

# Le Mans

## home of the Plantagenets

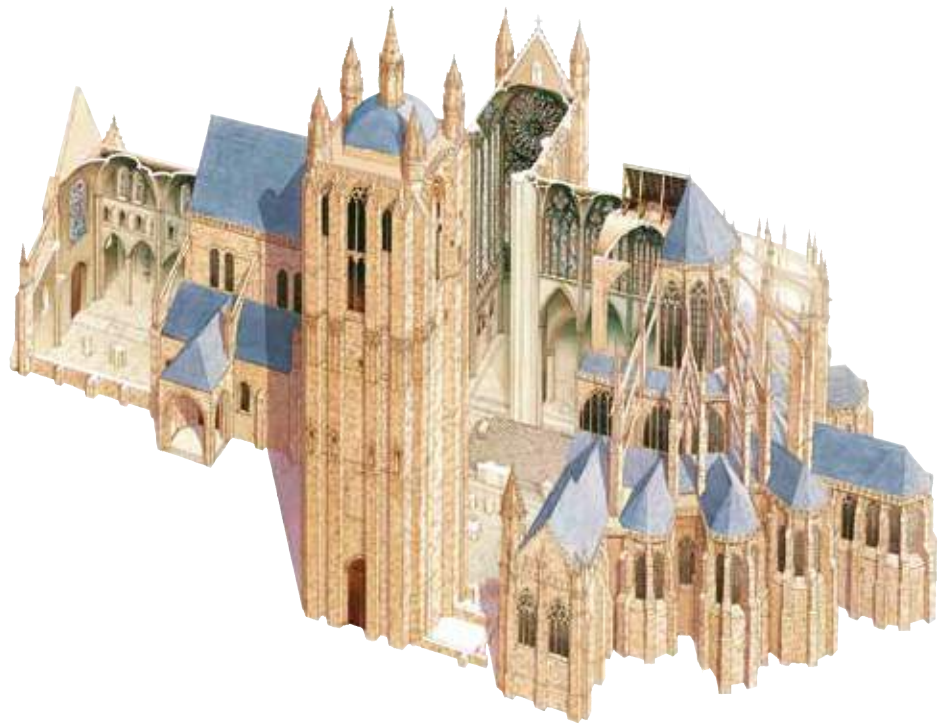
LE MANS ROMAN WALLS, UNESCO World Heritage candidate (UNESCO classification)



Geoffroy Plantagenêt  
Royal porch of  
Saint-Julian's cathedral



Recumbent statue  
of Queen Berengaria



**Press Kit 2018**



The Plantagenet  
enamel  
The «Carré Plantagenêt»  
Le Mans Museum of  
Archaeologie and History



# Le Mans

## Home of the Plantagenets



## Le Mans, a City of History

### Le Mans, The History of a City

LE MANS ROMAN WALLS, UNESCO World Heritage candidate (UNESCO classification)

At the very heart of Le Mans, a City of Art and History, a hidden gem is concealed. The Plantagenet City: 20 hectares of narrow, paved streets lined with wood-beamed houses and Renaissance residences, sheltered by a Roman wall and dominated by a cathedral. This year, Le Mans celebrates on the 15 years of its gratitude by the Ministry of Culture as Town of Art and History.

#### Marks of the Plantagenet dynasty

The old town takes its name from the English dynasty of the Plantagenets, whose founder, the future Henry II, was born in Le Mans in the Palace of the Counts of Maine, currently the City Hall. Many traces of stone survive from this royal saga of the 12th and 13th centuries.

#### The Plantagenet City brought to life: seven sites along the trail

Every evening at nightfall, the Plantagenet City is brought to life through a trail designed by urban scenography company Skertzò: La Nuit des Chimères - Night of the Chimeras. This summer 2017, Skertzò invite us to join them as of on **Tuesday, juillet 3**.

#### The Plantagenet City: a town with fifteen Césars and thirteenth film shootings

The talent of every actor who has shot in Le Mans has revealed that the Plantagenet City plays a fine role. She would like to thank them. Among the directors who have come to enjoy this scenery so close to Paris to shoot films and TV films, including most recently "Nicolas Le Floch", "Molière", "Jean de la Fontaine", "Cyrano de Bergerac", "Le Bossu", "L'homme au masque de fer", "Les Blessures Assassines"...

#### Le Mans roman walls, UNESCO World Heritage candidate (UNESCO classification)

There are only three Roman bulwarks of this interest: **Rome, Constantinople and Le Mans**.

An exceptional wall by its importance, his state of preservation and by its beauty and especially a wall which protects the freedom, deserves to be held on the national list of sites for the registration to the UNESCO world heritage.

# Le Mans

## Home of the Plantagenets



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*The Chorus of Angels, on the Romane facade of Saint Julian's Cathedral.*

