Château de Fontainebleau

Press release

Tuesday 16th June 2026

Event

Queen's Ball & Evening Picnic

Saturday 4th july, from 7:30 pm, English garden

While Marie Antoinette was known for her taste in music, she also loved balls. On Saturday, July 4th, starting at 7:30 pm, visitors will step back in time to the court of Marie Antoinette and Louis XVI for an exceptional evening of celebration.

The English garden will be the setting for this evening, which will host around fifty costumed reenactors from the Carnet de Bals association. A unique experience and an immersion in the 18th-century court, with a program including demonstrations and introductions to period dances, activities highlighting the customs and traditions of the time, boating, all in a luminous atmosphere at the heart of an exceptional historical site.





Visitors are welcome to bring their own picnic. For those who prefer to be catered for, picnic baskets can be reserved, and food stalls will also be available for purchase. Visitors are also encouraged to dress up in an 18th-century costume or accessory—feathers, fans, hats, or masks—to fully immerse themselves in this enchanting experience.

The actors of Duo Diapason will lead several activities throughout the evening:

• A theatrical photo booth, hosted by an actor portraying a period painter, will invite children and adults to pose in a rustic setting adorned with royal-inspired props.

• Children can try their hand at coloring royal portraits, while an actress playing Mademoiselle Bertin, Marie Antoinette's famous milliner, will reveal the secrets of feminine and masculine elegance during interactive styling sessions.

• The public can discover the language of the fan and the beauty mark, true codes of seduction in the 18th century, or test their knowledge with the quirky quiz "Questions for a Bourbon," dedicated to common misconceptions about Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette. • Finally, two period game stands, run by costumed reenactors from the Ministry of Fashion association, will allow the public to extend the experience in a friendly and refined atmosphere.

This evening is part of an annual program dedicated to the world of Marie Antoinette and the history of her royal stays at Fontainebleau, reviving for one evening the elegance, music and courtly pleasures that once enlivened the castle.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

From 7:30 pm to 12:00 pm, last access at 10 :00 pm.
An event open to all, accessible to people with reduced mobility.
Price **:** €20 | Free for under 7 years old

Informations and booking on www.chateaudefontainebleau.fr

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