## PuyduFou.

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2020 MEDIA KIT

## **HEART-TUGGING** BEAUTY

Drawing inspiration from history, today Puy du Fou has become a renowned artistic model globally, celebrating fabled stories and legends.

It's a history that starts in the ants. Ancient trees and delicate ients of global awards. We put heart of France and gently unfolds each year. Puy du Fou has been intriguing, attracting and captivating spectators from France, Europe and the entire Puy du Fou is the ideal place for world for 43 years now. Because a family get-together. Enjoy a over the course of its creative experience, Puy du Fou has invented a universal language. A language of the heart and the soul which borrows from the dramas and the deep joys of humanity, the spring of true emotions. Rather than merely delivering an enjoyable distraction, Puy du Fou seeks to create a living memory of the past, which joins hearts and souls, and invites its visitors to rediscover the heroes and heroines summer of 2019, the French who have carefully woven the fabric of our common heritage.

Nature and history are inter-Puy du Fou. So, rather than creating overcrowded landscapes, Puv du Fou builds its creations around nature. This is a world where nature leads, in harmo-

flowers abound, subtly enhanced by the man-made buildings and architecture.

memorable break together in an environment that doesn't differentiate between generations. Step back in time, through magnificent shows that breathe life into centuries-old legends and seize the opportunity to reconnect with the natural world.

The Puy du Fou magic has spread its wings to Spain, the Netherlands and China. In the adventure reached Spain when Puy du Fou España's nighttime show, "El Sueño de Toledo" opened. The show triumphed twined and live side by side at from the first performance. In spring 2021, Puy du Fou España will open four new daytime Investing and creating like never shows.

Designed in France, our shows vocation: celebrating the soul of nious dialogue with its inhabit- and creations are regular recip- the people.

our success down to our passion and commitment. Everything, from the initial concept, to the final production, is created by the teams at Puy du Fou who remember their childhood dreams and transform them into a reality.

2020 is set to be a record year, enhanced further by three new creations. "Les Noces de Feu" is an evocative night-time show that tells the story of a romantic wedding; "Le Grand Siècle" is a spectacular new hotel, designed from the Sun King's former château at Marly; and "Le Théâtre Molière", a conference suite of elegant blue and gold salons. As evidence of its confidence in the future, Puy du Fou is investing sixty-two million euros, half of its turnover, into these new initiatives.

before in its history, Puy du Fou has now given itself a global



#### ORIGINAL CREATION FOR 2020 • •

At Puy du Fou, the year 2020 will be marked by romanticism and evening poetry, with the original night-time creation: "Les Noces de Feu".

This new 30 minute show is a sequel to "Les Orgues de Feu" in which the Muse and the Pianist met and fell in love. "Les Noces de Feu" continues the tender story with the portrayal of their wedding.

This night-time extravaganza presents a poetic journey to the heart of the romantic 19th century. All of the music in the show is performed and arranged by the famous virtuoso sisters, Camille and Julie Berthollet (Erato and Warner Classics artists), made famous by the programme "Prodiges" on French Television.

With breathtaking staging, this show combines the perfect balance of water and fire, the intimate and the majestic, the underwater and the aerial, the delicate nature of the electroluminescent costumes and the immensity of the sets rising from the depths of the lake.

16 million euros have been invested to bring this new nocturnal extravaganza to life, a true moment of emotion to bring a day at Puy du Fou to the perfect close.





Guests are invited to stay in the rooms of the Sun King. The four-star "Le Grand Siècle" has 96 family rooms, split between eight lodges. The finest materials, brocade tapestries and gilt mouldings provide a welcoming atmosphere, taking the hotel's guests on a unique journey through time.

At the heart of "Le Grand Siècle", "La Table des Ambassadeurs" restaurant provides a royal buffet, created by Michelin-starred chef Yannick Alléno.

The Puy du Fou gardeners have designed more than 3 hectares of French gardens, recreating the perspectives and plant architecture so dear to Louis XIV. Guests are free to relax and stroll through this vast green space.

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Four-star establishment
20 million euros invested
96 double or family (four person) rooms
500 covers at "La Table des Ambassadeurs" restaurant



PALAIS DES CONGRÈS • ORIGINAL CREATION FOR 2020 •

In 2020, Puy du Fou will be equipped with a huge 3500m<sup>2</sup> conference centre, "Le Théâtre Moliere", entirely devoted to corporate tourism, in the spirit of the Grand Siècle.

New for 2020, "Le Théâtre Molière" is a huge 3,500m<sup>2</sup> conference centre, devoted entirely to corporate events. The centre comprises a large central auditorium seating 500 people, 11 fully modifiable meeting rooms between 40m<sup>2</sup> and 250m<sup>2</sup> in size, and a multi-purpose space, enabling businesses and major role-players in the events industry to organise all kinds of events, from the most intimate to larger-scale.

This exceptional building, equipped with the latest technology, has been conceived and designed to host companies and their employees in optimum conditions of comfort, and thus create unique and personalised events: conventions, seminars, trade fairs, product launches...

