



Colmar



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WAY OF LIFE



Edmond Gerrer
Media-culture centre



#2

ECONOMY



Biopôle
Research laboratory



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EDITORIAL

Colmar and its suburbs constitute an important centre of economic attraction near Strasbourg the European Capital, Freiburg-im-Breisgau in Germany, and Basel in Switzerland. As well as accessibility and its cross-border environment, the territory has numerous advantages for investors and entrepreneurs, whether they are at the head of large international groups or SMEs. Land availability, motorways, high-speed rail and airport services, commercial dynamism, exceptional quality of life, skilled workforce, developed tourism, etc.

In this context, the town of Colmar and the Colmar urban community (CAC) are fully aware of the facilitating role that they must play with regard to companies in order to encourage their establishment and development. Indeed, when it comes to creating employment, public action and private investment must complement each other. Creating favourable conditions for economic development remains the most important lever that public authorities have to support employment.

In this regard, the first relief that the city and the CAC bring to businesses is an especially low level of taxation which is conducive to investment.

A few figures for 2015:

- the business financial contribution (CFE) - which has replaced the old professional tax - is 24.03%, among the lowest rates in the country,
- no property tax on built properties (TFPB) at the urban community level,
- keeping the tax rate for the removal of household waste at 7.95% while the average rate nationally is 11.79%,
- a transport payout rate reduced to 0.65% while the average ratio for equivalent French conurbations rose to 1.23% in 2012.

This particularly attractive tax regime is the result of rigorous, responsible and constant public money management, welcomed by the specialist media. Given the will, more daring commitments may be required!

Gilbert MEYER
Mayor of Colmar - President of the
Urban community of Colmar



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COLMAR, DIGITAL CITY



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ATTRACTION ECONOMY

SERVICES **AND FACILITIES**

Colmar is developing as a crossroads between the major urban centres of Alsace (Strasbourg and Mulhouse) and the European cities of Fribourg in Germany and departmental prefecture and also has an important Basel in Switzerland. Colmar is the prefecture of the Department and has a significant tertiary sector especially dealing with administration, plus the Regional court of appeal and seat of the Haut-Rhin departmental council. Having first class hotel and conference facilities as well as a dense and varied network of services, Colmar is in a strategic position at the heart of Alsace.

These services are available for decision makers and companies who like to count on most of the participants required for decision-making being nearby: consular chambers, the prefecture, the departmental council and city council are less than a quarter of an hour from the activity sites.

Exhibition centre

EXHIBITION CENTRE

The exhibition centre has 5 halls with a total area of 12,000 m², a flexible conference area with 300 to 1400 seats and an open-air theatre accommodating up to 10,000 spectators.

03 90 50 50 50 - Avenue de la foire aux vins
www.colmar-expo.fr

MEETING, EXCHANGE, AND TRAINING CENTRE (CREF)

Colmar's Chamber of commerce and industry of Colmar and Centre-Alsace runs Meetings, exchange and training centre to host conferences, seminars and business conventions. The CREF has two auditoriums, an exhibition hall with catering facilities and thirteen committee rooms.

03 89 20 20 20 - 1 place de la gare
www.colmar.cci.fr

TRANSPORT

The boom in transport systems is an essential and permanent factor for development. It allows exchanges to be made and production to increase.

• •

As such, Colmar and its conurbation have a complete panoply of modes of transport.

• •



BY TRAIN

With fourteen railway lines and 161 stations served by regional express trains (TER), Alsace has a very dense rail network. The rail network connects the main cities of the region on a North-South axis: Strasbourg, Sélestat, Colmar, Mulhouse, and St. Louis.

Today Colmar is less than 2 hrs 50 mins from Paris by high-speed train (TGV) (2 hrs 20 from 2016). SNCF puts on 23 round trips per day between Paris-Gare de l'Est station and Strasbourg, including four direct to Colmar and 26 between Paris - Gare de Lyon and Mulhouse, including 15 to Colmar.

www.voyages-sncf.com

BY PLANE

Alsace has two major international airports, Basel-Mulhouse airport (EuroAirport) in Haut-Rhin and Strasbourg (Entzheim) airport in Bas-Rhin. Located between these two airports, Colmar-Houssen airport intends to position itself and develop as a regional business airport. Many national and international companies serve all of Alsace's airports every day.



Colmar-Houssen airport

This is mostly located in the municipality of Colmar in the centre of the Alsace Region. This airport is open twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week for national and international flights, for both commercial and private aircraft. It is mostly used for business flights, tourism and transport of sports teams and personalities, with more than 30,000 annual movements. A wide-ranging modernisation has been started with the renovation and development of the lobby and offices.

www.colmar.aeroport.fr



EuroAirport Basel-Mulhouse-Freiburg

The publicly-owned Basel-Mulhouse airport was created by the Franco-Swiss agreement of 4 July 1949, which sets the foundations for the operation of the airport and gives it a unique status in the world, that of a dual nationality airport. It is the fifth regional airport of France and the third national airport of Switzerland with 6.5 million passengers in 2014. It offers more than 100 destinations including the main European cities (Amsterdam, Berlin, Brussels, Istanbul, London, Madrid, Rome, etc.).

