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Write to the editor: info@petitfute.com

# WELCOME TO BURGUNDY

Composed of four departments, the region is so rich that many say that it is "blessed by Gods".

► **Trips on mountains and on water.** The lovers of the blue waves will sail over the water, while freshwater fishermen will tease carps. Nine canals and rivers cross Burgundy, placing it at the river network's rank of honor in France, the Burgundy canal, the Roanne canal, the Saône, the Seille, the Loire and the Yonne. Cycling enthusiasts have many paths to explore, between the towpaths and the blue and green tracks.

► **Gastronomy.** Burgundians are known to be "proud", but how could it be otherwise given the large number of products in AOC and AOP? In Burgundy, we put Cassis cream of Dijon in the wine! Delightful red and white wines and *crémants* to taunt even the most hesitant one. And because a good wine is more appreciated with a good meal, you can enjoy the many restaurants and hostels where hospitality is an art. Burgundy jams or *escargots* (snails) will open the appetites, before tasting the famous Bresse chicken, Charolais beef, and many cheeses like the excellent Brillat Savarin or Époisse.

► **All the charm of the history.** Ancient stones lovers, come to Burgundy! From the tower Philippe le Bon to the majestic castle of Ancy le Franc, discover the sacred in the Clunisian city, the famous Roche de Solutré, the fortress construction in Guédelon, and the battle places of Alésia in Alise-sur-Reine. The list of treasures in this region is so long that it cannot be exhaustive!

► **Natural resources.** Aware of the richness of its soil and its heritage treasures, the region is committed to pursuing an ambitious agro-ecological policy to protect ecosystems and produce high-quality AOC products.

► **The dynamic and cultural Burgundy Culture** is everywhere, and streets and cellars are spaces for expressions. In the summer days, the Chalons festival in the streets remains a must-see like the Musicaves where world and local musics blend. While Beaune hosts the international polar film festival or international Baroque opera festival, great sports teams also raise clamour in stadium bleachers. Come and have a thrill!

► **If you ended up in Burgundy by chance, you will definitely come back on purpose the next time!**

Be curious, travel *Futé*.



 PRINTED IN FRANCE

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*Landscapes of Burgundy.*

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These are Petit Futé's special recommendations

## FIND THE BEST VISITS

★ INTERESTING   ★★ EXCELLENT   ★★★ UNMISSABLE   ★★★★★ UNFORGETTABLE





*Vineyards and village of Santenay.*

© GILLES OSTER – ADOBE STOCK



# DISCOVERY





*Vineyards in front of La Roche de Solutré.*



*Statue inside the abbey of Fontenay.*



*Burgundian escargots.*



*Panoramic view of Dijon.*

# MUST-SEES

## CÔTE-D'OR ★★☆☆

### The Hospices of Beaune

L'Hôtel-Dieu de Beaune is one of the most visited monuments in Côte-d'Or (more than 420,000 visitors per year!). With its glazed tiles, the building, immortalized by *La Grande Vadrouille*, remains undoubtedly one of the jewels of Burgundian medieval heritage. The story began in 1443.... Nicolas Rolin, chancellor of the Duke of Burgundy, Philip the Good, and his wife, Guigone de Salins, decided to create a pious foundation and built a hospital for the sick and underprivileged. The first patient was received in 1452 and the place would receive more, as well as elderly residents until the early 1980s. The Hôtel-Dieu museum invites you to discover its fascinating history. Please note that the comments of the audioguides are very well done. At the end of the tour, the cultural shop offers books, games and beautiful objects. If you only have to visit one building in Beaune, it's obviously this one!

■ **L'HÔTEL-DIEU –  
LES HOSPICES DE BEAUNE**  
Rue de l'Hôtel-Dieu  
BEAUNE ☎ +33 3 80 24 45 00  
hospices-de-beaune.com  
hospices.beaune@ch-beaune.fr



Low season: open every day from 9am to 11.30am and from 2pm to 5.30pm. High season: every day from 9am to 6.30pm. Free for under 10-year-olds (and for the disabled guests). Adult: €7.50. Child (from 10 to 18 years old): €3. Group (10 people): €6.50 (school, 10-18 years: €2.50). Reduced rate: €5.50. Guided tour (€2.50). Shop. Activities.

### The new museum of Pays Châtillonnais

It is in the former abbey Notre-Dame that sits the very beautiful Musée du Pays Châtillonnais... Very beautiful museum for its location but also and especially for its collection that is one of the most beautiful and most representatives of the Celtic and Gallo-Roman eras in France. It must also be said that the museum has an extraordinary piece: The vase of Vix and more generally the entire treasure of Vix! Discovered in 1953, at the foot of Mount Lassois, this treasure consists, among other things, of two ceramic black-figure-style bowls, a gold torque, a silver phiale with gold omphic, a wine jug... and the largest vase known to date. Its measurements are by the way impressive: 208 kg, 1.64 m high, 1.27 m diameter and 1.2 mm thick. All this makes up a magnificent vase that can contain up to 1,100 liters! If these objects discovered

in the funeral chamber of a Celtic princess are to be seen for the pleasure of the eyes, they also teach us many things about trade between the Vix region and the Mediterranean even though this grave dates from the beginning of the 5th century... Lovers of Celtic and Gallo-Roman times can't miss it; as for others, know that the museum has a collection that extends until the 19th century with a very beautiful cabinet of curiosity dedicated to ornithology! The museum also offers beautiful exhibitions many times a year. The Musée du Pays Châtillonnais is a vital step for anyone who comes to Burgundy!

■ **MUSÉE DU PAYS CHATILLONNAIS –  
TRÉSOR DE VIX** ★★☆☆  
14, rue de la Libération  
CHÂTILLON-SUR-SEINE ☎ +33 3 80 91 24 67  
www.musee-vix.fr  
accueil@musee-chatillonnais.fr



Open all year. Closed on January 1st, May 1st, November 11th, 25 and December 31st. Low season: Wednesday to Monday from 9am to 12pm and from 2pm to 6pm. High season: every day from 10am to 7pm. Free for under 7-year-olds. Adult: €7. Child (from 7 to 18 years old): €3.50. Group (10 people): €3.50. Tourism label & Disability. Guided tour. Shop. Audioguides available in 4 languages: French, English, German and Dutch. Application for smartphone related to the audioguides.

### The Castle of Clos de Vougeot

To present the Château du Clos de Vougeot, we don't know where to start as the subject is so much interesting... Maybe just from the beginning! Its construction dates back to the 12th century by the monks of the Cîteaux Abbey. Expansion works were carried out in the 16th century to create dwellings. As its name suggests (Clos) it is built in the middle of a well-delimited vineyard plot, not far from the houses (wine village of Vougeot) and on the Route des Grands Crus. Then, we can continue by saying that he is the Master of the prestigious Confrérie des Chevaliers du Tastevin, whose vocation is to promote the traditions, gastronomy and wines of Burgundy. Open to visitors all year round (free or guided), it is full of treasures such as a superb 12th-century cellar designed to accommodate 2,000 bottles, a 12th and 13th century winery that houses very beautiful presses, old kitchens and the superb Renaissance salons. A 20-minute film told by Pierre Arditi, recounting the history of the Château and the Brotherhood, completes the visit. In short, it is an unmissable place in Burgundy's history, which is worth a visit and won't disappoint you.

► **Good to know!** The Château du Clos de Vougeot offers you the opportunity to experience an exceptional moment by organising your receptions, cocktails and dinners in the heart of the vineyards! Be sure, the resident chef Olivier Walch and his team will prepare a magnificent meal up to your expectations.

► **The Music and Wine Festival is organised every year.** In 2019, it will be held from 22 to 30 June 2019 at Clos de Vougeot. Come and listen to the talents of great musicians, conductors, singers and young talents for a week.

### ■ LE CHÂTEAU DU CLOS DE VOUGEOT ★★★★★ La Montagne VOUGEOT

☎ +33 3 80 62 86 09

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

[visites@closdevougeot.info](mailto:visites@closdevougeot.info)



*From April to October: open every day 9:00 to 6.30pm. Closed at 5pm Saturday. From November to March: open every day from 10am to 5pm. Adult: €7. Child (from 8 to 16 years old): €2.50. Group (10 people): €5. Pass-wall (yearly subscription for the frequent visitors): €20 all year. Children welcome. Guided tour (free tour. Guided tour by reservation or at 11.30am and 2.30pm €2.50 (45 min of visit. English and German, Italian visit on request).*

## The Fontenay Abbey

Burgundy saw the birth of men and destinies that influenced the course of history. In the field of religion, a Burgundian stands out particularly: Bernard de Clairvaux

who became Saint Bernard in 1174. Born in 1090, Bernard became a Cistercian monk at the abbey of Cîteaux in 1112 and brought with him 30 of his friends... Soon, he founded the abbey of Clairvaux of which he became the abbot. And three years later, he founded the abbey of Fontenay in this high Côte-d'Or so rich in magnificent landscapes. Notre-Dame-de-Fontenay Abbey was founded in 1118, more than nine hundred years ago. Nine centuries that saw the life of the monks flow into the different rooms such as the cloister, the chapter house, the abbey church, the dormitory or the forge, but which also saw history unfold. Thus, the abbey church is dedicated to the end of the 12th century.

In the 16th century, Fontenay enjoyed great prosperity. Soon, the Revolution shook France and in 1790 the last eight monks left the abbey while it was sold in 1791 to become a paper mill. Thirty years later, Elie de Montgolfier bought the abbey and developed the manufactory... In 1906, Edouard Aynard, son-in-law of the Montgolfier, bought Fontenay and restored the abbey's serenity and calm. Fontenay Abbey, a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1981, still belongs to this family. And it is Hubert and Dominique Aynard, who today describe themselves as custodians, who bring this building to life. A place that attracts about 85,000 visitors a year who discover the abbey, but also the magnificent gardens installed on 2 hectares and certified "Remarkable Gardens" where we discover a bicentenary tree planted in 1780. The bookstore allows you to discover exciting books and excellent regional products. As Mr. and Mrs. Aynard remind us, don't forget that as visitors, you are the first patrons! So, come and discover this sublime, grandiose and relaxing place and participate in the many events organized each year.

## Identity card

The administrative merger of the regions changed the map of France. Since January 1, 2016, Burgundy has thus become Bourgogne-Franche-Comté (BFC) with the Metropolis of Dijon as capital. This new region becomes the 5th of France by its area; it occupies 9% of the French metropolitan territory.

► **Departments:** Eight departments comprise the Bourgogne Franche-Comté region: Côte d'Or (21), Saône-et-Loire (71), Nièvre (58), Yonne (89), Doubs (25), Jura (39), Haut-Saône (70), Territoire de Belfort (90).

► **Population:** 2,813,300 inhabitants spread over as follows: Saône-et-Loire, 553,100 inhabitants; Doubs, 540,900 inhabitants; Côte d'Or, 536,800 inhabitants; Yonne, 338,300 inhabitants; Jura, 259,400 inhabitants; Haute-Saône, 234,300 inhabitants; Nièvre, 205,900 inhabitants, Territoire de Belfort, 144,500 inhabitants. (Figures: INSEE 2018 estimate)

► **Demography:** Population growth remains modest, 0.1% compared to 0.5% at national level between 2009 and 2014. (INSEE sources)

► **Density:** Bourgogne Franche-Comté is a sparsely populated region with 59 inhabitants per km<sup>2</sup>. (INSEE 2016)

► **Surface area:** 47,800 km<sup>2</sup>

► **Culmination point:** The culmination point of Burgundy is located in Morvan, in Haut-Folin (71) with 901 m of altitude while the peak point of the great region is the Pilat Crêt in Franche-Comté.

► **Main streams:** There are five main rivers that are the Seine, the Loire, the Yonne, the Saône and the Doubs.



Abbey of Fontenay.



### FONTENAY ABBEY MARMAGNE

☎ +33 3 80 92 15 00

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

[info@abbayedefontenay.com](mailto:info@abbayedefontenay.com)

6 km northeast of Ten, via Marmagne.

Open all year round. Low season: every day from 10am to 12pm and from 2pm to 5pm. High season: every day from 10am to 6pm. High season from the end of March to mid-November. Adult: €10 (€12,50 with guided tour). Children (up to 26 years old): €7 (€7,90 with guided tour). Group (15 people): €8,80 (€5,70 -26 years old in free visit). Shop.

