

EVENTS in 2010

A rendezvous with emotions



With fairs, concerts, historic festivals, summer activities, conferences, exhibitions and debates, the calendar of events for tourists is going to be very full in 2010. A place of honour will be given this year to artistic creativity: Port en Bessin will celebrate Impressionists, whilst Bayeux will become the scene for a new show of architectural projections... Events that should not be missed and emotions to be shared will be all in store!

SUMMARY

1. Summer events

- New Son et Lumière show at the Cathedral
- Musical tours of Old Bayeux
- Fireworks displays at the Vauban Tower
- Nature rambles in Bessin

2. New events

- Water Festival
- Festival "Impressionists in Normandy", Port en Bessin
- Rain Festival
- Exhibition "Le Violet de Bayeux"

3. Key events

- D-Day Festival Normandy
- Medieval Festival in Bayeux
- Festival "Calvados de Rock"
- Prix Bayeux-Calvados for war correspondants
- Festival "Le Goût du Large"



New

Son et Lumière at the Cathedral

For the first time this year, the city of Bayeux offers a show of architectural projections to match its exceptional historical patrimony. The rendezvous is at dusk, this summer, on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, around the Cathedral and in the courtyard of Hôtel du Doyen. Very different from traditional son et lumière shows, this contemporary artistic creation offers a new outlook upon the monuments, thanks to ultra modern des techniques in video-projection and sound management. A show not to be missed!
More info: www.bessin-normandie.com



Musical tours of Old Bayeux

An unusual way to get acquainted with the riches of Bayeux patrimony! In the Summer, on Mondays and Wednesdays, the Tourist Office offers musical guided tours of the old town. At nightfall and in a magical atmosphere, the lecturer-guide leads visitors through winding medieval alleyways, recounting 2000 years of Bayeux history and anecdotes. Here and there, in the courtyard of a beautiful town house, or on a street corner, musicians appear in the moonlight, their symphonies overcoming the visitors with emotion.
More info: Bayeux Tourist Office 02.31.51.28.28

Fireworks display at the Vauban Tower

Every Friday night this summer, the Vauban Tower in Port en Bessin will become the scene for a fireworks display. This festive event is the opportunity to sample fresh fish and sea food in the heart of a charming fishing village before watching one of the most beautiful display of pyrotechnics on the Normandy coastline.
More info: Port en Bessin Tourist Office
Tel: 02.31.22.45.80



Nature rambles in Bessin

Along the sea shore or in the marshlands, in the forest or the countryside, the great diversity of Bessin landscapes offers many ideas for nature rambles and outings. Several tourist offices propose different themes for families and friends: geological or ornithological walks along the cliffs of Omaha Beach, visits to oyster farms in the Baie des Veys, outings in a canoe in the "Parc Naturel Régional des marais", guided tours of the fishing harbour or along the seashore of Port en Bessin, or walks in the forest of Cerisy to discover local biodiversity... This summer, it is all about taking a refreshing break!
More info: www.bessin-normandie.com



New events



Water Festival

6th to 17th May 2010



Le Dit de l'Eau

For its 7th edition, the Water Festival will take place in Bessin, in the village of Colombiers sur Seules. The Norman association "Le Dit de l'Eau", the organiser of the festival, endeavours to develop in an original way our natural and cultural water heritage, through Science and Art. There will be interactive and censorial activities on the theme of water management, as well as a narrated walk along the river. A concert of classical music with poetry reading will also be on the programme

Plus d'infos : www.leditdeleau.fr

Rain Festival

10th July to 16th August 2010

Creating a Festival of contemporary Art in Normandy, with rain as a theme was a daring idea! A new and surprising outdoor exhibition awaits visitors keen to discover unusual spaces and creations. From the historical coastline to the charming village streets of Normandy, contemporary art finds its showcase under giant umbrellas, guiding the visitors through this unusual exhibition. For 5



weeks, no less than thirty artists, photographers, sculptors, graffiti artists and even dress-makers will present their work along the coast of Normandy

(Arromanches, Courseulles) and in villages of the Bessin-Seules area. The city of Bayeux will also have its exhibition: during the Festival "Impressionists in Normandy 2010", contemporary photographers will invest the Chapel of the Tapestry Museum, paying tribute to aquafortist Félix Buhot.

More info: www.grandecart.org

In the footsteps of Seurat and Signac

19th and 20th June 2010

Port en Bessin landscapes inspired many artists, and particularly impressionists. Georges Seurat and Paul Signac were two of them. Signac was the first to come to Port en Bessin. Captivated by the distinctive charm of the harbour, he stayed in the village on three occasions and painted 14 canvasses. He invited Seurat to paint the extraordinary light of Port en Bessin, saying: "Come, it's beautiful!". Seurat produced 6 paintings, among which *l'entrée dans l'avant port à Port en Bessin* (Museum of Modern Art, New York). Guided tours will be organized to retrace the artists' footsteps, and a painting competition will take place in the open air during the Festival "The Impressionists in Normandy" on 19th and 20th June 2010. Open to both budding and accomplished artists.

