

Since 2014, Château de Versailles Spectacles has developed a vast and ambitious project to illuminate the Night Fountains Show.

After the Great Perspectiv (façade of the corps central, Terraces, Latona's Fountain and Parterre, Great Lawn...), after the North axis (from the North Parterre to the Neptune Fountain), then the façades of the North and South wings, it's the newly restored Apollo's Fountains and the South Parterre that have benefited in 2024 from an overhaul their lighting.

Fountains and pools, statues and vegetation are now illuminated through ingenious installations designed by lighting designer Laurent Fachard.

Sponsors of the Night Fountains Show:

CITEOS

# **GROVES & FOUNTAINS**

The groves of Versailles were designed during Louis XIV's reign as open air drawing rooms concealed at the heart of the wooded areas of the gardens. One went there for refreshments and light meals, to listen to music or dance. The King could satisfy his taste for gambling and performing arts in these venues intended solely for entertainment and celebrations. Decorated with fountains, vases and statues, accessed through discreet walks, these groves bring surprise and creativity within the Royal Garden.

## **GREAT PERSPECTIVE**

In the Park of the Palace, this grandiose stretch of landscape designed by André Le Nôtre in the 1660s goes from the Palace itself (the King's Bedchamber and the Hall of Mirrors) to the extremity of the Grand Canal. Apollo, the emblematic figure of Louis XIV, is present everywhere in figurative or symbolic form.

Jean-Baptiste Lully • Le Triomphe de l'Amour: Ouverture Persée, entrée des divinités infernales: Acte III scène 10 Ballets d'Alcidiane: Ouverture *Idylle sur la paix*: Air pour Madame la Dauphine Marc-Antoine Charpentier · Offerte à deux chœurs Sanctus pour tous les instruments Jean-Féry Rebel · Les Eléments: Caprice, Tambourins I & II

Christoph Willibald Gluck • Les Eléments: Ballo Sinfonia, Marche

# **GREAT LAWN**

The Great Lawn, a vast lawn surrounded by an impressive



<sup>the</sup> Night Fountains Show

Groves exceptionally open, light and musical displays from 8:30pm to 10:45pm

> Water displays from 8:30pm to 10:40pm

Final Fireworks - Groupe F from 10:50pm to 11:05pm

# VERSAILLES

CHÂTEAU DE VERSAILLES

# **DID YOU ENJOY THE NIGHT FOUNTAINS SHOW?**

Rediscover Château de Versailles gardens and groves as you've never seen or heard it before for four exceptional dates.



Saturdays from June 8<sup>th</sup> to September 21<sup>tt</sup> (except Saturday, August 10<sup>th</sup>), Friday, August 9<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, August 11<sup>th</sup> 2024.

**EXCEPTIONAL DATES:** 

90 YEARS OF THE FRENCH AIR AND SPACE FORCE • June 28th FRENCH NATIONAL DAY • July 14 THE FIRE NIGHT FOUNTAINS SHOW • August 15<sup>th</sup> THE ELECTRO NIGHT FOUNTAINS SHOW • September 21<sup>st</sup>

# SOUTH

# **ORANGERY** • Closed June 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>

Built by Jules Hardouin-Mansart between 1684 and 1686, it consists of a large central vaulted gallery 150 meters long, prolonged by two side galleries located under the Hundred Steps staircase. 1 055 trees in tubs stay inside the building during winter months before being welcomed by the Orangery Parterre. From June 18th to September 29th 2024, discover the artist Eva Jospin and her work Chambre de soie at the Eva Jospin-Versailles exhibition.

#### **BALLROOM GROVE**

The Ballroom Grove was built by Le Nôtre and the fountain engineers of Louis XIV. Strollers will be able to enjoy a surprising play of lights accompanying the favourite music of the King and the miracle of the water pouring in cascades down the rocaille steps of the amphitheatre.

Jacques Cordier • La Bocanne primitive – La Bocanne compliquée Jean-Baptiste Lully · Phaéton: Prologue Troupe d'astrée dansante, le Roi représentant le Soleil Levant

Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme: Marche pour la Cérémonie des Turcs, Chaconne des Scaramouches, Frivelins et Arlequins, Giourdina

Michel Corrette · Les sauvages et la Furstemberg: Les Sauvages, Allegro

#### **MIRROR FOUNTAIN**

Louis XIV ordered this basin in 1702. In the spirit of the fountains of Le Nôtre, but with modern technical means, the Fountains Night Show is presented.

- **Georg Friedrich Haendel**
- The Coronation of King George II: Fanfares 1 François Colin de Blamont Guerre des Te Deum: Sanctus Dominus, In Te Domine speravi

# **COLONNADE GROVE**

In the circular space of the Colonnade Grove designed by Jules Hardouin-Mansart, the sculptor Girardon placed one of the white marble masterpieces of Versailles. Pluto, the God of Hell, snatches Proserpine from the Earth, her mother, and carries her up into the sky, with lasers here creating unexpected shapes in the coloured smoke clouds.

