

DISCOVERING the Vexin Français



Parc naturel régional du Vexin français



Natural heritage



Cultural heritage



Places of interest



Sports and leisure

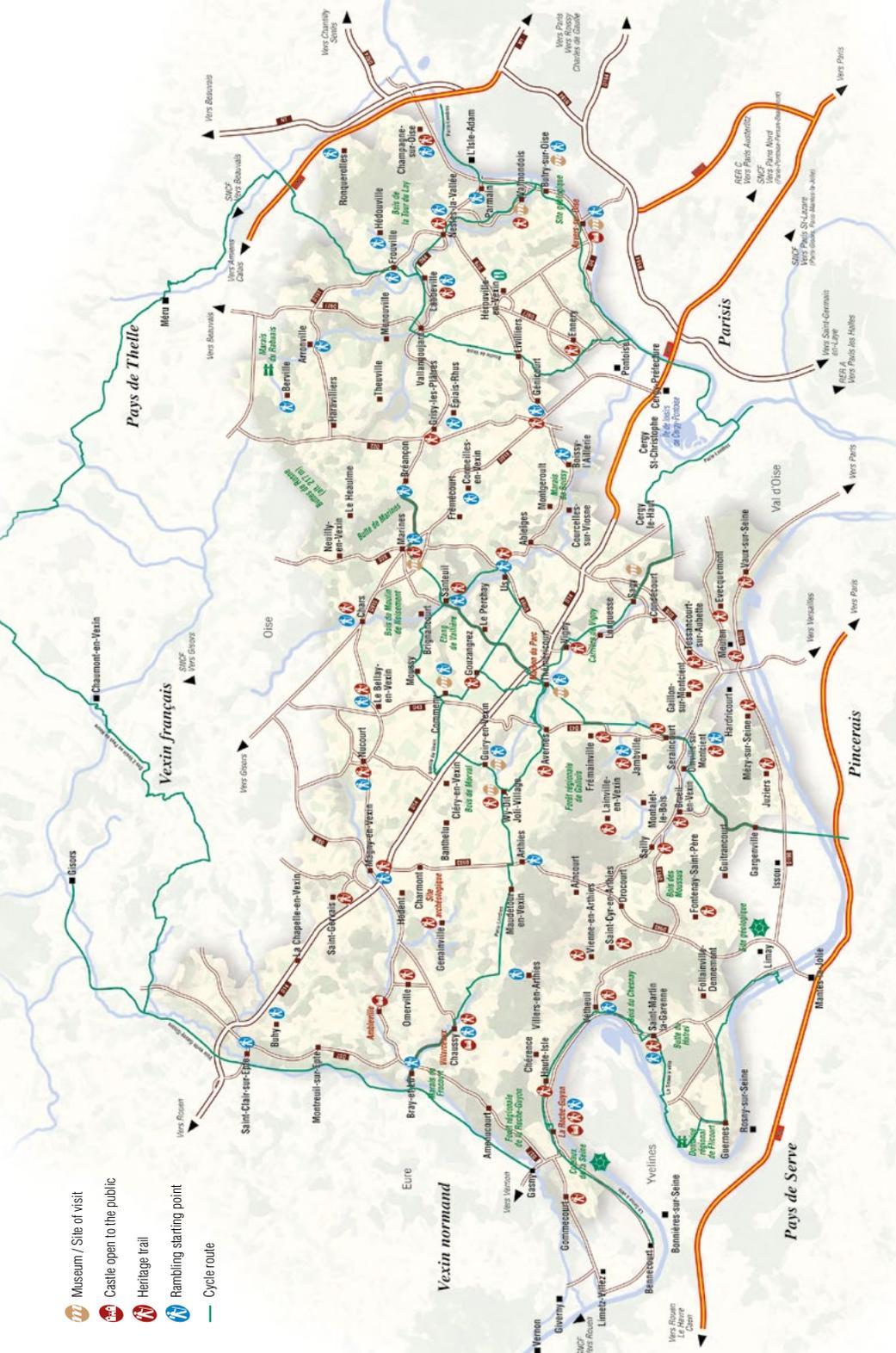


Local produce



Une autre vie s'invente ici

-  Museum / Site of visit
-  Castle open to the public
-  Heritage trail
-  Rambling starting point
-  Cycle route



Welcome to the Vexin Français Regional Natural Park

Lying to the north-west of Ile-de-France, the Parc naturel régional du Vexin français (Vexin Français Regional Natural Park) is a land where nature, history, heritage and culture are permanently intertwined. Between the Seine, the Oise and the Epte, it has 98 communes in Val d'Oise and Yvelines.

The Vexin Français has conserved the authentic charm of a region with a strong agricultural vocation. The harmony of its housing is reinforced by the use of locally sourced building materials. From the hillsides on the banks of the Seine to the verdant valleys of the Viosne and the Sausseron, this vast limestone plateau is recognised for the richness of its biodiversity and its landscapes.

Less than an hour from Paris, the Vexin Français is an ideal destination for walks and relaxation, with over 1,000 km of paths for hikers. Round every corner is a new glimpse of the area's remarkable rural heritage, testament to local traditions and customs. A land rich in history, the Vexin Français also offers a multitude of outdoor and leisure activities that can be enjoyed alone or with family or friends.