www.euroairport.com



Strasbourg-Entzheim international airport

This is located on the territory of the municipality of Entzheim near Strasbourg. It serves about 30 scheduled destinations in eleven French cities and 18 international cities. Nearly two million passengers transited the airport in 2014.

www.strasbourg.aeroport.fr

BY BOAT

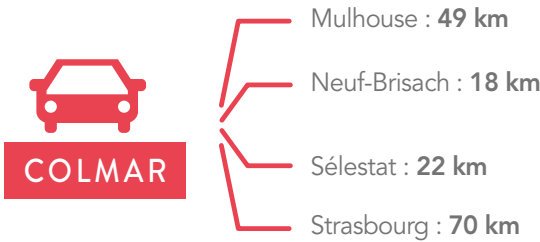


The Rhine, while being one of the largest freight traffic routes (15% of the total for Alsace), has other great capabilities.

Prospects for development and traffic are leading the Alsace Region to support the three major platforms on the Rhine over the long term: Strasbourg (France's second river port), Mulhouse-Rhin (France's third river port) and Colmar. Colmar's marina, a former industrial port, is located five minutes from the historic heart of the city. Today it's the ideal place to enjoy a moment of relaxation overlooking the water. Tourism is also a great promotional tool.

BY CAR

Colmar is connected to the entire European network via motorways and trunk roads.



Distances from Colmar by road

Paris	525 km	Luxembourg	291 km
Basel	60 km	Brussels	474 km
Lyon	422 km	Amsterdam	673 km
Lille	568 km	Milan	404 km
Zurich	151 km	Berlin	826 km
Geneva	316 km	London	775 km
Frankfurt	289 km	Vienna	881 km
Munich	432 km		

PRACTICAL

VIALSACE

Vialsace allows users to plan their movements all over Alsace, thanks to public transport services in Alsace (regional railways, tram, bus, coach) or find a route to a destination across the border.

All information relating to the different Alsatian transport systems are listed on the site which also suggests the most appropriate park and ride and public transport.



THE MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS IN COLMAR

The magic of Christmas in Colmar, means firstly the atmosphere of the old town, illuminated and decorated like a fairy tale. An historic streetscene made magical by the illuminations which fit harmoniously with the lighting designed enhance the heritage and adorn central Colmar with a soft aura of light. For six weeks the city comes alive around five Christmas markets. More than 180 chalets allow tourists to discover local crafts, make their purchases and taste specialities. This period attracts over 1,200,000 visitors per year.

From 21 November to 31 December 2015
03 89 20 68 92
www.noel-colmar.com/fr

EVENTS

Colmar is an event city, offering a wide choice of events throughout the year.



THE BOOK FAIR

The book fair offers an attractive and enjoyable showcase from the publication industry, with the public presentation of novels, albums, comic books and essays, for readers young and old. Organised in Colmar's exhibition centre on an area covering 12,000 m², and totally free to the public, the book fair is one of the most extensive cultural and economic forums in the east of France. Its goal is to bring books and reading to the widest and most diverse number of people. Each year 30,000 people tromp through the aisles of the fair.

Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 November 2015
03 89 20 68 70
www.salon-du-livre-colmar.com

• •
The city offers three main events of international importance and renown.

• •



THE WINES OF ALSACE REGIONAL FAIR

Every summer for 68 years the wine fair has pulsed to the rhythm of gastronomic tastings, magical concerts, meetings and exchanges.

More than 250,000 visitors rush to Colmar's exhibition centre.

In a festive atmosphere, 350 exhibitors come to the meeting each year, as do many winegrowers who come to show off their grape varieties. With its 10,000-seat outdoor theatre, much valued by artists, the Alsace wine fair has become an unmissable stop on summer tours.

From 7 to 16 August
03 90 50 50 50
www.foire-colmar.com/fr

ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

THE FLAGSHIPS OF INDUSTRY IN COLMAR

The economy of the Colmar conurbation is characterised by a rich and diversified tapestry of companies.

It is especially characterised by:

- > industry and the presence of large industrial companies such as Liebherr (excavators), Ricoh (office equipment and related services) and Timken (automotive supplier),
- > the presence of SMEs such as Hebeco Plastic and Kermel in the know-how and expertise recognised in different areas of industry and services, and for some positioned in strategic sectors (logistics, engineering and industrial maintenance, plastic injection, mechanics, technical textiles, etc.).

TOURISM - DRIVER OF THE LOCAL ECONOMY

The city of Colmar has a large accommodation network with 28 hotels offering a total of 1458 rooms. Colmar Congrès offers modern and flexible visitor facilities with a 1300-seat conference centre.

The 'business tourism' contract, signed on July 22, 2013 with the Minister of tourism, Atout France, the Alsace Region and the other two towns (Mulhouse and Strasbourg), places Colmar at the heart of business tourism.

The tourist office, classified with 4 stars for almost 20 years, welcomes nearly 160,000 tourists each year.

KEY FIGURES TOURISM COLMAR CONURBATION



3,5
million
tourists



2
million
nights



2900
jobs



128
million
turnover



WINE AND GASTRONOMY, COLMAR OR EXCELLENCE

The city of Colmar has a central position at the heart of wine country. It produces three appellations d'origines contrôlées: Alsace, Alsace grand cru and Crémant d'Alsace. It has its own wine estate, which extends over 25 hectares. The brand Colmar capitale des vins d'Alsace has been an official designation since 1999. The city joined the vineyards & discoveries within the destination "terre et vins au Pays de Colmar". It offers wine tours combining tourism, culture, wine and gastronomy.