## MuséoParc Alésia

Alésia is an incredible site that certainly appeals to children and adults! To learn everything about its history, to understand and relive the history of our ancestors the Gauls, the MuséoParc welcomes you first of all to its interpretation centre. Throughout your journey, discover models, films, objects, multimedia terminals... which explain the Battle of Alésia in the context of the Gauls War (from 58 to 51 BC). Then, continue outside and through the remains of the Gallo-Roman city and be amazed: foundations, sanctuary, theatre, forum, etc. But also the statue of Vercingetorix which sits on the western side of Mont-Auxois. The site also organizes various activities. The Museofab offers an introduction to ancient craft techniques around basketry, ceramics, weaving, leatherwork, Roman cuisine, etc. And throughout the year, entertainment, shows and demonstrations are offered to all. To be noted, for example, from April to September 2019, the temporary exhibition *Bling bling, the glass craftsmanship of the Gauls* or, in July, the ancient days "De bello gallico", a weekend of reconstitution to relive this famous historical episode of the Gauls war... icing on the cake, on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019, the Alésia MuséoParc received the first *Heritage for All*



prize, awarded by the Ministry of Culture, which rewards an outstanding approach to general accessibility for people with disabilities. But also 2 stars in the Michelin Burgundy Green Guide 2019, in other words a site that is worth the while. Congratulations!

### ■ MUSÉOPARC ALÉSIA 1, route des Trois-Ormeaux ALISE-SAINTE-REINE

☎ +33 3 80 96 96 23

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

[contact@alesia.com](mailto:contact@alesia.com)

Open from February 4th to November 30th, 2017. Admission fee in Museoparc Alésia (Center of interpretation + Gallo-Roman remains) high season: €12; reduced (student -26 years, large family, unemployed): €10; from 7 to 16 years old child: €7. Low season: €10; reduced: €8; child: €6. High season: April, May, June, July, August, September. Low season: February, March, October, November. Possibility of dissociating the visit of the Center of interpretation of that of the Gallo-Roman remains (see rates on website). The access to the statue of Vercingetorix is free. Discount on online shopping. Toy library. Catering facilities. Shop. Free parking.



## Museum of Fine Arts in Dijon

2019 marks the end of the gigantic programme to renovate the Museum of Fine Arts and restore the works it contains. This renewal is expected for this museum nestled in an urban palace, which the people of Dijon love for the quality and richness of its collections. If the visits continued during the work, there is no doubt that everyone will want to see the results of this major project from May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019, the date of its inauguration. There, visitors will find a museum embellished and open to the city in which the museography has been completely redesigned to make the visit multisensory with texts, cartels, multimedia tables. To be rediscovered without fail!

**■ MUSÉE DES BEAUX-ARTS****DE DIJON****Palais des Ducs et des Etats de Bourgogne****Place de la Libération****DIJON**☎ **+33 3 80 74 52 09****beaux-arts.dijon.fr****museedesbeauxarts@ville-dijon.fr**

*Closed on January 1st, May 1st, May 8th, July 14th, 1st and November 11th, December 25th. Low season: open Wednesday to Monday from 10am to 5pm. High season: Wednesday to Monday from 9.30am to 6pm. Closed of the donation Granville (modern art, €2 and €3 floor) of 11.30am at 13:45. Free. Audioguide (FR, GB, ALL): €4. Guided tour: €6, reduced: €3. Concert, show: €6. Workshop: €6. Guided tour. Catering facilities. Shop. Activities. The museum organizes workshops, conferences, guided tours, games, the night ones.*

**NIÈVRE** ★★**The Charité-sur-Loire**

A major site of Burgundian Romanesque art, La Charité-sur-Loire, enjoying Ville d'Art et d'Histoire label today, and "elder daughter of Cluny" once, was an important stopover on the Santiago de Compostela routes. Founded in 1059 and consecrated on March 9, 1097, the Clunisian priory could accommodate 5 000 believers. The Sainte-Croix Tower, now isolated, recalls that Notre-Dame church was one of the major buildings of Christianity in the 12th century.

The choir and transept are characterized by the elegance of the 9th and 12th centuries architecture, and the richness of their sculpted decorations contributed greatly to the renown of the priory church. Saved from a destruction by Prosper Mérimée, who was an inspector of historical monuments, it was listed as a UNESCO World Heritage in December 1998. The conventual buildings offer their architectural splendor during exhibitions or concerts organised in these sacred places, and the cloister now reveals its contemporary stained glass windows during the numerous events organised in these places. In the image of its church, the heart of La Charité-sur-Loire city is very historical: at the bend of an alley, a passage or old stairs, you will discover there the salt loft where the population had to pay the salt tax, here, a 15th-century shop, and further the 84 steps of that are still taken today and since the 12th century. Stroll through the old town, look up to find the architectural detail that will catch your eye, the slightest quotation on the walls, and end your captivating walk at the foot of the ramparts where you can contemplate the city and its priory, and beyond, the Loire, a wild river so dear to the hearts of the La Charité-sur-Loire residents.

**The Museum of Ceramic**

Located in a beautiful garden occupied by the ancient cloister of the Notre-Dame Abbey, at the rear of the city walls, the museum deploys its collections in a vast space. On 1,700 m<sup>2</sup>, they consist above all of an exceptional collection of nearly 400 pieces of Nevers's faience from the late 16th century to the dawn of the 20th century. An entire museum room will be devoted to a little known craft: the enamelled figurines also in spun glass that is known as "from Nevers". This unique ensemble in Europe both by its volume and by its variety, with 250 pieces, as well as

statuettes and paintings on religious or secular subjects, will be exhibited to the general public. Visitors will also find a room dedicated to 19th-century sculpture, a gallery of the 19th-century paintings extended by a space dedicated to painting and decorative arts of the Montmartre period; a room dedicated to money and medals from Antiquity to the 20th century; a 17th-century lounge and an 18th-century lounge gathering furniture, paintings and art objects; graphic art cabinets: prints, drawings and watercolours, as well as a collections from the poster designer and press designer, Albert Solon. Educational spaces welcome young public, and a documentary centre dedicated to arts of fire is open to public for the consultation of books on this field.

**The Museum of Nurses and Children of the State**

Since the end of the 18th century, the history of the nurses and children of the Assistance Publique has shaped the identity of Morvan. Several tens of thousands of children, women and families have been affected by this experience. This museum, which belongs to the Ecomusée du Morvan network, evokes all these destinies, and retraces their journey, a true link today between history, children and families, and parenting issues. We walk through the scenography as if we were walking through a village, from house to house, discovering historical data and poignant testimonies. The route is that of the foster children, the nannies who stayed in Morvan, and those who went to the city to breastfeed other children than their own. A must in the history of Morvan and Nièvre. A true living place, the museum houses a café and three guest rooms. An activity booklet (paid) for children aged 5 to 10 years is available at the museum reception desk, to be done during the visit or at home to continue the story.

**■ MUSÉE DES NOURRICES ET DES ENFANTS DE L'ASSISTANCE PUBLIQUE****Le Bourg****ALLIGNY-EN-MORVAN** ☎ **+33 3 86 78 44 05****www.museedesnourrices.fr**

*Open all year round. Wednesday to Monday from 10am to 6pm. High season: every day from 10am to 6pm. Free for children up to 8 years old. Adult: €6 (reduced rate: €3.50). Groups on reservation. Guided tour. Animations.*

# SAÔNE-ET-LOIRE ★★

## Bibracte, Museum of the Celtic civilization

Located in the heart of Burgundy, Bibracte is an extraordinary natural and archaeological site labelled Grand Site de France since 2007. This label was renewed in 2013 for a further 6 years period. Nestled in the stunning setting of the regional natural park of the Morvan, the Bibracte archaeological site invites you to discover the riches of the Celtic civilisation of the 2nd and 1st century before Christ. In fact, the antique city of Bibracte would have been built on the Beuvray mountain by the Gallic people of Eduens. Vercingétorix also held in Bibracte the first general uprising of the Gallic tribe against the Romans in 52 BC. Stretching over 200 ha, this magnificent site offers a large number of activities to visitors where the pleasure to discover a majestic nature mingles with scientific and historical knowledge. The Bibracte site houses a rich museum on Gallic life, installed on the slopes of the Beuvray mountain. The permanent exhibition allows you to discover the Celtic civilisation and to better understand the utility of the *oppida*, fortified towns that played the role of economic and political centres. These *oppida* are often considered as the first towns of the north of the Alps. At Bibracte, you can find exciting archaeological pieces as well as replica and video. These cultural mediation processes allow visitors to place them into the history and to get themselves to the daily life of our ancestors. The site of the archaeological excavation is visible throughout the year. The nature is also worth a detour. The Beuvray mountain is covered with a 1,000 ha forest of beech and softwood. During fine weather, you can even see the Mont Blanc. Bibracte is an exceptional natural and archaeological site that offers you a historical stroll in an ubiquitous and magnificent nature.

### ■ BIBRACTE

Mont-Beuvray  
SAINT-LÉGER-SOUS-BEUVRAY

☎ +33 3 85 86 52 35

www.bibracte.fr – info@bibracte.fr



The museum is open from March 12th to November 13th, from 10am to 6pm and until 7pm in July and August. Exceptional opening until 10pm Wednesdays in July and August. Possibility of opening all year for groups, by reservation. Free for under 12-year-olds (and for €3 the child of a family). Adult: €7.50 (reduced rate: €5.50). Rate Passport (visit of the site, the museum and the temporary exhibition): 12€ for an adult; 10€ in reduced rate. Rate Gallic Day (visit of the site, the museum and the temporary exhibition + meal to the Cauldron) 27€ for an adult; 12,50€ in reduced rate. For the reception of disabled people, please contact the following address e-mail: p.plaza@bibracte.fr. Children welcome (stroller three wheels any ground and baby carriers lent free to the museum). Guided tour. Le Chaudron restaurant, baby chairs. Shop. Activities.

## Castle of Cormatin

Built at the beginning of the 17th century, in the aftermath of the religious wars, by Antoine du Blé d'Huxelles, Governor of Chalon, this Renaissance-style castle attracts nearly 70,000 visitors each year and hosts numerous festivals. The sumptuous apartments, the six golden rooms, the ditches filled with water and the recomposed gardens make Cormatin the most inspired Mâconnais castle of the Loire castles. The owners succeeded one another but it is to Pierre-Henri de Lacretelle that we owe the frequent visits of Lamartine, visits that the man of letters will describe as "a stay of attraction, art and delights." The current owners have truly revived the castle, famous for its sumptuous, intact decorations from the Louis XIII period. The 12-hectare park is also worth a visit, with its large labyrinth leading to the belvedere aviary, its flower beds, its old-fashioned vegetable garden and its vast water bodies. Allow about an hour of visit for the interiors and about 45 minutes for the exteriors.

### ■ CHÂTEAU DE CORMATIN

Le Bourg  
CORMATIN ☎ +33 3 85 50 16 55  
www.chateaudecormatin.com

Open every day, including Sundays and public holidays, from March 28th to November 11th, 2016. Free for under 7-year-olds. Adult: €10. Child (from 8 to 17 years old): €5. Group (20 people): €8 (school, €5). Students: €6.50. Free tour of the park, the rooms 1900, the cellars and the room of the models: €6 by adult, €3 by child (8-17 years), €3 (school). Guided tour (of the castle and access to the park; booking required for groups from March 15th to November 30th).

## Abbey of Cluny

There is no more need to present you the famous abbey, the cradle of the Cluniac Order, which affirmed its supremacy in the monastic world of medieval Europe. The order embodied in its illustrious abbots as Peter the Venerable, abbot of Cluny from 1122 to 1156, or Hugh of Semur, abbot from 1049 to 1109, who erected the third abbey church (Cluny III), consecrated in 1130 and the tallest building in Christendom – 187 meters long – before the building of St. Peter's in Rome. Today, its former power is not the same. After the Revolution, Cluny became a national asset and was used as a quarry before being gradually dismantled until 1823. The place still, however, exudes the grandeur of Cluny inhabitants who, despite their original vow of poverty and observance of the rule of St. Benedict, had gradually acquired a taste for opulence until the decline of Cluny in the late Middle Ages. We can now admire some of the south of the transept, which gives an idea of the gigantism of the abbey church, two 15th-century abbey churches and also convent buildings built in the 18th century.

In the Ochier museum are preserved relics and models of the old monastery and the medieval village. The 3D reconstructions and models that punctuate the visit help you have an idea of the former grandeur of the building. The abbey now bears the label *Patrimoine Européen*.

