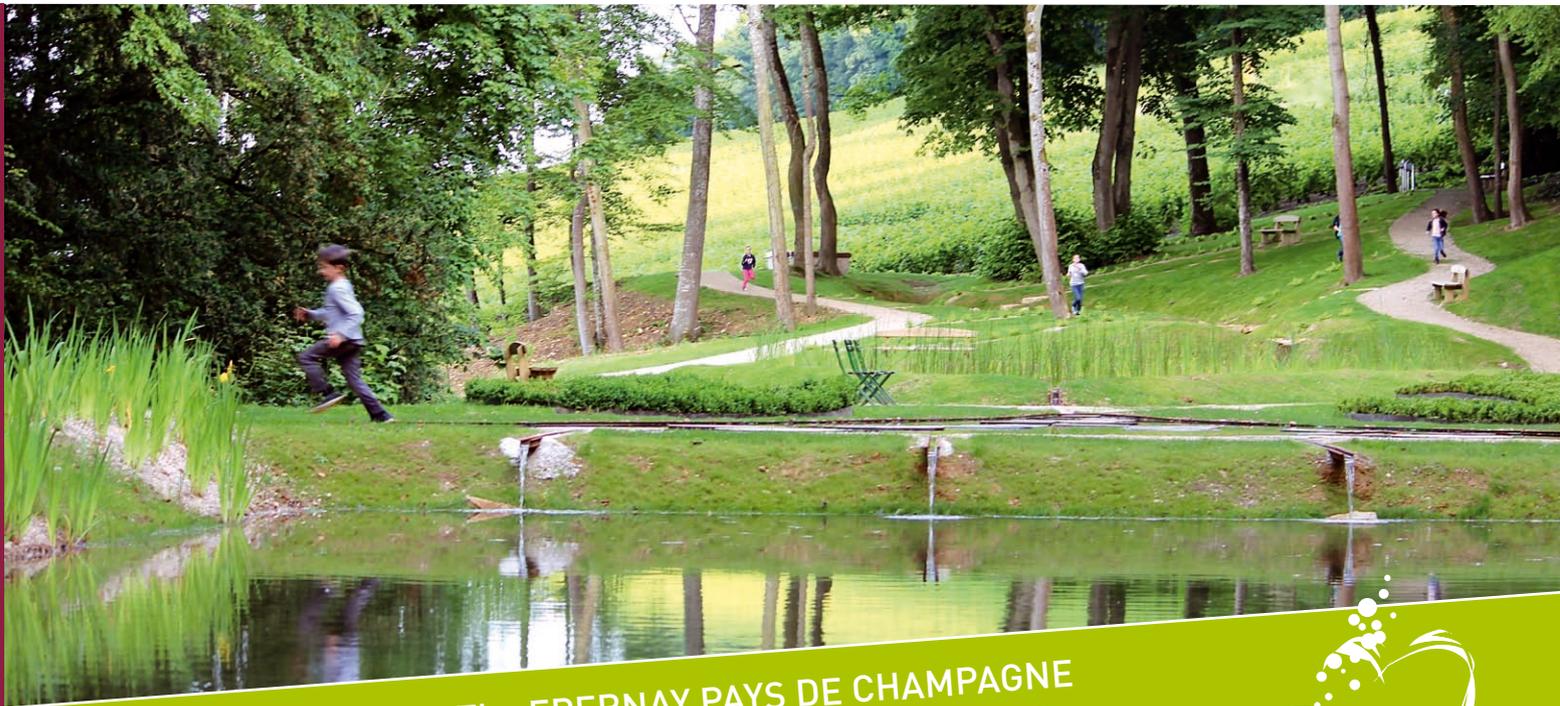


Natural areas and gardens

Water runs through our landscape...

- Avize : The Parc Vix
- Chouilly : The Jardin Humide
- Pierry : L'Hors du Ru garden
- Plivot : The Gué du Pré Salé

Entry free of charge. Wheelchair accessible gardens.



The EPERNAY PAYS DE CHAMPAGNE
Community Council welcomes you !

Avize : The Parc Vix

« an educational park with a natural spring »

On the hills above the village of Avize, you will enjoy this recent parc nestled in a forest clearing. This recreational area invites you to discover the benefits of water resources. The parc offers spectacular views on the vineyard of the « Côte des Blancs » and on the Champagne plain.

The « Parc Vix » is a peaceful place to stroll around, thanks to the water reflects and small falls, the majestic trees of the « Montagne d'Avize » forest, the warm lights at dawn or dusk, and the extensive views on the surrounding agricultural and viticultural landscape.

