

10 Belvedere
Enjoy a rare view of the Citadel and the city's fortifications from the Belvedere overlooking the far end of the Grand Couronné.

11 Demi-lune (half-moon)
This defence element designed by Vauban to protect the Citadel's emergency exit was connected at the time to the counterscarp by a wooden bridge.

12 Grand Souterrain
This was the original ditch of the medieval castle, covered by Vauban in 1749 and modified by General Haxo in the 19th century. Up to 1,200 men could take shelter in this vaulted gallery heated by ten large open fireplaces.

13 Courtyard
Here you will find the well – 67 metres deep – and the History Museum which offers a journey into the daily life of the region, from prehistoric times to the period of the invasions.

14 Panoramic Terrace
Enjoy a 360° view of the majestic Citadel, the city and the surrounding hills.

15 Postern
A small, discreet gateway halfway down the Citadel gives access to the city.

16 Casemate Denfert-Rochereau
Colonel Denfert-Rochereau led the town's defence from November 1870 to February 1871 from this casemate.

17 Porte de Brisach
(walk along the fortifications and follow the Hauts de Belfort Promenade trail). This royal gate was built in 1687 by Vauban. It is adorned with the emblem of Louis XIV – a sun – embossed on its pediment with the Sun King's motto *Nec Pluribus Impar* (Not unequal to many). In the centre, fleur-de-lys and the royal crown are surrounded by trophies and flags.

18 The Mosaic
Made from coloured enamel and glass paste, represents the Old Town and its fortifications.

19 Place d'Armes
In the heart of the Old Town, admire the **Bandstand** and the **Quand Même** statue (1882) by Antonin Mercié. The pink sandstone used here creates visual unity between the **Saint-Christophe Cathedral** (1727), which houses a listed monumental organ, and the **City Hall** (1724), former mansion of François Noblat, lord and adviser to the king.



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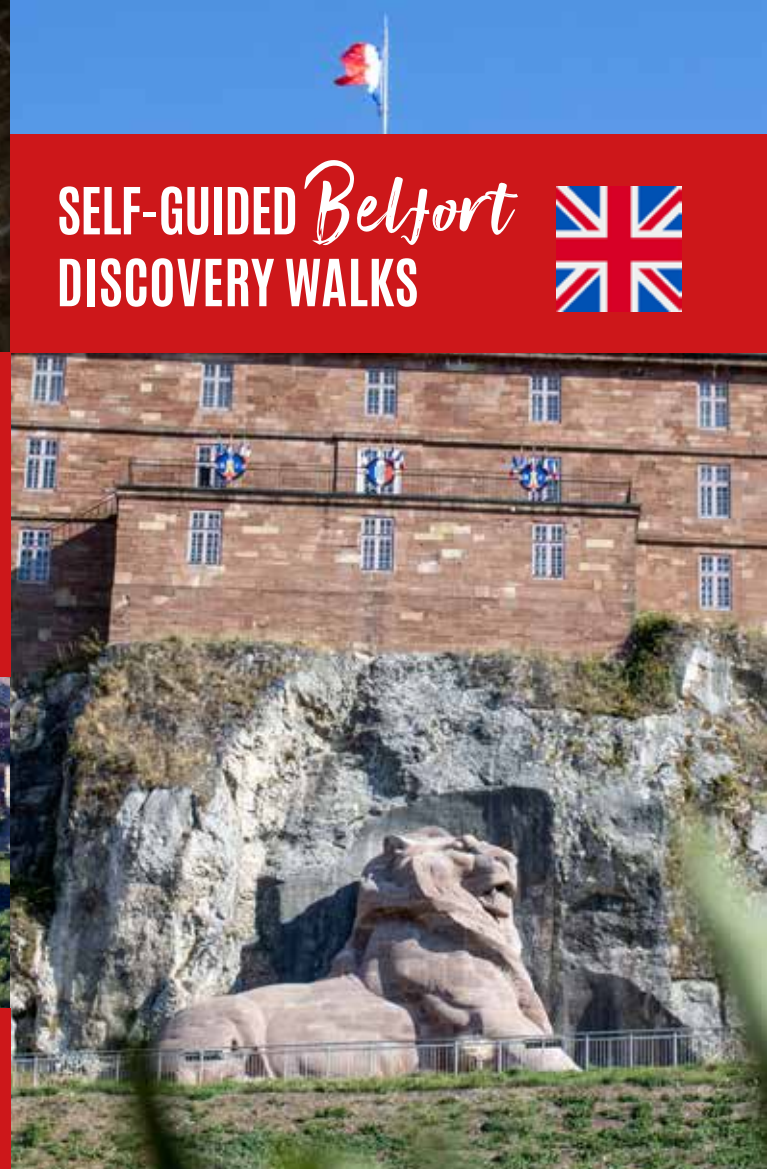
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SELF-GUIDED *Belfort*
DISCOVERY WALKS