Since 1948 the city of Colmar has hosted the Alsace regional wine fair, which has 250,000 visitors each year. With its 10,000-seat outdoor theatre, it has become an unmissable stop on summer tours. The economic benefits are estimated at between 35 and 40 million euros.

KEY FIGURES WINE AND GASTRONOMY COLMAR



400
hectares of
vine



5
producers



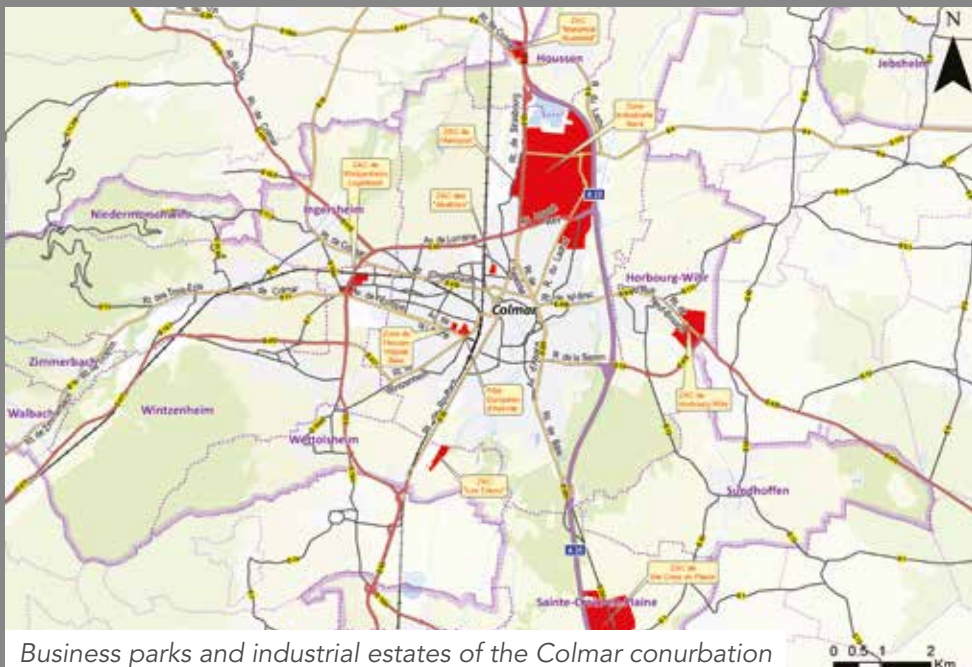
200
restaurants



3
starred
Michelin

REAL ESTATE AND GRANTS

LAND AND REAL ESTATE GRANTS FOR BUSINESSES



Business parks and industrial estates of the Colmar conurbation

LColmar urban community's services are available to entrepreneurs who will find many opportunities for their projects in Colmar, starting with a varied portfolio of available property:

- > Business parks including Horbourg-Wihr, Les Erlen in Wettolsheim, and the airport a few hundred metres north of the city centre.
- > The Sainte-Croix-en-Plaine industrial area.

In addition, several former military sites have been converted into areas devoted to services, which are especially attractive for the sizes of the buildings available and the proximity of the city centre. This is the case for

the former Rapp barracks, place du capitaine Dreyfus, and the former Baur military hospital, which are two sites that have been transformed into service-related centres.

The same goes for several brownfield sites that have been given over to economic activity. These projects are led by private investors and have benefited from grants from the city of Colmar and the CAC.

They are currently working with the SNCF and SNCF Réseaux to study putting buildings for economic development within the boundaries of the former station goods on the route de Rouffach.

HELP FOR BUSINESSES

• •

The first assistance that the city of Colmar and the Colmar urban community give businesses is particularly low taxation - a rare thing these days.

• •

The CAC also is also involved with the Haut-Rhin departmental council in the departmental industrialisation Fund (FDAl).

The FDAl is a repayable interest-free loan (over 8-12 years) to support industrial companies in the acquisition, construction or extension of their buildings. The grant is awarded according to several criteria, including the number of jobs created.

A number of grants are offered by the city of Colmar. Some of these are for shopkeepers, craftsmen and professionals:

- > financial support for improving shop windows and the redevelopment of the interiors of vacant premises,
- > financial support for the resumption of activity in unused business premises,
- > the reuse of brownfield sites,
- > free advertising on some of the city's communications resources,
- > an hour of free parking for customers.

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

THE BIOPOLE

The "Biopole", a six hectare site on the rue de Herrlisheim, brings together a group of companies and University departments which are cutting edge in the fields of agronomy and biotechnology

The main objectives cover building skills in the areas concerned and hosting trainees and thesis and postdoctoral students at the university locations on the site. It is also developing its ability to host non-permanent staff such as teachers and researchers. The association Alsace Vitae co-ordinates scientists, academics, professionals and businesses in the agronomic and winemaking fields in Alsace and the upper Rhine (www.alsace-vitae.com). It helps organise, promote and develop this comprehensive network of skills in plant sciences, linking research, training, technology transfer, development, the Alsatian agricultural and viticultural professions and the 'businesses' that use these skills.

