



Réalisation office de tourisme. Sources : service du patrimoine et service cadre de vie - Photo de couverture © Jernot / Paray-le-Monial Tourisme

# Town & Gardens

**Have a break?**  
From the Tourist Office, let us guide you by the 3 suggested tours. They will help you to discover the cultural, spiritual and natural heritage and encourage you to linger.



## 14 The Post office garden

In this small space of relaxation, let yourself be seduced by the species presented. The astonishing salvias, already used in the antiquity for their healing virtues, offer a huge variety of shapes, heights, colours and scents. The delicate viburnums, ensure permanent decoration and enchant with their fragrance. At the centre of the garden, there is a mosaic of a peacock, the old town's emblem. This piece was made by a group of young international artists «Mozaïsm» then offered by the «M comme Mosaïque» Society to the town.

## 15 Mosaics way

The Contemporary Mosaic House inlaid mosaic creations on the sidewalks of both streets Des Deux Ponts and Charles de Gaulle.

## 16 Sauvageot Theatre (19<sup>th</sup> c.)

The theatre was built thanks to the donation of Mlle Sauvageot whose name it still bears today. The bust of the young lady is carved above the door, surrounded by the symbols of music and theatre. The theatre was completed in 1888 in a style recalling Burgundian Renaissance. The façade is decorated with grinning and laughing satyrs, fruit garlands, flower vases and vegetation volutes. Above, a triangular pediment flanked by two seahorses include a peacock surrounded by a pearl necklace. This place was used during most of the 20<sup>th</sup> c. as a cinema until the Empire was built.

## 17 Canal du Centre

The canal connects the Loire (Digoin) with the Saône (Chalon-sur-Saône) and it is parallel to the river, the Bourbince. Work of the engineer Émiland Gauthey, it was opened between 1791 and 1793. Long more than 112 km, it is punctuated by 61 locks. Formerly used to transport goods by barge, it is now mainly used by pleasure boaters. The green way which runs along it offers a pleasant walk or bike ride. *Rent a bicycle or an electric bike at the Tourist Office for a day or half a day.*

## 18 Paul Charnoz Museum

The museum is the sole depository of human and industrial memories of ceramics in Paray-le-Monial. It shows the different stages of the life of this factory in a lively and educational way, through its technologies and products, but also thanks to the memories of its former employees. Amongst the works presented there are a fresco and a monumental rosace, jewels of the French industrial and decorative ceramics, made of tiles designed by incrustation, and rewarded at the Universal Exhibitions in Paris in 1889 and 1900.  
*Open every day in July and August from 2:30pm to 6pm.*

## 19 Saint-Roch Chapel (19<sup>th</sup> c.)

Enclosed within the area of the station, it was built in 1835 at the request of the chaplain of the hospital then sold thirty years later to the company PLM (the Paris-Lyon-Mediterranean, the current SNCF). Finally it was given to the town in 1994. The chapel is built with re-used materials of a chapel built around 1660 near the Center Canal. Mass is celebrated here every 16<sup>th</sup> August. *Viewing outside only.*

## 20 Contemporary mosaic house

This cultural center is open to all. Exhibitions follow one another throughout the year. A video «The Mosaic...what a story!» explains the origins of the mosaic, presents tools, materials and techniques, and describes the various aspects of contemporary mosaic. In the mosaic workshop takes place about twenty courses a year, open to both beginners and initiates. *Open every day from April 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup> from 3pm to 6pm. From October 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>th</sup> from Monday to Saturday from 2pm to 5pm. Free entrance.*

## 21 Bellevue school & Saint Margaret-Mary church (20<sup>th</sup> c.)

The school complex is the work of the architects Chanet and Liogier. Built in the Bellevue neighbourhood where «Ceramic» and «PLM» housing estates are located, it includes a girls' school, a boys' school and a library. The rationality of design and decor refers to Art Deco. Behind the school, discover the church of which the floors is made of inlaid tiles.

## 22 Bellevue Gardens and «cités PLM»

The PLM housing estates, the first collective dwellings, marked the history of the town. Located in the heart of this thirties architecture, this «garden of gardens» is inspired by the gardens of former railwaymen or allotments nearby. Each garden is associated with a colour that gives it its identity: yellow, red, peach/cream, orange, mauve, pink, violet, blue and white. Each entry is marked by a pergola clothed with climbing plants which «set the tone».

## 23 Church of Notre-Dame

Perched on the hill of «Grainetières», this ancient church already existed in the 9<sup>th</sup> century. It is located on the edge of the town, it was probably already encircled by its cemetery, and served as the parish church. This use is confirmed until the 17<sup>th</sup> c. It was then much bigger since all that remains is the choir. Some traces of mural painting which remain on the façade were originally on the inside. You may continue your walk by taking the walking trail nearby. *Pierre Goursat, founder of the Emmanuel Community, is buried in the cemetery.*

## 24 19 mars 1962 square (20<sup>th</sup> c.)

This square is decorated with a mosaic ordered by the town in 1997 from the members of the Paul Charnoz Society. This mural decoration, made up of 165,141 ceramic sandstone squares, presents the architectural, industrial and economic heritage of Paray-le-Monial: from the Saint Nicolas tower to the railway line passing by the canal, the Basilica, the town hall, the ceramic industry and the Charolais cattle breeding.

