

ANJOU 2019

Friends of the Countryside 22nd General Assembly - June 13-16 2019



GENERAL ASSEMBLY ANJOU - FRIENDS OF THE COUNTRYSIDE

Facing the challenges of a changing world - a French perspective

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* Please refer to the Information Programme at the back of this brochure for details of buses, departure times etc.

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We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all those who so willingly accepted to host the Friends and Young Friends for Anjou 2020 without whom this General Assembly and visits would not have been possible.

Please note that all details are correct at the time of going to press but are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.



Small multi-coloured butterflies fluttering in a pale blue sky!

Those who pre-ordered their unique tie,
it will be available at dinner on Thursday June 13.

**It is still possible to order your tie
by sending a mail to:**

coordination@elo.org

Limited quantity!

100% silk, Made in Italy. Price: 75€

Dear Friends

Once again, it is our pleasure to invite you to the 22nd General Assembly of the Friends of the Countryside which will take place in the 'Garden of France', the Loire Valley. The event will take place from Thursday June 13 to Sunday June 16, 2019.

The Loire Valley is an extraordinary UNESCO World Heritage Site, steeped in history, with world renowned chateaux, fertile fields, and a rich tradition of wine making.

To make sure you have a deep dive into the history of land management and ownership in the region, the theme of the FCS Conference will be "Facing the challenges of a changing world - a French perspective". The event will focus on the role and difficulties of landowners in France and the heritage of the Loire region.

The assembly will begin on Thursday June 13 with a welcome dinner in Angers at the Galerie David d'Angers, followed by the assembly and conference the next morning, June 14, at the impressive Chateau de Serrant. The Gala Dinner that evening will take place at the magnificent Chateau de Brissac hosted by Marquis and Marquise Charles-André and Larissa de Brissac.

On Saturday June 15 you will have a choice of 4 different tours including hunting, forestry, agriculture, vineyards, Natura 2000, and real estate – many of our tours include hidden gems that are not open to the general public. The tours will be followed by an informal dinner at the Jean Lurçat museum in Angers.

On Sunday we have arranged an optional Extra Day which will include a visit of the vineyards and vegetable garden at the chateau de Valmer owned by the de Saint Venant family. This will be followed by a prestigious guided tour

of the unique Renaissance Chateau de Chambord, the first Wildlife Estates label in France, with dinner in the prominent hunting halls of the castle and a stay at the Relais de Chambord, a stone's throw from the chateau.

The Post Tour, which includes the Extra Day, commences on Monday June 17, will include such prominent chateaux as Villandry, Cheverny, and the Abbaye de Fontevraud. The tour will begin with an exciting 4x4 tour of the Chambord grounds!

I hope that both our conference and exciting visits of private estates will ensure that you join us in France and reserve Thursday June 13 to Sunday June 16 in your agenda. For those of you who are able to extend your stay, the post-tour will treat you to an extraordinary, in-depth tour of the Loire.

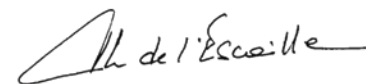
As always, the General Assembly provides a chance for us to meet, see how others manage historic places, interact with the public while maintaining a private life, and prepare the next generation for managing our extraordinary estates and traditions.

We look forward to seeing you among the splendours of the valley of chateaux.

Yours sincerely,



Michael zu Salm-Salm
President



Thierry de l'Escaille
CEO & Secretary General





THE REGION



1. The Loire Valley

Stretching from Sully-sur-Loire to Chalonnes-sur-Loire, the valley spans 280km. Known as the Garden of France it is thanks to its particular blend of man, river, rock (Tuffeau limestone & slate), mild climate and land (vines and orchards, gardens and forest) that the Loire valley gives us its unique character.

Declared a UNESCO world heritage site in 2000 as
“an exceptional cultural landscape of great beauty, comprised of historic cities and villages, great architectural monuments (the châteaux) and lands that

have been cultivated and shaped by centuries of interaction between local populations and their physical environment, in particular the Loire itself”.

The architectural heritage of more than 300 châteaux ranges from 10th century donjons, medieval forts like those of Chinon and Angers, to the splendours of the Renaissance including Chambord and Villandry to the Baroque and Classical styles of the 17th century.



The Last Wild River?

Seemingly tranquil, the Loire had been known to burst its banks in times of heavy rain or snow melt. The river was the main means of transport during the 16th and 17th centuries, slowing to near obsolescence however with the arrival of the train. Ecologists aiming to preserve the river's wild nature, have succeeded in limiting the construction of dams to regularise the river to just two: built in 1982 in Villerest and Naussac. The use of its waters to cool down 4 nuclear power stations remains polemic.

The river is home to a **topoclimat** favourable to the growth of intertropical flora and a varied avifauna.

Agriculture

The Loire Valley is France's second largest agricultural region and takes up more than 70% of its territory. Food production and processing represent the largest sector of the area's economy, with meat, dairy and fish among the primary products, alongside wine. 43% of the Loire valley's egg-bearing hens are free range, 25% of France's poultry production comes from the valley, 13% of its eggs and. It is the first in France's bovine and rabbit production, and 16% of its milk production comes from here. Fruit and vegetable farming is also a major agricultural occupation with orchards taking up 7700 ha as edible fruits and cider production, 1800 different farms produce in particular cucumbers, tomatoes, radish and Lambs lettuce not forgetting the mushroom industry where half of France's production come from. Cereals occupy 32 500 ha of land while viticulture includes 30 different appellations.