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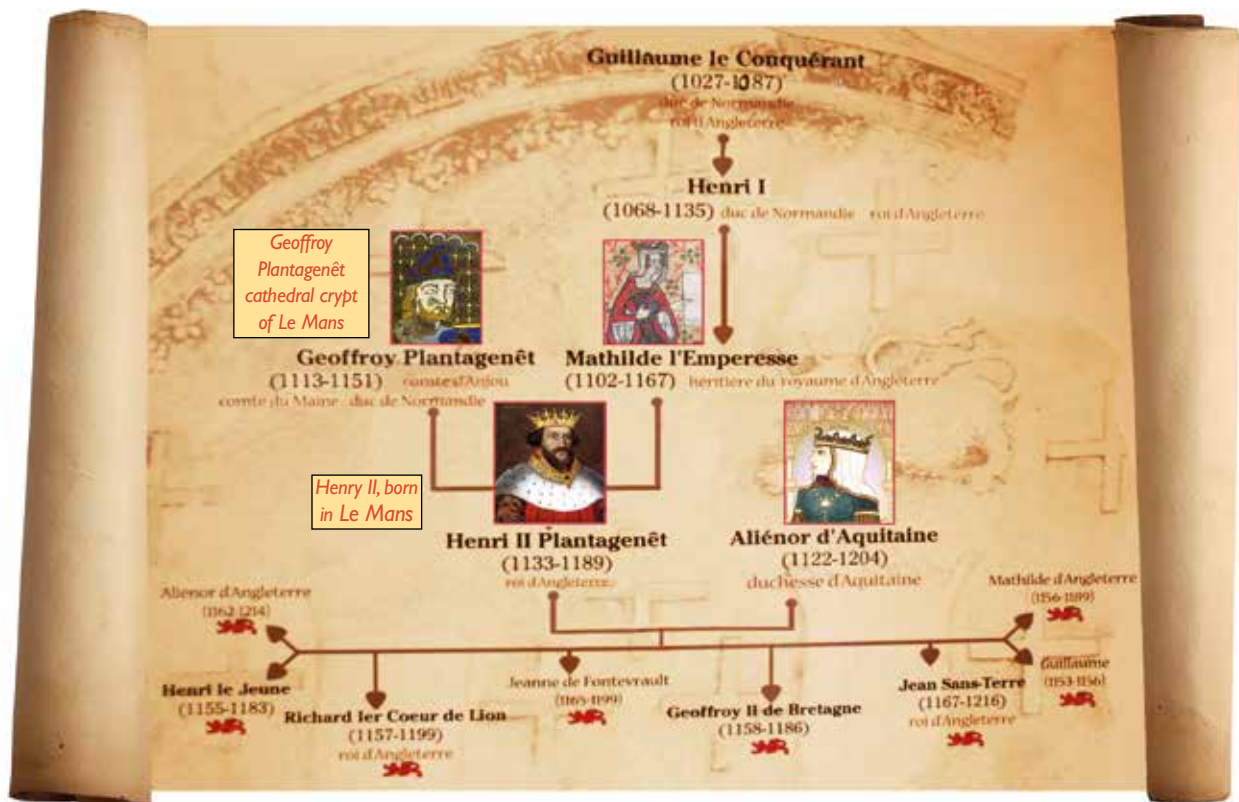
# Le Mans

## Home of the Plantagenets



## Home of the Plantagenets

Great family with strong figures.  
Among the women: Matilda, Eleanor, Berengaria.  
And on the men's side: Geoffrey V, Henry II and Richard the Lionheart.



Heir to the counties established by Charlemagne, coveted by its powerful neighbours in Normandy and Angers, Maine entered into Angers, a circle of influence in the 12th century.

The Plantagenet connection with Le Mans began with a sumptuous wedding in the cathedral between the Countess of Maine, Ermengarde, and the Count of Anjou, Fulk V. It was consolidated with the birth of their son Geoffrey Plantagenet in the palace in 1113, thereby uniting the two comital crowns in the person of a single heir. This connection was further consolidated on 17th June 1128 when Geoffrey Plantagenet, the Count of Anjou and Maine, married the Empress Matilda, widow of the Holy Roman Emperor. The granddaughter of William the Conqueror, the Empress was heir to the Kingdom of England and to the Duchy of Normandy. Their son, Henry Plantagenet, was born in 1133 in the Palace of the Plantagenet Counts in Le Mans (the modern-day Hôtel de Ville) and was baptised in the Cathedral of Saint-Julien. Geoffrey died in 1151 and is buried in the cathedral. The famous enamel plate depicting the Count of Anjou formerly decorated his tomb.

In 1152, Henry married Eleanor of Aquitaine, who brought to him as a dowry the entire south-west of France. He was crowned king of England in 1154. Maine was then involved in the conflicts between the kingdoms of England and France. Their son Richard the Lionheart, on his way to the Holy Land, married Berengaria of Navarre in 1191 in Cyprus. After becoming a widow, in 1204 Queen Berengaria obtained the administration of Le Mans and the surrounding territory. She lived for 25 years in the royal palace of the counts. The monarch rests in Le Mans, at Abbaye de l'Epau which she founded.

# Le Mans

## *berceau des Plantagenêts*



### **Plantagenet enamel**

The enamelled plate which covered the tomb of Geoffrey Plantagenet is included among the collections at the Tessé museum, and is known by the name of "Plantagenet enamel". It is the largest enamelled creation of the Middle Ages. Geoffrey is depicted as armed. In his right hand he holds the sword and in his left, the long shield marked with the Maine coat of arms. A must-see at Carré Plantagenet, is the Le Mans Museum of History and Archaeology.



*The Plantagenet enamel*

### **City Hall - Collegiate church of Saint-Pierre-La-Cour**

The palace of the counts - Plantagenet royal palace (current City Hall) still houses the room where Henry II Plantagenet was born. This palace also has a holy Chapel, named the collegiate Church of Saint-Pierre-La-Cour.

### **Saint Julian's cathedral**

In the 12th century, Saint Julian's cathedral benefited from work financed by the Plantagenets. They planned to make this cathedral the monument to the glory of their dynasty, as Saint-Denis was for the Capetian kings. The Countess Arembourge, Geoffrey's mother and heiress to Maine, and his father Fulk V, were married here in 1109. Matilda and Geoffrey were also married here; Geoffrey's tomb is here; Henry II was baptised here in the presence of the king of England and Henry I Beauclerc who, having no legitimate male successor, recognised him as his heir.

### **Église du Pré**

Built in the XI and XII centuries, the current parish Church was originally used as an abbey Church to the Benedictine monastery Saint-Julien-du-Pré, founded at the saint's supposed burial site. A garden of medieval inspiration surrounds this building, which remains Maine's most attractive monument. All of the plants that make it up were used in the pharmacopoeia of the Plantagenet's era.

### **Église de La Couture**

The Eglise de La Couture was rebuilt at the end of the 12th, beginning of the 13th century, thanks to the generosity of the Plantagenet kings.

