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THE ÎLE VERTE

The Île Verte was built between 1822 and 1828 and was home to the playwright Jules Barbier, who was responsible for building the pond fed with water by the Colbert aqueduct, the island and the bridge. The Île Verte, a wild garden brimming with vegetation, then became the residence of the painter Jean Fautrier in the mid-20th century.

It is an intimate place, teeming with dense plant life and amongst other things it includes a medieval kitchen garden with chestnut hurdle beds, a fountain and rose arbours. The Conseil Général's gardeners offer practical organic gardening classes here.

THE WOODLAND PARK

The 36-hectare wood is made up of chestnuts, oaks and huge glades. There is a country path running through it, and it lies along the route of the Promenade des Quatre Forêts.



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THE PROMENADE DES QUATRE FORÊTS

The Parc de la Vallée-aux-Loups is a key point along the Promenade des Quatre Forêts. This varied, undulating walk covers 7 km (4.6 miles) and links the Bois de Verrières to the Butte-Rouge garden city in Châtenay-Malabry and its family gardens, the Vallée-aux-Loups woodland park, the Parc Henri-Sellier, the garden of Le Plessis-Robinson town hall, the Bois de la Garenne, the Bois de la Solitude, the forest of Meudon and then continues on towards the forest of Rueil-Malmaison.

IN THE GROUNDS

Free guided tours

Guided botanic or poetic walks in the grounds of the Maison de Chateaubriand, the Arboretum, the Île Verte garden and the woodland park.

Events

Held to coincide with the "Rendez-Vous" in the gardens (first weekend of June) or on special occasions, such as gathering honey, mowing the meadows on horseback, open-air drawing and flower arranging workshops, etc.

- ▶ The Île Verte
- ▶ Gardening classes
- ▼ Guided walk

Classes and workshops

There are theoretical and practical gardening classes both in the Arboretum and in the Île Verte garden.

Botanical cafés

Opportunities to explore, share ideas and discuss the world of gardens in the Arboretum.



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VALLÉE-AUX-LOUPS DÉPARTEMENTAL DOMAIN

CHATEAUBRIAND'S HOUSE

87, rue de Chateaubriand - 92290 Châtenay-Malabry
Tel.: 01 55 52 13 00 - E-mail: chateaubriand@cg92.fr

Specific cultural services for the disabled, wheelchair loans.

Prices * (subject to alteration)

Unguided tours: €3 - reduced rate **: €1.50 • Guided tours: €5 - reduced rate **: €3.50

Free on the first Sunday of each month

Closed on Mondays, 25th December and from 1st to 15th January

Opening times: from March to October: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 2-6 p.m. from Tuesday to Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sundays • From November to February: 2-5 p.m. from Tuesday to Sunday

Library: 9 a.m. - 5.30 p.m. from Monday to Friday (by appointment)

To find out about all our prices and who is eligible for reduced rates and free entry, please see the maison-de-chateaubriand.hauts-de-seine.net website.

The Les Thés Brillants tea room is open from Wednesday to Sunday and offers a selection of home-made pastries, a set lunch and a brunch on Sundays (information on 01 46 15 21 49).

GROUNDS (free)

Reception and supervision: 06 64 40 57 52 or 01 41 87 28 60

E-mail: parcsjardins@cg92.fr

Events: 01 41 13 03 88 - E-mail: jardinage@cg92.fr

CHATEAUBRIAND'S PARK

Every day except 1st January and 25th December

Opening times: March: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. • From April to September: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. • October: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. • From November to February: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

ARBORETUM - 102, rue de Chateaubriand - 92290 Châtenay-Malabry

Opening times: from October to March: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. • From April to September: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

ÎLE VERTE GARDEN - 34, rue Eugène-Sinet - 92290 Châtenay-Malabry

Same opening times as the Arboretum

WOODLAND PARK - Opening times: November - December - January: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. • February: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. • March: 7.30 a.m. - 7 p.m. • April - August: 7 a.m. - 8.30 p.m. • May - June - July: 7 a.m. - 9 p.m. • September: 7.30 a.m. - 8 p.m. • October: 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