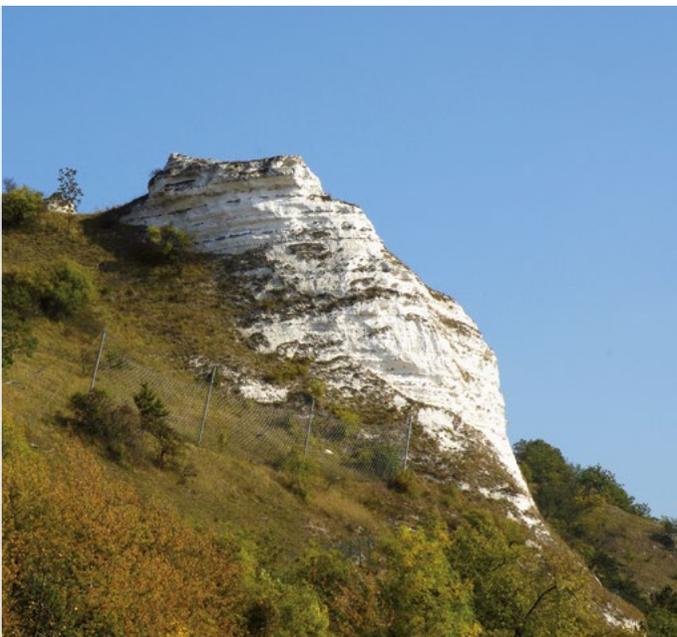
IDENTITY CARD

Created in: May 1995

Municipalities: 98, including 78 in Val d'Oise and 20 in Yvelines

Area: 71,000 hectares

Population: 100,000 inhabitants



This guide will provide the keys to help you understand the Vexin Français through the elements that justify its classification as a regional natural park: remarkable natural environments, rich history and well-preserved architecture and heritage. The guide also offers an overview of tourism facilities in the Vexin Français and suggests sites that are open for public visits.

The Park is backing a concerted sustainable development project for the region based on:

- ▶ managing space and preserving the landscape and the natural and built heritage;
- ▶ promoting the sustainable development of agriculture, tourism and the economy;
- ▶ raising awareness and informing and educating the public to place people at the heart of regional planning.

A well-preserved part of Ile-de-France, the Vexin Français is a huge limestone plateau 100 metres higher than the surrounding areas. The edges of the plateau are formed by the sloping sides of several great valleys: the Seine to the south, the Oise to the east, the Epte to the west and the Troësne and Esches to the north.

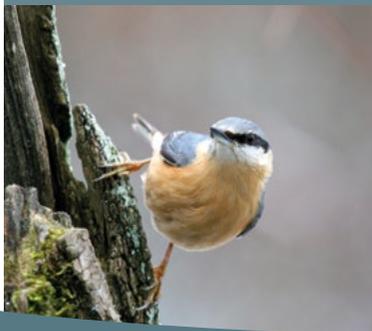
The plateau is notched by valleys of its own (Aubette de Magny, Aubette de Meulan, Montcient, Viosne, Sausseron) with contrasting profiles: some, such as the Viosne, are long, narrow and punctuated with smaller valleys, while others, such as the Aubette de Magny, widen out into alluvial plains. The hills of Arthies, Rosne and Marines, aligned in three groups, raise up their wooded silhouettes above the plateau.

The heritage value of the Vexin Français lies in the diversity of its natural habitats (damp valley-bottom environments, a network of sources and springs, prairies and orchards, limestone slopes, wooded hills) but also the presence of a "grand site d'intérêt national" (a protected site of national interest, the hillsides and meanders of the Seine) and protected plant species. Certain emblematic species, such as bats and little owls, are subject to particular study.



Great diversity of natural environments

In the valley bottoms stretch wet grasslands, alkaline marshes and reed beds where many birds, insects and amphibians find refuge. On the decline since the 1950s, these **wet zones** are now subject to priority action programmes. **Woods and forests** cover more than 10,000 hectares, 15% of the area of the park. The largest wooded stretches cover the hills (Arthies, Rosne, Marines) and the slopes of the plateau. Oak, ash, chestnut and hornbeam are the most common species. **Limestone grassland** occupies the sides of the valleys that criss-cross the plateau. These environments include short grasses, prairies with higher, denser plant cover and fallow land left behind when farming was abandoned. As it hollowed its bed through the soft chalk of the slopes, the Seine brought alluvial deposits carried from further upstream, forming the higher and lower **alluvial terraces** of the Guernes and Moisson meanders.





Réserve Naturelle
COTEAUX DE LA SEINE

The floral slopes of the Seine hillsides

A protected national nature reserve since 2009, the Seine hillsides stretch over more than 260 hectares around the towns of Vétheuil, Haute-Isle, La Roche-Guyon, Gommecourt and Bennecourt. This vast natural amphitheatre, with its rough terrain and sudden shafts of light, houses protected and rare wildlife such as the praying mantis, hoary rockrose and Montpellier milk-vetch.

The reserve is managed by the Vexin Français Regional Natural Park, which is conducting work to restore habitats and species and setting up scientific monitoring. The goal of the reserve is to combat the natural dynamic of scrub encroachment by protecting open environments alternating with wooded areas, e.g. by reintroducing sheep pasture (the Solognote breed).

These striking Ile-de-France landscapes can be explored by following the GR®2 walking route, discovering the wildlife of the slopes on an accessible interpretation path on the heights of Haute-Isle. A viewpoint above Gommecourt surveys the whole landscape of this meander of the Seine.

