



A VILLAGE AT THE EDGE OF THE FOREST

The forest of Fontainebleau is well known for its beautiful and varied landscapes, its boulders, its old sandstone quarries, all of which contribute to its attractiveness.

Bourron-Marlotte is surrounded by this beautiful forest where the Kings of France used to love hunting. It offers countless possible walks, and some sites attract more particularly hikers and walkers.

The “Mare aux Fées”, a charming pond where yellow irises bloom in the spring, accessible by a pedestrian forest road, or by path N°11 (blue marks) with a loop walk between the “Rochers des Etroitures” and the “Restant du Long Rocher”

The “ Plaine verte”, a large grassy area in the heart of the forest. Ideal for picnics, family games and sometimes the pleasure of meeting riders or a hunting party.

A magnificent rocky chaos enhanced by the ONF overlooks the plain.

Nearby is the blue marked path, which leads one way to the “Mare aux Fées”, and the other way to splendid viewpoints and to “Grotte Beatrix”, another mythical place.

Car park and bivouac along road D 58 at the entrance of the village.
Car park at the forest entrance at the end of rue Renoult - Map :
the forest of Fontainebleau landmarks n ° 526, 539, 540, 550, 551

IN THE AREA

Bourron-Marlotte, “Village de caractère”, is at the crossroads of remarkable tourist destinations.

Fontainebleau, royal and imperial residence, whose history follows the History of France. Napoleon 1st did not hesitate to describe the Château as “the real home of kings”. Fontainebleau represents 8 centuries of sovereign presence, 34 kings and 2 emperors.

www.fontainebleau.fr / www.fontainebleau-tourisme.com

Nemours the former feudal capital of Gâtinais, whose imposing castle-museum on the banks of the Loing offers beautiful exhibitions. www.nemours.fr

And four other “Villages de caractère”:

Barbizon, a village of painters, with two emblematic places among others: the “Ganne” inn which hosted many artists including Renoir and Sisley, and a workshop where Jean-François Millet painted works, today exhibited in the greatest museums of the world. www.barbizon.fr

Samois-sur-Seine : on the banks of the Seine, small pleasure craft and barges complement the “Affolantes”, these beautiful villas of norman spirit along the Seine. Every summer, the birthplace of Django Reinhardt welcomes the launch of the jazz festival dedicated to him.

www.samois-sur-seine.fr

Gre-sur-Loing, from Templars to post-impressionists: at a glance, we discover the three medieval monuments of Grez: the old stone bridge over the Loing, the ruins of the Ganne tower, and the church. You will also find the artistic spirit of colonies of foreign artists, including Anglo-Saxon, Swedish, Japanese...

www.gre-sur-loing.fr

Larchant, witness of the first men 105 caves with rock engravings attest to prehistoric human life. At the heart of the village, visit the St Mathurin Basilica, once an important stop for pilgrims on the way to “St Jacques de Compostelle”. www.larchant.com

OTHER INFO

ACCESS

By the motorway A6: exit Fontainebleau

By train: Bourron-Marlotte – Grez-sur-Loing station

- Line Paris Gare de Lyon/ Montargis - 55 minutes (one train per hour)

- Fontainebleau - Avon train station - 20 minutes

www.transilien.com

Cycling by the “Scandiberique”

starting from the Loing Canal in Montcourt-Fromonville

CAR PARK

- At the train station

- Village center: rue Villée de Saint El, avenue Jules Duquesne,

50 rue du Général de Gaulle, place M. Bloch

SHOPS

Rues H. Murger, Général Leclerc, Général de Gaulle, A. Charnay, route de Villiers : general food, butcher shops, bakeries, hairdressers, decoration, beauty salon, pharmacy, bookstore, garage, art galleries, etc.

SERVICES

Post Office: 191 rue Général Leclerc

ATM machine: 37 rue Henry Murger

LODGING

Château-Hôtel - 14 bis rue du Maréchal Foch – 01 64 78 39 39

bourron@bourron.fr – www.bourron.fr

Bed and breakfast – self catering cottage list on site:

<http://bourronmarlotte.fr/temps-libre/tourisme/hotels/>

INFORMATION

Town Hall of Bourron-Marlotte - 135 rue du Général de Gaulle - 01 64 45 58 50

9am-12am (including saturday) / 2 pm-5:30pm (friday 5pm)

accueil.mairiebourronmarlotte@orange.fr

www.bourronmarlotte.fr

Tourist Office Maison Monier

Enjoy your visit to admire the mural paintings.