The valley's farms are notable for their emphasis on gourmet production and environmentally sustainable methods. The Loire Valley is France's leader in organic agriculture, with more than 60,000 hectares organically cultivated.



Of the 450 existing Label Rouge certificates, 115 come from the Loire. It is a certificate of superior quality where products must meet certain criteria throughout the production chain, including farming techniques, feed, processing and distribution.

Source: www.paysdelaloire.fr

Pays Nantais

- 1 Gros-Plant du pays nantais
- 2 Muscadet
- 3 Muscadet de Sèvre-et-Maine
- 4 Muscadet Côtes de Grand-Lieu
- 5 Fiefs vendéens
- 6 Muscadet des coteaux-de-la-Loire
- 7 Coteaux d'Ancenis

Anjou-Saumur

- 8 Anjou Coteaux-de-la-Loire
- 9 Savennières
- 10 Quarts-de-Chaume
- 11 Coteaux du Layon
- 12 Coteaux de l'Aubaine
- 13 Anjou
- 14 Bonnezeaux

Touraine

- 15 Saumur
- 16 Vins du Thouarsais
- 17 Saumur-Champigny
- 18 Coteaux de Saumur

● Chef-lieu de département
 ■ Ville ou village
 --- Limite départementale
 --- Département
 --- Cours d'eau

0 100 km
 0 60 mi

Loire Valley Wine Styles

- 19 Haut-Poitou
- 20 Saint-Nicolas-de-Bourgueil
- 21 Coteaux de Bourgueil
- 22 Chinon
- 23 Coteaux du Loir
- 24 Touraine-Azay-le-Rideau
- 25 Jasnières
- 26 Touraine
- 27 Coteaux du Vendômois
- 28 Vouvray
- 29 Montlouis
- 30 Touraine-Amboise
- 31 Touraine-Mesland
- 32 Cheverny, Cour-Cheverny

The majority of wine production today is white made from the Sauvignon blanc, Chenin Blanc and Melon de Bourgogne grapes. Red and Rosé wines are also successfully produced in the Chinon and Anjou areas respectively. There are 3 major sections of wine in the valley: the **Upper Loire** of Sauvignon blanc and Pinot noir producing Sancerre and Pouilly-Fumé, the flint in the soil giving it its distinctive smoky gunflint flavour. The **Middle Loire** with Cabernet and Chenin franc grapes brings wines from Vouvray, Chinon and Saumur. The **Lower Loire** centered around Nantes produces the Muscadet wines from the Melon de Bourgogne grape.

The valley is recognised as a region of quality wines with 69 AOP's (Appellation d'Origine Protégée) making up 75% of wine production. The production of wines using **sustainable, organic, biodynamic methods** are practiced at the estates we will visit.

3. A glimpse of French History in the Loire Valley

During **Roman times** the druids of the valley tried in vain to revolt against Caesar's occupation with the consequence that by the time of Augustus I, Tours and Orleans were flourishing Roman towns. **Christianity** took root thanks to St Gatien in the 4thC and **Charlemagne** founded the Alcuin school at the end of the 8thC near Tours.

The **Hundred Years War** (1337-1453) that was fought over the various claims to the French Valois throne by the English **Plantagenets** saw historic battles taking place at Agincourt & Orleans (St. Joan of Arc) and saw **Charles VII** (1422-1461) taking refuge in Chinon. The wars finally ended with a French victory and England losing much of its possessions on the conti-

nent. **Louis XI** (1461-1483) moved his residences between Loches, Amboise and Tours.

It was **Charles VIII** (1483-1498) of the Valois dynasty who settled the Court in Amboise in 1491 with Tours becoming the royal residence initiating the building of residences all around. With no descendants, the throne was passed to his distant cousin **Louis XII** (1498-1515, not illustrated) who established Blois as the capital city. As Louis XII was also left without a son, the reign passed to **François I** (1515-1547) of the Valois-Angoulême line. He re-established Paris as the capital, consequently reducing the Loire valley to a place of refuge or exile.

The **Wars of Religion** (1562-1598) that started with the **Amboise Conspiracy** against the young **François II** (1559-1560) brought mayhem to the area and followed with the assassinations of the Duke of Guise in Blois and consequently of **Henri III** (1574-1589).

Order was restored during the **Bourbon dynasty** with the crowning of **Henri IV** (1589-1610) (King of Navarre) and the signing of the Edict of Nantes reinstating civil rights to the Protestants (Huguenots). **Marie of Medicis, widow of Henri IV**, was relegated to Blois by her son **Louis XIII** 1610-1643).

Louis XIV, as a young boy, took refuge in Gien during the civil wars of La Fronde (1648-1653).

The French Revolution saw a counter-Revolutionary uprising in the valley known as the 'Guerres de Vendée' (More information about that from Olivier du Boucheron in the Red and Yellow Tours!)

Napoleon reverted various castles and abbeys into prisons but decided against making the Loire's Joan of Arc a national symbol.

During **World War One**, the American expedition set up its headquarters in Tours while **World War Two** saw the valley split between the occupied and free zones.

