

DESTINATION FRANCE

CULTURAL ATTRACTIVENESS
PASSPORT

January – July 2016



FOREWORD

From the moment I was appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development, I wanted to confirm that increasing France's appeal as a tourist destination would be one of my top priorities. Although France is today the world's number one tourist destination, with almost 85 million visitors per year, in a competitive world our country must learn how to make better use of its strengths. We can do this through original initiatives. And what could be stronger, more unifying and more diverse than our culture?

The Grand Tour, which was launched last January, has a simple premise: France's cultural richness makes our country attractive; it is a driver for the economy and tourism. The Grand Tour reveals, under a single scheme, the exceptional cultural dynamism of our territories. The State and its operators, local and regional authorities, economic leaders, have all come together to make this project a success. Our Embassies and France's cultural network around the world will also be at the forefront in order to circulate this agenda to the widest possible international audience.

I want the Grand Tour to help highlight the ambition of our country, its diversity, its ability to welcome cultures from around the world. At a time when our country has been shaken to its core, it is important to remember that without culture, France would not be as respected, loved or visited as it is today.

This is the ambition of this Grand Tour, which I hope will be a resounding success.

Jean-Marc Ayrault

*Minister of Foreign Affairs
and International Development*

A MESSAGE FROM ISABELLE HUPPERT

Our country's image around the world is strongly linked to the importance it places on its culture. Without being chauvinistic, we can be proud of it, as indeed I am, and I can say this as an artist who for several years now, has been working, touring and acting abroad, as well as travelling, seeing the world. I have met artists, creators, audiences from around the world who tell me that France conjures up images of culture, the French language, Francophonie, openness to other cultures and languages, and that it is these values which should be supported and upheld. Now more than ever.

More than ever this France which is open to other cultures, must be looked to in the fight against barbarity, closedmindedness, intolerance, violence and hatred. The terrorists made no mistake – they attacked France at its very core, what it holds dearest. They targeted authors, cartoonists, free spirits in January 2015, but also citizens peacefully practising their religion under the Republican respect for secularism. In November 2015 they targeted people who liked to have a drink at a table outside a café, at a concert venue, the Bataclan, to listen to music. They targeted a generation, youth, they targeted life, movement, sights and sounds. In Paris just as in Palmyra, in Mosul, Hatra and Nimrud in Iraq, as well as in Tunis at the Bardo Museum, it was life, humanity, civilization, beauty, culture, heritage and creation which were assassinated.

This Grand Tour is in its own way a forceful answer to those who want to stop us believing, being free, dreaming, thinking, drawing, caricaturing, improving our culture, learning about our history and that of others, discovering the audacity, the creations and the opinion of others.

Isabelle Huppert

Actress, sponsor of the Grand Tour

THE GRAND TOUR

BY OLIVIER POIVRE D'ARVOR

With more than fifty exceptional cultural events around France, this Grand Tour has been created for our citizens as well as people from around the world who would like to visit contemporary France in another way.

From the Nuit des idées (Night of Ideas) to festivals devoted to books, comics and graphic novels, the art of gardening, dance, theatre, cinema, music and fine arts, gourmet celebrations, the French language, international maritime festivals and commemorations developing remembrance tourism, this Grand Tour is eclectic.

So as we can see, France does have a great deal of appeal.

The Grand Tour programme of events will be published in as many languages as possible in all the countries where French embassies and their cultural sections are working to encourage foreigners to visit France. That is how tens of millions of people from all over the world will learn about the schedule and this “unique” map of France.

In record time, fifty people in charge of culturally attractive events, working to combat barbaric behaviour and sectarian thinking, chose to move closer to citizens from across the globe and invite them to participate in the Grand Tour events.

Thank you and enjoy the ride!

Olivier Poivre d'Arvor
Ambassador for Cultural Attractiveness



The map of events



HIGHLIGHTS



READY, STEADY, GO!

14 January, Quai d'Orsay, Paris

Launch by Laurent Fabius, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development, and Isabelle Huppert, sponsor of the Grand Tour, an itinerary of 50 events reflecting the attractiveness of French culture.

FORUM: CULTURE, DESTINATION FRANCE

9 March, Paris

On 9 March, “Culture, Destination France” the first forum devoted to cultural attractiveness will be held in Paris and chaired by JeanMarc Ayrault, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development. Organized with the Forum d'Avignon, it will bring together top experts on what makes France appealing and will put forward recommendations for developing soft power *à la française* in our country.