Specific regulations apply within the reserve, with prohibitions on introducing non-domestic animals and plants, picking plants, construction, driving or parking vehicles, using and leaving products and waste behind, fires, camping and bivouacs.



Most of these remarkable natural spaces are only accessible through guided group visits. The areas that remain freely accessible, crossed or edged with walking paths, are fragile.

Humans have always left their mark on the landscape by constructing monumental heritage, of which churches and castles are the most visible remaining sign. Different styles of architecture coexist, bearing witness to ancient occupation of the land and the various periods of construction. Today, almost all the area's villages have one or more protected historical monuments.

Equally notable as a counterpoint to this remarkable architecture is the simplicity of the rural heritage of the Vexin Français, whose delicately coloured materials play subtly with the light. The harmony of the housing is reinforced by the use of locally sourced building materials such as stone, clay and plaster. The colours of the villages blend perfectly with those of the landscape.

The villages have retained an essentially agricultural vocation from their origins, built on the nature of the soil. The structure of the housing is characterised by a concentration in villages gathered around farms in the form of a quadrilateral, closed to the exterior.

The Vexin Français reveals landscapes punctuated by stone buildings (mills, fountains, pigeon-lofts, village wash-basins etc.), expressing local traditions and customs. It was the first Regional Natural Park to receive "Pays d'art et d'histoire" (land of art and history) certification from the Ministry of Culture and Communication.



The cross pattée, emblem of the Vexin

The cross pattée, dating back to the eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth centuries, is a feature of the Vexin's rural heritage. Romanesque in style, this monolithic cross (carved from a single piece of limestone) consists of short branches of equal length with very wide ends. The form can be found engraved on Merovingian tombs and coins and painted as consecration crosses in churches. These stone crosses probably marked the edges of a fief, a jurisdiction or an ecclesiastical property. Erected in fields, at crossroads and in the centres of villages, examples can be found in Lainville-en-Vexin, Guiry-en-Vexin, Nesles-la-Vallée and Vétheuil. Alongside a sheaf of wheat, the cross pattée is part of the Park's figurative emblem.



HERITAGE FOOTPATHS

A series of heritage footpaths known as the Sentiers du Patrimoine®, family walks of 2 to 7 km, have been created in about forty of the Park's municipalities. Wash-houses, mills, churches and chapels, castles and mansions, former forges and farms... all reveal their history to the eyes of walkers. (*Paths not marked – routes downloadable before you start from www.pnr-vexin-francais.fr*)

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE AT GENAINVILLE

Nestling in a damp valley, the Gallo-Roman sanctuary of Les Vaux de la Celle is an exceptional archaeological site. This monumental collection of buildings consists of a temple, still standing to a height of over five metres, with a 35-metre paved path in front of it, pools and a theatre that could accommodate up to 8,000 people. Over 5,000 objects have been uncovered, and many of them are on display at the Musée archéologique du Val d'Oise (archaeological museum) in Guiry-en-Vexin. The sanctuary has been listed as a protected historical monument since 1941.



THE JULIUS CAESAR ROAD

Bearing witness to the influence of Rome, the "chaussée Jules César" has been the backbone of the Vexin Français for over 2,000 years, passing through it from east to west. Its exceptional historical and archaeological heritage is part of a vast network of military routes built in Gaul in the first century BC and the first century AD. This strategic route linked Lyon (*Lugdunum*) with the Channel via Paris (*Lutetia*) and Rouen (*Rotomagus*). A 21-km stretch between Puisseux-Pontoise and Arthieul has been renovated by the Vexin Français Regional Natural Park and the Fédération française de randonnée pédestre (French hiking federation).



THE EPTE VALLEY

When the Treaty of Saint-Clair-sur-Epte was signed in 911, the Epte became a fortified frontier separating the French Vexin under Charles the Simple from the Norman Vexin ruled by the Viking chief Rollo. A green way has been developed along the route of the former railway that linked Gasny with Gisors, the historic capital of the Norman Vexin. It runs alongside remarkable natural spaces protected as part of the European Natura 2000 network.

Audiovisual guides

The Park has created two audiovisual guides for smartphones, available in English through the Iono app from Expression Nomade.

THE EPTE VALLEY. 10-kilometre circuit starting in Saint-Clair-sur-Epte, guided by the Viking chief Rollo and the archaeologist Lara Venture.

THE JULIUS CAESAR ROAD. 12.5-kilometre circuit starting in Boissy-l'Aillerie, guided by the Roman soldier Ipodus and the archaeologist Lara Venture.



A land of culture, the Vexin Français has always attracted artists, many of whom have left their mark. The meanders of the Seine and the Oise valley were an important source of inspiration for the Impressionist painters of the nineteenth century. Van Gogh, Monet and Daubigny all worked here. Art is a living inheritance that evolves over time. Exhibitions, performances and festivals, some with international reputations, now punctuate the cultural life of these villages.

The Vexin Français is a living territory where economic activities play an important role. **Agriculture** remains very present, occupying over 70% of the land area. Large-scale cereal crops (wheat, barley etc.) dominate the plateau. Sugar beet and oilseed rape are also traditional crops in the Vexin Français. About thirty farms sell specialist crops directly to the public (market gardening, fruit growing, horticulture).