### **Maison-Dieu de Coëffort**

Built by Henry II at the end of the 12th century to atone for the assassination of Thomas Becket, archbishop of Canterbury.

### **Abbey of Epau, final resting place of Berengaria**

In 1229, Berengaria, widow of king Richard the Lionheart, founded the royal abbey of Pitié-Dieu, one of the last Cistercian establishments in France. today Abbaye de l'Epau).



*Recumbent statue of Queen Berengaria*

### **Contact Presse**

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# Le Mans

## Home of the Plantagenets



## The cathedral's masterpieces and its treasure

### The alliance of the Romanesque and Gothic

With the Vézelay-style Romanesque side aisles, a choir and a transept erected in the Gothic style, the cathedral brings together all of the architecture of the Middle Ages.

### The musician angels

The celestial chorus of forty-seven musician angels (end of 14th century) painted on the vaults of the Virgin's Chapel of Saint Julian's cathedral is a masterpiece in Occidental Gothic painting, comparable to the achievements of the Palace of the Popes in Avignon or the Apocalypse hangings in Angers.

Gontier de Baigneux, Bishop of Le Mans from 1367 to 1385, had them painted between 1370 and 1385. The artist, probably a friend of the Princes of Valois, may have been Jean de Bruges, painter of the Apocalypse hangings.

Some of the instruments depicted, like the "Eschaquier" (*the Chessboard*), a table covered with a chessboard and with a keyboard on one of the sides, have now disappeared and are known about only through these paintings. The cathedral of Le Mans has therefore become an essential location for specialists in medieval instrument construction.

### Relics

In the 10th and 11th centuries, Le Mans was a key site in the concentration and distribution of relics. The treasury of the cathedral holds a piece of the true cross and part of the shroud of Saint Julian.

### Stained glass Windows and tapestries

Saint Julian's cathedral possesses stained glass windows, tapestries and objects of medieval goldsmith work that constitute a collection as important as that of Chartres and Bourges.

**Of interest** : the window of the Ascension, the oldest stained glass windows still in place in a religious building.

### The Treasure

This collection of precious metalwork, sculptures and liturgical vestments from the twelfth to the nineteenth centuries is housed in the great cabinets of the sacristy.



The Virgin's Chapel houses the only depicted orchestra of angels (14th century).



The Virgin's Chapel houses the only depicted orchestra of angels (14th century).

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## The "Carré Plantagenêt"

### Le Mans Museum of Archaeology and History

Inaugurated on 18 June 2009, the Carré Plantagenêt (Plantagenet Square), tells the history of the City and its territory, through its collections, from the first human occupation in the prehistoric era up until the charter granted by Louis XI to the "good city" of Le Mans in 1481.

The museographical journey, both scientific and entertaining, is punctuated by key objects, scale models, interactive terminals, and animated scenographies. All this housed within elegant contemporary architecture, making use of diversified spaces and attractive perspectives.

A Gallic Cenomani treasure trove, the Plantagenet enamel (twelfth century), the domestic silver treasure of Coeffort (fourteenth century). Image scenography brings the Plantagenets to life.

*The museum organises commented visits, conferences, activities and workshops for young people.*



carré  
plantagenêt  
MUSÉE  
D'ARCHÉOLOGIE  
ET D'HISTOIRE



Open from Tuesday to Sunday  
(10am to 18pm). Closed Monday.  
Disabled access.

2 Rue Claude-Blondeau - Le Mans

+33 2 43 47 46 45  
Contact: Julie Bouillet.

### IN PROJECT

*Staged show of recumbent effigies by the collective K2A.*



### Among the planned temporary exhibitions

#### "IN THE TIME OF MAMMOTHS" from March 31st till September 29th, 2018

This exhibition paints a portrait of the famous woolly mammoth which lived between 600 000 and 10 000 years. By means of small movies and of interactive games, all the themes are approached there, since the lifestyle of the big animal and the reports which the man maintained with him until his disappearance 10 000 years ago. The visitor can so confront the image as happens the mammoth in the original rooms, the bones, the reconstructions or artistic representations. The exhibition presents some exceptional rooms as the molding of Dima, the famous baby mammoth was discovered in Siberia in 1977 and the reconstruction of the skeleton of the mammoth of Lyakhov (Russia) and was offered in France in 1912.

Admission charge: €5 weekdays, half-price on Sunday. Free for under-18s, students, young people in training up to 25 years old and job seekers.

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## 10, 000 years of history

**The Plantagenet dynasty has marked the history of Le Mans.  
But the city has kept traces of more than 10, 000 years of history, of which the menhir,  
standing against the cathedral, is the first witness...**

### Hewn stones

The discovery of significant deposits of hewn stones confirms the long history of the population in Le Mans. The confluence of two Rivers, the Sarthe and the Huisne, overlooked by a hillock, constituted a favourable territory for human settlement. Discover more at the Carré Plantagenet, the Le Mans Museum of History and Archaeology.

### The menhir

Since prehistory, the site of the Plantagenêt city was considered a holy place. A menhir remains propped against the cathedral, the Christian faith having established itself on the site of the previous religion.

### Roman Le Mans

The Roman city, established under Augustus towards 20 BC, took the name of Vindinum. From this era the thermal bath, visible within an archaeological crypt located beneath the école supérieur des Beaux-Arts, and the surrounding wall, built around the year 280. It is the best preserved out of the entire Roman empire, along with those of the two imperial capitals Rome and Constantinople.