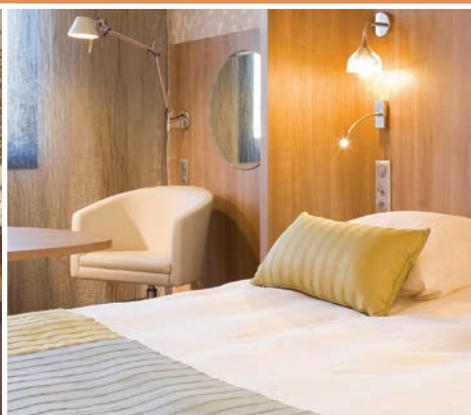


BOURBON





Hotels in Angers and beyond June 13-16



Hotel Mecure Centre** in Angers**

18 Boulevard du Maréchal Foch,
49100 Angers, France

A modern new hotel located in a quiet pedestrian zone opposite a botanical park. The hotel offers spacious air conditioned rooms with a contemporary decor and peaceful setting. A car park is also available.

* For the meeting point and departure times for Chateau de Serrant, Brissac and the tours, please refer to the Information Programme at the back of this brochure.

Hotel de France** in Angers**

8 Place de la Gare, 49100 Angers

The Hotel de France was built in 1906 with an Haussman style facade and has been a family business since 1893 owned by the Bouyer family. It is located close to the train station. All rooms are air conditioned.

*For the meeting point and departure times for Chateau de Serrant, Brissac and the tours, please refer to the Information Programme at the back of this brochure.





Chateau de Noirieux** in Angers**

26 route du moulin, 49125 BRIOLLAY

Part of the Relais & Chateaux group, the Chateau de Noirieux is located 18km north-east of Angers. Set in the beautiful landscape of the Loire valley, each room in both the chateau and 15th century manor house look out onto the gardens and grounds. The rooms are individually decorated in their own traditional style.

This hotel is best suited for those coming by car or who can organise transport to Angers.



Hotel St Julien* for YFCS**

9, place du Ralliement, 49100 Angers

Recently under new management, this three-star hotel features spacious, comfortable rooms. Located on a pedestrian square, Saint Julien Hotel is a peaceful haven that remains within easy reach of restaurants, shops, theatres and more. The tram and bus networks provide easy access to the train station.

A photograph of the Chateau de Brissac, a large, multi-story stone building with a complex roofline featuring multiple chimneys and a central tower. The chateau is situated on a grassy hill, partially obscured by lush green trees. In the foreground, a calm body of water reflects the chateau and the surrounding greenery. A semi-transparent green banner with the word 'PROGRAMME' in white capital letters is overlaid on the left side of the image.

PROGRAMME

> Thursday June 13, Angers

08:00 pm Member's Welcome Dinner

Galerie DAVID d'ANGERS, Angers

<http://musees.angers.fr/accueil/index.html>

FCS and YFCS members are invited to gather in historic Angers for a welcome cocktail dinner at **Galerie David d'Angers**. The building was a 13th century church restored in 1980 using traditional local materials combined with contemporary materials to become a museum dedicated to the sculptor Pierre-Jean David (1788-1856), known as David d'Angers as well as works of art from other renowned artists. The gallery houses statues, busts and medallions of well known people as well as members of David's family.

The Walking Dinner will take place at 08.30pm with a Cointreau Bar to make your own cocktails!



Board Meeting and Dinner

Salons DONADIEU

<http://www.salonsdonadieu.com>

The FCS board meeting will take place at 04:30 pm at the Hotel d'Anjou. After the meeting, all board members and their partners will assemble at the reception rooms of the Salons Donadieu in the old centre of Angers. It offers some of the most impressive panoramic views of the Maine river from its hanging garden. The building dates back to the 15th century and still holds some original features like the chimney and staircase.

Drinks and dinner for the board members and partners begins at 08:00 pm.

- > *For those with extra time on Thursday, Sunday or after the Post tour, here are a list of recommended visits in and around Angers.*

ANGERS CENTRE:

Musee Des Beaux Arts,

Musee Des Beaux Arts, 14 rue du Musée, 49100 Angers

<http://musees.angers.fr/langues-etrangeres/english/musee-des-beaux-arts/the-site/index.html>

Located in the old centre since 1796, the museum of fine arts is housed in a mansion from the 15th century as well as the Grand seminary of the 17th century. Completely renovated in 2005, the collection includes 500 works of art tracing the history of Angers as well as 350 paintings and sculptures from the 14th century to the present day noting Lippi, Jordaens, Ingres, Watteau, and more recently Tremblay.



Collégiale Saint Martin (Collegiate Church),

Rue St. Martin, 491010 Angers

<https://www.collegiale-saint-martin.fr/en/>

More than 1500 years of history and Angevine architecture with vestiges of the Carolingians, a gothic choir, paintings from the Middle Ages are all on show after a 20 year renovation.

FOR THOSE WITH ACCESS TO A CAR:



Wine route:

We have available a wine map with various wine routes south of Angers



La Mine Bleu :

50 km north of Angers

<http://www.laminebleue.com/fr/la-visite>

Descend 130m for a visit of this former slate mine to discover the techniques of extraction and the life of the slate miner.



Le Chateau du Plessis-Bourré :

18 km north of Angers

<http://www.plessis-bourre.com/en/>

This chateau fort from the 15th century is left mostly intact showing the transition style of a fort with double drawbridges, moats and dungeon as well as the elegance of a stately courtyard, high mullioned windows and rich decorations of the Renaissance period.



