

10 The washing place in the rue Saint Pierre

The Saint Barbe alley stands at the heart of an old miners' quarter and gives out onto the washing place in the *rue Saint Pierre*. There was no public fountain in this street in the old days. Private water points supplied the old houses. The washing fountains of Giromagny generally have three troughs. The use of these washing places was regimented according to rank. The wash basin nearest to the monk was reserved for the slaughter house and the others for washing linen. The washerwomen stood opposite each other which made it easy for them to converse.

11 The Protestant cemetery

The Protestant cemetery situated behind number 21 *rue Saint Pierre* housed Giromagny's Protestant community, including the Boigeol family. The Boigeols, who owned several plots of land, donated it to the town.

12 The old barracks site

The old barracks site occupies part of the old « Wolves' Paradise » property. The barracks, built in 1913 and occupied first of all by the 42nd Infantry Regiment then housed a hospital for evacuation from the Alsace front in World War 1. Other units and battalions followed to eventually become an internment camp in World War 2.

13 The Imré Nagy's stele

This is the first stele in the world. Imré Nagy was promoted to the post of Prime Minister of Hungary in 1953, not long after Stalin's death. In 1955 he was expelled from the Communist Party and dismissed from his duties. On 23rd October 1956 a popular uprising restored him to power. As from 31st October 1956 he announced Hungary's retreat from the Warsaw pact and on 1st November he appealed to the UN for the country's neutrality to be recognized. On 4th November the Soviet Union brutally crushed the revolutionary movement by sending its troops and tanks. Imré Nagy was arrested on 22nd November, deported to Rumania, then executed by hanging on 16th June 1958.

14 The Hautot fountain

The Hautot fountain was erected in 1843 at the request of Ferdinand Boigeol. Only the obelisk remains and the main basin was modified and restored in 1991.

15 The Saint Luc Temple

The Boigeol family, who were Protestants, set up a place of worship in the *rue Saint Pierre* which was later replaced by the Saint Luc Temple in 1902.



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DISCOVERY WALK



HISTORIC TOUR



~ 01:30 3,5KM

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1 The Mazarin house

Old strong house of the mines, it was built in 1561 for the judge Grégoire Heyd when the seat of justice of the mines had just been transferred from Masevaux to Giromagny. The law courts were refurbished at the beginning of the nineteenth century by the architect Heinrich Schickhart. This building is better known today as the Mazarin house because it was part of the endowment from Louis XIV to the Cardinal in 1659, in thanks for his eminent services rendered to the kingdom of France. The cardinal died without either visiting his Alsatian lands or spending a single night in this house.

2 The fountain of the miners' square

The fountain of the miners' square, installed around 1567 in front of the judge of the mines' house, was moved in 1841 and its basin replaced by the stone one which you can see today.

3 Le paradis des loups

On the site of the hotel the so-called « castle of the wolves' paradise » was built around 1850 by Ferdinand Boigeol and destroyed by fire in the night of 31st December 1944.

4 The town's coat of arms

Note the town's coat of arms above the Town Hall clock. The 3 towers symbolize the 3 jurisdictions on which depended the subjects of Giromagny in the 17th century: the people of the Rosemont, the miners and the inhabitants of the old village.

5 The Louis XV fountain

Giromagny possesses a score of fountains and wash houses. The Louis XV fountain, erected in 1758, commemorates the 110th anniversary of the Treaty of Westphalia, following which the seigneurie of Rosemont, Austrian at that time, was attached to France. This fountain, listed in 1916, originally stood in the place of the Town Hall.

6 The Bruderschaft quarter

Under the Hapsburgs, the mines were worked by manpower from the Tyrol, Saxony, Bohemia and German-speaking Switzerland. The Monks' Alley, the *rue de l'Eglise* and the *rue Traversière* made up the Bruderschaft quarter, the miners' brotherhood. The latter was created in 1569. It was the equivalent of a well-organized trade union ensuring the social welfare of workers injured in accidents and assisted widows and orphans. It also played the role of corporation (Knappschaft) as in other German mining centres.

7 The church St John the Baptist

The present church, dedicated to St John the Baptist, is in neo-Gothic style and was built from 1857 to 1862 on the site of the miners' church. This first building, consecrated in 1569 and dedicated to Saint Barbe, patron saint of the miners, had become too old and too small for a population of 3,000 strong. The church was embellished with an organ in 1874. It was made by Nicolas Verschneider and comprises three keyboards and thirty stops. It became listed as « historic monument » in 2015 and was significantly restored.

8 The lock

The lock which you can see from the canal path is all that is left of the old weaving mill built in 1860 on the site of an old flour mill. It worked with 474 mechanical looms in 1866 and stopped functioning in 1932. The canals, now dried up, were used to take water which operated the 20 HP steam machine and the turbine.

9 The old extraction gallery of the Saint Pierre mine

In the garden of the house situated at the end of the footbridge you can see the old extraction gallery of the Saint Pierre mine. It was used to drain water from the mine, what is known as « exhaure » (water pumping). At this point the gallery used to go down to a depth of 390 metres. In 1733, a big wheel which was powered by water from the river, was installed in this well to remove the water and put the mine into service. Today the gallery is used for collecting water.



ALTERNATIVE PATH

Take the marked **mines footpath** and visit the **Fort Dorsner**.