

# Metz, Living Art and the Art of Living



## Press kit 2011

### Contacts:

Joëlle KIFFER

/ [jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr)

Valentine VERNIER

/ [vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr)

Tel: 00 33 (0)3 87 55 53 71/77

Fax: 00 33 (0)3 87 75 11 41

Office de Tourisme de Metz Cathédrale

2 Place d'Armes

57000 Metz

Tel: 00 33 (0)3 87 55 53 76



# Contents

**Metz: Facts & Figures**

**Metz: Driving its own Development**

**Metz: Styles – Urbanity & Quality**

**Centre Pompidou-Metz**

**Living Art in Metz**

**Metz Quality Labels**

**Beach Games, Water & Sailing Activities**

**Garden Trends**

**Metz Events & Entertainment: Agenda**

**Metz, an Urban and Metropolitan Network Hub**

**Metz Who's Who: A Portrait Gallery**

**Shopping in Metz**

**Gour'Metz & Gastronomy**

**Metz Tourism Quality Project**

**Destination Metz: City Pass & City Breaks**

## Demographic Data

Metz: 127,500 inhabitants (intra muros)  
Metz Metropolitan Area: 40 municipalities – 230,000 inhabitants  
Metz regional area: 344,189 inhabitants  
Urbanized Area: 430,000 inhabitants

## Motorway access

Paris – Strasbourg (A4)  
Luxembourg – Lyon (A31)  
Paris – Frankfurt (A4)

## 6 local airports

Metz-Nancy Lorraine (scheduled flights):

- Air Algérie
- Air France
- Twin Jet

Luxembourg (international airport)  
Saarbrücken (scheduled flights)  
Strasbourg –Entzheim (international airport)  
Frankfurt Hahn (low-cost flights)  
Zweibrücken (low-cost flights)

## Railway network

### TGV EST (high-speed train) direct Paris - Metz

Lorraine TGV Train Station providing direct links to Nantes, Rennes, Roissy Charles de Gaulle Airport, Lille, Bordeaux.

## Waterways

Moselle River Links to: Canal de l'Est, Marne to Rhine Canal, Moselle-Meuse

The new port of Metz:

- 1<sup>st</sup> grain-carrying river port in France
- 6<sup>th</sup> French river port

(Source: *Voies Navigables de France*)

## Education

### Paul Verlaine University – Metz (UPV-M)

- 14,231 students
- 11 divisions: 6 research and training units (UFRs), 3 technological university institutes (IUTs), 2 university departments.
- 2 campuses
- 7 doctoral schools
- Research: 27 laboratories including 4 CNRS-partnershiped
- The UPV-M is part of the Socrates – Erasmus Programmes. A partnership incorporating 152 higher education establishments in 24 countries. 90 theses backed every year.

**Higher Education Establishments:** Ecole Nationale d'Ingénieurs de Metz (**ENIM**), Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Arts et Métiers (**ENSAM**), Ecole Supérieure Internationale de Commerce (**ESIDEC**), Ecole Supérieure d'Ingénieurs des Travaux de la Construction (**ESITC**), Georgia Tech Lorraine, Ecole Supérieure d'Electricité (**SUPÉLEC**), Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers (**CNAM**), Conservatoire à Rayonnement Régional "Gabriel Pierné" (**C2R**), Ecole Supérieure d'Art de Lorraine (**ESAL**), Institut Régional d'Administration (**IRA**), l'Institut supérieur franco-allemand de techniques, d'économie et de sciences (**ISFATES**)

## Economy

The Metz Metropolitan Area totals:

- 14,570 companies
- 106,000 contracted workers
- 390,000 m<sup>2</sup> of commercial premises

## Tourism in Metz and its surrounding area

Urban tourism (historical & cultural heritage, main tourist sites)

A wide variety of theme-based discovery tours of Metz *intra muros* from the Gallo-Roman period to the present day. thermal baths, ramparts, Porte des Allemands, medieval buildings, St Pierre aux Nonnains, St Etienne Cathedral (housing the largest collection of stained-glass windows in Europe), 18<sup>th</sup> century squares, the Imperial district, the future Amphitheatre district and the state-of-the-art Centre Pompidou-Metz.

Garden tourism (La Seille Park, Botanical Gardens, Ile du Saulcy Park, Tanneurs Gardens, Garden of the 5 Senses, Grange aux Bois Park, Pas du Loup Park, The Esplanade, Symphonie and Ariane Lake Gardens, Boundary-free Garden at the Home of Robert Schuman, Boundary-free Garden at the Château de Pange, Jouy Canal Promenades, the Moselle and Seille River-banks, 408 km of nature treks around Metz)

River Tourism & water activities: Marina and boat stopover, fishing and street fishing

Sports-activity tourism (tennis, golf, cycling, hiking & trekking)

Events tourism (Flea markets, Art-Metz, Summer Book Fair, Metz Celebration – Magical Summer, Metz Beach, 'Mirabelle' Plum Festival, Hot-air Ballooning Festival, 'Nuit Blanche' – All-Night Celebrations, St Nicolas, Christmas markets, Light Procession)

Memorial tourism (numerous sites to visit including Fort Queuleu)

Technical tourism: Metz Electrical Power Station, stained-glass workshops, Républicain Lorrain newspaper, Moselle Mirabelle brandy and wine producers.

## Museums / Cultural sites

Centre Pompidou-Metz  
Cour d'Or Museums in Metz  
Robert Schuman's home in Scy Chazelles  
Roman aqueduct in Jouy aux Arches  
Fortified churches throughout the Metz region

Mont St Quentin: ecological & pedagogical nature park  
Marina and boat stopover: in Metz & Olgy, sailing & water activities.

## Accommodation in Metz & Metz Metropolitan Area

Metz Metropolitan Area Hotels: 36 hotels (including 29 in Metz, see the Metz Hotels section below)

(1\*\*\*\* - 79 rooms/ 8\*\*\* - 593 rooms/ 18\*\* - 944 rooms/ 2\* - 81 rooms/ 6 0-star -370 rooms/ 1 NC – 64 rooms), total capacity 2,131 rooms

Including Metz City Hotels: 29 hotels

(1\*\*\*\* - 79 rooms/ 7\*\*\* - 552 rooms/ 15\*\* - 730 rooms/ 1\* - 21 rooms/ 5 NC 303 rooms), total capacity 1,685 rooms

Campsites: 1 campsite (Metz Municipal Campsite \*\*\*\*)

Collective accommodation: 4 establishments (including 2 youth hostels)

Furnished rental accommodation: 3 establishments (including 2 in Metz)

Hotel residences: 8 establishments

Self-catering accommodation & B&B: 20 establishments (including 8 self-catering)

Metz marina: 100 berths:

Scy Chazelles boat stopover: 130 berths

## Accommodation & restaurants in Metz & surrounding area

Restaurants: 258 Restaurants  
1 Michelin Red Guide star restaurant  
*Le Magasin aux Vivres\**  
25 '*Tables de Rabelais*' partner establishments including 16 restaurants, 4 winegrowers, 1 Mirabelle brandy distillery, 4 catering professionals

## Visitor Figures 2010

Tourist Office: 622,000 customer contacts (+ 62% / 2009)  
Cour d'Or Museum: 47,000 visitors  
Centre Pompidou-Metz: 600,000 visitors from 12/05 to 31/12/2010  
Metz Exhibition Park: 800,000 visitors  
Tourist Office guided tours: 40,000 customers

## Stay-overs 2010:

Hotel occupancy rate: between 64 and 80% depending on the months  
Marina: 1,330 night moorings  
Campsites: 38,439 nights

## Breakdown of foreign visitors to the Tourist Office

(= 44% visitors)

German	54.82%
Benelux	23.85%
British	5.69%
Southern European	5.01%
American (mainly North American)	3.7%
Asian	1.92%
Others	5.01%

## Breakdown of French visitors to the Tourist Office

(= 56% visitors)

Greater North-East region	54.23%
Paris Ile de France	22.71%
Greater West region	9.01%
PACA /Rhône Alpes	7.65%
Centre France	5.82%
Corsica / DOM-TOM	0.58%

## Overall breakdown of visitors to the Tourist Office

Lorraine/Moselle	34.80%
Germany	24.19%
France other regions (including 5.95% Paris IdF)	21.07%
Benelux	10.52%
British	2.51%
Southern European	2.21%
American	1.63%
Central Eur. / Russian	1.14%
Others	1.07%
Asian	0.86%

## Tourist Reception & Infopoints

Metz Cathédrale Tourist Office: Place d'Armes  
"Ici et Là": Metz Tourist Office and Centre Pompidou-Metz co-managed space.

## Certification & Quality Labels

Tourist Office (TO) certified: AFNOR NF Services CERTIFICATION for Reception & Information Services since 1997  
TO Quality Label for Tourism Quality since November 2005  
TO Quality Label for Tourism & Handicap since January 2005  
Registered National Intellectual Property Institute  
Trademark: "Tables de Rabelais" since 2006

## Metz Tourist Office national & international network memberships

Atout France City Tourism Club  
National Urban Tourism Standing Conference (*Conférence Permanente Nationale du Tourisme Urbain - CNPTU*)  
FNOTSI, FROTSI Lorraine, UDOTSI Moselle  
Member of the National Quality Committee  
Sillon Lorrain (grouping together Thionville, Metz, Nancy and Epinal), Tourism Working Group  
QuattroPole Cross-border City Network since 2000 (grouping together 4 cities / 3 countries: Luxembourg, Metz, Saarbrücken, Trier)  
Lela + Cross-border City Network since 2007 (grouping together 6 cities / 3 countries: Luxembourg, Esch-sur-Alzette, Longwy, Arlon, Metz and Thionville).

## Metz Cathédrale Tourist Office Opening Times:

Public opening times: 7/7 & 365 days/year  
Mondays to Saturdays from 9 am to 7 pm non-stop  
Sundays & public holidays (April-Sept.) from 10 am to 5 pm  
Sundays & public holidays (Oct.-March) from 10 am to 3 pm

## Metz Tourist Office Mission & Services

\*RECEPTION face-to-face and remote (tel - fax - email)  
\*INFORMATION (brochure publishing - databases - info-columns - Powerpoint slideshows - Internet - touchscreens)  
\*PROMOTION - COMMUNICATION - PRESS - PR (trade fairs - workshops - direct marketing campaigns - press relations - press receptions - inserts - public relations)  
\*ACTIVITIES (mediation, developing heritage tourism - guided and audio-guided tours - conferences - round tables - coordinating partner and service provider networks)  
\*MARKETING (destination management activity: development and sale of holidays - group & individual packages - guided tours - ticketing)  
\*TOURISTIC COORDINATION (interface between public & private bodies, between local authorities & tourism professionals, implementing the Local Tourism Quality Project / enhancing reception services)  
\*Local mini observatory for tourist traffic

## Metz Cathédrale Tourist Office Staff

20 full-time employees + 15 guides

## Metz Cathédrale Tourist Office Legal Status

Association created under the 1908 French Act.

# Metz: Driving its own Development

## Metz, at the heart of Europe

With its 430,000 residents, the city of Metz is the epicentre of the major traffic networks that link the North of Europe with the Mediterranean and the Atlantic coast with Eastern Europe. Located at the very heart of the continent, Metz has been a privileged centre for exchange and trade since ancient times; bordering with Germany, Belgium and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, together they are the driving forces of a unified Europe.

Metz est au cœur de réseaux européens transfrontaliers :

- **QuattroPole**, réunissant (en moyenne) à moins d'une heure les unes des autres, les métropoles de Luxembourg, Metz, Sarrebruck et Trèves.
- **LELA +**, regroupant les villes de Luxembourg, Esch-sur - Alzette, Longwy, Arlon, Metz et Thionville.
- **Sillon Lorrain**, réseau regroupant les villes d'Épinal, Nancy, Metz et Thionville.

## Culture, engraved in golden letters

Metz offers the visitor an infinite choice of exclusive cultural discoveries.

The *Arsenal*, refurbished by Ricardo Bofill, is home to one of the most exquisite concert halls in Europe, with its unparalleled acoustics and sumptuous beech and sycamore marquetry interior. Predilection for the National Orchestra of Lorraine, the hall also hosts prestigious exhibitions.

A shrine to lyric art, the Opera-Theatre is a treasure that has been entertaining since 1752.

