ART IN THE CITY

Urban exploration & inspiration
LAUSANNE: A DOWN-TO-EARTH CITY FULL OF TREASURES!

It becomes very obvious as soon as you look at the map in this mini-guide. Lausanne is a city built on a human scale. Moving from one point to another is as simple as can be on foot or by taking advantage of the excellent public transport.

To make your journey of discovery even easier, we have mapped out two routes at strategic points in the city. The first allows you to explore the centre of Lausanne while the second takes you down to the lakeshore. Lausanne is a fascinating place that you can explore and an open-air museum all wrapped up in one!

www.lausanne-tourisme.ch
www.artenville.ch

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DO YOU LOVE STORIES, SURPRISES AND DISCOVERIES? THEN LET’S EXPLORE!

Lausanne will proudly show off all its charms to satisfy the curiosity of explorers of all ages and backgrounds!

With sloping, cobbled streets in the historic old town, breathtaking views of Lake Geneva, vast green expanses perfect for relaxing, and modern, vibrant neighbourhoods in the city centre, Lausanne has something to please everyone!

During your visit, you will have the opportunity to discover the city's must-see sights, such as the famous Gothic cathedral and Platform IO, the new arts district. We also have some favourite Lausanne secrets to share with you that will make your stay truly unforgettable.

Works of art to be discovered during your walk

You will encounter sculptures, paintings and photographs displayed in public spaces. Find them all and get to know the soul of the city through its artists!

Their works of art are located in parks, public squares, on façades, right around the next corner, and sometimes even in the courtyard of a building... Keep your eyes open!

And last but not least, don’t forget to take pictures along the way, because you will definitely miss Lausanne once you’ve left.

We wish you great fun exploring!
“CITY ROUTE”

01 PETER WELZ — Studies for a movement
2009 | Photography | Plexiglas

On each side of the metro station, dancers from the Béjart Ballet Lausanne invite metro passengers to enjoy an ever-changing choreographed dance. Composed of five superposed images, they ‘dance’ in tandem with the movement of the passers-by. A tribute to the great choreographer, the installation also evokes the photographic work of the decomposition of movement by Muybridge.

02 PALAIS DE RUMINE

Erected at the end of the 19th century on the Place de la Riponne, this Italianate style building houses a host of treasures. It fulfils many functions: cantonal museums, a library, a place of study, conferences and meetings, and a passageway, the Palais de Rumine is an essential part of the life of Lausanne citizens.

03 GREAT-ESCAPE

04 LAUSANNE CATHEDRAL

During your visit, don’t miss the rose glass window and the great organs. The bravest will admire the panoramic view from the belfry (entrance fee) after climbing the 224 stairs. Open tours of the Cathedral and free guided tours during the summer (subject to change).

05 THE MUSÉE HISTORIQUE

This Lausanne historical museum speaks of the town’s rich past and features a famous model that offers an exceptional view of the 17th century Cité. Temporary exhibitions, inspired by the research conducted on its collections, explore the thousand years of this heritage. A novel approach to the town’s history: smart multimedia!

06 CAFÉ DE L’ÉVÊCHÉ
PLACE DE LA PALUD

A statue, symbolising justice, stands imposingly on the Renaissance fountain in the centre of this pedestrian square, where the Town Hall is also located. Opposite, tourists and children wait, every hour on the hour from 9 am to 7 pm, for the ballet of animated figures to the sound of the carillon.

GEORGES DESCOMBES — Les fontaines de la Louve
1998 | Sculpture | Tufa, moss

Like beacons to guide travellers, these seven rounded bollards glisten with running water and lead passers-by through the strata and history of the site. They retrace the journey of the Louve, an underground river today. The layer of moss that covers the stone and the gentle trickling of water stand for the peaceful passing of time.

CAFÉ DE L’HÔTEL DE VILLE

LE POINTU

ZARIC — Homcheval
2013 | Sculpture | Polychrome cement

Standing on a footbridge, a man-horse observes the flow of people passing by. A rose clutched in his hand, he seems to be waiting or meditating, as a snail climbs up his left foot. And he is not alone in the neighbourhood! A woman-fox is seated just a short distance away, creating a magical atmosphere in this vibrant neighbourhood with its colourful houses.

ZARIC — Femrenarde à la valise
2014 | Sculpture | Polychrome cement

The transformation of the Rôtillon district included the artist Zaric installing a number of striking anthropomorphic sculptures throughout the neighbourhood. You can spot a fox-woman, then, a little further on, a man-horse. Both of them seem lost in thought while they take a break from their stroll through the city. Who is the fox-woman waiting for, with her nose in the wind and her little suitcase sitting next to her?
LAB DR GABS

IGNAZIO BETTUA — Le Crapaud de Bourg et la Princesse
2003 | Sculpture | Bronze

A humorous reference to the Brothers Grimm and a quirky reinterpretation of traditional animal fountains, this work by Ignazio Bettua invites you to kiss the toad while quenching your thirst. Do you dare?