## 25 Verneuil Park

Between shadow and light, this park welcomes under its foliage a multitude of white flowers all year round. The park is lined with plane trees planted in 1769 on order of the 62<sup>nd</sup> and last Abbot of Cluny, cardinal Dominique of Rochefoucauld. This group forms a majestic vault, often compared with a vegetal cathedral.

## 26 Chapel of N.-D. de Romay (12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> c.)

This place was used as a stone quarry when the Basilica was built. The most ancient part of this chapel dates from the 12<sup>th</sup> century. It was used as an oratory by the workers. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century it became a chapel of respite, which many votive testify. Stillborn infants were brought there to allow them a temporary return to life, so they could give them baptism before burial. A stone statue of the Virgin from the 13<sup>th</sup> century is conserved inside. There is also the fountain reputed to be miraculous for eye illnesses.

- Services +!
- Wifi connection
- Shop
- Children's area

## OUT OF MAP

### 27 Émile Debroise Garden

This garden of peonies, shrub, or herbaceous hybrids, is dedicated to Émile Debroise (1902-1992). Unanimously recognized as highly competent, he was one of the major figures of the international horticulture of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. As plentiful as ephemeral, blooming peonies announces the arrival of spring.

### 28 Protection orchard and Melliferous garden

Ernest Carrier Street

Those two gardens combine education and protection of the biodiversity, presenting old local types of fruit trees and melliferous plants. A hive allows one to observe bees in their natural environment to be able to know them better and therefore to protect them. Several insect hotels also help the local wildlife to have optimum life environment.

### The small walk «de la Chimère»

By following this road stud representing Chimera, leave the forefront of the basilica to join the Charnoz Museum. Crossing the Bourbince, you will have a view of the monastic site. Passing through the gardens on the banks of the Bourbince you will discover the annual floral palette, then from the bridge a remarkable perspective on the old stone bridge and the Basilica. Then up the rue du 8 Mai, followed by the Avenue de la Gare to the old factory.





**Contact & opening**

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All year round open from Monday to Saturday.  
From Easter to October 15<sup>th</sup>, also open Sundays and Banks holidays.  
**From 9:30am to 12:30pm and from 2pm to 5:30pm**  
Closed on Tuesday mornings from November 1<sup>st</sup> to February 28<sup>th</sup>

From June 15<sup>th</sup> to September 15<sup>th</sup>  
**Open every day from 9:30am to 12:30pm and from 2pm to 6:30pm**






[www.tourisme-paraylemonial.fr](http://www.tourisme-paraylemonial.fr)

### Caption

— The red tour will take you across the centuries and the cultural sites, from medieval ages to the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

— The yellow tour will take you in the footsteps of Saint Margaret Mary and offers you a spiritual walk.

— The green tour will take you to discover, with the seasons, the city's gardens.

• • Small walk «de la Chimère»

### 1 The Basilica of the Sacred Heart (11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> c.)

The first monastery was founded around 973 by Lambert, Count of Chalon. In 999, the monastery was attached to the order of Cluny. The main church of the Cluny priory was consecrated in 1004. Only the porch and southern tower remain of this church. From 1092, under the influence of the Abbot Hugues de Semur, a new church was built. This master piece of medieval architecture is stamped in vocabulary of Roman ornaments, in the image of the third abbey of Cluny. Admire the ambulatory with its thin columns carrying the weight of the apse and the choir. Outside discover the staggered apse (behind the church) which shows all the interior space.

A specific document is available at the Tourist Office.

### 2 The Cloister (17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> c.)

The cloister was a home to the monks of Cluny until the Revolution. The front of the priory has the characteristics of classical art of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries ; a triangular pediment showing the arms of Cluny, skylights, griffins and vintage cartridges. Inside, the broad arched galleries provided a space for the monks to pray, meditate and work. The garden in the centre was inspired by the herb gardens of monasteries. A labelling system provides the plants' names and gives details of their use. The four squares, slightly raised, are bordered with a trellis and a low hedge according to the medieval model.

### 3 Saint Hughes Garden

The Saint Hughes garden welcomes more than 500 perfumed roses. Rosebushes show their diversity and testify of the wealth of its kind. Rosebushes with simple flowers, with double flowers, climbing, shrubby, hybrids of tea, English, former or contemporary...

### 4 City wall Tower (10<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> c.)

This partly preserved tower was integrated into the fortified enclosure of the city. It reinforced a weak point near the river. The oldest traces are found in the center of the building. The walls were reinforced at the base to provide a defence so that cannon balls would not make a hole in it. The part in a semicircle is an addition from the end of the middle ages (15<sup>th</sup> c.), equipped on top with three cannon holes which are currently blocked up. Probably symbolic, they covered three angles of defence. The roof structure in half conical shape is not dated, but it did not exist in the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

### 5 Moulin Liron Park

Between the canal and the Bourbince River, the park derives its name from an ancient mill known since the 15<sup>th</sup> century. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century it became a famous hostel demolished when the canal was built. The 15 hectare park was created for the visit of Pope John Paul II in 1986. On this occasion more than 250 trees were planted to celebrate the International Year of Peace. Today about 850 trees and conifers line the one-kilometer walk. It is the place for various activities: a fitness trail, start of the Green Path and other pathways, a children's playground.