Jean-Baptiste Lully • Armide: Passacaille Les Amants magnifiques: Entrée d'Apollon Le Triomphe de l'Amour: Entrée d'Apollon, Deuxième Air

### **GIRANDOLE AND DAUPHIN'S GROVES**

In these ravishing grove laid out as labyrinths, discover a highly colourful and theatrical staging of them with water and light features.

# NORTH

# **NEPTUNE FOUNTAIN**

The Neptune fountain was dug out in the shape of a halfcircle as in the ancient Greek theatres. Armed with his trident, Neptune, the god of the sea, sends gracious spouts of water into the sky.



Christoph Willibald Gluck • Les Éléments: Marche Jean-Philippe Rameau · Platée: Acte I scène VI Orage

#### THREE FOUNTAINS GROVE

Lights and fountains create a magical mystery in one of the favourite groves of Louis XIV (he is said to have designed it), completed by Le Nôtre in 1679. Shells and rocaille features decorate the five levels of fountains from which statues are excluded so that all the visitor's attention is concentrated on the water attractions.

Jean-Féry Rebel · Les Eléments: Air pour les violons, Chaconne Pierre Montan-Berton l'Ainé · Nouvelle Chaconne in E Minor

#### WATER THEATER GROVE

The grove designed by Le Nôtre was restored in 2015 by landscape architect Louis Benech and artist Jean-Michel Othoniel. The Bassin des Enfants Dorés, near the Water Theater Grove, was created by Jules Hardouin-Mansart in 1709.

cortege of marble statues, will be adorned with majestic flames from Groupe F, rhythmically punctuating the festive music and offering an astonishing perspective view of the Royal Garden.

#### LATONA'S FOUNTAIN

From the top of the steps of the Latona's Fountain, the visitor can look out over the Grand Perspective and admire, from the king's viewing point, a constellation of bubbles reflecting the day's last rays of sunshine. The statues of this recently restored fountain illustrate the legend of Diana and Apollo's mother protecting her children against the insults of the peasants of Lycia and demanding vengeance from Jupiter who changed them into frogs.

#### **APOLLO'S FOUNTAIN • Newly restored**

The final fireworks display in the fountain of Apollo's Chariot will take place at 10:50pm. Groupe F will be producing a finale visible all along the Grand Perspective, combining a fireworks display at the head of the Grand Canal and flames soaring from the Great Lawn.

Jean-Baptiste Lully • Te Deum: Symphonie Phaéton: Ouverture Ballet de la Nuit Xerxès: Air pour les esclaves et singes dansants Armide: Prélude and Passacaille

Le Bourgeois gentilhomme: Marche pour la Cérémonie des Turcs Jean-Philippe Rameau · Platée: Acte I scène VI Orage Marc-Antoine Charpentier • Marche de Triomphe pour les violons, trompettes, timbales, flûtes et hautbois

From 8:30pm to 11:05pm

# MUSICAL SEASON

Every year, the Royal Opera and the Royal Chapel of Château de Versailles welcome the greatest international artists for an exceptional program of concerts, operas

DISCOVER THE PROGRAMME ON THE WEBSITE

# (a) LAST TRAINS TO PARIS

Gare Château Versailles Rive Gauche: 11:55pm\* Gare Versailles Rive Droite: 00:12am

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Administrative address: Château de Versailles Spectacles CS 10509 - 78008 Versailles Cedex



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#### **APOLLO'S BATH GROVE**

Designed by Hubert Robert from 1776, this grove features a pre-romantic style with a remarkable rock sheltering sculptures of Apollo and the Muses by Marsy, Guérin, Girardon and Regnaudin, recovered from Louis XIV's Grotte de Thétis.

#### **OBELISK GROVE**

The grove features a large two-level rectangular pool with water jets forming a liquid obelisk, and is animated by four water staircases. From July 13, a duo of fire artists from the Cercle de Feu company will perform in this grove.