*The city of Le Mans within its Gallo-Roman era surrounding wall.*

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### The four kings

- **Fulk V**, through his marriage in 1109 to Arembourge, Countess of Maine, united Anjou and Maine. Following the death of Arembourge, he married Melisende, daughter and heir of Baudouin II of Jérusalem. He ceded the County of Anjou to his son Geoffrey Plantagenet and then left for the Holy Land, being crowned King of Jerusalem in 1131 upon the death of Baldwin (Baudouin).
- **Henry II**, son of Geoffrey Plantagenet and the empress Matilda, was born in Le Mans. He was baptised in Saint-Julian's Cathedral in 1133. He became king of England in 1154.
- **Philippe VI**, known as Philip of Valois, was born in Le Mans at the Château du Gué de Maulny in 1293. He was the first French king of the House of Valois. His ascension to the throne, by dint of the Salic law which excluded women and the female line from succession even in the absence of a direct male heir, was the cause of the One Hundred Years War between France and England. In fact, the Plantagenet king of England, Edward III, was the grandson of King Philip the Fair through his daughter Isabel, whereas Philip of Valois was only his nephew.
- **Jean II The Good** was born in Le Mans, in 1319. King of France in 1350, he was taken prisoner by the English at the battle of Poitiers. A ransom of 4 millions crown,s was asked. He was freed but had to leave two of his sons as hostages. One of them, Jean II, escaped, but obeying the laws of honour, returned to his captivity. He died in London in 1364.

### Charles VI meets with madness in Le Mans

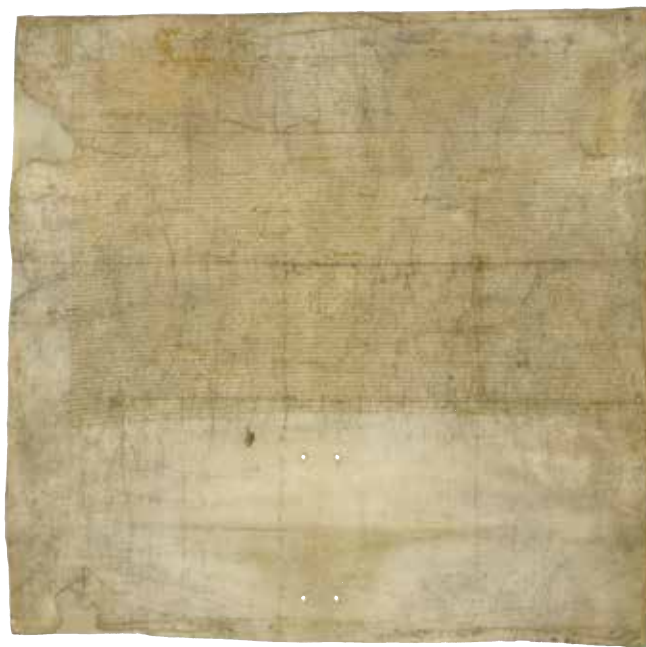
Charles VI was affected by madness in the Forest of Le Mans, on 5 August 1392. With the "blazing sun and the dust rising from the road..." as the chroniclers report, the king was overcome by hallucinations. He killed four of his men with his sword and narrowly missed bestowing the same fate upon his own brother, Louis of Orleans. After this episode, he lived between delirium and lucidity until his death in 1422.

### First communal charter : 1481

To reward the inhabitants of Le Mans for their loyalty, King Louis XI granted the city its first charter, conferring on the inhabitants the right to elect a mayor and municipal magistrates. A free city was reborn.

### Le Mans, birthplace of the Pleiade

The funeral of Guillaume du Bellay, marshal of France and viceroy of Italie, took place in Le Mans on 5th March 1543. Pierre de Ronsard was present, and undoubtedly Joachim du Bellay. Jacques Peletier, a poet, became acquainted with Pierre de Ronsard on this occasion and encouraged him onto the path of poetry. The friendship between them remained unflinching. Peletier became part of the first Pleiade. Soon to join them were Nicolas Denysot and Jacques Tahureau, two poets from Le Mans.



*The Letters patent by Louis XI dated 21 February 1481 are a charter granting the inhabitants of Le Mans the freedom to run the city, to elect a mayor and other privileges. The original is preserved in the municipal archives. A reproduction is exhibited on the first floor of the Hôtel de Ville (City Hall). 78 lines with signature, incomplete seal parchment, 64 x 64 cm. Le Mans Archive. Reference : AA 1.*

# Le Mans

## Home of the Plantagenets



### The Roman wall, candidate for the UNESCO World Heritage List

The City of Le Mans, in June, 2011, presented a first folder tightening what is held the application of the City Plantagenêt on the national list of sites for the registration to the World heritage of the UNESCO.

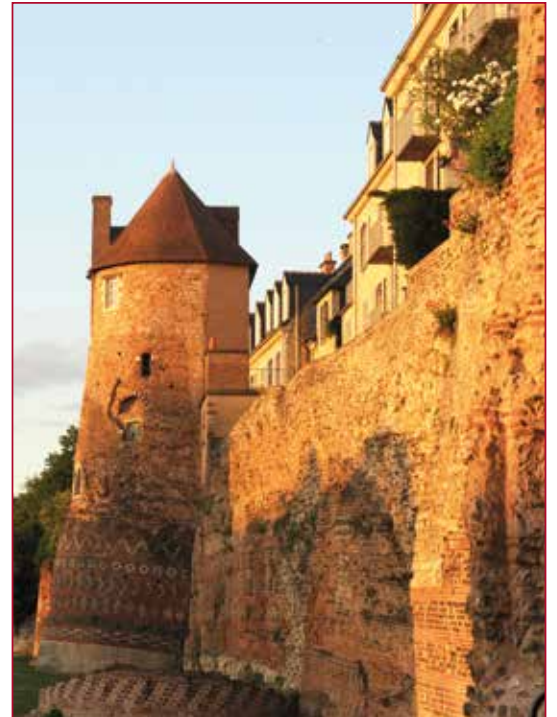
After having been pushed aside in 2012 by the 'French National Cultural Asset Committee', the City of Le Mans was advised to reorient its focus on the Roman wall.