CROSSING THE FINISH LINE!

18 – 19 July, Paris

On 18 and 19 July, more than 500 people working in the French culture network across the globe will meet in Paris to share the conclusions of the Grand Tour and help us to implement them.

To find out more: www.diplomatie.gouv.fr





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WINTER
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PERMANENT EXHIBITION AT THE MÉMORIAL ACTE

January – July, Pointe-à-Pitre, Guadeloupe

Inaugurated by the President of the French Republic in May 2015 and chaired by Jacques Martial, the Mémorial ACTe is the Caribbean Centre on the Expression and Memory of Slavery and the Slave Trade. With an architecture which is unique in the Caribbean, the centre was built on the site of the former Darboussier sugar factory in Basse-Terre, Guadeloupe. It is an easily accessible educational centre, with spaces dedicated to contemporary creation, a panoramic garden, a monumental walkway. The permanent exhibition is built around some 40 islands or educational modules divided into six archipelagos setting out the major events in the long history of slavery from ancient to modern times, including the invention of the Americas, segregations and post-abolitionist colonizations.

To find out more: www.memorial-acte.fr

FESTIVAL PREMIERS PLANS

22 – 31 January, Angers

Angers, a European film festival that is not to be missed. With the participation of a curious and enthusiastic audience and extremely dedicated people working in the industry, this edition will surely live up to its reputation: new European directors, screenwriters and producers will offer screenings and events dealing with history and film heritage as well as major topical issues such as migrants and Europe this year.

To find out more: www.premiersplans.org

HERVÉ TÉLÉMAQUE À LA FONDATION CLÉMENT

24 January – 17 April, Le François, Martinique

Now located in its new building inaugurated in January 2016, the Fondation Clément sponsors the arts and cultural heritage in the Caribbean and the Indian Ocean. On the initiative of its founder, Bernard Hayot, it also supports, among other actions, contemporary creation by organizing exhibitions at Habitation Clément. The Fondation Clément's "Hervé Télémaque" exhibition is the most ambitious exhibition on the Haitian artist in this region of the world. In this regard, it can genuinely resemble this "return to the native land" sung by the great Martinique négritude poet Aimé Césaire, under the aegis of whom Télémaque wanted to introduce this retrospective, based on those of the Centre Pompidou and the Musée Cantini in Marseille.

To find out more: www.fondation-clement.org

LA NUIT DES IDÉES

27 January, Quai d'Orsay, Paris

Created on the initiative of Laurent Fabius, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development, and organized by the French Institute, the first Nuit des Idées (Night of Ideas) will feature a number of French and international voices of contemporary thought. Intellectuals, researchers, artists and international leaders will share their views on the questions about resources, equality and aspirations at this event, which is completely new in terms of its format and what it hopes to accomplish.

To find out more: www.institutfrancais.com



INTERNATIONAL COMICS FESTIVAL

28 – 31 January, Angoulême

Angoulême is a global brand thanks to a festival that over 43 years has become the biggest international event for graphic literature and should be added to the List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. Or at least that is the opinion hundreds of thousands of amateurs and cartoonists who every year help drive this singular creative graphic economy in Angoulême and the surrounding region.

To find out more: www.bdangouleme.com

LA FOLLE JOURNÉE

3 – 7 February, Cité des congrès, Nantes

Given the number of works performed (350 concerts), the original programme, La Folle Journée (The Mad Day), a classical music event that is accessible to the general public, has revolutionized the image of classical music concerts in France and around the world.

It is attracting more and more people. For its 22nd edition, it will explore the universal theme of nature and all of its beautiful aspects will be put to music. Lisbon, Bilbao, Rio de Janeiro, Tokyo and other cities in Japan, Warsaw and recently Yekaterinburg have adopted this concept.

To find out more: www.follejournee.fr

NÉS QUELQUE PART EXHIBITION

4 February – 6 March, La Sucrière, Lyon

This exhibition, planned in the context of COP 21, invites exhibitiongoers on a voyage around the world to discover the human face of sustainable development. An interactive and emotion-evoking experience offers a different way of looking at the world and encourages solidarity and exchange. It is proposed by the French Development Agency.

