

Opposite the Saint-Mathieu church, the former Ursuline convent (17th century) now houses the Alain Gérard media library. At the back of this building, the François Mitterrand esplanade opens onto the Cornouaille Theatre, architecture of the end of the 20th century, designed by Nicolas MICHELIN and Finn GEIPEL. There is also the School of Fine Arts whose past students include designers Ronan and NICHARD and the stylist Val PIRIOU..

This district, the cradle of the city during Gallo-Roman times, was also the site of the first faience pottery factories in Quimper. It includes a Romanesque church from the 11th and 12th centuries (rare in Finistère), with a 17th century cloister and priory. The Priory garden is classified «Remarkable Garden». This district also includes the Faience Museum (open from April to September), the Henriot-Quimper can be visited from April to September), fishery of the School of Embroidery. And its Quimper speciality since the 19th century

The territory of Quimper is punctuated by many green areas. To the south, Creac'h Gwen hosts recreational and sports areas along the river Odet which continues its course until its mouth at Bénodet and Ste-Marine. From the Cape Horn district, a towpath runs along the river for 2 km and invites you for a stroll with a privileged view of the Lanniron domain and castle. The once private, er Odet today make the charm of the city tower wards. The tree-covered hill of Mont gives Quimper its charm.

The architectural innovations of the early 20th century also marked Quimper. In front of the cathedral, the former Boucharda store with its large bays and marquee, illustrates the Art Nouveau style of the early twentieth century. The banks of the Odet also bear witness to the daring of Art Deco and in particular the artistic movement «Ar Seiz Breur» (the Seven Brothers), born in 1923, precursor of modern Celto-Breton art: sculptors, engravers, ceramists (visible cabinet makers (furniture visible at the streets). On the quay, the building housing West-France and the Ty Kodak house were erected in the 1930s and are part of the spirit of modernity in 1919. They have been listed as

In the early 20th century, the old theatre was named after Max Jacob. This Quimper playwright and writer who died in deportation, was a friend of Picasso, Cocteau and Modigliani, all members of the *Bateau Lavoir* (the famous rendez-vous of Parisian artists perched upon the hill of Montmartre). In his play *Le Terrain Bouché* (The Filled-in Ground), Max Jacob was inspired by the tumultuous emotions of the creation of this theatre in 1903.

The building has been listed in the Inventory of Historical Monuments since 1997.



12, place St-Corentin - 29000 Quimper (face à la cathédrale)
Tél. 02 98 95 39 24 RETROUVEZ-NOUS SUR 