On May 3, 2016, a delegation consisting of a scientific committee, 12 experts, representatives from the DRAC (Regional Department of Architecture and Culture) in the Pays de la Loire and the City of Le Mans evaluated the proposal of registering the Le Mans wall as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

In 2017, several scientific studies were led to deepen the knowledge of the building. The application file will be deposited in spring, 2018.

**There are only three Roman bulwarks of this interest: Rome, Constantinople and Le Mans.**

*Behind the wall of Le Mans, after the fall of Roman Empire, Cénomans will remain free men under the protection of their bishop. They will not fall in servitude under the authority Lords. They will not have to acquire franchises. There is in Le Mans no streets of the true middle-class persons. An exceptional wall by its importance, his state of preservation and by its beauty and especially a wall which protects the freedom, deserves to be held on the national list of sites for the registration to the UNESCO world heritage.*



Delegation of experts - 3 May 2016.



**About the surrounding Roman wall :** Designed with a dual purpose: to defend the city and to assert the revival of imperial power following the political crisis of 260 to 274. The exceptional sumptuousness of the surrounding wall's decoration, where a succession of friezes with geometric embellishments over 8 metres high can still be seen today, is the finest indication of this reasserted strength. In the fourth century, 500 years after its construction, it came under attack by the Bretons and Vikings.

In 1637, the historian André Duchesne, called it Le Mans, the "red town", referring to the colour of its surrounding wall. Its construction of brick and roussard stone held together by pink mortar gives it this colour. Twelve towers, one door and three posterns are still visible today, in particular on the banks of the Sarthe. Today, this is the best preserved surrounding wall of the entire Roman Empire, along with those of the imperial capitals : Rome and Byzantium (Istanbul). A unique monument in France, the surrounding wall has stood, without foundations to speak of, for 1700 years.

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### The Plantagenet city, The cathedral's archaeological garden



At the foot of the Saint-Julien Cathedral, preventative archaeological excavation carried out in 2016 by an Inrap (French National Institute for Preventative Archaeological Research) team (at the instruction of the State – DRAC (French Regional Cultural Affairs) Pays de la Loire) led to the discovery of new elements from the ancient and medieval city. Several constructions linked to Le Mans' history have been uncovered in a remarkably well-preserved state.

**The second phase of excavations in the cathedral's gardens is underway. It will come to an end in the summer of 2018. The opening of the door, Place du Jet d'eau, happens mid-March 2018. A development project for the garden is planned.**

#### About the excavations taking place in the gardens of the Saint-Julien Cathedral

From 6 to 10 archaeologists are working on the Inrap (Institut national de recherches archéologiques préventives - French National Institute for Preventative Archaeological Research) excavation site in the cathedral's future archaeological garden. "One of the most important urban excavation sites in France," explains Stéphane Augry, archaeologist and operations manager. The excavations that started in 2016 have uncovered new remains. "We have been pleasantly surprised at how well preserved our discoveries have been. Three towers have been uncovered." The corner tower of the bishop's residence could be extracted in its entirety. Its monumental base and foundation trench are visible. The Saint-Joseph tower, which was destroyed in the 13th century and of which there remains only a few traces on the wall, still allows unprecedented analysis of the foundation system. "The layout of the circular construction is visible thanks to the discovery of potholes. For the first time, we are going to be able to study the underside of the wall." The third tower, the tour Saint-Michel, is located in the courtyard of the same name. Its interior is decorated with chevrons. At the foot of the cathedral, the remains of a large grandiose reception hall was also uncovered. It was part of the episcopal residence. Amongst the other discoveries, numerous bones were found on the site as well as carved stones that could have come from the chapel of the Cardinal of Luxembourg. The excavations will continue until spring 2018. Next, it will be the development phase for the archaeological garden, which should take about a year.



Le Mans City Planner - Scientific Control of the Pays de la Loire DRAC (regional cultural affairs office) - Inrap Archaeologic Research - Deputy Director of Science and Technology Hélène Jousse, Inrap - Science Director Stéphane Augry, Inrap.  
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# Le Mans

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### Le Mans, in a Night of Chimeras

