

## Liste des contacts

### Milly-la-Forêt

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**Le Conservatoire National des Plantes** : 01 64 98 83 77

### Courances

**Le Château** : 01 64 98 07 36

### Boigneville

**L'Écomusée** : 01 64 99 40 01

### Boutigny-sur-Essonne

**La Miellerie du Gâtinais** : 06 03 21 17 86

### Soisy-sur-École

**La Verrerie d'Art** : 01 64 98 00 03

### Dannemois

**Le Moulin de Dannemois** : 01 64 98 45 54

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*Guide pratique d'informations touristiques  
mis à votre disposition par l'Office de Tourisme  
de Milly-la-Forêt.*

## Office de Tourisme de Milly-la-Forêt et ses 2 vallées

47 rue Langlois à Milly-la-Forêt  
01 64 98 83 17 - [www.millylaforet-tourisme.com](http://www.millylaforet-tourisme.com)



**MILLY la FORÊT  
ET SES 2 VALLÉES**

Toniques • Bucoliques • Authentiques

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## CARTE TOURISTIQUE des 2 vallées

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## SAINT BLAISE CHAPEL

This chapel from the 12th century is the last testimony of the old leprosarium of Milly-la-Forêt, where lepers used to pray Saint-Blaise le Guérisseur (the Healer). It was abandoned during the 18th century and was then used for different things such as a prison, a shed and a kiln. In 1959, Jean Cocteau was asked by the mayor to decorate the chapel and he chose to paint about plants and the resurrection. Jean Cocteau asked to be buried in the chapel. Inside, a tombstone is engraved with his name and those simple words of fidelity «I stay with you». The garden surrounding the chapel is an echo to the traditional medicinal plants cultivation in Milly. Those plants also called «simples» were once used to heal lepers.



## JEAN COCTEAU'S HOUSE

In 1947, Jean Cocteau decided to settle down in Milly-la-Forêt. He bought this old house which used to belong to the Château de la Bonde, the castle where once lived the admiral of Graville during the 15th century. He spent 17 years of his life in Milly until his death in 1963 with Edouard Dermit (also known as Doudou) who took care of the house and the work of Jean Cocteau after the poet's death. The museum lets us dive into the mythological and baroque universe of Jean Cocteau like a curiosity cabinet. In the house you will find objects offered by his friends, tokens of his taste and elegance. Have a walk in the bucolic garden and orchard when leaving the house. The house of Jean Cocteau now belongs to the Conseil Régional as part of a donation the 11th of September 2019. It was classified as a «Maison des Illustres» by the Ministry of Culture.



## THE NATIONAL PLANTS CONSERVATORY

The Conservatoire National des Plantes à Parfums, Médicinales, Aromatiques et Industrielles (The National Conservatory of Plants) is a place where plants are kept, protected and studied. It is at the same time a tree nursery, a botanical garden, an agricultural center and an interpretation center. The sensory journey throughout the conservatory gathering more than 1500 different species of plants is completed with a museum's visit. It is located in an old plants' kiln and is now a space of playful and sensorial discoveries throughout the history of those plants, their origins, cultivation and use nowadays. A good way to learn and discover for families ! The Conservatory goals are to manage, value and conserve the genetic resources of perfume, medicinal and aromatical plants.



## JEAN TINGUELY'S CYCLOP

In the heart of the wood of Milly-la-Forêt hides a 22.50 meter sculpture of 350 tons of steel. A concrete sculptural work, made of metal and covered partially with mirrors, high as a seven-storeyed building. Monumental and hidden, it scrutinizes the environment with its unique and golden eye. When the mythological monster wakes up, starts up and mutters, the visitor is invited to enjoy an experience of total art. Jean Tinguely, his wife Niki de St Phalle and their friends began the building site in 1969. Numerous artists collaborated in a family and festive atmosphere. Without authorization and with their own funds, they worked from recycled materials. But the Cyclop being regularly vandalized, Jean Tinguely had to entrust his big work to the French State in 1987. Finished 25 years after the first works, the Cyclop is inaugurated and opened to the public in 1994. It is listed on the inventories of the National Art collection of contemporary art. Due to security measures, children under 8 years old (even accompanied) cannot come inside the sculpture.





