

DISCOVERING THE EUROPEAN ROUTE OF THERMAL HERITAGE

25 TOWNS IN EUROPE

CULTURE - ART - ARCHITECTURE - HISTORY





Find The European Route of Historic Thermal Towns on Facebook www.facebook.com/thermaltravels

### **INDEX**

THE EUROPEAN HISTORIC THERMAL TOWNS ASSOCIATION (EHTTA)p 4 et 5 THE EUROPEAN CULTURAL ROUTE OF HISTORIC THERMAL TOWNSp 6	Cauterets       p 15         Enghien-les-Bains       p 16         Evian       p 17         Vichy       p 18         Le Mont-Dore       p 19         La Bourboule       p 20         Royat - Chamalières       p 21         Châtel-Guyon       p 22
SPAIN           Ourense         p 7	The Route of Spa Towns of the Massif Central
UNITED KINGDOM  Bath	ITALY           Salsomaggiore Terme.         p 24           Acqui Terme.         p 25           Fiuggi         p 26           Bagni-di-Lucca         p 27           Montecatini Terme         p 28
HUNGARY Budapestp 10  CZECH REPUBLIC  Karlovy Vary Region (Karlovy Vary, Mariánské Lázne, Františkovy Lázne)p 11	GERMANY Baden-Baden. p 29 Wiesbaden p 30 CROATIA
ROMANIA Techirghiolp 12 FRANCE Bagnoles-de-l'Ornep 13 Luchonp 14	Daruvar

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THE EUROPEAN ROUTE OF HISTORIC THERMAL TOWNS



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### **EHTTA**



#### EUROPEAN HISTORICAL THERMAL TOWNS ASSOCIATION

E.H.T.T.A was created in Brussels on December 10th 2009, and it is a European network of thermal towns which possess a distinctive pre-nineteenth century architectural heritage and mineral waters recognized throughout Europe.

These towns have developed architectural elements that are specific to their history, tradition, environment, and specific to health and leisure customers and visitors.

Aware of their exceptional heritage and their continuing importance as health resorts and centres of wellbeing, the thermal spa-members of E.H.T.T.A have joined together, in order to develop a policy of tourist development based on a strategy of promoting this rich cultural heritage. E.H.T.T.A. believes that Europe's unique thermal heritage deserve to be better known.

#### **OBJECTIVES OF E.H.T.T.A**

> To achieve recognition from the European Union concerning the

- unique characteristics of European thermal towns in order to get financial help to restore the thermal heritage,
- > To help develop thermal towns and save their cultural heritage by sharing experiences and best practice on a European scale,
- > Set up laws, policies with the E.U and inventories especially dedicated to the protection of the thermal architectural heritage.

Also raising public awareness through projects and networks about the possibilities offered by legislation, policies and resources which exist at a European, national or local level in terms of protection, safeguarding, restoration and promotion of thermal towns' architecture and artistic heritage.

# TO REACH ITS OBJECTIVES, E.H.T.T.A WILL

- > Re-enforce cooperation between spa towns and thermal establishments on a European scale, by exchanging best practice between cultural and social-economic administrations,
- > Promote the network on a European scale in close collaboration with European authorities

- and the support of European programmes. Also by creating projects and obtaining a quality label for a European Historical Thermal Towns Route,
- > Encourage, promote, create and develop research, analysis, studies and statistics in the thermal field regarding history, artistic and cultural heritage as well as legislative aspects linked to that heritage,
- > Value and protect this architecture and artistic heritage and include it in all thermal town development policies.
- > Build a European tourism product to promote the network on an international level bringing economic benefits to allow European thermal towns to develop.

#### THE MEMBERS

E.H.T.T.A. has three categories of membership: founder members, active members and associate members.

Members, except associate members, have to be established traditional thermal towns that with time have developed activities related to hydrotherapy and developments which have brought wider benefits to the town regarding its architecture, tourism and culture.

### FOUNDER MEMBERS

- Vichy (France)
- Acqui Terme (Italy)
- Bath (United Kingdom)
- Ourense (Spain)
- Salsomaggiore Terme (Italy)
- Spa (Belgium)

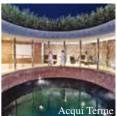












#### **ACTIVE MEMBERS**

- Le Mont-Dore (France)
- Royat Chamalières (France)
- Châtel-Guyon (France)
- La Bourboule (France)
- Bagnoles-de-l'Orne (France)
- Luchon (France)
- Cauterets (France)
- Enghien-les-Bains (France)
- Evian (France)
- Baden-Baden (Germany)
- Wiesbaden (Germany)
- Fiuggi (Italy)
- Bagni-di-Lucca (Italy)
- Montecatini Terme (Italy)
- Karlovy Vary Region (Czech Republic)
- Techirghiol (Romania)
- Budapest (Hungary)
- Daruvar (Croatia)

#### **ASSOCIATE MEMBER**

 The Route of Spa Towns of the Massif Central (France)

### E.H.T.T.A AND THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

The European Thermal Towns Route is now one of the 29 Cultural Routes recognized by the Council of Europe, and has the same status as the famous St James' Way to Santiago de Compostela.



www.facebook.com/thermaltravels

# FOR E.H.T.T.A. SUBSCRIPTIONS OR MEMBERSHIP

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The EHTTA members at Thermae Bath Spa in Bath (United Kingdom).

# THE EUROPEAN ROUTE OF HISTORIC THERMAL TOWNS



The spas of Western and Central Europe have long been frequented by the political and cultural elite, creating centres of cultural exchanges in numerous cities and it could be said that they launched health tourism as a prelude to modern tourism.

These celebrities endorsed these resorts and gave birth to a great success which generated prestigious hotels and a series of leisure activities, with people going from the first casinos to musical theatres, to landscape gardens and promenades where tourists could show off the latest fashions.

It was not until the 18th century up to the beginning of 20th century that the most well-known thermal sites were built, where new medical treatments were developed based on the bath, the absorption of water and the manipulation of the body.

This is the story, but also the shared heritage and memory that the European Historical Thermal Towns Association (EHTTA) decided to promote and valorize when a European cultural route which received the prestigious

certification of the Council of Europe in 2010. The countries concerned are Germany, Belgium, Croatia, France, Spain, Hungary, Italy, Czech Republic, Romania and the United Kingdom.

