



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Organising your visit: either go as you please or use an audio guide.

Find out more about the castle and its history: At the bookstore and gift shop discover the historical works published by the château, the guide *le musée d'histoire de nantes* (published by gallimard / musée d'histoire de Nantes).

Languages spoken at the welcome centre:  

• **Courtyard, rampart walkway and moat gardens: entrance free**

Open 7 days a week: 10 am to 7 pm. July and August: 9 am to 8 pm with late opening on Saturdays till 11 pm.

• **Castle interiors, Museum and exhibition**
10 am to 6 pm; closed Mondays. July and August: open 7 days a week, 10 am to 7 pm. Last admission 30 minutes before the information desk closes.

• **Gift and bookshop** TEL. +33 (0)2 51 17 49 56
10 am to 6.30 pm, closed Mondays. July and August: open 7 days a week, 10 am to 7.30 pm.

• **« Les Oubliettes » café restaurant** TEL. +33 (0)2 51 82 67 04
10 am to 6 pm; closed Mondays. July and August: open 7 days a week, 10 am to 8 pm. September: 10 am to 7pm; closed Mondays. January: annual closing.

• **Site closes every year on**
1 January, 1 May, 1 November and 25 December

• **Individual visitors**     
Information and tickets: www.chateaunantes.fr ;
TEL . 0811 46 46 44; at the museum information desk

• **Group guided tours**  TEL. +33 (0)2 40 20 60 11
FAX +33 (0)2 51 17 48 65 or groupe@nantes-tourisme.com

CHÂTEAU DES DUCS DE BRETAGNE
MUSÉE D'HISTOIRE DE NANTES
4, place Marc Elder - 44000 Nantes
TÉL : 0 811 46 46 44 *[charged as a local call]*
Calling from outside France: TEL. +33 (0)2 51 17 49 48
FAX +33 (0)2 40 48 62 81
contact@chateaunantes.fr – www.chateaunantes.fr



THE CASTLE AND MOAT GARDENS



3 HERITAGE TRAILS

■ ■ ■ ON THE RAMPARTS

Follow in the footsteps of the sentry on duty; enjoy superb views of this vibrant modern city and its historic buildings.





■ ■ ■ IN THE COURTYARD

Learn about the buildings around the courtyard, the different phases of their construction, the alterations and what has been demolished.

■ ■ ■ IN THE MOAT GARDENS

Appreciate the grandeur of this 15th century castle, built to defend the independence of the Duchy of Brittany.