Over 200 corporate events hosted every year
Between 10 and 3,000 participants
Capacity for 1,500 beds
Entirely bespoke catering available
Entertainment on demand

## **A GREAT JOURNEY** THROUGH TIME



#### ANTIQUITY ST **4**тн EARLY MIDDLE AGES Le Signe du Triomphe 🧧 ⊨ La Villa Gallo-Romaine 🦕 Le Bal des Oiseaux Fantômes **HIGH MIDDLE AGES** 5тн Le Secret de la Lance **10**<sup>TI</sup> Les Chevaliers de la Table Ronde Le Premier Royaume 📍 La Cité Médiévale Les Vikings La Citadelle 🛏 Le Fort de l'An Mil ТН 🛏 Les Îles de Clovis 15™ **GRAND SIÈCLE** RENAISSANCE 15™ Mousquetaire de Richelieu La Renaissance 16 du Château Le Monde Imaginaire de La Fontaine 🖕 Le Camp du Drap d'Or 🛤 Le Labyrinthe des Animaux Le Repaire des Enfants 17тн Le Grand Siècle **BELLE ÉPOQUE 18<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY** Les Noces de Feu ORIGINAL CREATION FOR 2020 Le Ballet des Sapeurs 18<sup>TH</sup> Le Dernier Panache • Les Amoureux de Verdun 🛏 Le Logis de Lescure ( Les Automates Musiciens Le Village XVIII<sup>ème</sup> Le Bourg 1900 Le Grand Carillon ↓ Le Café de La Madelon X 19тн Le Mystère de La Pérouse **20**<sup>TI</sup> 9

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## 01 DESTINATION EMOTIONS

## PUY DU FOU'S STORY

Puy du Fou has been writing its story and retracing history for more than 40 years.

1977 • Philippe de Villiers writes and stages his first show at Puy du Fou: "la Cinéscénie"
1978 • The very first show of "La Cinéscénie" is performed on 16 June
1984 ullet Puy du Fou organises its first humanitarian evening, chaired by Yves Montand
1989 The Grand Parc of Puy du Fou is created
1993 • Alexander Solzhenitsyn presides over an exceptional evening at Puy du Fou to pay tribute to the people of the Vendée.
The same year, Puy du Fou was the starting point of the Tour de France, and then again in 1997 and 1999.
1998 • Académie Junior is set up
2001 • Puy du Fou opens the "Stadium Gallo-Romain"

2007	Creation of the "Cité Nocturne du Puy du Fou" hotel complex with its first themed hotel: "La Villa Gallo-Romaine"
2012	In March, Puy du Fou is voted "Best Park in the World" in Los Angeles (USA)
2014	For the second time, Puy du Fou is crowned the "World's Best Park" in Orlando (USA)
2016	Creation of the biggest show of its history: "Le Dernier Panache"
	The show "Les Amoureux de Verdun" wins the "Thea Award for Outstanding Achievement" in Los Angeles (USA)
2017	Puy du Fou celebrates its 40 <sup>th</sup> anniversary
	Opening of the 5 <sup>th</sup> hotel: "La Citadelle"
	"Thea Award for Outstanding Achievement" for "Le Dernier Panache" in Los Angeles (USA)
2018	Creation of the show "Le Mystère de La Pérouse", an immersive journey in the company of the famous navigator on the seas around the world
	This show receives two international awards: "2018 Best European Creation" in Bergamo (Italy) and in Amsterdam (Nederlands).
	Opening of the new restaurant with entertainment "Le Café de la Madelon"
2019	Creation of the immersive show "Le Premier Royaume", a fantasy journey into the fascinating story of Clovis, king of the Franks, reliving the conquests and the doubts of this great strategist.
	This show receives three international awards: "Best Show of the Year" and "2019 Best European Creation" in Paris (France), "Best Creation in the World" in Los Angeles (USA)
2020	The creation of the night-time show "Les Noces de Feu", a night-time extravaganza, all set to music, which offers a poetic journey to the heart of the romantic 19 <sup>th</sup> century. It is a continuation of "Les Orgues de Feu", presenting the second part of the romantic and heart-tugging story of the Muse and the Pianist.
	Opening of the 6 <sup>th</sup> hotel: "Le Grand Siècle"

## EMOTIONS TO SHARE

### THE GRAND SHOWS

Puy du Fou features spectacular shows, inspired by great moments in history. Special effects and breath-taking backdrops catapult the whole family into a different era, from the 3<sup>rd</sup> century to the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Each show lasts from 26 to 40 minutes, and is played up to 7 times per day, welcoming from 5,000 to 25,000 spectators every day to each production.

#### LE SIGNE DU TRIOMPHE

Gladiator battles and chariot races take place in an impressive Gallo-Roman stadium, shaded by an authentic Roman velum restored at Puy du Fou.

#### LE BAL DES OISEAUX FANTÔMES

330 eagles, falcons, vultures, kites and owls circle in the sky, brushing against the audience, orchestrating this spellbinding ballet. The spectacle of all the birds in full-flight together is the result of a 25-year long project.