Because of the synergy between the various partners, the initial objectives are already achieved. Several new organisations have been set up, especially in the field of entrepreneurship. As an organisation of excellence, the biopole is now more than ever the future for Colmar and its conurbation.



SIXTEEN STRUCTURES ARE ON THE SITE

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 National institute of agronomic research (INRA) | 8 Joint agricultural recycling union of Haut-Rhin (SMRA 68) |
| 2 University of Haute-Alsace (UHA) | 9 Institut du végétal (ARVALIS) |
| 3 Regional centre for innovation and technology transfer in innovation research (CRITT RITTMO) | 10 Departmental veterinary laboratory |
| 4 French institute of vines and wine (IFV) | 11 Office national des Forêts (ONF) |
| 5 Professional organisation for organic farming in Alsace (OPABA) | 12 Association for the protection of the Alsatian aquifer (APRONA) |
| 6 Cross-border agronomic institute enforcement and development (ITADA) | 13 Alsatian chamber of agriculture |
| 7 Association for agricultural recovery in Alsace (ARAA) | 14 Twistaroma |
| | 15 Fysiki |
| | 16 Interprofessional committee for the wines of Alsace (CIVA) |



UNIVERSITY RESEARCH

With 68,000 students enrolled in higher education, the Alsace Region represents 3% of the national workforce in higher education. Higher education and research activities are spread over three main locations, Strasbourg, Mulhouse and Colmar.

Organisations such as the national centre for scientific research (CNRS), the national institute for health and medical research (INSERM) and the national institute of agronomic research (INRA) have established close relations with the universities of Strasbourg and Haute-Alsace, contributing to the sites' reputations.

• •

Alsace is also very dynamic when it comes to scientific collaboration and research, well above the French average.

• •

The bioengineering department of the IUT of the University of Haute-Alsace, which hosts nearly 120 students, hinges around the national institute for agronomic research. It provides education directed towards biology and specifically agronomy, from setting up tests up to the interpretation of their results.

Some teachers also undertake research and work on the theme of viticulture within the viticultural biotechnology and environmental laboratory (LVBE).

Project Phenotis (dismantling and reconstruction of greenhouses)

After having dismantled 1000 m² of greenhouses built in the 1960s, 1000 m² of experimental greenhouses including 500 m² of contained greenhouses will be built anew. This is the buildings component of the Phenotis project for installing a technical phenotyping platform for vines "from the laboratory to the vineyard". High throughput phenotyping is a technological obstacle to be overcome to allow the selection of varieties that require fewer inputs (water, nitrogen or pesticides) in the context of competitive and more environmentally-friendly agriculture.

Phénomène project

This project is part of the 2015-2020 planning agreement between the national and regional governments. It aims to equip the French scientific community with an infrastructure capable of measuring the agronomic characteristics of plants subjected to various climate scenarios and technical processes associated with global change, using specific high-throughput methods. This innovative project is coordinated by the INRA.

TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT

UNIVERSITY LEARNING

The University of Haute Alsace (UHA) is located in Colmar and Mulhouse. It was created in 1975 and now comprises approximately 8,000 students, 500 teaching and teaching/research staff and as many other staff. It offers 130 courses on different levels: DUT (Diplôme Universitaire de Technologie), bachelor's, master's and PhD, via initial, and continuous training and learning. It has eight units for learning and research (UFR).

A feature of the University of Haute-Alsace is its course offerings, 76% of which are occupation-oriented. This is a result of a partnership policy with the local economic and industrial base and especially the centres of competitiveness. The adoption of a regional deal for training engineers has meant the number of engineers graduating in Alsace each year has risen from 650 to 1000 (up 60%), of whom 24% joined companies in the region.

KEY FIGURES
UNIVERSITY - COLMAR



2

learning and
research units



1

university



2 000

students of whom
18% foreign
students

03 89 33 60 00
www.uha.fr

TRAINING BY APPRENTICESHIP

The university centre for training apprentices (CFAU) in Alsace

This regional apprentice training centre is located within the University of Haute-Alsace (UHA). It involves all Alsatian students. The CFAU is the first in France and offers today more than 100 training courses by apprenticeship in a large number of areas lasting two to five years in higher education.

It assists companies in implementing the national apprenticeship contract and takes on its administrative and legal management. The centre also addresses organisational issues of apprenticeship through the professional development council. Finally, it plays a role of liaison with the corporate world.

03 89 33 65 90
www.cfau.fr/le-cfa-universitaire-alsace

The industrial apprentice training centre (CFAI)

Each year the centre trains over 1200 apprentices aged from 15 to 25 years in industrial technical trades. The courses offered are grouped around the following trades: industrial boilermaking, industrial mechanics, electrical engineering and energy, automated systems and industrial maintenance, industrial computing and communication networks and IT.

03 89 21 71 50
www.cfai-alsace.fr

The hospitality training centre

This offers work-study courses: the professional chef's certificate, professional restaurant certificate with catering or with restaurant dessert chef, CAP (certificate of professional competence) chef and CAP restaurant.