Craft skills are also part of the area's cultural and social heritage and have considerable economic potential. Today, close to their Parisian clientèle, artisans take advantage of the peace and quiet of the Vexin Français to exercise their skills. This little-known environment reveals great wealth and variety in areas as advanced as instrument-making, furniture restoration, ceramics and glassware.



■ The Vexin "terroir"

Although in decline in Ile-de-France, agriculture remains strong in the Vexin Français due to the quality of the soil and the climate, the highly-qualified farmers and the size of the agricultural operations. In an attempt to diversify their business, about thirty producers offer direct sales at the farm. The range of products is growing all the time: fruit, vegetables, poultry, cheese, flour, cooking oil, mustard and honey all vie for the attention of locals and tourists. And when it comes to drinks, local producers offer unpasteurised milk, cider, beer, fruit juice and even cola.

Below are descriptions of the products awarded the "Valeurs Parc" brand.

BEER

La Bière du Vexin is made from spring barley cultivated on the family farm. Varieties include lager, stout, wheat beer, amber ale and special brews such as Vélocasse, which is flavoured with honey.

Ferme Brasserie du Vexin

3 rue de la croix des ruelles
95450 Théméricourt
Tél. : 01 30 39 24 43
www.biere-du-vexin.com



MILK

Ferme du Gros Poirier

The Gros Poirier farm is a family dairy farm converted to organic farming which includes approximately a herd of 140 multi-breed animals. Sale of raw milk and dairy products, and other products from organic farming and Vexin.

24 Grande rue 95640 Le Heaulme

Tél. : 06 83 16 89 35

earl-du-gros-poirier.business.site

LENTILS AND FLOUR OF CEREAL

Ferme de la Distillerie

Since eight generations the Delacour family cultivates with passion the lands of Gouzangrez. Typical of French Vexin, their cereal exploitation also produces lenses, mustard and flour.

1 Grande rue 95450 Gouzangrez

Tél. : 01 34 66 03 05

www.lesmoutardesduvexin.fr



HONEY

Bee Api Vexin

Passionate about bees, Eric Guégan installed about fifty hives first around his village of Avernès then in other villages of French Vexin. He has set up his honey house at the bottom of his garden and produces spring honey, all flowers, forest, chestnut, blackcurrant, and confectionery, nougats and gingerbread!

4 route de Gadancourt 95450 Avernès

Tél. : 06 20 86 10 90

SEASONAL VEGETABLES AND FRUITS

Gacc de la Comté

Antonin Deshayes and Julien Pedrot cultivate 1.6 hectares of land, a large part of which is in open fields and 1,700 m² in greenhouses, on their organic market gardening farm located in the Bergerie de Villarceaux.

Bergerie de Villarceaux 95710 Chaussy

COOKING OILS & FLOUR

Huilerie avernoise

L'Huilerie Avernoise offers a varied range of cooking oils produced at the farm: rapeseed, sunflower, sesame, roast sesame, poppy seed. Stone-ground flour produced at the mill is also available.

43 rue Chantereine 95450 Avernès

Tél. : 06 11 19 07 28 - www.huilerie-avenoise.com

FLOUR OF CEREAL

Ferme des Sablons

This traditional farm of mixed farming-breeding developed the direct selling of meat (Charolais beef). It also produces potatoes, eggs and flours of cereal benefiting from the Brand "Valeurs Parc".

6 rue des Fossettes 95650 Génicourt

Tél. : 06 84 23 93 18

www.lafermedessablons.com

BEEF

EARL du Chemin neuf

This exploitation manages 370 ha of lands in organic farming. It produces lenses, peas and potatoes. The flour (wheat, rye) and the beef (breeding of Salers) benefit from the Brand "Valeurs Parc".

Bergerie de Villarceaux 95710 Chaussy

Tél. : 01 34 67 91 23

FRUIT AND FRUIT JUICE

Les Vergers d'Ableiges

This eight-hectare orchard produces over 25 varieties of apples and pears using sustainable agricultural techniques. The operation also supplies summer fruits (strawberries, raspberries, redcurrants, blackcurrants, plums), fruit juices and artisan jams and jellies.



Hiking

Walking is the best way of discovering the area's nature and heritage. The Vexin Français offers about 1,100 km of marked walking paths.

The GR1, the Ile-de-France hiking path, crosses the eastern Vexin Français via the Aubette de Meulan, Viosne, Sausseron and Oise valleys. The GR2 follows the Seine valley near the border between Yvelines and Val d'Oise. The GR11 runs north-south and links the Seine valley with the Aubette de Magny and the Sausseron. The Epte valley GRP route runs along the edges of Ile-de-France and Normandy. Many walking and hiking routes (PR) are marked in yellow (see opposite).

Several cycling routes pass through the Vexin Français, either along roads or on off-road tracks. You might meet cyclists riding from Paris to London, from Paris to Deauville (The Seine valley by bike !) or following the Santiago de Compostela route. A day on a Boucle du Vexin circuit will certainly get the blood pumping!

Finally, there are many other possibilities for outdoor leisure activities, including horse riding, golf, lake fishing, canoeing, cycle hire, donkey trekking...



WALKING ROUTES

The PR walking and hiking routes are marked in yellow. These circuits of 5 to 24 km are described in hiking leaflets published by the Park authority and cover the following geographical areas:

- ▶ Around the Chaussée Jules-César;
- ▶ Auvers-sur-Oise and the Oise valley;
- ▶ From the Aubette de Meulan to the Montcient;
- ▶ From the Viosne to the Rosne hills;
- ▶ The Epte and Aubette de Magny valleys;
- ▶ The Sausseron valley;
- ▶ From the meanders of the Seine to the area of Arthies.