#### LES VIKINGS

Suddenly, Viking warriors disembark from their imposing longships to plunder the quiet village of Fort de l'An Mil. The show uses amazing special effects as a 20-metre long ship rises up from the depths of the pond. **MOUSQUETAIRE DE RICHELIEU** 

Sword duels, flamenco dances and equestrian stunts, this show features an impossible love affair in the heart of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. This vast theatre is equipped with the largest stage curtain in the world.

#### LE SECRET DE LA LANCE

Set in the Hundred Years' War, a young Shepherdess sets about discovering the secrets of a lance that has the power to protect the castle. For this show, Puy du Fou created a huge bulwark measuring 8 metres high and 60 metres long that completely vanishes in full view of the spectators.

#### **LE DERNIER PANACHE**

The tragic destiny of François-Athanase Charette de la Contrie, a French naval officer and hero of the American War of Independence, is performed in a grand 360° stage. This unparalleled performance takes place in a revolutionary hall measuring 7,500 m<sup>2</sup>: "Le Théâtre des Géants".

## **IMMERSIVE SHOWS**

Puy du Fou also offers fully immersive shows where the attention to detail, sophisticated production and focus on special effects together create a highly charged experience.

#### LE PREMIER ROYAUME

During the fall of the Roman Empire, the war chief Clovis is torn between the ancestral traditions of his people and the new path opening up to him to found the first kingdom!

#### LA RENAISSANCE DU CHÂTEAU

The former inhabitants have returned from the past to take visitors through weapons rooms and underground passages, as the history of the castle unfolds through stories and anecdotes.

#### LE MONDE IMAGINAIRE DE LA FONTAINE

This show relives Fontaine's famous fables in a plant-filled garden dotted with talking trees and animals statues.



#### LE MYSTÈRE DE LA PÉROUSE

Aboard "La Boussole", the famous seafarer's ship, explorers-for-a-day will take to the high seas, living and breathing each stage of an expedition from which there would be no return.

#### LES AMOUREUX DE VERDUN

Visitors enter the depths of the First World War trenches. They are then invited to experience the daily life of the Poilus, up to the truce of Christmas 1916.

### EMOTIONS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

The gardens at Puy du Fou are home to many other shows for visitors and their families. Escape from the 21<sup>st</sup> century to another era, to the magical and mysterious exploits of King Arthur's court and to acrobatics performed by the circus artistes in the 18<sup>th</sup> century village.

Choose your adventure to share and experience some unforgettable emotions!

LES CHEVALIERS DE LA TABLE RONDE	LES AUTOMATES MUSICIENS
LE GRAND CARILLON	LE LABYRINTHE DES ANIMAUX
LE BALLET DES SAPEURS	LE REPAIRE DES ENFANTS

### **PERIOD VILLAGES**

At Puy du Fou, nature and authenticity are the hallmark of every setting. The thatched roof huts of "Le Fort de l'An Mil", the mud walls of "La Cité Médiévale", the monk and nun tiles of "Le Village XVIII<sup>ème</sup>" and the "Art Nouveau" architecture of "Le Bourg 1900" are real.

As they wander through the villages, visitors will discover dozens of craftsmen at work, all experts in 22 different trades.



## THE NIGHT-TIME FRESCOES

At nightfall, the two great night shows extend your dream Let yourself be carried away by "La Cinéscénie"'s epic saga or be astounded by the memories which resurface from the depths of the lake in "Les Noces de Feu" the original creation for 2020.

#### LA CINÉSCÉNIE, the greatest night show in the world:

"La Cinéscénie" is another astonishing super-production lasting almost 1h30. Performed by 4,300 volunteers, the show portrays the history of France, from the Middles Ages to the Second World War. This extraordinary narrative is supported by cutting-edge technology and played out on the world's biggest stage: 23 hectares.



Each performance features 2,800 actors, 190 horse riders, 80 technicians and 600 people to welcome the audience and ensure their safety. The show uses extraordinary technology: 28,000 costumes, 880 fireworks every night, 31 free-flying drones, almost 5,000m<sup>2</sup> film projections with video mapping, over 3,000 projectors and 14.1 sound system specially designed to plunge 13,000 spectators into the action each evening, from 6<sup>th</sup> June to 12<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

#### **NEW FOR 2020**

Each year, we re-visit "la Cinéscénie" and enhance it with ever more spectacular new scenes.

At the end of the 30's, French people are celebrating, the ballroom is in full swing. But in the distance we suddenly hear the thud of bombs dropping from German planes, followed by the flight of terrified dancers. The transition from "Le Bal 1900" scene to the convoy of refugees from the Ardennes, announces with striking realism, the beginning of World War II.

"Le Marché" scene has been completely revised, with a new staging, new costumes and a soundtrack rewritten by the Hollywood composer Nick Glennie-Smith. This gathering of long-forgotten trades provides a vibrant and memorable scene.





Every evening at dusk, a sweet melody resounds over the lake and gradually awakens memories of the most romantic of weddings. Violinist Muse and virtuoso Pianiste meet to celebrate their eternal love in a magical wonderland of water and fire.

