



# Destination CHA REN TON



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YOU'LL FIND  
A MAP OF  
CHARENTON  
ON PAGES 12-13

## Charenton is... a city with real appeal

Located at the heart of the Paris urban area close to the Bois de Vincennes, Charenton-le-Pont is part of Greater Paris, but has never compromised its distinctive individual character. Ranked as one of the very best places to live in the Paris Region\*, we are proud of our history, successful in reconciling the needs of people with today's urban environment, and totally focused on the future.

Whether you live here, work here or are visiting us, we invite you to (re)discover the rich diversity of our city and its surrounding area through these pages. Our community is distinctive for its traditional heritage, many open spaces and a packed year-round programme of diverse cultural and sporting events and opportunities.

Our city exerts a very real appeal, which attracts new residents, companies and retail businesses, as well as an increasing number of ambitious projects with a strong commitment to sustainable development.

With the upcoming redevelopment of its south bank in accordance with the plans agreed in consultation with residents, Charenton is leading the way towards tomorrow's urban community, and will create new soft transport links to the capital, encourage architectural innovation through the design of iconic buildings with international appeal, and establish itself as a Virtual Reality tech hub.

Choosing Charenton means extending your visitor experience of Greater Paris to discover a destination with an impressive history, a seductive present and an ongoing commitment to reinvention.

Welcome to Charenton-le-Pont!

**Hervé GICQUEL**  
Mayor of Charenton-le-Pont  
Departmental Councillor for Val-de-Marne

**Pierre MIROUDOT**  
City Councillor with responsibility for economic  
development and employment

\*Le Parisien ranking for 2017

### For more information

The Paris Region  
Greater Paris  
The Department of Val-de-Marne  
The ParisEstMarne&Bois Region

EDITORIAL

# 1

## Charenton is... an historic city

A community as early as the Neolithic period, Charenton has developed and grown continually throughout its history, largely as a result of its proximity to the capital. Exploring its rich past is a journey across the centuries, meeting many historical figures along the way and discovering key moments in our shared history, from the Middle Ages to the present day.

Architecture and Heritage  
media library

### A city strategically located at the gateway to Paris

**With close links to the capital and the rivers Marne and Seine, Charenton has been a community since the earliest times.**

Although the first traces of life in and around Charenton date from the Neolithic period around 4,500 years ago, the city has been seen as an ideal gateway to the capital since antiquity. The bridge over the Marne - mentioned in the memoirs of a certain Julius Caesar - was, even at that time, a structure of military, political and economic strategic importance that controlled and governed access to Paris. The Rue de Paris was the point at which roads from eastern France converged in the medieval period at the time of the great commercial gatherings known as the Champagne fairs. Created out of the amalgamation of three villages - Bourg-



City Hall



18th century engraving from a drawing by Louis Germain. Charenton Municipal Archives.

de-Charenton, Carrières, Conflans - and the Domaine de Bercy estate, Charenton was a lively centre in the 17th century with many inns and ale houses; it also boasted a weekly market, a horse and rider postal delivery system and a manorial law court.

The city was frequented by wealthy notables who enjoyed the rural peace and quiet to be found on the banks of the Seine.

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Built at the beginning of the 17th century by a relative of King Henry IV, the Antoine de Navarre Pavilion (the name refers to the King's father) is the city's only remaining building from that period. Now the city hall, it has been a listed historic monument since 1862.

## Unbroken economic development

Several recent periods of history have contributed to the significant growth of Charenton. The official opening of the first Paris-Lyon-Marseille railway line in 1849 played a decisive role in that growth, since the population of the city and its surrounding area more than tripled in just 35 years, from 3,500 in 1846 to 11,000 in 1881. This period of strong industrialisation was also marked by the installation of a ceramics kiln at 107, Rue de Paris and the Fonderie Anglaise foundry, the predecessor of the Creusot steelworks.

“The city changed continuously through the 19th century and into the 20th century”

In 1861, the Bercy district of Charenton was the home of Compagnie des Magasins Généraux, which traded in wines and spirits, wood, coal, iron and cast iron. Many well-known companies - including Byrrh with its aromatised wine-based aperitif with quinine, and the famous Nicolas wine brand - were based here, and boasted more than 50,000 m<sup>2</sup> of cellars between them.