## DOMAINE DE COURANCES

In the heart of Gâtinais, the Domaine de Courances extends over 75 hectares, surrounded by water, trees and sky. Everything is to be discovered, through the seasons: the château, the Gardens, Let these places of charm and history inspire you. Walk through a park that is both romantic and classic, meet bicentennial trees, walk on the lawns and catch your breath for an afternoon. To have a gourmet tea, while admiring the Japanese garden, or taking the cool at the edge of the Sous-bois, sit in the Foulérie, where hemp was trampled during the 17th century. The château also opens its doors. It is a private house, still inhabited, but you can discover it through a guided tour.



## MOULIN DE DANNEMOIS

The estate, quickly renamed «The Mill» has become thanks to its owner, Claude François, a magical place where the mix between vintage and sophistication reflects the care the artist put into his house, which also became a festive rendez vous for his celebrity friends. Faithful to Dannemois, he lived there until his death in 1978 and was buried in the village's cemetery where his fans can pay tribute to him. Since 1998, The Mill is shining again thanks to Mr and Mrs Lescure, who bought it to make it a museum. The owners decided to reconstitute this «Farm of Happiness» identically as it was when Claude François lived here. The museum's collection is regularly expanded where you will discover his costumes, some touring objects, his bedroom and bathroom. There is also a restaurant where you can eat and sometimes enjoy a singing and dancing show.



## BLOWGLASS WORKSHOP IN SOISY-SUR-ECOLE

A glass garden in the park of the glassworks bathes you as soon as you arrive in this creative universe which puts in the honor the know-how of the glassmakers. At the entrance of the workshop, the educational space gives you the essential information about glass. Since 1978, the glass workshop shows the magic of cane blown glass. Inside the workshop, glassmakers work in public and give life to glass. You will discover in the shop, next to traditional collections, amazing achievements, resulting from the ever renewed creativity of glassmakers; their skills extend to utilitarian to decorative objects, in a wide range of shapes and colors.



## HONEYFARM

Professional beekeeper and sole producer of royal jelly in Île-de-France, this honey house produces honey labeled by the Natural park of the French Gâtinais. The range includes several honeys: all flowers, forest, chestnut, acacia, but also fresh pollen, propolis and gingerbread. La Miellerie can be visited in free and self-tour or guided visit by appointment for groups.







## THE MARKET HALL

In 1479, the admiral de Graville got the favour from King Louis 11 to build the famous market hall of Milly, to organize three fairs each year and a weekly market. The fair was so appreciated it quickly became one of the most important in Ile-de-France. The market hall has a north-south exposure. It is 46 meters long, 16 meters wide and 13 meters high for a total of 730 square-meters. It is also composed of 48 pillars made of oak wood and a framework made of chestnut wood, they both have a typical architecture for market halls at the time. It was classified as part of the Monuments Historiques in 1923. The roof, framework and pillars were restaured in 2023.



## CULTURAL CENTER PAUL BÉDU

Passionate about art and collector, Paul Bédou was a rich heir of a local family. He spent his life collecting art works until his death in 1977. In 1990, his widow, Gabrielle Lagarde decided to bequeath his art collection, to the village of Miully-la-Forêt, to honor her husbands memory. She funded the works to transform the former boys school into the cultural center Paul Bédou. Inaugurated on june 24th 2000, the center displays the collection and hosts temporary exhibitions throug the year. Amongst the collection, one can find "La Viegre à l'enfant", a number of artworks by Marie Laurencin, and a famous painting "et le soleil s'endormit sur l'Adriatique", by the mysterious Joachim Raphaël Boronali. The center also owns more contemporary artworks by Jean Cocteau and Niki de Saint Phalle.



## FIREMEN ECOMUSEUM

The ecomuseum named «La Passion du Rouge» opened in 2016 and gathers a nice collection of tools, vehicles, outfits and uniforms of firemen. Those objects are from different periods and make us travel throughout time to see how the profession evolved. Several showrooms display those objects and show how firemen are working in their everyday life but also in the past.



## RURAL ECOMUSEUM IN BOIGNEVILLE

Presented on 3 floors, the collection allows you to discover a rural village in the French Gâtinais. Agricultural machinery, school equipment, photographs and posters will immerse you in the life and history of Boigneville. The exhibition presents objects, photos, tools, posters of rural life in French Gâtinais since the beginning of the century. On the walls is a large collection of photographs by Fernand Lemon, who accumulated a profusion of clichés on the theme of the daily campaigns. An open book on life in France and more particularly in South-Essonne in the 20th century.



