



On the road of the Marquis de Lafayette
Discover this Frenchman,
Hero of the American Revolution

July 21-28, 2021

Steps of the program



Day 1 - Paris / Voloré

Day 2: Voloré / Langeac

Day 3 : Langeac

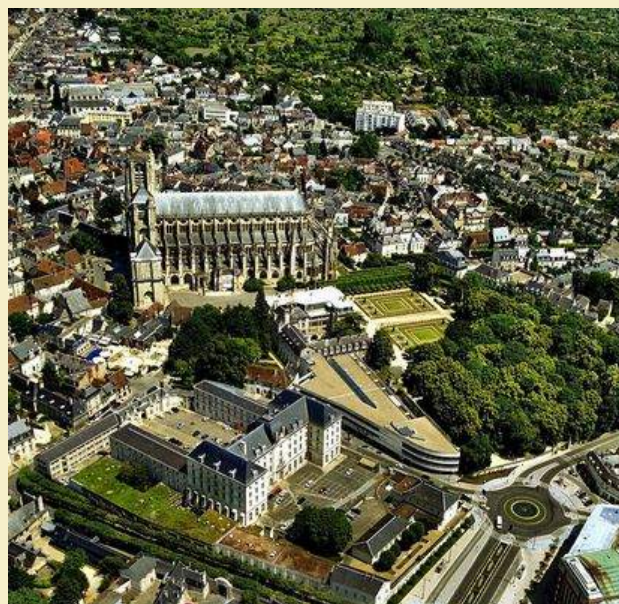
Day 4 : Langeac / Rochefort

Day 5: Rochefort

Day 6: Rochefort / Versailles

Day 7: Versailles / Paris

Day 8: Paris



Day 1 - Wednesday, July 21, 2021
Paris / Vologne (500 kms) (05h00 drive)

Departure from Paris around 10:00 am by minibus.

Lunch in Bourges.

Quick guided tour of Bourges.

Arrival at the Castle of Vologne.

Installation at the hotel of the Castle.

Dinner at the restaurant.





Day 2 - Thursday., July 22, 2021
Castle of Vollore / Langeac

Breakfast at the Castle, then visit.

Vollore is known in the history of Auvergne since the 6th century when Thierry, the son of Clovis, the first king of France, came to besiege the place in 532.

The fortress, of which the imposing Romanesque keep remains today, was built in the 12th century by the old family of Vollore. The castle then passed to the Thiers and Chazeron families in the 17th century, the Montmorins transform it and give it its current appearance.

In the same family for more than 2 centuries, Vollore is today the living home in Auvergne of the descendants of General de Lafayette, where respect for the past knows how to accommodate the comfort and demands of modern life. The castle of Vollore belongs to those houses whose origins are thousands of years old, and which always remain in phase with their time. Lunch (about 2 hours drive). Installation at the hotel.

Within the framework of the 20th "Belle Journée" (Beautiful Day)
Lecture given by Sabine Renault Sablonière and Laurent Zecchini
on Lafayette.

Dinner and night on site.

Thursday., July 22nd 8:30 pm :

Conference at the Cultural Center of Langeac animated by :



Laurent Zecchini :

Author of the recent biography "Lafayette, Herald of Freedom".
(Fayard, 2019)

Journalist for more than 40 years,
including 35 years at Le Monde newspaper.
Correspondent in many countries, notably the United States.



Sabine Renault Sablonière :

Descendant of the Marquis de La Fayette and author of the book
"Imaginary memories of Adrienne de La Fayette "

Administrator of the Hermione Association

Director of ActuPresseCoL



A child of the country, in love with Freedom.

On September 6, 1757, Marie-Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier de La Fayette was born at the Château de Chavaniac in Haute-Loire.

Born into a very old noble family of Auvergne and fatherless from a very young age, he grew up surrounded by his aunts and grandmother.

At the age of 12, he left the cradle of his birth to join his mother in Paris, to perfect his education and begin his military training. There he met Adrienne de Noailles, who became his devoted wife. Twice, in 1778 (with the ship La Victoire) then in 1780 on the famous Hermione, he left for America to help the American "insurgents" to free themselves from the English yoke.

Victorious and covered with the glory of having participated in the independence of America, Lafayette became the "Hero of the Two Worlds" and was named an honorary citizen. Throughout his long political life, as commander of the National Guard during the Revolution, or as a parliamentarian after the Restoration, he will not stop fighting.

against injustices in the name of Freedom.

He died on May 20, 1834 in Paris.