The lively development of the high society of thermal towns brought a perspective to the European interpretation of societies which succeeded each other in thermal cities. Joseph II, after his stay in 1781, named Spa the "Café of Europe". The Association plans to benefit from some the best Congress Centers of the member cities to launch a kind of "Davos European Cultural Forum" travelling from one city to another along the year. These encounters with personalities who exist in a shared European history and memory, as well as in the future of common European identity should attract various categories of visitors and bring to life, in a democratic and contemporary approach, the very origin of cultural Grand Tour.

### The actions of EHTTA have to be based on four pillars:

- $\triangle$  diversification of wellbeing offers,
- An interactive valorization of thermal heritage,
- $\ensuremath{\mathsf{A}}$  contemporary and innovative

answer to cultural demands,

- A proactive policy facing needs of new cultural tourism's trends based on active visits.
- > More information: contact@ehtta.eu - www.ehtta.eu

### THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF CULTURAL ROUTES

Since 1998 the Council of Europe has entrusted the European Institute of Cultural Routes (EICR) with the implementation of its cultural routes programme. The Institute, located in the Centre Culturel de Rencontre Abbaye de Neumünster in Luxembourg, houses the programme's extensive information and documentary resources. It provides advice and assistance to routes networks and welcomes project managers, researchers and students.

The EICR also provides training and expertise for routes managers, national governments and regions, and cooperates with the European Commission. One of its principal tasks is to carry out regular evaluation of the compliance of the cultural routes with the Council of Europe's criteria.

> More information: institut@culture-routes.lu www.culture-routes.lu

### **OURENSE**

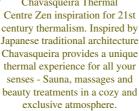
- SPAIN
- www.ourense.travel
- Springs: Las Burgas, Chavasqueira, Tinteiro, Muiño da Veiga, Outariz y Burga de Canedo



Known as the Thermal Capital of its region (Galiza) Ourense was founded by Romans almost two thousand years ago. The Romans gave the city the name Agui Auriensis, meaning "golden waters", acknowledging the underground ocean that exists beneath their feet. Calpurnia Abana, wife of a Roman patrician settled in this primitive village, dedicated an offering to show her gratitude to the nymphs that inhabited these hot springs, as it testifies on an altar that was found in the surrounding of the fountain of the Burgas, the oldest testimony of our thermal patrimony. Nowadays, Ourense, with more than five million litres of water running from several hot springs every day, has become the second city of Europe in quantity of thermal water. The main thermal area is located at the heart of the city; Burgas thermal springs were supposed to be the place where Roman settlement was located originally. Actually, due to archaeological works in the area, this theory has been almost discarded, but these fountains are still the most important symbol of the city, continually oozing thermal water at 67°C. Recently in this area an open swimming pool has been opened, so tourists and citizens can enjoy Burgas' thermal water in the heart of the old quarter of the city, surrounded by the history and art that permeate this medieval city of Ourense. And also two spa centers, inspired by Japanese architecture and culture are available. The thermal springs are effective in a number of medical conditions: rheumatism, skin problems, digestives, muscular, etc.











Muiño da veiga. At first glance seems to be natural spot in the Miño riverbanks, but actually Muiño da Veiga thermal complex holds three open air pools well equiped and surrounded by nature. Wellliked because they are less crowde this is the hottest spring in Ourense, at almost

70°C.

#### **BATH**

- ENGLAND
- www.visitbath.co.uk www.thermaebathspa.com www.romanbaths.co.uk
- Springs: Cross Spring, Hetling Spring, Sacred Spring in the Roman Baths



The rooftop pool at Thermae

Bath Spa has stunning views

over the city and to the hills sur-

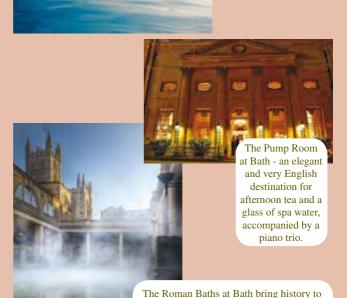
rounding Bath, and is a relaxing

and convivial place.

Historic Bath has been a spiritual and healing centre, drawing visitors from England and beyond to drink and bathe in the thermal mineral water for 2000 years. The entire City of Bath was inscribed in 1987 by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site in recognition of its unique Roman and Georgian (18th Century) built heritage. With its new spa facilities, Bath is once again a major destination for Thermal Spa tourism.

Three springs rise in the centre of Bath, with mineral-rich healing waters that are around 45°C - the only hot waters in the UK. The Roman Baths and the Pump Room form one complex, based around the Roman sacred spring, dedicated to the god Sulis-Minerva. Taking water from two other springs, the Thermae Bath Spa complex, skilfully blends 18th Century architecture with modern design allowing people to enjoy relaxing in the thermal waters in the centre of Bath. A rooftop pool, steam rooms and a suite of treatment rooms based around the historic Hot Bath form part of a popular modern spa facility.





life - helping to understand how the Romans used the complex to bathe and to worship the goddess of the spring, Sulis Minerva.

### **SPA**

#### BELGIUM

www.spatourisme.be
Springs: Pouhon Pierre le
Grand, Barisart, Pouhon Prince

de Condé, Tonnelet, Sauvenière, Groesbeek, Géronstère



Situated on the fringes of the Ardennes, far from the main roads and waterways, Spa did not seem to deserve any special fate. Its fame has however largely transcended our borders, so much that in the English language it has given its name to all thermal resorts.

Today, Spa is a modern city with major potential. The third millennium brings along an array of projects and visions, such as the new thermal centre and its panoramic funicular connecting it to the city centre, the important investments made in the gaming rooms of the Casino, the development and modernization of the concert and theatre halls and rooms, and the constant and sustained investments in the hotel sector.

Through time and history, Spa has managed to keep its authenticity and preserve its natural environment. Spa will continue to follow its calling, intimately linking tourism with hydrotherapy and wellness, but also with automobile sports, culture, music and, of course, gastronomy.

Spa meets all the challenges of a tourist resort with international potential.





The new Thermes of Spa - the place to feel good. Be carried by water to feel wonderful, as if reborn. Enjoy pure pleasure and relaxation in the new baths.



Spa has always been a place of relaxation and leisure.
Spa is known as the mother of spa towns.
With the oldest Casino in the world, she is also known as the queen of gaming.

Spa, "pearl of the Ardennes" set in the green heart of Belgium Spa, "the Café of Europe", where the rich and famous used to meet. Spa, with its many sources and resources is dedicated to the development of high-standards of tourism.