Other cultural sites in Metz include the *Cour d'Or Museums*, the *Trinitaires*, Saint-Pierre-aux-Nonnains, *Rabelais' home*, an extensive range of art galleries and the Regional Foundation of Contemporary Art (*FRAC*) whose original decors set the scene for various artistic performances. A prodigious event: the inauguration of the Centre Pompidou-Metz, on 12 May 2010, a cathedral of contemporary art, twinned with the Centre Pompidou in Paris, offers a journey of discovery into artistic creation in all its forms and invites the visitor to delight in its multidisciplinary and innovational events programme.

## An open book of history

Capital of the Lorraine region, Metz is overflowing with treasures dating back to Gallo-Roman times: thermal baths and scenes of daily life of the times, displayed in the Cour d'Or Museums, and the Saint-Pierre-aux-Nonnains Abbey, one of the oldest churches in France.

Metz went on to become the birthplace of the Carolingian dynasty and, gradually developed into a European bastion of art and culture. The incomparable reputation of its schools and craftsmen's guilds, its countless medieval religious and civil buildings, including the Saint-Etienne Cathedral (incontestably the most outstanding), illustrate the city's artistic and religious influence throughout Europe.

Metz became part of the Holy Roman Germanic Empire in the 10<sup>th</sup> century. It went on to become a Republic, experiencing great prosperity until the 15<sup>th</sup> century. In 1552, the city welcomed Henry II, King of France, who decided to settle there. The city later became the capital of the Province of the Three Bishoprics. In 1648, it was permanently attached to the Kingdom of France. During the 18th century, Metz was coloured by classicism and created sumptuous and emblematic architectural ensembles: the Place d'Armes (where the Cathedral Tourist Office and the City Hall are located), the Place de la Comédie (Opera-Theatre), the Place de la République and its imposing Palace of Justice. Yet, certain avatars of the war of 1870 were to radically transform the city's destiny, leaving it to deal with intense upheavals.

Metz was then annexed to Germany and a new, innovational architectural period was initiated, crowned by large-scale urban development projects. The Imperial District around the train station is an incomparable architectural compendium: Roman, Gothic, Baroque, Renaissance, Art Deco, Art Nouveau (Jugendstil); and is a flagship for illustrious examples of the contemporariness of German urban design at the end of the 19th century. The Guillaume II train station, an impressive 300-metre long structure, decorated with sculpted frescoes, symbolizing power or portraying scenes of daily life, is remarkably designed, offering both the functional and the pragmatic (platforms, glass roof, separate terminals).

## Europe, at the heart of Metz

With its unique heritage, undeniably considered as an architect's research dream, Metz captivates the visitor with its myriad of natural, cultural and architectural wealth. Historic and state-of-the-art Italian, French and German influences blend harmoniously together, offering the visitor an incomparable architectural compendium. A stroll through the historic heart of the city becomes a real journey of discovery through time. Major urban development projects, such as: the renovation of the Place de la République and of the Amphitheatre district, showcased by the Centre Pompidou-Metz (inaugurated in May 2010), and tomorrow's Mettis (reserved-lane public transport system), to be launched in 2013, reinforcing the city's dynamics.

## A unique living environment

Inspired by Jean-Marie Pelt back in the 1970s, Metz is the cradle of urban ecology, an eco-city offering 40 m<sup>2</sup> of greenery to every resident. A medley of city-centre landscapes intertwining with a remarkably preserved cultural heritage, an incontrovertible array of styles.

## Contemporary Art in Metz

Metz illustrates its dedication to contemporary art, through its new Centre Pompidou-Metz and its innovational initiatives such as *Art, Metz*, the contemporary art fair that offers the visitor the opportunity to explore all forms of expression and to purchase original works. An extensive range of art galleries host a wide variety of exhibitions and artistic performances (for more details, see the "Art in Action" datasheet).

## Leading-edge Technologies & Innovating City

A pioneering city, Metz is involved in dynamic and structuring projects for tomorrow: thanks to its centres of excellence, it is acknowledged for its research and leading-edge technologies (*Metz Technopôle*).

Metz is fully committed to developing an information society that is accessible for everyone. As a result of this twofold aspiration, the pivot of Metz's policy on implementing state-of-the-art communication technologies, the city was honoured for the 5<sup>th</sup> year running, with the "Internet Town" label, obtaining the highest ranking with 5@s.

As an innovator in new information and communication technologies, Metz was the first to equip itself with a municipal website, back in 1995. Since then, the city has pursued pilot projects, constantly offering new and innovating services that fulfil the expectations of ICT users and the city's citizens. Building on its cutting-edge networks and ever-greater numbers of Wifi hotspots throughout the main public areas, marina and campsite, Metz remains loyal to its objective of providing an information society for everyone.

Metz also collects information of general interest and publishes it over the Internet. As such, "geo.metz.fr", the city map is viewable online and offers users direct links to a wide range of services. Geometz, the map of the city, has a rate of over 7,000 visits per month, on average. With the emergence of innovative mobile phone services and wishing to extend its service offer, Metz is considering new developments, in particular as part of cross-border and Lorraine-regional initiatives. In light of the promising future for the mobile phone pay-parking project, Metz is already looking to tomorrow: for example, mobile services will be enriched and other subjects, such as innovative urban Wifi services, are currently being studied. Metz aims to develop an array of new services for all city users, regardless whether they may be residents, commuters or tourists, to make the city simple and easy and even more appealing.

## Popular festivities & Annual Events

During the summer season, *Metz en Fête* organizes a series of open-air concerts and entertainment, which blend harmoniously into the various urban decors of the different districts of the city and bring together spectators from all walks of life and of all ages.

*Metz Plage*, the city's summer beach, created in the very heart of Metz, offers magical getaway moments of leisure. The Mirabelle Plum Festival (*Fêtes de la Mirabelle*) is the occasion to celebrate this deliciously sweet, golden fruit.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> largest flea market in France after Saint-Ouen, takes up residence in Metz for fifteen dates per year (Saturdays or Sundays) and attracts crowds of French and international customers.

The *Antiques Fair*, the *Second-Hand Fair* and the *Great Clearance Sale* are unique opportunities for connoisseurs, the curious and collectors to unearth some wonderful treasures.

The *Nuit Blanche* (all-night celebrations), a cultural event focusing on contemporary creations, is to be experienced in Metz at the beginning of October. *Metz Marathon*, which took place for the first time in 2010, was such a success that the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition will be held in 2011.

The Light Procession, the Saint-Nicolas celebrations and the Christmas Market are highly-popular, highly-anticipated events that attract crowds of customers from throughout Europe.

## Gastronomy & Art of Living

*A pleasure for the tastebuds...* in one of France's most culinary-honoured Departments, Metz offers the visitor exceptional gastronomy, distinguished by its variety and by the talent of its chefs, including one who, once again, in 2010, was awarded a macaroon ranking in the Michelin Red Guide. A myriad of other professionals, mentioned in the *Pudlo*, *Gault & Millau* and *Bottin Gourmand* restaurant guides, have also proved their talents and creativity.

This, combined with the production of local and regional wines, whose notoriety is constantly gaining ground (AOC labelled since 2010), the absolute excellence of caterers and food professionals (known for their inspirational ideas in their respective professional bodies), and a Lorraine region production of world-renowned Mirabelle plums, supplying 70% of global markets, are just a few of the reasons why Metz figures as a centre of gastronomy excellence. The "*Tables de Rabelais*", which pay tribute to the illustrious Metz resident, connoisseur of good food, are the hallmarks of gastronomy for the 6th year running.

**Press Contacts:** Joëlle KIFFER / Valentine VERNIER

Office de Tourisme de Metz, 2 place d'Armes, 57007 Metz

Tel: +33 (0)3 87 55 53 71 / 77 Fax: +33 (0)3 87 75 11 41

Email: [jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr) / [vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr)

# Metz: Styles – Urbanity & Quality

## Lights

Dazzling under the amber-hued appearance of its Jaumont limestone, the city becomes a performer of light at night, under the beams of 13,000 spotlights. Along the banks of the Moselle River, where the Temple Neuf reflects on the water, up to the Sainte-Croix hill, where Sainte-Ségolène's spires dominate the skyline, on to Saint-Etienne Cathedral, sublimated under "the light of God", then over to the magnificent arcades of St Louis Square, to the Opera Theatre, the Theatre of the Imperial Train Station, Metz invites the visitor to stroll, to adventure through intimate night-time urban landscapes.

Laureate of the French Grand Award for its lights, Metz is an outstandingly dazzling city.

## Shades of blue, shades of green...

Embraced by the waters of the Moselle and the Seille, Metz nestles among 32 kilometres of riverbank pathways that appear suddenly and unexpectedly everywhere throughout the city. The marina, honoured with a European Blue Flag, anchored in the historic heart of this urban landscape, offers its green and aquatic settings, a lakeside holiday spot in an urban backdrop. A relaxing, out-of-time boat trip along the river unveils an unexpected vista of a city, a melody of honey and soft pastel hues. A discovery of nature living freely, of urban wanderings, interspersed with gardens, a myriad of medieval, French-style, landscaped and state-of-the-art. Just around a corner, "Recollets", "Tanneurs", "Esplanade", "Régates" ... havens of greenery, invitations encouraging moments of pleasure and relaxation. The Seille Park, designed as an eco-friendly prelude to the future Amphitheatre District, is part of the project offering each resident 40 m<sup>2</sup> of greenery, promoting the city's image as a cradle of urban ecology, initiated by Jean-Marie Pelt.

**Metz, shades of blue, shades of green, pure second nature!**

## Quality of life, city quality, innovational urbanity

Life is just so good in Metz, it's one of the best places to live!

A people-oriented, human-sized city, comprising 127,000 *intra muros* residents and 400,000 throughout the agglomeration, metropolitan Metz has something for everyone: residents, newcomers, students, stop-over travellers, tourists.

Thanks to its exceptional cross-border location, it has become an incontrovertible gateway for exchange and trade, welcoming an array of influences that can be seen in its architecture, its culture, and in the diversity and mobility of its populations.

Nature weaves its way through the urban fabric, perpetually creating ever-so-attractive, seasonally-changing living environments for those who adopt the city as their own, for a short visit, a day, or for a lifetime. Everything you could wish for is there... sports, culture, relaxation and places for festive celebrations.

The city invites the traveller, the tourist, the visitor to stay a while and to discover. The tourism offering prioritizes richness and originality through:

- ever-changing showcasing and living heritage (theme-based tours, out-of-the-ordinary itineraries, rallies, discovery trails and much more);
- a collective continuous improvement strategy by grouping together professionals under the flagship of the Tourist Office; the Local Tourism Quality Project, a tool to help professionals integrate new touristic trends, offshoot of the National Tourism Quality Project, for optimizing reception practices throughout the region;
- Privileging Art of Living through: the "Tables de Rabelais", the hallmark of gastronomy; the renown of the flea markets, the antiques fair and the local markets; the quality of the city squares and café terrace atmospheres; the extensive range of shopping options, where leading brand names, small boutiques and commercial galleries blend harmoniously together; the reputation of annual celebrations: the Light Procession, the Christmas Market, the Mirabelle Plum Festival (*Fêtes de la Mirabelle*), the Hot-air Ballooning Festival, the Nuit Blanche (all-night celebrations); the range of sporting events: the Metz Marathon, the Moselle Open, Handball championships, various tournaments and competitions, the triathlon and marathon; the wide choice of leisure and fun-filled activities in the very heart of the city: the marina, the lake and "Metz Beach".

## Living Art and the Art of Living in Metz

## Not to be missed ...

**The Imperial District:** this unique and fully-preserved example of end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century Germanic urban planning, offers a compendium of historic and contemporary styles to discover: Roman, Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque, Art-Deco and Jungendstil.

**The Porte des Allemands and the city ramparts:** The Porte des Allemands, an authentic miniature fort bridging the Seille River, is one of jewels of the medieval rampart vestiges, which form a 7 km enclosure, interspersed with 18 gateways and 38 towers.

**The city squares:** Renovated squares in the heart of the city, like the Place de Chambre (known as Metz's Gourmand Square), the Place d'Armes (18<sup>th</sup> century), the medieval Place Saint-Louis, the Place de la République, inaugurated in November 2010, offering wide open spaces and conviviality. Throughout the year a variety of events transform these squares into vibrant, dynamic meeting and sharing places.

