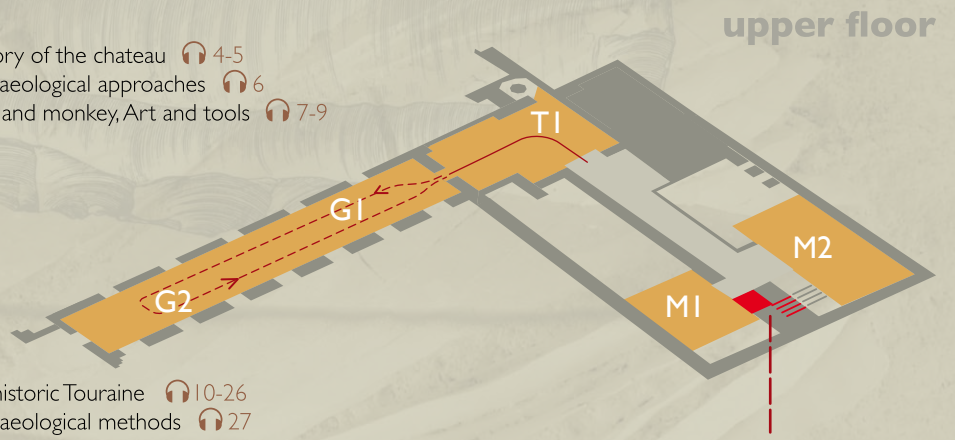




Archaeology in Touraine

Are first mentioned the history of the chateau, from the 6th to the 21st century and then, the practices and key principles of archaeology. On the terrace, the main questions about Human origins, Art and technical progress are illustrated. The Gallery presents the cultures which succeeded each other in Touraine for about 100 000 years, from Middle Palaeolithic to Bronze Age. The visit ends with a few answers to the most usual questions about archaeology.

- M1 - history of the chateau 🎧 4-5
- M2 - archaeological approaches 🎧 6
- T1 - Man and monkey, Art and tools 🎧 7-9



- G1 - prehistoric Touraine 🎧 10-26
- G2 - archaeological methods 🎧 27



villagers in the chateau



palaeolithic dwelling



polisher and polished stone axe



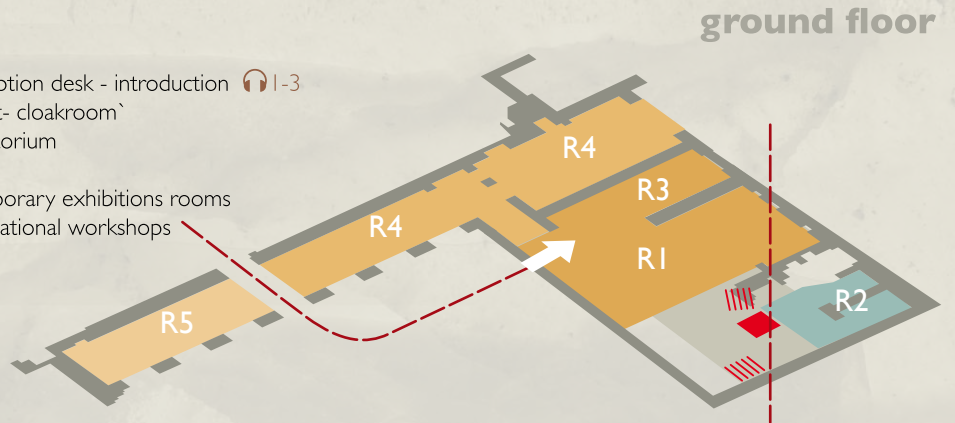
bronze bracelets



The reception building

Retracing the outlines of the Renaissance residence, the contemporary architectural design is in keeping with the history of the site which proposes buildings of different periods. It enhances the historical constructions and visually includes the chateau into the inner tour of the visit. It allows access to exhibition rooms easy for all, from cellars to the Gallery.

- R1 - reception desk - introduction 🎧 1-3
- R2 - toilet- cloakroom`
- R3 - auditorium



- R4 - temporary exhibitions rooms
- R5 - educational workshops



museum in 1955



moulds and pound of butter !



bronze griffin



sarcophagi from the chateau



Le Grand-Pressigny Flint

After a coloured presentation of the rich collections of fossils, the cellars emphasize Le Grand-Pressigny flint, in its geological, technical, economic and social aspects.

The Neanderthal man had already understood and exploited its characteristics.

The « pressignian phenomenon » of the end of the Neolithic has a prominent place. For the first time, the amazing La Creusette hoard is exhibited and a film presents an experiment in knapping large blades.

- C1 - geology and Touraine fossils 🎧 28-32
- C2 - Man and flint in the Palaeolithic era 🎧 33-36
- C3 - history of research 🎧 37-38
- C4 - reserve collections
- C5 - master-knappers of the Final Neolithic 🎧 39-46



teeth of white sharks



moustierian scrapers



19th century's view



« pound of butter » and blade

A chateau



The war fortress was built in the late 11th century and became one of the most impressive residential chateaux in the Loire Valley during the Renaissance. Dismantled during the Revolution, the chateau turned into a village district and, in the 1950s, the gallery became a museum.

A museum



The Museum was inaugurated in September 2009. This operation was overseen by the Indre-et-Loire General Council and completed by architect Bernd Hoge and the museography studio Guiliver Design.

Getting to Le Grand-Pressigny

From Tours, A10, exit Sainte-Maure-de-Touraine, then follow Châtellerault and Descartes. From Bourdeaux, A10, exit Châtellerault Nord, then follow La Roche-Posay and Lésigny

Opening hours

- January - March and October - December: 10:00 > 12:30 and 14:00 > 17:00 / Closed on Tuesdays / Open all day on Sundays and holidays

- April - June and September: every day 10:00 > 18:00

- July and August: every day 10:00 > 19:00

Open all year-round, except December 25th and January 1st

Fees

Full fee: 7 € / Reduced fee: 4,5 € / Admission is free for children under 12 years old / Entry to the gardens is free

Group visits must be reserved (10 to 25 persons)

Scholar pass 10 € per class, free for schools in Indre-et-Loire

Contact and informations

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Fax : +33 (0)2 47 94 99 60

grandpressigny@cg37.fr

www.musee-prehistoire.fr

From the parking behind the keep, follow the Rue des remparts to enter the chateau. There is limited parking at the main entrance, on the barbican, for disabled visitors only.

Admission to the courtyards is free. Keep, curtains and towers are open only for guided tours.



Le Grand-Pressigny Museum of prehistory



www.musee-prehistoire.fr