### **BUDAPEST**

#### HUNGARY

- www.spabudapest.hu
- Springs: Széchenyi Bath 40°C Gellért Bath -38°C, Lukács Thermal Bath - 40°C, Rudas Thermal Bath - 42°C Király Thermal Bath - 40°C



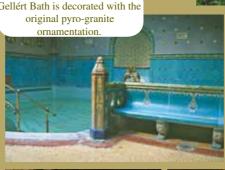
Budapest is the biggest and most exciting city of Central and Eastern Europe, and its most popular attractions are undoubtedly the baths which are known all over the world.

Although the Hungarian capital city has officially carried the title of spa city only for 80 years now, its unique qualities had been recognised even 2000 years ago by the legionaries of the Roman Empire which had even reached Budapest. The healing waters of our historical spas, namely the Széchenyi, the Gellért, the Rudas, the Király and the Lukács Spa are also effective in healing locomotor, circulatory diseases and women's health problems.

The Széchenyi Thermal Bath built at the beginning of the 20th century is the biggest bath complex in both Budapest and Europe witch echoes of Roman, Greek and Eastern bath culture as well. Those who expect recovery from healing waters, who seek ease in a heat wave and need to rest, or those who visit one of the baths in the capital city to do sports, will find just what they need here in Budapest.



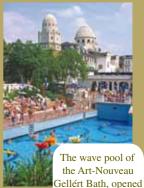
The thermal pool at the





The temperature of the pools at the 500-year-old Rudas Thermal Bath is extremely high.

The Lukács Spa is a favourite meeting place of the leading intellectuals, artists and politicians of Budapest.



Turkish pool of the Király Bath that presents the Turkish bath culture in its

in 1918.





### KARLOVY Vary region

KARLOVY VARY, MARIANSKE LAZN FRANTISKOVY LAZNE CZECH REPUBLIC

www.kr-karlovarsky.cz

 Springs: 12 hot thermal springs (Vridlo = 73°C), about next 250 cold sources, peat, gas



The Karlovy Vary Region is located in the westernmost part of the Czech Republic's historical region of Bohemia and is world famous for its traditional spa therapy, which has been developed with long term experience and scientific methods and has been applied by top therapists, highly qualified doctors, balneologists and professional medical staff.

The Astonishing Spa Centres of Karlovy Vary, Mariánské Lázne Františkovy Lázne, Jáchymov and Lázne Kynžvart (the last two are not members of EHTTA) are surrounded by breathtaking landscape, providing a vast array of natural healing resources that are represented by thermal and cold waters, mud and peat, gas and suitable weather conditions.

Spa Treatment is indicated for those who suffer from digestive and metabolic disorders, locomotive organ disorders, kidney and urinary tract problems, air passages, circulation problems, gynecological illnesses, nervous and dermal disorders, or are seeking to follow up oncology treatment.



Karlovy Vary - Market colonnade and Castle Tower Did you know that... ...The town of Karlovy Vary hosts an "A" Category international film festival, one of 13 in the whole world.

Marianske Lazne - Colonnade
Did you know that...
...in 1897 the future British King
Edward VII came to Mariánské
Lázne and he must have fallen in
love with the spa since he paid it
a total of nine visits...



Swimming pool in the Thermal Hotel and Dvorak's Park colonnade.





...Františkovy Lázne - Promenade. Did you know that...
...Františkovy Lázne has always been very popular among figures in contemporary politics and culture such as Chancellor Metternich, Ludwig van Beethoven, and J. Strauss. The legend is J. W. Goethe, and his unbeliavable thirty-three visits...

### **TECHIRGHIOL**

- ROMANIA
- www.primariatechirghiol.ro
- Springs: Techirghiol Lake



Dobrogea, once owned by the Romans, was an important cradle for establishing the Romanian people as a whole, long before the Roman emperor Traian conquered Dacia and long after the reign of the last Roman emperor ceased. Even in that period, the Romanians knew the therapeutic benefits of the mud. The Techirghiol area was in any case easily reached, being on the well-travelled imperial road leading from Tomis (Constanta) to Callatis (Mangalia). The coins found in Techingial during this period of time attest to the Roman presence and the trading going on between them and the rural.

The first written information relating to the therapeutic effects of the lake and its mud is dated 1854. The ottoman commander Said Pasa visits the military base at Techirghiol where he took several mud baths, as the local people advised. Surprisingly, he noticed miraculous changes to his ailing arm.

Techirghiol was marked for the first time on the country's map in 1893, but developed steadily after 1912, establishing itself as a spa town. In 1891, Hagi Pandele opened its doors, the first hotel and Cold baths establishment in the town. In 1900 the extraction of therapeutic mud began and this led to

the construction of many bathing establishments and hotels. After World War I, in 1920, Techirghiol town started to become a very popular tourist attraction due to its famous therapeutic mud and salty water.

Since 2000 Saint Mary's Monastery has been a modern base of treatment with salt water from Lake Techirghiol: herbal baths, masage, physiotherapy, ergonomic bicycle, sauna.









# BAGNOLES-DE-L'ORNE

FRANCE

www.bagnolesdelorne.com

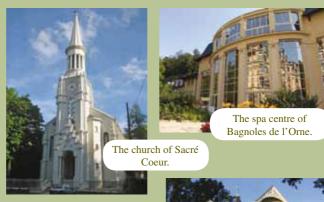


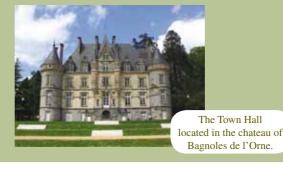
Bagnoles-de-l'Orne was built on a site chosen for its calm natural environment, with a hot spring renowned for its healing properties, the Résidence du Lac and a Casino for dancing, set in a park surrounding a lake, were the birth place of modern tourism and the spa town. This has allowed the town to keep a rare, authentic architectural heritage, and all this in a miraculously unspoiled site. The architects had to use local materials: granite and sandstone, slate, tiles and wood for balconies and it is called Quartier Belle Epoque.

At the turn of the 21th century, Bagnoles de l'Orne is the ideal town to spend your holidays in one of the 17 hotels or in the pleasant campsite. A wide range of activities is offered: Casino, equestrian centres, golf course, tennis courts, outdoor swimming pool... To entertain you, there is a Street Theatre Festival throughout the summer, the marvellous Fireworks in July & August, Horses Racing and many other events.

Come to try the SPA Centre, hire a bike to visit the green countryside and the floral display in the town.