To find out more: www.afd.fr

INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM FESTIVAL

5 – 13 February, Clermont-Ferrand

This is the world's largest festival entirely devoted to short films, and attracts exceptional numbers of fans (160,000 in a relatively isolated region). It is at the foot of the Auvergne volcanoes that young French and international cinematographers let loose their creative spirit in this genre which has seen the birth of cinematography and which is today a bold art form in terms of narration and production. Sweden will be the country to be honoured in this 38th edition.

To find out more: www.clermont-filmfest.com



LIVRE PARIS – SALON DU LIVRE

17 – 20 March, Paris

In 2016, the Salon du Livre (Paris Book Fair), created in 1981, is changing its name to Livre Paris. This fair, which is open to the public, gives a voice to 3,000 writers and welcomes 200,000 visitors. Some 50 countries will have a stand there. In 2016, South Korea is the guest of honour, providing a unique opportunity to discover its literature. A special place is also given to Constantine, Brazzaville and PointeNoire, three cities wanting to create a buzz.

To find out more: www.salondulivreparis.com



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SPRING
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GOÛT DE FRANCE / GOOD FRANCE

21 March, France and abroad

Goût de France/Good France, organized on the initiative of Alain Ducasse and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development, showcases the art of living à la française, local products and France as a tourist destination. Bringing together restaurants and chefs from across the globe at a dinner on 21 March inspired by French savoirfaire, gastronomy is a perfect way to use culture to attract visitors.

To find out more: www.goodfrance.com

SEYDOU KEÏTA EXHIBITION

30 March – 14 July, Grand Palais, Paris

Seydou Keïta is considered to be one of the greatest photographers of the second half of the twentieth century. His works are exceptional testimonials to the Malian society of this time. The Grand Palais created the event and has organized a retrospective of this wonderful African photographer.

To find out more: www.grandpalais.fr

INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS OF THE FORUM D'AVIGNON

31 March – 1 April, Bordeaux

Since its creation in 2007, the Forum d'Avignon, with its international meetings, its think tank and 35 international studies, reconciles culture with its thriving economic and social sector, which many people believed to be impossible. "Cultural Entrepreneurship" is the theme of the next Forum.

To find out more: www.forum-avignon.org

ART PARIS ART FAIR FEATURING SOUTH KOREA

31 March – 3 April, Grand Palais, Paris

Art Paris Art Fair is the place to be in spring for modern contemporary art. There will be 145 galleries from some 20 countries participating. As one of the FranceKorea Year events, it will provide an opportunity to discover artists who are part of the contemporary art movement in South Korea that has been growing since 1980, thanks to galleries from Seoul, Busan and Daegu.

To find out more: www.artparis.com



INTERNATIONAL QUAIS DU POLAR FESTIVAL

1 – 3 April, Lyon

In just over a decade, the Quais du polar Festival welcomed close to 500 authors from around the world, offering an original panorama of crime literature works from every continent, in a wide range of languages. With more than 70,000 visitors, Quais du polar has become a major international happening and an important place for France and Europe to showcase this global, universal and popular literary genre.

To find out more: www.qualsdupolar.com

SALON RENDEZ-VOUS EN FRANCE

5 – 6 April, Montpellier

France is the number one tourist destination in the world. Atout France, the only government agency working in tourism, is helping France maintain its position by organizing Rendez-Vous en France, a major international trade fair featuring what France has to offer in tourism. The 11th edition of RendezVous en France will take place in Montpellier, where 650 people working in tourism will be able to meet hundreds of operators from across the globe. Cultural tourism will also be featured.

To find out more: www.atout-france.fr

LE PRINTEMPS DE BOURGES

12 – 17 April, Bourges

Every April since 1977, Bourges has welcomed over 200,000 festivalgoers at more than 500 concerts in which well-known artists and young musical talents share the stage. A major event for fans of today's music and a fantastic venue for discovering up-and-coming artists.

To find out more: www.printemps-bourges.com

NORMANDIE IMPRESSIONNISTE

16 April – 26 September, Normandie

This major cultural festival in a reunited Normandy, started in 2013, has welcomed 1.8 million visitors and offers 450 outstanding events including exhibitions, live performances, films and meetings. The theme for 2016 is “impressionism in portraits”, which is truly in tune with today's cultural trends and world.