137 rue du Général de Gaulle – 01 64 45 88 86

Spring/Summer: Friday and Saturday - Sunday morning. On closing days,

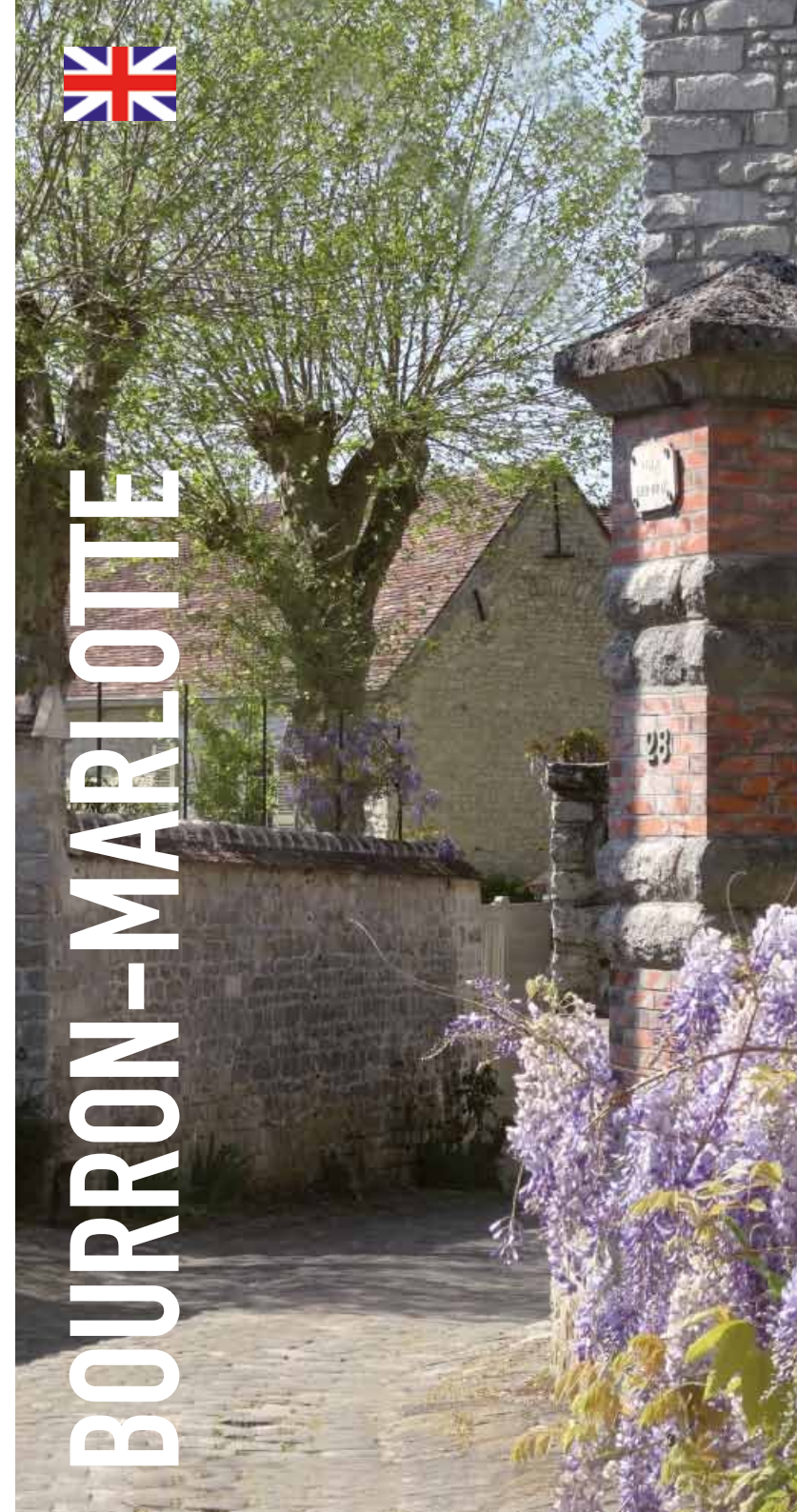
contact the reception of the town-hall

bourronmarlotte@fontainebleau-tourisme.com

www.fontainebleau-tourisme.com



BOURRON-MARLOTTE



HISTORY

Bourron and Marlotte were for a long time two distinct entities: originally, Bourron was the old village with its hamlet Marlotte.



The church in Bourron

Pre-historic human remains have been found confirming continuous habitation since prehistoric times. In the Middle Ages, the Lords of Bourron endowed their land with a feudal fortress and a church attached to the diocese of Sens. They served the first Capetian kings.

Between 1500 and 1789, the village of Bourron was still the property of lords recognised by Royalty: the Sallard, Beringhen and Varennes families.

Some major events mark the village history

In October 1725, when Louis XV married Marie Leczinska, daughter of the dethroned king of Poland, a problem of etiquette arose while the Court was installed at Fontainebleau: the solution was to settle Stanislas and his wife in the castle of Bourron.

The “Pavé du Roy”, at the bottom of the hill of Bourron, was chosen several times as a meeting place for princely betrothals: on May 12, 1771 by the Count of Provence (future Louis XVIII) and on September 13, 1773, by Louis XV and his whole family to welcome Marie-Therese de Savoie, promised to the future Charles X. Nearby, at the “Croix de Saint-Hérem”, Napoléon met Pope Pius VII when the latter came to crown him as Emperor.