### LUCHON

#### FRANCE

- www.thermes-luchon.fr www.luchon- bien-être.fr
- Springs: Pré, Reine



#### Luchon, 2000 years of Thermalism

The hyperthermales of Luchon are most sulphurous in the Pyrenees and 4 pathologies are treated: Respiratory ORL tract, rheumatology, fibromyalgia, nicotinic weaning.

Our noble title dates back to the time of the Romans who first developed the town, then called ILIXON (goddess of water), and dug the first thermal swimming pools. In the XVIII century, Jacques Barrau, consul of the town, submitted a project to Antoine Megret, Baron d'Etigny the superintendent of the province to revive the fortunes of Luchon, In 1759, the Baron d'Etiany visited the city and fell under its charm. He constructed a grand and elegant building to house the Thermal Baths, and a new road, the Allée d'Etigny, to connect the Thermal Baths to the town.

Luchon began to host the great of this world and reached its peak of popularity in the 19th century with the thermal baths and the Pyrénéisme craze. It welcomed the children of Louis XIV, son of Napoleon III, Empress Eugénie and Tsar of Russia.

The reputation of Luchon was thus made and the Thermal Baths of Luchon developed. Vaporarium, a natural hammam, unique in Europe, was further developed with the construction of the current building which was modernized in 2010 with a total restoration.

Luchon has an extraordinary thermal architecture from the 19th century with a multiplicity of styles and influences. These architectural splendors can be seen through Allée d'Etigny as well as the Casino with its Italian theatre and Tunisian lounge.







The Vaporarium is the one and only natural hammam in Europe, a magical place to discover. Go through the subterranean caves to take a real natural vapor bath, where the hot springs, which leak through walls, create a soft humid heat between 38°C and 42°C.



### **CAUTERETS**

- FRANCE
- www.cauterets.com
- Springs: César, Mahourat



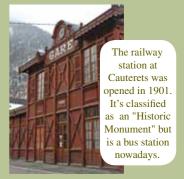
#### Cauterets, Grand par Nature

The story of the famous Cauterets goes back to Gallic Roman times. Ever since then, the natural baths have been a popular place for wellbeing, meeting and valuable exchange. The baths at Cauterets became famous in the sixteenth century. During the renaissance, Cauterets was in fashion, and was the top resort in the Pyrénées. The treatments used consisted of baths, drinks, but also of mud, used in the treatment of rheumatism. During the 17 th Century, Cauterets developed a series of activities related to hydrotherapy (accommodation, transportation, patient care, shopping, etc).

During the end of the 19th century, at the same time as hydrotherapy, a new taste for nature and its discovery was growing. High society set up in Cauterets in order to "take the waters" and to make ascents with the help of mountains guides. At this time, Cauterets developed its architecture like the Cesar thermal bath, the Great Hotel d'Angleterre, the Continental Hotel, and the Casino, Cauterets became a world renowned resort with its new methods of treatment reputation in otorhinolaryngology and rheumatology.

During the 20th century, the thermal spa clientele again made Cauterets one of the first resorts in France and in Europe, with an elite medical personnel, new thermal baths and high quality hotels.

Nowadays, Cauterets has a new spa the "Bains du Rocher" which offers well-being. The Tourist Office also provides entertainment for the whole family during all the year.



The Griffon's center of rheumatology was developed in 1932 and renewed in 1986 wirh a modern architectural integrated into a rocky landscape.



Cesar's thermal bath was constructed in 1844. It was renewed in 1997 and 2005 by taking into account its classic neo architecture by keeping the wide triangular front wall, supported by strong marble columns and a marble grand staircase.

The Bains du Rocher thermoludique centre welcome you all year in the city centre, with its outside lagoon integrated into a natural area.



The Cauterets City Hall was constructed in 1880.

# ENGHIEN-LES-BAINS

- FRANCE
- www.ot-enghienlesbains.fr
- Springs: Coquil



At only 7 miles from Paris, Enghien-les-Bains is a town in the northern suburbs of Paris, France. A casino, the only casino in the vicinity of Paris, is located on the shores of the lake.

The town was developed in the late nineteenth century around the scenic 110 acre lake and it is this expanse of water that helps give the area its unique atmosphere and character.

Enghien-les-Bains has been regularly used as a source of sulphurated water. The first of its springs was discovered in 1766 by Louis Cotte, a priest from the Order of Oratorians. This spring ran into a "smelly stream" emerging under the overflow from the "Montmorenci" pond, the present day Enghienles-Bains Lake. At the beginning of the 20th Century, the thermal site comprised around ten springs. Eight of these springs were officially recognized for public use by a decree on 18th July 1865. The origin of the sulphurated waters at Enghien-les-Bains is due to its geological specificities.

In 1772, the Prince of Condé granted concession of the spring for four years to a pharmacist of Paris, Louis Guillaume Le Veillard, already owner of the waters of Passy. In 1799, Condé gave Le

Veillard a new concession for 60 years in order to establish baths. Thermal baths began to thrive and the water started to be sold in Paris. In 1821, the first genuine thermal facilities were created by Péligot, who acquired the use of the Lake. He found a second spring, built a second tower-tank and formed a new front for the thermal centre that he finished. After the recovery of Louis XVIII from a leg ulcer thanks to the Cotte spring - renamed the King's spring - Enghien became fashionable in Parisian society.

The Spark is the wellness centre of the Barrière group, dedicated to beauty, energy and serenity. Spread over two floors in the heart of a multi-activity centre, the Spark was designed to both soothe you.





Wellness and relaxation at the lake.



The first Casino in France, completely renovated in 2005, to suggest the original atmosphere of the game, of fun and entertainment offers you a unique experience based on the free movement between two distinct levels of game.



#### **EVIAN**

- FRANCE
- www.eviantourism.com
- Sources : Cachat, Cordeliers



In 1790, all the benefits of Evian's mineral water were discovered for the first time. It marked the start of the town's rise to prominence which reached its apogee with the Belle Epoque.

The Cachat spring - formerly known as the Saint Catherine fountain - is the most famous of the many natural sources in Evian. Built in 1903, at the same time as the pump room opposite, the spring runs all year at a constant temperature of 11.6 °C. In the pedestrian heart of Evian, the Cachat pump room was created in 1903. It is an Art Nouveau master piece. From May to September, the pump room hosts an exhibition of products available under the Evian brand.

Built originally as a spa between 1900 and 1902, the Palais Lumière is a fine example of the genre. Today, it fulfills a new role as a cultural and convention centre, hosting exhibitions and a media library.

