



ENVIRONNEMENTAL DAYS IN METZ AND VERDUN ON 04TH, 05TH, 06TH OF JUNE 2022 PROGRAM

Day 1 – Saturday the 4th of June 2022

From 2 pm : Welcoming of all participants at the hotel “Campanile Metz Centre Gare” (90 rue aux Arènes)
Badges and documents will be provided.

OPTION 1

3 pm : Meeting point at the Metz train station in front of the General de Gaulle statue to start our guiding tour (1h30) of the **Station and well as the Imperial District**.

This neighborhood built around the train station is a remarkable illustration of the German influence in the town at the beginning of the XXth century. Guillaume II King takes the decision to destroy the city battlements to build a « new town » located south of the historic center.

☞ A visit in German language will be organized depending upon the number of participants.



Or

OPTION 2

3 pm : Meeting point in front of the **Metz Pompidou Center** for its guided tour including an exhibition called « L’art d’apprendre » or « Le musée sentimental d’Eva Aeppli ».

With its hexagonal roof whose shape fits the building plan, the Metz Pompidou Center looks like a large modular structure built around a 77 meters high spire as a reference to the Paris Pompidou Center (Beaubourg, inaugurated in 1977).



From 6 pm at AEROGARE : 69 rue Lothaire, Metz

Badges and documents can be distributed if not done earlier in the morning.

Our Shop will be opened with all kinds of promotional items developed specifically for the « Verdun » project.

As requested by the Sorooptimist French Union, a video of Suzanne Noël will be shown around 6:30 pm.

Diner will take place on a nice terrasse with a musical entertainment.

Day 2 – Sunday the 05th of June 2022 MORNING

8 am DEPARTURE FROM METZ CAMPANILE HOTEL by bus for a guided visit of the battlefields in order to discover this land shaped and impacted by the bombs during the 1st World War and understand one of the most famous battles that took place in Verdun.

☞ *All the coaches will drive next to the land which was chosen to plant the trees for the « little wood of Suzanne Noël. »*

☞ *The visits of both the Douaumont ossuary and the Fort will be organized by the office of Tourism.*

DOUAUMONT OSSUARY, commemorative monument dedicated to the victims of the 1st War at Verdun in 1916; it contains the graves of 130 000 unidentified soldiers.

The visit of the cloister, the chapel and the national cemetery will be followed by the screening of the movie « Des Hommes de Boue » - screening duration: about 20 minutes.



☞ *Please find below details about the two forts that might be visited as part of the Day 2 program, only one will be chosen.*



EITHER THE DOUAUMONT FORT

Defensive building centered on two levels of galleries and casemates; visit of the observatories and towers, as well as the command post, the sleeping quarters, and the chapel. The most armed and the biggest in the area.

OR THE VAUX FORT

Fortress which has been the scene of hard battles between the French and the German soldiers, and remains the symbol of French heroism, with well-known Officer Raynal and his last carrier pigeon. Very interesting visit including the casemate of Bourges and its 75 guns...

☞ *This one-story fort is more accessible, and its visit will be reserved in priority for people wishing easier access and having specified it during booking.*



1 pm : Lunch at restaurant Clair de Lune 2 Allée du Dieu du Trice, 55100 Verdun



Day 2 – Sunday the 05th of June 2022 AFTERNOON

OPTION 1

Back the Verdun Memorial to

- Attend some conferences in the auditorium (130 persons) and participate to the virtual grand opening of the “little wood of Suzanne Noël”.
- **Visit freely** the Memorial.



OPTION 2 : **Starting from the Memorial**, take part in one the two historical guided tours :

- o 1- Fleury tour (50 persons) ou
 - o 2- Souville tour (50 personnes)
- ☞ *The guided tours last about 2 hours of which 1 hour walking. Please consider wearing comfortable shoes.*



OPTION 3 : **Visit of the underground citadel of Verdun (50 persons max)** (1st booked, 1st registered)

3h30 pm – 5 pm, Avenue du soldat Inconnu

The citadelle represents a wonderful space for transmission between generations around the First World War, for young people fascinated by the history of trenches. In a wire-guided basket, using virtual glasses, dive into the memory of this place and share the moments.

☞ *Visits prohibited for children under 8 years old. Dress warmly since the temperature in the galleries might be around 8°C. Departure of the wire-guided baskets containing 4/5 persons every 3 minutes*



OPTION 4 : **Free visit in Verdun**



5:45 pm : For everyone, departure from the Memorial of Verdun by bus for an expected return in Metz around 7 pm.

Free evening (diner is possible at the hotels).

Day 3 – Monday the 06th of June 2022

10 am : Please see below the options available

OPTION 1 : THE SMALL ELECTRICAL TRAIN BY SCHIDLER (60 persons)

Departure from « la place d'Armes » in a small 100% electrical touristic train to discover the heritage and architecture of the city. The guided tour will take 1 hour and is available in 10 different foreign languages.



OPTION 2 : CRUISE ON A BOAT ON THE MOSELLE RIVER (70 persons)

Departure from « le Quai des Régates », where the Soroptimist Club of Metz planted a giant Sequoia to commemorate the 100 years SI anniversary.

Visit Metz town on a solar electrical boat; take a 1h15 a wild side of Metz that can be only seen by boat together with the city center.

OPTION 3 : DISCOVER METZ CITY CENTER

(2 x 30 persons)

Departure from « la place d'Armes » in front of the Tourism Office.

A 1h30 visit of the cathedral, the « Hauts de Sainte-Croix » and the Récollets cloister.



12H00 : FINAL LUNCH AT THE RECOLLETS CLOISTER

To end those 3 days, we will be welcomed by the city Hall of Metz at the Récollets cloister for a final lunch in this high place dedicated to ecology and sustainability.



First association to settle within the Récollets cloister, The European Institute of Ecology (EIE) created in 1971 by Jean-Marie Pelt, a well-known botanist and ecologist, whose personality, fame and research have offered a tremendous prestige to the EIE, thus giving the city of Metz the nickname of the "urban ecology cradle". From this fertile melting-pot were born new scientific disciplines that are now recognized worldwide: urban ecology, ecotoxicology and ethnopharmacology.