Leaflets of 7 to 9 circuits.

On sale at the Musée du Vexin Français in Théméricourt (€4) or downloadable free of charge at randovaldoise.com



HERITAGE TRAILS

Those circuits allow you to discover the local history of 44 villages of the Vexin français. Now, English notices are available directly on signs by scanning a QR code.

AVENUE VERTE : LONDON TO PARIS BY BIKE

The cycling itinerary links the two European capitals along shared roads and routes dedicated to unpowered transport. 406 km long (246 km between Paris and Dieppe), the route passes through the Vexin Français Regional Natural Park on two branches dividing in Cergy-Pontoise.

The main branch links the Cergy-Pontoise leisure centre with the Maison du Parc in Théméricourt along the Aubette valley. It continues to Wy-dit-Joli-Village (tool museum) and then Villarceaux, joining the Epte valley green way in Bray-et-Lû. The Oise valley branch runs from Pontoise to Auvers-sur-Oise, the town of the Impressionists, then cuts off towards L'Isle-Adam and Parmain.

More information on

www.avenuevertelondonparis.co.uk



DES 2 VEXIN AU PAYS DE NACRE



This circuit covers 160 km using parts of the Boucle du Vexin around Auvers, the Avenue verte London-Paris and the Epte

valley green way. From Gisors, it takes small country roads through the Vexin-Thelle to Chaumont-en-Vexin, crossing the picturesque villages of Boury-en-Vexin, Montjavoult and Reilly. It then joins Méru, the capital of the Nacre, and travels through the Esches and Sausseron valleys. On those sections, you have to follow the signposts "Des 2 Vexin au Pays de Nacre".

More information on

www.pnr-vexin-francais.fr



THE SEINE VALLEY BY BIKE

This cycle route connects Paris to Le Havre and Deauville following the Seine for nearly 400 km. In the French Vexin, you cross the Guernes meander to the Flicourt ponds and reach the hillsides of the Seine between Haute-Isle and La Roche-Guyon, the last stage before Giverny.

More information on laseineavelo.fr

Epte Valley Green Way

This walking route covers a 28-km path tracing the former railway line that linked Gasny with Gisors. From Gisors, the historic capital of the Vexin Normand, the green way heads for the Seine along the Epte valley, the former frontier between Normandy and the kingdom of France.



THE BOUCLE DU VEXIN CIRCUITS

This first circuit covers 33 km around Auvers-sur-Oise, through the Oise and Sausseron valleys. Sharing the route with the Avenue Verte London-Paris between Pontoise and Valmondois via Auvers-sur-Oise, the itinerary then turns towards Nesles-la-Vallée and Vallangoujard before heading south towards Livilliers and returning to Pontoise. Around Théméricourt, a second circuit covers 32 km between Aubette and Viosne valleys by the Julius Caesar Road.

More information on

www.valdoise-mybalade.fr





VILLARCEAUX



Prices

Free admission.

Opening times

Open from Tuesday to Sunday from 2 to 6 pm.

Open from the first weekend of April to the penultimate weekend of October.

Lying outside the village of Chaussy, the Villarceaux estate is a jewel of Ile-de-France heritage that combines buildings and gardens of all periods since the Middle Ages. In the valley, the remains of the thirteenth-century castle, the walled gardens and the series of fishponds bear witness to a self-sufficient past life. The estate was extended in the Renaissance and outbuildings were added to the manor. From springs to fountains, waterfalls, canals and mirrors, water guides the visitor's exploration. In the seventeenth century, the Ninon tower sheltered the famous love of Louis de Mornay, marquis

of Villarceaux, and Ninon de Lenclos, courtesan and thinker, who held her salon here. The "upper château", built in a single phase in the mid-eighteenth century, appropriates the landscape as far as the horizon in a series of spectacular views. Protected as a historical monument since 1941, the estate has also been awarded the "jardin remarquable" label.

Domaine de Villarceaux

95710 Chaussy

Tél. : 01 34 67 74 33

www.villarceaux.iledefrance.fr



AMBLEVILLE

Constructed in the sixteenth century by architect Jean Grappin on the foundations of a feudal castle erected to defend against the Anglo-Norman invasions, the château of Ambleville is a masterpiece of Renaissance architecture. It was built for the Mornays, a powerful Vexin family, the heirs of the Essarts and lords of Villarceaux. Protected as a historical monument since 1945, the Ambleville estate has also been awarded the "jardin remarquable" (remarkable garden) label.

Jardins et château d'Ambleville

1 rue de la mairie 95710 Ambleville

Tél. : 06 25 64 75 73

www.chateauxetjardins.com

Opening times

Open

- > on weekends, between the end of April and 1 July and in September, from 2 to 5.30 pm (Château tour at 3.30 pm).*
- > every day except Monday in July and August from 10 am to 12 pm and from 2.15 to 6 pm (Château tour at 10.30 am, 3 and 4.30 pm).*

Tour of the gardens: €6.

Tour of the gardens and the château: €9.

Free for children under 6.