Resembling a natural amphitheatre rising high above the lake, Evian offers a magnificent environment.





Everyone can take some fresh mineral water at any time at the spring.

The historic thermal baths could cater for over 1200 treatments and were open from May to September. This building renamed Palais Lumière was reopened in 2006.



Designed as a "water temple", this pavilion in wood and glass is topped by a cupola of glazed tiles and lit by large semi-circular stained glass windows with plant patterns.



### **VICHY**

#### FRANCE

www.vichy-tourisme.com

■ Springs: The 5 main springs are Célestins, Chomel, Grande Grille, Hôpital, Lucas



Throughout Vichy's history (first known as Aguis Calidis), its waters hare acquired a quasi-miraculous reputation, attracting celebrities such as Madame de Sévigné, Victoire and Adélaïde daughters of Louis XV, the Duchesse d'Angoulême or the mother of Napoléon I.

The boom years took place from 1861 with the 5 visits of Emperor Napoléon III. His visit was followed by a major development (landscaped parks, broad streets and boulevards, chalets and houses, Grand Casino...).

The Belle Epoque marks the second golden age in Vichy: the Parc and Hall des Sources was encircled by a covered wrought iron gallery, the great Opera house and the oriental style Grand Etablissement Thermal were built, the town reaching its apogee in the 1930s.

Today, visitors to Vichy discover a harmonious blend of lovely buildings in a setting of greenery. Byzantine, Moorish, Venetian, Neo-Gothic... a hybrid blend of rich and contrasting styles, an eclectic architecture which amazes and delights visitors and takes them into another world.





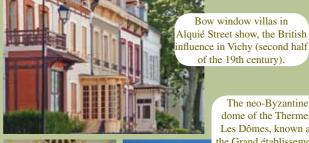
The Grand Casino is an emblematic building of the Second Empire in Vichy (second half of the 19th century).



Napoleon III historic feast each year in May, a tribute paid by Vichy to its pygmalion.



Shopping in the Fer-à-Cheval district extending the wrought iron covered gallery of the parc des Sources (first half of the 20th century).



The neo-Byzantine dome of the Thermes Les Dômes, known as the Grand établissement thermal (beginning of



### LE Mont-dore

#### FRANCE

www.cc-massifdusancy.fr

■ Springs: Les Chanteurs - 42°C, César, Pigeon, Ramond, Madeleine, Boyer, Bertrand 38 - 44°C



Situated at 1 050 m above the sea level, in the valley of the Upper Dordogne, in the heart of the natural park of the Auvergne volcanoes, at the foot of the Puy de Sancy (1886 m), Le Mont-Dore, 1 421 inhabitants, is certainly the most mountainous spa town in the Auvergne region.

The healing properties of Mont Dore's thermal waters were known in ancient times. Neglected in the Middle Ages, the healing waters opined a renewed interest in the eighteenth century and especially the nineteenth century, after 1815. Certainly, the determination and the work of several men, including Michel Bertrand, Water Inspector in Mont-Dore, changed the place into an international spa town witch hosted politicians, artists and members of royal families.

The spa became the heart of the future town of Mont-Dore. Hotels, luxury hotels, casino, buildings, new villas and public buildings were then built.

The thermal waters of Mont-Dore, rich in silica (the richest in France), carbon-gaseous, chloride-sodium bicarbonate, gush out from eight springs at temperatures between 36°C and 44°C. They strengthen the respiratory mucosa that inhibit the diffusion of allergens and

stimulate the immune system permanently. These spas also have a soothing and relaxing effect on pain. The thermal gas improves the peripheral blood circulation.





Thermal baths: listed in part as a historic monument, this is wonderful architecture in the Neo-Byzantine style. Framework in the style of that by Gustave Eiffel, vast rooms with painted ceilings, columns, domes, rose windows, stained glass, marble statues and mosaics, vestiges of the Roman baths, frescos from the XIX th century.



Ancient Le Sarciron-Rainaldy Palace, 1907





# LA Bourboule

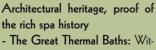
- FRANCE
- www.ville-labourboule.com
- Springs: Perriere (56°C)
  - Altitude: 850m



A tourist resort, congress centre and spa town, La Bourboule is built along the Dordogne river, with all the charm of the Belle Epoque, offering a wide variety of shops and many green areas. tition of geometrical figures made of ochre-coloured scales, topped by a luxuriant decoration of flowers and aquatic volutes listed in the additional inventory of historic monuments.

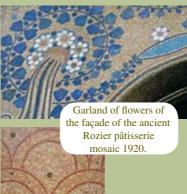
- The Villas and luxury hotels.

Façade and roof of the Great Thermal Baths - Lion's head Zinc - antefix of a fish-scale dome neo-byzantine style.



- The Great Thermal Baths: Witness of the golden age in La Bourboule, the monumental establishment is a vast quadrilateral topped, at each corner, with a neo-Byzantin-style dome, covered with scales made of zinc.
- Town Hall: a former casino, known as the Cariatides in reference to the Greek goddesses. Inside, the grand staircase and very ornate pediments on the doors are crowned with canvas paintings (1893). And at the first floor there is a Italian theatre.
- Casino Chardon: a majestic building, result of several construction schemes. The art-deco style, geometric decor is reminiscent of oriental calligraphy.
- Georges-Clemenceau boulevard: large esplanades, terraces, façades from the art-deco, neoclassic and baroque eras, turrets and watchtowers in the troubadour style
- The Cake shop Rozier: Its art deco frontage is a curious feature. The shop is composed of a repe-











# ROYAT CHAMALIÈRES

- FRANCE
- www.
  - tourisme-royat-chamalieres.com
- Springs: Auraline (37°C), César (22°C), Eugénie(33°C), Saint-Mart (29°C)



Although it has been a spa town for centuries, Royat - Chamalières owes its present position as the foremost Spa Station in Europe for the treatment of cardiovascular diseases and rheumatology to the quality of its medical teams, to its modern care equipment, its innovation and its programme of research.

Royat is built on the hillsides of the valley of the Tiretaine and displays a deliciously baroque charm. Royat - Chamalières, a famous spa resort, began it's expansion in 1850. It was inspired by the Constantin Basilica in Rome.

A visit from Napoleon III and Empress Eugénie, followed by the arrival of the railway, contributed to the development of this exceptional spa town, known for it's leisure and relaxation.

In 1880, the town developed around the spa treatment centres, hotels, furnished accommodation and the casino were all constructed.

