 00 06 42

**32 BUFFALO GRILL**  
Grill restaurant - Takeout  
Air conditioning - Playroom - Terrace  
Open 7/7, from 11.30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and from 6 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. in week (11 p.m. on Friday, from 11.30 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Saturday, and from 11.30 a.m. to 10.30 p.m. on Sunday  
15, avenue de la Voultzie Industrielle Zone  
Tel.: 01 60 58 08 53  
www.buffalo.fr

**33 L'U'ZINE**  
Brasserie - Burgers  
Pizzas - Tartares - Outside terrace  
Open all day long - Theme parties  
15, avenue de la Voultzie Industrielle Zone  
Tel.: 01 60 67 72 44

**34 LUCKY WOK**  
Asian restaurant  
All-you-can-eat buffet without beverage - Wok, Grilled meats, Seafood, Sushi - Sit-down meals and carry-out food - WiFi  
Open daily from noon to 2.30 p.m. and from 7 p.m. to 10.30 p.m.  
15, avenue de la Voultzie Industrielle Zone  
Tel.: 01 60 52 64 88  
luckywokprovins@gmail.com

**35 L'INATTENDU**  
Traditional cooking and specialties of meat and fish skewers  
Fresh seasonal produce - Air conditioning - Wheelchair access  
Open from Tuesday to Saturday, midday & evening  
5, rue Abelard  
Tel.: 01 64 01 64 24  
linattenduprovins@gmail.com

**36 CRÉNEAUX CHOCOLAT**  
Chocolate and ice-cream maker  
Workshop in the heart of the upper town - Open daily in high season, and from Wednesday to Sunday in low season  
4, rue de la Citadelle  
Tel.: 01 64 00 69 11  
creneauxchocolatprovins@gmail.com

**37 L'ATELIER D'ODE**  
The boutique especially for girls: fancy jewels and accessories, silver rings, clothes and colourful bags, 100% hand-made tableware with vivid colours - Open all year round from 1.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.: daily from April to September, and on weekend, public holidays and French school holidays in low season  
7, rue Saint-Jean  
Tel.: 01 60 58 99 70

**38 LE ROY LIRE**  
Medieval bookshop in a gothic vaulted cellar: medieval books, calligraphy, wooden toys, souvenirs... - From April to December: from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. during the week and from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekends and public holidays - In low season: from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. on weekends, public holidays and French school holidays - Closed on Monday  
9, rue de Jouy  
Tel.: 01 64 00 52 71  
roylire@orange.fr

**39 À LA CROISÉE DES CHEMINS**  
Medieval grocery - Choose from a wide range of lardes, sugars, cocoa and spices - Original range of wooden toys, products made by abbays, rose cosmetics, etc.  
Open all year round: from 1.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. in week, and from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekend  
8, rue Couverte  
Tel.: 01 60 52 68 64

**40 LA SAVONNERIE DE LA ROSE**  
Wide range of handmade and Alep soaps, candles, rose cosmetics, etc.  
For your body and to indulge in the sheer pleasure of bathing - Open all year round from 1.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.: daily from April to September, and on weekend, public holidays and French school holidays in low season  
Maison aux 4 Pignons (Place du Châtel)  
Tel.: 01 64 00 02 17

**41 BRIE DE PROVINS**  
The oldest unpasteurised Brie cheese - Selection of French natural honey, and other local and organic products - In a medieval vaulted cellar  
2, rue de Savigny  
Tel.: 06 76 71 76 14  
www.brie-de-provins.fr

**42 LES TABLIERS GOURMANDS**  
Medieval biscuits - Discovery of medieval cuisine - cooking class and pastry demonstrations  
Salty/sweet all-themed cooking workshops for adults and children  
House of local products and handicrafts  
Place du Châtel (entrance 21, rue du Palais)  
Tel.: 06 23 63 86 84  
www.lesetabliersgourmands.com

**43 LES COMPTOIRS DES COLPORTEURS**  
In medieval and authentic surroundings of one of the oldest shops of the upper town - Traditional grocery and hardware shop - Widest choice of French hand-crafted products - Open on Saturday, Sunday, public holidays and during French school holidays from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
4, rue Jean Desmarts  
comptoirsdescolporteurs@orange.fr  
www.comptoirsdescolporteurs.fr

**44 LA RONDE DES ABEILLES**  
Where honey meets the rose of Provins: candies and sweets, nougats, confits and honey - Cosmetics - Gift baskets  
Open all year: from 10.30 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekend - In week, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. in high season, and from 1.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. in low season - Closed on Tuesday and Wednesday in low season  
3, rue des Beaux-Arts  
Tel.: 01 60 67 65 97  
rdaprovins@gmail.com

