WANT TO EXPLORE?
CITIES
OF
VIEWS
auvergneclermonttourism.com
A SENSE OF HISTORY
This is a city which takes pride in its several thousand years of history and in its famous residents. Its origins go back to the erstwhile city of Nemessos, capital of the Arverni tribe. A symbol of the city’s proud past, Vercingétorix, victorious at the Battle of Gergovia, sits imposingly astride his horse, sword raised, in Place de Jaude. And in this hall of fame we also find Pope Urban II, who, speaking at the Concile de Clermont in 1095, called for the First Crusade. And Blaise Pascal, scientist and man of letters, who, at the top of the Puy de Dôme, revealed the existence of atmospheric pressure.

A WORLD-CLASS DESTINATION
These days, Clermont also prides itself in the inclusion of the Chaîne des Puys and the Limagne fault as a UNESCO World Heritage site, making it France’s first natural location to join the prestigious list of exceptional geological phenomena, alongside Australia’s Great Barrier Reef and the Grand Canyon in the US. This has placed our unique landscape, which goes back to the division of the continents, firmly in the spotlight.

HERALDING A BOLD AND BRIGHT FUTURE
The city is looking ahead and enthusiastically paving the way towards its bid as European Capital of Culture for 2028. The abundance of events throughout the region, the scores of theatres, the cultural events and museums, novel design techniques, and the participation of all those involved, primarily that of its residents, demonstrate a genuine collective ambition.
Firmly rooted in a region where nature is everything and where the idea of terroir makes itself clearly understood, Clermont Auvergne Métropole lives with the seasons and enjoys every moment. Winter’s bite adorns the trees in the parks and gardens with frost, covers the slopes with snow, making them ideal for sledding, and creates a yearning for sipping hot chocolate in tea rooms! Sparkling spring introduces pink and white blossom to the orchard, and the gentler temperatures create an opportunity for walks among the volcanoes; long summer evenings make for a constant pretext for lingering on the terraces of the cafés; and after an extended and extraordinarily balmy summer, autumn is suddenly upon us. A few gusts of wind send the leaves cartwheeling in the wind, and it’s time to enjoy mushrooms, and blazing fires in the hearth. The city and countryside constantly intermesh, providing ever more pleasures to match the mood of the day, the colour of the sky and the flavour of the month. So it’s down to you to come and make the most of it all and... révélez-vous!
10.05 AM
EXHIBITION
AT THE MUSÉE BARGOIN

12.30 PM
LUNCH
IN THE HISTORIC DISTRICT
OF MONTFERRAND

2.15 PM
TOUR
OF THE AVENTURE MICHELIN

4 PM
SHOPPING
ON PLACE DE JAUDE

8.05 PM
SHOW
AT LA COMÉDIE THEATRE

REVEAL YOURSELF
Cobbled streets and little squares, mansions built from Volvic stone, winegrowers’ homes, large gardens and tree-filled courtyards, Belle Époque luxury hotels and villas from the golden age of water cures in Royat-Chamalières: this city likes to change its tones and feels! It breathes in with the moving sunlight and lives in tune with its inhabitants: active, festive and serene.

The 12th century Romanesque Basilica of Notre-Dame-du-Port is a stop-off point on St James’ Way, and is built from arkose, providing an impression of perfect harmony, from the cascade of tiled roofs of the apse to its pointed steeple rising up at the transept.

Oases of greenery and fresh air, the parks and gardens here are ideal spots to relax. Close to the universities, you can lie back on the gently sloping lawns of Jardin Lecoq, beneath the shade of the remarkable trees. Or you could find some relief a similar distance away and soak up the astonishing views of the city from Parc Bargoin. Replete with fresh air drawn in from the surrounding countryside, the food markets attract foodies looking for terroir and authenticity. For urban strolls and window shopping, people head to Place de Jaude and the pedestrian district, while bargain hunters are drawn out of bed on Sundays by a type of wistfulness: flea markets are sacrosanct here!
Want to be stirred?

City & Sensations

Throughout the year, Clermont-Ferrand has a copious, imaginative, popular and challenging array of cultural alternatives available for everyone to enjoy. A dynamic and invigorating calendar of events to ready itself for its bid as European Capital of Culture 2028.

The key moments of the Effervescences project, with its eclectic lineup, took advantage of top locations and shook up the established order. The FITE (Festival International des Textiles Extra Ordinaires) adopted this framework too, which avoided toeing the line while combining heritage, tradition and contemporary design. The infinite possibilities of fibres, in their universality, will probably be a surprise to you. Here, curiosity constantly encourages you to choose different paths, as poetically illustrated by Les Rendez-vous du Carnet de Voyage.

The Effervescences project or series of events at the Comédie de Clermont / Scène nationale set the tempo for the Cultural Season.