The city changed continuously through the 19th century and into the 20th century. In the post-war years, many of its districts were renovated



Quai de Bercy

and many new homes built. The 1970s marked the construction of several urban development zones, one of the most iconic of which occupied the former Magasins Généraux site. The city's economic profile shifted more markedly towards the service sector in the 1980s. The Bercy 2 shopping centre by Pompidou Centre architect Renzo Piano was opened in 1990. A number of major corporate groups, many from the banking sector, based themselves in Charenton during this period. Now, in the 21st century, the city is engaged in an urban metamorphosis of its south bank to create a new eco-neighbourhood with a strong economic dimension (see pages 20 and 21).

### DID YOU KNOW?

Over the centuries, many well-known figures have made Charenton their home. They include Pierre Séguier, one of the founders of the Académie Française, the painters François Boucher and Jean-Honoré Fragonard, the poet Paul Eluard and the artist Louis Toffoli.



[charenton.fr](http://charenton.fr)

Visit the archives all year round!



## DON'T MISS...

- **City Hall** | [Map G3](#)  
48, rue de Paris
- **Entrance gate of château de Conflans** | [Map D4](#)  
2, rue du Séminaire de Conflans
- **Chapelle de Conflans** | [Map E4](#)  
7, rue de l'Archevêché
- **The outbuildings of the former château de Bercy** | [Map B3](#)  
114, rue du Petit Château
- **Hunting Lodge of the former château de Bercy** | [Map B3](#)  
109, rue du Petit Château
- **Residence Bobillot Sellier**  
*now managed by Valophis Habitat* | [Map D5](#)  
1, place Bobillot Sellier



# 2

## Charenton is... a city to discover

With a footprint of 185 hectares, Charenton offers its 30,000 residents a well-balanced mix of generous green open spaces (including easy access to the famous Bois de Vincennes), sports facilities and many cultural destinations.

11



Miroir d'eau  
(Water mirror)

CHARENTON IS... A CITY TO DISCOVER

More than 7 hectares of green open spaces  
allow the city to breathe freely.

### Green open spaces

The city is dotted with many parks, squares and play areas where everyone of all ages can enjoy the fresh air, play or just stroll.

- **Bois de Vincennes** | Map B2 - F1  
Get there via Avenue de Gravelle
- **Jardin du Cardinal de Richelieu** | Map B5  
5,575 m<sup>2</sup> - get there via Rue Étienne Méhul
- **Parc de Conflans** | Map D4 - E5  
11,719 m<sup>2</sup> - get there via Rue du Séminaire de Conflans, Rue de l'Archevêché or Villa Bergerac
- **Square Jules Noël** | Map G3  
5,971 m<sup>2</sup> - get there via 47, Rue de Paris
- **Valmy Play area** | Map C3  
Get there via Rue de Valmy
- **Chemin de Halage** | Map A5 - G4  
This 2.4-km long corridor begins at the Île Martinet and flanks the River Seine to give cyclists access to Paris on two wheels.



Apiary on the Île Martinet

### DID YOU KNOW?

Charenton is... a green city! The city boasts 2,200 trees and more than 4,500 m<sup>2</sup> of flower beds; it also competes every year in the annual competition to find France's most floral city.



Parc de Conflans

### DID YOU KNOW?

Reconnecting with its beekeeping past... Between 1922 and 1992, the city was home to the prestigious La Cité des abeilles beekeeping school at 6, Avenue Stinville - in August 2017, Charenton set up three new hives on the Île Martinet.



Théâtre des 2 Rives

### Media libraries

- **Médiathèque des Quais**  
36, quai des Carrières | [Map F4](#)
- **Médiathèque de Bercy** | [Map B5](#)  
7-9, rue du Nouveau Bercy

### Heritage

- **Médiathèque de l'Architecture et du Patrimoine**  
11, rue du Séminaire de Confians | [Map D4](#)



### + [charenton.fr](http://charenton.fr)

The city values family life highly, and provides many facilities for its residents, including nurseries, schools, a youth centre and a mediation/prevention service to support young people and their parents.



## Cultural facilities

Theatre, music conservatoire, visual arts spaces, media libraries... Those who live in Charenton enjoy privileged access to cultural events and activities.