This park highlights the presence of water by making it flow from a spring which had previously been buried. This water runs through the clearing and successively takes different forms : first of all the form of a stream meandering between the trees, then that of wetland with filtering plants, a shallow pool with bubbles and finally the form of a pond.

In the water sculpture obviously referring to champagne, the white bubbles float in a reflecting pool shaped like a champagne glass. Children love jumping joyfully and lightly from one bubble to another.

The Parc Vix's financial partners are :



Commune d'Avize



Access

D19 road - Avize

« On the heights above the village, in the forest, near the champagne glass »



In the « Parc Vix », an interpretive path accompanies the visitor in his contemplative walk. Interpretive signs with a pure design provide synthetic information for all ages, specially families and visually handicapped.

The largely illustrated main panels explain for example the subject of filtering plants or the existence of water in a landscape. The small panels, more amusing, offer activities such as creating a piece of Land Art or playing with opposite adjectives .

This parc is also equipped with outdoor furniture (benches and picnic tables) to help you spend a pleasant time in this natural area. Outdoor musical instruments will also delight the whole family •



Chouilly: The Jardin Humide

« a natural and cultural experience »

At the foot of Chouilly's roman style church, perched on its natural headland, stretches out a vast 3,5 hectare area (historically a poplar plantation), revealing the contrast between nature and culture.

Initially modelled by Man's hand during its construction in 2004, this seasonally flooded garden also respects the environment's natural cycle and lets nature reinvest the site. Like other wetland areas recognizable by the presence of iris, rush and reed, this garden plays an important ecological role in the Marne valley's natural balance, its flora and fauna, but also its water quality.

Small plants have been chosen to give everyone a chance to observe their evolution from one year to another. Many species also implant themselves spontaneously. In the future, tall alluvial forests will grow next to shrub areas and extended natural meadows. For ecological reasons, all the garden walls are held by metallic panels woven with live willow rods. These long «green» walls with different willow varieties lose their leaves in winter time, exposing each year man's meticulous work.



The Jardin Humide's financial partners are:



Access

D3 or D40 a road - Chouilly
«Near the Tarnauds river»



Make the most of the belvedere or the spacious stretches of lawn, take a stroll or cycle along the wooden boardwalk, admire the willow walls, use the barbecue near the village and picnic by the river, or shelter in a wooden kiosk to admire the church on its headland... The Jardin Humide offers a pleasant family outing.

The Jardin Humide is also an interpretive path (in French only) on a boardwalk, describing the flora and fauna established in this seasonally flooded Marne valley wetland. You'll learn for exemple to recognize the birds flying around or discover what a pike spawning ground is! •

« INTERPRETIVE BOOKLET »

The Jardin Humide interpretive booklet provides you with the key to discover and understand the secrets of this evolutionary natural area.

It is available at the Epernay Tourism office and costs 2 euros.
For more information : 03 26 53 33 00.



Pierry : l'Hors du Ru garden

«stroll along the Cubry river»

L'Hors du Ru is a garden with various winding paths and relaxing atmospheres. The succession of perspectives, curves, natural doorways and interesting plant forms will bring surprise and rhythm to your walk.

This small garden offers two main spaces. The first is very sunny and will allow you to stretch out on the lawn, shelter under the pavilion, walk through planted pergolas, lose yourself in the many alleys and admire the sophisticated perspectives and numerous plant species flowering during spring time. A 18th century winemaker's dwelling place «Les Aulnois» listed as a Historical Monument, can be seen from the garden.

The second area extends itself under the hundred-year-old trees remaining from the Aulnois garden, composed of intimate corners, narrow alleys and quiet spots to read a book, far from the summer afternoon heat. Young children will appreciate the small colorful playground under the trees.

L'Hors du Ru garden's financial partners are :



Commune de Pierry



Access

D951 road - Pierry

«On the corner of Jean Jaurès road and Equality road, near the Cubry river»



L'Hors du Ru garden brings life to the Cubry's river banks. This river, which flows from St-Martin-d'Ablois to Epernay is hardly visible, as most of its course has been covered from the 19th century until today. A small path leads along part of the river.