The **Moselle quayside**, the **Seille riverbanks**, the **marina** and "**Metz Plage**" (the beach)

13<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century **stained-glass windows** (designed by Marc Chagall, Jean Cocteau and Jacques Villon...) adorn numerous religious buildings, including **St Etienne Cathedral**, 'the light of God', housing the largest collection of stained-glass windows in Europe (6,500 m<sup>2</sup> of glass);

The festive atmosphere of the district markets and the **covered market** which propose an extensive selection of local and regional specialities and invite the visitor on a taste experience;

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> largest flea market in France** (after Saint-Ouen), takes up residence in Metz for fifteen dates per year (scheduled on Saturday or Sunday mornings).

**The gardens:** Récollets, Esplanade, Tanneurs, Seille Park, Pas du Loup Park (ornithological visits)

## Festive & Sportive

Open to the world, accessible to all, vibrant and festive, Metz welcomes you at any time of the year. With its wonderful culture agenda, its events held in exceptional sites (the Arsenal, the Opera-Theatre, Trinitaires, etc.), interspersed with renowned popular festivities (the Christmas Market, the Mirabelle Plum Festival (*fêtes de la Mirabelle*), the Hot-air Ballooning Festival, the Nuit Blanche (all-night celebrations), the Light Procession), Metz also privileges the passion for sport with events in the Saint-Symphorien Stadium, the Moselle Open, the Metz marathon ... from the Roman Amphitheatre to the state-of-the-art Arena, Metz celebrates its age-old passion for entertainment.

## Metz, a moving, grooving city!

## Architecture and heritage

Vibrant European hub, discovering Metz is like being captivated by a book of history.

From Gallo-roman times to the present day, centuries-old heritage reveals itself, sublimated by the Jaumont stone: a journey through the antique thermal baths and the medieval heritage of the Cour d'Or Museums, on to the 'light of God' that illuminates the city with its precious treasures created by Chagall, adventuring through the medieval and renaissance ensembles, elegant squares and 18<sup>th</sup> century homes, the myriad of architectural designs in the Imperial District and its outstanding Guillaume II Train Station ... Metz embraces a myriad of styles, of elements, materials and colours. Its ever-breathing, ever-living heritage encompasses tomorrow's state-of-the-art with a urban wonder, a cathedral of contemporary art, the Centre Pompidou-Metz, an ambitious site designed exclusively for discovering artistic creation in all its forms.

## Metz, a magnificent patchwork of history and of styles!

### Events & Festivities in 2011

- Art, Metz, regional art fair from 1<sup>st</sup> to 4 April
- Summer Book Fair, from 15 to 17 April
- Passages Festival from 5 to 22 May
- Art in Gardens – from July to September
- 'Metz en fête' – from beginning of July to end of August
- 'Metz Plage' – from end of July to end of August
- Mirabelle Plum Festival – end of August
- 'Nuit Blanche' (all-night celebrations) – beginning of October
- Second-hand Fair in September
- Moselle Open – from 17 to 25 September
- Metz International Fair – beginning of October
- Metz Marathon – 16 October
- Antiques Fair - November
- Saint Nicolas and Christmas Market – end of November to end of December

**Press Contacts:** Joëlle KIFFER / Valentine VERNIER

Office de Tourisme de Metz, 2 place d'Armes, 57007 Metz

Tel: +33 (0)3 87 55 53 71 / 77 Fax: +33 (0)3 87 75 11 41

Email: [jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr) / [vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr)

# Centre Pompidou-Metz

## Centre Pompidou-Metz, ambitious, enterprising architecture

With its hexagonal-designed roof mirroring the hexagon shape of the building itself, the Centre Pompidou-Metz is a gigantic modular structure established around a 77-metre high central spire, a tribute to the Centre Pompidou in Paris, inaugurated in 1977.

The building covers 10,700 m<sup>2</sup> surface area, with more than 5,000 m<sup>2</sup> devoted to showcasing and exhibiting artistic creations (not including other areas such as the Forum, the restaurant terrace and the Garden, where exhibitions may take place).

### Key facts & figures

- Total surface area: 10,700 m<sup>2</sup>
- Exhibition area: 5,000 m<sup>2</sup>
- Studio: 196 seats
- Auditorium: 144 seats
- 5 technical design offices for structural and roofing feasibility studies
- Over 50 subcontracted firms for building work
- 80 on-site workers during the external structural phase
- 200 on-site workers during the finishing phase
- 3 cranes on-site for the work, including one which measured 67 m when upright
- 405 50 cm to 1 m diameter stake-piles were bored at a depth of 11 m
- 750 tons of scaffolding
- 12,000 m<sup>3</sup> of concrete (foundations and structural)
- 1,500 tons of concrete reinforcing steel
- 75,000 hours of work (structural)
- 970 tons of structural steelwork (facades and hexagonal tower)
- 650 tons of timber framework
- 18 km of planks and 16,000 components for building the wooden framework
- 8,000 m<sup>2</sup> of PTFE film

### The institution and its cultural project

The Centre Pompidou-Metz is the first ever decentralization project for a major national cultural institution, the Centre Pompidou, implemented in partnership with local authorities.

The Centre Pompidou-Metz, although twin sister of the Centre Pompidou, is fully autonomous in its scientific and cultural choices, developing its own agenda yet taking inspiration from the spirit and values of the Centre Pompidou – innovation, generosity, accessible to all, multidisciplinary – and building on its expertise, its network and its notoriety.

To advocate these values, the Centre-Pompidou-Metz benefits from a unique asset, being able to draw from the collections of the Centre Pompidou in Paris which, with around 65,000 works of art, holds the most important modern and contemporary art collection in Europe.

Although the building, designed by two architects - Shigeru Ban and Jean de Gastines, focuses on vast modular exhibition spaces that can centre-stage extremely tall and immensely-scaled pieces of work, it also includes a studio dedicated to live entertainment, as well as an auditorium, a resource centre, reception areas, a bookshop and boutique and a restaurant and café.

The Centre Pompidou-Metz was designed to offer an incomparable experience, an invitation to discover artistic creation in all its forms, a place to enjoy the wide selection of events scheduled throughout the year. Concurrently to its temporary exhibitions, the Centre Pompidou-Metz proposes a multidisciplinary programme (live entertainment, cinema, conferences, etc.), taking inspiration from its model, the Centre Pompidou in Paris. It covers all forms of creation yet focuses essentially on the themes of the exhibitions on display, as such providing an opportunity to extend the visit.

The Centre Pompidou-Metz visitor policy is the foundation of the cultural project of this institution which aims to become a place of discovery, of conviviality for everyone. The centre Pompidou-Metz also includes a wide array of events for its young public. Art discovery workshops are proposed to children and teenagers throughout the year in the Centre Pompidou-Metz. These special activities are complemented by a range of other spotlight events (Family Day, kids' entertainment, etc.).

## For 2011, the Centre Pompidou-Metz invites you to discover four temporary exhibitions:

### - Daniel Buren, *Echos*, showing from 8 May to 9 September 2011: Gallery 3

The Centre Pompidou-Metz has had a privileged relationship with Daniel Buren for the past few years, in particular through projects inspired by *Constellation* (2009), a Centre Pompidou-Metz pre-inauguration event: "5,610 coloured flames make a rainbow" (*5 610 flammes colorées pour un arc-en-ciel*), site-specific work at rue Serpenoise in Metz and "Layered Colours" (*Couleurs superposées*), a performance presented in the Metropolitan Metz Opera-Theatre in September 2009.

A year on from its inauguration, the Centre Pompidou-Metz has invited Daniel Buren to create a project specifically for its Gallery 3. This innovational project is fulfilled through a joint-invitation from the Mudam – the Grand Duke Jean Museum of Modern Art, Luxembourg and the Centre Pompidou-Metz. Daniel Buren created a site-specific work of art in the Grand Hall of the Mudam: "Architecture, Counter-Architecture": transposition" (*Architecture, contre-architecture: transposition*), on display there until May 2011. The Centre Pompidou-Metz project follows on from this proposal, with a display incorporating museographic architecture.

### - Erre showing from 11 September 2011 to 5 March 2012: Great central nave and gallery 1

Second major theme-based exhibition after "Masterpieces?", ERRE (*WANDERING*) is a collective multidisciplinary exhibition which takes the notion of the labyrinth as its starting point and goes on to address the questions of wandering, of loss, of roaming and the ways they are represented in contemporary art.

The labyrinth and the Daedal, universal, archaic forms, are approached here as expressions of complexity and duality, symbolizing both logic and chaos.

The subject is portrayed through architectural, physical and mental dimensions. The exhibition explores the labyrinth as an architectural expression and as a metaphor: conjuring up the intricacies of the mind, illustrating urban contemporariness as a place where one strays, and dealing with the constraints of bodies.

The exhibition, whose keynotes are crossing over and experience, will be divided into 8 chapters which address this theme in both conceptual and sensorial ways, a blend of an initiatory yet immersive journey.

### - Ronan & Erwan Bouroullec showing from 9 October 2011 to summer 2012: Gallery 3

The Centre Pompidou-Metz proposes the first major retrospective in France devoted to the work of Ronan and Erwan Bouroullec.

Ronan and Erwan Bouroullec, respectively graduates of the *École nationale supérieure des arts décoratifs* of Paris (*National Superior school of Decorative Arts*) and the *École nationale supérieure d'arts* of Cergy-Pontoise (*National Superior School of Arts*), began working together in 1999, focusing on an ongoing dialogue and a shared fundamental notion of diligence that would lead them to optimal balance and fineness. Today, they design for leading manufacturers such as Vitra, Magis, Alessi, Established & Sons, Axor Hansgrohe, Kartell, Kvadrat, Cappellini, Camper, Ligne Roset, whilst continuing to pursue research activities with the Galerie Kreo and occasionally work on architectural projects.

### - "Masterpieces?" until 12 September 2011

The "Masterpieces?" exhibition, which has been viewed by over 600,000 visitors since its inauguration, was showcased until 17 January in all four exhibition areas of the Centre Pompidou-Metz. The "Never-ending masterpieces" chapter, displayed in gallery 3, ended on this date.

"Tales of masterpieces" in gallery 1 and "Masterpieces in history" in the great central nave will end on 4 July 2011 and lastly "Dream masterpieces" in gallery 2 will end on 7 November 2011.

## Centre Pompidou-Metz

### Opening times

Monday: 11 am – 6 pm

Tuesday: closed

Wednesday: 11 am – 6 pm

Thursday: 11 am – 8 pm

Friday: 11 am – 8 pm

Saturday: 10 am – 8 pm

Sunday: 10 am – 6 pm

**Press Contacts:** Joëlle KIFFER / Valentine VERNIER

Office de Tourisme de Metz, 2 place d'Armes, 57007 Metz

Tel: +33 (0)3 87 55 53 71 / 77 Fax: +33 (0)3 87 75 11 41

Email: [jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr) / [vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr)

# Living Art in Metz

---

## Metz, city of art, from time immemorial to the present day

With its vivid history, its renown as birthplace of the Georgian chant, capital of culture throughout the ages, present-day Metz is dedicated to contemporary art. A vast array of activities and events showcases this endeavour.

## Events... contemporary art discoveries for everyone

*Art, Metz*, (11<sup>th</sup> edition from 1<sup>st</sup> to 04 April 2011), an occasion for contemporary art connoisseurs to revel in their favourite pastime: to admire well-known or not-so-known works, or, why not, to even enjoy the pleasure of buying. Since the very beginning, *Art, Metz* has been a privileged moment of sharing, of networking, of meeting people whilst promoting the purchase of works of art. In 2011, *Art, Metz* also played host to Chinese visitors.

Metz offers lovers of modern music and entertainment an exclusive selection of rhythmic events throughout the year, from modern music festivals like *Zikametz* and the *Musiques Volantes*, or the concerts given by the Acanthes Contemporary Music Academy, and the newcomer for 2011, the *Festival Passages* (Festival of Eastern Europe theatre troupes) from 7 to 21 May 2011. Within the next few months, the SMAC (Modern Music Concert Hall), one of the major developments of the Metz-Borny district renovation project, will be inaugurated. Comprising a 2,200 m<sup>2</sup> useable area, this building will house a concert hall, offering a variety of interchangeable layouts and a maximum standing capacity for 1,200 spectators; rehearsal areas, including three studios and a research and experiment centre, referred to as the "scene studio".