Take your place at an enchanting ball, and watch dreams become reality when dancers and giant sets emerge from the depths of the lake as if by magic, giving the newlyweds an unforgettable wedding ceremony. (see page 4).

## NATURE, THE OTHER SPECTACLE

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## **A NATURAL SETTING TO EXPLORE**

At Puy du Fou, we believe that nature reigns supreme, leading the way for people to follow. This is why all our productions and shows are created to respect and blend in with their surroundings and why we see the gardeners and animals of Puy du Fou as the sacred guardians of nature.



- At Puy du Fou, nature is sometimes wild, sometimes neat and tidy, but always elegant:
- 25 km of pathways,
- a 100-year old forest with 150 species of trees,
- 4,000 feet of rose bushes in 90 different species,
- 70 species of aromatic and medicinal plants,
- more than 13,000 bulbs planted each year,
- 45 gardeners and landscapers,
- 20 new plants cultivated each year,
- 1,300 km of boxwood hedges in the French garden, in front of "Le Grand Carrousel".
- creation in 2018 of a self-managed vegetable garden. In this first year, 500kg of vegetables were grown and delivered exclusively to "L'Auberge", restaurant in "Le Village XVIII<sup>ème</sup>". In 2019, 5 tonnes of fruit and vegetables were produced.

#### A "ZERO PHYTO" POLICY

Puy du Fou gardeners avoid using phytosanitary products to benefit the food chain: carp feed on mosquito larvae in ponds, chickadees chase caterpillars, ladybugs fight against aphids and Ouessant sheep are ideal natural lawn mowers.

Electrical equipment is always favored for the maintenance of nature. Puy du Fou prioritises eco-responsibility, treating nature with the utmost care.

### ZERO PLASTIC TARGET IN 2024

As nature is our primary setting, it has always been our priority to protect it. By implementing several actions in favour of the environment, Puy du Fou is the first of the 15 largest French tourist sites to obtain the Green Globe label (international environmental label dedicated to tourism).

To go further still and become a benchmark, Puy du Fou is going to remove all plastic from its site by 2024. This is an ambitious objective which positions Puy du Fou as a pioneer in this field, and this is only the beginning! Details of the numerous other initiatives we're currently working on to make Puy du Fou even more ecologically sound will be released in due course.



## A HAVEN FOR OUR ANIMALS

Animals are full-time actors in the Puy du Fou's shows. Visitors can also see them as they walk round the park

#### **EQUESTRIAN ACADEMY**, the largest stable for shows in Europe

226 horses, mostly thoroughbred Lusitanians, are trained and cared for at the Equestrian Academy. They are genuinely high-level athletes pampered and cared for by vets, equine osteopaths and Puy du Fou trainers. They are trained in different equestrian disciplines such as trick riding, high school dressage, harnessing and stunt.



#### THE ANIMAL CONSERVATORY, a conservation programme for endangered species

Puy du Fou saves and protects a record number of animal species for Western France. Amongst the endangered species, there are farm animals such as the Poitou donkey, the Bayeux pig, the Poitou goat and the Des Fossés goat.

#### **CANINE ACADEMY, achievement through play**

11 Czech wolves and 11 dogs are cared for at the Canine Academy. Learning through play, and in connection with people, allows these remarkably instinctive animals to integrate in "Les Vikings" show within two years. Each year, new dogs join the Vikings team.

#### FALCONRY ACADEMY, an international benchmark for centres specialising in birds of prey

36 falconers care for 640 birds, crossing 78 different species (kites, eagles, pelicans, buzzards, condors, etc.) and there are around 80 newborns each year. In aviaries completely integrated into nature, they apply their unique know-how to the well-being of the birds of prey, their breeding and their reintegration into a natural environment.



## 3 EXTEND THEJOURNEY THROUGH TIME

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## THE "CITÉ NOCTURNE"

With its 6 themed hotels, "La Cité Nocturne" offers its guests the option of choosing which century they want to sleep in.

Puy du Fou's hotels feature over 500 rooms and just under 2,500 beds in family rooms (from 4 to 5 beds).

#### LA VILLA GALLO-ROMAINE

"La Villa Gallo-Romaine" was the first hotel to be built at Puy du Fou in 2007. Visitors are immersed in the atmosphere of Ancient Rome, greeted by our staff in togas and period costumes. The 3,300m<sup>2</sup> inner courtyard is typical of Ancient Rome. Surrounded by 62 monumental columns, it is home to a Mediterranean garden containing olive trees, cypresses, rosemary and lavender. 100 three-star family rooms are decorated with pilums and Roman furniture.

100 rooms 400 beds

#### LES ÎLES DE CLOVIS

This hotel immerses guests in the dawn of the Middle Ages. 50 huts built on stilts – with thatched roofs and half-timbered walls – have been eco-designed to recreate the village atmosphere of the 1<sup>st</sup> Millennium. More than 80,000 plants, planted one by one, adorn "Les Îles de Clovis", which accommodates 500 beds. The decoration combines authenticity and three-star comfort: granite washbasins, oak beds and wooden furniture.