KEY

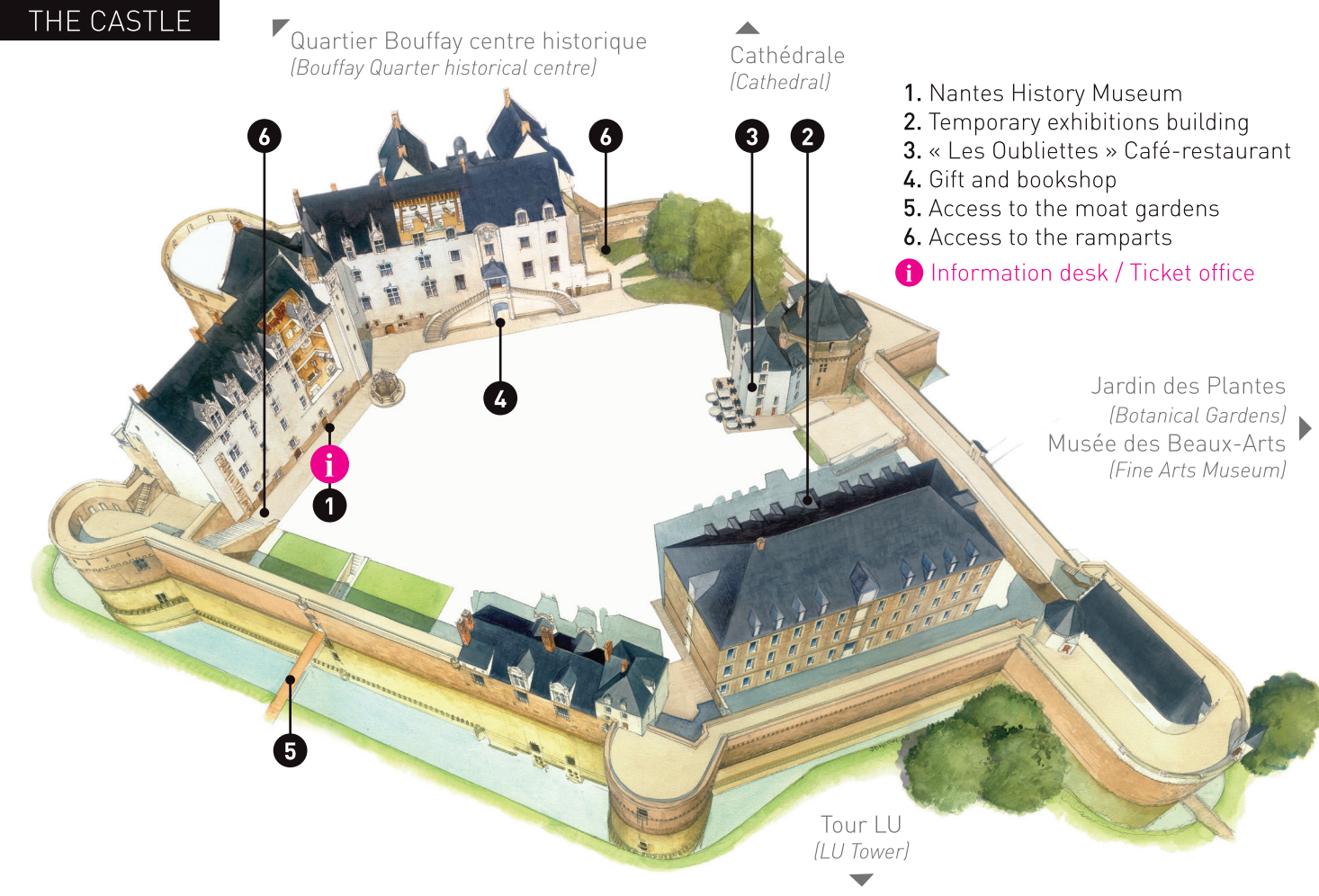
- 1 Nantes History Museum
- 2 Temporary exhibitions building
- i Information desk / Ticket office
- i Information desk Nantes.Tourisme
- bicycle Cyclists, please dismount
- ▶ Accessible for the physically disabled   
-  Dogs are not allowed in any part of the castle, with the exception of seeing eye-dogs

After visiting the castle, take time to explore the historic streets of Nantes on one of the city's themed walks. Pick up a free map at the information desk at the museum entrance to find out more about the city's history and buildings. If you follow the themed walk about *Nantes and the Slave Trade*, it will lead you to the new Memorial to the Abolition of Slavery.



CHÂTEAU
DES DUCS DE
BRETAGNE
MUSÉE
D'HISTOIRE
DE NANTES

WELCOME
TO THE CASTLE
OF THE DUKES
OF BRITTANY



1. Nantes History Museum
 2. Temporary exhibitions building
 3. « Les Oubliettes » Café-restaurant
 4. Gift and bookshop
 5. Access to the moat gardens
 6. Access to the ramparts
- i** Information desk / Ticket office

A CASTLE IN THE CITY

Francis II, last Duke of Brittany, began this magnificent building in the late 15th century. Work was continued by his daughter, Anne, Duchess of Brittany and twice Queen of France. The Castle of the Dukes of Brittany (Château des ducs de Bretagne) is a fortress with a residential palace within it, built in the local tufa limestone, with fine, carved façades. A royal castle from the 16th century, the building has since been used as a prison, as barracks and an arsenal. Following a complete restoration, it is now home to the Nantes History Museum.

THE CITY'S HISTORY MUSEUM

Housed in the ducal palace, the museum's 32 rooms contain the latest museum design technology. The 850 objects in the collection, together with a number of multimedia features, offer an absorbing introduction to the history of Nantes: the home of the Dukes of Brittany; the setting for the 1598 Edict of Nantes under Henry IV of France; a great Atlantic port since the 17th century; a flourishing industrial city during the 19th and 20th centuries; and the cultural and artistic urban centre that it is today.



The Couronne d'or Tower's loggias

The monumental staircase

A hanging fireplace

15th century beams

The film about Anne of Brittany

Ship's figurehead from the Asie (1897)

Exhibit about the slave trade

History of Nantes by Pierrick Sorin