

PARK AND GARDENS

Diane Garden

The smallest garden takes its name from a statue decorating the fountain: *Diana with a deer*. This was once the private garden of the French sovereigns. In the 17th century, it consisted of lines of box trees and was adorned with statues. In Napoleonic times, it was turned into an English-style garden and still has the same features today.

The English Garden

It was known as the Pine Garden under Francis I and was made up of several different gardens. It was redesigned during the reign of Louis XIV, then remodelled under Napoleon by the architect Hurltaut. The river and winding avenues, the artificial rock and most of all the remarkable collection of exotic plants combine to provide picturesque landscapes.

Grand Parterre

Europe's biggest parterre still has the geometric design given it by Le Nôtre, Louis XIV's gardener, but has lost its box-tree embroidery design. In spring and summer, 40,000 plants are in bloom here.

The Park

Beyond the Grand Parterre are the park and the canal, extending the perspective. The Grand Parterre is 1,200 metres long and was designed under Henry IV.

Did you know?

Legend has it that a dog named Bléau discovered a source during a fox hunt. The source, with its pure, transparent water, became the Belle-Eau Fountain, which gave its name to Fontainebleau.

- A. Diane Fountain
- B. Belle-Eau Fountain
- C. Carp Pond
- D. Grand Parterre
- E. Romulus Fountain
- F. Grand Canal
- G. Drainage channel

100 m



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

The château

is open every day, except Tuesday, 1 January, 1 May and 25 December:

- October to March, 9.30 am to 5 pm
- April to September, 9.30 am to 6 pm
- last admission, 45 minutes before closing, except to the bookshop-giftshop.

The courtyards and gardens are opened:

- from November to February, 9 am to 5 pm
- in March, April and October, 9 am to 6 pm
- from March to September, 9 am to 7 pm.

Please note, closing of the gardens begins 1 hour before the stated times.

Information on exceptional closures on www.chateaufontainebleau.fr

The park

is open 24 hours a day, all year round.

Accessibility

Visitors with reduced mobility can access the Grands Appartements. For your comfort, access in a vehicle is available on request from the Cour des Mathurins (9 Rue Denecourt). Push chairs are forbidden in the Grands Appartements tour. Baby carriers and light, foldable push chairs are available, subject to availability.

It is forbidden to

eat and drink in the rooms. Smoking, flash photography and touching exhibits are forbidden.



Your ticket is valid all through the day.

SUPPORT THE CHÂTEAU

Do you like the château? Help us restore it by becoming a patron!

Information on chateaufontainebleau.fr/Mecenat
mecenat@chateaufontainebleau.fr

You can also join the Friends of the Château of Fontainebleau Association and enjoy exclusive advantages.

Membership from €40
 Information on amischateaufontainebleau.org



- @chateaufontainebleau
- @chateaufontainebleau
- @cfontainebleau



To keep up to date with news from the château, sign up for our newsletter!

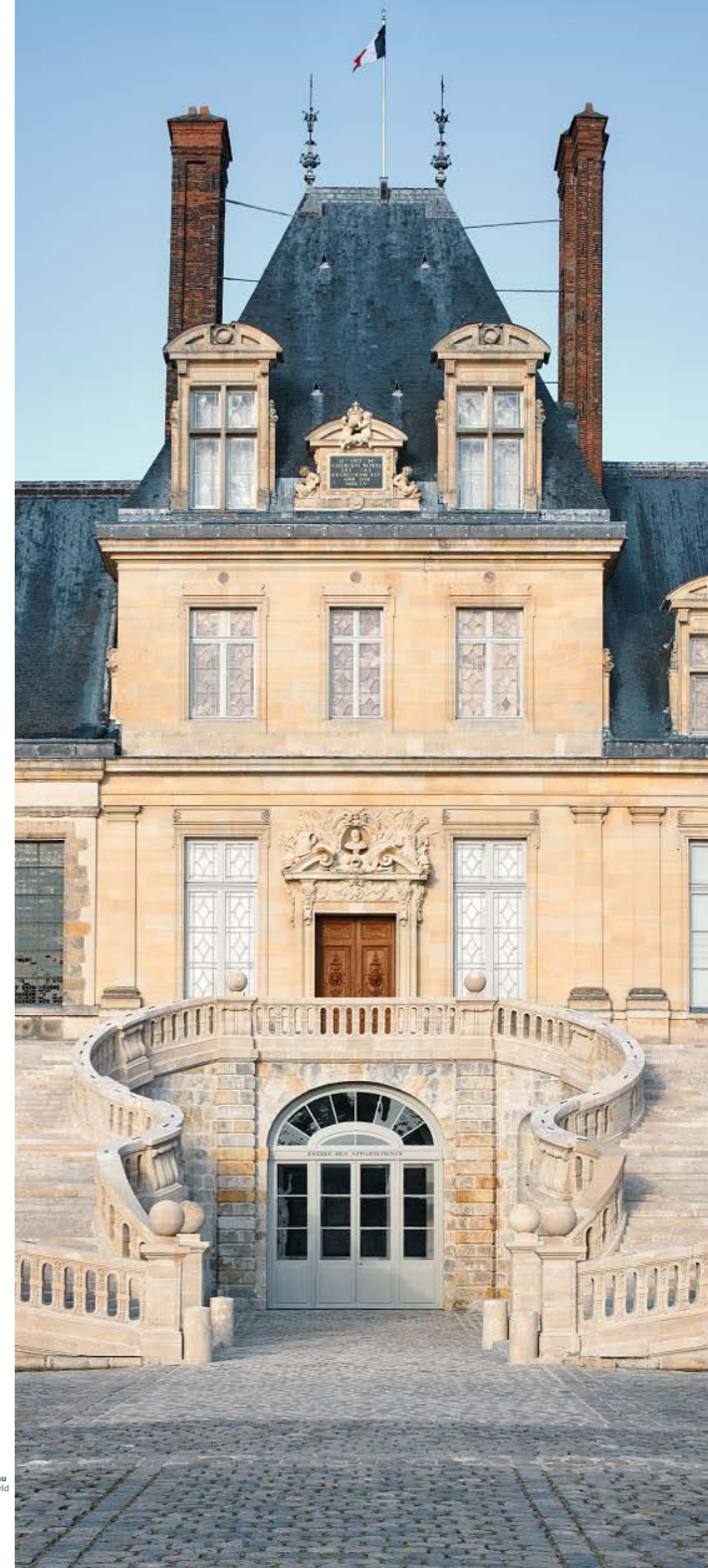
Information
 tel. +33 (0)1 60 71 50 70
www.chateaufontainebleau.fr