Chateau de Pignerolles :

11 km east of Angers

<http://www.angersloiremetropole.fr/infos-pratiques/espaces-nature/5-parcs-communautaires/parc-de-pignerolle/index.html>

Set in the grounds of a 70 ha park, this 18th century chateau is inspired from the Petit Trianon in Versailles and now houses contemporary art exhibitions. The chateau and

bunkers constructed during WW2 (both visitable) were used successively by the exiled Polish government, the Nazis who built the bunkers and then the Americans after D-day.



Slate Museum

(Musée de l'Ardoise),

Trélazé : 8 km east of Angers

<http://www.lemuseedelardoise.fr>

Demonstrations and exhibition halls of the slate industry as it was then and now set in a large protected park, home to many species of birds.



Chateau de Montgeoffroy,

Route de Seiches, 49630 Mazé-Millon : 25 km east of Angers

<http://www.chateaudumontgeoffroy.com/gb/>

Awarded a second Michelin star last year (**=worth a detour).

A rare example of an 18th century chateau, the Chateau de Montgeoffroy remains intact and unspoilt and boasts a large collection of original furniture from the time of

construction. Guided tours only - please check website for times.



> Friday June 14

GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND CONFERENCE

Chateau de SERRANT :

Listed Historical Monument. 20 km east of Angers.

<http://www.chateau-serrant.net>

Originally a medieval castle belonging to the SERRANT family, the present harmonious Renaissance building dates from 1639. It now houses one of the most interesting collection of furniture and art in France spanning over 400 years, and includes a precious ebony cabinet made in 1640, Empire furniture from the stay of Napoleon and his wife, tapestries and a kitchen located in the old Medieval part of the castle, fully equipped with items from the early 20thC. A welcoming library housing over 12,000 books includes first editions of La Fontaine and Diderot's "Encyclopedia" as well as Napoleon's Egypt Descriptions. The castle is surrounded by an English landscaped park created in the 1820's.



The castle has been continuously inhabited including the de Bautru family who completed the building of the Renaissance castle and the Walsh family, originally Irish, who saved the castle from ruin during the French Revolution. In 1830 Valentine Walsh married the Duke of La Trémoille. The current owners are the Prince and Princesse Charles-Guillaume and Hedwige de MERODE (the Princesse de Merode is from the La Trémoille line).

The grounds cover 1100 hectares of which 600 ha is protected and 300 ha is an English landscaped park. The 2 large lakes are classified biological areas for rare birds. Activities such as hunting, fishing and forestry are essential to preserve the estate and a small part of the land is rented out. Mid-July, 3000 people role play fictional Kandorya Chronicles.

The owners will kindly host the FCS for the General Assembly, Conference and lunch in their splendid Orangerie followed by a visit of the castle and grounds.

> Programme Friday, June 14

For FCS Members, CHATEAU DE SERRANT

Bus departure: 08:30 am Bus meeting point

XXII GENERAL ASSEMBLY

09:00 am - 11:00 am

1. Welcome by the President of Friends of the Countryside
2. Welcome on behalf of the FCS French delegation by Gilles Savoye de Puineuf
3. Adoption of the proposed agenda
4. Approval of the minutes, FCS General Assembly 2018, Konstanz
5. Approval of the candidate members
6. Board nominations and appointments
7. Presentation of ELO's achievements by Secretary General
8. Accounts 2018 and Presentation of the 2020 budget
9. Welcoming Estates
10. Presentation of FCS General Assembly 2020
11. Presentation of FCS Study Tour Wales, 2020
12. Young Friends of the Countryside (YFCS)
13. FAMIGRO Award
14. Varia

11:00 am - 11:20 am BREAK

11:20 am Introduction from Oliver Kraft,
head of Wealth Planning Europe, LGT

CONFERENCE :

“Facing the challenges of a changing world - a French perspective”

Speakers:

Christoph Büren - *Head of Vivescia, former president of ELO*
Jean d'Haussonville - *Director of the Chateau de Chambord*
Pierre Olivier Drège - *President of ELO*

12:45 - 01:00 pm ANDERS WALL AWARD:

Presentation and ceremony chaired by Baron Johan NORDENFALK

AFTERNOON for all

01:00 pm Drinks and tour of the park

02:00 pm Lunch at the Orangerie, Château de Serrant
Visit of Serrant castle

03:00 pm Departure for those joining the visit of historical Angers (04:00 pm)

04:00 pm Departure for Angers for those remaining

PARTNERS

09:45 am (precise) Meet the guides

10:00 am - 12:30 am Guided visit of Angers castle
and the “Tapisserie de l'Apocalypse”

12:30 pm Departure for Serrant and lunch

GALA DINNER, CHATEAU DE BRISSAC

07:15 pm Bus departure from meeting point
Those who take their own car need the paper invitation to show
at the entrance gate.