To find out more: www.normandie-impressionniste.fr



LES RENCONTRES 4M

20 – 21 April, Paris

The digital revolution is completely transforming the way we deal with information. A new media ecosystem is emerging and with it comes a wonderful opportunity for countries experiencing a transition to democracy to participate in global information mechanisms. CFI, the French media cooperation agency, is bringing together the most creative representatives who are most committed to the Internet in southern countries thereby promoting more openness and a wider range of online media: That is the idea behind the 4M.

To find out more: www.cfi.fr

INTERNATIONAL GARDEN FESTIVAL

4 May – 1 November, Chaumont-sur-Loire

On the grounds of a chateau that welcomes more than 400,000 visitors a year in the heart of the Loire Valley, 25 seasons of this festival have created 700 gardens. For the 2016 edition, landscape artists, architects, designers, set designers, gardeners and artists from around the world will offer a magnificent bouquet of “living artworks” that make up the Chaumont gardens.

To find out more: www.domaine-chaumont.fr

MONUMENTA

8 May – 18 June, Grand Palais, Paris

Since 2007, contemporary artists of international renown have exhibited in the Nave of the Grand Palais their masterly works designed for the occasion. In 2016, the Chinese artist, Huang Yong Ping, a naturalised French citizen, stepped up to the challenge.

To find out more: www.grandpalais.fr

BUDDING AMBASSADORS PROGRAM

9 – 11 May, Unesco, Paris

The Agency for French Education Abroad (AEFE), a unique network that provides education to 350,000 students in the world, is holding its 4th Annual Budding Ambassadors Program: 100 schools in 52 countries have debated issues from education to citizenship and the idea of “living together”. Some 50 finalists from elementary schools to lycées are going to meet at UNESCO to participate in a contest unlike any other.

To find out more: www.aefe.fr



CANNES FILM FESTIVAL

11 – 22 May, Cannes

The Cannes Film Festival has been hailed as the top film industry festival in the world, the most international film festival, the most publicised film festival in the world, a reflection of global film production and the most prestigious global film event.

To find out more: www.festival-cannes.com

VILLES EN QUESTIONS

12 – 13 May, Villa Méditerranée, Marseille

200 secondary school students from Algeria, Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia and France and scientists from the Mediterranean region will share their thoughts, backed by their research, on social interactions in the major Mediterranean cities. This event was created on the initiative of the French Research Institute for Development (IRD).

To find out more: www.ird.fr

ÉTONNANTS VOYAGEURS FESTIVAL

14 – 16 May, Saint-Malo

Created in 1990, the Étonnants Voyageurs Festival welcomes more than 250 writers and artists from 40 to 50 different countries to tell us about, and particularly in these times of division, the unknown that lies before us, give it a face, make it liveable. The Caribbean will be the guest of honour for the 60,000 festivalgoers expected in 2016.

To find out more: www.etonnants-voyageurs.com

CITÉ UNIVERSITAIRE FESTIVAL

20 – 22 May, Paris

Founded in 1925, the Cité Universitaire of Paris welcomes more than 12,000 students, researchers and artists from around the world, with 130 different nationalities. They live in 40 different residences, including 25 country-based residences, which make the Cité an outdoor exhibition, where all continents are represented. Their festival is the most multi-cultural and multi-lingual one in Paris.

To find out more: www.ciup.fr



LA NUIT EUROPÉENNE DES MUSÉES

21 May, France

The Nuit Européenne des musées (European Night of Museums), created in 2005, is a major event organized by the Ministry of Culture and Communication. This event, with an important European dimension (33 participating countries), aims to help build a common cultural identity. An exceptional opportunity to rediscover what it means to be European sharing our cultural heritage.

To find out more: www.nuitsdesmusees.fr

LA NUIT DE LA LITTÉRATURE

28 May, Paris

Thanks to the Forum of Foreign Cultural Institutes (FICEP) in Paris, the Nuit de la littérature (Night of Literature) will inundate, quite often in an original way, many Parisian districts with literature from some 20 countries. Cultural diversity is a powerful thing.

To find out more: www.ficep.info

COMMEMORATIONS OF THE BATTLE OF VERDUN

29 May, Verdun

The re-opening of the Verdun Memorial in February marked the launch of commemorations of the 300 days of the Battle of Verdun. On 29 May, the President of the French Republic and the Chancellor of Germany will be seen on the battlefield. With these commemorations, the First World War Centenary Partnership Program also intends to support development of remembrance tourism combining remembrance with discovery of the surrounding region, Meuse.