LA ROCHE-GUYON

The Château de La Roche-Guyon, nestling in front of a chalk cliff, constitutes an architectural site that is unique in Ile-de-France. From the twelfth-century feudal keep to the eighteenth-century stables, from the first troglodytes' dwellings to the Enlightenment kitchen garden, from the formal salons to the gun emplacements ordered by Rommel during the Second World War, ten centuries of history are narrated here. The keep is linked to the fortress below by an impressive secret passage dug through the cliff. The château's kitchen garden received the "jardin remarquable" label in 2011 and has organic certification for the vegetables it produces.

Classed among the most beautiful villages in France, La Roche-Guyon is a member of the Coteaux de la Seine nature reserve. This vast natural amphitheatre, with its rough terrain and sudden shafts of light, was classified as a "national nature reserve" in 2009.

Château de La Roche-Guyon

1 rue de l'audience
95780 La Roche-Guyon
Tél. : 01 34 79 74 42
www.chateaudelarocheguyon.fr



Prices

Full price: €9
Special rates: €6
(ages 13-18), €5.50
(ages 6-12), €4.90
(disability)

Opening times

- > Open every day
from the first week-
end in February to
the last weekend in
November.
- > Open from 10 am to
6 pm (until 7 pm at
weekends and public
holidays).



Auvers-sur-Oise and the Oise valley

Prices

Adults: €12

Senior: €11

Concessions: €7.50

Children under 7: free

Opening Times

Open from Tuesday to Sunday and on public holidays, from 10 am to 6 pm (last entrance at 5 pm).

CHÂTEAU D'AUVERS-SUR-OISE

The Château d'Auvers offers with "Impressionist Vision" a real dive into Impressionist painting. It is an immersive, emotional and sensory experience. The facilities and the scenography incorporate innovative sound and light technologies for a spectacular rendering and an unforgettable visit. It is a new light on the legacy of Impressionism, the work of painters and the special place of Auvers-sur-Oise as a source of inspiration, place of trade and resort.

Château

d'Auvers-sur-Oise

Rue de Léry

95430 Auvers-sur-Oise

Tél. : 01 34 48 48 48

www.chateau-auvers.fr



Prices

Full price: €6

Concessions: €4

Children under 12: free

Opening times

Open from the end of March to the beginning of November.

> Saturdays and

Sundays, from 10.30

am to 12.30 pm and

from 2 to 6.30 pm.

MAISON-ATELIER DAUBIGNY



First artistic home of Auvers-sur-Oise, this place was created in 1860 by

Charles-François Daubigny, painter and engraver, precursor of the Impressionism.

Maison-Atelier Daubigny

61 rue Daubigny

95430 Auvers-sur-Oise

Tél. : 01 34 48 03 03

www.atelier-daubigny.com

MUSÉE DE L'ABSINTHE

Banned in 1915, absinthe comes back to life in Auvers-sur-Oise, the cradle of Impressionism. Objects, posters, engravings and paintings offer a unique view of the social and artistic life of the nineteenth century.

Musée de l'Absinthe

44 rue Callé

95430 Auvers-sur-Oise

Tél. : 01 30 36 83 26

www.musee-absinthe.com

Prices

Full price: €6.

Concessions: €5.

Free for children

under 15.

Opening times

Open at weekends and on public holidays from 1.30 to 6 pm.

Closed from November 1 to March 15.

MUSÉE DAUBIGNY

The Daubigny museum has a collection of over 1,000 works concentrating essentially on nineteenth-century landscapes, with a focus on works by Charles-François Daubigny (1817-1878) and his son Karl (1846-1886). The collections also include many works by the painter and engraver Norbert Goeneutte (1854-1894), contemporary engravings (Alechinsky, Bryen, Clavé, Corneille, Goetz, Messagier etc.) and works representing feline and naive art.

Musée Daubigny

Manoir des Colombières

Rue de la Sansonne 95430 Auvers-sur-Oise

Tél. : 01 30 36 80 20

www.museedaubigny.com

Prices

Full price: €5

Concessions: €2

Children under 18: free.

Opening times

> From September to June, open Tuesday to Friday from 2 to 5.30 pm ; weekends from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm and 2 to 5.30 pm.

> In July and August, open Tuesday to Sunday from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm and 2 to 5.30 pm.



AUBERGE RAVOUX, KNOWN AS VAN GOGH'S HOUSE

Vincent Van Gogh spent 70 days here during his stay in Auvers-sur-Oise. During restoration work, the original austere condition of his room was respected. The Auberge Ravoux is the sole remaining intact house in France where Van Gogh lived.

Auberge Ravoux
Place de la mairie
95430 Auvers-sur-Oise
Tél. : 01 30 36 60 60
www.maisondevangogh.fr

Prices
Adults: €7
Children (12-17): €5
Children under 12: free.

Opening times
Open March to mid-Novembre, Wednesday to Sunday from 10 am to 6 pm.

MAISON DU DOCTEUR GACHET



Immortalised by numerous artists, the house and garden are treasures of memory paying tribute to the drawing and engraving practised by Dr Gachet (1828-1909) in the company of Pissarro, Cézanne, Guillaumin and Van Gogh. The house dominates the Oise valley from the heights of its beautiful terraced garden.

Maison du Docteur Gachet
78 rue du Docteur Gachet
95430 Auvers-sur-Oise
Tél. : 01 30 36 81 27
www.valdoise.fr/maison-docteur-gachet



Prices
Free admission.

Opening times
Open from the end of March to the end of October, Wednesday to Sunday from 10.30 am to 6.30 pm.

