



29
APRIL
TO
11
MAY
2025



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LES PLUS BELLES FÊTES DE FRANCE

Patrimoine Culturel Immatériel en France

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Orléans Mairie



For over 600 years, Joan of Arc has been a **source of fascination, inspiration and intrigue.**

A historical figure who continues to be reinterpreted today and shall never be forgotten, our city's heroine has been given multiple faces through the centuries, each reflecting an era, a vision, an ideal, an inspiration.

At the height of the Hundred Years' War, in 1425 Joan of Arc first heard **voices** from the heavens urging her to lead the French army to free Orleans from the English and crown King Charles VII of France.

On 29 April, Joan of Arc entered Orléans. On 7 May, her troops took the Tournelles fort and the following day the **English** left the city. Orléans was liberated.

Since then, the Joan of Arc Festival, which became part of France's Intangible Cultural Heritage* in 2018, has been perpetuating this memory, commemorating the history that was written in Orléans, through ten days of festivities that combine civil, military and religious **traditions**, the founding triptych of Joan of Arc's identity. All in a spirit of celebration and homage.

I wish everyone an excellent Joan of Arc Festival 2025!

Serge Grouard



Patrimoine
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* By Intangible Cultural Heritage we mean all the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills – as well as the instruments, objects, artefacts and cultural spaces associated therewith – that communities recognise as part of their cultural heritage [...] and provides them with a sense of identity and continuity – Source: UNESCO.



MUST-SEE MOMENTS OF

Joan of Arc Celebrations

ALL
JOAN OF ARC
FESTIVAL EVENTS
ARE FREE

TUESDAY 29 APRIL

Ceremony of the Presentation of the Sword to Joan of Arc

▶ 7:15 PM 📍 Sainte-Croix Cathedral

The Presentation of the Sword ceremony in the presence of civil, military and religious bodies, with the participation of the city's Municipal Band.

"The Four Seasons of Joan" performance

▶ 8:15 PM 📍 Sainte-Croix Cathedral

Devised performance staged by the Orléans Jeanne d'Arc Association. Featuring a string quartet from the Orléans Symphonic Orchestra and Orléans' Mal'ak choir.

Commemoration of Joan of Arc's entry into Orléans

▶ 10:00 PM 📍 Porte Bourgogne

The festival kicks off on April 29, commemorating Joan of Arc's entry into Orléans through the porte Bourgogne, in 1429.

WEDNESDAY 30 APRIL

9th edition of Orléans La Source celebrates Joan of Arc

▶ MIDDAY to 8:00 PM

📍 "La Clairière", Orléans La Source

Enjoy a great day out discovering the legends and heroes of the Middle Ages! Expect plenty of activities inspired by history, organised by various local clubs.

Machina Silente

▶ 2:15 PM, 4:30 PM and 6:15 PM

A show exploring medieval siege techniques.

Joan of Arc's arrival at the encampment

▶ 3:00 PM

Greeting and quiz on her exploits and armour.

Demonstration of knightly combat by historical re-enactment clubs

▶ 5:00 PM

Clubs include the Chardons d'Orléans, Cléry Son Histoire en Lumière, Mesnie des Leus du Val de Loyre and Saint-Jean-de-la-Ruelle Fencing Club.

• **Pedestrian access** via rue Antoine Lavoisier or venelle de la Clairière or chemin de la Coulée Verte, 45100 Orléans.

• **Tramway line A:** Bolière or Hôpital-Accueil stops.

• **Bus line 1:** Hôpital IME stop.



THURSDAY 1 MAY

Joan of Arc's Heroic Ride

▶ 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM

📍 Departs from place du Martroi

With the participation of the Orléans Municipal Band, scout and girl guide groups, Harmonie Saint-Marc – Saint-Vincent music school and the Sainte-Jeanne Hier, Aujourd'hui et Demain club.

Starting from place du Martroi, follow Joan of Arc's heroic ride through Orléans.

FRIDAY 2 MAY

Religious homage to Joan of Arc

▶ 6:30 PM 📍 Notre-Dame-des-Miracles Church, 3 rue Cloche Saint-Paul

In 1429, Joan of Arc is said to have come here to pray before going into battle.



SATURDAY 3 MAY

Concert by the Orléans Municipal Band

► 4:00 PM 📍 Gérard Philipe Theatre • Free

Medieval day at place du Martroi

► 11:00 AM to 8:00 PM • Free activities

SATURDAY 3 MAY AND SUNDAY 4 MAY

“Joan of Arc in stained glass” guided tour

► 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM 📍 Sainte-Croix Cathedral

Learn about the history of Joan of Arc through 10 noteworthy stained-glass windows from the 19th century, the work of artist Esprit Gibelin and master glassmaker Jack Galland.

