

Musée et Jardins
du Château de

VENDEUVRE



www.vendevre.com

Useful Information

OPEN



Open 1th April

From 1st April till 30 June

Everyday 14 to 18

From 1st July till 31 August

Everyday 12.30 to 18.30

September

Everyday 14 to 18

October

Sundays 14 to 18

Fall Holidays

Everyday 14 to 18



Miniature Furniture Museum

In the Orangery of the Chateau, you will discover the miniature furniture collection, first collection in the world. This panorama in miniature of the decorative arts from the 16th century to 1930 includes more than seven hundred miniature furniture and thousands of small objects.

An unique chateau

In 1741 Alexandre de Vendevre, descendant of one of the oldest Norman families, related to the counts of Flanders, began to build a typical countryside home. For his summer residence he called on the services of the well-known architect Jacques-Francois Blondel.

Classed as a historic monument both for its exterior and interior, Vendevre is the prototype of an aristocratic Norman countryside residence of the 18th century.

Kennels for pets

Judging by the sophistication and variety of the lodgings provided from them, pet dogs and cats were pampered by their owners : traveling-kennel, beach-kennel, three compartment kennel, kennel matching a suite of furniture, sofa in gilded wood ! These miniature portable homes are however extremely rare.





Kitchens

The kitchen, with its stone-vaulted ceiling, is organized to provide all styles of cooking. Copper utensils of all sorts, pewter, glassware and Pré d'Auge pottery decorate this kitchen, which, with its delicious smells of cooking, seems ready to function.

Water surprise gardens

To entertain, to astonish, to charm, to add a further dimension to their parks and gardens, men have since classical times used artificial processes to animate nature and create paradises of escapism, dream, nostalgia or desire. Inspired from a family tradition, « surprise » fountains have been recreated, in association with follies and ancient tales : the Chinese Bridge, The Spring of the Muses, the Crystal Tree, the Temple of Serenity, the green rooms and the Tortoise Waterfall are all to be found in the water-gardens.



Shell Grotto with 200 000 shells

This chambre provides a refuge from the heat of the day, in an unusual decoration. The grotto with its underground fountain is situated beneath a Chinese Pavilion.



Mazes

Mazes were places for escaping. When people had worries, a little walk around the mysterious paths of the maze allowed forgetting about them. In the field maze you will see many constructions inspired by tales and legends. A Burmese pavilion stands in the middle of the maze.

The Exotic garden

Sheltered behind high walls, a protected garden was created in the 18th century. Recently transformed as a exotic garden, you will see citrus and espaliered fig trees. By approaching the waterfall, you will perceive a collection of tetrapanax. Near the greenhouse and along the house, there are the intense smells jasmynes. On the mound, in the shade, herbs, bamboos, daturas are sheltered from prevailing wind. Banana trees, palm trees and yuccas complete this dumping in the exoticism.



En 2023

EXHIBITION



Animal and Art
April till October 2023



Ambassador of the animal world within men, the dog very early had its own home. The name of his house in French « niche » is his anagram.

Dog kennels, cat sofas, animals settle inside the castle.

The animal is at the table! In the large dining room, on the table, admire the animal decoration with rabbits and a unique collection of toothpicks in the shape of animals.



The 18th century company, have real animals in its living rooms and wants to multiply their representation in the interiors. Animal takes shape in porcelain, bronze and even hide in the furniture. Animal painting also evolves, as these small dogs become personalities with their masters. First represented in a lively interior or decoration, the dog and its kennel became the only object of the painting at the end of the 18th century. The attraction of exoticism transforms French society, the faithful dog is

supplanted by many other attractions: exotic bird cages, extraordinary animals (lion, elephant, giraffe). In Louise-Aimée's bedroom, on a chest of drawers in inlay stamped « Ellaume », there is a collection of porcelain and bronze animals. In the Chinese taste, we notice a pair of china dogs with a coat painted in natural iron red, and another serie in white.



Useful Information

TICKETS



Opening 1st Avril

Individuals

The Whole visit

Including the miniature furniture collection, the visit of the Chateau, the discovery of the kitchens and the dog kennels collection, the surprise water gardens, the mazes and the grotto

Adults : €13.5 - Children : €11

Four visits

Including the miniature furniture collection the Discovery of the kitchens and the dog kennels collection, the surprise water gardens, the mazes and the grotto.

Adults : €11 - Children : €9

Three visits

Including Discovery of the kitchens and the dog kennels collection, the surprise water gardens, the mazes and the grotto.

Adults : €10 - Children : €8

Open to groups all year around by appointment. Group rates for a minimum of 20 people. Group rate : €11.5 per person

Contact us

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