100 rooms 500 beds



#### LE CAMP DU DRAP D'OR

"Le Camp du Drap d'Or" invites guests to enjoy a stay living in the footsteps of Francis I of France and Henry VIII of England in one of its 100 flamboyant "logeries" featuring the arms of each crown. Four-poster beds, turned solid oak columns, embroidered tapestries, hammered metal basins and a golden-glazed ceramic bathroom give guests a truly royal stay with all modern comforts in a magnificent and authentic setting.

100 rooms 500 beds

#### LE LOGIS DE LESCURE

"Le Logis de Lescure" has 4 duplex suites in an authentic Vendée-style 18<sup>th</sup>-century building. Each suite offers guests a different experience with original décor: "La Salle des Miroirs" for couples, "Le Planétarium" for astronomy fans, "Le Cabinet de Curiosités" for nature lovers, and "Le Salon de Musique". Every suite has a private terrace for dining.

4 suites 20 beds



#### LA CITADELLE

Behind the portcullis, guests enter the unique atmosphere of "La Citadelle", immersing them in the world of a Mediaeval fortress. The three floors of paved passageways, winding corridors adorned with horse tack and accessories with ochre and gold-colour carpet, instantly transport guests on a journey through time.

"La Citadelle" offers two types of rooms for this accommodation: 74 "classic" rooms with 5 beds, and 26 "comfort" rooms with 3 beds. The "comfort" rooms are opulently decorated with the option of breakfast served in the room.

74 classic rooms 26 comfort rooms 448 beds

#### LE GRAND SIÈCLE ORIGINAL CREATION FOR 2020

Visitors can relive the splendour of the Grand Siècle, as privileged guests of Louis XIV of France, in a royal pavilion reserved for the court of the Sun King.

Inspired by the former Château de Marly, the new hotel invites guests to stay in rooms reminiscent of the Sun King. With four stars, "Le Grand Siècle" has 96 family rooms, a 500-cover restaurant called "La Table des Ambassadeurs" and 3 hectares of French gardens.

96 rooms 336 beds



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## DINING AT PUY DU FOU

At Puy du Fou, history also comes to life on your plate in a culinary adventure orchestrated by Puy du Fou's chefs. There are 22 places to eat in the park and hotels, ranging from fast-food to gourmet cuisine. In high season, the Puy du Fou chefs can serve up to 25,000 people in one day alone!

To ensure it offers the best produce, Puy du Fou uses only the very best and mainly local suppliers. In this way, 90% of the cold cuts, salads and vegetables are locally sourced. Puy du Fou serves Noirmoutier potatoes and mogettes – a local variety of white beans – accompanied by the wines of the Mareuil vineyards, located at just a short distance from the park.

La Troussepinette, a Vendée aperitif made from blackthorn shoots, is served at each restaurant to accompany the Préfou, a low-rise bread seasoned with finely chopped fresh garlic and butter.

## THE PUY DU FOU CARRÉ MARAÎCHER

In the heart of the Cité Nocturne, Puy du Fou has created the Carré Maraîcher, a small 1.6-hectare organic-certified haven of greenery, where gardeners grow various vegetables and aromatic plants for the kitchens of certain restaurants such as the Auberge.

The Carré Maraîcher demonstrates Puy du Fou's policy to be part of the organic approach and prioritise short supply chains, in order to offer high-quality local products to visitors.

The gardeners cultivate seasonal fruit and vegetables every day, such as courgettes, tomatoes, French spinach and salad leaves, as well as strawberries, which is a speciality of Puy du Fou.

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## SPOTRICHT ON SUCCESS

## PUY DU FOU CONQUERS THE WORLD

Created in 2010, Puy du Fou International advises project managers in the creation of parks and shows worldwide, based on the Puy du Fou model, and ensures the international development of Puy du Fou worldwide.

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#### PUY DU FOU ESPAÑA:

On 30<sup>th</sup> August last year, Puy du Fou España in Toledo (Spain) opened its first night-time show, "El Sueño de Toledo", which was a phenomenal success.

Three additional performances were urgently added to meet the huge demand from the public for the largest show in Spain. 72,000 visitors were able to discover this unique creation, instead of the 60,000 originally expected.

In 2020, more than 200,000 spectators will discover the first Spanish show of Puy du Fou.

In 2021, Puy du Fou España will open its doors with four great daytime shows, three period villages and 30 hectares of nature.

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#### **PUY DU FOU IN THE NETHERLANDS:**

In 2020, Puy du Fou signed a major 6-year partnership with the Dutch park Efteling. The 3<sup>rd</sup> most visited park in Europe entrusted Puy du Fou with its "Raveleijn" show, which will be performed almost 1,200 times in 2020.

A Franco-Dutch team of 50 artists, stuntmen, riders and falconers from Puy du Fou is already on site and will present this show from April 2020, with the unique know-how of Puy du Fou.