03 89 41 17 70
www.cfahotrest-colmar.com

The Alsace training centre (CFA) Marcel Rudloff

The centre hosts nearly 1 000 apprentices and offers 34 diplomas from level four to the level three, in fourteen trades across the six following areas: gastronomy, beauty, business, energy and fluids, construction, and automotive.

03 89 21 57 40
www.cfa-colmar.fr

The association for adult vocational training (AFPA)

This is the first vocational training centre for adult job seekers and employees in France and in Europe.

The training centre offers nearly 40 recognised courses that are relevant for the market. Because of its constant contact with companies, the Colmar training centre has become a reference, especially in the building sector.

39 36
www.alsace.afpa.fr/accueil-afpa



THE EMPLOYMENT MARKET

The simple presence of a university, apprenticeship centres and sixth-form colleges or high schools cannot be a sufficient response to business employment requirements.

The University of Haute-Alsace in Colmar and its conurbation has always customised its teaching to business requirements. Apprentice training centres have the ability and willingness to change their courses to suit requirements issued by companies.

KEY FIGURES FOR APPRENTICESHIP



4
CFA



1
CFAU



15 000
apprentices (Alsace)

THE REGIONAL TRAINING AND JOBS FAIR

Each year in January, the exhibition centre in Colmar hosts one of the most important fairs in the region in the field of training and employment with more than 300 exhibitors present. The aim of this exhibition is to create a link with training institutions in Alsace to show off different trades and training courses. In January 2015, nearly 20,000 visitors visited the four exhibition halls!

On 23 and 24 January 2016
03 89 20 22 48
www.srfe.com



ATTRACTION WAY OF LIFE



Avenue de la république 1902 DR



Quai de la poissonnerie 1936

HERITAGE

For Georges Duhamel (who wrote in 1931),

• •

"Colmar is the most beautiful city in the world".

• •

The capital of Centre-Alsace, located close to Germany and Switzerland, between the Vosges and the Rhine, Strasbourg and Mulhouse, the city offers visitors a striking shortcut to a thousand years of European history.

Medieval Colmar

With its churches and convents, of Saint-Martin, Unterlinden etc. With its Koïfhus (customs house), built in 1480 at the time that Colmar and the upper Rhine were radiating the extraordinary talent of the painter and engraver Martin Schongauer.

Colmar Renaissance

Patrician and bourgeois residences, the Pfister house, the House of the heads, the guardhouse and many others, made of wood and stone, with oriel windows and overhangs.

18th century baroque and classical Colmar

The Pairis house, our current town hall, the Palace of the sovereign council, which is now the Lycée Bartholdi, and the old hospital.

19th century French Colmar

Illustrated by the municipal theatre, the synagogue, the covered market, the prefecture, without forgetting of course the statues and monumental fountains of Auguste Bartholdi.

German Colmar (1871-1918)

Residential areas south of the city centre around the imposing court of appeal building and the railway station.

Contemporary Colmar at last

Around the hospital Louis Pasteur, one of the most modern hospitals in France when it opened in 1937.

ARCHITECTURE

Historic Colmar has preserved all of its architectural riches, from the 13th century to today.



THE EUROPE CENTRE

The renovation of the Europe centre, in the heart of the western districts of the city, was to increase and improve social connections. The centre is to be a living place where something is always going on, a place that radiates, within the district and throughout the Colmar area and much further afield. It is today a place that is open to everyone whose activities are for all to see. The Europe concert hall is part of the centre and has 300 seats and 600 standing places. It is an active partner in the city's cultural and social policies. Its programme reflects artistic excellence and also a desire for the greatest number of people to access the performances.



THE AMSTERDAM ECO-QUARTER

In 2013 the Amsterdam district was awarded the category "renovation or redevelopment of urban spaces" in the national city awards. The project resulted in the demolition of three towers, the refurbishment of 492 homes, the creation of an eco-neighbourhood and many other homes to low-energy housing standards. The new Amsterdam eco-district has housed 27 families since May 2015. Energy costs are controlled via the technical infrastructure. Families have been made aware of the right things to do to best enjoy these environmentally friendly homes.



THE HOUSE OF THE HEADS

The house of the heads (maison des têtes) was built in 1609 for the merchant Anton Burger. It is a beautiful building from the German Renaissance which owes its name to the 106 heads or grotesque masks which adorn a rich facade on which stands a three-story oriel window. The gable of the building is decorated with scrolls and is surmounted by a statue of a cooper (1902), the work of Auguste Bartholdi.



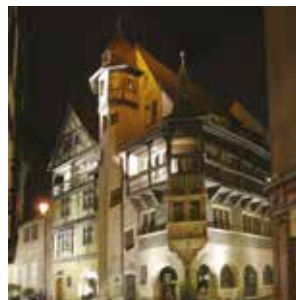
THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF SAINT-MARTIN

Known as "St. Martin's Cathedral", this is the most important religious building in Colmar and one of the largest Gothic churches in the Haut-Rhin. It was built between 1235 and 1365 and is located in the city centre. The church has undergone several restoration projects including the most recent, completed in 1982, which revealed the foundations of an eleventh century church.