Nearby, a small wetland area has been designed. The Cubry's level rises and falls during floods, filling it up with water. A wooden platform overhangs the marsh. On the garden side, don't forget to closely observe its specific flora (reed, iris and rush) and on the river side, let your feet dangle over the flowing waters •



Pliivot: The Gué du Pré Salé

« ecological richness of a wetland area »

This ancient ford used to allow herds to drink and cross the Tarnauds river. The Gué du Pré Salé is today an ideal place to picnic by the water's edge. It also gives the possibility to discover the valley's natural and cultural heritage.

The Gué du Pré Salé invites you to relax, with different stretches of lawn, a picnic area, wooden platforms and a boardwalk designed to help you make the most of this seasonally flooded wetland area... while preserving its natural character. The boardwalk which stretches out well into the river, presents you with the unique experience of being in the heart of nature.

The Gué du Pré Salé is also a hiking trail starting point: a few meters away from the old bridge, a path leads along the Tarnauds river towards Epernay. This 2,60km trail follows the water's edge and a marsh with poplar plantations, crosses the river over a wooden bridge and directs the hiker towards the village (approximately 45 minutes altogether).

The Gué du Pré Salé's financial partners are :

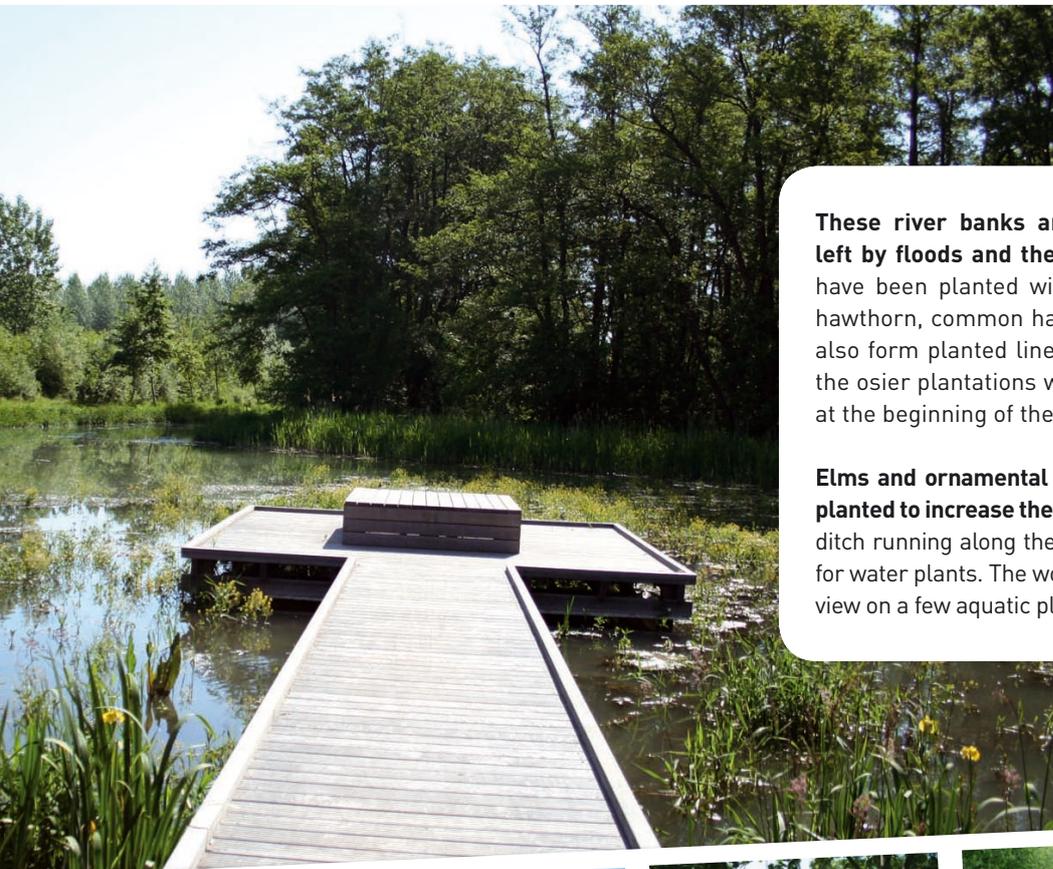


Commune de Pliivot



Access

D3 road - Pliivot
Bisseuil road
« Near the Tarnauds river »



These river banks are naturally rich thanks to the humidity left by floods and the nearby groundwater. The bridge's slopes have been planted with indigenous shrub species: black elder, hawthorn, common hazel, dogwood... Different varieties of willow also form planted lines around the parking area. They symbolize the osier plantations which used to exist along the Tarnauds river at the beginning of the 19th Century.