To find out more: www.centenaire.org

OPENING OF THE CITÉ DU VIN

1 June, Bordeaux

Wine, a shared heritage since the beginning of time. Wine from Bordeaux, a French product that is popular throughout the world. The Cité du Vin: a new place for meetings, experiences and global gatherings on wine culture.

To find out more: www.laciteduvin.com



THE ANNECY INTERNATIONAL ANIMATION FILM FESTIVAL AND ITS MARKET

13 – 18 June, Annecy

The Annecy International Animation Film Festival and its market (Mifa), created over 55 years ago, which celebrated 30 years in 2015, have become highprofile events on the world animation film market. From household names to budding artists, from filmmakers and producers to teachers and students, each year the Festival brings together 8,300 professionals from over 80 countries, striking a clever balance between independent productions and major films. Buyers, distributors and other investors all gather at Mifa, which has become the leading platform for global activity in animation films.

To find out more: www.annecy.org

HELLFEST

17 – 19 June, Clisson

Hellfest, created in 2006, is the largest heavy metal festival in France and the third largest festival in terms of attendance with nearly 150,000 visitors in 2015, behind the Vieilles Charrues and Solidays festivals. Three in ten festivalgoers are from foreign countries, mainly the United Kingdom and the Iberian Peninsula.

To find out more: www.hellfest.fr





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SUMMER
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FÊTE DE LA MUSIQUE / CAMPUS MONDE EN MUSIQUES

21 June

France is the third most popular country for foreign students: 300,000 are enrolled every year in French universities and top graduate schools known as grandes écoles. They are invited on 21 June to step onstage to play their music and that of other people. Cultural diversity will be heard above all.

To find out more: www.campusfrance.org

JACQUES CHIRAC OU LE DIALOGUE DES CULTURES

21 June – 9 September, Quai Branly museum, Paris

The exhibition provides a cultural portrayal of the President of the French Republic who founded the Quai Branly Museum and allows audiences to (re)discover his passion for Asia, particularly Japan, and his interest in Pre-Colombian arts, little known to the wider public. It brings together 200 events from international collections (pictures, photographs, documents, sculptures and objects), creating a dialogue between mankind and its century.

To find out more: [www. quaibranly.fr](http://www.quaibranly.fr)

LE MARATHON DES MOTS

23 – 26 June, Toulouse and its surrounding region

The Marathon des mots (Marathon of Words) is one of the biggest French literature events and one of the most attended in Europe. This year's edition, centred on words and the stage, is inviting more than 75,000 readers who love reading aloud to discover writers and artists of "Africa Nova": an Africa that is alive, rebellious and creative. 150 events will be held in Toulouse, but also in its metropolitan area.

To find out more: www.lemarathondesmots.com

MONTPELLIER DANSE

23 June – 9 July, Montpellier

This festival, created in 1981, is the place to be for lovers of contemporary dance. It offers more than 100 performances including a number of new pieces and premieres. For its 36th edition, the festival will invite people from the Mediterranean regions (Greece, Lebanon, Iran in exile, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Israel) to be resident choreographer.

To find out more: www.montpellierdanse.com



LES FLÂNERIES MUSICALES DE REIMS

23 June – 23 July, Reims

The Reims Flâneries musicales, which were created in 1990, offer an unusual mix of styles, comprising classical music, tango and jazz. With over 1,000 artists each year, over 40,000 spectators, over 50 concerts in 40 unusual locations in the city which are not to be missed, including several which are classified as UNESCO World Heritage sites, this festival is one of the major music events, which is now under the artistic direction of pianist JeanPhilippe Collard. Exceptional concerts call for exceptional venues!

To find out more: www.flaneriesreims.com

«ENTRE DEUX HORIZONS» EXHIBITION

29 June – 2 January 2017, Metz

Since it was opened in May 2010, the Centre PompidouMetz has welcomed more than 2.5 million visitors, with 25 exhibitions and more than 260 international events. The cultural policy of openness and exchange, embodied in the DNA of the Centre, can clearly be seen in the Entre deux horizons Exhibition in partnership with the Saarland Museum of Saarbrücken, Germany.