In 1786, not far from the Marquis' native land, the town of Langeac was looking for a new lord. Its inhabitants turned to Lafayette and were granted: Lafayette bought Langeac (anecdotally, for the sum of 170 000 £ tournaments), and on August 13, 1786, welcomed by a jubilant crowd, he received the keys of the city.

This event gave rise to many festivities, which were summarized in a poem "La Belle Journée", written by Jean-Baptiste Belmont.

The expression remained.

In 1997, it was decided to remember this event at a village party which, like the association created for the occasion, naturally took the name "La Belle Journée". Thus, every two years, Langeac remembers the arrival of Gilbert de Lafayette, in an 18th century atmosphere, during two days in costume.

The weekend traditionally begins with a military parade which, to the sound of fife and drums, announces the opening of the festivities.





Day 3 - Friday., July 23, 2021
The Beautiful Day of Langeac

Breakfast,

Welcome by Lafayette and visit of the Château de Chavaniac .

Lunch at the Departmental Council in Le Puy en Velay.

Visit of the city, the statue of Lafayette.

Captain Berthier, his soldiers, flags and other fifes and drums will accompany at 5 pm some bourgeois of Langeac to the castle of Chavaniac to meet the Marquis and remind him in a very solemn moment that he is expected Sunday morning in Langeac .





La Fayette Back in America:

a choreographic show created in 2017 in Bordeaux, was conceived by Christine Jeannin, former dancer of the Bordeaux Opera, and will be performed by ten professional dancers of classical training brought together by the troupe The Artist. The story is told through dance, voice-overs, special effects and video projections.... Acclaimed in France during its tour of the Southwest, this show participated in 2017 in a major tour in the United States and performed in particular in Yorktown to celebrate Franco-American friendship.

In Langeac, the event will be followed, in the reception hall of the cultural center, by a meal-show prepared by the canteenwomen of the association, and decorated with folk songs and dances.

Return and night at the hotel.





Day 4 - Saturday, July 24, 2021

Langeac / Rochefort

Breakfast, Check-out.

Departure for Périgueux (4 h drive)

Lunch and quick guided tour of the city.

Continuation to Rochefort (2 hours drive)

On arrival, handing over of the keys, installation in the rooms

Dinner and night at Mercure Rochefort la Corderie Royale.





Day 5 - Sunday., July 25, 2021 - Rochefort

Breakfast at the hotel.

Visit of the Corderie Royale. Royal Manufacture created by Louis XIV, the Corderie Royale is used to make the ropes necessary for the navy's sailing boats. Today it is a listed building and the largest historical site in Rochefort.

Lunch at the restaurant Les Longitudes.

Installed in a former guard house, it is ideally located between the Corderie Royale and L'Hermione.

Visit of the Arsenal Maritime de Rochefort. In the 18th century, Louis XVI dreams of reigning as a master on land and sea...

To do so, it needs a place to build and arm its warships. He will choose Rochefort, to install there the most beautiful arsenal of the kingdom of which the Corderie Royale will make the fame.

Discover the famous frigate Hermione, this reconstitution of an 18th century three-masted ship: Go through the exhibitions on its travels, its crew and life on board. Take a tour of its maintenance workshops and the traditional boat restoration yard.

Dinner on board. Night at Mercure Rochefort la Corderie Royale.



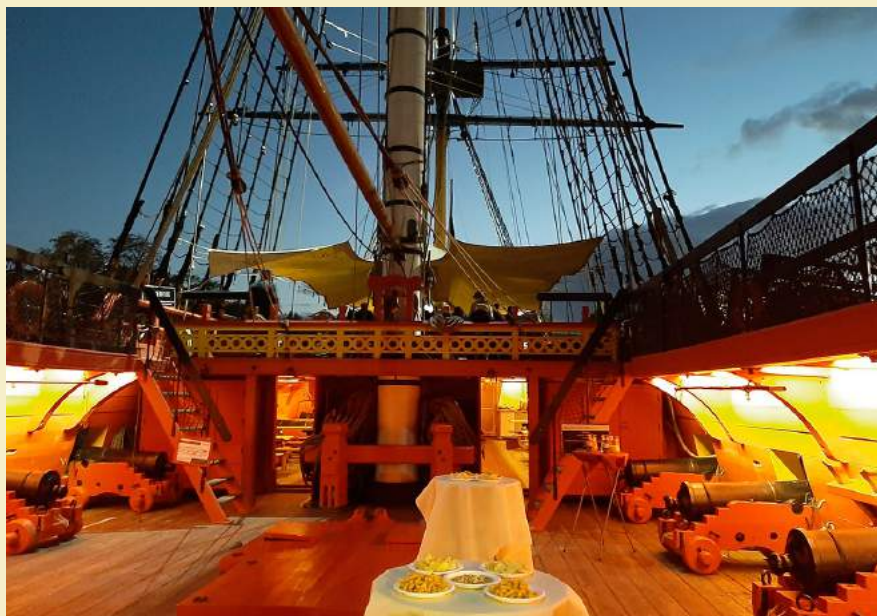
The history of the construction of the frigate Hermione
We are in 1779. In the heart of the Rochefort Naval Arsenal,
Chevallard Aîné finished the plans for a series of frigates
including the Hermione. Carpenters, blacksmiths and...
convicts are busy. It is necessary to finish the construction of
the frigate Hermione, "granddaughter of the ocean" according
to Greek mythology.