The *Nuit Blanche* (all-night celebrations), which, since its creation in 2008, has been an ongoing success, attracting more crowds every year, is an opportunity for everyone to learn about contemporary art at their own rhythm, by participating in the various artistic performances that take place around the city.

## Exceptional sites for a journey into the world of contemporary art

Metz is home to a wide variety of exhibition and showcase spaces that are regularly open to the public. The new Metz 2010 city map, published by the Tourist Office, provides detailed circuits, illustrating their locations, and gives an overview of upcoming cultural events as part of the Centre Pompidou-Metz opening. Among these is the *Regional Foundation of Contemporary Art* (FRAC), which showcases works of art from its permanent collection, as well as temporary exhibitions, works from artists in residence and artistic performances. The FRAC is located in the oldest civil building in Metz, the Hôtel Saint Livier (end of the 12<sup>th</sup> century). The names of 200 artists and authors, whose work is included in the FRAC's collections since its creation in 1983, are written on one of the walls. As these names are inscribed using whitewash, the work of art is not 'frozen' as it fades through time. The names that fade away are replaced with others; in recent months 51 names have been added to the list.

The *Faux Mouvement* gallery, the *Arsenal*, the *Ecole Supérieure d'Art de Lorraine*, and a great number of other spaces (*Chercheur d'Art*, *La montée des Marches*, *l'Atelier de Tine*, *Octave Cowbell*, etc.) offer perfect harmony to this artistic journey.

Exclusivity: *O Petit Bobourg*, a bar-gallery located at 62 rue Mazelle, is a multicultural establishment proposing concerts, exhibitions and cultural events. A "must see": the striking yet poetic "*Art in Gardens*" project, an invitation on a journey into the world of monumental-sized sculptures created by well-known artists, from July to September 2011 (for more details, see the "Agenda" datasheet).

*Metz Tourist Office* regularly adds alternatives, little extras, to their theme-based city tours for individual visitors (fixed prices and times, half-yearly schedule available at the reception desk), or for groups, upon request: 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century heritage, the Pontiffroy District, the Imperial District and the Amphitheatre ... and more.

---

**Press Contacts:** Joëlle KIFFER / Valentine VERNIER

Office de Tourisme de Metz, 2 place d'Armes, 57007 Metz

Tel: +33 (0)3 87 55 53 71 / 77 Fax: +33 (0)3 87 75 11 41

Email: [jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr) / [vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr)

# Metz Quality Labels

## Quality label strategy, accrediting the destination

For several years, the city of Metz and the Tourist Office have been developing a label strategy, aimed at promoting the qualities of Metropolitan Metz (city quality, quality of life, new urban developments).

## Metz is awarded a "Quatre Fleurs" (Four Flowers) label 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2010

Organized by the National Committee for Cities, Towns and Villages in Bloom, the aim of this label is to promote and encourage any action that favours the development of green spaces and enhances the living environment.

In 2010, the Committee paid particular attention to urban cleanliness, as was illustrated by the appeal made by the laureates for citizens to keep France clean and tidy in the face of ever-increasing decline observed throughout the country.

As such, Metz was honoured for its remarkable policy on enhancing the city.

When the National Committee Jury visited Metz, it was able to appraise to what extent Metz had illustrated its commitment to modernizing its landscape and floral displays and how it had highlighted environmental concerns.

## Initiatives & Quality Labels Awarded:

- TO Tourism & Handicap certification for 4 types of handicap – in 2005 – re-awarded in 2009
- City of Metz awarded the European Accessibility Trophy in 2007
- Metz Tourist Office re-awarded the NF Services Certification in November 2007
- Les Tables de Rabelais gastronomy hallmark created in June 2006
- Marina modernization, extension and Blue Flag Label quality award in 2007, 2008 and 2009
- City of Metz awarded the Prix National Lumière des arts de la rue (*National Street Performing Arts and City of Light Award*) in 2007
- Metz is awarded 3 stars in the Michelin Green Guide
- Application to be listed on UNESCO's world heritage sites filed for Metz's Imperial District and Train Station
- In 2010, Metz was accredited with the Quatre fleurs label (Four Flowers) by the National Committee for Cities, Towns and Villages in Bloom (Metz has been rated with four flowers since 1992)
- In January 2011, and for the 5<sup>th</sup> year running, Metz was awarded the Internet Town 5 @ label
- Project for the city of Metz to be accredited with the Ville et Pays d'Art et d'Histoire label (Towns and Lands of Art and History) in 2011
- The city of Metz is Qualicongrès certified and is Laureate of the French Grand Award for its floral displays.

## Metz is awarded the Internet Town 5@ label 20 January 2011

For the 5<sup>th</sup> year running, Metz has been awarded the "Internet Town 5@" label, the highest Internet distinction in France and, for the first time, is ranked in the top three of all labelled towns. Metz holds the record for participation: 12 times in 12 years.

This year, Metz was requested to present its "mobile phone pay-parking project", considered as a "symbol of innovation" by the "Internet Towns" jury. The city is already looking to tomorrow: Metz aims to develop an array of new services for all city users, regardless whether they may be residents, commuters or tourists, to make the city simple and easy and even more appealing.

**Press Contacts:** Joëlle KIFFER / Valentine VERNIER

Office de Tourisme de Metz, 2 place d'Armes, 57007 Metz

Tel: +33 (0)3 87 55 53 71 / 77 Fax: +33 (0)3 87 75 11 41

Email: [jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr) / [vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr)

# Beach Games, Water & Sailing Activities, Cycling treks...

## A lakeside holiday spot right in the heart of the city

Referred to as the "lake" by Metz residents, this freshwater basin is overwhelmingly favoured for all the activities it offers. It is renowned as "the place to be" for enjoying a wide range of holiday, sports and leisure activities in the very heart of the city. A blue and green interlude, an invitation to sailing, canoeing, kayaking, rowing... a place for relaxing or even for a holiday. Perfectly located, close to the Lac Aux Cygnes (Swan lake), which stages a spectacular Dancing Fountains Sound & Light Show, every weekend during summer as night falls ... a "must see" for everyone and absolutely free.

## 'Metz Plage'... a unique seaside atmosphere

A real fine, sandy beach is set up around the Lake for a month to celebrate summer. Building on the popular success of previous years (107,000 visitors in 2010), around 20,000 m<sup>2</sup> will be equipped for one month for the seaside pleasures of both young and old.

Every year, Metz Beach reserves a host of surprises for visitors, ranging from leisure activities to free entertainment. Facilities such as pools, mist sprayers, beach huts, reading kiosks, as well as a number of special facilities for persons with reduced mobility (PRM) will be constantly available.

This freely-accessible, ephemeral space is an opportunity for everyone to relax, wind-down and escape the hustle and bustle of everyday life. As for children, they will be able to enjoy themselves and have great fun in their own, specially-designed play area.

## Cycling... the joys of taking time & being free

Get the best out of Metz on a bike... cycling is the most efficient means of urban transport available. It is also optimally eco-friendly and a benefit to health: for example, bicycles will cover a short, less-than-5 km trip quicker than a car! With this in mind, the city of Metz decided to enhance Intermodality access by creating a "Cycle Plan", with the ambition of developing an "eco-mobile" city.

## A strong sense of commitment

This project requires significant financial investment: 20 million euros will be invested over a 10 year period. This will be used for:

- **Creating cycle lanes along all urban roads:** the cycle lane network will be multiplied by 2.5 and will cover 165 kilometres, compared with the current 69 kilometres, public areas will be shared, with the installation of "30 km areas" and "meeting points", which give pedestrians and cyclists priority over vehicles.
- **Developing a comprehensive, intermodal service offer:** creating park & ride facilities and exchange points, supervision in train stations and the possibility to travel on regional trains with bikes (bikes go free), without booking in advance, bike loan schemes in municipal car parks, etc.
- Multiplying fivefold the number of bike journeys by increasing inner-city bike travel by 10%.

## Quai des Régates, Blue Flag, Moselle & Seille Rivers...promoting waterside tourism

Metz is home to a marina and a lake, both located right in the heart of the city.

Just a few minutes' walk from downtown, set in idyllic natural surroundings, blending harmoniously into the urban environment; they offer city-dwellers and tourists alike the opportunity to enjoy a relaxing atmosphere and to take part in water and sports activities, or just to savour a few moments of pleasure. The facilities are reputed for their conviviality, attracting people of all ages and from all walks of life.

Since 2007, Metz marina has been "European Blue Flag" certified by the French Office of the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE). This label distinguishes and promotes municipalities that fulfil the criteria for excellence for the overall management of their environment.

## Target: 100% cycle lanes in the city by 2020

This project includes:

- **Developing infrastructure:** secured car parks, cycle treks, etc.
- **Promoting cycling:** With cycle-based events, **theme-based circuits, cyclists' Code of Conduct**, city-cycling lessons so that Metz residents may start cycling by reflex.
- **Enhancing the service offer:** by setting up bike rental and/or self-service bike parks

**Press Contacts:** Joëlle KIFFER / Valentine VERNIER

Office de Tourisme de Metz, 2 place d'Armes, 57007 Metz

Tel: +33 (0)3 87 55 53 71 / 77 Fax: +33 (0)3 87 75 11 41

Email: [jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr) / [vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr)

# Garden Trends

## Rare species & medicinal plants growing in the heart of the city

Opening directly unto the pedestrian streets of Metz downtown, the **Esplanade's** French-style gardens, with their myriad of flowerbeds, offer a vista over the immeasurable landscapes of the Moselle hills. Below, the romantic **Régates** and **Lac aux Cygnes Gardens**, adorned by dancing fountains, provide the ideal setting for spectacular choreographed firework displays, which take place on Saturday and Sunday evenings during the summer. A little further on, the **Lake** and the **Marina** are the ideal place for visitors to relax and enjoy water activities, whilst admiring the panoramic views of the Moselle River and the cathedral. Pursue the peaceful stroll through unspoilt nature to **Ile de Saulcy** and the tow paths along the **Jouy Canal**, that are within easy walking distance.

**The Botanical Gardens**, acquired by the city of Metz in 1866 from the Baroness of Espée, are one of the city's major attractions. Covering 4.4 hectares and laid out in landscape or English style, they are home to outstanding trees, such as the Persian lilac, the honey locust and the Mediterranean hackberry. Greenhouses hosting incomparable collections of plant species, a rose garden, water basins and a fun train for children make these gardens a popular meeting place. Gardens galore... filled with aromatic plants, different grasses, aquatics, climbers, perennials, annuals and ericaceous plants, are pure paradise for the skilled botanist and for the plant-loving visitor.

Within the Récollets Cloister, at the heart of the historic Ste Croix district, **the European Institute of Ecology**, founded by Jean-Marie Pelt (internationally-renowned expert on the subject), is home to a medicinal plant garden that highlights 89 different species of plant, all with proven therapeutic properties.

Close by, the **Tanneurs Garden**, set in the hillside, is overflowing with Mediterranean plant species that benefit from the garden's south-east exposure: Holly Oaks, Silk Trees, Palm Trees, Banana Trees and many more.

The **Seille Park** (20 ha), located in the new Amphitheatre District, was designed as a harmonious space of diversity, integrating an ecological role as a natural absorber for the floodwaters of the Seille River, as an ecosystem preserver, enabling the fauna and the flora to thrive in a natural environment in the heart of the city. The recent arrival of bee hives in the park also illustrates the eco-friendly practices of park maintenance and upkeep. The Seille Park is also a wonderful place to wander, to admire, to enjoy leisure activities and to meet. A wide range of various equipment and facilities are available to visitors: fishing pontoons, play areas, panoramic viewpoints, park benches, half-hidden among the vines, the hops, the reeds and the rosebushes. Relax for a moment on a bench and watch the fishermen, rollerbladers, joggers and the world go by.

Nature-lovers and bird-watchers may observe the birds in the **Pas du Loup Park**, an emblematic natural park, that has been applying a zero pesticide policy in partnership with the municipality since 2007 (facilities and services include: bee hives, bird nesting boxes, illustrated information boards, guided tours).

Inspired by Jean-Marie Pelt, Metz is the cradle of urban ecology.

Since 1992, it has been accredited with a "Quatre fleurs" label (Four Flowers) and is laureate of the "National Grand Prize" and the "European Grand Prize" for its flower displays.