**45 MAISON GAUFFLIER**  
Winner of the "Talented Gourmand" award - Chocolate maker  
Rose speciality products: candied rose petals (homemade), biscuits, meringues, macaroons, chameaux, hand-crafted jam...  
2, rue Victor Garnier  
Tel.: 01 64 00 03 71

**46 LE CARREAU DE PROVINS**  
The Provins medieval tile workshop  
Ceramic showroom - Open from 2 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. on weekends and public holidays or by appointment  
16 boulevard Carnot  
Tel.: 01 60 67 64 54  
www.lecarreaudeprovins.fr

**47 BRETH'S**  
Delicatessen - Wines, cheeses, rose specialties, gifts, etc.  
Open from Tuesday to Thursday midday  
9, place St-Ayout  
Tel.: 01 60 52 64 35

**48 L'ÉCHOPPE PHOTO**  
Keepsake photography in medieval  
Costumes - Souvenirs from Provins  
Medieval weapons - Great helmet  
Camail - Rental and sales of medieval costume - Wooden toys  
10, place du Châtel  
Tel.: 06 07 64 66 40  
echoppephotosouvenirs@sfr.fr



## Events 2020

Major events are programmed throughout the tourist season:

- The market of Provins:**  
Traditional covered market each Wednesday & Saturday morning. Rue du Minage, in the downtown.
- Easter egg hunt:**  
12 & 13 April  
Free treasure hunt to find chocolate eggs, for children 12 years of age and under.
- The European Museum's Night:**  
16 May
- Sound & Light show of Provins:**  
5, 6, 12 & 13 June



- Medieval Festival of Provins:**  
13 & 14 June  
"The Builders of the Middle Ages". 37<sup>th</sup> edition of this great historical re-enactment: troubadours & acrobats, musicians, dances... to bring alive the festive atmosphere of the Fairs of Champagne.
- The Easel Tournament:** 13 September  
Painting competition for amateur artists and young talents, with valuable awards.
- Heritage Days:** 19 & 20 September
- Autumn Fair:** 27 September
- The Rampart Foot Race:** 4 October
- The Niflette Festival (local pastry):** 11 November
- Christmas in Provins:** 12 & 13 December  
Medieval market, handicraft & xmas market, animated crib, and also many Christmas activities.



- Provins by Candlelight:**  
4 July and 1 August  
Exceptional evenings to discover Provins and its heritage in a magic way, by candlelight: guided tour, street animations, music & evening shows.

2020 SEASONS

UNESCO's World Heritage List

Medieval Town

www.provins.net > ONLINE BOOKING

SEINE-ET-MARNE

ÎLE-DE-FRANCE

UNESCO's World Heritage List

Medieval Town

www.provins.net > ONLINE BOOKING

SEINE-ET-MARNE

ÎLE-DE-FRANCE

## provins A medieval fair town

Within an hour's reach of Paris, Provins is one of the best preserved medieval cities in France. Every street corner evokes the great splendour of the old capital of the Counts of Champagne. In the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries, these great feudal lords offered the Kings of France, defying them from the ramparts. They were the first to introduce a passport ensuring safe passage across their territory for the merchants. Thanks to this guarantee, the fairs of Provins became the most important in Europe. Cloth merchants from Flanders, Lombard money-changers, spice merchants from the orient, poets and intellectuals, such as Chrétien de Troyes could be found here. The memory of lovers such as Héloïse and Abelard, the passion between Blanche de Castille and Thibaud le chanoine, the same Count of Champagne who brought back the "damascus rose" from the crusades, still haunt the streets of Provins. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the writers Honoré de Balzac and Jules Verne, and the painter Moreau le Jeune came to enjoy the romantic views of the ruined ramparts and of Caesar Tower covered with ivy.

Once one of the first financial markets in Europe, the city's prosperity declined in a few decades at the beginning of the 14<sup>th</sup> century. The modification of the commercial routes, wars, plagues, the slow disappearance of fairs, as well as the joining of the lands of Brie and Champagne to the kingdom of France led to the town's decline. For a long time, Provins returned to being a small town secluded in rural life, ignored by the great events of History.

But this fall from grace enabled Provins to become an extremely well preserved town of the Middle Ages: 58 monuments included in France's National Inventory of Historical Monuments. Nearly all built in the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries, this unique historical heritage became part of UNESCO's World Heritage List on 13 December 2001.

To reach us: Chemin de Villeneuve 77160 Provins

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www.provins.net

PROVINS

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Le Petit Train

EVASION

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