



### SELFIE SPOTS

- Prison gardens 🗓
- ☐ Top of Saint-Jacques gates 2
- $\Box$  Citadel esplanade on the  $\Box$ Vauvert side
- Rosaire path

#destinationparthenay

- 🔲 Poudrière tower postern 🤚
- Walt walk on the ramparts beneath 6 Saint-Jean Church
- Top of Rue Chateau 7
- ☐ In the castle courtyard



## CHALLENGE

- Stroll around Férolle garden
- ☐ Get lost in the alleyways
- Meet a pilgrim
- Greet a passerby
- □ Take photos of the goats on the ramparts

- □ Go up or down the Citadel stairs without stopping
- Ufou've fallen in love with the medieval town
- Ugou'll recommend Parthenay



MUSEUM OF ART AND HISTORY

Parthenay Museum of Art and History, which benefit from the appellation "Museum of France", is packed with treasures and

testament to the wealth of our region. It lies in the heart of the

medieval area and details the history of Parthenay with models and



Maison des Antiquaires



Ramparts

Media centre

Conference Centre

Tourist Information

Cordeliers Chapel

## THE « COUNTRY OF ART AND HISTORY >> LABEL

### A label designed as a laboratory for heritage awareness

The "City and Country of art and history" label was founded by the Ministry of Culture in 1985. It applies to areas, towns or boroughs which, aware of the challenges involved in the appropriation of local architecture and heritage by their inhabitants, are committed to an active policy of knowledge, conservation, mediation, support and the upkeep of the architecture and living environment.

The label isn't an award; it's a platform to build a project involving the area's cultural set-up, the protection and promotion of the architectural and landscape heritage, pooling figures, research and knowledge, quality activities and qualified professionals, multi-disciplinary work etc. Our region was awarded the "Country of art and history" label in 1993.

### CIAP (ARCHITECTURE AND HERITAGE CENTRE

The CIAP is a great way to explore the Land of Art and History. It is located in the Heritage Centre (a former flour mill on the Thouet riverbanks) and explores the area's culture and history in a range of local and regional themes.



### **Exhibition to discover:** "Sculpture, decoration for architecture"

The exhibition "Sculpture, decoration for architecture" offers you an original and fun discovery of the sculpted decorations adorning certain buildings in our region, thanks to beautiful photographs allowing you to see them at eye level! Note: all texts are translated into English!

Treat yourself or someone else at the gift shop. Postcards, mugs, books, wooden swords... there's something for everyone!



### **GET YOUR BEARINGS**

22 blue signs on the main landmarks and heritage sites in Parthenay and Châtillon-sur-Thouet detail each one's history and architecture.

### DID YOU KNOW?

- The fortifications are 3.5km long.
- Parthenay is home to 18 Monuments Historiques.
- The town is on the Plantagenet Way leading to Santiago de Compostela and Mont St-Michel.
- The Pilgrim's Guide was written by Brother Aimery Picaud in the 12th century in Parthenay and is the first known tourist guide.
- The medieval town has been listed as a remarkable heritage site.



## **USEFUL INFORMATION**

- Wednesday-Friday: 10am-12pm & 2pm-6pm
- Sunday: 2.30pm-6pm

collections of local art and archaeology.

• Saturday June-September: 2.30pm-6pm

### Closed on bank holidays Free entry

Tel.: 05 49 94 90 27 1 rue de la Vau Saint-Jacques, Parthenay





Covered market





Sainte-Croix Church



Notre-Oame de-la-Couldre Church



Rosaire Chapel









Saint-Jacques Church

### **USEFUL INFORMATION**

#### APRIL, MAY, JUNE, SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER

- Tuesday to Thursday: 2pm-6pm
- Friday and Saturday: 10am-1pm & 2pm-6pm

#### **JULY AND AUGUST**

Everyday: 10am-1pm & 2pm-6pm

Free entry

# Tours and events for everyone! We provide guided tours with tour guides who share their passion for local culture and history. We provide a wide variety of tours and things to do to explore the incredible wealth of Parthenay's medieval town and its "Country of art and history" labelled area: sensory guided tours, night tours with lanterns, gourmet hikes etc. One morning in June 1259, a master dyer is found dead at his home in the

#### Discover the medieval city while having fun!

Saint-Jacques district. Leads the investigation during a 2.5 km fun walk, accessible from 8 years old, in the medieval city. Game booklet avaible for sale at the CIAP and the Tourist Office.