From 1815 to 1848, the village went through a time of peace after the revolutionary period. During the 1870 war, the village suffered numerous requisitions and war contributions for nearly six months. At that time, Bourron and especially its hamlet Marlotte, were enjoying intense artistic activity: as in nearby Barbizon, hundreds of painters and writers stayed there, seduced by the rustic charm of its houses and the proximity of the forest of Fontainebleau.

It was not until 1919 that Bourron and Marlotte merged into one entity.

THE ARTISTIC COLONY

Since the 19th century, artists have been attracted to Bourron-Marlotte.

From 1830, the first artists settled in Marlotte, for example Corot and Caruelle d’Aligny. Then came Sisley, Renoir, Monet, Cezanne, Pissarro who met in the two inns of the village. It is the bohemian spirit praised by Henry Murger, on discovering Marlotte, which attracted his literary friends Théophile Gauthier, Alfred and Paul de Musset, Théodore de Banville.



Henry Murger

Around 1870, other less well known painters lived in Marlotte, such as Auguste Allongé, Eugène Ciceri, Charles Delort or Armand Charnay. Looking around, you will notice that many windows are exposed north so as to capture the natural light, attesting to the presence of artists workshops. Writers also came, such as François Coppée, the brothers Goncourt, Paul Fort, Emile Zola...

After 1914, painters gave way to musicians and filmmakers. Jean Renoir who lived in Marlotte for twenty years, shot his first film there “La fille de l’eau”. The villa “La Chansonnière” became a music temple frequented by Alfred Cortot, Jacques Thibaud, Ginette Neveu and Denise Soriano.

Follow in the footsteps of artists

Some of their homes can be identified by documented and illustrated wall plaques, an initiative of the association “Les Amis de Bourron-Marlotte”. An attractive walk will allow the visitor to appreciate the houses, the sandstone walls and other wonders of the architectural heritage of Bourron-Marlotte, now officially recognised as a “Village of Character”.

Even today, many artists choose to live in the village so as to enjoy its light, its environment and the forest. They belong to a rich cultural tradition still very much alive.

TOWN HALL - MUSEUM

The Town Hall-Museum of Bourron-Marlotte was created in 1906 by Charles Moreau-Vauthier, a former student of the painter Gérôme, writer and art critic who wanted to give art an educational role. He convinced Mayor Alexandre Coutor to install a small museum in the town hall. This opened in 1907, with a collection of some 70 works donated through his network of artist friends among whom Henri de Sachy, a resident of the village.

Since 1933, the collection has been installed in the current Town Hall. Due to successive donations, it now counts more than 400 works: paintings and drawings (water and oil colors, charcoals...) but also decorative art pieces (gold artwork, cabinetmaking, ceramics ...). It allows the visitor to discover a rather wide variety of art trends of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.



Armand Point, Young lady with convolvulus

Among the main artists represented are A. Longon (52), A. Heseltine (30), A. Point (7), C. Moreau-Vauthier (10), E. Ciceri, O. de Penne, C. Delort... Two works are classified as Historical Monuments: “La fille de Jephthé” (Oil, 1836) by H. Lehman and “L’espérance et la douleur” (drawing, circa 1892) by A. Point. The artistic heritage of the Town Hall is completed by the painted walls of the Tourist Office, located in the immediate vicinity, decorated with hunting and barnyard scenes by artists C. Virion and E. Van Coppenolle, from Montigny-sur-Loing.

ST. SEVERE CHURCH

Dedicated to Saint Severe (346-389) and to Sainte Avoye (martyr 5th C.), the church is one of the oldest within the French Gâtinais (early 11th century). Partly rebuilt in the 15th and 16th centuries, it was then damaged during the French revolution. In 1847, the cemetery surrounding the church was transferred to its present location, revealing numerous archeological remains. The nave, registered as Historical Monument, retains some of the oldest elements of the church. Enlargement and restoration work undertaken from 1857 to 1862 led to the disappearance of the old bell tower. On some pillars, painted liters of the eighteenth century represent the coats of arms of the castle’s owners. In 2013, a new German Romantic organ built by Y. Fossaert, was blessed by Bishop J.-Y Nahmias and first played for its inauguration by the organist E. Lebrun.



Organ in St Severe church

CHÂTEAU DE BOURRON

In the fourteenth century, the Château was a fortress given to the viscounts of Melun. Later, it was owned by the Sallard family, officers of the kings of France, who built the current château. Armand-Nicolas de Sallard obtained in 1680 that the land of Bourron become a marquiseate. Then, in 1708, the château was transferred by marriage to Frédéric de Beringhen, a descendant of a Dutch protestant family whose ancestors served kings Louis XIII, Louis XIV and Louis XV. During the French Revolution, the then called “sans-culottes” from Nemours came to sack the château, and the marchioness was saved only by the fall of Robespierre. The château was then bought by the “Marquis de Montgon” who restored the former estate. In 1878, the château was acquired by the Montesquiou-Fezensac, a noble family from the Gers which counts amongst its ancestors the famous d’Artagnan. Today, the family live in the château, now a hotel with 15 rooms, open all year. It may be visited by groups (prior to reservation), and the park is open on weekdays in July and September.