

## Les Quatre Saisons

*A news-in-brief round-up through the seasons, from The French Ardennes*

### More than just musical bands, Cabaret Vert also features bande-dessinée

Named one of the 'Top 10' French music festivals, [Cabaret Vert](#), has been entertaining visitors to Charleville-Mézières for 20 years. Named after an Arthur Rimbaud poem with the same title, the Ardennes festival will welcome an army of festival goers from 14 to 17 August. Unlike other music festivals, however, this one has also always included a very strong comic books ("bande-dessinée") element in its programme - featuring signing sessions, meets-and-greets with authors, as well as exhibitions, workshops, and movies which, orchestrated by the Pellicule Ensorcelée, includes films and documentaries linked to comic strips, ecology and regional productions. One of the biggest off-site exhibitions of the [Cabaret Vert Comic Strip Trail](#) will take place at the [War and Peace Museum](#) through to 31 December. Some of the exhibition highlights this year have been timed to coincide with the music festival, but visitors are also invited to see *Return to Birkenau* - a one-man show by the A Contratempo company and directed by Emily Lombi. This retraces the life of Ginette Kolinka, a survivor of the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp who dedicated her life to passing on the memory of what she endured.

### Hear 'The Call of the Wild' in The French Ardennes

Less than two hours from Paris, The French Ardennes remains one of the least-explored, greenest and - in places - wildest areas of France. Most of it was designated as a Parc Naturel Régional (PNR) in 2012 - recognising it as a rural area of outstanding natural beauty. And, from mid-September to mid-October, visitors to The French Ardennes will once again be given the chance to join guided tours at the St-Laurent Hunting and Nature Centre that go deep into the forest to hear [The Deer's Bellow](#). Tours are available on: September 25, September 30, October 1 and October 7; and the cost is €30/person (€15 for children under 12). The full programme begins at 17.45 with a "Welcome" presentation about the biology, habits, and monitoring of deer in the Ardennes; the group then moves outside to observe a deer rut; and that's all followed by a dinner at 20.30 - sharing a traditional Ardennes menu.

### Tickets go on sale for the 2025 World Puppet Festival in France

Tickets are now available for one of Europe's biggest festivals, featuring some of the world's smallest stars. The 2025 World Puppet Festival ([Festival Mondial des Théâtres de Marionnettes](#)) has been a major event in the life of the French Ardennes region for more than 60 years, and will be staged in Charleville-Mézières from 19 to 28 September. One of the world's premier events when it comes to puppetry and the performing arts, it brings together over 80 French and international companies, along with around 155,000 creators with an interest in the art, researchers, programme managers from all over the world, journalists and, of course, festival-goers of all ages and backgrounds. As with every previous Festival, the 23rd edition will take place on the magnificent Place Ducale, with eye-catching opening and closing ceremonies. [Tickets](#) are priced from 6€ to 20€.

### Paint the town white

After major festivals like the World Puppet Festival and Cabaret Vert have been and gone, members of the Carabosse Company will take over the magnificent Place Ducale in Charleville-Mézières on Saturday 11 October to share a magical moment with their fire installations. Filling the town with their own unforgettable sounds, scents, and sensations the event begins as night falls. [Cie Carabosse's](#) own description of [White Night Saturday](#) paints a picture of "curves, circles, subdued light, human warmth, generous poetry of the cobblestones, moving lines, the gaze is drawn to the sky of this starry White Night in Charleville-Mézières". Three separate shows will be staged, amongst them, one at the Rimbaud Museum, off the main square. Here, the Museum will host the dance performance of "PUT ON YOUR RED SHOES" by Emilie Girault. Accessible and free, the "Nuit Blanche" in Charleville-Mézières has become a recent "must-see" for locals and visitors alike. The festivities begin at 19.00, and continue until 01.00, offering six hours of artistic discoveries and night time strolls.

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Full [Media Kits](#) (in English) for 2025 are available online, all press trips are arranged with the aim of reducing the impact of tourism on the environment.

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