■ **ABBAYE DE CLUNY**  
Place du 11-Août-1944  
CLUNY

☎ +33 3 85 59 15 93

[www.cluny.monuments-nationaux.fr](http://www.cluny.monuments-nationaux.fr)  
[abbaye-de-cluny@monuments-nationaux.fr](mailto:abbaye-de-cluny@monuments-nationaux.fr)



Open every day April, May, June and September, from 9.30am to 6pm. July and August, from 9.30am to 7pm. From October to March, from 9.30am to 5pm. Closed on January 1st, May 1st, 1st and November 11th, December 25th. Free for under 25-year-olds. Adult: €9.50 (+ €4.50 for the audioguide). Reduced rate: €7.50. Audioguide for a couple €6 at an extra charge to the admission fee. Tourism label & Disability. Children welcome. Guided tour (guided tour to the ☎ +33 3 85 59 15 93, conference visit for groups by reservation to the ☎ +33 3 85 59 82 72). Shop.

## The Rock of Solutré, vineyard of the Mâconnais

■ **LA ROCHE DE SOLUTRÉ**  
ROCK-POUILLY

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

This impressive limestone escarpment, which is made up of Rocks from Solutré-Pouilly, Vergisson and Mont Pouilly has been classified as "Grand Site de France" by the Ministry of the Environment. Since prehistory, this site has been occupied by man, and the landscape has been shaped by the establishment of villages and

agriculture. Nowadays the heritage elements that have been built are: dry stone walls, cadoles, wash houses and the cultivation of vines make this place a magical one. The place is also remarkable due to the biotope that constitute the "limestone lawns" or the "calicolous lawn" at the top of all the rocks constituting the site. This semi-natural environment which offers a great wealth and is of great interest in terms of flora and fauna, is protected at the national and European level and has associations of plants and species that are quite unusual for Burgundy. But it is first and foremost famous as it is a major archaeological site of European interest. The "Crot-du-Charnier" deposit was discovered in 1866 by Adrien Arcelin and Henry Testot-Ferry at the foot of Roche de Solutré and thousands of bones of horses, many pieces, flint and engraved stones, dating from 28,000 to 10,000 BC will be updated there. It will also become famous for its "laurel leaves", masterpieces of the size of flint. They even give the name of "Solutrean" to the culture dating from 20,000 to 16,000 BC. During the late twentieth century, tourist arrival increased by the annual visit of President François Mitterrand (because of his Cluny's links) and by the development of leisure or sports activities such as hiking, biking or climbing. Now protected and landscaped, the site offers multiple opportunities for walks. You will be able to try the ascension on foot of the rock and admire a superb panorama which is the result of thousand years of evolution. The marked path leads through a route which is punctuated by multiple stations highlighting geology, the hunting techniques of prehistoric men, the landscape during prehistory or the discovery of the site. While visiting the archaeological and botanical garden, you will discover many species of plants with the help of signs indicating the main plants and trees along the landscape. A nature walk to complete with the Departmental Museum of Prehistory.

## YONNE

### Abbey Saint-Germain d'Auxerre

The remains of the bishop St. Germain died in Ravenna at the court of Galla Placidia in 448, was returned to his diocese of Auxerre. The legend says that on his path, nature awoke and everything blossomed again. Queen Clotilde, the wife of Clovis, built a basilica in the sixth century of the oratory where the saint was buried. The former Carolingian Romanesque abbey Enlarged in the ninth century, was partly rebuilt in the thirteenth to the fifteenth century. After the demolition in 1811 Romanesque bays that connected the bell tower to the choir, the beautiful spire of the twelfth century became isolated, planted like a candle pointing the sky before the rest of the buildings. The crypt is not to be missed on any pretext. If there is one thing to see in Auxerre, it is certainly the jewel heritage: when you look, listen, feel, you enter in connection with the origins of the city. This

underground church built from 841, has the tomb of St. Germain in a vault. It houses the oldest Carolingian murals in France.

■ **L'ABBAYE SAINT-GERMAIN**  
2, place Saint-Germain  
AUXERRE

☎ +33 3 86 18 02 90

[www.auxerre.culture.gouv.fr](http://www.auxerre.culture.gouv.fr)  
[abbaye.saintgermain@auxerre.com](mailto:abbaye.saintgermain@auxerre.com)

Visit every day except Tuesday. From May 1st to September 30th, from 9.45am to 6.45pm. From October 1st to April 30th, from 10am to 12pm and from 2pm to 5pm. Attention the site and the exhibitions are not at the same time open, it is more careful ask for information. Free for under 16-year-olds (students less than 26 years). €6 price of the guided tour of the crypt. Reduced rate and groups starting from 20 people €4. Children welcome (teaching visits). Guided tour. Shop.

## Vézelay

A site classified as UNESCO world heritage site and admired every year by a million visitors. Vézelay stands on the "eternal hill". Founded in the 9th century, a monastery developed there and welcomed in 1050 the relics of St. Mary Magdalene, the "repentant prostitute". Pilgrims flocked there and the city was enlarged. It became a famous starting point for the pilgrimage in Compostelle. Saint Bernard of Clairvaux preached there the second crusade in 1146 in the presence of King Louis VII. The sovereigns Philippe Auguste and Richard the Lionheart met there in 1190 for the departure of the third crusade. And in 1248, Saint Louis went there many times on pilgrimage. Also here, Franciscans founded their very first convent in France in the early 13th century. But during the same century, a disaster happened! New "true" relics of Mary Magdalene were discovered in Provence in Saint-Maximin. Soon, pilgrimage in Yonne declined. The abbey was ransacked by the Huguenots and secularised during the Revolution. A fire destroyed it in the early 19th century. It was not until 1840 that Viollet-le-Duc saved it from a certain ruin. Today, the Basilica has regained its splendour. Tourists and pilgrims always walk up the long hilly street leading to the esplanade. A land rooted in the history of Catholicism, Vézelay nevertheless was the birthplace of Theodore of Bèze born in 1519, who participated in the Reformation with Calvin. The author Romain Rolland lived there at the end of his life. The beauty of the site and the charm of the streets make this village a must-see place, no urging is needed to go there!

## The medieval site of Guédelon

Michel Guyot, owner and restorer of the castle of Saint-Fargeau, launched a one day challenge to build a castle using the methods of the thirteenth century, with Marilyne Martin at his side. The idea was born in 1997: it went for 25 years of work! In summer, costumed workers work every day: quarrymen, stonemasons, woodcutters or carters, just to name a few, will share their passion for this recognized adventurous educational interest. The site, which needs no introduction, has been the subject of numerous TV reporters; no surprise whatsoever the most visited paying tourist point paying of the Yonne, and the second of Burgundy after the Hospices de Beaunes... A pleasant walk in the heart of Puisaye, with a visit to this particular site, the first rooms castle entertained by the friendly village artisans and their pets. The ideal family visit! Note that you can now feast yourself in the 3 areas: Taverne, Encas and Epicerie.

### ■ LE CHANTIER MÉDIÉVAL DE GUÉDELON

RD955

TREIGNY

☎ +33 3 86 45 66 66

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

[guedelon@guedelon.fr](mailto:guedelon@guedelon.fr)

Open from March 14th to November 1st, 2016. Open from 10am. See calendar of the opening days on the website. Free for under 5-year-olds. Adult: €16. Child (from 5 to 17 years old): €11. Group (20 people): €10. Card Pass Wall (unlimited access all year): adult €26 and child €20. Guided tour (in addition to the admission ticket). Catering facilities. Shop. Activities.



The Medieval site of Guédelon

# NATURE

## Geography

### Climate

► **A climatic crossroads.** In the middle of the land, Burgundy is located in a climatic crossroads. The landforms and the west of the territory (the mountains of Morvan) is subject to oceanic influence. The continental influence, for its part, occurs in plains and valleys. Some of the Mediterranean flare-ups, rushing into the gully of the Rhône Valley, extended by that of the Saône, occasionally disturb the weather patterns. This geography favours warm summers and winters... cold (in addition to being long)! You'll find snow and frost, the trend increases on the heights of Morvan. Conversely, summers are marked by a pronounced heat if compared to that of most of the other French regions. You can't underestimate thunderstorms and mists in the dead season. Météo France provides an average (to be taken as such) for temperatures, since 1960 to 1990: for January, the minimum is less than 1 °C and the thermometer may climb up to 4 °C! For the month of July, it can be admitted that a range of 14 °C to 25 °C is indicative. Whatever the temperature, Burgundy can boast of having enough sun hours: between 1,800 hours and 2,000 hours each year. So what is the best season to visit the region? Rest assured, facing the cold weather, many hotels and restaurants has fireplace and offer cottage and a cosy and relaxing shelter. And during hot weather, many lakes allow you to refresh ideas. The autumn has wonderful decors for those who enjoy its colours, with the beauty of the vineyard as highlight.

► **Climate in Burgundy, is not just a matter of weather.** Climate, exclusively in Burgundy, also indicates a vineyard plot. As Bernard Pivot says: "*In Burgundy, when we talk about a climate, we don't look at the sky, we look down at the ground.*"

## Characteristic landscapes

### Morvan in the heart of the region

Between the four departments of Burgundy, the old massif arose in the primary era, in the same time as the Vosges. The rocks of its heights, eroded, planed, underwent patient erosion, slow and inevitable wear of winds and weather, ravages of time. Thus, the peaks do not exceed 900 m high, and the slopes gently slide down to the Loire.

### Le Nivernais

Le Nivernais is bordered, to the east, by the Morvan hills and to the west, by the the Loire valleys and the Allier. On the slopes of the vineyards of the region of Pouilly-sur-Loire, the cereal plantations and meadows in ruins are present, without forgetting the 230 ha of

wooded land and the many rivers that still pretty the Nivernais landscape.

### The Yonne countryside

Consisting of Puisaye-Forterre, Sénonais and Pays d'Othe. Puisaye is the childhood country of the writer Colette, who has so aptly described it with not always tender but revealing words. It's a land that is difficult to work. Many lords appear to have established their castle there, between forests and ponds, to better survive the history.

► **Forterre.** Forterre extends Puisaye to the south and is next to Auxerre to the southwest. Originally, Forterre means literally in French a harsh land. The term rather seems to evoke the many fortifications that were created in these places since the Celtic era. Deep countryside, mysterious water streams, fortifications, lakes and natural parks delight tourists.

► **Sénonais** A former center of Christianity, ruined by the Hundred Years War, Sens is now a place where it is pleasant to live, particularly to attract trendy Parisians. Numerous forms take shape – no one can talk about platitude – and offer bucolic landscapes between rivers and walks in valleys.

► **Pays d'Othe.** This small region, which extends to the common borders of Burgundy and Champagne, remains very marked by rurality. Its forest is the thickest of the department. It has the particularity of specialized in the production of apples, and there is an excellent cider.

### The Châtillonnais

In Côte d'Or. The thick plain forest shares the limelight with the stone and water. The subsoil delivers at some places a stone of exceptional quality found in major monuments such as the pyramid of the Louvre. The water is of course that of the Seine, which takes its source in the Dijonese mountain and crosses, calmly and serenely, Châtillon-sur-Seine. The Dijonese agglomeration can be seen from afar at the south of the Châtillonnais.

### Chalonnais

Located in Saône-et-Loire, Chalonnais is situated between Chagny in the north and Sennecey-le-Grand, in the south, and is characterized by the important place held by vineyard. Ceps, wine-growing estates mark the landscape, but Chalon-sur-Saône is also a populated and dynamic agglomeration.

### The Mâconnais district

In the south of Burgundy, it establish in some way the connection between Burgundy wines and those of Beaujolais. These lands are also one of the high places of the Prehistory, with sites like the (famous!) Rock of Solutré, the caves of Azé or Blanot.

## The Creusotine region

Between Chalon-sur-Saône and Mâcon, we cross mining areas marked by its rich industrial heritage: metallurgy at Le Creusot, the coal mines at Montceau-les-Mines (the most recent city of Saône-et-Loire, born in 1856, at the time of the master ironworkers, large families like Schneider, and the paternalism of business). The country fluctuates between conservation and reconversion, with recreational parks built on old sites.

## Charolais and Bresse

In the west of Saône-et-Loire, Charolais is the cradle of the famous bovine race whose white fur are scattered throughout the fat and green Burgundian pastures. Bresse, for its part, is a vast plain and a farmland country. It's the paradise of white chicken with blue legs, the only poultry in the world to benefit from a controlled Designation of Origin.

