Liverdun A medieval city with celting roots

The embankments overlooking the bends of the river Moselle were quickly occupied by the hunters of the Palaeolithic followed by the farmersbreeders of the Neolithic. Evidence of this can be found in the tumuli, in the park of the "Domaine des Eaux Bleues", excavated at the beginning of the 20th century and used from bronze-age until the Celtic period.

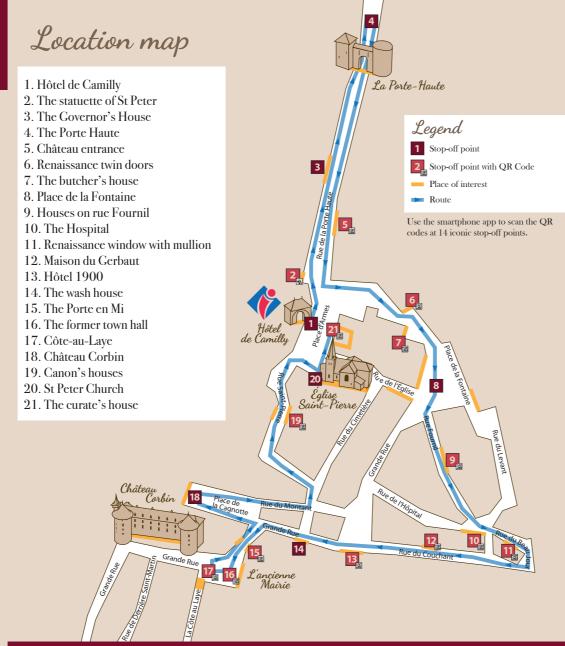
The name of Liverdun is Gallic. Liberdunum meaning fortress on a rock. There was a strong Gallo-Roman presence in the Liverdun area. The proximity of important means of communication such as the river Moselle and the big Roman road linking Lyon to Trier via Toul and Dieulouard.

The first authentic reference of Liverdun appears in an act of Othon 1st assigning the town to the bishopric of Toul.

In the 12th century, the bishop Pierre de Brixey decided to raise the fortified walls of the town thus becoming a protection for the town of Toul facing its powerful neighbours, the Duke of Lorraine, the Count of Bar and the bishop of Verdun. Pierre of Brixey built a collegiate with a chapter, created a monetary workshop.

Liverdun endured great turmoil during the Middle-Ages. On September 16, 1467, the city, occupied by the bishop of Toul and the soldiers of Burgundy, was sacked and burnt down by the troops of the Duke of Lorraine. The ruined castle has never been rebuilt.

In 1648, the treaty of Munster in Westphalia united the bishoprics of Metz, Toul and Verdun with France. By these agreements Liverdun became a French city used as a garrison-town by the king's troops during the on-going conquest of the Duchy of Lorraine. The outcome of these treaties was an act signed in Liverdun by Louis XIII in 1633.

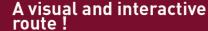


Renseignements:

Point d'accueil touristique du Bassin de Pompey 1 place d'armes - 54 460 Liverdun 03 83 24 40 40 - http://tourisme.bassinpompey.fr







Bassin de

LIVERDUN

HISTORY **TRAIL**

Pompev

LIVERDUN - CITÉ MÉDIEVALE

uliverdur

21 points : **signs** and **QR-codes for you to scan**





1 Hôtel de Camilly

This bishop's residence was built in 1717 by Blouët de Camilly, Bishop of Toul, on the site of the canons' former "Grande Maison". The porch, a listed historic monument, dates from the 16th century.



2 The statuette of St Peter The statuette, dating from 1737 and housed in a recess, depicts the patron saint of Liverdun. The

high part of the town features many statuettes, which were installed to protect the residents and were used as location markers.

3 The Governor's House

This 16th-century house, a listed historic monument. adioins a former watch tower to the right. It features a Renaissancestyle gabled facade.



4 The Porte Haute

The Porte Haute (high gate) is a listed historic monument, built in the 12th century by the Bishop of Toul to protect the town. It is surrounded by two towers, built to shore up the town's defences.



5 Château entrance

This house was once one of the entrances to Peter of Brixey's château. The remains can be seen in an archway on the left of the façade. It is built on a 12th-century vaulted cellar that was once a guard post and dungeon.

6 Renaissance twin doors These 17th-century cut stone doors are typical

of the Renaissance architectural style, with their symmetry, proportions, ornaments and decorative appearance inspired by Antiquity.

7 The butcher's house

This house, built in 1564, is a typical example of wealthy houses from the Renaissance period, with the layout and grading of the windows and doors and the ornate stone frames. The facade reveals evidence of a screw staircase.