## Metz, a garden city

The city has kept its promise... 515 hectares of green spaces, 40 m<sup>2</sup> of greenery for each resident, 32 kilometres of promenades along the riverbanks, unrivalled relaxation areas and havens of greenness dotted around the city, Metz provides a unique living environment for its residents and visitors: tourists, joggers, senior citizens, parents, young children can benefit from a wide range of places that are specially dedicated to relaxation, to fun-filled games, to sports and to leisure.

## Even the streets are blooming...

Seasonal flowering shrubs, flowerbeds and bamboos, palm trees, grown in pots and window-boxes, add touches of greenery and adorn the renovated city squares. 500,000 flowering plants, grown in the municipality's gardening department greenhouses, add wonderful rainbow colours to the city every year and, since 1992 have seen Metz ranked in the "Quatre fleurs" category.

## Age-old trees

Whilst strolling through the city, visitors may find themselves standing under the magnificent canopy of 'ageless' trees. The rarest, the most imposing (40 m high) and the oldest (160 year old) can be admired in the Botanical Gardens, in Boufflers Square and on the Ile de Saulcy.

## An eco-water garden

The Centre Pompidou-Metz is enclosed by two gardens and a forecourt. The forecourt, which is slightly sloped, offers pedestrians a direct pathway from the Centre Pompidou-Metz to the train station. Partially planted, it covers a surface identical to that of the square in front of the Centre Pompidou in Paris. This forecourt was designed by the Nicolas Michelin Associés Agency and by Paso Doble (landscape gardener), who also created the Centre Pompidou-Metz's north-facing garden. Planted with cherry blossom, it extends for over 2 hectares and is ornamented with grassy plots that collect the rainwater from the roof (8,000 m<sup>2</sup>) and from the forecourt.

The south-facing garden is an intimate space, designed by the Nicolas Michelin Associés Agency and by Pascal Cribier (landscape gardener). It comprises a mineral section which can play host to a summer terrace, and a section that is densely planted with hornbeam and birch trees.

## The Gardens without Borders Network: discovering natural and urban environments

Created in 1998 through a Moselle and Sarre cross-border political partnership, and co-financed by the European Union, "Gardens without Borders" is, today, a network of more than 20 theme-based gardens, open to the public in Moselle, in the Sarre and in Luxembourg. Innovations or re-creations, they reflect the wealth of the horticultural patrimony and endorse a contemporary view of gardens.

The visit of the centre of Metz may be extended to take in the Jouy Canal banks (on foot or cycling), and the Botanical Gardens. For visitors who wish to enjoy a soothing, bucolic day, the Laquenexy Fruit Gardens, 10 minutes from Metz, propose astonishing theme-based gardens and invite on a journey through a universe of flavours, whilst the Château de Pange, erected in 1720, and recounted by Roland and Edith de Pange, descendents of the illustrious family, is embraced by a contemporary yet romantic garden which proposes the history of the domain through a fun-filled plant quiz. The "Jardin des Plantes de Chez Nous" (*the Home-style Plant Garden*), located within the walls of the home of Robert Schuman, is an opportunity for a classical yet contemporary botanical stroll in the footsteps of the Founder of the European Union.

**Note:** Metz Tourist Office proposes "History & gardens" theme-based tours for groups and individuals, on scheduled dates, and at special prices for certain sites included in the adult and family Metz Passport – City Pass.

## Culture-filled stones in green surroundings

Strolling along out-of-the-ordinary itineraries, following triangles painted on pavements and streets and signposts that give directions and journey times, visitors will discover buildings that recount the history of the city of the Metz.

From the banks of the Seille and the Moselle Rivers to the Bellecroix Fort, then on to the Queuleu Fort, a journey through time along the Rampart wall walk (signposted and commented trail), discovering towers, bridges, gates and fortifications that date from medieval times to the 19<sup>th</sup> century, or through the **alleys of the historic Queuleu District.**

---

### Press Contacts: Joëlle KIFFER / Valentine VERNIER

Office de Tourisme de Metz, 2 place d'Armes, 57007 Metz

Tel: +33 (0)3 87 55 53 71 / 77 Fax: +33 (0)3 87 75 11 41

Email: [jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr) / [vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr)

# Metz Events & Entertainment: Agenda

---

## **1911 – 2011: The 'Hôtel des Postes' celebrates its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary**

**Rue Gambetta, facing the Post Office - Saturday 14 May 2011 from 2 pm**

For the past century, this outstanding Metz heritage building, located in the heart of the Imperial District, has been the scene of historic events, a witness to many changes and has been the workplace of generations of postmen and women.

A day of celebration awaits... the French Republican Guard Cavalry, an array of street entertainment, prizes to be won, autograph signing, Tourist Office guided visits, the "Postal Architecture, Ever-changing History" exhibition!

## **Art, Metz**

**11<sup>th</sup> edition – from 1<sup>st</sup> to 04 April 2011**

This contemporary art fair, held in 2010 at the Metropolitan Metz Exhibition Park attracted 120 exhibitors and around 5,000 visitors. Located at the very heart of the Great Region, it offers visitors the opportunity to view works of art from various countries and, at the same time, offers exhibitors the occasion to do business with a varied public. A highly sociable and valued event, which continues to expand every year, Art, Metz is an exceptional showcase of art, accessible to everyone, from expert collectors to art lovers; an event that keeps art alive, both literally and figuratively speaking. For its 11<sup>th</sup> edition, Art, Metz wished to propose a broader spectrum of contemporary art, privileging diversity of forms and supporting the presentation of works and media such as photography, video, digital art, sketches, etc.

## **Acanthes**

**35<sup>th</sup> edition – beginning of July 2011**

The Acanthes Contemporary Music Academy (free concerts, workshops, conferences, etc.).

## **Passages Festival**

**From 7 to 21 May 2011**

**At Place de la République – the Arsenal – the Centre Pompidou-Metz**

Created in 1996 in Nancy by Charles Tordjman, the Passages Festival now sets up stage in Metz.

A festival of Eastern European theatre troupes, *Passages* pursues its journey from Hungary to China, from Kiev to Vilnius and crossing through Israel; from the oompah of Central Europe to the heartbeats of the Maghreb. In Metz, Nancy, Luxembourg and other destinations, 18 troupes, 57 performances, 17 concerts, political cabarets, literary circles, films, exhibitions... entertained during this new edition, in partnership with the main cultural institutions of the region.

The Place de la République in Metz was a wooden and tarpaulin camp that vibrated to the rhythm of the shows. A place of discovery of exchange, it played its role of centre-stage superbly.

## **Art in Gardens – monumental sculptures**

**2<sup>nd</sup> edition – July to September 2011**

Contemporary art takes up its quarters in the gardens of the city for the whole summer period. Discover this unique artistic itinerary leading from the Place du Général de Gaulle (in front of the train station), crossing over the boulevard Poincaré and finishing in the Botanical Gardens. This event, an ingenious harmony between art and gardens, which provide the perfect setting for showcasing monumental works of art, offers a highly original regard on the city and makes art accessible to everyone.

## **Summer Book fair – Literary and journalistic festival**

**24<sup>th</sup> edition – from 15 to 17 April 2011**

**Sur la place de la République**

This event takes place for 3 days, on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, under a 1,500 m<sup>2</sup> big top (book signing, conferences, entertainment, exchanges with authors, exhibitions, and much more).

Metz plays host to top-of-the-range authors and is committed to promoting reading through a wide range of entertainment, theme-based events and activities that are perpetually renewed and ever-changing. The festival is sponsored by well-known authors such as Jean-Christophe Ruffin, Dominique Hernandez, Jean-Louis Servan-Schreiber, Jean-Jacques Beineix, Jean d'Ormesson and Daniel Picouly.

## **Metz en Fête**

### **21<sup>st</sup> edition – beginning of July to end of August 2011**

Celebrate, party in the middle of a street, on the water's edge, in a garden, on a public square...: Metz en Fête offers an incredible programme throughout July and August; occasions for Metz residents, visitors and tourists to join together and share in moments of pleasure. Summer is the perfect time of the year to take advantage of this convivial atmosphere that fills the city with a host of concerts, shows, performances and a myriad of entertainment and activities.

Free access, outdoors, diversity and quality are the driving forces of this two-month event initiated by the municipality. A multitude of entertainment, where all forms of living street art and performances mix together, to the rhythms of music from around the world, joined by circuses, dance troupes, cinema and a photographic competition...

### **'Metz Plage' ... the Beach 4<sup>th</sup> edition – end of July to end of August 2011**

A real fine, sandy beach is set up around the Lake to celebrate summer. That holiday feelings here again ... with parasols, beach chairs, pools for paddling, swimming, having fun, sports activities and more!

Building on the popular success of previous years (107,000 visitors in 2010), around 20,000 m<sup>2</sup> will be equipped for one month for the seaside pleasures of both young and old.

Facilities will include a picnic area, petanque courts, trampoline, a reading space, open-air board-games & games space, paddling pool, sailing activities, open-air café and concerts, theatre boat, youth infopoint... Every year the event enchants the crowds with its surprise activities and free entertainment.

And, as always: pools accessible to children, beach soccer and beach volley pitches, adventure trails, mist sprayers...

### **Saint Nicolas and Christmas Market – Traditions & Winter Games**

#### **End of November – end of December 2011**

As Christmas celebrations draw near and the Christmas Market brings the various sites and districts of the city to life, tradition has it that the good Saint Nicolas arrives at the beginning of December to reward well-behaved children by offering them sweets and confectionery, whilst at the same time the bogeyman (*Père Fouettard*) takes care of the naughty kids... Stores and shops are generally open for the 3 Sundays before Christmas so that everyone can take advantage of the last days of city breaks overflowing with spicy festive aromas.

Young and old alike may have fun and enjoy the big wheel, the ice rink and a range of other winter activities and sports.

### **Metz Hot-air Ballooning Festival Beginning of September 2011 (to be confirmed)**

Over the years, the *Metz Hot Air Ballooning Festival (Montgolfiades de Metz)* has become one of the most popular aerostatic events.

This major gathering of aerostats, incontrovertible end-of-summer meeting, brings together around 10,000 enthusiasts every year.

The Metz balloon (inaugurated on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2001) floats to and fro across the skies just about everywhere in Europe, promoting the colours of Metz, the birthplace of Pilâtre de Rozier, first hot-air balloonist in history.

### **Nuit Blanche (all-night celebrations) 4<sup>th</sup> edition – 30 September 2011 – from 6 pm to 6 am the following morning**

This major cultural event focusing on contemporary creativity, is an undeniable artistic kaleidoscope that invites a wide and varied public to appreciate contemporary art and, as such, to perceive their urban space and local heritage in a new light. Night owls may wander through the city and feel the magical atmosphere of a night that is devoted to art, to sharing and to emotions.

### **61<sup>st</sup> edition of the Mirabelle Plum festival (Fêtes de la Mirabelle) End of August 2011**

The Mirabelle plum has been produced in and around Metz for many centuries; the mirabelle-plum tree has become the most widespread fruit tree of the region, benefiting from the particularly well sun-exposed hillsides and the clay soil.

Lorraine mirabelles were the first to be awarded with a *European Label*, in 1996, guaranteed with an *IGO, Indication of Geographical Origin*; the brandy made from this golden fruit is about to receive the AOC label - *Appellation d'Origine Contrôlée (Registered Designation of Origin)*.

The Mirabelle Plum Festival has been attracting thousands of visitors to the Lorraine capital city every year since it began in 1947, and is the closing event of the summer festivities of the *Metz en Fête* programme. This festival usually begins after the 15 August and hosts a variety of street entertainment, concerts, dances, the mirabelle plum market, a crafts fair, fireworks display, grand parade and the election of Miss Mirabelle.

## Sports

---

### **Moselle Open From 17 to 25 September 2011**

This week-long competition brings together some of the best players from the world tennis top 50 ranking. Part of the ATO world tennis tour for the last few years, the Metz round has proved itself to be one of the spotlight events of international tennis. This year it will take place at the Metz Exhibition Park (Metz Expo).

### **International competitions and optimal quality facilities**

Metz hosts a range of major international competitions: top-ranking handball, football and rugby matches as well as athletics...

Tennis lovers meet up every year at the Arènes to enjoy the week-long Moselle Open tennis championship.

The city has developed a range of high-quality facilities for sports: five golf courses within a 30 km perimeter, canoeing-kayaking, skateboarding (one of the largest skating bowls in France), combat sports, baseball, swimming, windsurfing, rowing...