THE OLD CUSTOMS HOUSE THE KOÏFHUS

This was the administrative and economic headquarters for the city. Built at the end of the 15th century, it has undergone several changes. The ground floor served as warehouse and place of taxation for imported and exported goods. The interior of the building and its annexes were listed as historic monuments in 1930, and the façades and roofs in 1974.



THE PFISTER HOUSE

The house was built in 1537 for Ludwig Scherer a milliner from the Besançon. Despite its medieval features, it is the first example of Renaissance architecture in Colmar. With its two-storey corner oriel window, wooden gallery, octagonal turret and murals, the Pfister house is one of the symbols of old Colmar.

CULTURE



FESTIVALS AND FAIRS

The music and culture festival

From 3 to 19 April 2015 - 03 89 20 68 92
www.printemps-colmar.com

The Colmar international festival

From 3 to 14 July 2015
 03 89 20 68 97 - www.festival-colmar.com

The Alsace regional wine fair

From 7 to 16 August 2015
 03 90 50 50 50 - www.foire-colmar.com

The jazz festival

From 7 to 12 September 2015 - 03 69 99 56 33
www.colmar.fr/festival-jazz-colmar

The film festival

From 11 to 17 October 2015 - 03 89 20 68 58
www.colmar.fr/festival-film-colmar

The book fair

Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 November 2015
www.salon-du-livre-colmar.com



SHOWS AND CONCERTS

The Salle Europe

03 89 30 53 01 - www.colmar.fr/presentation-salle-europe

The municipal theatre

03 89 20 29 01 - <http://theatre.colmar.fr>

La comédie de l'Est, national drama centre

03 89 24 31 78 - www.comedie-est.com

Le Grillen

03 89 21 61 80 - www.grillen.fr



MUSEUMS

The Unterlinden museum

03 89 20 15 50 - www.musee-unterlinden.com

The Bartholdi museum

03 89 41 90 60 - www.musee-bartholdi.fr

The toy museum

03 89 41 93 10 - www.museejouet.com

The municipal utilities museum

03 89 24 69 67 - www.musee-umc.fr

The museum of natural history and ethnography

03 89 23 84 15 - www.museumcolmar.org



LIBRARIES

With its network of five libraries, Colmar offers a catalogue of more than 230,000 volumes. Since 2012 the Edmond Gerrer media-culture centre has created significant added value to the cultural life of Colmar.

<http://bibliotheque.colmar.fr>



EVENTS

3 to 19 April 2015

Colmar celebrates spring

3 to 14 July 2015

Colmar international festival

13 July 2015

Multicoloured night

25 July 2015

The Grillen outdoor cinema

7 to 16 August 2015

Alsace regional wine fair

8 August 2015

The Grillen outdoor cinema

22 August 2015

The Grillen outdoor cinema

29 August 2015

Summer night

4 September 2015

Outdoor cinema at the Edmond Gerrer media-culture centre

7 to 13

September 2015

Jazz festival

13 September 2015

Colmar marathon

11 to 17

October 2015

Film festival

21 and 22

November 2015

Book fair

from 21

November to 31

December 2015

Christmas in Colmar

Colmar is located in the heart of an area where culture, heritage and tourist appeal are key assets. Culture can be found throughout the year. Here are a few examples of emblematic events in the life of the city.



Colmar, city of sport, is full of quality infrastructure for the different skill levels of athletes in numerous fields.

THE MAIN SKIING AREAS

Le lac blanc

The ski station is located at the bottom of the vallée de Kaysersberg at 1230 m and offers optimum snow conditions for downhill skiing.

Le Schnepfenried

The ski station is 1258 m above sea level. It also offers one of the largest ski areas in Alsace with a snow park and a boardercross course.

SPORT



WATER ACTIVITIES

The watersports stadium

During the summer season the watersports stadium offers a large shady park, sports, relaxation and leisure for young and old with its Olympic pool, family pool, leisure pool and fun interactive paddling pool.

03 89 80 64 70

The Aqualia pool

The Aqualia pool offers a large number of activities. This recently renovated vast watery area consists of a sports pool and a family pool. It also features a relaxation area with a sauna, steam room, solarium and jacuzzi.

03 89 24 66 00
www.colmar.fr/Piscine-Aqualia,15617,fr.html

The fencing salle

The fencing salle at la Waldeslust is one of the most beautiful in Europe. It has eight metal pistes supplemented by four training pistes and it covers 690 m². In addition there are 348 m² of additional premises, cloakrooms, toilets, fitness room, office and meeting room.

03 89 23 17 86

Colmar ice rink

Colmar's ice rink has an inner floor area of 4830 m², with a 26 m x 56 m rink.. Ice skating courses are offered for all levels. Two clubs are based here, the figure skating club and the Hockey Club de Colmar.

03 89 80 09 05
www.patinoirecolmar.fr

SUMMER ENTERTAINMENT

During the school summer holidays, from 6 July to 31 August,

the Colmar urban community offers a wide range of sports and cultural activities for young people.

www.agglo-colmar.fr/animations-sportives

The Colmar-Houssen watersports centre

The Colmar-Houssen watersports centre is an oasis for relaxation and fun with the family in the heart of the Alsace. The Colmar-Houssen watersports centre was created by the Colmar urban community. An expansion project is underway.

www.agglo-colmar.fr/base-nautique-colmar-houssen/

Jean-Jacques Waltz pool

The Jean-Jacques Waltz pool is primarily for primary school classes but the rest of the time it is used for municipal and voluntary activities such as water aerobics, aquarunning and baby swimming lessons.