## Rivers and valleys

- ▶ **The Loire.** 1 020: it's the number of kilometres that this watercourse (the longest of France!) travels before emptying into the Atlantic Ocean. Among its tributaries in Burgundy: the Bourbince, the Bremen, the Arconce and the Arroux, which cross Autun and Gueugnon, neighbouring the Morvan hills; the Ternin however enjoys the magnificent decor of the Regional Natural Park of Morvan.
- ▶ **The Saône.** The river stretches over 482 km, takes its source in Vioménil, in the Vosges, and ends its run in Lyon by joining the Rhône. So it crosses Côte d'Or and Saône-et-Loire. For a long time, the Saône, descending the Vosges forest, have transited cereals, cast iron, sand, clay and cement. Conversely, the wines and spirits, as well as spices, slate... are transported backwards. It is also one of the richest rivers in fish in Europe. With the development of green tourism and pleasure boat, these are as much assets that the territories bordered by the Saône know to capitalise.
- ▶ **The Yonne.** The Yonne has experienced centuries of glory, man depending on her and her moods. Frequented by the Gallic, who worshipped this nourishing mother, and was actually used by the Romans, which they find as a means of rallying the Saône. Secondly, it becomes a course used for economic purposes, since inland waterway transport is developing to supply the region of course, but also the capital, before being competed by railways. Nowadays, its banks are popular among stroller.
- ▶ **The Bec d'Allier.** "Great Wild River", the Loire has a unique natural environment, a changing landscape, a fragile heritage that requires all the attention. Hence the need to provide the river with an area free from any

accommodation, a protected area where it can spread out freely. This concept of freedom area of the river, or area of natural divagation, was raised jointly by the Fédération des Conservatoires d'Espaces naturels and associations like the WWF: it will be the Bec d'Allier river, at the confluence of the Loire and the Allier. The first Ligurian islands appear. Here, the freedom area covers 57 ha, bought by the department of Nièvre. These lands and banks become an habitat for a whole fauna, beginning with swallows and kingfishers. Preservation actions are associated with valorisation action with the aim of opening up to a conscious and sensitized public. Thus, the Sentier du Passeur trail follows discreetly the last kilometres before the confluence. There are explanatory markers to mark the course, which leads to an observatory just steps away from the Le Bec.

## Parks and natural reserves

### Natural reserves

- ▶ **Morvan's Regional Nature Park.** It is one of the 46 regional nature parks in France. Nature reigns there, and its landforms with lumpy landscape are covered by forests into which groves, rivers, lakes and picturesque villages seep. Since its creation, it has exceeded the framework of departmental administrative borders. Morvan Regional Natural Park offers an area of 240,000 ha, of which 105,000 ha of agricultural surface, 129 000 ha of forests, 1,600 ha of water surface and 7,000 ha of wetland. Over these lands, more than 36,000 people live in the member communes and over 32,000 souls living at the gates of this park, in a daily relationship with it. If we count the networked marked paths, we can cite – all types combined: hiking, equestrian, mountain biking – close to 3 600 are accessible. A little less than 250 protected species represent the fauna and about sixty for the flora. Other assets that are worth mentioning: the label Parc Naturel Régional ([www.parcumorvan.org](http://www.parcumorvan.org)). It is a collective label filed at INPI – National Institute of Industrial Property – by the Ministry of Land Use Planning and Environment, which owns it. In 2010, the Park celebrated its forty years!
- ▶ **The natural reserve of Val de Loire.** The site was classified in 1995 and concerns the departments of the Nièvre and Cher. The reserve stretches over 1,500 ha for 20 km from Loire. It concerns the municipalities of La Charité-sur-Loire, Mesves-sur-Loire, Pouilly-sur-Loire and Tracy-sur-Loire for Nièvre; Couargues, Herry and La Chapelle-Montlinard for Cher. The Cher river houses about thirty species of fish such as lamprey, shad or salmon. Beavers reappear and live in complete freedom here. Not far from 500 species of plants have been listed and 190 species of birds.

## FIND THE BEST VISITS

★ INTERESTING ★★ EXCELLENT ★★★ UNMISSABLE ★★★★★ UNFORGETTABLE

## The National Park of the Champagne and Burgundy Forests will be created at the end of 2019!

### ■ FUTURE NATIONAL FOREST PARK – BETWEEN CHAMPAGNE AND BURGUNDY

4, ruelle du Monument

LEUGLAY

☎ +33 03 80 93 10 92

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

[secretariat@gipecb-parcnational.fr](mailto:secretariat@gipecb-parcnational.fr)

*National Park being created for the first semester of 2019 by a GIP.*

That's it, we're no longer talking about a project but about a future national park. The public inquiry has been completed and the analysis of the 1,300 comments will be completed in 2019. Then, the creation of the park will be made official in the last quarter of 2019. After 10 years of preparation and consultation, it will become the 11th National Park to be created in France. A recognition for the quality of a territory that is the 1<sup>st</sup> located north of the Loire and the 1<sup>st</sup> National Park dedicated to the forest. It will also be the largest in Europe with an ecological and economic vocation open to leisure, discovery and knowledge. While this nature is so close to us, we could have forgotten that it is a place of healing and well-being. It is also a place of memory of tales and legends that will be revived in these forests, 80% of which already existed at the time of the French Revolution. Imagine, its perimeter includes 240,000 hectares of land in Champagne and Burgundy between Châtillon-sur-Seine, Auberive and Arc-en-Barrois. It includes 127 municipalities, 77 of which are in the Côte-d'Or region, and an integral reserve will cover 3000 ha, which has been left to evolve freely. The forest will become wild again and a research centre will be created. It is clear that this project will boost the attractiveness of its territory. Actions promoting sustainable tourism and respectful of natural treasures will be implemented. They will provide access to major cultural sites, the promotion of local products and guided tours of the natural heritage. Among the many projects submitted, the construction of greenways on the former Châtillon-sur-Seine railway lines linking Châteauvillain or Marey-sur-Tille is emerging, some sections will undoubtedly be transformed into bicycle-rail!

In the meantime, all these riches are well there, within our reach. So, you can already enjoy the park before it is even born.

► **For more information:** [www.forets-champagne-bourgogne.fr](http://www.forets-champagne-bourgogne.fr)

- **The natural reserve of La Truchère.** It thrives in the heart of Bresse, in the department of Saône-et-Loire. Its ecosystem offers an astonishing overview, combining both typical vegetation of the sea edges with a landscape of dunes, heathland or decorative landscapes worthy of the Nordic countries with their bogs. In the centre, a water plan, the Fouget Pond, blooms on nearly 16 ha. Here, too, sand and wetlands are the ideal setting for rare and diverse fauna and flora. A botanical trail has been set up to discover this amazing universe.
- **"Bois du Parc" natural reserve.** An ancient warm sea stretched to the foot of the limestone cliff on which the village of Mailly-Le-Château was perched in the Yonne: there is a surprising 45 ha nature reserve. Here, limestone comes from a gigantic fossilised coral reef dating from the Jurassic era, when the warm waters covered the site. In addition to fossils of corals, you will discover by climbing the stairs leading to the top of the cliff, a dry lawn and its sub-Mediterranean flora, one of the most northerly that persists in France. A discovery trail allows the public to walk through the forests and the lawns of the cliff top.
- **The Marais du Côneis in Côte d'Or.** Acquired in 1991 by the Conservatoire des Sites Naturels Bourguignons, this marsh covers 7 ha and is one of the most beautiful tufa marshes of Châtillonnais. Supplied by sources whose water is heavily loaded in limestone, the marsh has a very interesting geological characteristic: in contact with air and vegetation, the limestone present in the water precipitates to give birth to a more or less friable rock called tufa. In addition, due to the presence of a cold microclimate on Châtillonnais, the marsh is the seat of a very specific flora including mountain characteristic plants, such as the gentian and perennial swertie. A trail allows the public to discover these riches.
- **Boutissaint Natural Park.** Located in the west of Yonne and extending over a surface area of nearly 400 ha, Boutissaint natural park has preserved the wild aspect of oak and conifer forests characteristic of the Puisaye forests. The animals in this forest are, for some, in total freedom, such as deer, deer and deer, others in pens, such as wild boar, deers or sheep that can be observed in a large grassland near the castle's pond, but also through watchtowers along the different promenade routes on the Park, and that you can travel on foot, by bike or on horseback.

# HISTORY

## Antiquity

► **Celtic settlement.** The Bronze Age (from 2 200 to 750 BC) and the Iron Age (from 750 BC) are prosperous periods for the region. Generally speaking, the territory is now occupied. Very early, trade with Greek, Phoenicians and Italian traders is set along the tin road which, crossing Burgundy, connects northern Europe with the Mediterranean basin. A new society is being set up in the region, politically and economically dominated by a warrior caste who takes control of the communication routes. The treasures of Blanot and La Rochepot are certainly beautiful testimonies, but the tomb of Vix, on heights on the outskirts of Châtillon-sur-Seine, is undoubtedly one of the most important archaeological marvels ever discovered.

These times mark the beginnings of the Gallic civilization, and the region honours the presence of numerous Gallic tribes, whose first people settled towards the 2nd century: the Senons, the Lingons and the Insurbs, then in the first century, the Eduens, from Morvan. They establish their capital, Bibracte, on Mount Beuvray.

► **Alésia and Gallo-Roman Burgundy.** Facing the threats of the Helvetii, the Eduens called upon Caesar, who began, towards 58 BC, the campaign of Gaul. The Gallic tribes of the region conduct a policy in favour of the Romans and Burgundy became a food deposit for the glorious Rome until the day, when allying themselves with the Arvenes led by Vercingétorix, the Eduens resist against Caesar.

52 B.C. is the year of the famous battle of Alésia, when Caesar was the winner. Gaul became Roman. Autun (*Augustodunum*), the city of Augustus, became the capital at the expense of Bibracte, the ancient Gallic town.

It was then born in the territory of many Gallo-Roman towns, with comfortable houses, thermal baths, temples and schools, the most famous of which are those of Autun. During this Pax Romana time, new culture were introduced into the territory: that of the vine.

The end of the Roman period was marked by the formalisation of the Christian religion, which brought the full development of this religion and the worship of its martyrs, as was the case in Dijon on the tomb of saint Bénigne.

► **The Eduens.** Before the Roman invasion, this powerful tribe of the central Gaul occupied most of the territory of which the department of Saône-et-Loire was formed. The conquest of Gaul by Clovis between 487 and 511 resulted in new territorial divisions. The sharing of his inheritance and later the formation of the great fiefdoms gave birth to a kingdom, then to a duchy of Burgundy, whose department almost always belonged to the department. The Autun, Mâconnais, Chalonnais and Charolais inhabitants first had a special existence and did not constitute an administrative territory as such. But this took many centuries after the French Revolution.

## Middle Ages

### Religious orders in Burgundy and the splendour of the Dukes

The two largest monastic reform movements in the Middle Ages were born in Burgundy: Cluny, then Cîteaux were, from the 10th to the 12th centuries, both spiritual and intellectual, artistic and political centers. From Vézelay to Paray-le-Charité, from Fontenay to La Charité-sur-Loire, the Burgundian Middle Ages shines in western Christianity.

► **Cluny and the Clunisian order.** Cluny is in the heart of the Medieval West. The abbey were going to enjoy an unprecedented success in the history of Christianity and if it was twelve monks who initially settled down at Cluny, the number of nuns would reach more than 10 000 people, gathered in the same physical and spiritual community: the Clunisian order. It must be said that Cluny owes much to the personality of the first abbots for its radiation. In addition to the kingdoms of exceptional longevity, these men led a major policy. Monks trained in Cluny left to take over religious institutions in difficulty, and there are soon nearly 1 000 monasteries attached to Cluny. The community spreads throughout the West, maintaining close ties with its various "houses" as "a mother company with its subsidiaries".

► **Cîteaux and the Cistercian monks.** At the beginning, a few dissident monks, supporters of a return to the strict observance of the monastic rule. After a journey that led them from Tonnerre lands to those of the Saône, they decided to establish their community in these difficult places in the midst of hostile geography. At their head, Robert de Molesme; we are in 1098 years, after the founding of Cluny. But the year 1112 marked the beginning of a new era for Cîteaux with the arrival of Bernard, a young son of a noble of Fontaine-lès-Dijon, known later as Bernard de Clairvaux, Saint Bernard. He was at the head of thirty companions and planned to install sustainably Cîteaux as a new monastic model. Quite quickly, the community founded four abbeys, La Ferté soon in 1113, Pontigny in Yonne, Clairvaux and Morimond, which in turn spread in France and abroad. Saint Bernard, the first abbot of Clairvaux, gave birth to the abbey of Fontenay in Côte d'Or. From the abbey of Cîteaux, a monastic Order shone, that of the Cistercians. Those who are also nicknamed "white monks" was going to set their own rules of life, define their spiritual commands, but also drive an architectural and artistic current, a system of economic exploitation, technical progress, advances in protection of the environment and in particular those of the vine growing... Cîteaux accumulated wealth over the centuries and material necessities gradually took precedence over spiritual concerns, despite vain attempts of reform in the 16th and 17th centuries. The Revolution seized land and buildings, and the community that were expelled was dissolved. The site will then serve as a matrix of utopian community experience and will host a prison colony and a theatre troupe... Since 1898, Cîteaux had housed monks again. Its 900 years were celebrated in 1998.