### **Lorraine Half-Marathon 39<sup>th</sup> edition – 20 March 2011**

The 2009 half-marathon attracted 2,100 runners. The 2011 half-marathon was run over a new circuit, which had a highly urban feel as competitors ran through Metz, Montigny and Marly. A variety of entertainment was dotted along the circuit creating a traditional party atmosphere.

### **Metz Marathon 16 October 2011**

In 2010, Metz the city of culture became Metz the city of sport. The city welcomed back a mythical event: the Marathon. And Metz was overflowing with heroes. Sportsmen and women, amateurs, young and not so young, mustered all their courage to finish the race. This event was the occasion for competitors to rediscover the city, as they ran past key cultural heritage sites, like the Centre Pompidou-Metz.

The crowds of onlookers, who had come to support the runners, were entertained along the circuit by a multitude of artists and musicians. The sport, the entertainment and the activities turned this day into a festive and family gathering, enjoyed by Metz residents, visitors and tourists alike.

[www.marathon-metz.fr](http://www.marathon-metz.fr)

## Events & festivities

---

Metz programmes parties, shows and entertainment at a steady pace throughout the year, offering enthusiasts, the curious and collectors multiple occasions to meet, to share and to enjoy.

2<sup>nd</sup> largest flea market in France after Saint-Ouen (15 dates per year)

April - Art, Metz

April - Summer Book fair – literary and journalistic festival

July & August - Metz en Fête

August – Great clearance sale

From end of July to end of August **Metz Plage**

End of August - Mirabelle Plum Festival

September – **Hot Air Ballooning Festival**

September - Second-hand Fair in the Outre-Seille District

End of September - beginning of October - Metz International Fair

End of September - beginning of October - Nuit Blanche (all-night celebrations)

November - Antiques Fair

End of November to end of December - Christmas Market and Advent festivities

Beginning of December – Saint Nicolas and the Light Procession

Throughout the year a wide variety of events takes place in the Metropolitan Metz Exhibition Park (80 major events and 800,000 visitors per year) - FIM, Créativa, Urbest, etc.).

**And, the cultural season programme for the Arsenal, the Opera-Theatre, the Trinitaires etc.  
Find out more about the events on [www.tourisme-metz.com](http://www.tourisme-metz.com) and [www.mairie-metz.fr](http://www.mairie-metz.fr)**

---

Press Contacts: Joëlle KIFFER / Valentine VERNIER

Office de Tourisme de Metz, 2 place d'Armes, 57007 Metz

Tel: +33 (0)3 87 55 53 71 / 77 Fax: +33 (0)3 87 75 11 41

Email: [jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr) / [vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr)

# An Urban and Metropolitan Network Hub

## Metz, a European hub

Metz is the point of convergence of 2 major trans-European road networks:

- North-South axis: North Sea-Mediterranean – from Amsterdam to Marseille
- East-West axis: Atlantic coast to eastern Europe – crossing Paris, Munich, Vienna and Prague

Road interchange networks already exist around 2 key transport arteries that are the busiest in Europe:

- the A31 motorway, the backbone of North-South travel
- the A4 motorway, which links Paris to the East and connects to the German network

Air links focus around 5 airports, gateways to the 'QuattroPole' area:

- Metz-Nancy-Lorraine
- Luxembourg
- Saarbrücken
- Frankfurt Hahn (low-cost flights)
- Zweibrücken (low-cost flights)

Waterway links is based around 2 major axes:

- The Moselle & the Sarre Rivers connected to the North Sea
- South towards the Mediterranean via the Canal de l'Est (*East Canal*)

Since June 2007, the TGV Est (high-speed train) provides links to:

- the European network (Luxembourg, Germany, Switzerland) with connections to the TGV Nord, TGV Atlantique and an opening to the South
- the major North-Eastern towns and cities (Reims, Metz, Nancy, Strasbourg, etc.), to Paris and to the rest of France

11 round trips to Paris daily, in 82 minutes, from Metz train station

The Lorraine TGV train station with links to:

- Paris (Paris-Est train station), Ile-de-France regional TGV stations
- Roissy Charles de Gaulle Airport TGV train station,
- Marne-la-Vallée-Chessy TGV and Massy TGV train stations

regional capitals such as Bordeaux, Nantes, Rennes, Lille, Strasbourg and even Frankfurt.

## Metz, a new urban tourism destination at the heart of Europe

Metz, capital of Lorraine, gateway to Germany; Belgium and Luxembourg, home to a population of 430,000 residents, is part of the Saar-Lor-Lux Great Region, which comprises the Lorraine, the Sarre, the Rhineland-Palatinat of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and part of Belgium.

Located at the very heart of Europe, this cooperation privileges economic, cultural, touristic and social development for the 11 million inhabitants that it comprises.

Metz is the central artery of the European regional and cross-border networks:

- QuattroPole, where the four metropolitan cities - Luxembourg, Metz, Saarbrücken, and Trier are less than one hour apart.
- LELA +, connecting the urban centres of Luxembourg, Esch-sur-Alzette, Longwy, Arlon, Metz and Thionville.
- Sillon Lorrain, grouping together Epinal, Nancy, Metz and Thionville

## The Mettis: a reserved-lane public transport system, to be launched in 2013

**Aims:** eco-friendliness, incentives for the quality of urban life and for the well-being of residents.

**What form will this take?:** A bidirectional lane, of around 18 km, will be integrated along a line that links Woippy to Mercy, and will be exclusively reserved for buses offering high levels of service. This is why it is referred to as a "reserved-lane" system, as only buses will travel along these lanes.

**Advantages for users:** Freed from the constraints of network saturation, buses will travel faster and will be on time, for example, one bus every four minutes in the centre of the city. It will no longer be a problem if you miss your bus because there will always be another just a few minutes later. The facilities that will be implemented offer greater service comfort, thanks to the quality and ergonomics of the buses, the bus stops and terminals and the urban development, as well as providing optimal information to users. In addition, the TCSP (Reserved-Lane Public Transport System) will be designed so that it is totally accessible to everyone, from mothers with pushchairs to persons with reduced mobility (PRM), thanks to the bus contact system which is at platform height.

**Innovation:** The 37 new stops and terminals will be raised higher and all will be equipped with ticketing systems selling transportation tickets: you no longer need to wait or queue to buy bus tickets.

**Related infrastructure:** To offer efficient service, three park & ride car parks with a 250 to 500 vehicle capacity will serve commuters. Located in Woippy, at the Exhibition Park and in the Rochambeau District, at the A31 interchange, these park & ride car parks will be guarded, secure and exclusively reserved for TCSP (Reserved-Lane Public Transport System) users. As such, when drivers park their car in one of these park & ride car parks, they will be given bus tickets for each person who was in the car. Buses, whose itineraries include these park & ride car parks, will take about 15 to 20 minutes to reach the centre of the city, regardless of the overall state of traffic.

**Press Contacts:** Joëlle KIFFER / Valentine VERNIER

Office de Tourisme de Metz, 2 place d'Armes, 57007 Metz

Tel: +33 (0)3 87 55 53 71 / 77 Fax: +33 (0)3 87 75 11 41

Email: [jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr) / [vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr)

# Who's Who: A Portrait Gallery

## Literary figures

### **François Rabelais (around 1490 – 1553)**

Writer, doctor, Renaissance humanist, François Rabelais was obliged to flee in 1545 following the publication of the *Tiers Livre* (Third Book), considered extremely risqué. He found refuge in Metz in a house lent to him by a friend. He lived in the city from 1545 to 1547, and wrote his *Quart Livre* (Fourth Book) here, which includes extracts of his stay (the Graouilly procession and the use of local dialect expressions). The remains of Rabelais' home are located close to the Saint-Genest Chapel, at the angle of the rue d'Enfer and the rue d'en Jurue.

### **Jacques-Bénigne Bossuet (1627 – 1704)**

Bossuet was granted a stipend as a canon at the Chapter of Metz, through his father who was a member of the Parliament of Metz. He carried out his duties there for 7 years. He left for Paris in 1659 but remained Canon of Metz until 1669. He became Great-Archdeacon and Great Dean of the Cathedral, where, in 1658, he delivered his 2<sup>nd</sup> funeral oration for Henri de Gournay.

### **Paul Verlaine (1844 – 1896)**

Paul Verlaine was born in Metz on 30 March 1844.

He left Metz in 1851, never to return, but kept fond memories of his birthplace, his childhood loves, walks along the Esplanade, the Cathedral, all his life; he wrote an *Ode to Metz*: "Oh Metz, my fateful cradle". He stated: "It is true, I lived there but a few years, yet it was here, in fact, that my mind and senses were opened". He remembered Metz affectionately and later went on to publish *Souvenirs d'un messin* (Memories of a citizen of Metz).

### **Maurice Barrès (1862-1923)**

Writer from Lorraine who, among other works, wrote Colette Baudoche – The story of a young girl from Metz in 1909.

### **Bernard Marie Koltès (1948-1989)**

Bernard Marie Koltès was born and grew up in Metz. He studied at Saint-Clément College. Author and playwright (among the world's most translated), he implicitly recalls Metz, his birthplace, in his play *Le Retour au Désert* (Return to the Desert). In 2009, the city of Metz paid a tribute to Koltès on the occasion of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death.

## One of the founders of the European Union

### **Robert Schuman (1886 - 1963)**

Deputy of the Moselle Region from 1919 to 1940, barrister at the Court of Metz from 1912, he was one of the initiators of the European Coal and Steel Community and was nicknamed the "father of Europe". He is considered as highly significant to the history of the city. His home, located in Scy-Chazelles (5 km from Metz), and the fortified church which houses his sepulchre are open to the public for visits.

## Adventurers

### **Jean-François Pilâtre de Rozier (1754 – 1785)**

Born in Metz on 30 March 1754.

1<sup>st</sup> air pilot, author of a dissertation on gases, founder of the Museum of Paris, Pilâtre de Rozier successfully completed a 25-minute flight on 21<sup>st</sup> November 1783, but he died in 1785 after attempting to fly cross the English Channel with the physicist, Romain.

### **Marie-Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de La Fayette (1757 – 1834)**

During a banquet known as the Supper of Metz on 8 August 1775 in the Governor's Palace (today, the site of the Palace of Justice), the Marquis de La Fayette became highly inspired by the cause of the American colonies that were rebelling against the Crown of England. He set off for the New World at his own expense. When he returned to France, he spread the ideals of philosophers and, because of his popularity, was invited to participate in the 'Fête de la Fédération', in Paris, on 14 July 1790. La Fayette returned to Metz in 1791, where he commanded the Revolutionary Army. Arrested by the Austrians, he was only released in 1797.

Behind the Palace of Justice, in the Boufflers Garden, an equestrian statue in **Homage to La Fayette**, stands high above the ground. Created by the sculptor **Claude Goutin**, laureate of the Grand Prize of Rome, it was inaugurated in November 2004.

## Religious figures

### **Saint Clément**

Bishop of Metz around 280, legend recounts that he struck down the terrible dragon of Metz, the Graouilly.

### **Saint Arnould (580 – 640)**

Bishop of Metz in 612, adviser to King Dagobert 1<sup>st</sup> (King of Austrasia), he was an ancestor of the Carolingian dynasty, through his son and his grandson, Pépin of Herstal.

## 19<sup>th</sup> century composers

**Ambroise Charles Louis Thomas** (born in Metz, 1811 - 1896), laureate of the Prize of Rome, he composed operas, masses, cantatas, piano pieces, etc. His bust can be seen in the foyer of the Opera-Theatre.

**Gabriel Pierné** (born in Metz, 1863 - 1937), laureate of the grand Prize of Rome in 1882, pupil of César Franck and Massenet, he composed lyrical comedies, ballets, chamber music, melodies etc.

## Artists

### The Metz School and Laurent Charles Maréchal

From 1840 to 1870, Metz was the chosen place for a flourishing artistic centre which included a myriad of architects, designers, engravers, painters, sculptors, and the man who became their leader, **Laurent Charles Maréchal**, (1801 - 1887), the stained-glass artist. His career spread over 60 years, during which he worked in numerous French edifices (57,000 m<sup>2</sup> of stained glass in over 1,600 buildings). Examples of his work in Metz include: St Etienne Cathedral, the Guise Salon in the City Hall, Notre Dame and St Martin Churches etc. He left Metz when it was annexed to Germany in 1871. other well-known members of this artistic movement, include: **Christophe Fratin** (1801 - 1864), animal sculptor and pupil of Géricault (creator of the Arabian Horse on the Esplanade), **Charles Pêtre** (1808 - 1907) sculptor (creator of the Source on the Esplanade, of the statue of Marshal Ney at the Place d'Armes...), **Charles-Auguste Migette** (1802 - 1884), painter-decorator of the Theatre of Metz from 1832 to 1875...