To find out more: www.centrepompidou-metz.fr

COMMEMORATION OF THE BATTLE OF THE SOMME

30 June – 2 July, Picardie

From July to November 1916, Somme became an international battlefield. A ceremony on 1 July, organised jointly by British and French governments, will mark the first day of the battle. Somme has become an international tourist destination of remembrance.

To find out more: www.centenaire.org

LES EUROCKÉENNES

1 – 3 July, Belfort

This year marks the 28th edition of the festival, which is firmly rooted in its region, but resolutely open to the world with 100,000 festivalgoers from around France and Europe. This small music utopia is successfully able to bring together a wide range of genres and artists, from Ghana to Jamaica, from South Africa to Norway.

To find out more: www.eurockeennes.fr



VOYAGE À NANTES

1 July – 28 August, Nantes

At the first Voyage à Nantes in 2012, the city was overcome by art. Following a route of about ten kilometres through the city marked out on the ground, visitors have fun discovering artworks in the middle of public spaces, festive locations, singular cruises, a heritage revisited and temporary exhibitions. In 2016, the voyage continues.

To find out more: www.levoyageanantes.fr

FASHION WEEK

3 – 8 July, Paris

Paris is the world capital of fashion, without and beyond dispute. People from around the world come to take part in the fall and winter fashion weeks.

To find out more: www.modeaparis.com

LES RENCONTRES DE LA PHOTOGRAPHIE

4 July – 18 September, Arles

In 2015, 93,000 visitors, from every walk of life, came to discover the 35 exhibitions of the 46th Rencontres d'Arles. This event draws so many people because it zeros in on artistic photographs in a fun atmosphere and artists question what is happening in the world around them. Thanks to a programme essentially composed of original productions, the Rencontres d'Arles has become an extremely popular festival with an international reach.

To find out more: www.rencontres-arles.com

FESTIVAL D'AVIGNON

6 – 24 July, Avignon

Since 1947, Avignon has become an outdoor forum where artists from across the globe share their experiences with festivalgoers. The festival welcomes more than 120,000 spectators at more than 400 events (shows, debates, meetings, readings, screenings). It is an international festival of performing arts that speaks every language and concerns every way of thinking. It is intangible heritage with enormous appeal and greatly admired worldwide.

To find out more: www.festival-avignon.com



FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL D'ART LYRIQUE

7 – 27 July, Aix-en-Provence

Created in 1948, the Festival International d'Art Lyrique has become a leading European opera festival. All of the major voices of opera can be heard there. The artistic programme continues to surprise with its diversity: Mozart still leads the way, the twentieth century is explored and a contemporary repertoire is offered with the creation of an opera in Arabic. The festival is extremely open to the world, with a spotlight on the Mediterranean region.

To find out more: www.festival-aix.com

FID – MARSEILLE'S INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

12 – 18 July, Marseille

Marseille's international film festival, the FID, is one of the major international festivals focusing on documentary cinema, which for a few years has been open to fiction films. It establishes no criteria as regards theme, format, writing or cinematography, concentrating only on the quality, the originality of the perspective and the critical distance of the film director on the modern world. This 27th edition features a programme of 130 films, 40 of which are in the competition (international, national and first prize).

To find out more: www.fidmarseille.org

LES FRANCOFOLIES

13 – 17 July, La Rochelle

In 1985 the first Francofolies of La Rochelle was created, thanks to the love of its founder, JeanLouis Foulquier, for French songs. Since then, the festival has aimed to help the general public discover contemporary songs and music of France and French-speaking countries and circulate them. Every year more than 110,000 festivalgoers attend over five days of performances on nine stages. The Francofolies have successfully been exported to Montreal, Spa, New York, Buenos Aires, Berlin and even Bulgaria.

To find out more: www.francofolies.fr

FÊTES MARITIMES INTERNATIONALES DE BREST

13 – 19 July, Brest

Every 4 years, the city of Brest is the place to be for boat and sailing enthusiasts from around the world. 700,000 visitors are expected to attend a live universal exhibition focused on the sea and maritime activities.

To find out more: www.brest2016.fr



LES VIEILLES CHARRUES FESTIVAL

14 – 17 July, Carhaix

In 1992, a handful of friends laid the foundations for what would become one of the biggest festivals in Europe: a small school picnic without any musical pretension. 25 years of hard work later, nearly 250,000 spectators still head to Brittany to have a good time. Headliners and newcomers, rock, pop, electro, world music, songs, hip-hop: all musical styles can be seen at Les Vieilles Charrues Festival, which always remains true to its original idea of being eclectic and providing everyone access to concerts.