► **The paths of Compostelle.** They cross the region and offer splendid stopovers, rich in history and landscape. Saint-Jacques-de-Compostelle was one of the three great pilgrimages of the Middle Ages with those of Rome and Jerusalem. Four official routes led to this high place where Saint James the Greater rests, with Paris, Vézelay, Puy-en-Velay and Arles as meeting places for pilgrims from all over Europe.

The path from Vézelay allowed pilgrims from Germany and Central Europe to reach Saint-Jacques-de-Compostelle. This long road then crossed the Loire towards La Charité and Nevers, as described the Pilgrim Guide in 1140.

► **Vézelay: the eternal hill.** A unique destiny for an exceptional site, the first to have been listed as a UNESCO World heritage site by UNESCO since 1979.

In the mid 9th century, a certain Girart de Roussillon, count of Paris, and his wife Berthe, decided to found monasteries on their lands, including one at the foot of the hill of Vézelay, thus placing these establishments under the direct protection of the Pope.

Vézelay became independent from secular powers as ecclesiastical powers and obeyed only to the King of France. On the path leading him to the Council of Troyes, the Pope blessed the church of Vézelay in 878. In 887, the Scandinavians ransacked the abbey of Flavigny-sur-Ozerain and made a stopover at Vézelay. The nuns decided to leave the lowlands to enjoy the natural heights of the hill. Enclosure and new buildings were built, including the abbey church and its crypt. It would then receive the relics of Sainte Marie-Madeleine in the middle of the 11th century.

### The Golden age and the dark times

The remains of Saint Marie-Madeleine arouse the pilgrims' fervour. A village with fairs and markets, craftsmen, changers, gîtes... were developing around the place of worship.

Later, in the 12th century, Vézelay became one of the four starting points of the roads to reach Santiago de Compostela. Travellers have thus come from all over Europe.

On its land, it is the abbot himself who was at the head of the Court of Justice. Powers that weigh over the local population, a wealth that enticed the neighboring potentates such as the count of Nevers, the abbot of Cluny, the bishop of Autun. Vézelay also experienced riots, violence, blood punishment, unexplained fires. The eternal hill were also nicknamed the Scorpion mount: the light and the dark side.

► **Decadence and revival.** In the 19th century, the walls fell apart when the young architect Viollet-le-Duc arrived on the site. The reasons for this abandonment? A long decline from the beginning of the 13th century to the Revolution.

The State launches the restoration work on 29 March 1840. Initiated under Louis-Philippe, the work will be completed under Napoleon III. The 20th century, with the progress of transport and the advent of tourism, restored the necessary impetus to the hill to conserve and maintain its heritage. A revival of spiritual activities

is accompanied by intellectual impetus. The hill attracts painters and writers. In July 1979, the site was listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

► **The splendour of the Dukes of Burgundy.** After the monks' dresses, the Dukes of Burgundy wore rich fabrics and precious jewels. They played a major role in the prestige of the region and installed the name of Burgundy on the European stage.

► **The Capetian Dukes.** Frankish Burgundy became a dukedom at the end of the 9th century. It counted then the cities of Langres, Troyes, Sens, Nevers and Mâcon. Then came the first branch of the dukes of Burgundy, that of the Capetians. They were the ones who, from 1031 to 1362, would lay the foundations of the duchy. The authority and the ducal function therefore remained in the hands of the same family. With strong personalities such as Richard the Justiciar or Henri the Great, Burgundy regained some prosperity. In 1031, Duke Robert I made Dijon its capital. It was under this dynasty that the city really took shape: development of Suzon, growth of the population, new enclosure to encompass the suburbs, communal charter. The main monuments took place: the Ducal Palace, the Notre-Dame church, etc. The Hundred Years War, the great plague of 1348, and the effects of the huge earthquake in Basel in 1356, which damaged the monuments and the walls of the city, began the end of the Capetian reign.

► **The Dukes of Valois.** The duchy returned to the King of France, from the Valois branch, who then installed his son, Philip the Bold, in 1363. The young man leaves Paris for Dijon. He broke away from the Kingdom of France and carried out high-ranking diplomacy: the whole Europe were subjected to the so-called "Great Dukes of the West". By marrying with Marguerite de Flanders, Philip the Bold, Duke of Burgundy and son of John the Good, called many Flemish artists in his yard. Keen of assuring his family a necropolis worthy of his name, he built the Chartreuse de Champmol. On the death of Philip the Bold, the duchy was ruined, which did not prevent his successor, John the Fearless, to start a ruthless war against the Orleans, a war whose outcome would be marked by a thundering conflict between Burgundians and Armagnacs, in the midst of the Hundred Years War, for the greater benefit of the English. It was by the way by seeking the favours of the future King Charles VII that Jean the Fearless would be murdered in 1419. Wishing to avenge his father, Philip the Good then joined the English to the Treaty of Arras, where the Duke returned with the king, enriching his territory in Holland, Flanders, Hainaut, Artois and Luxembourg.

On the occasion of his marriage to Isabella of Portugal in 1429, Philip the Good founded an order that became famous, that of the Golden Fleece. Dreaming of being the new Alexander, the last of the Valois, Charles the Bold, would do everything to enlarge his territory. Still in war, the fierce enemy of King Louis XI, he died by besieging Nancy in 1477. Louis XI then annexed Burgundy and attached a part to the crown while the other returned to Maximilien from Habsburg, who married Marie from Burgundy (daughter of Charles the Bold). Philip the Handsome were born from their union, whose son,

Charles Quint, would resume, faced with François I, the fight against the house of France.

Under the Middle Ages, several sites of the Saône-et-Loire played an important role on the military, political and religious level of the history of France.

► **Brancion.** The most important stronghold of southern Burgundy, the village of Brancion occupied a strategic place from the 10th to the 14th century. Châtellenie Ducale at the end of the 13th century and then Châtellerie Royale, the Brancion fortress overlooking the entire countryside, is an example of medieval military architecture.

► **Cluny.** The city shone throughout Europe from the 10th century. The Abbey of Cluny was founded in 909 by the Duke of Aquitaine and the count of Auvergne, Guillaume I—While the Catholic Church sought to reform the monastic order, the Order of Cluny included a large number of convents and became the most important monastic order in the Middle Ages. A monastic order that had an influence over Europe.

► **Chalon-sur-Saône.** The fate of the city has come a long way. The town was destroyed by the Saracens in 732, rebuilt by Charlemagne 50 years later, burned down in 834 by Lothaire and invaded by the Hungarians.

## From Renaissance to Revolution

### An era full of change

► **The time of the *hôtel particulier* (private mansion house).** Burgundy is now attached to the Crown, and its history tends to be confused with that of the kingdom. However with some exceptions since it continued to have an independent existence after acquiring Bresse, Bugey and Valmorey. Among the many governors of Burgundy, the Condé (until the French Revolution) provided the region with a rich architectural heritage. Burgundy is a wise province, devoted to retranscribe in its lands the good, the elegance of the Parisian and Versailles architecture.

Dijon benefits from the presence of a parliament that takes possession of the old Dukes' Palace. Beaune, permanently classified as the second largest city in the region, is surrounded by the first successful wine trading companies.

Nobility of dress, bourgeois elite: this closed circle ordered sumptuous private mansion houses. The historic heart of Dijon is full of these buildings. Beaune, Auxerre and Nevers were discreet but had some remarkable buildings.

### Chalon at the heart of the religious wars

During the religious wars, Chalon-sur-Saône played a great role as a stronghold in the 16th century. Then, in the 17th century, the Counter-Reformation contributes to the emergence of many religious orders that saw a multiplicity of convents and religious buildings. Traces are still found in the city's contemporary urban architecture, particularly through the St. Lawrence Island hospital. The former Place de Beaune was originally named Saint-Eloi. It was installed on the island in 1529. The island offered

more space, more air and more water, which is better to care for the sick.

## From the Revolution to the 21st Century

### ► The 19th century and the industrial revolution.

During the French Revolution in Burgundy, there were relatively few riots and only a few heads rolled, while several representatives of lawyers very active during the turmoil went to Paris where they succeeded financially. In 1790, the departments were created; these became the new administrative districts. The deputy of Dijon, André Arnould, a representative of the third state, was at the origin of the name of Côte-d'Or, with the idea of assimilating "the vineyard products as the most invaluable metal". In Yonne, calmness prevailed and helped the economic recomposition of the territory. The proximity of Paris and the transport of goods on the Yonne river allowed the department to be a kind of loft and wood reserve for the capital. This was the big time of the floaters. The Morvan woods, the wines of Auxerrois, Tonnerrois, Chablis and Avallonnais were delivered by ship, as well as new crops such as sugar beet. The Yonne canal was completed in 1832 and the Nivernais Canal was inaugurated two years later, joining the Yonne to the Loire. The other long-awaited major waterway is the Burgundy Canal, whose work began in 1775. It finally connected the Seine to the Saône in 1832. The first boats would have hardly used the waterway that a new mode of transport appeared in France and in the region. It is the railway. In 1851, the station of Dijon is inaugurated ceremonially in the presence of Louis-Napoleon Bonaparte, Dijon is now connected to Paris. This transport revolution accompanied and supported the growth of the economy in this century.

It was the apogee of the mines and factories in Saône-et-Loire, Le Creusot and Montceau-les-Mines in the lead. The discovery of a coal field at Le Creusot in 1502 marked the starting point for metallurgical exploitation, to which the Schneider family would associate its name four centuries later. From the 16th to the 18th centuries, the extraction of coal was carried out on outcrops. It's only in 1769, date of the concession granted by Louis XV Francis de la Chaise, that the rational large-scale exploitation began.

The Royal Foundry was built under the patronage of the king at Le Creusot, fuelled by the coal mine in 1782. Requisitioned during the Revolution, the Royal Foundry was operated for the benefits of the Nation. But after the peace agreement in 1815, only the exploitation of the coal was continued. In 1833, an adjudication placed the factories of Le Creusot in the hands of the Schneider brothers. They have carried out major transformations: the factories' reputation became considerable and the coal production was doubled. In the interest of a consistent yield, the Schneider are the first to use a steam locomotive for the transportation of heavy goods. From 1888, the Schneider created vast artillery workshops in Le Creusot to export of war material, and to install electricity workshops.

As the end of the century approached, other companies were becoming famous and their reputation quickly extended beyond the borders of Burgundy: in Dijon in particular, people had to rely on the Terrot et Cie, which manufactured bicycles, motorcycles, and soon cars. Yet it was a model of local competitors, Cottereau, which beat the world speed record on 100 km in one hour forty-four minutes in 1900. But periods of troubles occurred also in the nineteenth century. In addition to the importance of Franco-Prussian conflicts, the second half of the century suffered from the epidemic phylloxera ravaging all the vineyards in France. The Burgundy vines are gradually and inexorably affected. The vine stocks would be saved by transplanting plants from America. The landscape was heavily modified. Surfaces were reducing considerably: wines lost in quantity gained in quality. The vine stocks will no longer grown by "crowd-planting" but in strictly aligned rows. Times were changing for the wine of Burgundy. The victimized vine growers had to reconvert and found, in the emerging economy of Crème de Cassis, the opportunity to develop a crop that previously represented only an extra economy.

► **The Terrot factories in Dijon.** In seventy years of existence, the Dijonese brand has shone around the whole world. The factory opened its doors in 1887, and as cycling was a trend, Charles Terrot, a young entrepreneur, would build bikes! The other vehicles followed after. After the turmoil of the First World War, production restarted: Terrot was at this time a model factory, a symbol of power, quality and success in sports. The lines of the building displayed the ambitions and politics of the house: modernism and rationalization of tasks.