Topping the bill of major international events, the International Short Film Festival, set up by a few fans of the medium in 1982, is now the world’s leading festival of its kind, and has enjoyed a dazzling career featuring no sequins or red carpets, but some 170 competing films from all over the world. It is also resolutely rock-focused, with a network of small venues, led by the Coopérative de Mai, as well as being home to alternative bands, an independent record label and a festival featuring the best of European music called Europavox, right at the start of the summer.

Because culture is an attitude, an opening of the mind towards the world and towards other people, it is intended to spill over into the public sphere. As well as the museums (the Musée Bargoin, dedicated to archaeology and textiles, the Roger-Quilliot art museum, the Resistance museum in Chamalières, the water transport museum in Pont-du-Château), culture makes itself happily at home on the street corner too.

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11.07 AM
A COPIOUS BRUNCH
to get over
yesterday’s excitement

2 PM
TOUR
of the FRAC exhibition

4 PM
EXPLORE THE VINEYARDS OF THE
CÔTES D’AUVERGNE

11 PM
CONCERT
at the Europavox Festival

REVEAL YOURSELF
TRIP TO THE PUY DE DÔME ABOARD THE PANORAMIC TRAIN

HIKE AROUND THE VOLCANOES

SEE THE ASM RUGBY TEAM AT THE MARCEL-MICHELIN STADIUM

POST-MATCH CELEBRATIONS ON THE TERRACE BENEATH THE STARS

REVEAL YOURSELF
STANDING OUT ALONG THE LINE OF ROUNDED VOLCANIC H ILLTOPS, THE IMPOSING SHAPE OF THE PUY DE DÔME CULMINATES AT A HEIGHT OF 1465 METRES. SWADDLED IN SNOW OR BEDECKED IN BLAZING AUTUMN FOLIAGE, ITS PEAK, VIA THE SENTIER DES MULETIERS, MAKES FOR A CLASSIC WEEKEND HIKE, AS WELL AS BEING A TAKEOFF POINT FOR PARAGLIDERS. USING THE RISING AIR CURRENTS, SWARMS OF MULTI-COLOURED CRAFT WHEEL THROUGH THE SKY, IN THE DISTANCE OCCASIONALLY PASSING BY THE SILENT AND ALMOST MOTIONLESS PROGRESS OF A HOT AIR BALLOON. AND DOWN BELOW, GOLFERS IN ORCINES OR ROYAT-CHARADE CAN MAKE THE MOST OF THE LITTLE VALLEYS TO IMPROVE THEIR TECHNIQUE, WHILE MOUNTAIN BIKERS BOMB DOWN THE PATHS BELOW THE FOREST CANOPY. WITH 300 KM OF MARKED ROUTES, TRAILS AROUND THE PEAKS ALONG FORMER ROMAN ROADS, ALONGSIDE CRATERS OR IN THE SHADE OF THE WOODLAND, THOSE WHO ENJOY BIG OUTINGS AND THOSE WHO PREFER SHORT STROLLS WILL ALL BE SPOILED FOR CHOICE.

32 DESTINATIONS FOR THE INQUISITIVE

1. Musée Bargoin
2. Muséum Henri-Lecoq
3. Jardin Lecoq
4. Basilica of Notre-Dame-du-Port
5. Cathedral of Notre-Dame-de-l’Assomption
6. Hôtel Fontfreyde — photography centre
7. Auvergne’s contemporary arts centre (FRAC)
8. Parc Montjuzet
9. Musée de la Résistance et de la Déportation
10. Parc Bargoin
11. The mediaeval town of Montferrand
12. Roger-Quilliot art museum
13. L’Aventure Michelin
14. ASM Expérience
15. La Coopérative de Mai
16. Parc Montgroux
17. Sémaphore Cébazat
18. Tour de Châteaugay, vineyards
19. Orcines golf club
20. Royatonic
21. Royat casino
22. Royat-Chamalières spa resort
23. Lemptégy volcano
24. Vulcania
25. Puy de Dôme
26. Circuit de Charade
27. Château d’Opme
28. Plateau of Gergovia
29. Grande Halle – Zénith
30. Cournon Lake
31. Musée de la Batellerie
32. The banks of the Allier at Pont-du-Château
Want Something Gentle?

SPA TREATMENTS & WELLBEING

While the Romans had exploited the location long ago, it was the discovery in 1844 of the Grande Source which rekindled its name as a spa resort. The pleasant Tiretaine Valley thus became a therapy and holiday destination in which treatments, social events and entertainment were enjoyed by all. And after Napoleon III and Eugénie came to stay, Royat-Chamalières became more popular than ever. During the season, royalty, captains of industry and artists converged around the pump room, bandstand or casino. And the resort continued to embellish itself. The spa resort plays on its Gallo-Roman reminiscences; the Grand Hôtel with its highly ornate and imposing white walls, contrasting with the colourful enamel bricks of the Pavillon Majestic; the Paradis, looking like a feudal castle, with pretty Swiss chalets and neo-classical villas juxtaposed in the interlacing streets.