More info: Centre culturel de Port en Bessin

Tel: 02.31.21.92.33 – port.en.bessin@wanadoo.fr

"Violet de Bayeux"

One colour, many artists

19th June to 19th September 2010

Until now, the existence of the colour "Bayeux Violet" had vanished from history. The team of le RADAR, a contemporary art gallery in Bayeux, has started to search its origins, but have not yet revealed all its mysteries. In order to bring "Bayeux Violet" to its former glory, le RADAR has called upon a team of artists to create a new identity for the colour. An exhibition presenting the original works of the artists will take place all summer long at le RADAR. Many key personalities have accepted to participate: Claude Viallat, a colourist in the wake of Matisse, Sarkis, a conceptual artist well known for his installations, Jean-Michel Othoniel, sculptor of "Jaune de Soufre", Jean Le Gac, Joël Hubaut, Claude Rutault and Jacques Villeglé...

More info: www.le-radar.fr



Key events

D-Day Festival Normandy

5th and 6th June 2010



On 6th June 1944, the Allies landed on the Normandy beaches. The 4th edition of the D-Day festival, organised by the Bayeux Tourist Office, commemorates the triumphal arrival of the liberators. For the 66th anniversary of the landings, the D-Day Festival will see its usual programme completed with a selection of

festive events in the legendary D-Day landings' sector, from Bayeux to Sainte-Mère-Eglise, from Arromanches to Longues-sur-Mer and Omaha Beach... On the programme: Parachute landings, a musical fireworks display, a picnic, a walk in the footsteps of the liberators, plays, Battle of Normandy bookfair, liberation ball and a concert.

More info: Bayeux Tourist Office Tel: 02.31.51.28.28

Medieval Festival in Bayeux

3rd and 4th July 2010

On the first week-end of July, Bayeux dons its finest, and takes you back to the Middle Ages. In the animated streets, dotted with numerous stalls, an encounter with



jugglers, jesters, minstrels and knights awaits visitors.

For the 24th edition of the Bayeux Medieval Festival, on the programme there will be: medieval markets,

street performances, demonstrations by knights, a book fair and colourful street parades. All around the Cathedral and in the paved streets of the old town, merry-making is guaranteed!

More info: www.mairie-bayeux.fr

Festival "Calvados de Rock"

6th and 7th August 2010

In the rural setting of the "Ferme de Sully" near Bayeux, this festival is the opportunity to discover up-and-coming artists. For the last 10 years, the festival has presented an alternative rock scene. Once again this year, all rock styles will be represented, with an outstanding cast of bands: the group Revolver with their hit 'Get around town', the whimsical Belgian singer Arno, and the group Pigalle will be on stage on August 6th and 7th.

More info: www.mairie-bayeux.fr

Prix Bayeux-Calvados for war correspondents

4th to 9th October 2010

First town liberated in France in 1944, Bayeux launched this prize in 1994, to pay tribute to journalists and war correspondents who, at the risk of their lives, open for us a window on the world. During that week: exhibitions, public screenings, book fairs and debates will be held. The closing evening will be an opportunity to discuss the burning issues of the moment, and to reward the best reports.

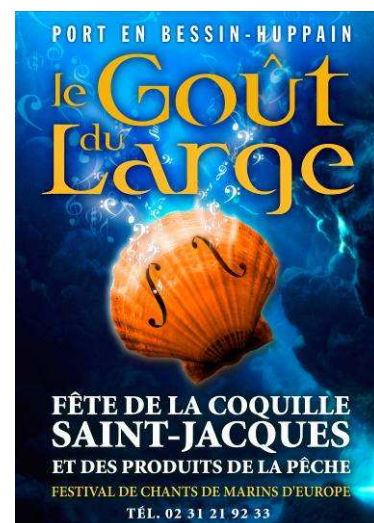
More info: www.prixbayeux.org

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Le Goût du Large

13th and 14th November 2010

Hosted in Port en Bessin, the Festival is the opportunity to immerge yourself in true maritime tradition! Every year in November, the charming fishing village celebrates the return of scallops to the docks at Bessin. On the programme during the two days of the festival "Le Goût du Large": the European Festival of Maritime songs, sampling of sea food with also



special menus featuring scallops in the restaurants. The professional fish market will be open to the public on this occasion, for the purchase of freshly caught scallops.

More info: Centre culturel de Port en Bessin

Tel: 02.31.21.92.33 – port.en.bessin@wanadoo.fr

Thematic Page: Events 2010, a rendezvous with emotions !

Contact press: Commission Pôle Touristique du Bessin - Fanny GARBE 02 31 51 28 24 fgarbe@bessin-normandie.com