Free tours led by cathedral guides. Tours start every 15 minutes. Maximum 20 people per group.

MONDAY 5 MAY

Concert for peace

► 6:00 PM 📍 Notre-Dame-des-Miracles Church

School choirs join the cathedral choir to perform a concert exploring their vocation as artists of peace.

“Being a leader like Joan of Arc”

talk by General Pierre de Villiers, former chief of staff of the French armed forces

► 8:00 PM 📍 Salle de l'Institut

📍 Conservatoire d'Orléans, place Sainte-Croix

• Limited places, subject to availability.

FROM WEDNESDAY 7 TO SUNDAY 11 MAY

The Medieval Market

📍 Campo Santo

► Wednesday 7 to Thursday 8 May:
10 AM to 10 PM

► Friday 9 to Saturday 10 May: 10 AM to 11 PM

► Sunday 11 May: 10 AM to 7 PM

Prizes awarded to the best stall as voted by the public, on Saturday 10 May at 6:00 PM.

Inauguration: 7 May at midday.

Immerse yourself in the traditions of yesteryear as you learn all about the skills of medieval artisans and medieval cuisine. The programme includes dancing, theatre, music, a farm and medieval games to entertain and amuse young and old alike.

WEDNESDAY 7 MAY

“The medieval residence of Jacques Boucher, its architectural features, from its cellar to its timber-framed facade” talk by Clément Alix, Orléans Council archaeology department

► 10:00 AM

📍 Salle de lecture – Hôtel Dupanloup

Tribute to Joan of Arc by the twin towns

► 4:00 PM

📍 Hôtel Grosloot courtyard

Concert by the Orléans Val de Loire Choir

► 7:30 PM

📍 Saint-Pierre-du-Martroi Church



The Presentation of the Standard ceremony

▶ 10:00 PM 📍 Sainte-Croix Cathedral

Presentation of the Standard by Serge Grouard, Mayor of Orléans and President of Orléans Métropole, to Monseigneur Jacques Blaquart, Bishop of Orléans, followed by a sound and light show at the cathedral.

"Joan, echoes through time" sound and light show

▶ 10:30 PM 📍 Place Sainte-Croix

This sound and light show explores the values defended by Joan of Arc in the 15th century, and how they have echoed through the ages, embodied by other female figures up to the present day.

Concert by the Chorale Johannique

11:00 PM 📍 Sainte-Croix Cathedral

16th edition of the Electro Set

11:00 PM to 1:30 AM 📍 Forecourt of Orléans Theatre, esplanade Serge-Bodard

11:00 PM: **Warm-up by the winner of "Orléans DJ Cast 2025"**

11:30 PM: **Maeva Carter**

12:15 AM: **Marnik**



THURSDAY 8 MAY

Commemoration of the victory of 8 May 1945

▶ 8:30 AM

📍 Monument de la Victoire, esplanade du Souvenir Français, boulevard Alexandre Martin

Formal religious service for Joan of Arc

▶ 10:00 PM – Sainte-Croix Cathedral

Featuring the Chorale Johannique, Maîtrise de la Cathédrale choir and Chor Unum children's choir from Castres, accompanied by the cathedral's two organs.

Inauguration of the memorial work by Mathieu Gaudric, "L'Appel", a tribute to the Free French Forces of Orléans and their leader General de Gaulle

▶ 11:00 AM 📍 Place de Gaulle

This project, initiated and funded by the Fondation de la France Libre with the support of Orléans City Council, has been awarded the Mission Libération label by the French government.

Official homage to Joan of Arc

▶ 2:45 PM 📍 Place Sainte-Croix

Speech by Serge Grouard, Mayor of Orléans, President of Orléans Métropole and festival president. Broadcast live on a big screen in place du Martroi.

Military homage to Joan of Arc

▶ 2:05 PM 📍 Place Sainte-Croix

Commemorative procession

▶ 3:50 PM 📍 City centre

Procession featuring Joan of Arc and her escort, medieval figures, and representatives of the French provinces, official bodies and local clubs.

Presentation of the Standard

▶ 7:00 PM 📍 Place Sainte-Croix

Presentation of the Standard ceremony where Monseigneur Jacques Blaquart, Bishop of Orléans, presents the standard to Serge Grouard, Mayor of Orléans and President of Orléans Métropole.





Map of Orleans



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www.tourisme-orleans.com