07:30 pm Departure for Brissac

08:00 pm Welcome by Marquis and Marquise de Brissac,
Drinks and visit

09:00 pm Friends of the Countryside Gala dinner

Speaker: Henri de La Croix de Castries,
former chairman and CEO of AXA

11:30 pm Pick up and return to hotels

* For a more detailed programme of departure times and pick up points,
please refer to the Information Programme at the back of this brochure

> Friday June 14 Partner's Programme

09:45 am - 12.30 pm / Optional visit for Friends in the afternoon 03:00 - 05:00 pm



Château d'ANGERS and the Tapestry of the Apocalypse

<http://www.chateau-angers.fr>

This monumental fort of 1230 was commissioned by regent Blanche of Castile and her son, Saint Louis. The ramparts measure nearly 500m and feature 17 shale and limestone towers. These towers were reduced in size in the 16th century to better protect the fort from the attacks of the canon. The fort was occupied by the Dukes of Anjou in the 14th and 15th centuries who were prolific builders and art lovers. It was Louis I, Duke of Anjou, who commissioned the Apocalypse Tapestry in 1375, this vast, highly technical masterpiece of

Medieval art. Originally it measured 140m of which 100m are held on display today. It illustrates the story from the book of the Apocalypse by Saint John reflecting, at the same time, the anxieties of the day amidst the Hundred Years War.

The grounds also include vegetable, rose, hydrangea and hanging gardens that feature in the tapestry.



> Friday June 14 Gala Dinner and visit for FCS & YFCS



Château de BRISSAC

15 km south of Angers

www.chateau-brissac.fr

www.mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox?projector=1

Held by the Cossé-Brissac family since 1502, the Dukes of Brissac are in possession of the tallest castle in France, standing at 48 metres, giving it its nickname "The giant of the valley". It numbers 7 floors and over 200 rooms holding its own theatre, chapel, galleries (including a portrait of the Veuve



Clicquot, known for her eponymous champagne), majestic staircases, hidden corridors, colossal halls and a library - a veritable town behind walls!

Besieged by Henry IV during the Wars of Religion, much of the castle fell to ruin until the First Duke of Brissac undertook a massive yet unfinished renovation in 1600. The result is 2 massive Medieval towers that contrast with the Louis XIII facade that give the Brissac chateau its element of charm.

It was here that in 1620 Marie de Medici was formally reconciled with her son, Louis XIII, after bitter battles of power and religion.

Today the chateau hosts many events including a traditional Christmas fair, an Easter Egg Hunt, a Spring fair with hot air balloons, bed and breakfast, and private receptions. The Marquis and Marchioness Charles-André and Larissa de Brissac are kindly hosting our Gala Dinner on Friday, June 14.

The evening for both Friends and Young Friends will kick off with drinks and a guided visit with Marquis Charles-Henri de Brissac at 8pm. The Gala dinner

will be catered by Moulin des Quatre Saisons with star chef Camille Constantin who has a Michelin starred restaurant of the same name in La Flèche. Various regional wines will be presented.

The keynote speaker at the dinner will be former AXA CEO and current president of AXA Atout Coeur Duc Henri de La Croix de Castries.



Marquis Charles-André and Marchioness Larissa de Brissac and family

> Saturday June 15 TOURS

BLUE TOUR

Forestry and Agriculture :
North of Angers, 133km in total

Château et forêt de PESCHESSEUL, Parcé-sur-Sarthe, Avoise.
<https://gfrdepescheseul.wordpress.com/a-propos/>

Vicomte Antoine Ponton d'Amécourt, president of CNPF (Centre National de la Propriété Forestière) and his working partner Paulo Fernandes noted that the timber industry was experiencing difficulties when small scale sawmills were closing down as they were not able to keep up with security norms,



transport costs were rising, forest owners were having difficulties to commercialise on small volumes of wood and yet demand from consumers for renewable materials in construction and renovation was and still is increasing.

In 2000 the idea of a mobile saw mill became a real solution as it offers a local service in an area where 40% of private forest areas are smaller than 10 hectares. The mobile saw can be transported quickly and efficiently to small scale lots, it allows small scale carpenters to buy their wood directly from the forest owners, make custom size cuts on a small scale and allow a notable reduction in transport costs,

As well as a visit to the saw mills, Antoine will take us on a visit of the forest (where he tests for climate change). His mother, Vicomtesse Bruno Ponton d'Amécourt, will kindly give us a tour of the chateau de Pescheseul.

Lunch is provided at the chateau by a local caterer.





Chateau de Moulinvieux, Asnières-sur-Vègre, Sarthe

We will be welcomed by owners Mr and Mrs de Lacombe to this 17th century chateau that despite its name has no “moulin” (mill) but comes from M. de Moulinvieux, the name of the first owner. The chateau, nestled in a bend of the river Vègre, reflects various architectural styles as expansions were carried out over the centuries including the classical style of Louis XV contrasting with the Renaissance style north face. The gardens extend over many tens of hectares and are comprised of various secluded gardens. The castle and park are listed as “monuments historiques” since 1989.