Let us remember, on the other side of the Atlantic, the war of
independence is rumbling... The Hermione, lighter than a
warship, will be attached to a squadron to serve as a scout and
assist warships in difficulty during a battle...

Hermione and Lafayette in the conflict
for the independence of the United States.

Our Hermione, built at Rochefort, leaves the Arsenal in 1780,
with Gilbert Motier, Marquis de Lafayette, on board, to take
part in this fight for independence.

Under the command of La Touche-Tréville, the Hermione
took part in decisive victories and became forever a symbol of
freedom and Franco-American brotherhood.



Dinner on board the Hermione

Welcome By Emilie Beau,
General Manager of the Hermione La Fayette Association.

You will dine in Lafayette's dining room.
Menu served at the table in this historical setting specially
privatized for you.





Day 6 - Monday, July 26, 2021

Rochefort / Versailles

Breakfast at the hotel.

Departure for a visit of La Rochelle.

A fishing village founded in the 10th century, La Rochelle became an important port in the 12th century.

Lunch at the Café de la Paix

Then road in direction of Versailles approximately 05h00.

At your arrival, handing over of the keys, installation in the rooms. Dinner at the hotel restaurant.

Night at the Novotel Château de Versailles.





Day 7 - Tuesday, July 27, 2021
Versailles / Paris (20/ 25 mn drive)

Breakfast at the hotel.

Private visit of the royal apartments at the Palace of Versailles.
Lafayette illustrated himself there during the famous balcony scene, which took place on October 06, 1789, when Queen Marie-Antoinette was forced to show herself on a balcony of the marble court in front of the angry people. Lafayette kissed the sovereign's hand, helping to calm the rioters.

Lunch in Versailles in one of the restaurants located in the gardens of the Château. Road to Paris.

Afternoon stroll in the district of Lafayette,
stops on the buildings where he lived.

At the end of the day, installation at the Saint James Albany Hotel, former hotel of Noailles, the family of Adrienne, Lafayette's wife. One must imagine the receptions given there by the Duke of Noailles, in particular the one organized for the wedding of his daughter Adrienne. Indeed, it is in this XVIIth century mansion that the Marquis Gilbert de Lafayette got married on April 11, 1774.





From hand to hand, it is said that the building was transformed into a hotel in 1853.

This central district, the 1st arrondissement, the Mecca of the events of the French Revolution, was very much appreciated by the British who came for the Universal Exhibition of 1855. Reason why the hotel adopts the name "Hôtel Saint James".

Dinner at the historic restaurant Le Procope in the Latin Quarter and night in Paris





Day 8: Wednesday, July 28, 2021

Paris

Breakfast at the hotel.

Check-out at the hotel.

Morning discovery of Paris with the visit of "Fayetteist" places.



Our conditions

Stay from July 21 to 28, 2021

Price per person: € 3,850 / \$ 4 680

This price includes :

Accommodation in double rooms in a 4 or 5 * hotel
throughout the circuit, 7 nights

Full board from lunch on day 1 to breakfast on day 8,
based on breakfast and a 3-course menu for lunch and dinner,
excluding drinks

All excursions and visits mentioned in the program
including the Belle Journée festivities, the conference,
the Lafayette ballet, the dinner in costume, the exclusive visit of the
Hermione, the different castles

Minibus transfers throughout the tour

The presence of Sabine Renault Sablonière and Laurent Zecchini
throughout the tour

The presence of a bilingual guide from the 1st to the 8th day

This price does not include:

The insurance

Services not mentioned and personal expenses