How to get here - RER B: station: Robinson • Buses: 179, 194, 194a, 195, 198 • Paladin Bus: the route includes the Rue Eugène-Sinet, the Rue Chateaubriand and the Avenue Jean-Jaurès • Car: A86 motorway, exit no. 29, Châtenay-Malabry

ALL THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE VALLÉE-AUX-LOUPS

- www.hauts-de-seine.net
- maison-de-chateaubriand.hauts-de-seine.net
- Vallée-Culture Hauts-de-Seine, the quarterly programme for museums and parks



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Vallée-aux-Loups Departmental Domain

Park and Chateaubriand's House
Arboretum - Île Verte garden
Wooded Park



www.hauts-de-seine.net



The Vallée-aux-Loups illustrates how the department has managed to bring our cultural and natural heritage harmoniously together. The Maison de Chateaubriand keeps the memory of its illustrious owner alive and stays up-to-date with numerous events, exchanges, meetings and creative work of all kinds. Nearby, the Arboretum tells the story of one of the greatest families of 19th century nursery owners and, in 2014, it will be hosting an amazing collection of bonsais, whereas the Île Verte, in the midst of luxuriant vegetation, offers a genuine patchwork of plant settings. These are just some of the amazing places you can explore as you take a walk in the Hauts-de-Seine's Valley of Culture.

Patrick Devedjian
Député and President of the General Council
of Hauts-de-Seine

The great names of the Vallée-aux-Loups

Although originally home to stags, roe deer, wild boars and wolves, the land was acquired by Louis XIV's minister Jean-Baptiste Colbert in 1683 in order to provide the grounds of his château in Sceaux with water. Chateaubriand purchased the estate in 1807 and, for ten years, the author of *Le Génie du Christianisme* carefully laid out his "hermitage", transforming it, embellishing it, modelling both the house and the surrounding area. Here he wrote the *Mémoires de ma Vie*, the first sketch for the *Mémoires d'Outre-Tombe*, and pursued his political career before his views led to him being removed from the list of ministers of state and then forced

to sell his property in 1818. It was acquired by Duc Matthieu de Montmorency and then by Vicomte Sosthène de la Rochefoucauld, becoming an elegant haunt for the cream of society. In 1914, Doctor Le Savoureux, a psychiatrist, turned the house into a rest home. He founded the Chateaubriand society, built up a collection dedicated to the author and began the formalities to have the property listed. He restored the site's soul and it was visited by a whole stream of celebrities, including Édouard Herriot, Paul Valéry and Paul Léautaud, who died here. The Vallée-aux-Loups was acquired by the Department de la Seine in 1967 and it now belongs to the Department des Hauts-de-Seine.

▼ Manuscript by Chateaubriand



▲ Chateaubriand's desk

CHATEAUBRIAND'S HOUSE

The house, which is a listed historic monument dedicated to Chateaubriand and, more broadly speaking, to the literary memory of the 18th and 19th centuries, reproduces the atmosphere of a romantic "charterhouse" as the writer knew it. We can all admire its curious double-branch staircase, its lounges and

Chateaubriand and Juliette Récamier's bedrooms, where you will find period wallpaper, fabrics and furniture. The rooms and exteriors are decorated with neo-Gothic style furnishings and alterations which Chateaubriand, who was something of a pioneer, helped to bring up-to-date, to match the tastes of his own time.

LITERARY GROUNDS

"I know them all by their names, they are like my children", wrote Chateaubriand about his trees, "they are my family, the only one I have" (Mémoires d'outre-tombe).

The landscaped grounds which surround the Maison de Chateaubriand tell the story of the discoveries made by its owner, a seasoned traveller, and also show us that he was a knowledgeable botanist and loved trees. There are Atlas cedars, a bald cypress from Louisiana, a Lebanon cedar, a large horse chestnut tree, rhododendrons

and a purple flowering magnolia close to the one which Chateaubriand received personally from Empress Joséphine herself. A common catalpa, originally from the South-Eastern United States, stands out due to the strange way it has developed horizontally. One more recent tribute is the Chateaubriand rosebush, created by Michel Adam, celebrating both nature and the memory of the forerunner of romanticism. As you walk through the grounds, you can see the chapel and the Tour Velléda, in which the writer once set up his office.