Strolling through the spa park, you can discover the gallo-roman thermal edifice ruins, the neoclassical architecture of the 'buvette' (drinking area) and the Thermal Baths, as well as the stupendous ornamental mosaic at the Saint-Mart

Pavillon entrance (1912).

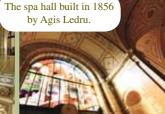
In every direction, you will be astounded by the rich decorative style of the different hotels and large bourgeois houses.



Pavillon Majestic, build in 1912, it was an annex of the Grand Hôtel & Majestic Palace.









Mart Pavillon has undergone an impressive restoration and has been transformed to accommodate a permanent thermalism exhibition.





The Royatonic thermoludic centre, in the heart of the thermal park, offers relaxation, fitness, and wellness in the open air or within its maiestic wooden-domed structure.

Why not spend a relaxing moment discussing with Hortense, a unique character who will carry you back to the heyday of thermalism?



# CHÂTEL-GUYON

- FRANCE
- www.chatel-guyon.fr
- Springs: Deval, Germaine, Louise, Marguerite, Yvonne



Great Spa Establishments.

Designed by the architect Beniamin Chaussemiche. Prix de

In 1671 Duclos the chemist carried out the first analyses. Although already famous in the 18th century, the Spa of Châtel-Guyon became really fashionable only in the 19th century.

In 1817 the council had a first very basic installation built. Camille Bosson, whose family had obtained the concession of the waters, built the first installation worthy of the name in 1858. As it became too small, it was replaced in 1906 by the present building, since 2004.

In 1878, the Châtel-Guyon Waters Company bought the Brosson and the Barse installations, and started major urban planning, in particular the realization of the avenue des Bains (today avenue Baraduc) and the construction of the new Great Spa Establisments.

In 1912, Châtel-Guyon was declared a spa and had its own major railway station built.

At the beginning of the 20th century, there were 28 spa springs at last the water of the Gubler spring was bottled to be exported.

Built from 1898 to 1900 from the drawings of the Parisian Architect Albert Le Voisvenel, the Casino and Theatre was extended in 1908-1910 by the Architect Edouard Niermans (designer of the Négresco in Nice). The casino is open during all the year and the Theater is being refurbished.















The Art Deco stained-glass window in the lobby of the Grand Hotel, 1930.



### ROUTE OF SPA TOWNS OF THE MASSIF CENTRAL

FRANCE

www.villesdeaux.com



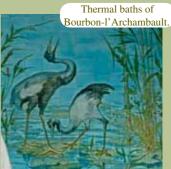
Located in the centre of France, the Central Massif area includes 17 spa towns, which are gathered in a tourist trail called the Route of Spa Towns of the Massif Central. Based on 4 regions (Auvergne, Limousin, Bourgogne, Rhône-Alpes), these spa towns are: Bourbon-Lancy, Bourbon-l'Archambault, La Bourboule, Châteauneuf-les-Bains, Châtel-Guyon, Chaudes-Aigues, Evaux-les-Bains, Le Mont-Dore, Meyras/Neyracles-Bains, Montrond-les-Bains, Néris-les-Bains, Royat - Chamalières, Saint-Honoré-les-Bains, Saint-Laurent-les-Bains, Saint-Nectaire, Vals-les-Bains, Vichy.

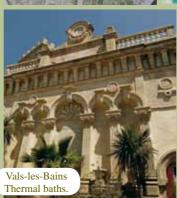
This tourist development network, created in 1998, aims share skills and strengths, promoting touristaimed offers and improving the image of spa towns which have particular features (well-being activities with thermal water and thermal heritage): packaging tourist products, participating in European Days Heritage, communicating on heritage events, creating exhibition...

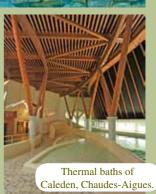
The Route of Spa Towns of the Massif Central is an Associate Member of the European Historical Thermal Towns Association and the spa towns of La Bourboule, Châtel-Guyon, Le Mont-Dore,

Royat - Chamalières and Vichy are members of the European Historical Thermal Towns Association.

Saint-Honoré-les-Bains Thermal baths.











Railway station of Néris-les-Bains.

### SALSOMAGGIORE TERME

- ITALY
- www.comune. salsomaggiore-terme.pr.it
- Springs: thermal waters rich in sulfur(Tabiano) and sodium (Salsomaggiore)



The name "Salso Maiore" already implies saline water, the main source of wealth of the town, since ancient times.

The tribe of Galli Celelati probably settled on these hills to extract this precious mineral; later, the area was occupied by the Romans.

The town is characterised by its incomparable "Liberty" art-nouveau-style, of which the Terme Berzieri represents a spectacular unique example. The thermal palace, built in 1923 by the architect Ugo Giusti and decorated by the ceramist Galileo Chini, contains multiple symbols from oriental and occidental philosophies, motifs with references to Assyrian-Babylonian and Byzantine architectures, revised after the style of Klimt and the Viennese Secession.

It was only in 1839, that Doctor Lorenzo Berzieri discovered the curative properties of these salt-bromo-iodine spa waters. A licence for the use of the mineral water, given by the Duchess Maria Luisa in the year 1847, marked the beginning of the history of the health resort.



Main staircase the Thermal Baths.





### **ACQUITERME**

- ITALY
- www.comuneacqui.com www.termediacqui.it
- Springs: The "Bollente" about 75°C, the "Acqua Marcia" about 19°C, the "Lake" about 50°C



During its thousand-year long journey, the water from the Apennine Mountains encounters many geological structures, absorbing various mineral salts, becoming extremely rich, and due to the chemical processes and mixtures it undergoes, it acquires its distintive mineral composition.

This fortified town, was initially inhabited by the Ligurian Satielli, destroyed in 173 A.D. by the Romans and named Acquae Statiellae after the Roman invasion. It became a prestigious Spa town thanks to its prodigious waters and to its strategic position on the Aemilia Scauria Road. It had its golden age during the Imperial period, as the numerous roman ruins and archaeological sites witness. In 1278 William II of Monferrato made it the capital of his Marauisate. In 1305 it fall under the dominion of the Paleologi and the Gonzaga, two centuries after. The present urban aspect dates back to the XVIII C. when Acqui, the medieval town became urban centre. At the beginning of the XX century thermalism reached its apex, its waters rich in sulphur, bromine and iodine were renowned at home and abroad. Ever since it was founded by the Romans Acqui Terme has had "water" as its dominant element; boiling hot therapeutic water, which gushes out in the town's centre, and across the Bormida river.