LES ATELIERS BOGGIO



The Boggio studios, which bridge the gap between impressionism and Contemporary Art, are set in a 19th century house with its "priest's" garden. The Studio shows a collection of works by Emile Boggio (a French Venezuelan painter) and his great-great-nephew Xavier Boggio.

Les Ateliers Boggio
47 rue Emile Boggio
95430 Auvers-sur-Oise
Tél. : 06 10 33 24 71
www.lesateliersboggio.fr

Prices
Free admission.

Opening times
Open from April to October, the 1st and 2nd weekend of the month, from 2 to 6.30 pm.

History and traditions of the Vexin Français

Prices

Free admission.

Opening times

Open every day
except Monday

> weekdays:

9 am to 5.30 pm

> weekends and public
holidays: 1 to 6 pm.



PARC NATUREL RÉGIONAL
DU VEXIN FRANÇAIS

MUSÉE ARCHÉOLOGIQUE DU VAL D'OISE

This archaeology museum presents a great number of objects found during excavations in Val d'Oise. The museum recounts the life of prehistoric peoples and their environment from the Palaeolithic to the Neolithic, the spread of metallurgy in the Bronze and Iron Ages, the Gallo-Roman period – with rooms devoted to the archaeological site of Les Vaux de la Celle in Genainville – and the Middle Ages, with an exceptional collection of Merovingian stone tablets. Starting from the museum, a walk takes you to the gallery tomb of Bois-Couturier, one of the most impressive megalithic monuments in Val d'Oise.

Musée archéologique du Val d'Oise

Place du château 95450 Guiry-en-Vexin

Tél. : 01 34 33 86 00

www.valdoise.fr/musee-archeologique



MUSÉE DE L'OUTIL

The tool museum's collection includes 1,500 tools representing craft trades, agriculture and domestic life, gathered over a lifetime of enthusiasm by Claude and Françoise Pigeard. It is presented in a Gallo-Roman bath-house, a protected historical monument. The presbytery garden from the year 2, designed in the tradition of priests' gardens, completes the experience.

Musée de l'Outil

Rue de la mairie 95420 Wy-dit-joli-village

Tél. : 01 34 67 00 91

www.valdoise.fr/musee-de-loutil



Prices

Free admission.

Opening times

Open:

> Wednesdays and Fridays
from 1 to 5.30 pm

> Weekends and public
holidays from
1 to 6 pm.



PARC NATUREL RÉGIONAL
DU VEXIN FRANÇAIS

Prices

Adults: €3

Children (5-15): €2

Children under 5: free.

Opening times

Open by appointment

(call on 06 83 36 88 88)

or with the Tourist office

(01 30 39 68 84).

MAISON DE LA VIGNE

The vineyard of Ile-de-France extended till the end of 18th century on approximately 42000 hectares. Situated in Marines, la "Maison de la vigne" (house of the vineyard) makes relive the wine-making past of the region, emphasizing tools, know-how, traditions and jobs in connection with the work of the wine grower.

Maison de la Vigne

7 boulevard Gambetta 95640 Marines

Tél. : 01 34 42 71 64

www.maisondelavigne-95.fr



MOULIN DE LA NAZE THE NAZE WATERMILL

Prices

Adults: €3
Under 15s: €2
Children under 5
and people with
disabilities: free.

Opening times

Open from March to
December 15
> Saturdays from 2 to 6 pm
> Sundays from 10 am to
12 pm and 2 to 6 pm.
Closed in August.

Located in a former mill, this museum, formerly the "Maison de la Meunerie" (house of milling), reveals the hidden face of the watermill in the footsteps of the millers of the past. The renovation of the site has conserved the period machinery and restored to operation a spectacular mill wheel with inward curving blades that plunge into the tumultuous Sausseron. Pulleys, cogs and gears form the décor of a forgotten space brought back to life by the animated model of an eighteenth-century watermill. The upper floor has been transformed into a reception area with a screening room for the exhibitions



and cultural events organised by Les Amis du Moulin de la Naze (the friends of the Naze mill).

Moulin de la Naze

Rue du moulin Morel
95760 Valmondois
Tél. 01 34 73 06 26
www.pnr-vexin-francais.fr

MUSÉE DE LA MOISSON

Located in a former farm in the heart of the "bread-basket" of the Paris basin, the Musée de la Moisson (harvest museum) presents a remarkable collection of agricultural tools and machinery constituted by the Association des Moissonneurs de Sagy (Sagy harvesters' association). Scythes, threshers, harvesters, winnowers... all the machines (the oldest dating back to 1880) are still in working order. Photographs and memories of Vexin Français farmers punctuate the visit, completing an overview of how agricultural society has evolved.



Musée de la Moisson

Hameau du Petit Mesnil
95450 Sagy
Tél. : 01 34 66 39 62
www.museedelamoisson.fr

Prices

Adults: €4
Under 15s: €2
Children under 5: free.

Opening times

Open weekdays by appointment.
Open some Sundays (see on the website).

MAISON DU PAIN

La Maison du Pain (house of bread) is located in the former flour-loft of the bakery in Commeny, the heart of a plateau dominated by cereal crops. From the first prehistoric pancakes to the bread we eat today, the Maison du Pain invites you to discover a food as old as time that has conserved all its authenticity while adapting to new production techniques. An image-rich audiovisual presentation evokes the wheat-flour-bread cycle and introduces the art of baking through the centuries. Objects from the Vexin's past and explanatory panels extend the visit, with temporary exhibitions on original themes such as biscuit-making or charms hidden in cakes.