# CIRCUITS TOURISTIQUES VTT BALISÉS



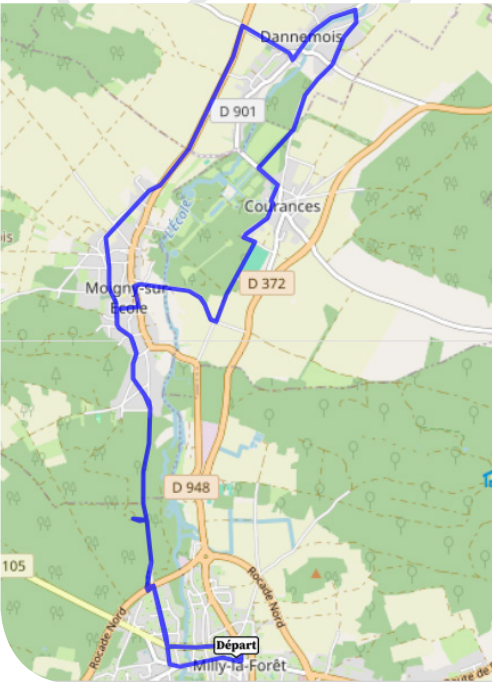
## Base-VTT-N°1-Milly-plateau de la grange rouge VTT

Start from the tourist office, passage near Saint Blaise Chapel, then by the peppermint fields, before going up the farms plateau. Return using the cycle path from the Chenet business park, back to the center of Milly-la-Forêt.



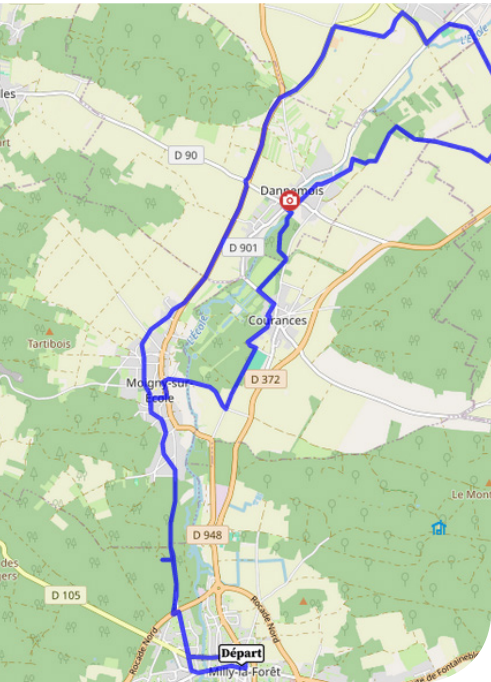
## Base VTT-Milly-N°2- Les pierres levées VTT

Start from the tourist office, passage by Saint Blaise Chapel then up on the plateau, passage by the standing stones la Pierre aux Prêtres (the priests stone) and la Pierre Droite (the Standing Stone or Paly Stone). Return back on the cycle path in the Chenet business park, to Milly-la-Forêt.



## Base-VTT-Milly-N°5-les Moulins-Dannemois VTT

Start from the tourist office, toward the Cyclop, using the cycle path, then go to Moigny-sur-Ecole to reach the Moulin Grenat (Grenat Watermill), and cross the Ecole river. Follow the direction to Courances, passing by the church, washplace then the château. Follow the direction to Dannemois (château behind you). Passage by Claude François' Mill, and the cemetery where the artist is buried. At the crossroad des Francs Tireurs, back on the cycle path to Moigny-sur-Ecole, then Milly-la-Forêt.



## Base-VTT-Milly-N°6-Moulins et châteaux VTT

Start from the tourist office, direction to the Cyclop, the the Moulin Grenat (Grenat Watermill) in Moigny-sur-Ecole, to reach Courances, then Dannemois. Follow then the direction to Soisy-sur-Ecole, to the blowglass workshop, Moulin de la Noue. Return by the farms Montaquoy and Frémigny to join back the cycle path to Moigny-sur-Ecole then the wood by the Cyclop, and back in Milly-la-Forêt.







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