While this was a place that specialised in treating rheumatism and cardio-arterial illness, as well as providing medical alternatives this extended to treatment regimens for pleasure alone: water passage therapy, thermal baths, hydro-massage showers, warm mud applications etc.

And there’s another centre which specialises in the idea of «letting go», called the Royatonic Bains & Spa. This focuses on a more contemporary approach to the spa, and also brings to mind the outdoor bathing tradition held so dear in Budapest. Here, you’ll pass through indoor, cupola-topped lagoons to outdoor pools. With bubble beds, Jacuzzi, saunas, water jets, caldarium and tepidarium, water really is a source of contentedness here. And for something even more relaxing, how about a bit of me-time in the spa?

The Source of Wellbeing: Mineral Water, Drawing Its Beneficial Properties from the Depths of the Earth and Gushing Forth at the Surface After a Journey Lasting Several Thousand Years. A Mecca During the Reign of Napoleon III, the Elegant Spa Resort of Royat-Chamalières Is, These Days, a Centre of Wellbeing.

Relaxing between treatments at the Thermes de Royat

Detail at a former luxury hotel in the spa area

Fine food expresses itself to the full with the flavours of its bountiful terroir
10 AM
VISIT THE MUSÉE DE LA BATELLERIE

2.20 PM
RELAX AT ROYATONIC

5 PM
TOUR OF THE BASILICA OF NOTRE-DAME-DU-PORT

9 PM
EVENING EVENT AT THE COOPÉRATIVE DE MAI

REVEAL YOURSELF
9 AM
LEAVE BY TRAM

9.15 AM
CONFERENCE
AT POLYDOME

6.02 PM
DRINKS
AT PLACE DE LA VICTOIRE

9.15 AM
PRIVATE EVENING
AT VULCANIA

REVEAL YOURSELF
Set at the intersection of major motorways, this is an increasingly sought after destination in terms of business travel. Indeed it has the assets needed to manage large-scale events such as the Sommet de l’Elevage as well as company conventions, symposiums, meetings and team-building.

With the Grande Halle d’Auvergne, a huge exhibition and convention centre (12,600 m² under cover), the region’s largest Zénith, in Cournon, and Polydôme, a Business Centre right in the city centre, a wide range of facilities featuring the latest technology (sound systems, video projectors, video recording, simultaneous translation) provides the perfect setting for all kinds of meetings.

Large-scale professional meetings often alternate with intense work sessions and times for relaxation and unwinding. L’Aventure Michelin has an extraordinary past, so a visit here is an opportunity to explore its history which goes back more than 100 years, and which turned rubber into a leading light of the economy. Another success story which reflects a pleasing team spirit and the concept of fair play, come and immerse yourself in the ASM Experience too, and get to the roots of the game of rugby. Set in the heart of the Parc Naturel des Volcans d’Auvergne, Vulcania is an amusement park that’s in direct contact with the environment. An action-packed leisure park with a department set aside for company projects, which can be hired out privately. And there are other amazing locations available for your events too, including the Marcel-Michelin stadium, the Roger Quilliot art museum and the Opéra-Théâtre.

With a wealth of high-quality accommodation options available, featuring more than 1,800 hotel rooms the length of the tramline, and around 6,000 throughout the region, you can also be sure of restorative nights and minimal transfer times!
OFFICES OF CLERMONT AUVERGNE TOURISME,
OFFICE DE TOURISME MÉTROPOLITAIN
clermontauvergnetourisme.com
auvergneclermonttourism.com

OPENING TIMES & HOW TO GET HERE

MAISON DU TOURISME
Place de la Victoire - 63000 Clermont-Ferrand
+33 (0)4 73 98 65 00
info@clermontauvergnetourisme.com
> 1st July to 31st August:
Open every day, 10 am to 7 pm
> 1st September to 30th June:
Open every day, 10 am to 6 pm
Weekends and public holidays, 10 am to 1 pm and 2 pm to 6 pm
Closed on Christmas Day and New Year’s Day, on Sundays during January and November, Monday mornings until 1 pm except during French school holidays and public holidays

ROYAT-CHAMALIÈRES
Place Allard - 63130 Royat
+33 (0)4 73 29 74 70
royat@clermontauvergnetourisme.com
> November to March:
Monday to Friday: 9 am to noon and 2 pm to 5 pm
(closed on Monday morning except during French school holidays)
> April to June, September and October:
Monday to Saturday: 9 am to noon and 2 pm to 6 pm
Sundays and public holidays: 9.30 am to noon
> July and August
Monday to Friday: 9 am to 6 pm
Saturday: 9 am to noon and 1.30 pm to 6 pm
Sunday: 9.30 am to noon and 2 pm to 5 pm

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