

There's always something happening in museums.



Guided and theatrical tours, workshops, concerts, reading sessions, audiovisual projections, dance, afterworks, resting or ludic areas, conferences....

Niort's museums are lively places, where permanent collections and special exhibitions create bridges towards art and culture for everyone.



### Niort Agglo, a cultural destination

Other places to discover : La Villa Pérochon - contemporary photography art center, Le Pilori - visual arts area, the castle of Coudray-Salbart at Echiré, the cultural area of Four Pontet at Magné, 16 multimedia libraries in Niort and in the whole conglomeration, la micro-folie of Granzay-Gript, Chauray's Temple....



### Museums schedules

From Tuesday to Friday : 10am to 1pm and 2pm to 5pm, on Thursday it's continuously  
Saturday and Sunday from 2pm to 6pm  
From May to August closing times are **an hour later all evenings.**

### Closed

On January 1st, May 1st, November 1st, and December 25th

### price

5,50 € per person  
8 € to visit both museums

**Free for everyone under the age of 26 and every first Sunday of the month.**

Estimated time to visit the Donjon museum: 1h30  
Estimated time to visit the museum Bernard d'Agesci: 2h  
The Donjon is unfortunately not accessible for people with physical disabilities.

**Find all about our visits and events on the website  
[musees.niortagglo.fr](http://musees.niortagglo.fr)**



niortagglo

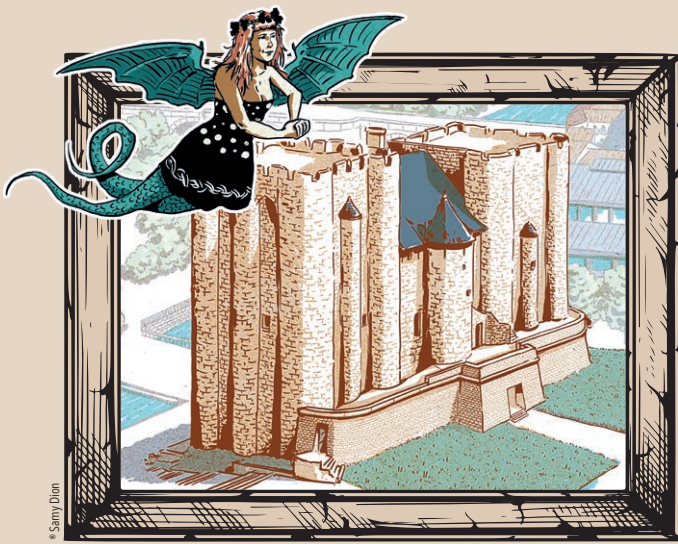
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The Donjon & the museum Bernard d'Agesci



Les musées de Niort Agglo



## The Donjon, a museum where you can time travel through the city of Niort.

Once upon a time, on the shore of the river Sèvre, this military fortress of the Plantagenet Empire, which ruled over the commercial activities and protected Niort, is now a door leading to the history within.

The Donjon is the last trace of this long and important history. A tower to protect the city, provide a residence for the governor, serve as barracks as well as a jail, its purposes changed throughout the centuries. Now, a museum, The Donjon reveals the story of two thousand years of history.

And maybe you'll have the chance to meet **Mélusine**, a fairy builder, half woman half snake. The legend says that she built the Donjon in only one night.

The museum of The Donjon offers many visits and activities all year long: enough to please everyone!



Some free audio guides are at your disposition to visit at your own pace and discover all the architectural secrets of The Donjon.



### What to see in the donjon...

- Meet Epona the gallo-roman goddess
- Explore nine hundred years of history
- Understand the secrets the stone carvers left behind
- Discover the tomb of gentry from the middle-age
- Observe marks left by English privateers
- Enjoy the best panoramic view of Niort



## The museum Bernard d'Agesci, one of the biggest cabinets of curiosities in the world.

A place full of life, vibrant and connected to its territory, the museum was constructed as a giant cabinet of curiosities with over **five thousand square meters** (5 000m<sup>2</sup>) to explore. In what was once an elegant girl's only high school from the XIXth century, many beautiful and unique collections are reunited to offer you a complete tour, from fine arts to science as well as some decorative arts, music instruments, ethnography, school history and natural history.

### A bit of history...

In 1794, the painter Bernard D'Agesci, appointed by the department of Deux-Sèvres, submitted his inventory of art collections gathered during the French Revolution. He aspired to create a museum where all the objects (paintings, sculptures, marble works, and scientific instruments) could co-exist. In 2006, the city of Niort made his dream come true.

Explore the museum at your own pace! According to your desires and interests, let yourself be guided by one of our thematic experiences.