The Château de Fontainebleau and its grounds are listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Inclusion on this list enshrines the universal and exceptional value of a cultural or natural property so that it may be protected for the benefit of humanity.



Château de Fontainebleau

Visit to the château, to the park and gardens



The Palace and Park of Fontainebleau are listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1981

YOU ARE VISITING A SITE THAT IS PROTECTED AS A LISTED HISTORICAL MONUMENT AND A UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE

Please help us to conserve it for future generations by avoiding all contact with the works and decoration. Thank you for your understanding.

HISTORY OF THE CHÂTEAU

The medieval château

Only the keep (1) still remains from the first château, first recorded in 1137.

The Renaissance château

From 1528, Francis I had the château rebuilt. The Golden Gate (2), inspired by Italian architecture, marks the entrance to the Cour Ovale, with the royal apartments and Ballroom (3), completed by Henry II, around it. The courtyard is linked to a secondary courtyard (now the Main Courtyard) by the Francis I Gallery (4). The Belle Cheminée wing (5) designed by Primatice, with its impressive double staircase, is a consummate example of the Italian Renaissance adapted to France.

In the 17th century

Henry IV was another great château builder. He opened and expanded the Cour Ovale, and added the gate known as the Baptistère (6) to recall the baptism of the future Louis XIII. It stands opposite a new Cour des Communs or Cour des Offices (7). Henry IV also had the wing built with two levels of galleries, the Diane Gallery and the Deer Gallery (8), the Aviary (9) and the Jeu de Paume (10).

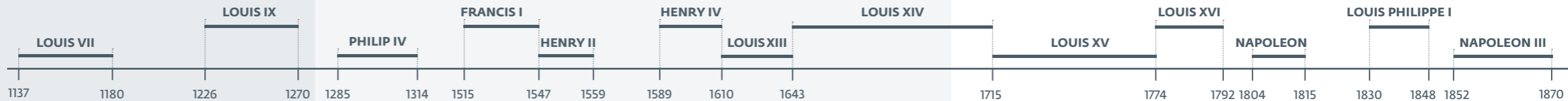
In the 18th century

Louis XV replaced the old Ulysses Gallery (11), built by Francis I, with a more spacious building, the Louis XV wing, and built the Gros Pavillon (12), designed by the architect Ange-Jacques Gabriel in 1750.