## Nowadays

► **The challenges of the 20th century.** Both wars affected the region which had started a reconstruction and development policy in the early 50s. Dijon definitely took precedence over the other Burgundian cities. In 1964, the four departments were grouped into a new entity,

the Administrative Region. The siege of the Burgundy Region would be located in the former capital of the Dukes. During the past twenty-five years, the region was logically developed, assuming its role as economic and cultural crossroads. The transport network adapted to the requirements of the time. Its situation makes the region a crossroads of communication. It is better off in terms of road, motorway and rail networks, however, with significant disparities according to the Burgundian countries. The TGV has been crossing Burgundy for almost 30 years (Dijon TGV station in 1981). Air traffic focuses mainly on the activity of the Aéroport de Dijon-Bourgogne far ahead of its competitors, the aerodromes of Auxerre-Branches, Nevers-Fourchambault and Chalon-Champforgeuil. Dijon, the capital of Burgundy, has built an auditorium enjoying an exceptional acoustics inaugurated in 1998. Several politicians, native Burgundians or by adoption, François Mitterrand at the head, who led the country between 1981 and 1995, have marked the fate of France. Pierre Bérégovoy was Mayor of Nevers and Prime Minister; Robert Poujade, mayor of Dijon for almost thirty years; Jean-Pierre Soisson in Auxerre; Dominique Perben in Chalon-sur-Saône and François Rebsamen in Dijon. Very discreet in terms of sport for a long time, Burgundy is now becoming renown thanks to AJ Auxerre, and FC Gueugnon. In the field of research and teaching, the University of Burgundy has been established in Dijon, but has several antennas throughout the region. Today it offers more than 400 diplomas and is opening internationally. Among the major schools present in Burgundy, let's note among others, the Ensba (National School of Biology Applicable to Nutrition and Food), the Enesad (national agricultural training institute) or even the Isat (Higher Institute of Automotive and Transport). Burgundy therefore invests in the future, while assuming the legacy of its historical heritage, which actively contributes to the development of tourism in the region. Safeguarded areas, pedestrian streets, museums, ecomuseums: the region has played a pioneering role several times. It's up to each visitor to appreciate its wealth and diversity.



*Vineyards on the hills of irancy.*

# HERITAGE AND TRADITIONS

## Cultural heritage

► **Artists in Bourgogne Franche-Comté.** If the animal sculptor Pompon is at the top of the list, the new art has not failed to leave some traces here and there in Bourgogne Franche-Comté before modern art, then contemporary has been set up. Burgundy, let us remember, and perhaps more particularly the Yonne, has become a Mecca for artists who find there both the necessary space for the creative act, the calm essential to its emergence, but also the proximity of Paris and more affordable rents: one of the most beautiful examples is La Métairie Bruyère in Parly, not far from Auxerre, where the prints of Alechinsky, Soulagès, Texier, etc are done.

► **Contemporary art.** Le Consortium, located in Dijon, promotes contemporary art throughout Côte d'Or, relying on the partners that founded this association. This flexibility in the structures allows us to better follow the pervasive paths taken by the artists of our time. With its activism, Le Consortium has managed to build a first class collection that are displayed at the prestigious museums of major European cities: the Georges-Pompidou centre in Paris or in Seville. Still in Côte-d'Or, but in the Ouche valley this time, stroll in the gardens of Barbirey-sur-Ouche in the middle of the cultivations: Vegetables, horticultural, or contemporary art, dance and ephemeral facilities... All in all, 8 ha of gardens and greenery are dedicated to creation. The communs and

the vegetable gardens date back to the 17th and 18th centuries, the mansion, renovated in the 19th century, introduces us to the work of contemporary artists.

Other Côte d'Or contemporary art centres: the university cultural centre Atheneum in Dijon; Nü Köza in Dijon (art gallery and artothèque); the Usine in Dijon (former factory, alternative site, for concerts and exhibitions, managed by Le Consortium); the self-managed space of the Tanneries in Dijon (former factory, squat of artists); the FRAC still in Dijon (Regional Contemporary Art Fund); Art et Matières in Saulieu (artists' association); the Porcherie in Ménetreux-le-Pitois (exhibition and experimentation space of contemporary art); Art'Planète in Nuits-Saint-Georges (contemporary art and art brut festival); Château de Chassagne-Montrachet in Côte de Beaune (exhibition space which, for information, also produces wine!). And more on the website: [www.dijonart.com](http://www.dijonart.com).

► **The Art Centre of the Schematism movement.** Heading toward Yonne in the charming village of Noyers-sur-Serein. The avant-garde artistic movement born at the beginning of the sixties is paid tribute in a 15th century building on Place de l'Hôtel de Ville. As part of the technological and structuralist advances of its time, the schematism diverts the laws of functional graphics and the electronic visual. Thus, arrows, cartridges and frames become objects of a fully artistic language. The best thing to do is to go on the spot (© 03 86 82 67 65).

## “Pays d'art et d'histoire“ label for Pays de l'Auxois-Morvan

### ■ PAYS AUXOIS MORVAN “PAYS D'ART ET D'HISTOIRE“

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The Auxois-Morvan region has just renewed its “Land of Art and History” label for the next ten years, with a commitment to pursue a policy of promoting and enhancing its built, natural, industrial and architectural heritage. This territory covers the northwestern part of Côte-d'Or, from Montbard to Saulieu via Arnay-le-Duc, Sombornon, Vitteaux and Semur-en-Auxois.

It thus invites you to relive the great characters who have punctuated its history through a marked path highlighting great war chiefs like Vercingetorix in Alesia, scientists like Buffon in Montbard or renowned chefs like Bernard Loiseau in Saulieu. This historical and cultural tour is an invitation to visit the region and discover the favourite places of these “celebrities”.

► **Several fun tours** are also offered to budding young explorers who can help the witch Beuffenien to collect the ingredients of a magical soup.

## Architectural heritage

In addition to its hundred museums, Burgundy boasts the classification of more than 2,000 monuments in its four departments, among which are close to 600 churches, 320 castles, 100 buildings, 200 old houses, 80 convent buildings, 280 sites, 22 archaeological sites, 20 hôtel-Dieu, 12 factories and many gardens. Three sites are listed as UNESCO World Heritage Site, namely the Fontenay Abbey, Vézelay Basilica, the priory site of Charité-sur-Loire, and also the city of Beaune and the historic center of Dijon with the Climats of Burgundy. Beaune and Paray-le-Monial are classified as Art cities. Others are labelled Ville d'Art et d'Histoire: Autun, Auxerre, Chalon-sur-Saône, Cluny, Joigny, Nevers, Dijon and La Charité-sur-Loire. Finally, the site of Mont Beuvray is honored with the title of Pays d'art et d'Histoire and has the label Grand Site de France.

## Castles

► **The feudal architecture.** New forms of architecture, such as feudal architecture flourished during the Middle Ages. In Yonne, it is illustrated by the fortifications of Villeneuve-sur-Yonne, the Château de Chastellux-sur-Cure, the Château de Châtel-Girard and the Château de Druyes-les-Belle-Fontaines are worth a visit. In Côte d'Or, a trace of feudal architecture can be found in some parts of the Palace of the Dukes in Dijon, and in the castles of Châteauneuf, La Rochepot, Mont-Saint-Jean, Thoisy-la-Berchère, Antigny-la-Ville and Montbard. But the fortifications of Semur-en-Auxois are no doubt the most beautiful example.

In Saône-et-Loire it is certainly the fortifications of Berzé-le-Châtel that best illustrate this feudal architecture. The Gothic would also leave its imprint on the Burgundian religious architecture. The Synodal Palace of Sens and the Hospital de Tonnerre are beautiful examples of Yonne.

In Côte d'Or, the Gothic civil architecture gave us the hôtel des Ducs de Bourgogne and the Hôtel-Dieu de Beaune (with the polyptych of Roger Van der Weyden, The Last Judgement, a sign of the Flemish influence on the art of the time).

► **The Renaissance.** With the Renaissance, the religious architecture underwent many changes, including those made by the flamboyant style, very fashionable in Northern Burgundy at the time. However, it was the civil architecture that mainly developed, with its wooden houses, its stone hotels and some castles, such as the Château d'Ancy-le-Franc, whose style permanently broke off with that of the feudal architecture that had been popular since then. Among the flagships of this Renaissance art, Yonne can be proud of its churches of Neuvy-Sautour, Saint-Florentine and Cravant, its Archbishopal palace of Sens, its ancient houses of Joigny, Auxerre and Noyers and, finally, its Château de Tanlay, Château de Vallery (the famous Château des Condé), Château de Fleurigny. The Côte-d'Or is not left out since we can admire its church, Saint-Michel of Dijon, the churches of Pagny, the Château de Bouton and Chapelle de Bouton in the heart of the Notre-Dame church of Beaune, its Maison Philandrier in Châtillon-sur-Seine, the Hôtel de la Mare in Beaune, the courthouse in Dijon, the old houses in Flavigny-sur-Ozerain and Seurre and, finally, the Château de Bussy-le-Grand, the Château de Jours and Château d'Époisses. Finally, how to talk about the Renaissance without highlighting Nièvre and the magnificent Ducal Palace of Nevers, first Renaissance castle of the long list of castles of Loire, and its splendid long esplanade in front of the palace, offering a wide panorama on the Loire river.

► **The Classicism.** The classical art, from Versailles, was expressed in Dijon in the development of the Place Royale (the current Place de la Liberation) but also in the



Interior of the Cluny Abbey.

construction of the Palace of the Estates of Burgundy. At the same time, there are a number of private mansions, visible in all major cities in the region. Castles are not neglected, and among the buildings of the 17th and 18th centuries, let's mention the Château de Bussy-Rabutin or the Château de Menou. They will often be decorated with works by renowned artists, such as the sculptor Bouchardon or the painters Greuze and Mignard, from Champagne and will host concerts led by the famous composer Jean-Philippe Rameau, a native of Dijon.

## Religious architecture

► **Religious Carolingian and pre-Romanesque architecture.** The crypt of Saint-Germain-d'Auxerre is one of the most famous masterpieces of Carolingian art throughout the world. In addition to those later, there are also those of Sainte-Bénigne-de-Dijon, the Sainte-Reine abbey in Flavigny-sur-Ozerain, the churches of Tournus and Sainte-Vorles of Châtillon-sur-Seine.

► **Gothic art.** Among the most beautiful Gothic buildings, let's mention the cathedrals of Saint Etienne (and their treasure) of Auxerre and Sens, the Saint-Germain Abbey of Auxerre, the churches Saint Pierre of Auxerre, Notre-Dame de Tonnerre, those of Villeneuve-sur-Yonne, Chablis, Saint-Julien-du-Sault, Saint-Père-sous-Vézelay and Toucy, and those of Appoigny and Saint-Bris-le-Cellaring (murals), of Montreuil and Chitry. In Côte-d'Or, the most beautiful specimens of this style are the Sainte-Bénigne cathedral of Dijon, the Chartreuse of Champmol (with the Well of Moses of Claus Sluter) of Dijon, the Notre-Dame de Dijon churches (remarkable murals), Saint-Nicolas de Châtillon-sur-Seine, Saint-Genest of Flavigny-sur-Ozerain, and those of Sainte-Seine-l'Abbaye, Saint-Thibault and Semur-Auxois, Seurre and Auxonne, Rouvres-en-Plaine, Talant and Vitteaux. In the Saône-et-Loire region, do admire the cathedral Saint Vincent de Chalons-sur-Saône and the churches of Cluny and Cuisery, without forgetting the frescoes of La Clayette and Paray-le-Monial. Nièvre offer tourists to see beautiful examples of Gothic art, like the cathedral Saint-Cyr-and-Sainte-Julitte overlooking Nevers and its old neighborhoods, like the Saint-Martin church, jewel of the flamboyant Gothic, anchored in the heart of old Clamecy.

## Traditions and lifestyles

### Language

There's a geography of language in France, complex, it does not cross boundaries of different administrative divisions in the region or department.

Events, passages, landscapes have contributed to the development of a common identity in the very heart of the famous duchy. The Burgundian dialect was born around Dijon and the Côte d'Or countries.

It is proven in the eastern part of the Yonne territory and in the east of Nièvre. It is also found in the north of Saône-et-Loire. Similarly, it crosses borders to stretch to Haute-Marne, around the Langres countryside, as well as in Franche-Comté.



Cluny Abbey.

As the climate, other influences come to temper the accents of the local dialect. The words of the north of Yonne take on the colour of the neighbouring Champenois language. Those of the Nevers plain and Puisaye have more to do with those of the center of France than of the Dijonese.

► **The Burgundian accent...** Once again it is necessary to draw on Henri Vincenot's heritage to find the right description.

"This way of putting rock in the mouth and make his words. These rolling, these tonguing, straight from land and drawing their roots like vines in the vineyard". In his book *La Vie quotidienne des paysans bourguignons au temps de Lamartine*, Henri Vincenot depicts the little lame messenger, peddler who walk throughout the countryside of here and elsewhere.