Maison du Pain

31 Grande Rue 95450 Commeny
Tél. : 09 88 18 63 97 - www.pnr-vexin-francais.fr

Prices

Adults: €4 - Under 15s: €3 - Children under 5: free.

Opening times

Open by appointment
> Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9 am to
12 pm and from 2 to 4 pm ;
Closed in August.

The Maison du Parc (Théméricourt)



MAISON DU PARC

The Maison du Parc is the administrative base of the Vexin Français Regional Natural Park. It is located at the Château de Théméricourt, a fifteenth-century fortified manor house. Open to the public, the château's outbuildings house the Musée du Vexin Français museum and the Park shop. The 6-hectare gardens, including a lake fed by the Aubette de Meulan river, are a wonderful place for a stroll.



PARC NATUREL RÉGIONAL
DU VEXIN FRANÇAIS

Prices

Adults: €4

Under 15s: €2

Children under 5: free

Free entry to the
château gardens.

Times

Open Tuesday to

Friday from 9 am

to 12.30 pm and 2

to 6 pm

Open Saturdays from

2 to 6 pm, Sundays

and public holidays

from 10 to 7 pm

between May and

September (from 2 to

6 pm between

October and April).

Closed on Mondays

and throughout

December.

MUSÉE DU VEXIN FRANÇAIS

Designed as a centre for interpreting the territory, the museum devotes different areas to the natural environment, wildlife, geology and the landscapes of the Vexin Français. The film "Si le Vexin m'était conté" (also available in English) is an excellent introduction to the discovery of the Vexin Français. Upstairs the museum has a remarkable collection of art objects and popular crafts (the Vasseur-Loiseaux collection). The museum organises a varied cultural programme throughout the year, including exhibitions, workshops, performances and conferences.



Musée du Vexin français

Maison du Parc

95450 Théméricourt

Tél. : 01 34 48 66 00

www.pnr-vexin-francais.fr



THE PARK SHOP

Located in the museum, the shop presents a wide range of products based on local crafts and skills together with guides and books on the region.

TOURIST INFORMATION POINT

Here you can find full documentation about the Park and the surrounding areas. Cycle hire available in season (on reservation : bikool.fr).



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DESTINATION

Vexin français

destination-vexin-francais.fr



La Roche-Guyon - page 11

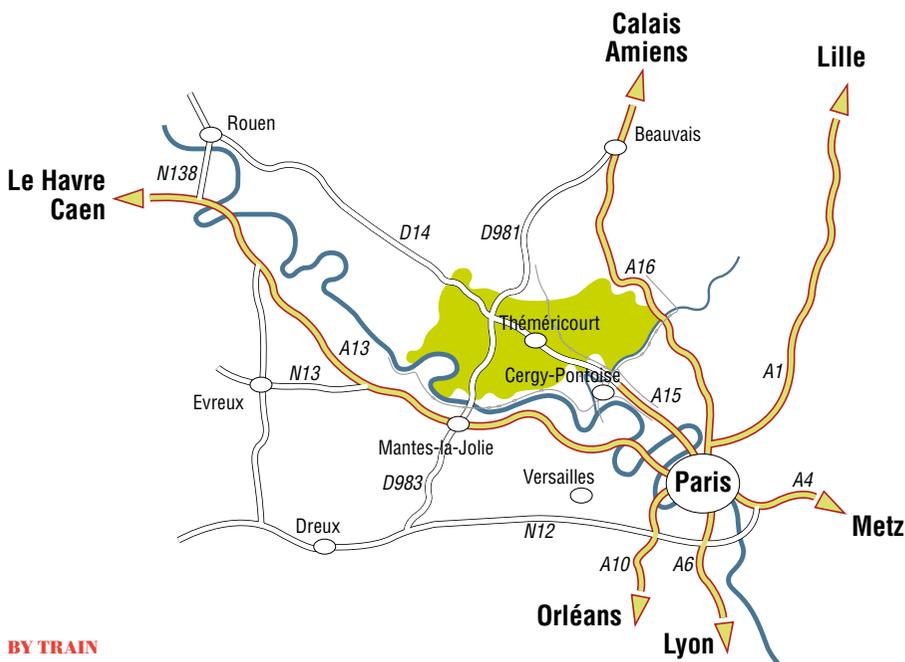


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How do I get to the Vexin Français Regional Natural Park?



BY TRAIN

- **H line** - Paris Nord - Pontoise-Persan-Beaumont
- **J line** - Paris Saint-Lazare - Gisors
- **J line** - Paris Saint-Lazare - Mantes-la-Jolie
- **RER A** Cergy-le-Haut
- **RER C** Pontoise

BY ROAD

- From Paris: **A86** to Cergy-Pontoise follow **A15** and **D14**
- From Rouen: **D14** or **A13** to Paris, exit Mantes-la-Jolie
- From Beauvais or Amiens: **A16** to Paris, exit L'Isle-Adam

More information on
www.destination-vexin-francais.fr

Parc naturel régional du Vexin français
Maison du Parc - 95450 Théméricourt
Tél. : 01 34 48 66 10 - Fax : 01 34 48 66 11
Courriel : contact@pnr-vexin-francais.fr
Internet : www.pnr-vexin-francais.fr