Chateau de Dobert, 72430 Avoise

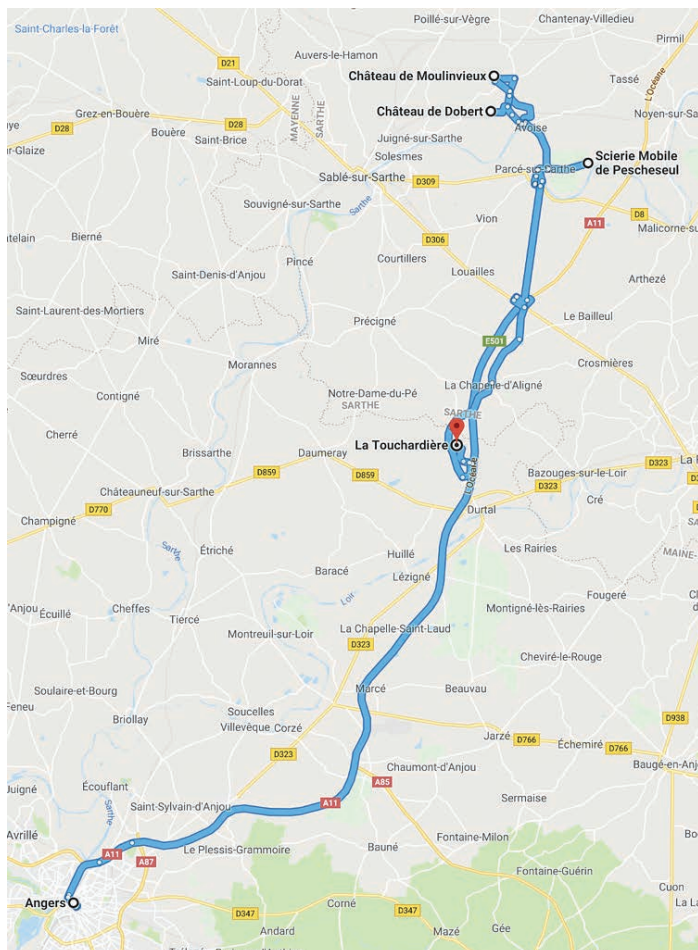
Short-stop visit

A stone's throw from the Chateau de Moulin-Vieux and also nestled in a bend of the same river Vègre lies the charming Chateau Dobert, owned by the same family since its origins in 1460. The Comtesse du Peyroux tells the story of how this small manor house was transformed in the 18th century thanks to an ancestor who made his fortune in just two journeys to China trading silver metal for gold. He invested the considerable profits in the transformation and extension of the chateau to what we see today, added masonry to the moat and built a rare irrigation system inspired by what he



saw in China. With the help of funds, the now ruined system will hopefully be restored by craftsmen. The chateau lies in a 100 ha park and offers bed and breakfast to guests. The chateau is listed as a “Monument Historique”





Chateau de la Touchardière, Durtal

FCS board member Arnaud Heim de Balsac will greet us in the Orangerie for a welcome introduction about the history of this private chateau, the expansion of the estate with various arable crops, its hunting opportunities and the recent renovation of the Orangerie for wedding hire. The chateau will also presently be joining the Welcoming Estates.

Arnaud will accompany the group to a visit and explanation of clay extraction managed by himself in association with Wienerberger, the no. 1 in building construction materials, opened nearby in 2014 with an investment of 80 million Euros. The visit will be followed by a wine tasting and a 'walking surprise'!

RED TOUR

Natura 2000 & local productions : East of Angers: 213 km

Domaine DE MAZEROLLES, Le Breil, Petit Mars

<http://www.domaine-de-mazerolles.fr/index.php>



We shall be welcomed by Pierre Hoflack, the manager of the 750 ha Domaine de Mazerolles who brought this neglected marshland back to life in 2007. The marshlands have an undersoil rich in peat, sand and water making it a



veritable paradise for flora and fauna. Granted the NATURA 2000 and Wildlife Estates Label, this protected site is used for fishing, hunting boar, social tourism (floating cabins for overnight stays in this oasis of calm), agriculture, wetlands and sustainable breeding of Wagyu (a cousin to Kobe beef).

Built on 4 principles (well being of the animal, added value to the environment, organoleptic qualities, traceability of the food supply) over 100 cows now enjoy Mozart, massages, green algae rich water, essential oils and luscious multi-species hay. The meat that is produced from the 3 year old cows is extremely tender with intramuscular fat and is wholly traceable as 100 per cent French.

The Red Tour will visit the farm as well as the wetlands and includes a boat ride for a spot of birdwatching (169 species with many that are rare!).



Lunch will be held here with produce from the lakes and the Boeuf Wagyu prepared and served by starred chefs.

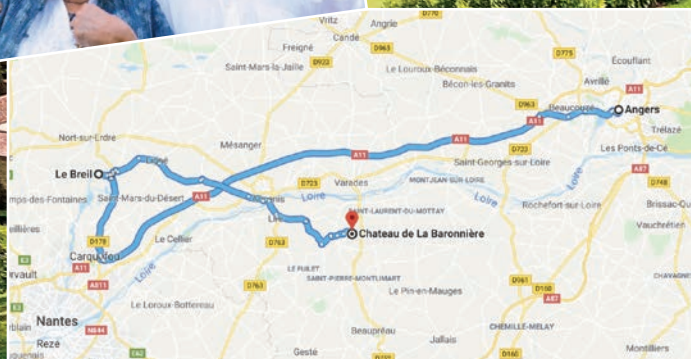
Château de la BARONNIERE, La-Chapelle-St-Florent.

www.chateaudelabaronniere.com/english/

The neo gothic chateau that stands today dates from 1850 and replaces the earlier Renaissance chateau destroyed by fire during the French Revolution. It was classified as a historic monument in 1995. Owner and president of "Souvenir Vendéen" Olivier du Boucheron will give us a presentation of the "Guerres de Vendée", the counter Revolutionary movement that was headed by General Charles de Bonchamps, then owner of La Baronniere.