Inspired by a Dutch story, "The Raveleijn Show" tells the story of 5 children who magically transform themselves into knights of extraordinary courage to confront the cruel Olaf and liberate the medieval city of Ravelejin.

On a  $1,500m^2$  stage, and to an audience of 1,200, a spectacular, typically Dutch setting is the backdrop to a series of extraordinary special effects.



#### **PUY DU FOU ASIA:**

Puy du Fou plans to inaugurate its first Chinese show in 2024 at the foot of the country's most iconic monument, the Great Wall.

The site of the show is in Qinhuangdao, at the foot of the Great Wall, a spectacular location steeped in poetry and mystery. The city government has already given its approval to the creation of a large night show, signed by Puy du Fou and based on the model of "La Cinéscénie" (France) or El Sueño de Toledo (Spain).

The first phase of this project also includes a themed hotel, a large show restaurant and a period village. The total project budget is 230 million euros.

### **A UNIQUE ECONOMIC MODEL**

The ongoing investment strategy is undoubtedly one of the reasons for Puy du Fou's success. Every year, 100% of the profits are reinvested in new features for the park.

Since 1977, Puy du Fou has invested over 600 million euros in its development. Since 2014, Puy du Fou has been the N° 2 theme park in France, and realized 125 million euros of turnover in 2019. This adventure is and has always been a private 100% self-financed initiative. Puy du Fou has no shareholders and receives no public money. It is a group made up of a non-profit association under Law 1901 and an SAS – "Société par actions simplifiée" (Simplified joint-stock company). The association organises "La Cinéscénie" and owns the SAS that runs the Grand parc.

This model is one of the Puy du Fou's main strengths thanks to the joint action of the 4,300 volunteers (at "La Cinéscénie") and 2,400 permanent and seasonal workers, Puy du Fou's expertise. Providing work to 80% of local businesses, Puy du Fou is an incredible boost to the region's tourism economy. According to a study by the firm ProTourisme (January 2017), the economic benefits for the local area are remarkable:

- 277 million euros in overall economic benefits for the local area every year,
- 4,700 jobs created thanks to Puy du Fou.

### **NEW DEVELOPMENTS**

#### **PUY DU FOU CONGRÈS:**

In 2020, Puy du Fou will have a huge new 3500m<sup>2</sup> conference centre, "Le Théâtre Moliere". Thanks to modular facilities, this ergonomically-designed center will be equipped to host corporate events, with maximum comfort and stylish Sun King-inspired décor.

Around the large central auditorium seating 500 people, 11 fully modifiable meeting rooms between  $40m^2$  and  $250m^2$  in size, and a multi-purpose space, enable businesses and major role-players in the events industry to organise all kinds of events: meetings, conventions, seminars, fairs, product launches...

With 500 rooms and 2,500 beds, Puy du Fou will become a benchmark in the world of business tourism.

#### LA FOULÉE DES GÉANTS:

Organised for the first time in 2018, this extraordinary 11-kilometre night run was a resounding success. Some 2,500 runners were able to take part in this exceptional race in 2019, running by torchlight through spectacular scenery on a trail located in the heart of the forest and the Puy du Fou shows. The third such event will be held on  $10^{\text{th}}$  October 2020.

# OUR KNOW-HOW

## **OUR SKILLS**

For 40 years, Puy du Fou has continued to surprise and thrill its visitors with its breathtaking shows. Every year, Puy du Fou reinvests its profits, notably in research and development.

The park is thus a permanent laboratory, experimenting with new stagecraft techniques and apparatus, with the sole aim of facilitating the creation of even more incredible theatrical projects that will thrill spectators.

Today, Puy du Fou has a wide range of renowned experts in all fields. More than 200 professionals are involved in working together to imagine, design and produce each of the park's new creations, set designs and atmospheres, including writers, set designers, costume designers, animal handlers, stuntmen, technicians, gardeners, etc.



Trained at Puy du Fou, these specialists have created a catalogue of works unlike anything else in the world: an 18m-high moving dungeon, a 20m-long Viking ship rising from the water, 50 horses trained to take part in chariot races, a 360° swivel stand, sets that recreate the roll of a ship from the 18th century, etc.

By creating its own shows and instilling a culture of excellence in all fields, Puy du Fou has become an international benchmark for live performance.

The Puy du Fou experts not only ensure the smooth running of the shows, they are also continually striving to make improvements. They are constantly on the lookout for new innovations to enhance the productions, and regularly test the latest technologies.

The directors of the "Théâtre des Géants" have contributed to the development of new video software to support an audio-visual experience in 4k at 360°.

### THE CREATIVE LABORATORY

Innovation is Puy du Fou's DNA. With its associative model, Puy du Fou reinvests all its profits every year, especially in Research and Development.

Puy du Fou is an ongoing workshop of increasingly amazing artistic projects, constantly testing out new devices.

Puy du Fou's leitmotiv: expertise and technology towards the goal of creation and emotion. This approach is regularly accompanied by "Crédit Impôt Recherche" (Research Tax Credit).