Elms and ornamental grasses from the nearby marsh have been planted to increase the number of visible plant species. An irrigation ditch running along the hiking trail is also a favourable environment for water plants. The wooden boardwalk allows you to have a closeup view on a few aquatic plants (water lilies, marsh irises ...) •



To help prepare your visit

«videos of community equipments and gardens»

CCEPC EPERNAY
on the YouTube channel

Short videos presenting the various community equipments and gardens are available on the internet channel YouTube. If you have a smartphone, you can use the FlashCodes below and have a direct access to these videos (in French only).



**THE JARDIN HUMIDE
(Chouilly)**



**L'HORS DU RU GARDEN
(Pierry)**



**THE GUÉ DU PRÉ SALÉ
(Plivot)**



**VINE GARDEN
(Chouilly)**



**PANORAMIC VIEW
(Cramant)**



**BULLÉO AQUATIC CENTER
(Epernay)**



... have a nice visit !



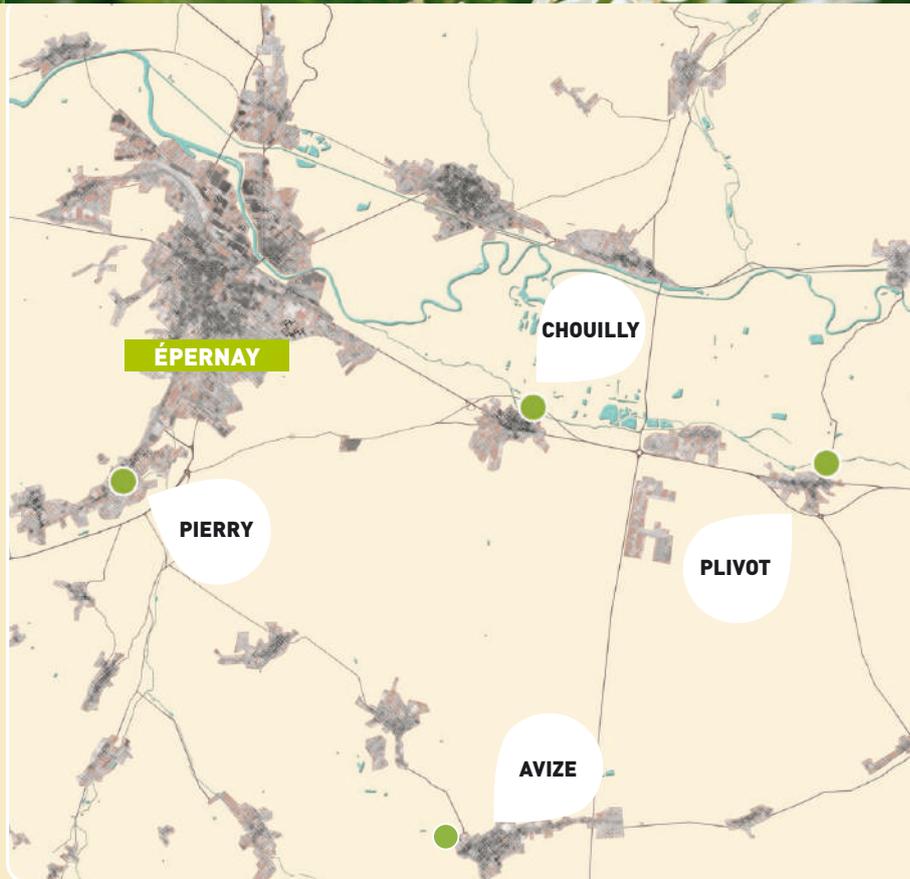


The **Epernay Pays de Champagne Community Council** is situated at the confluence of the Marne, the Cubry and the Darcy valleys. **To the West**, flourishes the prestigious Champagne vineyard, while **to the East**, extends the immense stretch of cereal fields. This interesting position allows visitors to discover a large variety of landscapes and habitats.

Since 2003, the **Epernay Pays de Champagne Community Council's** policy is to enhance its landscape and its cultural as well as natural heritage.

Four natural areas and gardens have been designed around water: **The Jardin Humide (Chouilly)** in 2004, **the Gué du Pré Salé (Plivot)** in 2005, **l'Hors du Ru garden (Pierry)** in 2006 and the **Parc Vix (Avize)** in 2013 •

Also available
« **HIKING TRAILS** »
leaflet



FOR MORE INFORMATION :
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**Epernay
Pays de
Champagne**

Communauté de Communes