03 89 79 39 51

The Montagne Verte sports complex

The recently refurbished Montagne Verte sports complex is home to several sports, including handball and gymnastics. This valuable new facility can accommodate 1400 spectators.

03 89 41 56 98

HEALTH

70 million euros is going to be invested in the Colmar medical sector up to 2017. Thanks to these investments, Colmar's city hospitals reaffirm their position as hospital of reference and centre of excellence in the Alsace health region, and can offer state-of-the-art technological support.

THE WOMAN MOTHER CHILD CENTRE

The woman mother child centre is to replace the unit at the park. It will be joined onto an ultra-modern centre which will include sixteen operating blocks for adults and children. It will cover several specialities: pediatrics, obstetrics, gynecology, resuscitation,

surgery and endoscopy. This new building will have a floor area of 900 m² on the ground floor and 1300 m² above. It will be connected to the old site via a tunnel.

HOSPITAL ALBERT SCHWEITZER

The Albert Schweitzer hospital in Colmar was opened in 2007 to complete the Centre Alsace hospital group (GHCA). The hospital concentrates the bulk of its activity on medicine, surgery and obstetrics for the group.

03 89 21 28 00
www.ghca.fr/index.php/ghca-le-groupe

THE DIACONAT CLINIC AND HOME

The Diaconate clinic and home is devoted to geriatrics and gerontology. It supports mainly short stays and day hospitalisation. It can also support the accommodation of dependent elderly people with Alzheimer's disease.

03 89 21 22 00
www.ghca.fr/index.php/clinique-diaconat



THE HÔPITAL PASTEUR

The Hôpital Pasteur, named after the famous scientist who produced the rabies vaccine, is the main care facility in Colmar. An emergency and consultation service is available. A heliport allows rescue helicopters to land.

KEY FIGURES 2014
OF THE CITY HOSPITALS IN COLMAR

 **57 170**
patients

 **4 254**
professionals



2
million euros
investment in
training



18
therapeutic
education
programmes



295
million
budget

03 89 12 40 00
www.ch-colmar.fr

ENVIRONMENT

Colmar, as a sustainable city, has many parks, gardens and forests for residents and tourists. These are part of the heritage, form a familiar landscape, an environment and provide clean air that contribute to well-being.



THE PARC DU CHAMP-DE-MARS

This park is an important island of greenery and "green lung" for the city centre, and is now a popular place to walk. It is a real haven of freshness, and is a favourite place for tourists and residents of Colmar. It has beautiful green spaces with a fountain in the centre surmounted by the statue of Admiral Bruat, designed by Bartholdi. Playgrounds for children have also been built.

THE PARC DU CHÂTEAU D'EAU

The current area of the parc du Château d'eau is 13,990 m². There are many very fine trees there, including some of the oldest in Colmar. The park has since the year 2000 been the location of a 450 m² rose garden made up of 990 plants from 38 varieties.



THE SQUARE ADOLPHE HIRN

Cousin of the famous Baron Haussmann, Gustave Adolphe Hirn was a physicist, mathematician, chemist, astronomer and meteorologist. He was a self-taught scholar. The square is adjacent to the Lycée Bartholdi whose buildings which were built in 1698 used to house the college of the Jesuits.