Every evening, from nightfall. From 3 July to 2 September, 2018

### Summer 2018 - The royal porch of Saint Julian's cathedral turns up

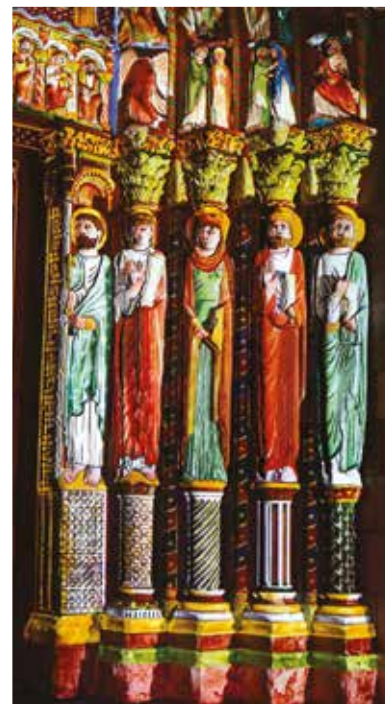
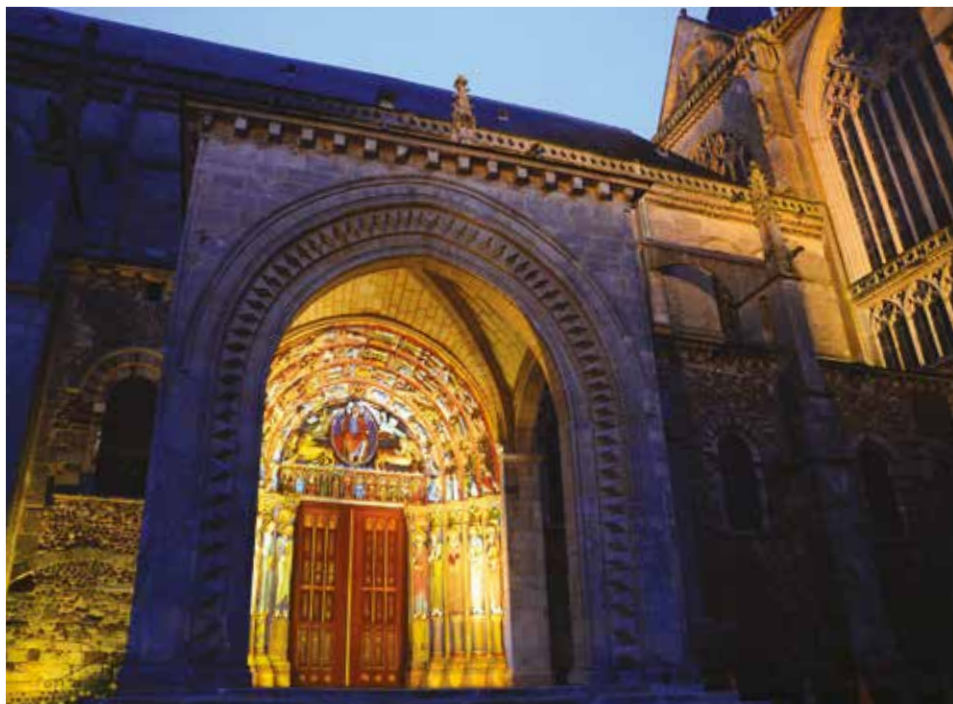
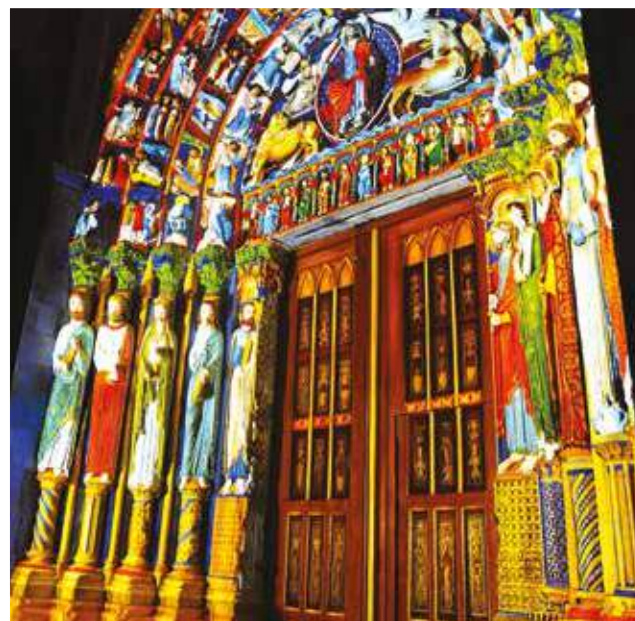
"Royales Chimères" - A Skertzò creation for the city of Le Mans.

The scene on the royal porch is naturally staged as part of the Night of the Chimeras.

This polychromatic spectacle will constitute a mysterious segment, since the viewer will have to discover the grand figures that populate it. Discover them, because they are currently at least partly covered by a thick layer of soot.

The lighting, the projection of images that fits their forms perfectly, brings them back to life. We can see once again the delicate lines of their features, but also dream of turning the clock back so that we become those passers-by, those pilgrims who in medieval times marvelled to hear these grand figures speaking to them.

*Estimated durations: : 5-6 minutes*



The royal porch of the Le Mans cathedral was added to the side of the nave 40 years after the nave was built, in the first half of the 12th century. This is the most decorated part of the cathedral, for reasons of both faith and prestige, but also because it opened directly onto the main street of the town inside the walls, where people passed by on their way to work. The sculptures illustrate the messages to be imparted. Above the door is Christ in glory, surrounded by the symbols of the four evangelists: the lion of Mark, the man of Matthew, the eagle of John, the ox of Luke. The main arch is composed of thurifer angels (dispensing incense), and the others show scenes from the life of Jesus. On either side, Peter and Paul and Old Testament kings.

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## La Nuit des Chimères - Eight sites and a open walk

3 July to 2 september 2018

Every evening, from nightfall.

Free self-guided walking tour.

From 3 July  
to 2  
September 2018

Every evening when night falls

Free circuit



HERITAGE DAYS  
Sat. 15 and Sun. 16 September 2018

On the days of the Night of Fantasies, a heritage and tourism information centre is open from 10:00 to 23:30 in July (23:00 in August) Monday (10 am - 6 pm). The Maison du Pilier Rouge, 41-43 Grande rue.



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## Le Mans - The cameras roll at the Plantagenet city

Le Mans, a city of art and history, holds a hidden jewel: the Plantagenet City, twenty hectares of narrow paved streets lined with wood-beamed houses and Renaissance residences, sheltered by a Roman wall and dominated by a cathedral. It is a candidate to become a UNESCO World Heritage city.

### A city with 7 Cesars and 13 film shootings

The talent of every actor who has shot in Le Mans has revealed that the Plantagenet City is also a fine actress.

They're talking about it...

**Julie Chevalier de Maupin (2003)**

**Pierre Ardit, Ambassador of the city of Le Mans :** "Le Mans...its 24 Hours race, its "rillettes" (potted meat)...Of course everyone knows about these. What many don't know is that this town with its unique architectural heritage is also a type of privileged home cinema. Without doubt because the Cité Plantagenêt houses natural sets resembling treasures but also and especially because it receives cinema-related visitors, actors, directors, technicians as if they were real "blood brothers." When you film at Le Mans, you have an incredible feeling that the entire city beats to the rhythm of the heart of those who come their home "to tell the world". Elsewhere, it would bother residents. But here, however, there is depth in the eyes of every woman and every man what every actor wants to give more than ever before: the glow of dreams! Although actors only exist through the eyes of others, I felt most alive in Le Mans. Le Mans achieves that rare act of making cinema into theatre.