► **The Patois Bressan.** "Nan pas d'miger des saut'relles ou bin des cancouain-nes, c'man é fyant, paraît-y, maint'nant en Indochine..." This sentence is taken from the chronicles of La Glaudine, which tells its stories in Patois Bressan every Sunday in *Le Journal de Saône-et-Loire*. Speaking Franco-Provençal, the Patois Bressan is spoken in the Bresse countryside in the 1970s. However, the attachment to Patois is still very present and the interest in the language is maintained by local groups who strive to edit texts, songs and articles. The local newspaper regularly devotes articles written in Patois that resume tales and Bressan legends stories.

► **The Patois Charolais.** The linguist, Mario Rossi, has devoted many works to the Charolais-Brionnais language. For the latter, it's not a Patois but a language with its own grammar rules. The academic contributes to the recognition of this talk while folk groups strive to make it live as "*Les Gas du Tsarollais*".

# GASTRONOMY IN BURGUNDY

## Local specialties

### Burgundy's snail

Also known as *Helix pomatia*, it seems that this gastropod was appreciated from prehistoric times in these Burgundian lands. Already in Roman times, official farms supplied amateurs.

Archaeology helps gastronomy by providing irrefutable evidence: shells – emptied – were found and dated in the third century. Monks and convents made breeding their specialty, and did not hesitate to taste their products. This local glory still has its most fervent followers who ensure that the snail of Burgundy is not confused with any other species encountered on the roads after the rain. The size of the snail of Burgundy is particular and bigger than that of most other species. The shell is yellow with dark bands. The best places to catch the animal were still, recently, between the row and embankment of vines. The use of fertilizers and weed has made them flee causing critical situation that led to a regulation of the hunting calendar! It is now often served in its shell with a parsley butter, at least that's the way its lovers prefer to enjoy it. Other variations come to decorate the menu of the ingenious restaurateurs and the stalls of some craftsmen.

## Local products

### The Charolais meat

Whoever has never tasted Charolais meat ignores what is good. The Charolais meat melts in your mouth like a sweet treat. Tasty, tender and fragrant, it sweetly smells the meadows. The Charolais breed originated from the Charolais and Brionnais bocage.

It is this terroir and its peculiarities that make it a distinguished meat and has enabled it to earn an AOC (appellation of controlled origin) Boeuf Charolais label in 2010. Meat breed, the Charolais has many qualities: low in fat and tasty.

► **The Maison du Charolais** in Charolles is in some way the window of the Charolais meat. A museum space allows you to discover the world of beef and the characteristics of the region. Tasting sessions offer the opportunity to enjoy its tenderness and find some good recipes to try at home.

► **The Festival du Bœuf** that takes place every year in December, for 2 or 3 days, also pays tribute to the Charolais meat that contributes to the region's international reputation. Organized by the Société d'Agriculture de Charolles, the Festival du Bœuf is a contest of the most beautiful animal with a culinary contest and festive events such as miss parades.

► **Bresse chicken.** It's the emblem of Bresse. Recognized and protected by an AOC obtained since 1957, the Bresse chicken is a poultry meat with a unique taste. It originated from an ancient slow-growing breed: The white Bresse Gauloise. The CIVB, the Inter trade committee for the Bresse poultry fiercely defends the Bresse chickens and promotes them. Its history dates back to the beginning of the 17th century and coincides with the planting of corn in Bresse. The Bresse chicken is the king of Glorieuses de Bresse, a contest organized in December in four towns (Montrevel-en-Bresse, Bourg-en-Bresse, Pont de Vaux and Louhans). The purpose of the contest is to distinguish and classify the Bresse chickens by quality. Nearly 250 livestock farmers produce over one million chicks annually. The flesh of Bresse chicken is firm and parsleyed, its fine skin, its taste has the flavor of the terroir. The Bresse chicken based recipes are numerous and delicious, such as Bresse Chickens with cream, with yellow wine and morels, or roasted in parchment.

## Charcuteries

► **The Jambon persillé** (French parsley ham head cheese): originated in the Dijon region, this charcuterie was prepared during the Easter festivities in the 14th century. Manufactured almost like a head cheese, this traditional charcuterie is made from ham and pork shoulder, finely sliced and coated with jelly, and baked in white wine and mustard broth. Served as a starter with gherkins and a salad, the jambon persillé is a must-eat in the Burgundian gastronomy.

## Cheeses, dairy products

► **The Cîteaux.** In 1930, the Cistercians opened a cheese factory to earn more money. The monks currently produce 55 tons per year. A great success for a cheese that has nothing special, except the unequalled aroma of the surrounding pastures.

► **The Crottin de Chavignol.** AOC since 1976, this cheese exclusively manufactured with raw goat milk has its origins in Sancerre. Offering an infinite range of flavors according to its maturity, it goes very well with a Pouilly-Fumé or Coteaux-du-giennois from the same terroir.

► **The Cosne.** Made exclusively at the Ferme de Port-Aubry near Cosne-sur-Loire in Nièvre, this fine goat's milk cheese has a homogeneous, creamy and dense flesh.

► **The Nivernais.** A typical cheese of Nevers, this cow's milk cheese offers in its heart a thick cream layer, giving it an exceptional melting character.

► **The Époisses.** A cheese for those who are less obstinate. It has been an AOC since 1991. The

cheese, made with cow's milk, is refined with Marc de Bourgogne. Its colour is orange, its fragrance, peculiar, its texture is smooth and soft. It is the oldest and most famous cheese in the region. The court of Louis XIV only swore by it. The production returned to more traditional processes in the 70s. The syndicate defending the Epoisses of Pays d'Auxois was born in 1989. Its cousins are the Chambertin and the Ami du Chambertin. The Aisy Cendré is an époisses refined with ashes.

► **The Nuits-Saint-Georges.** Prepared with cow's milk, it surprises with its typicality and smoothness. A glass of wine is a must to accompany it: we strongly advise a local vintage!

► **The Pierre-qui-Vire.** This cheese made with cow's milk from the Yonne department is produced by monks of the abbey of the same name. It is appreciated for its soft dough, for its washed crust and for its refining in damp cellar after drying, for about two months.

► **The Soumaintrain.** Originated in Yonne, it is a whole milk cheese, with natural lactic fermentation, soft dough, washed crust, which after refining takes a nice hue between yellow and brown orange. It has a strong nose (especially in summer) but smooth in the palate. This already known cheese could play the role of exchange currency in the Middle Ages to pay for rent or taxes. The Soumaintrain cheese producer group was established in 1991. Three objectives: production protection, definition of production and promotion criteria, obtention of an AOC title. The Soumaintrain now has a generic brand, "Soumaintrain, terroir of Armance", at the crossroads of several natural regions and departmental entities. The collection, production and refining zones were defined according to the historical traces of manufacture and the geology of the zone.

► **The Gougère.** Widespread throughout Burgundy, it is basically a choux paste, which is added, before cooking, with Comté cut in cubes from the nearby region, Franche-Comté. This detail highlights the rivalry between these two countries that both claim to be the gougère's place of origin. Small bacon cubes or rolls of ham can complement this preparation. The Gougère also serves as a base for starters like snail profiteroles with Noilly Prat. Another suggestion is that of a soup, a broth of meat, spices, herbs and garlic, interspersed with the last moment of herbs, in which we put three small, fresh Gougères straight from oven.

## Fruits and vegetables

► **The blackcurrant.** It was not until the 19th century that its culture developed with the high demand for blackcurrant liqueur and its alter ego, the kir. There are also the effects of phylloxera that ruined many wine-makers who had to look for other ways of livelihood, particularly with the cultivation of this berry. It is Mr. Joly, distiller of his State, who has developed the recipe for blackcurrant liquor. It was difficult at the beginning but the character is ingenious and knows how to offer buyers a diverse range of products: the cassis double, the fine liqueur or surfine. In a few years, two Dijonese

houses compete with it, the famous Maisons Guyot and Maison Lejay-Lagoute. The cultivation of berry was blooming in the early 1870s. There are approximately one million plants in the department. Five companies currently share the market and more than ten million liters are produced by them, or 80% of French production. Nuits-Saint-Georges and Dijon are the two capitals of the little fruit, both of which house the companies Vedrenne and Lejay-Lagoute respectively.

► **The marmotte cherry.** One of the emblems of Auxerre. A fleshy and sweet cherry, hybrid variety, fruit of chance and marriage of two types of cherries. Sharing the same soil and the same hillside as grapes, the cherry trees enjoy the same favourable conditions and have undergone a development linked to that of the vine. Orchards began to grow in number in the mid-19th century after the creation of the Laroche-Auxerre railway, which greatly facilitated the trade with Paris. The great age of the Yonne cherry only began in the late 19th century. The establishment of new railway lines and the improvement of roads contributed to this development, but the phylloxera crisis has considerably redirected the farms.

► **The onions of Val de Saône.** Around the regions of Pontailler-sur-Saône and Auxonne. The bulb is the subject of several culinary variations, such as a well-known soup, but also summer practices that attract between 5,000 and 6,000 people, the onion parties, of course, with the peeling contest.

## Oils, spices, condiments

► **Mustard.** Mixture of husked, ground, sieved grain and grape juice, this condiment enjoys an ideal setting in Côte d'Or: potash-enriched land for the plant, vineyards and an aristocracy rich enough to consume meat every day. On the table of Dukes of Burgundy, it was appreciated for its taste and for its digestive and antiseptic virtues. The leaders of the Duchy, aware of the success of the condiment, used it for diplomatic purposes. In addition to the official gifts at the great courts of the moment, Philip the Bold affix on the coat of arms of Dijon the same inscription as on the sandstone pots: "*Moult me tarde*". Commercial success and already counterfeited, the manufacture is then regulated soon in 1390. In the 17th century, the Corporation of vinegar and mustard-makers of Dijon under the patronage of Saint Vincent, was established. The production passed over to the industrial stage in the 19th century. About twenty mustard makers share the market. In 1867, their specialty was presented at the World Exhibition in Paris.

The seeds has no longer been provided by the surrounding lands for a long time. The suppliers live in Bombay in India, Sicily, Bari in Calabria and Strasbourg. The development processes are definitively set by decree in 1937. The term does not refer to a concept of land, but to a brand name, a mixture of vinegar, white wine and juice of green grapes that come to water finely sorted grains. There is currently a wide selection of mustards. That of Dijon delights connoisseurs who appreciate its heat.

## Treats

► **Anise of Flavigny.** A great Roman traveller brought its name and the anise seed to Flavigny. Later in 718, Widerard created a Benedictine abbey in the village where monks probably developed the recipe of the Anise of Flavigny. It was not until the French Revolution that the reputation of the Ursulines convent of Flavigny-sur-Ozerain's productions, in Côte-d'Or, increased. Despite competition (including the one in Verdun), the Grand Dictionnaire Larousse recognizes only one true anise: that of Flavigny. If the techniques have evolved, the ingredients, the preparations remain the same. And it's always at the abbey that they are made. The defective products are singled out thanks to a rigorous sorting. One centimeter of diameter and five grams for the weight! If ultimately, the dominance is always the same, the (natural) flavourings may vary: violet, mint, liquorice, coffee, rose, orange flower, jasmine, mandarin. . .

► **Chablis cookies or the Duché cookies.** With a rectangular shape, light and crispy, these Yonne cookies have a vanilla sweet taste. The neighbouring Côte d'Or widely distributes these treats that go very well with champagne and hot wine.

► **Cassissine.** It's a fruit paste with cassis, with a liquorous and fruity heart, which we get in Dijon.

► **Nougatine and Négus de Nevers.** Invented by Jean-Louis Bourumeau in the 19th century, the Nougatine was made famous by the Empress Eugénie who, from a journey from Napoleon III to Nevers in 1862, was conquered by its delicate taste and made an important order. As for the Négus, we owe its creation to Maison Grelier in 1902, a soft caramel coated with chocolate in a cooked sugar, as a tribute to the official visit of the sovereign of Ethiopia in the ducal city.

► **Baratin and the Chi dans l'iau of Clamecy.** Emmanuel Portal perpetuates the tradition of the Baratin, a specialty of two meringue with almond based on a cream and created by Mr Barat, a pastry chef in Clamecy in the last century. As for the Chi dans l'iau, it's an original creation composed of a candy of nougatine, almonds, pistachios, candied oranges; the whole coated with a black flake. The name is a tribute to the floater of Clamecy, who, having no comfort on the rafts, squat down on the water to enjoy themselves. . .