By example, this was the case in 2011 when Puy du Fou restored a velum in the Stadium Gallo-Romain – a suspended canvas above the amphitheatre using a complex system of ropes not used for 2000 years, and then again 2016 for the development of the NEOPTER.

### NEOPTER: A TECHNOLOGICAL FEAT

It took nearly two years of development, 50 engineers and an investment of 6.5 million euros to conceive the NEOPTER and give rise to a cutting-edge technology solution to meet Puy du Fou's artistic goals.

These drones can fly in fleets and autonomously synchronise with music, film, light and actors, producing a huge-scale choreography with on-board intelligence.

The NEOPTER use the sky as a scene. In "La Cinéscénie", NEOPTER have several decorative elements: 23 candles, 5 banners 6 meters high and 2 meters wide, 15 French flags and 30 silhouettes of dancers.

The NEOPTER, whose presentation to the public has been approved by the General Directorate of Civil Aviation, is the first drone in the world to fly with automatic remote piloting and perform all-weather outdoor choreography. 31 NEOPTER, including a Neolight (drone with spotlight), will fly in several scenes of "La Cinéscénie".

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### **OUR TRAINING ACADEMIES**

The transmission of knowledge is at the heart of success and the unique Puy du Fou model.

#### L'ACADÉMIE JUNIOR:

Puy du Fou created its own in-house training centre in 1998.

The "Académie Junior" today has 30 disciplines: costume, theatre, dance, drawing, lighting, sets and props, horse riding, tick riding, photography, film, performance techniques, animal training, flamenco, etc.

More than 800 young people are trained each year and thus constitute a real pool of talent.

#### PUY DU FOU ACADÉMIE :

In 2015, in tandem with State Education, Puy du Fou launched its own primary school, combining academic training with the practice of the arts. This original school – open to everyone – aims to pass on Puy du Fou's expertise from a young age through performing arts training.

Since April 2016, around forty children have performed in the show "Le Dernier Panache", in a 2,400-seat venue. Since 2017, a stand-alone show, "Le Ballet des Sapeurs", is performed by children from Puy du Fou Académie throughout the season.

In September 2019, the school created two Year-8 classes (40 students), bringing the total number of students to 200 for this new school year.

# OUR ENGAGEMENTS

## **PROTECTING NATURE**

The park's geographical location in the heart of a century-old forest, combined with its unique concept of highlighting historical heritage through its shows, sets the scene for a long-standing commitment to the preservation of the historic and natural heritage, handed down by previous generations.

This commitment ensures that creation, financial investment, social responsibility and environmental preservation remain in harmony. Puy du Fou manifests this commitment in five areas:

**ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT:** Puy du Fou is committed to controlling the production of waste and improving its recovery (60% of waste is recycled), to protecting biodiversity at different levels by considerably limiting the use of phytosanitary products on the site and by participating in reintroductions in a natural environment, and to educating visitors and employees.

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT: the park takes care to control the consumption of water, electricity and gas, to increase the share of local and/or environmentally responsible suppliers, and to maintain its involvement in the development of the local economy.

**SHORT SUPPLIES CHAINS:** As an ecological destination, Puy du Fou is seeking to develop short supply chains to offer local products to its visitors, guarantee optimum quality with organic products and offer protected outlets to growers close to Puy du Fou.

**CULTURAL HERITAGE:** Puy du Fou makes a point of honour of continuing its promotion of local and national heritage, passing on its creative expertise worldwide, and maintaining and cultivating its associative spirit in the requirement of a world show, "La Cinéscénie".

SOCIAL HERITAGE : Puy du Fou guarantees skills fairness, improves health and safety at work, creates social cohesion and pursues humanitarian commitment.



## TAKE ACTION FOR ENDANGERED SPECIES

An active member of the French Association of Zoos (AFdPZ), Puy du Fou has collaborated with the European Association of Zoo and Aquariums (EAZA) since 1993. Since the start of its activities, Puy du Fou has already given more than 600,000 euros for the protection of endangered species around the world.

Invested since its creation in a variety of approaches (financial support, provision of teams, donations of birds for reintroduction), the Falconry Academy takes part, both nationally and internationally, in the field of conservation programmes. For this, it participates in European endangered species programs, one of whose goals is to reintroduce birds to their natural habitat.



Among its actions:

- Puy du Fou supports financially different conservation projects, including three "ambassador programs": BioAndina Foundation (regarding the Andean condor, in Argentina), the Endangered Wildlife Trust (regarding the African white-backed vultures, in South Africa), the Vulture Conservation Foundation (regarding the species of European Vulture, in Europe),

- Puy du Fou constantly raises awareness of its teams and its visitors in the field of the conservation of species (including the participation in the «International Awareness Vulture Day»),

- Puy du Fou participates in various reintroduction programs.

The Falconry Academy thus supports several conservation projects around the world.

## **PUY DU FOU FOR EVERYONE**

## **PUYFOLAIS HEART**

Puy du Fou strives to ensure the comfort of all visitors and has set up various facilities for accessibility.

The "Pass Accessibilité": provided to those with limited mobility on presentation of a proof of eligibility, this pass gives special admission to its holder and up to 5 others accompanying them. The "Pass Accessibilité" makes it easier for visitors to attend and allows them to watch the shows in comfort.