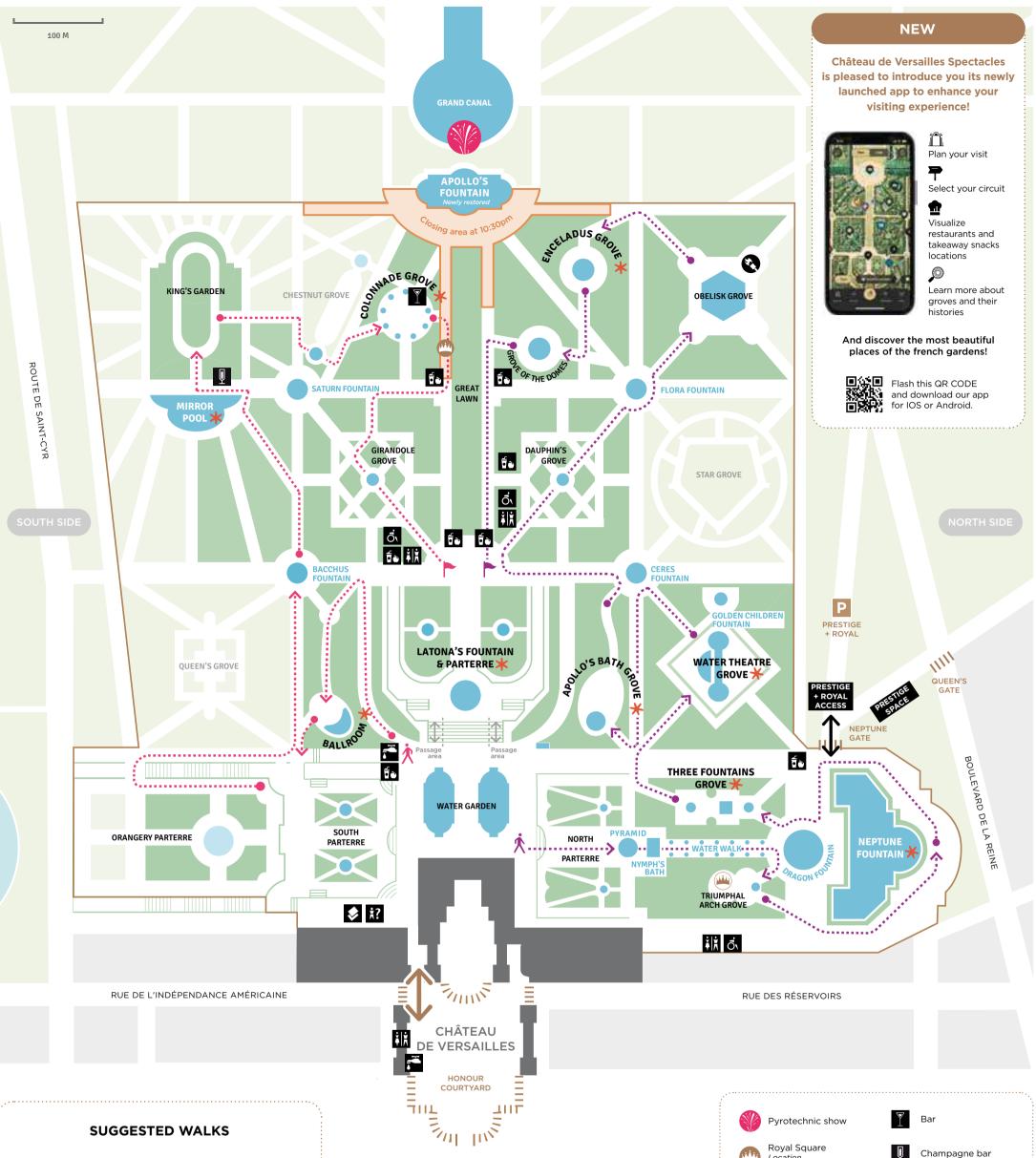
### **ENCELADUS GROVE**

The grove designed by Le Nôtre in 1675 is home to a marvel of French Baroque sculpture: the giant Enceladus, a work in gilded lead by Marsy. It depicts Enceladus buried under rocks, punished by the gods of Olympus, in the style of the Lyrical Tragedy during the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

Jean-Féry Rebel · Les Eléments: Le Chaos Jean-Baptiste Lully • Armide: Prélude Acte II scène V

## THE DOMES GROVE

The basin countains small fountains, from which water gushes. The water flows into the channel in the parapet and then as a thin sheet of water into the basin.



**TONIGHT I** 

To facilitate your stroll, we suggest two circuits that will allow you to discover the gardens easily. You can also organise your stroll to suit yourself.



Suggested walk South side Estimated time: 1h

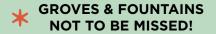


Suggested walk North side Estimated time: 1h30



After your stroll, return to the Great Perspective and watch the fireworks display over the Apollo's Chariot fountain from 10:50pm to 11:05pm.

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DNIGHT IN THE GARDENS GROVES EXCEPTIONALLY OPEN LIGHT AND MUSICAL DISPLAYS from 8:30pm to 10:45pm	Royal Space Triumphal Arch Grove	Snacks
	Fire artists from July 13 <sup>th</sup>	<b>☆?</b> Lost child
	Free toilets	Facilities for visitors with reduced mobility
	Stairs	The Night Fountains
WATER DISPLAYS from 8:30pm to 10:40pm	Entrance / Exit	Show, ticket office
<b>Mirror Pool</b> Every 10 minutes	<b>V</b>	
<b>Neptune Fountain</b> Every 15 minutes	NOTICE TO VISITORS	
	No readmission after leaving the site.	
<b>FINAL FIREWORKS</b> from 10:50pm to 11:05pm	No picnics are allowed inside the paying area.It is forbidden to walk or sit on lawns or to lean on or touch statues.	
	The fountains' water is non-drinkable. Bathing is prohibited.	
	Please observe instructions given by hospitality staff.	
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