► **Gingerbread.** Reims first boasted about supplying "boichets" and other "Gaulderge bread" of much better quality. It was not until the 19th century that Dijon took off. The Maison Mulot Cergy Petitjean, Auger, Boucher, Bourgeois, Couturier, Loidreau, Rondot, Michelin, Guillemot (Honey bread) and Veuve Agron participate in the success. The consecration was formalised in 1900 by Grande Encyclopédie: "In France, the most renowned gingerbread for its fineness is that of Dijon." The war of 1914-1918, by destroying the industries of Reims, left the field open to Côte-d'Or. From rye to wheat flour, honey and flavourings, every great house has its own recipe, and a lot of mystery. . .

## Alcoholic drinks and spirits

### Alcohols, water and liquors

► **The kir.** The aperitif par excellence in Côte d'Or! Served since the last century in cheap restaurants where blackcurrant was used to make all poor quality wines drinkable, it became the privilege of the local politicians, who raised it after to the rank of official drink of official banquets and electoral campaigns.

It is canon Kir who took over the recipe and even signed contract with a manufacturer's house. Known as "Rrince-Cochon" in the beginnings, the cocktail takes its current name, kir, and even enters the common noun dictionary *Petit Larousse* in 1976. For the Burgundian Kir, use a flat-bottomed glass. First pour the Crème de Cassis, then white wine (usually an Aligoté) according to the following proportions: 1/3 and 2/3. However, there are other compositions that are inspired by this mixture. The Communard: same thing but this time with red wine added to the Cassis.

► **The Marc and the Ratafia.** The Marc is a brandy developed with the grape pressing residue. With an amber colour, it is consumed as a digestive. This alcoholic drink contains about 40 % of alcohol in volume. It's not uncommon to find it on some local restaurants, at the end of the meal, with coffee, unlabelled specimens to which we can easily add 20%, an estimate to say the least! The Marc is made after the harvest or in winter. It is aged in oak barrels. As for the Ratafia, it is a mixture of grape juice, must and Marc. Some call it "the riquiqui", which means small in size, perhaps because it is half as strong as the brandy ... To consume with moderation.

## The Vignobles & Découvertes label

Launched in 2009, the Vignobles & Découvertes label aims to promote tourism on the theme of wine and vineyards. For a period of 3 years, the tourism and agriculture ministers, after recommendation of the High Council of wine tourism, assigned it a tourist and wine-producing vocation offering a range of complementary touristic products (accommodation, restaurant, cellar and tasting visit, museum, event, etc.). This offer must assist customers in the organisation of their stay and must direct them towards qualified and quality services.

For tourism and wine-growing professionals, this label must improve the legibility of their offer, which remains difficult to access given the multiplicity of products and appellations; to increase tourist numbers and consumption through this attractiveness factor; and develop the tourism outlet for the wine industry. In Burgundy, the label was awarded to the Corton hill, Montrachet hill, the Dijon-Côte-de-Nuits axis, Chablis vineyards, the Auxerre and Mâcon vineyards.

## The climates of the Burgundy vineyards listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site

The Centre for the Interpretation of the Burgundian Vineyards Climates (Climate listed as UNESCO's world heritage site) has been installed since June 2017 at the new tourist office of the 6th arrondissement, boulevard Perpreuil de Beaune. It allows to discover the level of this recognition.

► **For more information:** [www.climats-bourgogne.com](http://www.climats-bourgogne.com)

### ■ THE CLIMATES OF THE VINYARDS OF BURGUNDY LISTED AS UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE 12, boulevard Bretonnière BEAUNE

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*Visit the Maison des Climats installed at the Tourist Office of Beaune. Low season: open Monday to Friday from 9.30am to 12.30pm and from 1.30pm to 6pm; in the weekend from 10am to 12.30pm and from 1.30pm to 5pm. High season: from Monday to Friday from 9am to 7pm; in the weekend from 8am to 6pm. Free access.*

Since July 2015, Côte d'Or and its 1,247 plots of vineyards divided from Dijon to Santenay are recognized as unique in the world by their diversity, as well as the historical heritage of viticulture they represent. The cities of Dijon, Nuits-Saint-Georges and Beaune, like the close to 140 neighbouring vineyards, are recalled as unavoidable. The inscription to UNESCO's heritage calls on all actors to preserve and enhance this unique cultural, historical and geographical landscape. The Burgundy Vineyard Association takes many actions to make this labelling visible to international recognition. In addition to the House of Climates of the Burgundy vineyard installed at the tourist office of Beaune, a dedicated signage appears on the coast of the wine-growing coast, a specific tourist offer sees daylight and month of climates in June becomes recurrent with animations and conferences. At the same time, an extensive program for the valuation of the muds, closures and restoration of certain herds is carried out. From now on, the Climates of the Burgundian vineyard are engaged in a virtuous process of development which is increasingly easy to read.

## Burgundy wine route

Wine... What's this? Well, no one knows exactly, even scientists! Explanation: try as we might analyze, quantify, measure, classify it, it's currently impossible to determine all its components. Olfactory chemistry does not yet know everything about what the wine smell does. The only thing that remains to do for them is to estimate. A hundred odorous and volatile substances would participate in its perfume. For the rest, science takes its revenge with precision this time. N-bearing molecules activate the fermentation and deliver the required protein and amino acids. Phenolic compounds provide bitterness (tannin) and colouring. Salts provide mineral acids. The occasional drinker benefits from a significant intake of vitamins. Wine is composed of about 90 % water. Ethanol is the second largest component, ranging from 72 g to 120 g per litre: it is the ethyl alcohol, which sometimes makes us feel dizzy and a little unorthodox. In fact, wine is mainly the crossing between men, climate, geology and a terroir, know-how, patience and mystery.

## History of Burgundy wine

► **Burgundy wine or the longest reign in history.** Burgundy, Bordeaux and Champagne are the prestigious wines of France throughout the world. Since the highest Antiquity, the history of Burgundy has been linked to its land and especially to vines. Here is a brief summary of the history of Burgundy wines, which is also that of several tens of generations attached to this land.

### ► A history dating back to the first century A.D.

"Burgundy wine ensures the longest reign in history", says Raymond Dumay. If the origin of wine in Burgundy dates back a long time ago, the date of birth of Burgundy vineyard remains unclear. However, Columelle and Strabon talk about the existence of the vineyard in a certain way in the first century AD. The oldest text attesting the presence of vines and wine in Burgundy dates back to 312. This is a tax plea for the emperor, written by Eumène, president of the university of Augustodunum (Autun), which trains Gallo-Roman elites. This Autun citizen makes a description of the Beaune vineyard. In the 6th century, Grégoire de Tours saw the city of Dijon surrounded by vineyards. Wine replaced Celtic beer.

► **The leading role of the monks.** At the beginning of the second millennium, the majority of vineyards are owned by aristocrats and religious communities. The true Burgundy wine quality development is closely linked to the activity of the Benedictine and Cistercians. For the sake of perfection, the monks have carefully studied everything that could contribute to quality improvement: size, plants, grafting but also wine-making methods. However, their greatest contribution was made through the development of the "climate" concept. By creating the enclosed plots (*Clos*), the monks gave the Burgundy wines their identity. By building wine cellars, the abbey has played a vital role in the development of the vineyard. The same wine, served on the table of popes and kings, quickly becomes synonymous with hospitality and prestige.

► **A drink popular with the Dukes.** The wedding Philip of Valois, first Duke of Burgundy, with Margaret of Flanders was held at the late 14th century. The dukes particularly appreciate the wines of Burgundy, called at the time "wines of Beaune" and thus helps to promote its renown that extended to all countries of the world. Between this same century and the end of the next, Burgundy became a powerful, prosperous and totally independent state of the France Kingdom.

► **A dynamic trade in search of identity.** In the 18th century, the trade is organized through the improvement of the road network that will greatly promote trade especially with Paris but also with the rest of the world through the major ports of Europe. This dynamic is followed by a change, on the one hand, on the wines ageing in new barrels, and, on the other hand, with the emergence of bottle in 1750, accompanied by a production of more long-keeping wines. This century is also dedicated to science: people sought to understand the excellence of Burgundy wines. Is it the soil, the subsoil, the climatic events, the vine or the human influence? In 1728, in London, the first book devoted to Burgundy wines was published by Abbot Claude. He did not just describe the vineyard, he explained it: the best wines of each village are already sold under the name of their appellation, their terroir. Wine-tasting vocabulary appears. The dress, the aromas, the taste becomes more and more precise.

► **How the Burgundy wines surpassed the Champagne.** Deprived from promising waterway outlet, Burgundian vine growers work the quality by giving wine a new value that is less austere and more open to export, thus allowing a wine price higher than that of transport. So quiet, Champagne wine is the only rival of Burgundy wines. Chosen as a doctor of Louis XIV (1693), Fagon wrote a prescription that prescribes to his patient the "vintage wine of Burgundy" as a diet. Its effects are beneficial. Soon the Court drank Burgundy wines... and leaves the Champagne ones. At the same time Claude Brosse, winemaker in Mâconnais, went to Versailles with his barrels: the pioneer of direct selling!

► **The first negociant-wine growers.** The yesteryear brokers-gourmets who hosted and governed customers, at that time, was succeeded by the first négociant-wine growers who were very present in Germany. The high bourgeoisie, the nobility was interested by the vine and gradually took over the declining monasteries. In 1760, Louis-François de Bourbon, prince of Conti, acquired one of the enclosed plots of Saint-Vivant Abbey in Vosne: La Romanée that it admirably illustrates. Thomas Jefferson visited the Burgundian vineyard in 1787. He was the first president from abroad to give it a description. Two centuries later, the ranking he established was accepted. We owed him the first bottles of Burgundy wine in the White House cellar.

► **Changes in the aftermath of the Revolution.** The year 1789 was a twist. The clergy's property is confiscated as well as those of a part of the nobility's one, becoming "national" property and soon auctioned. The very important redistribution of the property, especially the most prominent vintages, was in the best interest of the Burgundian bourgeoisie or Parisian

speculators. A page turned, a new one opened. Napoleon accepted any wine but the Chambertin at his table, as well as the advice of his doctors.

► **Progress and development of the Burgundy wines.** The 19th century is the symbol of progress and that of development thanks, in particular, to the opening of the Burgundy canal in 1832, to the creation of the railroad between Paris and Dijon in 1851 with free trade treaties of the Second Empire with Germany, Belgium, Holland and Great Britain. It was also the year when the Burgundy wines expressed an identity that colour its image: a vivid red wine, full-bodied, robust; a great lord, a bon vivant. The first rankings appeared (1827, 1831, and above all that of Dr. Lavalley in 1855): hors-ligne, tête de cuvée, première cuvée, etc. Each climate is judged by its heritage and its capacities. The glory of the extremely Burgundian sensitive white wine culminated a little later. In addition, the public auction of the Hospices de Beaune, whose first edition was held in 1851, contributes effectively to the promotion of Burgundy wines.

► **The dark years.** The negociant-wine grower ensures almost all marketing: he fully lived his golden age and developed at its utmost the export to Russia and America. But in the last quarter of the 19th century, the phylloxera (the black evil) emerged and ravaged everything in its way. Transplantation was then practised, marrying American rootstocks and the old French vine. Far from giving up, winemakers organised themselves, replanted the vine only on the best land, and removed all table wine. The phylloxera crisis brought order in the vine population. Co-operatives also managed to respond to the economic stagnation of the dark years. The replanting ended thirty years later, but the landscape has changed completely, everything is now intelligently ordered.

► **Direct selling: a response to economic difficulties.** In the aftermath of World War I families and heritages dispersed. Wine was selling badly. Small wine growers buy small vineyards. The "property" was born and many estates, that are important today, were established in the years 20s and 30s. By the end of the 30s, the direct sale is growing and it will continue to strengthen its presence in the market, by increasing a production by the estate.

► **The Appellations d'Origine Contrôlée (AOC).** The most important event of the 20th century is the official recognition of AOC from the 1930s, establishing rules that really protect consumers and deeply moralize the market. In 1975, we witness the recognition of the AOC Crémant de Bourgogne, which brought effervescence to the landscape. Beaujolais wines gained its autonomy in 1989. A prestigious part of Beaujolais wines (Moulin-A-Vent, Saint-Amour) is located in Southern Burgundy (La Chapelle-de-Guinchay canton).

## Vine cultivation

► **Soil and climate.** The Burgundy vineyard is comparable to a huge mosaic consisting of a multitude of small parcels of vine, sometimes enclosed by stone walls. The complex composition of soil of each terroir can be very

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