FRANÇOIS PÉTERMANN — Sans titre
1980 | Mosaic

Built as a ticket counter and waiting area for bus and tram passengers in 1913, this kiosk-turned-café is emblematic of the orientalist Art Nouveau style popular at the turn of the 19th century. The floor of this charming building boasts a polychrome mosaic. Decorated richly with curves and scrolls, it is the work of a mosaicist, illustrator and watercolourist from the canton of Vaud.

KIOSQUE DE SAINT-FRANÇOIS

PLACE AND CHURCH SAINT-FRANÇOIS

Lausanne’s residents like to meet up on this central square dominated by a medieval church that has become a hub for music and dialogue with contemporary art in all its guises. Market stalls of the famous Lausanne market set up on the square every Wednesday and Saturday morning.

ANTONIN MERCIÉ — Guillaume Tell
1901 | Sculpture | Carrara marble

This sculpture is the work of a renowned French sculptor fond of mythological and patriotic themes. Here, where other monuments in the surrounding park honour famous individuals from Switzerland and Lausanne, our national hero is in good company. And in front of the Casino de Montbenon, “William Tell's Chapel” provides the perfect complement to the sculpture.
**MONTBENON ESPLANADE**

Making the most of one of the town’s most beautiful openings on Lake Geneva and the Alps, you can lounge on the lawns in front of the District Court or enjoy a meal on a terrace. If it’s raining, you might like to visit the Swiss Film Archive in the Casino de Montbenon.

**BRASSERIE DE MONTBENON**

**LE VAGA-BON-CAFÉ**

**VINCENT KOHLER — Unplugged**

2017 | Sculpture | Bronze

The group of musicians seems to have deserted the stage, but move a little closer and you’ll see that water is gushing from their instruments. This atypical fountain has become a symbol for the neighbourhood, characterised by its music schools, rehearsal facilities and nightlife.

**FLON DISTRICT**

This district of former warehouses that begins at the Place de l’Europe was rehabilitated as a living area with a wide array of restaurants, bars, clubs, boutiques, cinemas and exhibition spaces. A must is to enjoy a drink on one of the rooftop terraces.

**BLACKBIRD DOWNTOWN DINNER**

**GÉRALD POUSSIN — Sans titre**

1991 | Mural painting

This mural art, featuring a multitude of characters, insects, totemic figures and animals, is an example of the fertile imagination of Poussin, a self-taught and prolific artist. Adorning the walls and the columns on the platforms, this work brightens up the metro station with its vibrant colours and lively figures.
“LAKESHORE ROUTE”

QUARTIER DES ARTS — PLATEFORME 10

The MCBA is located a stone’s throw from the train station, in the PLATEFORME 10 arts district. 10'000 of its collection are to be discovered in the building qualified as an exceptional architectural achievement. It is designed to provide its visitors with new original spaces: a restaurant, a bookstore boutique, an auditorium and a library.

TIBITS
AL SACCO
CAFÉ DE GRANCY
ZOO BURGER

OLYMPIC MUSEUM

The Olympic Museum forms Lausanne’s main cultural attraction. Each of its three levels is dedicated to a particular aspect of modern Olympism. You may need several visits to explore everything. In the park, admire the collection of sculptures and test your speed on a proper running track.

ANTONI TÀPIES — Mural olímpico
1992 | Painting | Polyurethane, resin, aluminium

The internationally renowned Catalan painter and engraver Tàpies originally designed this work for the IOC Pavilion at the Universal Exposition of Seville. The abstract figures, characteristic of the artist’s anti-aesthetic style, represent the energy of sports.

CARL FREDRIK REUTERSWÄRD — Non Violence
1997 | Sculpture | Bronze

This revolver with its knotted barrel is one of the most iconic works of art in the world today. Created in 1980 on the day after the assassination of John Lennon, the original marks the entrance to the United Nations building in New York and symbolises the “Non-Violence” project. This replica was a gift from the Sports Movement of Sweden.
It’s impossible to leave Lausanne without having sailed on Lake Geneva aboard one of the Compagnie Générale de Navigation’s vessels. In addition to crossing the lake to the French shore, its BelleÉpoque fleet – the largest in the world – takes you on board for a gourmet cruise.

This slender silhouette, poised for flight, pays homage to the great dancer and choreographer Serge Lifar. Elegant, refined and expressive, the sculpture evokes the subtle art of ballet. Its wings echo the flight of Icarus, immortalising a key moment in the choreographer’s career.

Fascinated by mathematics, Duarte creates works that are as geometrical as they are vibrant. Located at the entrance to the Port d’Ouchy, “Ouverture au monde” welcomes travellers. The structure comes alive under the sun as it mirrors the reflections of light on the surface of Lake Geneva.

As monumental as it is delicate, the “Eole” weather vane, located on a dyke at the Port d’Ouchy, turns gently with the wind. The four monoliths located on the embankment enter into dialogue with it and reveal in which direction the wind is blowing. Now it is your turn to figure it out!

The list of “gourmet breaks”, on the back of the map, is a non-exhaustive selection of restaurants located along both routes. Information last updated: spring 2020.
Choose a route and set off to discover Lausanne.

#MyLausanne
#artenville

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