**Cyrano de Bergerac (1990)**

**Jean-Paul Rappeneau :** "Here we have found the natural set that we have been dreaming about. Furthermore, we have been amazed by the unity of this district; a truly incredible district!" Those who come to see Cyrano ask me: What is this view? What are these squares? These streets? I tell them that it is Le Mans"

**Jacques Weber :** "But I have rarely seen a city centre so well preserved two or three centuries later!" I find that truly wonderful"

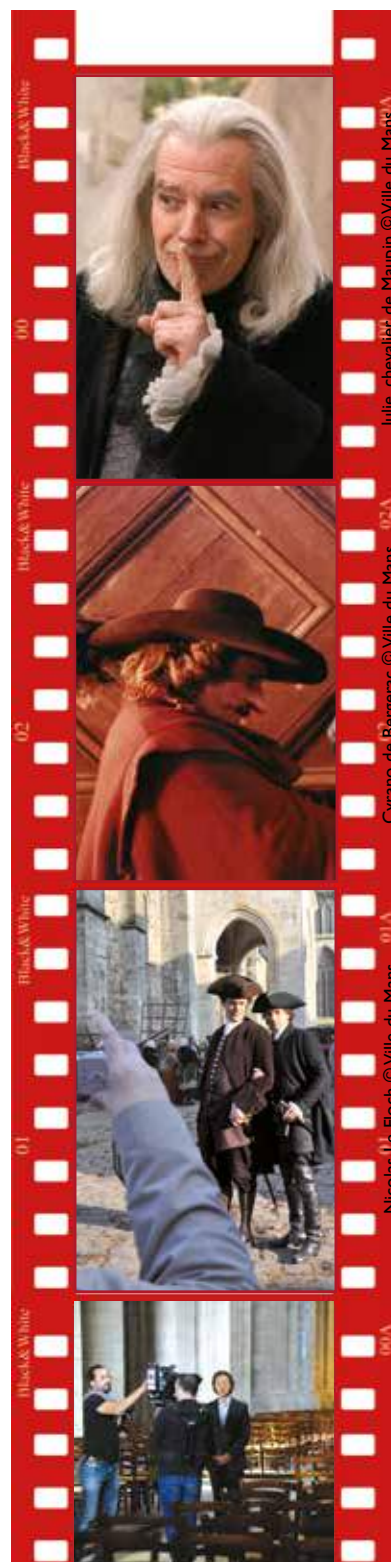
**Le Bossu (1997)**

**Daniel Auteuil :** "I had heard of this old city, but I had no idea it was so well preserved."

Que la fête commence – Bertrand Tavernier - 1975 // Rouget le braconnier – Gilles Cousin - 1989 // Dames galantes - Jean-Charles Tachella - 1990 // Cyrano de Bergerac – Jean-Paul Rappeneau - 1990 // Eugénie Grandet - Jean-Daniel Verhaegue - 1993 // Le Bossu – Philippe de Broca - 1997 // L'homme au masque de fer – Randall Wallace - 1998 // Les blessures assassines – Jean-Pierre Denis - 2000 // Julie Chevalier de Maupin – Charlotte Brändstörn - 2004 // D'Artagnan et les Trois Mousquetaires – Pierre Aknine - 2005 // Molière – Laurent Tirard - 2006 // Jean de la Fontaine, le Défi – Daniel Vigne - 2007 // Nicolas Le Floch 6 épisodes – Jean-François Parot - 2008 to 2014 // Une femme dans la Révolution - Jean Daniel Verhaeghe - 2012.

### Stéphane Bern filming for "Secrets of History"

In May of 2015, host Stéphane Bern and the team from "Secrets of History", a programme broadcast on France 2, came to film in the Plantagenet City. They were on the trail of Eleanor of Aquitaine, who in the 12th century married the king of France Louis VII and then Henri Plantagenet, the future king of England Henri II. Programme shown 11 August 2015 on France 2.



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# Le Mans

## Home of the Plantagenets



## Le Mans - Plantagenet city, An occasion not to be missed...

### Mans'Art, Cité Plantagenêt

7<sup>th</sup> edition. Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 April 2018 on the theme: "Performances"

Organised by the Les Journées Mans'Art association, in collaboration with the City of Mans and the Mission "Pays de la Loire-Métiers d'Art", with the support of the Regional Council of Pays de la Loire and the Departmental Council of Sarthe.

The "Cité Plantagenêt", the historic heart of Le Mans, city of art and history, will welcome a festival of heritage and crafts. It is hosting the 6<sup>th</sup> édition of Mans'Art, with for theme « Performances ». Le Mans Town Hall, former count's and royal palace, hosts the 6<sup>th</sup> Salon du livre ancien (antiquarian book fair).

### Goudji, the organiser of the event

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> from 20:00 to 22:00, the opening of two exhibitions dedicated to Goudji (drawings and liturgical works) from the churches and cathedrals of France in the vestry of the cathedral and at the Pilier-Rouge.

### Three poles

- **Cathedral Saint Julien:** a shop-window for the traditions related to all the skills involved in restoring furniture and structures.
- **Abbey of Saint Vincent (Bellevue high school):** Book Fair, with booksellers from all over France.
- **Public garden Dubois:** people active in the fields of cultural and heritage tourism representing Sarthe and the Loire area.



Saint-Julien cathedral

### Practical details

- Entry is free and open to all.

[WWW.LESJOURNEESMANSART.COM](http://WWW.LESJOURNEESMANSART.COM)

### Contacts

- Les journées Mans'Art, Stéphane Bellessort, tel. 02 43 24 19 91
- Service Tourisme et Patrimoine : Franck Miot, tel. 02 43 47 40 30

### Entre Cours & Jardins ("Between Courtyards & Gardens"), Cité Plantagenêt

11<sup>th</sup> edition. 29 and 30 September 2018 on the theme "les bouteroues".