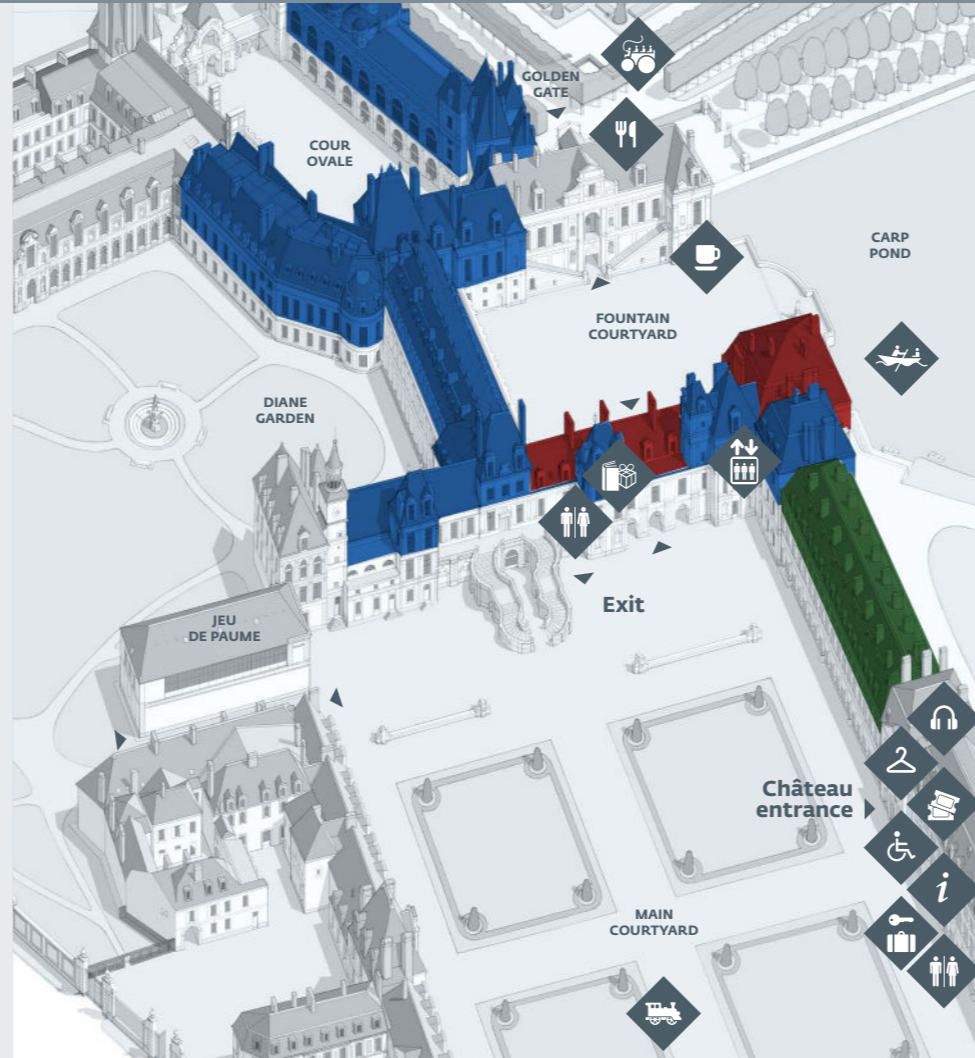
In the 19th century

During the French Revolution, the château was robbed of its furniture, but the buildings were spared. Napoleon made it an imperial residence and refurbished it. The Ferrare wing, where the Main Courtyard ends, was knocked down and replaced by the present gate with its imperial eagles above (13). Under Napoleon III, work mainly focused on the interior decoration with the Imperial Theatre, in particular, and the Empress Eugénie Museum.

- Middle Ages
- Renaissance
- Henry IV and Louis XIII
- Louis XIV, Louis XV and Louis XVI
- Disappeared in the 19th century



THE PALACE HAS HOSTED 36 KINGS AND EMPERORS.



NON-GUIDED VISIT

Visit the château at your own pace. Visiting materials available in 11 languages.

The Napoleon Museum

The museum evokes the emperor Napoleon and members of his family through a remarkable collection of furniture, works of art and portraits that belonged to them.

The Pope's Apartment

The apartment was prepared for King Henry II and hosted in turn queen mothers, heirs to the throne and prestigious guests. It takes its name from Pius VII, who stayed here in 1804 and again in 1812. It is preserved as it was during the Second Empire with its sumptuous décor.

The Grands Appartements

The tour includes several room, galleries and apartments. The Grand Gallery and the Plates Gallery recall the major events that took place in Fontainebleau.

The Renaissance rooms (Francis I Gallery, Ballroom) are unique in France. They still have the astonishing frescoes and stucco decoration produced by the Italian artists Rosso Fiorentino and Primatice during the reigns of Francis I and Henry II, a period when Fontainebleau was one of Europe's main artistic centres. The Sovereigns' Apartments, overlooking the Cour Ovale and the Diane Garden, hosted the monarchs and their court. Napoleon's interior apartment is a series of rooms arranged for the Emperor's use from 1804. It was in this apartment that Napoleon abdicated on 6 April 1814. The Trinity Chapel, begun by Francis I, was completed by Louis XIII. The vault's decoration was the work of Martin Fréminet.

A major restoration project has been in progress in the château and estate since 2015. It is due for completion in 2030.

GUIDED TOURS

Details from the box office.

The Empress Eugénie Museum

A series of rooms including a large reception room for visitors gathered around Empress Eugénie, and a museum decorated in the style of the Second Empire. It houses some remarkable works of art from the Far East, particularly from China and Siam.

"Discover the Château" guided tour

A general guided tour is on offer daily. Visitors can get to know the history of the château from its origins until the Second Empire.

Guided tour of the Petits Appartements

The private apartments of the Emperor and the Empresses Joséphine and Marie-Louise are a glimpse into the private life of the sovereigns.

Guided tour of the Imperial Theatre

The Imperial Theatre, commissioned by Napoleon III, is a unique example of a court theatre during the Second Empire.

In season, themed visits and new guided tours provide access to areas that are usually closed to the public.