To find out more: www.vieillescharrues.asso.fr

JAZZ FESTIVAL IN MARCIAC

27 July – 16 August, Marciac

Everyone now knows this small village (population 1,300) in southwestern France. In the heart of summer, it welcomes tens of thousands of visitors. The cosmopolitan nature of the festival created in 1978 is showcased by its partnerships with other international jazz festivals like Aspen Jazz in Colorado, the Brecon Jazz Festival in Wales, and the Ouro Preto Jazz Festival in Brazil.

To find out more: www.jazzinmarciac.com



DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
January – July	Mémorial ACTe	<i>Guadeloupe</i>
22 – 31 January	Festival Premiers Plans	<i>Angers</i>
24 Jan. – 17 April	Hervé Télémaque	<i>Martinique</i>
27 January	La Nuit des idées	<i>Paris</i>
28 – 31 January	International Comics Festival	<i>Angoulême</i>
3 – 7 February	La Folle Journée	<i>Nantes</i>
4 Feb. – 6 March	Nés quelque part Exhibition	<i>Lyon</i>
5 – 13 February	International Short Film Festival	<i>Clermont-Ferrand</i>
17 – 20 March	Livre Paris - Salon du livre de Paris	<i>Paris</i>
21 March	Goût de France / Good France	<i>France and abroad</i>
30 March – 14 July	Seydou Keïta	<i>Paris</i>
31 March – 1 April	International Meetings of the Forum d'Avignon	<i>Bordeaux</i>
31 March – 3 April	Art Paris Art Fair	<i>Paris</i>
1 – 3 April	Quais du polar	<i>Lyon</i>
5 – 6 April	Salon Rendez-Vous en France	<i>Montpellier</i>
12 – 17 April	Printemps de Bourges	<i>Bourges</i>
16 April – 26 Sept.	Normandie Impressionniste	<i>Normandie</i>
20 – 21 April	Rencontres 4 M	<i>Paris</i>
4 May – 1 Nov.	International Garden Festival	<i>Chaumont-sur-Loire</i>
8 May – 18 June	Monumenta / Huang Yong Ping	<i>Paris</i>
10 – 11 May	Budding Ambassadors Program	<i>Paris</i>
11 – 22 May	Cannes Film Festival	<i>Cannes</i>
12 – 13 May	Villes en questions	<i>Marseille</i>
14 – 16 May	Étonnants Voyageurs Festival	<i>Saint-Malo</i>
20 – 22 May	Cité universitaire Festival	<i>Paris</i>
21 May	La Nuit européenne des musées	<i>France</i>

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
28 May	La Nuit de la littérature / FICEP	Paris
29 May	Commemorations of the Battle of Verdun	Verdun
1 June	Opening of the Cité du vin	Bordeaux
13 – 18 June	The Annecy International Animation Film Festival and its Market	Annecy
17 – 19 June	Hellfest	Clisson
21 June	Fête de la musique / Campus Monde en musiques	France
21 June – 9 Sept.	Jacques Chirac ou le dialogue des cultures	Paris
23 – 26 June	Le Marathon des mots	Toulouse and surrounding region
23 June – 9 July	Montpellier danse	Montpellier
23 June – 23 July	Les flâneries musicales	Reims
29 June – 2 Jan. 2017	Entre deux horizons Exhibition	Metz
30 June – 2 July	Commemorations of the Battle of the Somme	Picardie
1 – 3 July	Les Eurockéennes	Belfort
1 July – 28 August	Voyage à Nantes	Nantes
3 – 8 July	Fashion Week	Paris
4 July – 18 Sept.	Les Rencontres de la photographie	Arles
6 – 24 July	Festival d'Avignon	Avignon
7 – 27 July	Festival international d'art lyrique	Aix-en-Provence
12 – 18 July	FID International Film Festival	Marseille
13 – 17 July	Les Francolies	La Rochelle
13 – 19 July	Fêtes maritimes internationales	Brest
14 – 17 July	Les Vieilles Charrues	Carhaix
27 July – 16 August	Jazz Festival in Marciac	Marciac

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