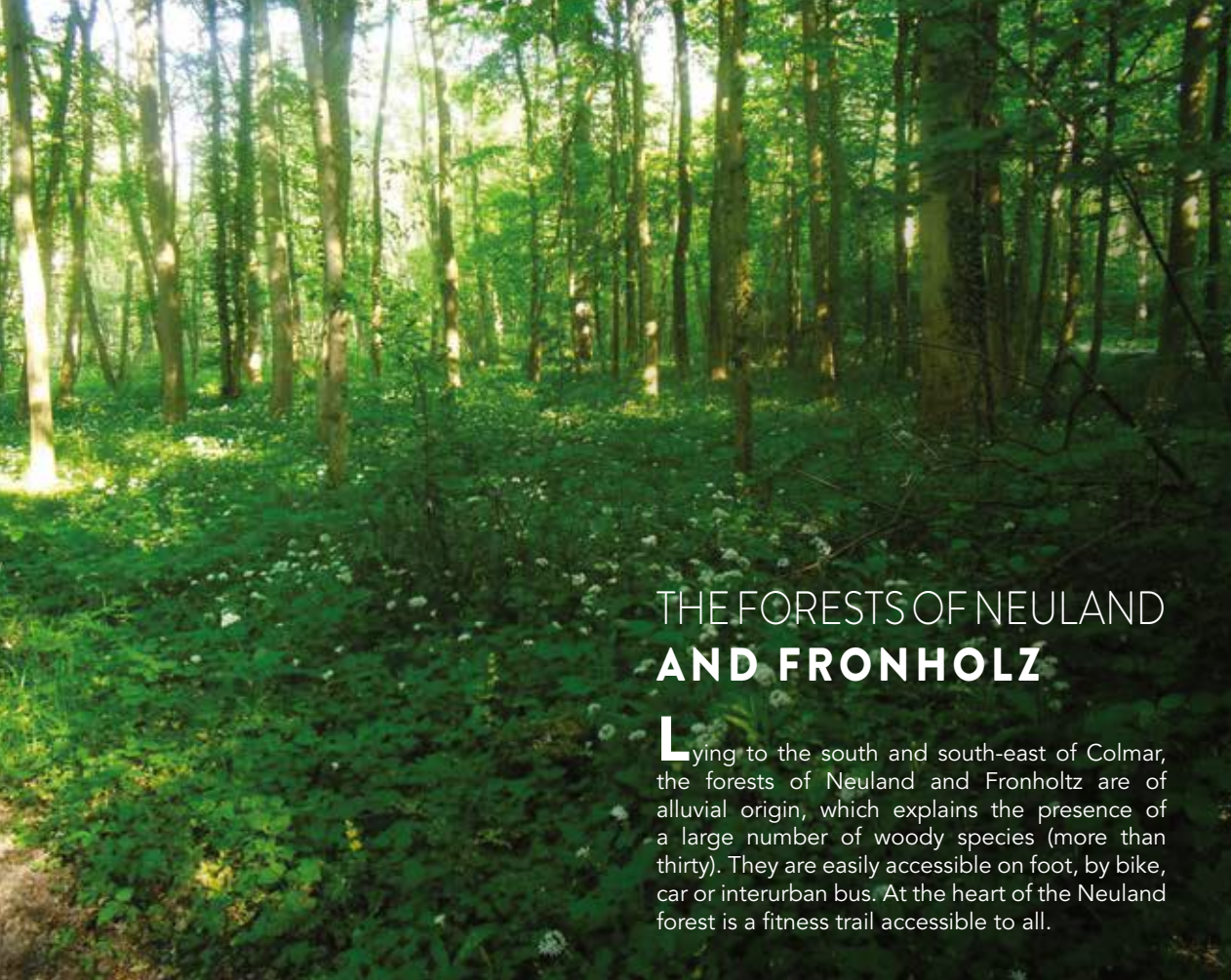
THE PARC MEQUILLET

Located in the rue Camille Schlumberger, the Mequillet garden is a very old public garden. Especially designed for families with children, its 5753 m² are fully enclosed. It has lots of playground equipment. You can see very fine trees. In particular note the presence of a fine sycamore dating from 1864.

COLMAR IN ACTION

The Colmar urban community makes every effort to promote activities in terms of sustainable development and the environment.

www.agglo-colmar.fr/les-actions



THE FORESTS OF NEULAND AND FRONHOLZ

Lying to the south and south-east of Colmar, the forests of Neuland and Fronholtz are of alluvial origin, which explains the presence of a large number of woody species (more than thirty). They are easily accessible on foot, by bike, car or interurban bus. At the heart of the Neuland forest is a fitness trail accessible to all.

THE NATURE OBSERVATORY

This association works in the field of environmental education and sustainable development in the Colmar living area. The task of this enterprise is to welcome all audiences to build awareness and educate them, through appropriate and innovative pedagogical approaches, as to a consistent understanding and respectful behaviour towards nature, the environment and heritage. It also aims to offer access to knowledge and information useful to people wanting to contribute to the emergence of sustainable development by changing their behavioural choices.

03 89 20 38 90 - www.observatoirenature.fr

THE BALLONS DES VOSGES NATURAL PARK

The Ballons des Vosges regional natural park was created in June 1989 and is located in three regions, Alsace, Franche-Comté and Lorraine. Its 3000 km² make it one of the largest regional natural parks in France. Bringing together 208 municipalities and a total population of 256,000 inhabitants, it straddles four departments: Haut-Rhin, Haute-Saône, Vosges and the Territoire de Belfort. Colmar is at the gateway to the Ballons des Vosges regional natural park and is an ideal starting point for exploring the Vosges mountains.

03 89 77 90 34 - www.parc-ballons-vosges.fr



Ribbons of sustainable development

Following a national call for applications, local authorities that effectively integrate sustainable development into all their policies, implementing practical, innovative and exemplary projects are called ribbons of sustainable development.



4 flowers

The green spaces and public gardens of Colmar are places for meeting friends and for environmental education, and are designed as real breathing spaces. Colmar residents, by their enthusiasm and their investment, are helping to build an ever more pleasant and ever more flowery city. These efforts have allowed Colmar to win the national city in bloom competition in 1999, and to keep its 4-flower level since then.



2 dragonflies

This name 'Commune Nature', a play on words meaning 'common nature' and 'natural town', aims to promote Alsatian municipalities that are engaged in a process of reduction or elimination of the use of plant protection products. The second Dragonfly is for towns that have reduced plant protection products by 70%, eliminated the use of plant protection products in the areas where surface waters are most at risk and have trained staff in alternative techniques for less than three years.



Tourist resort

The city has received the "classified tourist resort" label of excellence. This designation is given according to selective and demanding criteria on the diversity of accommodation, the quality of the entertainment, transport and access facilities and environmental quality. Colmar currently welcomes nearly 3.5 million tourists out of a total of 11 million for the whole of Alsace.