8 Place de la Fontaine

This square, with a covered market between the 13th and 18th centuries, was once an important part of local community life and hosted the local market. The arched facades of the houses and the wooden statue of the Virgin Mary with crown are listed historic monuments



9 Houses on Rue Fournil

Rue Fournil boasts a number of interesting features: at no. 5 there is a pedestrian door with a door jamb made with stone from the mediaevalera château: at no. 7 is a Renaissance-era door: and at no. 13 is the former communal oven.

10 The Hospital

Founded by Bishop Henri de Ville in 1422, the hospital in this house is a reconstruction of the previous "Maison Dieu". It ceased operating as a hospital in the 17th century and became a refuge for the poor.

🔟 Renaissance window with mullion 🚺 Côte-au-Laye

Rue du Beaujour is home to the last remaining window with wooden mullion in Liverdun. Dating from the Renaissance period, it sits below an engraved inscription bearing the initials I.N.R.I.

Maison du Gerbaut

From the 16th century onwards, this house was used to collect the "dîme" (the clergy tax). This wealthy house sits atop a remarkable vaulted cellar and boasts ornate windows and doors with original stone frames.

13 Hôtel 1900

This hotel, known as the Castel Cure-d'air and designed in 1903 by architect Lanternier, is perched halfway between the remains of the former rampart and one of the towers. It once hosted visitors from Nancy, who came to enjoy the beaches on the banks of the Moselle in Liverdun.

14 The wash house

The wash house was built in 1901 by Nicolas Noël so that women would no longer have to go down to the Moselle river to do their washing. It remained in use until the 2000s.



15 The Porte en Mi

This gate once separated the high and low parts of the town. It wasn't until the 19th century that the fortified enclosure began to deteriorate. Evidence of its location and thickness can still be seen today.

16 The former town hall

This building was constructed in 1887 to replace the former "Maison de la Commune" on Place de la Fontaine. The gabled façade features the town's coat of arms and decorative elements evoking nature and the honours bestowed on Liverdun's residents since the Middle Ages.

The "Côte-au-Laye" or "La Grimpette" is a steep hill that was once used to connect the high and low parts of the town. It retains its name today, even after steps were installed to make the climb easier, first in 1910 and then in 2005.

18 Château Corbin

The original château was built in 1837 by a banker (its owner) on two former towers of the mediaeval fortress. It was subsequently completely destroyed by fire and its thenowner, Eugène Corbin, had the château rebuilt in 1904.



12 Canons' houses

There are many examples of these remarkable houses in Liverdun, which were once occupied by canons. The facades of these wealthy Renaissance-style houses, with coats of arms and ornamentation, can still be seen today.

20 St Pierre Church

Originally a Romanesque church, it was built from 1184 onwards by Pierre de Brixey. It was ravaged by fire during the siege of 1467 and was subsequently restored on several occasions. It houses the tomb of Saint Eucharius.



21 The curate's house

This former canon's house was bestowed upon the curate in 1715. A remarkable Renaissanceera building, it retains its screw staircase and stone-mullioned windows.

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After Lorraine was united with France, Liverdun then lost its strategic role and importance. In the middle of the 19th century, big works gave

life to the town.

In 1840, the digging of the canal from the river Marne to the river Rhine, required the creation of important architectural works: a tunnel under the village and a canal-bridge. In 1850, the railroad Paris-Strasbourg crossed the town. It thus became an important industrial town with mines, an iron factory, a jam factory...

However, the site remained attractive with its beaches, its restaurants and "quinquettes".

The Corbin family, sponsors of the new artistic movement "Ecole de Nancy", owned two residences in Liverdun: the "domain de la Garene (Warren)", nowadays "Domaine des Eaux Bleues", and the Corbin castle, sold in 1925 to Henri Galilée, an art collector who accumulated an impressive collection of masterpieces, among which those of Modigliani, Dufy, and Maillol... In 1963, these works were bequeathed to the "Musée des Beaux Arts" in Nancy.

The loops of the river Moselle are one of the most remarkable natural sites of Lorraine

The lovers of nature and tourists enjoying the river are seduced by the forests, the walks along the banks of the river Moselle. Liverdun's site used to be called the "pearl of Lorraine".

Those in search of its history and atmosphere will never grow weary of the strolls along the medieval streets of the old village. They will discover the collegiate Saint-Euchaire constructed in the 12th century, the "Place de la Fontaine" with its 16th arcades and its statuaries, the Renaissance architecture of the houses, the old vicarage porch with geometric decorations, the High Gate overlooking the river Moselle... while tasting what Liverdun is famous for the Madeleine cake.

Liverdun was appreciated for its art of living and still remains a privileged site to discover.