

9 Haussmann Quarter & Carnot Buildings

The New Quarter was designed to welcome a bourgeois population and became Belfort's jewel in the crown in the 20th century. Haussmann-style buildings are easily identifiable with their cut-stone walls and magnificent wrought iron balconies.

10 Place de la République

This square became the heart of the city in the 20th century. Admire the **Préfecture**, designed like a private mansion as from 1901, the **Courthouse** and the magnificent Baroque-style **Festival Hall**. In the centre, the **Three Sieges Monument** (1912) was built to the glory of Commander Legrand, General Lecourbe and Colonel Denfert-Rochereau, defenders of Belfort during the three sieges of the 19th century.



11 Museum of Fine Arts

Housed in Vauban's former bastioned **Tower 41**, the museum exhibits paintings and sculptures by renowned artists such as Gustave Courbet, Rodin...

12 Former Departmental Station

Of the former short-line, local railway that came into service in 1913, the pink sandstone building with its decorated pediment is all that remains.

13 Mesguich Mosaic

The mosaic designed by Pierre Mesguich represents the town fortified by Vauban that unfolds before your eyes.



14 Brisach Gate

The 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.



15 Jules Heidet School

Built in the 14th century, this former Grain Exchange was rebuilt in 1567. It was a seigneurial hotel under Mazarin, and later housed the administrative services of the district and the sub-prefecture under the Revolution and the Napoleonic Empire. It has been a school since 1827.

16 Great Fountain

Early records of the fountain were found in the 1497 town accounts. The fish market used to be held here in the Middle Ages and the communal oven was nearby.



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DISCOVERY WALKS



1 THE VAUBAN WALK
HERITAGE DISCOVERY TRAIL



Easy



~ 01:00



2.4KM



2 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.

3 The *Lion*

Made out of blocks of pink sandstone built up against the **Citadel's** dramatic rock face, the Lion was designed by Bartholdi (sculptor of the Statue of Liberty) and it is the symbol of the city. It recalls the town's resistance during the 1870-1871 War and its conservation to France. It is 22 m long by 11 m high, which makes it the largest stone statue in France.

4 Tour 46

From the Arsenal car park, turn around and admire **Tower 46** at the corner of the defensive wall. It is one of the three bastioned towers which in the 18th century shaped Vauban's fortified town. Today it hosts the temporary exhibitions of the Museums of Belfort.

5 Hôtel du Département

The pink building here is the former *Vauban Barracks*. It was built in 1899 to house Engineer and Artillery Regiments. At the end of the 19th century Belfort saw its garrison increase to reach 8,000 men in 1914. The building is now the seat of the Departmental Council of the Territoire de Belfort.

6 Square du Souvenir

This former fairground has been a remembrance park since 1924 when the **World War I Memorial** was installed here. It was redesigned between 1925 and 1927. The arrangement and variety of the flowerbeds, borders, groves and lawns add to the solemnity of the place. Take a look also at the **Poilu** (WWI infantry soldier) by Léon Leyritz (1927) and admire the park's monumental gate.

7 Théâtre Le Grrranit

Renovated in 1983 by Jean Nouvel (architect of the Quai Branly museum in Paris), it is also an exhibition venue with its in-house art gallery.

8 The faubourgs

The Faubourgs District has undergone many transformations over the centuries and it is the heart of Belfort's commercial activity. Shops, arcades and café areas provide a pleasant environment for visitors and locals to enjoy recreational and shopping activities.



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EXTENDED ITINERARY

#FRANCESFAVOURITEMONUMENT

From the Jules Heidet School, walk up to the **Lion** and the Citadel.