



CITY TOUR

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF HIS MAJESTY KING BHUMIBOL ADULYADEJ



LAUSANNE
CAPITALE OLYMPIQUE

Between Lausanne and the Thai royal family, there exists a story of brotherhood, exchanges and respect that we wish to honour with this walk. Visit the 10 places that marked King Bhumibol's life in Lausanne for almost 20 years. And finish with a flourish at the Denantou Park to admire the traditional Thai pavilion that the King gave the town to express his attachment. May this walk enable our friends from Thailand and the whole world to discover the unusual aspects of our town and sustain the privileged relations between Lausanne and Bangkok, as well as the Thai and Swiss peoples.

THE 10 PLACES

1. ANCIENNE ACADEMIE (OLD ACADEMY)

It's in the Cité neighbourhood that King Bhumibol perfected his education. At the M2 metro exit, cross Pont Bessières towards Lausanne Cathedral. Enveloped by the area's student atmosphere, head straight for the Ancienne Académie that today houses the Cité college, but where King Bhumibol attended university from 1946 until 1951, the year he graduated with a degree in law. Within the nearby medieval walls of Château St-Maire, a reception concluded a Swiss sojourn of the King of Thailand and his family in November 1960.



2. RUMINE PALACE (PALAIS DE RUMINE)

When King Bhumibol, then aged 19, enrolled in Lausanne University, he attended classes not only at the Ancienne Académie, but also at Rumine Palace, that today houses cantonal museums and a library. The sharp and alert mind of student King Bhumibol radiated as much within the venerable walls of the Ancienne Académie, built between 1579 and 1587, as within this Florentine neo-Renaissance décor.



3. CLINIQUE CECIL

Heading back in the town centre by coach or using public transport, go to Lausanne train station. It's from here that the young royal couple of Thailand left Switzerland in 1951 by train for Genoa, before embarking on an ocean liner for Thailand. From the Place de la Gare, go up Avenue Ruchonnet on foot or by bus towards Clinique Cecil. King Bhumibol was hospitalised there in 1949 after a car accident during which his brother-in-law Khun Aram Rattanakul was seriously injured.



4. CLINIQUE MONTCHOISI

From Avenue Auguste-Tissot, walk or take a bus down to the Montchoisi area. It's here, in the Clinique Montchoisi, that was born on 5 April 1951 Ubol Ratana, first daughter of King Bhumibol and Sirikit, daughter of the ambassador of Thailand in France. The couple got married in 1950 after meeting in Paris, where the young monarch loved to travel to, particularly to listen to the jazz music that he so enjoyed.



5. ECOLE NOUVELLE DE LA SUISSE ROMANDE IN CHAILLY

From the Place du Tunnel, a five-minute walk from Rumine Palace, board the coach to go to the Lausanne-Chailly area, north of the town. In this formerly green, village-like setting, King Bhumibol and his brother King Ananda Mahidol attended together the Chailly Ecole Nouvelle. This internationally renowned institution welcomed King Bhumibol and his brother Ananda from 1933 to 1945. In April 2010, at the Ecole Nouvelle de la Suisse Romande, Princess Sirindhorn of Thailand

inaugurated a new building dedicated to King Bhumibol and his older brother Ananda. There, a memorial plaque seals the royal presence on the premises.

NOTE
It is to be noted that visits are only organised on special request to the Ecole Nouvelle de la Suisse Romande as it is not a museum, but one of the most selected schools in the region with over 600 students.



6. MONTCHOISI ICE RINK

Decidedly, the Montchoisi neighbourhood evokes with a fine intensity the life of King Bhumibol in Lausanne. The Montchoisi ice rink, which opened in 1934, witnessed the Princess Mother and her children, always accompanied by their private tutor, sample the joys of ice-skating, in a merry and popular atmosphere.



7. HOTEL ROYAL SAVOY

The history of the royal family of Thailand is closely linked to Hotel Savoy. Inaugurated in 1909, this grand hotel decorated with monumental mosaic frescoes, with its imposing Belle-Epoque facade, was particularly appreciated by the Princess Mother, who played tennis in the nearby tennis club of Montchoisi. Today, the newly renovated establishment is called the Royal Savoy Hotel & Spa.