## A few military figures

**Abraham de Fabert** (born in Metz, 1599 - 1662), Marshal of France in 1658, gained distinction in the wars against the Protestants and during the sieges (Stenay). He organized the Sedan sheet-making industry.

**Charles Louis Auguste Fouquet**, Duke of Belle-Isle (1684 - 1761), grandson of Nicolas Fouquet, Marshal of France in 1741, arrived in Metz in 1726, undertook the transformation of the city (Place de la Comédie, Place d'Armes, Place St Thiébault, etc.). He welcomed Louis XV to the city in 1744 with great style.

**François Etienne Kellerman** (born in Metz, 1770 - 1835), Officer of Napoleon's Cavalry, Peer of France, fought in the battles of Marengo and Spain, he was injured at Waterloo.

**Antoine Charles Louis, Count of Lasalle** (born in Metz at the Hôtel de Gournay, 1755 - 1809), he gained distinction at Rivoli in 1797 and during the Egyptian, Prussian and Austrian Campaigns. He died a hero at the Battle of Wagram.

**Ferdinand Foch** (1851 - 1929). He studied at Saint Clément College. His studies in Metz were interrupted by the war in 1870. He left Metz after these events and sat the admission exam for Polytechnique. He became Marshal of Great Britain and Poland, an unheard of situation in modern military spheres, was elected at the French Academy in 1920, then at the Science Academy. Foch remained attached to Saint Clément College and, on 28 June 1919, the date the treaty of Versailles was concluded, he was welcomed by the teachers and pupils of this college in Metz, in great style, yet he felt that this Treaty would lead to future conflicts.

**Press Contacts:** Joëlle KIFFER / Valentine VERNIER

Office de Tourisme de Metz, 2 place d'Armes, 57007 Metz

Tel: +33 (0)3 87 55 53 71 / 77 Fax: +33 (0)3 87 75 11 41

Email: [jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr) / [vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr)

# Shopping in Metz

Since time immemorial, Metz has been an affluent city of trade and characterized by a particular art of living.

Through the efforts and energy of shopkeepers' associations, each district works with ardour and enthusiasm to promote its image: rue Taison, rue des Jardins, Place de Chambre, Saint Louis District, Impérial District, Outre-Seille District, to name but a few.

The Federation of Shopkeepers groups together a large number of associations and, through a range of promotional events, ensures that their offerings are perpetually dynamic and appealing (annual sales, St Valentine's Day, Great Clearance Sale, St Nicolas festivities and Christmas Markets, etc.).

The very busy downtown pedestrian area is home to the majority of leading French and international brand names (Galeries Lafayette, Printemps, Virgin, FNAC...) and host of boutiques offering a diversity of products (including the Emaux de Longwy, Mont Blanc, Hermès...). For example, the St Jacques Shopping Complex accommodates 120 shops (an extension is planned) and the twenty or so shops at République Station (underground shopping gallery) also offer a wide array of products and services.

Craftsmen and women also illustrate their overflowing imagination and creativity, in line with their specialities and talents. An exceptional, convivial boutique called "**Once upon a time, a craftsman from Lorraine...**" (rue des Allemands) is home to 11 creators, eager to present and to share their expertise and their creations. .

The residents of Metz and their visitors are undeniably great food-lovers and fine gourmets, judging by the number of bakeries, tea rooms, restaurants, and local product specialists, not to mention the size of the in-door market, housing a multitude of reputed stalls, which, on Saturday mornings, also invades the surrounding squares; on Thursdays it sets up stall on the Place St Louis and in peripheral districts (for more details, see the "Gour'Metz" datasheet).

The city is committed to making the Amphitheatre District, located behind the train station, where the Centre Pompidou-Metz is established, an incomparable place for meeting and sharing, filled with a host of commercial outlets.

## Colourful boutiques & streets

Running along the hillside: the rue des Jardins stretches from the Moselle River quaysides to the Place d'Armes and was reputed as the bastion of fabric merchants. Today, it is home to a multitude of colourful commercial outlets: Italian and Indian restaurants, a toy shop, a bookbinder, a wine merchant, a drug store (one of the oldest in Metz), a delicatessen, a concept store, second-hand comic-book store, a tattoo artist, a fashion designer, and much more.

Continuing up Sainte Croix Hill, the pedestrian rue Taison, with its village atmosphere, is home to one of Metz's major symbols, the Graouilly, which is suspended in mid-air above the street. Cosy restaurants, bookshops, engraving studios and original decorative object boutiques regularly organize entertainment.

The Place Saint-Louis, with its Italian-style medieval architecture, is one of Metz's oldest trading areas. Today, delightful, convivial boutiques and cafés are dotted around the arcades, in the same spot where sixty or so money-changers from Lombardy worked when Metz was a Republic. This pedestrian square is frequently the scene of various performances, entertainment and activities: public banquets, concerts, flower markets, open-air cinema... It also hosts one of the Christmas Markets.

For more information on commercial outlets in Metz: The Federation of Shopkeepers is on-hand to answer any queries you may have.

### Fédération des Commerçants / Office du Commerce et des Services

9 rue des Clercs  
57000 METZ

Tel: +33 (0)3 87 75 97 13  
Fax: +33 (0)3 87 75 00 94  
Email: [la.boutique.services@wanadoo.fr](mailto:la.boutique.services@wanadoo.fr)

[www.metzla.commercante.com](http://www.metzla.commercante.com)



**Press Contacts:** Joëlle KIFFER / Valentine VERNIER

Office de Tourisme de Metz, 2 place d'Armes, 57007 Metz

Tel: +33 (0)3 87 55 53 71 / 77 Fax: +33 (0)3 87 75 11 41

Email: [jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr) / [vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr)

# Gour'Metz & Gastronomy

**Metz, a lover of good food**, privileges a delicious **Art of Living** by offering an infinite choice of exclusive culinary delights: from taste-experience counters to gastronomic restaurants, from wine bars to traditional brasseries, from the "**Tables de Rabelais**" to world flavours, Metz offers 'Gour'Metz' an ever-so-rich variety of food; traditional and fusion, taste-experiences and banquets, there's something for every taste and for every budget.

Innovative and dynamic, the city is currently creating a gastronomic square (Place de Chambre), housing a variety of establishments inviting visitors to discover specialities from the Lorraine region as well as exotic dishes from countries throughout the world... something for every taste and for every budget.

Metz offers the visitor exceptional gastronomy, distinguished by its variety and by the talent of its chefs, including one who, once again, in 2011, was awarded a macaroon ranking in the Michelin Red Guide, and, of course, the myriad of other professionals, mentioned in the Pudlo, Gault & Millau, Bottin Gourmand, Champérard, and other restaurant guides, who have also proved their talents and creativity.

If we combine this with the production of local and regional wines, whose notoriety is constantly gaining ground (Moselle wines have been AOC labelled since 2010), the absolute excellence of caterers and food professionals (known for their inspirational ideas in their respective professional bodies), then Metz is, incontestably, abound with culinary treasures; treasures that are to be privileged and networked so that the city's authentic gastronomy hallmark, an acknowledgement of local produce and the talents of those who innovate and who sublimate the "**essence**", may become renowned.

## Seasonal aromas & traditions

The aim of the "*Tables de Rabelais*" is to promote locally-produced specialities as well as the diversity of the expertise of those who produce them and who transform them. Specialities change with the seasons, highlighting and harmonizing the emblematic produce and flavours of the region (truffles, Mirabelle plums, strawberries, grapes, etc.) with the various annual festivities (*local produce markets, Mirabelle Plum festival, Saint-Nicolas, Advent celebrations, St Valentine's Day ...*).

## Refined delicacies for everyone to enjoy

The "*Tables de Rabelais*" invite visitors to discover a myriad of inspirational dishes, created by the highly-talented and inventive *maestri of taste*: traditional or stylish up-to-the-minute menus, sweet delights, gourmet tours, regional dishes, wine routes and more.

## A hallmark of gastronomy

The "*Tables de Rabelais*" have been acknowledged at the hallmark of Metz gastronomy since 2006. A tribute to the Rabelaisian spirit, noble heritage of the city, they group together, in partnership with the Tourist Office, around twenty restaurants, caterers, food professionals and experienced producers who grow the produce, marry the flavours and delight in sharing their noble values of a certain *French art of living... a French touch* that they frequently harmonize with subtle influences from around the world.



## A priceless relationship with an illustrious resident of Metz... François Rabelais

Author, doctor, contemporary humanist of the Renaissance, Rabelais lived in Metz for 2 years. His time in Metz inspired him to write his *Quatre Livre* (Fourth Book) between 1545 and 1547. In this book, where he recounts the famous legend of the *Graouilly*, he includes city traditions and some local dialect expressions.

## Heritage on the menu

The "*Tables de Rabelais*" menu also invites visitors on an out-of-the-ordinary discovery of the heritage of Metz, from its honey-coloured stone to its Renaissance and medieval architecture, its mysterious legends and much more.

The Tourist Office proposes commented theme-based tours, impromptu food-for-thought, that add an exquisite finishing touch to the gastronomic pleasures of a trip through Rabelaisian landscapes.

### **"Tables de Rabelais", as you please**

To take advantage of the "Tables de Rabelais" services, just contact the Tourist Office (the Tourist Office provides a range of all-inclusive Stays, excursions and city breaks), or pay a visit to partner providers, anytime (recognizable from the year-stamped macaroon displayed at the entrance of each establishment).

### **AOC labelling for Moselle wines Authenticity of local produce as a guarantee of quality**

The Appellation d'Origine Contrôlée (*Registered Designation of Origin*) is a guarantee for consumers of the authenticity of a product, its geographical origin and the compliance with expertise that is specific to its production.

This label of excellence, hallmark for regional produce, confirms the uniqueness of the product it certifies. A symbol the perfect harmony between the land and its workers, it certifies high-quality production that complies with rigorous specifications throughout the manufacturing process.

The AOC was awarded to the Moselle wines in 2010 by the INAO (*National Institute for Origin and Quality*).

#### **Grape varieties:**

A superbly varied and enriched selection now complements the fine wines and clarets, produced from pinot and Auxerre grapes: pinot noir, pinot gris, Auxerre, Müller-Thurgau, pinot blanc, riesling, gewurztraminer and gamay.

### **A few Lorraine and Metz specialities...**

- Mirabelle brandy
- Quiche Lorraine
- Lorraine-style pies
- The Paris-Metz
- Boulay macaroons...

### **Benefit from the "Tables de Rabelais" special rates:**

When you purchase a Metz passport – City Pass (individual or family), you are entitled to discount vouchers that allow you to enjoy Metz whilst spending less: for leisure activities, shopping, food tasting and gastronomy – special reductions with our "Tables de Rabelais" partners (see conditions of use and validity).

### **Mini-breaks and gourmet itineraries**

The Tourist Office offers a range of breaks for individuals and groups as well as Rabelais-themed itineraries: a choice of 'Metz hotel trade and gastronomy throughout the ages', 'Gastronomy in art', 'Rabelaisian wandering' circuits.

The different circuits offer the opportunity to discover and to recall places and figures of society that Rabelais may have known when he lived in Metz. They also offer insight into different areas of his life and his work.

### **"Tables de Rabelais" & "Metz Tourism Quality Project"**

Metz Tourist Office, NF certified by AFNOR Certification, "Tourism Quality" and "Tourism & Handicap" labelled, wishes to establish a "Metz Tourism Quality Project" qualification strategy to ensure that the image of the city and the quality perceived by visitors during their stay in and/or around the area are reconciled. The "Tables de Rabelais" are the first milestone in this strategy.

The "Tables de Rabelais" partners have signed a Quality Charter where they pledge to serve regional produce and specialities, to comply with customer satisfaction criteria, to take into consideration the wealth of flavours, service, customer reception and information. Henceforth, the customer becomes a consumer-actor.