The 32 hectare park is still based on the original mid-19th century design by André Leroy and is also classified. The semi-circular bio diverse vegetable garden is made up with 500 different varieties and covers 3000m². It was designed by owner Anne du Boucheron, a descendant of Baron Arnous Rivière, creator of the present day chateau. Anne will give us a personal guided tour explaining how the plants are positioned according to their particular affinities. Events held at the chateau include heritage days, classic car weekends, weddings, overnight stays, group visits and scout camps.

The visit will be followed by tea.



GREEN TOUR

Hunting, Forestry, Regional Productions : South 136km

Domaine de LA MAISONNETTE, Etusson

www.pomanjou.fr/?lang=en

<https://chasse-la-maisonnette.com/en/domain/>

Owners Gilles, FCS board member and CEO of Pomanjou International, and Sophie Savoye de Puineuf will show us their production of apples and pears. Pomanjou International is a leading private grower, packer and shipper sup-

plying the private consumer as well as the agribusiness industrials in France (62%) and the rest of Europe. The orchards are spread between 10 different areas in the Loire valley and all hold a Global GAP label certifying a healthy and sustainable produce as well as the "Vergers Eco-responsables" label, certifying an adherence to the Pest Management Charter. The company practices hand-picking of the fruits, the use of bird nests to reduce the insect pest population, irrigation by drip feed to reduce water waste, pre-grading, and other well-thought means of production.



Gilles and Sophie also offer an exclusive and comprehensive hunting experience of big and small game hunting at their Domaine de la Maisonnette. The site covers 750 hectares of which 500 ha is forest, 250 ha open fields and 40 ha of outstanding lakes. The whole site is dedicated to hunting offering a natural environment of flatlands, hedges, undergrowth and thick cover to offer both the

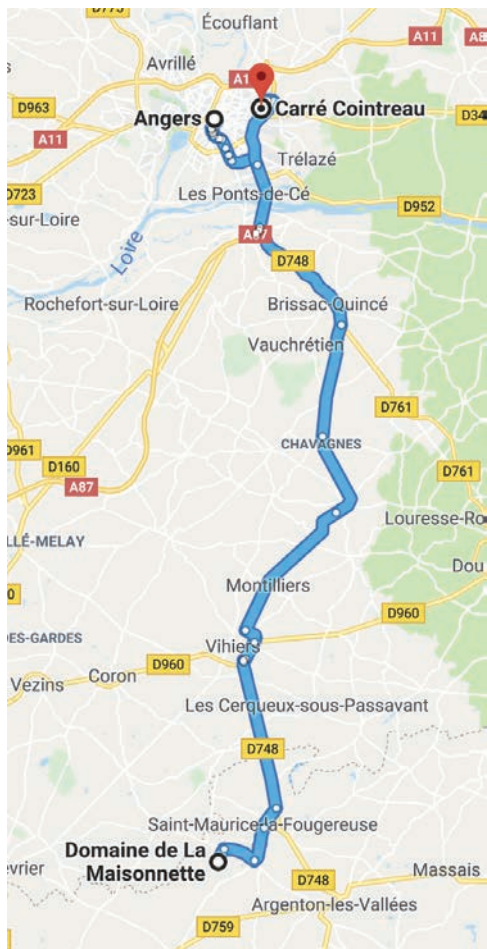




experienced and leisure hunter the most natural of hunting conditions all the while ensuring maximum safety. A hunting lodge offers well-earned rest for the whole family and/or friends with post-hunt homemade meals.

Lunch will be served at La Maisonette





CARRÉ COINTREAU, Angers

www.cointreau.com/uk/en/blog

Discover the exceptional heritage of the Triple Sec Cointreau beverage. The recipe using sweet and bitter orange peel was created by Edouard Cointreau in 1875 and marketed in its iconic square shaped bottle to become a symbol of France.

We will be guided by the younger members of the Cointreau family in a visit of the distillery, the production, the heritage and the history of the innovative publicity beginning with Pierrot de Cointreau that is used to market this unique alcoholic beverage. The tour will end with a complete tasting and recipes of both simple and complex Cointreau cocktails as imagined by the 6th generation of the family, Alfred Cointreau



YELLOW TOUR

Diversification and Real Estate :
East of Angers : 125km in total



© Sabine V. Osch

Ecures de Pantall, Horse Training and stables,

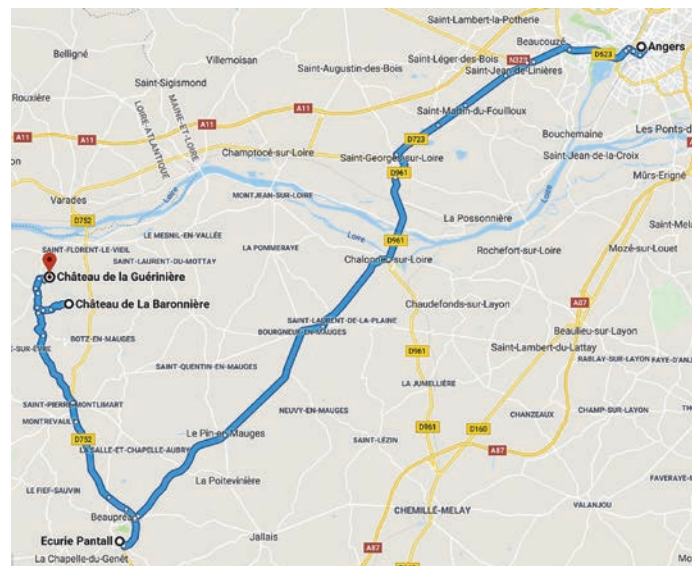
49600 Beaupreau-en-Mauges

<https://www.ecuriepantall.fr>

President of Ecures Pantall, Henri-Alex Pantall, descends from a long line of horse trainers and jockeys that arrived from England in 1840. His father, René, was offered the opportunity to create the stables at Beaupreau by the Duke of Blacas in 1948. Since taking over from his father after his premature parting, the stables have grown from 20 odd boxes to over 150 today. The Ecurie Pantall has ranked among the top 5 of the best trainers in France for many years now.