8. AVENUE TISSOT 16

In the immediate vicinity of Lausanne station, walk to number 16 of Avenue Auguste-Tissot for a pilgrimage on the site of the royal family's first home in Lausanne. It is still possible to enter the courtyard of the building that witnessed in 1933 the arrival of Princess Mahidol, mother of King Bhumibol, then a young widow aged 29 accompanied by her three children.



9. BEAU-RIVAGE PALACE

From one grand hotel to another, walk down to the shores of Lake Geneva in Ouchy, to the Beau-Rivage Palace. The prestigious hotel's guestbook reveals that the royal couple lodged there from 10 to 17 January 1961. In 2001, it is also in this exceptional establishment that Princess Chulabhorn Mahidol, King Bhumibol's youngest daughter, stayed.

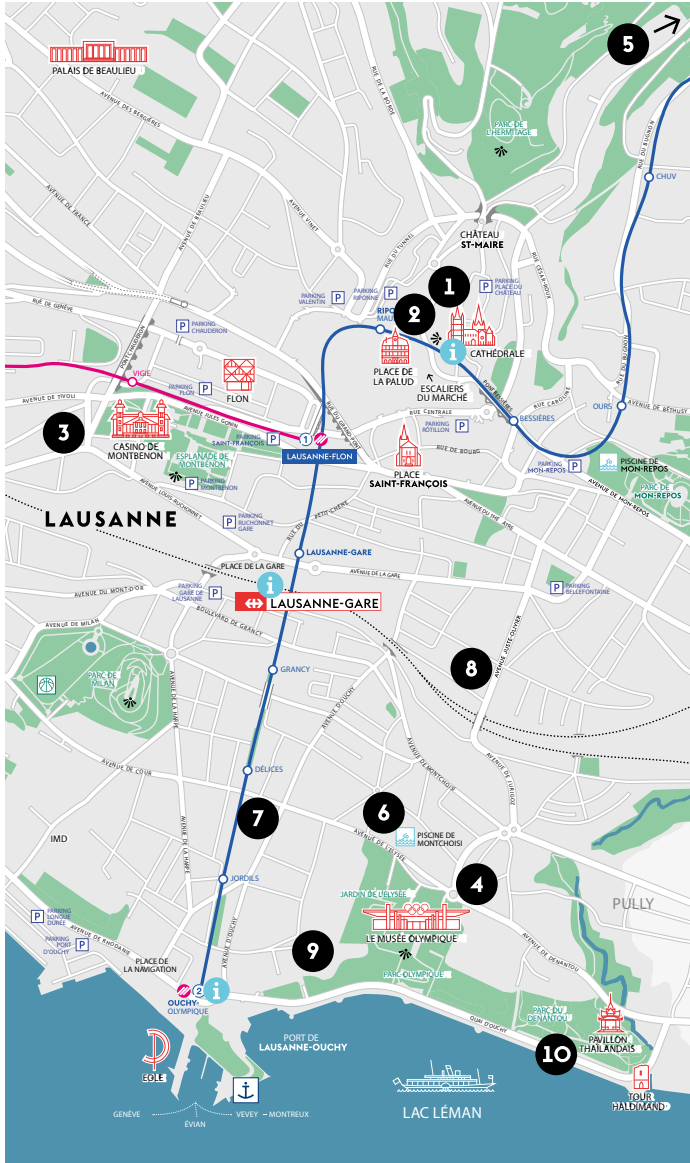


10. THE OUCHY QUAYS AND DENANTOU PARK

From the Beau-Rivage Palace, do as King Bhumibol, who liked to stroll in the evening along the Ouchy quays with his family, with Lake Geneva and the Alps as a setting. In 1960 King Bhumibol's children enjoyed the simple pleasure of pedal-boat outings on the lake, such as with those still for rent today on the Place de la Navigation, in front of the Château d'Ouchy. The princesses and Prince Vajiralongkorn,

who became His Majesty King Rama X, also played in Denantou Park, close to the lakeshores. Thus, it was very natural that in this green setting the Lausanne Thai pavilion was inaugurated in March 2009. A gift to the town of Lausanne in 2007, this precious edifice bears witness to the royal family of Thailand's gratitude to Lausanne, where it found a warm welcome in 1933 and until the end of the last century.

LAUSANNE MAP - THE 10 PLACES



“Lausanne, sister city of Bangkok, is proud of its privileged relations with the Kingdom of Thailand.”

Lysandre C. Seraidaris,
son of King Bhumibol's private tutor



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