



UNESCO SITES IN BURGUNDY-FRANCHE-COMTÉ

A region that is often travelled through, Burgundy-Franche-Comté is an area that has been strongly marked by its history, evidence of which lies in its 9 great cultural sites that have been classified by UNESCO as World Heritage. This club has just become larger too, with the listing of the chapel of Notre-Dame du Haut in Ronchamp!

A rare UNESCO double:

Salins-les-Bains and the Saline Royale at Arc-et-Senans;
« the industrial heritage of salt »

The great salt works of Salins-les-Bains (Jura) is, alongside the salt mine of Arc-et-Senans (Doubs), a testimony to the extensive salt production in the region. It operated for 1,200 years, right up until 1962.

The **Saline Royale at Arc-et-Senans** (Doubs), designed by the visionary architect Claude-Nicolas Ledoux in the XVIII Century, is a unique reminder of industrial history and architecture. 27 years after, it was the turn of the **Grande Saline in Salins-les-Bains** (Jura) to join the UNESCO World Heritage list for its significance to industrial heritage. This visit with a pinch of salt is too good to miss!

In Besançon, following the footsteps of Vauban

This military genius from Burgundy, whose works can be found right across France, really comes to the fore in Besançon.

Remarkably well-restored, the **Citadel of Besançon** (Doubs), considered to be one of the most beautiful in France, sits more than 100 metres above the old town nestling in a meander of the River Doubs. A cultural and touristic hotspot, the Citadel lives up to expectations with living heritage that is brimming with emotions.

Also classified alongside the citadel: the Griffon Fort and the boundary walls of Besançon.

Masterpieces of Burgundian Roman art

The **abbey of Fontenay** (Côte-d'Or) was founded in 1119. Its church, cloister, forge and dormitories perfectly illustrate the autarchy of the very first Cistercian monks. A superb site for visiting and for recharging the batteries, the abbey has provided the backdrop for a great many films.

La Charité-sur-Loire (Nièvre) is home to one of the most beautiful ensembles of Roman art in Burgundy. Its priory church, included on the UNESCO World Heritage list as part of the **Way of St James**, has been perfectly restored. The church of Saint-Jacques d'Asquins and the basilica of Sainte-Madeleine in Vézelay have also been listed in the same context.

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**BOURGOGNE
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A centre of paramount importance for Christianity, **Vézelay** (Yonne) is a charming hilltop village. The climb up to the basilica provides an almost initiatory experience. Spiritual, literary or poetic, it is here that the spirit of Roman art lives on... Because of its architecture, capitals and sculpted doorways, the basilica is a stunning example of Burgundian Roman art from the XII Century. Richard the Lionheart and Philippe-Auguste met here prior to setting off on the Third Crusade.

2016: The works of Le Corbusier are recognised by UNESCO

Notre-Dame-du-Haut – also known as the chapel of Ronchamp- is part of the canon of work by this genius architect (Haute-Saône). Perfectly circular, this work by Le Corbusier now enjoys international recognition.

2015: the Climats of the Burgundy wine region are listed by UNESCO

Climats only exist in Burgundy! These are vineyard plots, very precisely drawn out and often with a very small surface area. They were born out of the natural conditions of the soils, of their exposure to the sun and thanks to the work of the people who created, revealed and ranked them throughout the centuries. This listing also recognises the work of all the generations of men and women, wine-growers, Cistercian monks and Dukes of Burgundy who patiently put together what is the Burgundy wine region, striving for excellence with total determination.

A listing that is less well-known, but no less significant: the Prehistoric pile dwelling sites.

The lakes of Chalain and Clairvaux (Jura) – these two sites are recognised for their significance to European archaeology thanks to their excellent conservation of underwater vestiges and for their astonishing number of prehistoric stratified dwellings.

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