### "Les bouteroues"

Events approved by the Société Nationale d'Horticulture de France (The National Horticultural Society of France), organised by the "Entre Cours et Jardins" ("Between Courts and Gardens") association in cooperation with the City of Le Mans.

The Cathedral of Saint-Julien, like a benevolent and protective watchman, awaits us for the 11<sup>th</sup> edition Festival of Plants and Garden Art. Around it, in the maze of quiet, winding streets of the Cité Plantagenêt, hidden gardens and secret courtyards are revealed. After the success of the 10<sup>th</sup> edition on the theme "The doors of the Plantagenet City", a new walk through the Cité Plantagenêt unfolds. This autumn gathering in the heart of a city of art and history is an opportunity for the hundreds of exhibitors, growers, decorators and artists to offer a thousand and one ideas to beautify and change our floral environment.

**During the weekend: Conferences, activities, exhibitions, meetings etc.**



- 29 and 30 September 2018 from 10 am to 6 pm
- Event's 11<sup>th</sup> year, 100 exhibitors, 15 to 20,000 visitors
- Near 30 public and private gardens and mansions, open to visitors
- A shared kitchen garden, "le potagenêt"
- Free access to the historic city centre and all exhibitors

[WWW.ENTRECOURSETJARDINS.COM](http://WWW.ENTRECOURSETJARDINS.COM)

### Contacts

- "Entre Cours & Jardins" - tél. +33 2 43 28 59 15  
entrecoursetjardins@orange.fr
- Service Tourisme et Patrimoine - tél. +33 2 43 47 40 30
- Office de Tourisme, tél. +33 2 43 28 17 22

### Press contact

Brigitte Glon. ☎ +33 2 43 47 45 08. ✉ [brigitte.glon@lemans.fr](mailto:brigitte.glon@lemans.fr)

# Le Mans

## Home of the Plantagenets



## Le Mans - Plantagenet city

### A tourist train to discover the city

The cathedral, the Grande-Rue, the Reine-Béregère Museum, the Roman walls, the Sarthe... Thierry Gras, a Le Mans-born entrepreneur offers an unusual visit of Le Mans, a city of art and history.

Different 40-minute circuits will be offered. During the day, the circuit allows you to discover the old city and the new city with the Saint-Nicolas district. The night circuit focuses mainly on the Plantagenet City and the Roman walls implemented by Skerzò. Pre-recorded commentaries present the main attractions of the historical and heritage route.

#### Departure times - Place du Jet d'eau

☐ 11:00 - 12:00 - 14:00 - 15:00 - 16:00 - 17:00 - 20:30\*

\* July and August only

☐ The Weekends and holidays from April till June and 08/09/15/September 16th: 14:00, 15:00, 16:00 and 17:00.



#### Tourist train

- ☐ Adult: 7 €
- ☐ People with reduced disability and children under 12: 4,50 €
- ☐ Children under 2: free
- ☐ Groups starting from 20 people: adults: 6 € // children up to aged 12: 4€

#### Contact:

**Pilier-Rouge Tourisme and Heritage Center**

Square Dubois - Cité Plantagenêt

☎ +33 2 43 47 40 30

[www.petits-trains-val-de-loire.fr/visiter-le-mans/](http://www.petits-trains-val-de-loire.fr/visiter-le-mans/)

#### Press contact

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# Le Mans

## Home of the Plantagenets



## Le Mans - Guided tours and useful contacts



The water jet where the chimeras were born. A Skertzo creation for the city of Le Mans

### City of Le Mans - Pilier-Rouge Tourism and Heritage Center

41/43 Grande Rue, Cité Plantagenêt.

☎ +33 2 43 47 40 30.

🌐 lemans-tourisme.com

### City of Le Mans - Communication department

Hôtel de ville, place Saint-Pierre.

☎ +33 2 43 47 49 15.

🌐 lemans.fr

### Tourist Office

16, rue de l'Étoile.

☎ +33 2 43 28 17 22.

🌐 lemans-tourisme.com

### "Town of Art and History" guided tours

*Pilier-Rouge reception*

**Daily in July and August, 4.30pm start**

- ◆ Monday, Thursday: The Plantagenet City
- ◆ Tuesday and Friday: Le Mans roman
- ◆ Wednesday at 2.30pm: Visit-workshop for families
- ◆ Mercredi et samedi : Le Mans médiéval
- ◆ Monday (In the middle of July at the end of August): Plantagenet City in Chinese lanterns
- ◆ Sunday: The cathedral upside down

### Price of guided visits

Full price: €6 / Reduced price: €4

*Visits conducted by guide-narrators accredited by the Ministry of Culture*

### Low season:

- ◆ Saturdays or Sundays at 3:00 p.m. (every weekend): 'City of Art and History' guided tour with a variety of themes. Some are offered in partnership with the museums of Le Mans or the Allonnes archaeological site. Mixed guided tours are available by appointment, led by a speaking guide and a French sign language interpreter.
- ◆ Tuesdays and Fridays at 3:00 p.m. (school holidays): tours-workshops for families
- ◆ Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. or 7:30 p.m. (May to October): guided tours by bicycle

On sale only at the Pilier-Rouge Tourism and Heritage Center.



@LMUM72



@LeMansUneMarque

Application Le Mans Une Marque



◆ **Three Treasure Hunts** and **two Chimera Hunts** are offered **free of charge**, starting at the Maison du Pilier Rouge, the City of Le Mans Heritage and Tourism visitor centre.

◆ **Workshops for children every Wednesday in July and August at 2.30pm, on the themes:**

- History of restoration
- I builds my city

**Full price: €8 - Reduce price: €6**

*Booking recommended, only at the Maison du Pilier Rouge, the Le Mans Tourism and Heritage service.*

### Press contact

Brigitte Glon. ☎ +33 2 43 47 45 08. ✉ [brigitte.glon@lemans.fr](mailto:brigitte.glon@lemans.fr)