



## Blois

City of art and history, Blois is guaranteed to surprise you



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### Visiting Blois

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**Samedi 23 février 2019**

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## Green spaces & remarkable gardens



### The gardens of the former bishop's palace

When the diocese of Blois was created in 1697, it led to the building of a splendid classic episcopal palace, now the town hall of Blois, surrounded by vast gardens with a view over the Loire. Previously the site housed courts for playing "jeu de paume" (real or royal tennis), the forerunner of tennis, very fashionable when the Court was in Blois.

The gardens of the bishop's palace were redesigned in 1991, and include a rose garden, a garden of the senses and an aromatic garden.



#### Rose Garden (Bishop's palace garden, place Saint Louis)

Situated on the lower terrace of the bishop's palace gardens, the rose garden is a riot of colours and scents from spring onwards. Its designers, Arnaud Maurières and Eric Ossart, called on two specialists to choose the finest varieties of fragrant roses.

#### Garden of the Senses

A semi-enclosed area overlooking the old town and the Loire, the garden of five senses in Blois, also known as the garden of medicinal plants, is located in the park behind the town hall. Designed by a class of students, this garden combines plants and layouts that stimulate the visitors' sensorial faculties...

## King's Gardens (Jardins du Roy)

An elegant frame for the château, the king's gardens were among the first to use the fortified area as a place of pleasure. Originally created by Louis XII, they were used to grow fruit, vegetables and medicinal plants.

Now they are contemporary gardens, styled and filled with flowers by the landscape artist Gilles Clément in 1992. They reflect the château's history, recreating the atmosphere of three eras (mediaeval, Renaissance and classic) in line with the château's three facades.

A lovely setting, enhanced by a waterfall cascading into an amethyst grotto, the royal flower garden has beds of lilies, iris and day lilies. The medicinal plants garden, composed of beds and pots on terracotta flagging, contains aromatic, seasoning and medicinal plants around a square pool, with a view of the city centre.



As for the king's garden, shaped as a belvedere, it gives a magnificent view over the city and two sides of the château.

This attractive layout significantly enhances the royal château.

## Garden of medicinal plants

Situated in the rue Vauvert, near the salt store, this walled garden provides visitors with a green oasis in the old city.

### Information

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