Remains of the Roman aqueduct dating from the I century A.D.; used to supply public and private fountains, swimming pools and Spas.

Between 1870 and 1880 the Engineer Ceruti built the Greek style temple to emphasize the importance of the thermal water in the Piazza Bollente.



Thermal swimming pool of the "Spring Lake" spa.





### **FIUGGI**

- ITALY
- www.comune.fiuggi.fr.it
- Springs: Bonifacio VIII
  Anticolana



Fiuggi is a famous Italian thermal Town, originally called Felcia, later Anticoli. Already well known to the Romans, Fiuggi's water with its diuretic property was used in the treatment of nephrolithiasis by famous historic people, as Pope Boniface VIII and Michelangelo, who discribed it "the water which breaks the stone". In the XIX century the healing qualities of the waters stimulated tourism in the City. In 1911, the Prime Minister Giolitti, fond of the City, encouraged the evolution of two hydrothermal complexe: Fonte Bonifacio VIII and Fonte Anticolana. Due to its close and strategic proximity to the cities of Rome and Naples, Fiuggi annually hosts a large influx of tourists in its remarkable hotel facilities, as well as cultural events and conferences of great importance. The medieval hill town is still a relaxing city on a human scale, which also offers an enchanting natural heritage, the charm of the old town centre and a genuine enogastronomic tradition.

A view of the naturalistic heritage of Fiuggi, which extends downstream in the countryside.





The Golf Club, a splendid eighteen-hole course in a large natural park and the second most ancient in Italy (1926).

The impressive entrance portal of Spring Bonifacio VIII was built in 1911 in an elegant Art Nouveau Style.



Fe

Grand Hotel Palazzo della Fonte (1913) was the meeting place of High Society. Today it is one of the Europe's finest hotels.

The Town Hall formerly the Grand Hotel, now the Municipal theatre, was inaugurated in 1911 in the presence of the Prime Minister.

# BAGNI-DI-LUCCA

- ITALY
- www.termebagnidilucca.it

  Spring: Doccione 54°C



Inhabited since the Bronze Age, as shown by remains of Ligurian sepulchres of the 8th century BC, the area was known for its mineral springs by Etruscan and Romans, and a Roman settlement was established at Villa Therentiana, Since the 14th century the Republic of Lucca made of Bagni the main spa centre in Italy, welcoming guests from all over Europe. In Napoleonic times the place was a favourite retreat of the Buonaparte family. After the Congress of Vienna and throughout the 19th century the Dukedom of Lucca became an international court, and Bagni was the summer retreat of the court, with the casino organizing magnificent dance events. The casino was closed in 1853, and later after 1860 when Tuscany was included in the kingdom of Italy the decline of the place as a fashionable resort began.

Evidence of this prestigious tradition in the 18th century where the Spa was well known throughout the world can still be found today along the valley, (the Casino, first in Europe, and numerous villas).

The Thermal Establishment today is made up of two interconnecting buildings. During the centuries structural and functional changes were made. Elisa Baciocchi, in

1808, wanted to completely renew the establishment and entrusted the architect Carlo Lazzarini with the project, who gave the complex its present look.

The Thermal Esta

The Caves. The natural vapors of two grottoes, the Grotta Granda and the Grotta Paolina, lend the spa its unique character, temperatures range from 40-45°C.

The Thermal Establishment today is made up of two interconnecting buildings. Jean Varraud and Casa Boccella, which offers classical thermal cures and treatments, and the Centro Ouida, which offers treatments and programmes specifically geared towards thermal wellbeing.

In 1836 the ancient bridge, built at the beginning of the 14th century by Castruccio Castracani, collapsed after a flood of the Lima river. The Prince of Lucca Carlo Lodovico di Borbone, commissioned the architect Lorenzo Nottilini to build a new one.



Villa Ada a former Renaissance mansion of the local De Nobili family, was renovated in the 19th century by Sir Mac Bean, a British consul in Leghorn.

# MONTECATINI TERME

- ITALY
- www.comune.
  montecatini-terme.pt.it
- Springs: Four springs, with therapeutic characteristics



The most reliable reports of the healing properties of the Montecatini waters date back to the Roman era. This is also confirmed by find of some small statues, portraying heathen gods, unearthed during the digging of the Leopoldina crater.

In the 18th century, the Grand Duke of Tuscany, Pietro Leopoldo, planned the first works for the canalization of the spring waters and the building of the spas for the thermal treatments; the study of the Montecatini waters based on scientific principles began between the end of the 19th century and the start of the 20th century.

Indeed, already at the beginning of the 19th century many buildings, also private ones, were dedicated to thermal treatments and close to these, various hotels, tourist facilities and also public centers were created (for instance the railway station, the theatre, the church, the casino, coffeehouses and cafés chantants). All the modern thermal spa establishments already existed in 19th century, the architectural frame, as well as the hotels and the public places.

The greater architectural growth of Montecatini Terme dates back to the beginning of the 20th century, when the present thermal buildings

were built or renewed, along with the thermal parks and the tourist facilities.

The water's stimulating property helps liver depuration: the composition of its slightly saline solution is practically the same as the composition of organic liquids and is useful for cholesterol metabolic disorders. It has a stimulating action on the gastric secretion and emptying and is therefore indicated for hypo-secretive chronic gastritis and functional dyspepsia and for irritable colon.





Thermal baths Tettuccio, particolare Fonti.





By restoring the correct bile flow from liver to intestines, Regina Water is suitable in cases of liver insufficiency and disorders of bile ducts. It was discovered in 1855 and authorized as a thermal drink by royal decree at the beginning of the 20th century. It was then finally confirmed by the decree in 2001, which also described its therapeutic properties.