We will be shown round by Frédéric Munet, President of the “Société des Courses Hippiques”.

*Classement des entraîneurs en France :
Henri-Alex Pantall*





Château de la BARONNIERE, La-Chapelle-St-Florent.

www.chateaudelabaronnierre.com/english/



Charles de Bonchamps, then owner of La Baronnière.

The 32 hectare park is still based on the original mid-19th century design by André Leroy and is also classified. The semi-circular bio diverse vegetable garden is made up with 500 different varieties and covers 3000m2. It was designed by owner Anne du Boucheron, a descendant of Baron Arnous Rivière, creator of the present day chateau. Anne will give us a personal guided tour explaining how the plants are positioned according to their particular affinities.

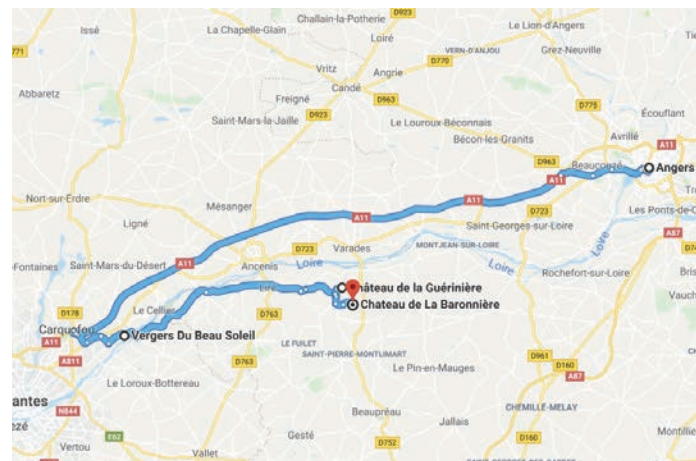
Events held at the chateau include heritage days, classic car weekends, weddings, overnight stays, group visits and scout camps.

Lunch will be held at the chateau de la Baronnière.

Chateau de la GUERINIERE, La Chapelle Saint Florent.

The current owners, Comte & Comtesse Baudouin de Marnix, will welcome us to their fortified chateau whose foundations date back to the 15th century as well as to their beautifully forested park and imposing vegetable garden.

We shall discover this cosy family home which has been held by the same family for the last 200 years passed down as well as the rest of the property where over the years various biodiverse agricultural and forestry activities have been developed as well as rental real estate.





YFCS GA & Conference : Young Entrepreneurship



Domaine de l'Epinay, St Georges-sur-Loire

<https://www.chateauepinay.com/en/>

The 16th and 18th century Château de l'EPINAY, is owned by the Montuoro family. The main part of the building sits between a 13th century pigeon loft (a privilege accorded by kings and an external sign of prestige) and a 15th century square tower. The back side of the chateau sees a 15th century stately home blending shale and tufa. The 17th century writer Jean Racine was linked to the chateau de l'Epinay in a legal story of ownership. Now the castle offers



a restaurant in the Orangerie (focusing on sustainable farming methods), a Spa & fitness centre, rooms to stay, wedding receptions and meeting rooms. Director Athéna Montuoro will take the YF on a visit and presentation of the domaine.

The Theme of the conference is "Young entrepreneurship" and there will be 3 speakers.

The conference will end with a buffet lunch in the gardens.

After lunch there will be a guided tour and tasting of 5 different wines at **Château des VAULTS** in Savennières: <http://www.savennieres-closel.com/?lang=en>

The artisanal production of wines Grand Cru Domaine du Closel come from biodiverse vineyards where the natural cycles of the ecosystem is respected.

YFCS Sunday June 16

Guided visit of the historic centre of Angers and lunch at Chez Pont Pont right by the chateau.

> Saturday evening June 15

Informal dinner and visit : 20:30pm Musée de JEAN LURÇAT, Hôpital Saint Jean, Angers

<http://musees.angers.fr/langues-etranangeres/english/musee-des-beaux-arts/the-site/index.html>

Housed in one of the oldest hospitals in France (12th C), the monumental tapestry of Jean Lurçat (1892-1966), known as “**Le Chant du Monde**” (The World's Song), is a tribute to the 133m Medieval “Apocalypse Tapestry” displayed in the Chateau d'Angers. This socially conscious artist brought the art of tapestry back to life and created a work of man's destiny. In 10 chapters, beginning with the Atomic bombing of Hiroshima and including the Conquest of Space, the artist expresses the final victory of man living in harmony with the world and its elements.

Both FCS and YFCS members have the option to visit and dine here.



The Conquest of Space : Detail from Jean Lurçat's “Chant du Monde”



The inspiration : A selection of the 90 scenes of the “Apocalypse Tapestry” from the 1380's

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CORDOBA 2020




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