People with reduced mobility can use a guide to follow paths that give easy access to the various shows. All shows have access to those with reduced mobility. Seats are reserved at each venue for those with reduced mobility, ensuring that they can enjoy the shows in comfort.



"La Colporteuse", Puy du Fou's photvoltaic little train can also transport visitors with reduced mobility from one show to another around the park.

Blind and partially-sighted visitors can listen to an audio-description of all shows. The deaf or hard of hearing are provided with a graphic description of the shows at the entrance to the park.

Since its inception, Puy du Fou has supported humanitarian initiatives both in France and abroad. Puy du Fou Espérance has already contributed more than 3 million euros to humanitarian initiatives.



Puy du Fou has supported the "AKAMASOA" association for 10 years. Created by Father Pedro, the the association has developed a humanitarian project for the reintegration and fight against social exclusion of the poorest populations in Madagascar.

Puy du Fou Espérance also helps several associations: the League Against Cancer, Doctors of the World, the "Handi Espoir" association, "Perce-Neige" association, "Anaï Parrainage" and "Leucémie Espoir" associations and ADELMAS with the professor Jean-Luc Harousseau.

Puy du Fou is also making dreams come true for sick children by collaborating with charities including "Petits Princes", "Rêves", "Ô Ma Vie", "Un Rêve, Un Sourire"... and institutions such as Hôpital Necker or the Vendée Institut d'Éducation Motrice, supported by the association "Les Pièces Jaunes".



## PUY DU FOU IN FIGURES







#### **KEY NUMBERS**

- 2,308,400 visitors received in 2019 with a 60% revisit rate and 15% from overseas,
- 125,8 million euros of turnover in 2019 for 277 million euros in overall economic benefits for the local area every year,
- More than 600 million euros commited since its creation including 62 million in 2020,
- 🕻 2,150 seasonal jobs, 250 permanent jobs and 4,700 indirect employment,
- 💼 🛛 800 young people and pupils trained in "Académie Junior" and "Puy du Fou Académie",
- €600,000 given to associations for protection of rare species around the world,
- More than 3 million euros submitted to humanitarian works.

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Opening dates and show dates may be altered without any prior warning. Visit the show schedule on www.puydufou.com and on the Puy du Fou App the day before your visit. The hotels are open on all Grand Parc opening days (except on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November) as well as the night before opening.



	ADULT	CHILD <sub>(1)</sub> Between 3 and 13 inclusive
GRAND PARC TICKET (from)	€37	€27 <sup>€</sup>
GRAND PARC TICKET 2020 SPECIAL OFFER When you visit the Grand Parc during a yellow period, by reservation only	<b>20% OFF</b> ON YOU GRAND PARC ADULT TICKETS <sup>(2)</sup>	
GRAND PARC + CINÉSCÉNIE TICKET (from)	€61	€50
CINÉSCÉNIE TICKET	€28	
PARK + HOTEL STAY (from)	€62 <sub>(3)</sub>	
SHUTTLE Angers TGV railway station/ Puy du Fou (from)	€21.50	

(1) For children aged between 3 and 13 inclusive - Free for under 3s on presentation of identification

(3) Calculated on the basis of 4 adults sharing the same room in "Stay + Offer", in "La Villa Gallo-Romaine» hotel. Offer may not be used in conjunction with other special offers, and is valid by reservation only up to 5 days before the visit date, subject to availability.

<sup>(2)</sup> Offer may not be used in conjunction with other special offers, valid for all bookings made before 1st July 2020 and only up to 5 days before the visit date, subject to availability.

## INTERNATIONAL AWARDS

Over the years, Puy du Fou has received awards for its quality and creativity – acclaimed by professionals from around the world:

- Thea Classic Award for the World's Best Park (Los Angeles 2012)
- European Park of the Year (Milan 2013)
- Best European Seasonal Event for "La Cinéscénie" (Piacenza 2014)
- Applause Award for the World's Best Park (Orlando 2014)
- Thea Award for Outstanding Achievement for "Les Amoureux de Verdun" (Los Angeles 2016)
- Thea Award for Outstanding Achievement for "Le Dernier Panache" (Los Angeles 2017)
- "Best European Creation" Parksmania Awards for "Le Mystère de La Pérouse" (Bergamo - 2018)
- "Best European Creation" Park World Excellence Award for "Le Mystère de La Pérouse" (Amsterdam - 2018)
- "Best European Creation" Park World Excellence Award for "Le Premier Royaume" (Bergamo 2019)
- "Thea Award for Outstanding Achievement" for "Le Premier Royaume" (Los Angeles 2020)



LOS ANGELES 2012

Best Creation in the World



LOS ANGELES 2016 & 2017 A

BERGAMO 2018 N°1 IN FRANCE AND IN EUROPE AMSTERDAM 2018 N°3 IN THE WORLD

Trip Adviso

Travellers'

Choice 2018

Download pictures in high definition: www.puydufou.com





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