**Press Contacts:** Joëlle KIFFER / Valentine VERNIER

Office de Tourisme de Metz, 2 place d'Armes, 57007 Metz

Tel: +33 (0)3 87 55 53 71 / 77 Fax: +33 (0)3 87 75 11 41

Email: [jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr) / [vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr)

# Metz Tourism Quality Project

**"Let's all work together and promote our city,  
so that we may all reap the benefits!"**

Is the GLAM motto.

## The Metz Tourism Quality Project comprises:

- **A series of conferences and round tables** organized by the Tourist Office and aimed at local stakeholders, to raise awareness of the challenges of Tourism Quality and of taking into account different types of customers and customers with special needs (2006 - 2007 - 2009)
- **Setting up monthly quality workshops** with voluntary service providers from the city, between September 2007 and October 2008, working together to develop and publish a "Welcome to Metz Guide and Links" (*Le Guide et Liens de l'Accueil à Metz - GLAM Guide*).
- **Scheduling service provider training sessions**
- **Developing and publishing a practical guide for industry professionals**, *The G.L.A.M.* (Welcome to Metz Guide and Links) (November 2008 edition)
- **Advice for service providers** who wish to apply for "Tourism Quality" certification (2007-2008)
- **Scheduling regular "Educ-tours" sessions** "Becoming acquainted with Metz tourism offers" to help service providers optimally promote their environment and to recommend the wealth of this tourist destination (2005-2006-2007-2008-intensified in 2009)
- **Conclusion of Quality Commitment Charters** (between the Tables de Rabelais providers and the Tourist Office guides - since 2006)
- **Systematic conclusion of agreements** with industry professionals, for supplying services relating to the development and sale of touristic breaks and products (museums, leisure activity providers, accommodation hosts, restaurants, etc... - since 2007)

## The Metz Tourism Quality Project, helping industry professionals integrate new touristic trends

With the inauguration of the Centre Pompidou-Metz in May 2010 - an infrastructure which will generate a more international and more demanding clientele - Metz Tourist Office wished to anticipate and participate in the fulfilment of this project by helping industry professionals integrate these new touristic trends.

Aims: Raise industry professionals' awareness of the touristic and economic challenges and stakes and the impacts that this new facility may have on the area. Spark new local tourist operator drive and synergy to privilege networking, to improve the touristic reception chain throughout the duration of the stay in the area and for all touristic products used by the visitor.

The Metz Tourist Quality Project aims to bring local industry professionals closer together, by strengthening cross-disciplinary and cross-sector links, so that "customer service quality" may be more globally and comprehensively achieved beyond the respective professional bodies, through a strategy which aims to move away from sectoral compartmentalization and to focus on the tourist destination and area.

Aim: to create a sense of being highly involved in the tourist destination and in the quality of the culture.

The first milestone for implementing the work carried out as part of the Metz Tourism Quality Project was to develop and publish a "Welcome to Metz Guide and Links" (*GLAM - Le Guide et Liens de l'Accueil à Metz*) hand in hand with voluntary service providers. This guide provides practical tips and advice for offering an effective and customized tourist service and was designed so that the target of quality could be pragmatically adopted on a daily basis.

The G.L.A.M. (Welcome to Metz Guide and Links) is an operation "box of tools" designed specifically for local industry professionals. Its role and its aim are to:

- improve the quality of tourist reception throughout the area;
- train professionals to promote and market Metz as a tourist destination and as a product.

## Metz Tourism Quality Project 2011 innovations

- **Extend the Tourist Office website accessibility by integrating 2 new languages: Japanese and Dutch**
- **Create a website dedicated to "Welcome to Metz Guide and Links" (*Guide et Liens de l'Accueil à Metz*) and ensure the box of tools is readily available to industry professionals**
- **Develop specific reception synergies for customers for major events: Nuit Blanche (all-night celebrations), Marathon, Light Procession (hand in hand with organizers, TO, service providers, tourism schools, local residents)**
- **Create a Local Products Club**
- **Create specific major event and family products (City Pass, city-break products)**

## Metz Tourism Quality Project 2010 challenges

- **Setting up an itinerant and local tourist reception point during the CPM inaugural week, with 34 BTS AGTL (Tourism organization and management diploma) stewards, from the Peltre and Illkirch senior high schools, to help with managing the potentially large number of visitors arriving for the celebrations.**
- **Training local Metz service providers (accommodation hosts, restaurants, leisure activity operators, transport operators, etc.)** on specific technical and theme-based aspects.

Recent examples include:

- 16 and 19 March, introductory training on **Contemporary Art** by Johann Peeters, fine arts professor at Metz University
- 1<sup>st</sup> April, presentation and effects of the **Act on the Modernization of Tourism of 22 July 2009** by Mr JM François
- 13 April, presentation of pragmatic systems for adapting to and for accessibility for **special-needs customers**, Mr Trabucco (Handicap Mission – Metz)
- **2010 training programme for service providers**: Handling claims and disputes; techniques for recommending and selling; quality management; managing relations with the media, how to make press interviews successful

### Metz Tourist Office, key player for developing and enhancing the appeal of the Area

For several years now, Metz Tourist Office has been working hard helping to develop the appeal of the area and its influence.

The TO is the **privileged partner** of welcome committees for official and VIP delegations, during which it regularly works hand in hand with local authorities, in particular with Metz Congrès, Metz Expo and Metz Métropole Développement.

It takes part in the city's **tourist theme development programme** which is constantly renewed, by creating new signposted urban circuits, visits and commented strolls, by initiating audio-guided heritage tours, city passes, by promoting and certifying local gastronomy, by rallying every actor involved in the tourist stay and product chain.

In partnership with the Centre Pompidou-Metz, it co-manages the **Ici & Là Space**, which provides highly-detailed tourist information to CPM visitors and, as such, illustrates how much the links between culture and tourism have been consolidated, with the aim to reinforce economic development. Open from Monday to Sunday (closed Tuesday) from 11 am to 1:30 pm and from 2:30 pm to 6 pm.

The Tourist Office carries out substantive work whose benefits are reaped as a result of the care, the patience and the involvement of each and every stakeholder.

In 2011, it is extending its NF Service Quality strategy to cover all services: reception, boutique, receptiveness / commercialization and marketing / promotion / communication.

2010-2011 practical training programme in collaboration with the AGEFOS PME Lorraine (funding and consultancy for vocational training) and the European Social Fund.

This is a multiannual training programme (2010/2011), drawn up based on the requirements expressed by service providers and to respond, from an operational perspective, to everyday realities to optimize customer relations (service culture, quality, satisfaction, loyalty).

**Aim:** to gain a better understanding of the profiles of customers, to be able to welcome them appropriately and to offer an adapted, high-quality reception service – to know how to promote messages through the media/to make communication campaigns beneficial

This training programme incorporates 8 modules which deal with techniques for recommending and promoting the destination touristically, handling claims, receiving different clienteles: families/children/groups/business customers/foreign customers, customers with special needs, quality management, media relations.

#### Modules

1. Techniques for recommending and selling the destination touristically
2. Handling claims and disputes
3. Receiving family, children, group customers
4. Receiving business/foreign customers
5. Customers with special needs
6. Developing and modernizing touristic services – Act of 22 July 2009
7. Quality management
8. Managing media relations

#### Press Contacts:

Sabine Brousse – Managing Director – sbrousse@ot.mairie-metz.fr  
Joëlle KIFFER / Valentine VERNIER  
Office de Tourisme de Metz, 2 place d'Armes, 57007 Metz  
Tel: +33 (0)3 87 55 53 71 / 77 Fax: +33 (0)3 87 75 11 41  
Email: [jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr) / [vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr)

# Destination Metz: City Pass & City Breaks

**Metz Tourist Office is: an open door and multilingual personal welcome 7 days of the week, comprehensive multi-media information, promoting the region, privileging the destination and touristic activity.**

**Metz Tourist Office proposes guided tour services for everyone: groups, individuals, schools. Reservation required and subject to the schedule.**

## **New for 2010-2011: Metz Passport -City Pass, the destination's sesame**

**Two types of Metz Passport -City Pass exist: for individuals and for families.**

**Aims and challenges of creating Metz Passport – Metz City Pass:**

- Privilege tourism throughout the destination area by boosting tourist capacity between the Centre Pompidou-Metz and the historic heart of the city (establish a natural exchange link through an appealing and accessible offer);
- Encourage visitors to remain in the area by privileging the diversity of the existing cultural patrimony;
- Boost touristic and economic consumption (sites, accommodation, restaurants and commercial outlets);
- Produce economic benefits for local stakeholders throughout the destination area;
- Increase the duration of stays.

For more information and/or to download brochures: [www.tourisme-metz.com](http://www.tourisme-metz.com)

**Metz Passport - City Pass**, groups together a bouquet of offers and services at an attractive price, which boosts consumption in Metz and its surrounding area and, as such, produces economic benefit for the region.

Metz Passport - City Pass is intended for individual autonomous customers who wish to discover what the local area has to offer, at a highly-competitive, special rate that offers the advantage of spending less.

Metz Passport -City Pass comprises 4 basic offers:

- 1 admission to the Cour d'Or Museums
- 1 admission to the Centre Pompidou-Metz
- 1 audio-guided or commented tour of Metz
- 1 one-day unlimited travel TCRM (public transport) network pass

Also included - a selection of discount and commercial service offers (for restaurants, taste experiences, leisure/relaxation activities and shopping) which may be used with service providers registered with the campaign.

**Low-price breaks offer** (Metz Express from €48 per person B&B + audio-guided tour), various city breaks - Metz Déclit, Metz Passion, Special Nuit Blanche, Christmas Markets, a myriad of ideas for short stays and suggestions to discover the capital city of Lorraine as a couple, with family, with friends, covering all budgets.

## **And... for children and their parents**

The fun train takes you on a 45-minute tour, with comments available in various languages, leaving from the Place d'Armes.

Metz Tourist Office proposes tours for children and young people throughout the year (the Porte des Allemands, Chagall for children, Medieval Metz, Animal Hunt at the Cour d'Or Museums and more) and discovery rallies. Metz Tourist Office also sells Metz Family Passport – City Pass for two adults + three children (up to 16 years old) maximum, with 4 offers included – admission to the Cour d'Or Museums a to the Centre Pompidou-Metz, guided or audio-guided tour, family tourism Visi'pass + advantages and discounts on leisure activities, gastronomy, shopping, etc. (see conditions of validity and rates in Metz Tourist Office).

**Metz Tourist Office Reception tailor designs your stay in Metz, based on your wishes, what appeals to you, the time you have available and also based on events, entertainment, concerts, sports meetings and cultural encounters that are held throughout the year.**

In partnership with Nancy Tourist Office, why not enjoy a weekend in Metz and Nancy, an alternative discovery of the Lorraine region, from Art Nouveau to Contemporary Art, 3 days/2 nights from €164 per person for individual visitors).

#### **5 touristic itineraries**

5 touristic itineraries dotted with gold-coloured triangles, an opportunity to stroll freely through the city – look for the Graouilly, discover the islands, the medieval city, the Imperial District and the gardens.

#### **Audio-guided tours**

Audio-guided tours in Fr, De, GB, NI, I, to discover the heart of the city at your own pace

#### **Rabelais itineraries**

The "*Tables de Rabelais*", which pay tribute to the illustrious adopted Metz resident, François Rabelais, offer commented, out-of-the-ordinary itineraries. A journey through stones reflecting light, medieval and Renaissance architecture and gourmet tours including regional product taste-experiences.

#### **Commented tours for individuals**

The Tourist Office proposes 1 or 2-hour guided tours throughout the year with a tour guide – “must see” sites and theme-based visits, based on the schedule (modern-day and contemporary tour, a journey into Metz districts, Ste Thérèse Church and the New City, St Maximin Church, the Sablon District, the Outre-Seille District, the Imperial District, the Train Station and the area around the Centre Pompidou-Metz, or event-based tours – Historical Love Stories of Metz during St Valentine’s Day celebrations, Metz at Christmas during the Advent period, etc.).

---

**Press Contacts:** Joëlle KIFFER / Valentine VERNIER

Office de Tourisme de Metz, 2 place d’Armes, 57007 Metz

Tel: +33 (0)3 87 55 53 71 / 77 Fax: +33 (0)3 87 75 11 41

Email: [jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:jkiffer@ot.mairie-metz.fr) / [vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr](mailto:vvernier@ot.mairie-metz.fr)