

Heritage riches

The castle of Clisson

(French listed Monument Grade I)



The Castle of Clisson was built during the XIIIth century upon a rocky height at a strategic point between Anjou and Poitou provinces. It stands for a synthetic work of military architecture. There can be studied the special characteristics of each period and the evolution of a defensive site concept.

It belonged among others to Oliver V of Clisson (1336-1407), great Constable of France. It belonged then to François II of Brittany (Father of Anne of Brittany) who modified its structure to reinforce it as a powerful stronghold and a princely residence.

The Castle has been assaulted many times. During the the XVIth C religion war . and during the civil war of Western France in which it has been totally burnt.

In 1807, Frédéric Lemot purchased this monument and undertook a first restoration.

Information : Open every day except on Tuesday.

Guided visits on request for groups (33) 240 547 585

Guided visits in french every day except on Tuesday at 4 pm for individuals in july and august.. every Sunday at 4 pm the rest of the year.

The covered market

((French listed Monument Grade I))

Located in the very heart of the city it dates back from the XVth C.. Used as a withdrawal shelter during the war of Vendée, it avoided thus being burnt with the Fire of the city in september 1793. It has been perpetuating the lively tradition of the market for five centuries under the oak and chestnut framework



St James Church

(French listed Monument Grade II)

It dates from the Xth or XIth C.. A benedictine priory at the beginning which became a resting place for the pilgrims on the to St James in Spain.. In that very church the people of Clisson written their « list of grievances » in 1789 .After the Revolution it became a pagan temple. It has been recently restored and embellished with a medieval garden beside. Since 2004 it has being used as a concert hall and exhibition gallery.



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The church of Trinity

(French listed Monument Grade II)

It dates from the XIth C. Formerly a priory which benedictine nuns from Fontevraud transformed into a convent in the XVIIth C. From those periods remain XIth C romanic pillars a XIIth C towerbell and XVII th C counter Reformation style retable and archways.



The templars chapel

((French listed Monument Grade I))

Located in a borough apart, it dates from the end of the XIIth C. It was the element of the templars commandary which owned also a manor, cultivated and a graveyard.

Information : Each year a printingworks workshop and an exhibition about paperpulp industry takes place from june to september. Guided animation french on request for groups (33) 240 540 295



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Valley bridge

((French listed Monument Grade I))

Dating from the Middle Ages it first had a drawing bridge replaced lateron by a wooden footbridge. The valley bridge was erected upon the river Sevre by Richard of Etampes (Ann of Brittany's Grandfather) in order to connect the boroughs of saint Anthony and Trinity to the old city of CLISSON. Its wooden parts have been replaced in the XIXth C. It has got six irregular arches and five massive piers with spurs.



Saint Anthony's bridge

((French listed Monument Grade I))

It was the main crossing point on the road from Nantes to Poitiers the Middle Ages.

river Moine flows underneath its XVth C Gothic arches and a unique pier with a spur.. It is located at the confluence of this river the river Sevre.



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