



The Pliades Hotel in Barbizon



A Frédéric Cassel roses creation

➔ WHERE NOW

by painting on canvas by the late Mannerists, Dubois, Fréminet and Dépreuil.

While the kings came for the game, the light of unique transparency drew the painters. The landscapes, still visible today, inspired some of the greatest of the 19th century naturalist painters and invigorated the Barbizon School of painting. You can hike into the undergrowth of the Fontainebleau forest, immortalized by Camille Corot and where Théodore Rousseau's charcoal makes set up their but

With the invention of transportable tubes of oil paint in the 19th century, artists were no longer confined to their studios. The landscapes in and around Barbizon and the forest of Fontainebleau would become their open-air workspaces, taking nature and light by surprise for the light takes fantastic twists

through this forest in which the setting sun glows like a mystical orb. Rousseau studied the light as early as 1823, while Jean-François Millet painted his masterpieces here using villagers as his models for "The Gleaners" and the "Angelus".

The Auberge-Ganne, where the artists who gravitated to Barbizon overtook between 1830 and 1870, remains, housing the Musée de l'École de Barbizon with works by some of its prestigious guests as well as masterpieces of the Barbizon School on loan from the Musée d'Orsay and the Louvre.

The painters, a rather rowdy group, slept dormitory-style upstairs while downstairs they would be refreshed with tasty meals and drink. And they would paint the furniture and the walls, which remains today in the inn, a legacy of those who are credited with opening the doors for the Impressionists.

THE RELAIS HOTEL, PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHE BRESLA



The Auberge-Ganne in Barbizon

SEINE AND MARNE FOOD FINDS

LES PLEIADES

Hotel & Spa
Comfortably appointed rooms and suites with unique touches. In the Pâtisserie Brasserie start with some homemade soup or a samosa of Sainte-Maure cheese followed by a sole meunière or one of the superb meat dishes. Don't miss the regional cheese board and interesting wine selection. The hotel is also dotted with a Michelin-starred gastronomic restaurant. 21 Grande Rue, Barbizon. 01 60 66 40 25. www.hotel-les-pleiades.com

Famous for its Brie cheese. 1 rue de la Fontaine, Pouilly le Fort, 77240 Vert Saint Denis. www.restaurant-lepouilly.com.

FREDERIC CASSEL

Pastry Shop and Tea Salon
Master pastry chef Frédéric Cassel creates two collections of chocolate, pastry and delightful gourmet dishes each year. For his chocolate creations, he buys his beans directly from the plantations, with his current favorites coming from Trinidad and Tobago. La Pâtisserie Shop, 71-73 rue Grande, Fontainebleau, 01 64 22 29 59. www.frederic-cassel.com

RESTAURANT LE RELAIS

This is a wonderful place for traditional fare full of superbly prepared appetizers, seafood, excellent meats and game in season. 2 avenue du Général de Gaulle, Barbizon 01 60 66 40 28.

For local cheeses and regional dairy specialties

RESTAURANT LE POUILLY

This delightful Michelin-starred restaurant is nestled into a beautiful farmhouse in a bucolic setting near the town of Melun.

LA FERME DES SABLONS
19 Rue des Sablons, Fontainebleau, 01 64 22 67 25 and **FROMAGERIE BARTHELEMY**
92 rue Grande, Fontainebleau, 01 64 22 21 64.

INFORMATION



AUBERGE GANNE AND THE MUSÉE DEPARTEMENTAL DE L'ÉCOLE DE BARBIZON
92 Grande Rue, Barbizon. 10am-12:30pm / 2pm-5:30pm, closed Tues.

MAISON ATELIER THEODORE ROUSSEAU
for temporary exhibitions.
55 Grande Rue, Barbizon. 01 60 66 22 27

SEINE-ET-MARNE TOURIST OFFICE
11 rue Royale
77300 Fontainebleau
Tel 01 60 39 60 39
www.tourisme77.fr

MAISON ATELIER DE JEAN-FRANÇOIS MILLET
27 Grande Rue, Barbizon, 01 60 66 21 55. 3:30pm-12:30pm / 2pm-5:30pm, closed Tues & Wed.



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