ALL ABOUT THE COLLECTIONS

Exhibitions

Ranging from the "Russian presence" at the Vallée-aux-Loups between 1923 and 1978, to souvenirs of Madame Geoffrin, famous for hosting her 18th century salon and a friend of many philosophers, which were presented in 2011, there are regular exhibitions showing off both the Maison's collections and its history.

Conferences and debates

Historians, writers, academics and Chateaubriand specialists host free conferences and debates both about the writer and, more broadly speaking, the 19th century.

Events

The Maison de Chateaubriand organises concerts, shows and storytelling sessions.

Tours

There are guided and unaccompanied tours offering a chance to explore the collections (group tours by appointment).

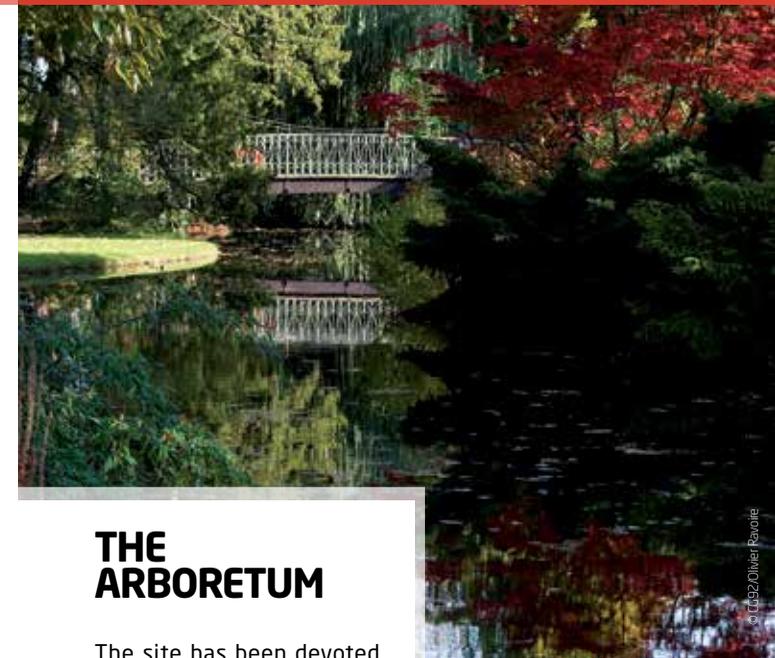
The Chateaubriand Prize

Every year this literary prize, set up and funded by the Conseil Général des Hauts-de-Seine, is awarded to a work of historic research or literary history linked to Chateaubriand, his period or his works. The winner is chosen by a prestigious panel of judges made up of historians and writers and since 2011 the prize-giving ceremony has been held at the Institut de France.

THE LIBRARY

The library is open to all by appointment and is used by researchers, authors, scholars, amateurs and students. It houses 12,600 documents about the author and his age, essential original editions, manuscripts and illustrated books. There is a selection of works published in modern editions available to visitors if they would like to spend a little while reading either in the library or the grounds.

▼ The library



THE ARBORETUM

The site has been devoted to botany ever since it was created back in the 18th century and it is home to more than 500 species of trees and bushes spread across an area of 12.7 hectares. It was designed as a landscaped garden, with features such as a grotto and a waterfall, a fountain, a suspension bridge, a pier with a pavilion along with an ice house - the ancestor of the modern refrigerator.

Remarkable trees

Several generations of well-known nursery owners - including Gustave Croux in 1890 - were responsible for laying the site out. The centuries-old trees make up a unique landscape and horticultural heritage. The Arboretum has 36 remarkable trees, including an

▲ The Arboretum

amazing blue weeping cedar, whose branches cover an area of 680 m².

Gardens and collections

Themed gardens bring the site to life - rather like paintings which change with the seasons - the flamboyant autumn garden, the fruit garden, the chestnut tree garden, the alder garden, the hydrangea garden and the flower garden.

278 of the 1,600 species of convolvulaceae which have been identified worldwide are housed in the Arboretum's greenhouses. The collection has been added to regularly since it was created in 1995. In 2014 it will be joined by a set of 63 bonsais.