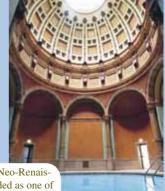
# BADEN-Baden

- GERMANY
- www.baden-baden.de
- Springs: Twelve different springs (56°C 68,8°C)



At the foot of the Florentine Hill below the former Grand Ducal castle, twelve hot thermal springs rise to the surface. These thermal springs prompted the Romans to found a settlement at this location that was named "Aqua". In the palatine wars in 1689 the medieval town was set on fire and was almost completely destroyed. At the end of the 18th century, the focus of the structural development shifted from the medieval confines of the city out into the "green countryside". A promenade house was built on the other side of the Oos as a meeting spot for the spa guests. After 1800, an intensive construction boom took place in Baden-Baden following the plans of the building director of the Grand Duchy of Baden, Friedrich Weinbrenner. The Frenchman Jean-Jacques Benazet took charge of the casino in 1838 and invested the profits in the development of the spa resort. Within a few years, the city experienced an unprecedented rise to fame as a sophisticated world-renowned spa resort and the "summer capital of Europe". An international crowd met here for social and cultural events. By 1871, the focus on thermal water had intensified. A successful transition took place from the international fashion and society resort to a health spa with large modern spa palaces. Nowadays, the centre of Baden-Baden presents itself as a unified green cityscape with the flair of the 19th century, complemented by high level modern architecture which hosts the cultural tradition of Baden-Baden

Friedrichsbad, was built in 1877 in Neo-Renaissance style and has since been regarded as one of the most beautiful bathing temples in Europe.



The Frie design architect its

The Frieder Burda Museum, designed by the American architect Richard Meier opened its doors in 2004.

The theatre was opened in 1862 with the premiere of the opera "Beatrice and Bénédict" by Hector Berlioz



Lichtentaler Allee - In the 19 century the former large oak tree avenue expanded into parkland in the style of an English garden with native and exotic trees and lush floral displays.

### WIESBADEN

GERMANY

www.wiesbaden.de



By the year 40 AD, the Romans erected a border fort as a military stronghold. Its central position and the beneficial, curative powers of the 26 hot springs promoted the rapid growth of a civilian settlement. A spa culture developed, giving the Roman fortification its name: "Aquae Mattiacorum" - the springs of the Mattiaci

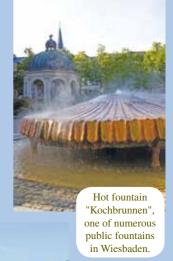
The first mention of "Wisibada" can be found in records from the year 829 AD. By the 13th century, the city had advanced to become a royal court and imperial city. In the 18th century, the city's economy and culture thrived and experienced its initial heyday as a spa in the early 19th century when European nobility and famous personalities, such as Johann Wolfgang von Goethe or Russian novelist Feodor Dostoevski spent time here. At the end of the Nassau era in 1866 and during the Prussian occupation, Emperor William Il supported the idea and foundations for a large city. Government and public buildings, the Kurhaus and the State Theatre were erected, the service industries and traffic infrastructure flourished.

The population doubled between 1880 and 1905. Villas and houses, landmarks in Romantic Classicism

and Art Nouveau, shaped the city's contours. Wiesbaden's particular flair has been an inspiration to many artists like the composers Brahms and Wagner and the painter Alexei Jawlensky.

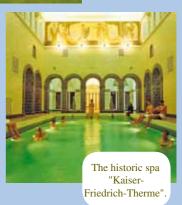
Today the former world spa has transformed itself into a very modern state capital and health resort - but its particular character has always been retained.

Wiesbaden's landmark, the Kurhaus, with its beautiful casino.









### **DARUVAR**

- CROATIA
- www.tz-daruvar.hr
- Srings: Antun, Ivan, Marija



History records that the Illyrian tribe of lasi were the first native inhabitants between the Sava and Drava rivers. They may have been attracted by the thermal springs, which are natural and recurrent feature in the wider Toplica River Valley.

Today's Daruvar spa has a long history, the Romans used the thermal waters and built around them, and called the settlement Aquae Balissae. Pillars, portals and Roman money were found near Ivan's spa next to the thermal springs indicating the existence of a temple shrine. One of the sculptures excavated there represents the God Svilan. Among the most beautiful findings of the Roman period is an ornamental glass, kept today in a museum in Vienna.

The crucial moment in town's development was the arrival of Count Antun Jankovic's family who built the castle Jankovic in 18th century and called it Daruvar (in Hungarian Crane's town).

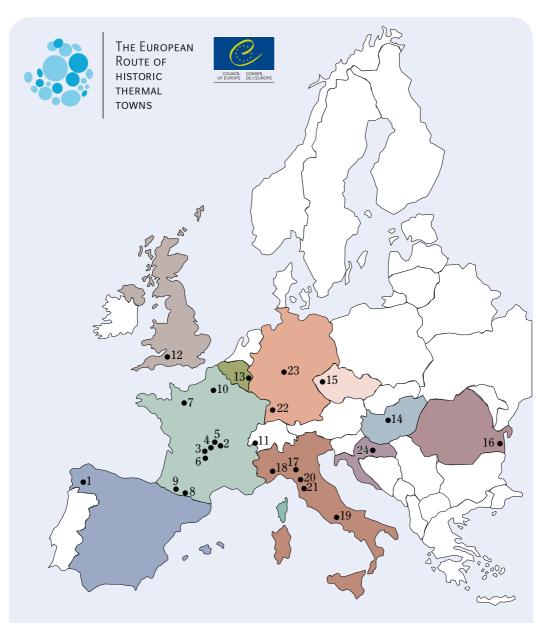
Daruvar spa - bathing resort is the foundation of development and ornament of the town. It was built on Roman ruins, restored and constructed with the effort of the noble Jankovic family and today it has become unique - Antun's Bath

(1772), Ivan's bath (1810-1818), Swiss villa (1860), Marija's bath (1810-1818), Villa Arcadia (1870), Central mud bath(1909).

The foundation and development of the spa are based on natural features of its springs with temperature of 35-46 Celsius and mineral mud (peloid) and professional medical staff.







#### SPAIN\_

1 - Ourense FRANCE \_\_\_

- 2 Vichy
- 3 Le Mont-Dore
- 4 Royat Chamalières
- 5 Châtel-Guyon
- 6 La Bourboule
- 7 Bagnoles-de-L'Orne
- 8 Luchon

- 9 Cauterets
- 10 Enghien-les-Bains
- 11 Evian

#### UNITED KINGDOM\_

12 - Bath

#### BELGIUM.

13 - Spa

#### HUNGARY\_

14 - Budapest

#### CZECH REPUBLIC

- 15 Karlovy Vary Region ROMANIA
- 16 Techirghiol

#### ITALY\_

- 17 Salsomaggiore Terme
- 18 Acqui Terme
- 19 Fiuggi
- 20 Bagni-di-Lucca
- 21 Montecatini Terme

#### GERMANY\_

- 22 Baden-Baden
- 23 Wiesbaden
- OD O AMIA

#### CROATIA\_

24 - Daruvar