4 CITY WALK : FRANCE'S FAVOURITE MONUMENT 2020
THE IMPREGNABLE CITADEL AND BARTHOLDI'S LION



Moderate



~ 01:30



3.5 KM



1 Hôtel du Gouverneur & Tourist Information Centre
 The former **Arsenal** building, later renamed **Hôtel du Gouverneur**, was built in 1726. The Latin inscription on the pediment, *Hic fulmina jovis* (Here the thunder of Jupiter), clearly indicates its initial function. From Commander's Residence in 1927, it became the Kommandantur headquarters and more recently the residence of the Departmental Military Delegate. It now houses the **Tourist Information Centre**.

2 Jules Heidet School
 Built in the 14th century, this former Grain Exchange was rebuilt in 1567 by the Burghers of Belfort. It became a seigneurial hotel and seat of justice in the 18th century, and then accommodated the administrative services of the district and the sub-prefecture under the Revolution and the Napoleonic Empire. It has been a school since 1827.

3 Bartholdi's Lion
 The symbol of the town's resistance during the Prussian assault of 1870-1871 – the **Lion** – was designed by Bartholdi (sculptor of the Statue of Liberty) and has been watching over Belfort since 1880. Made out of blocks of pink sandstone from the Vosges, it measures 22 m long by 11 m high.

4 The ditches
 Follow the **O** signs to the "**Char Martin**"
 In the Middle Ages a castle used to stand on the site of the current **Citadel**. It was protected by a ditch which was covered in 1749 and modified again in the 19th century. It is today the **Grand Souterrain**. The second ditch, or **Grand Couronné**, was built in 1636. In 1820 and 1840 General Haxo had two other ditches added thus creating the four-tiered system of protection visible today.

5 The White Fort
 A famous photograph dating from the Second World War was taken here. It shows a man, smiling, standing against a bastion, surrounded by German soldiers in a mock execution. This picture of the smiling man about to be shot, while originally intended for German propaganda, was to become a symbol of the Resistance.



6 Vauban Hornwork & Casemates
 The Vauban Hornwork is an advanced work that protects the eastern front. It was partly integrated into General Haxo's third and fourth ditches in the 19th century. A hornwork consists of two semi-bastions connected by a curtain, itself protected by a demi-lune. It was designed by Vauban to allow crossfire from the batteries.

7 «Char Martin»
 This armoured vehicle is a replica of the Sherman tank "**Cornouailles**" driven by Lieutenant Martin who was killed by the Germans during the Liberation of Belfort in 1944. The original turret can be seen in the second ditch of the **Citadel's Discovery Trail**.

8 Citadel Discovery Trail
 Go deep into the heart of the fortifications and learn more about the history and military architecture of the site thanks to the educational panels placed along the way. Enquire about the **Augmented Reality Tour** at the History Museum.

9 Lower Haxo Batteries
 This was a firing area designed to protect the forts located east of the Citadel.

🕒 _ PRESSED FOR TIME ?
 An Optional Shortcut from the "Char Martin" leads to the Courtyard and Panoramic Terrace.

📅 _ PLAN YOUR VISIT
 The Citadel's Discovery Trail and the Grand Souterrain are open from April to October.

🏃 _ FITNESS CHALLENGE
 Climbing up using the steps from Allée de l'Option Française.