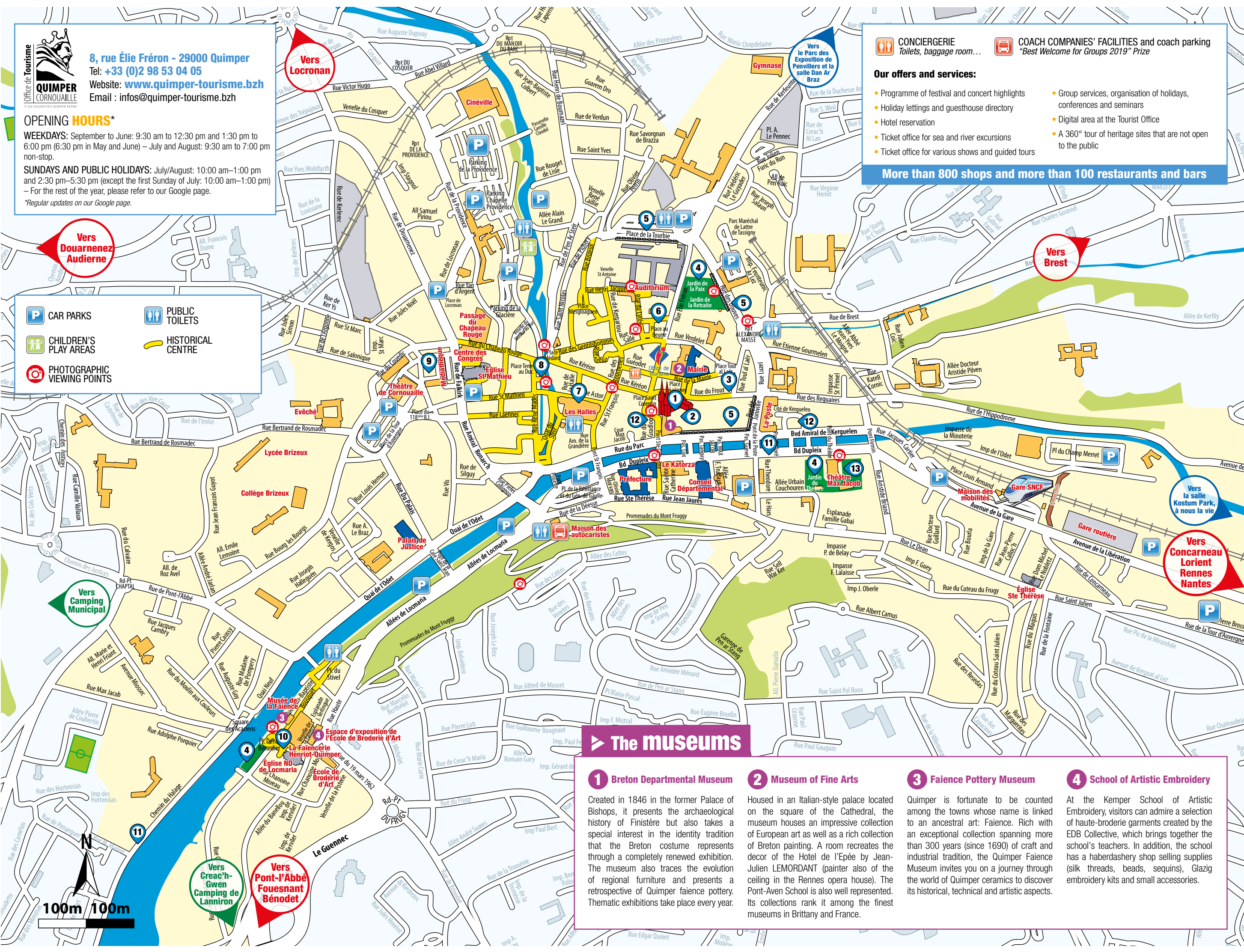
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LITTLE CITY MAP

QUIMPER





► The 13 unmissable sites



The Saint Corentin cathedral

The construction of this jewel of Breton Gothic art began in the 13th century (choir) and was completed in the 19th century (spires). Restoration work carried out for more than 20 years between the end of the 20th and the beginning of the 21st century gave the cathedral its superb and astonishing polychromatic interior. A prestigious building whose visit is essential in the discovery of Quimper.



The Episcopal Palace and courtyard

Behind the wall along the Boulevard de Kerguelen and the coastal river Odet, the courtyard of the Episcopal Palace offers a breath-taking view of the cathedral and its countless flying buttresses and pinnacles. The former bishops' residence, with the «Rohan» tower and cloister, opens onto the so-called Évêché Space, a centre of Quimper's cultural life, which hosts many events in season.



Rue du Frou and Faubourg Saint Corentin

In the 19th century, it was known as rue du Chapitre. The road owes its name to the Frou, a small river formerly known as Frou Questel (the castle's stream) that ran along the edge of the eastern fortification of the walled city. This river has been deviated multiple times due to urbanism and is today largely covered over. Rue du Frou is now an attractive shopping thoroughfare with independent boutiques and art galleries.



The gardens

Due to its particular geographical location, Quimper offers the pleasure of numerous walled gardens in the heart of the city. The Jardin de Locmaria (Locmaria Garden) near the Priory revives the spirit of monastery gardens from the end of the Middle Ages and is classified as a «Remarkable Garden». Tucked away in the ramparts of the episcopal city, the exotic and Mediterranean Jardin de la Retraite and Jardin de la Paix (Garden of Retreat and the Peace Garden) invite you to relax. Behind the Max Jacob Theatre, on the left bank of the Odet, is a park with an English rose garden.