### 6 Hiéron Museum (19<sup>th</sup> c.)

Behind a monumental façade, the Hiéron Museum hides an astonishing eclectic architecture with a framework in metal and glass inspired by Gustave Eiffel. It has recently been extensively renovated by the city of Paray-le-Monial, which has given new life to the building and its collections. It shelters a National Treasure: the Via Vitae by the jeweller Joseph Chaumet. This monumental and invaluable work of three metres by three metres is a tremendous piece of goldsmith's work composed of one hundred and thirty eight gold and ivory figurines representing scenes of the Christ's life.

Open from the 20<sup>th</sup> march to the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of January from Wednesday to Sunday. Every day in July and August.

10am to 12:30pm and 2pm to 6pm. Free entrance.

### Jérôme Gulon K32 way

The «K32 way», work of the mosaist Jérôme Gulon, named after a brass «network», numbered K32. The «network» used to the realization of inlaid ceramic tiles; the Charnoz museum has a large number of these magnificent objects. The mosaist reworked the image of the network to create a mosaic compound of five elements spread over a route linking the Saint Nicolas Tower to the Charnoz museum.

### 7 La Colombière Chapel (20<sup>th</sup> c.)

Byzantine-inspired, the chapel is very simple on the outside but is enriched inside by mosaics and stained glass of the brothers Mauméjean, carved and painted capitals of Henri Charlier and Way of the Cross sculptures of René Davoine. The Jesuits Chapel, whose presence in Paray-le-Monial goes back to 1619, was built on the occasion of the beatification of Claude de La Colombière (1929). He was the spiritual director of Saint Margaret Mary in 1675 and was canonised in 1992 after the visit of John Paul II. One can pray in front of the gilded shrine of the Saint in the north chapel.

### 8 Pilgrims' welcoming

This information point conserves a painting of Savinien Petit (1865) which represents Margaret Mary Alacoque life size and an exhibition of religious objects of 17<sup>th</sup> c., among which some were used by the Saint. A movie allows you to discover the history and the message of the Apparitions.

### 9 Chapel of Apparitions (17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> c.)

In this place, as indicated on the inscription on the façade, the Visitation nun Margaret Mary Alacoque saw the apparitions of the Heart of Jesus between 1673 and 1675, authenticated by her confessor, the Jesuit Father Claude La Colombière. The chapel of the Visitation monastery, built in 1633, was redrafted in 1854 in the Neo-Romantic style recalling the style of the Basilica. This chapel has been central to the largest pilgrimages in France which started at the beginning of the summer of 1873 with 200,000 pilgrims. Margaret Mary was canonised by Benedict XV in 1920. Today one can kneel in front of her wax statue.

### 10 Chaplains Park and Diorama

In 1889 the Chaplain's House was built on the foundations of the ancient castle of the Abbot of Cluny of which just the impressive round tower of the 15<sup>th</sup> century remains. The closed park was created to welcome pilgrims who were becoming increasingly more numerous since the bicente-

nary of the Apparitions in 1875. In 1890, two alleys of plane trees were planted to form a cross and to create a cathedral of greenery. Around 1902, a monumental dome dedicated to the Sacred Heart was erected at the intersection of the trees for celebrations. This space of nature and silence is planted with numerous essences which facilitates a shady, spiritual walk. The «Diorama» is a work by the artist Georges Serraz. The paintings and scenes in relief, on a human scale, represent the apparitions of Christ, in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, to the Visitation nun Margaret Mary Alacoque.

### 11 Town Hall (14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> c.)

The town hall was set up in 1862 in this beautiful mansion. Between 1525 and 1528 the merchant Pierre Jayet had built a façade in Renaissance style plated onto older structures. No doubt its brilliance was enhanced by bright colours. Many medallions are carved, in particular the portraits of Pierre Jayet and his wife. On the first floor, infants in relief hold arms and family currencies. The balusters above the door, the decorative shells and the putti musicians are influenced by Italian art.

Outside only. Included in the city's guided tour in July and August, departure 2:30pm from the Tourist Office (in french only).

### 12 Saint Nicolas Tower (16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> c.)

Former parish church consecrated in 1535, the architecture was enhanced by a massive steeple about 1549. The turret, a corbelled tower at the point of the gable, is dated 1658. The building was reduced to its current size in the 19<sup>th</sup> century with the removal of the apse and side chapels. It was the installation of the clock, declared to be of public use, which prevented the destruction of the tower. Worship was dropped during the Revolution, since the monks church (the current Basilica) became parish church at that time. Over time the building has known various functions such as a prison, guard room or town house. Today it is used for exhibitions.

The tower is open during exhibitions only.

### 13 Garden on the banks of the Bourbince

This garden planted with various white flowering shrubs offers a new view of the basilica. Each summer, different varieties of plant which are used for the floral decoration of the town, are sown here. Flyer available at the Tourist Office in summer only.