- **Théâtre des 2 Rives (T2R)**  
T2R offers an eclectic programme in the heart of the city.  
[107, rue de Paris](#) | [Map E3](#)
- **Espace Art et Liberté**  
Simultaneously a space for first steps, learning, workshops and events, the Espace Art et Liberté focuses essentially on contemporary art.  
[3, place des Marseillais](#) | [Map C3](#)
- **The André Navarra music conservatoire**  
Named after the great cellist, the André Navarra conservatoire nurtures the talents of children and adults who practice multiple musical disciplines.  
[1, allée des Tilleuls](#) | [Map C3](#)
- **Atelier Pierre Soulages**  
Sponsored by the famous painter, the Atelier Pierre Soulages offers a range of visual arts activities for children and adults.  
[87<sup>bis</sup>, rue du Petit-Château](#) | [Map C3](#)

## Sports facilities

Sports facilities Charenton offers a full range of opportunities to get involved in individual and team sports.



Gymnases Tony Parker

- **Tony Parker gyms & Stéphane Diagana athletics track**  
2 gyms | 1 climbing wall | 1 weights room | 1 athletics track  
[Île Martinet](#) | [Map G4](#)
- **Stade Henri Guérin**  
1 synthetic football pitch  
[Île Martinet](#) | [Map G5](#)

### DID YOU KNOW?

Charenton is... a basketball city! In 2010, star basketball playmaker Tony Parker was on hand for the official opening of the two gyms that bear his name. Evan Fournier, who played and trained with the Charenton club as a child, now also plays in the US NBA professional basketball league.



The city boasts 50 sports clubs.

- **Espace Nelson Paillou**  
Multi-sports hall | 420 seats | 1 table tennis room | 1 gym | 1 multipurpose hall  
[Avenue Jean Jaurès](#) | [Map E3](#)
- **Telemaco Guoin Pool**  
1 small and 1 large pool | 1 diving pool | 1 gym | 1 gym apparatus area  
[4<sup>bis</sup>, avenue Anatole France](#) (scheduled to re-open in 2020) | [Map E2](#)
- **Maurice Herzog Sports Complex**  
1 Aikido dojo | 1 boxing gym | 1 multi-sports hall  
[9, rue du Nouveau Bercy](#) | [Map B5](#)
- **Espace Jean Mermoz**  
2 tennis courts | 1 dance studio | 1 indoor boules court  
[4, rue de la Mairie](#) | [Map G3](#)
- **Square Jules Noël**  
3 tennis courts | 1 indoor boules court  
[43, rue de Paris](#) | [Map G3](#)
- **Espace Claude Bessy**  
1 dance studio  
[3, place des Marseillais](#) | [Map C3](#)

# Charenton... the map

## DON'T MISS...

- A** City Hall
- B** Market
- C** La Coupole
- D** Bobillot Sellier
- E** Bercy 2

## WITH THE KIDS...

- F** Miroir d'eau\*\*
- G** Parc de Conflans
- H** Valmy Play area
- I** Lac de Daumesnil
- J** Parc zoologique de Paris
- K** Telemaco Guoin Pool\*\*\*
- L** Espace Art et Liberté



**Theatres and concert halls**

- 1** Théâtre T2R
- 2** Conservatoire André Navarra



**Museums & exhibition spaces**

- 3** Atelier d'Arts Plastiques Pierre Soulages
- 4** Maison des Artistes
- 5** Archives municipales
- 6** Espace Art et Liberté



**Media libraries**

- 7** Médiathèque des Quais
- 8** Médiathèque de Bercy



**Sport & Leisure**

- 9** Espace Nelson Paillou
- 10** Maurice Herzog
- 11** Espace Claude Bessy
- 12** Tennis courts
- 13** Piscine Telemaco Guoin\*\*\*



**Transport options**

- M** Metro station
- T** Tramway station
- 🚲** Vélib' bike share station
- P** Car park
- 🚗** Taxis

\*Future Vélib' bike share station  
\*\*In spring and summer  
\*\*\*Scheduled to re-open in 2020

# 3

## Charenton is... a vibrant city

Throughout the year, the people of Charenton enjoy the many events hosted in its arts and cultural centres and/or by the many clubs and other social organisations that make Charenton a city in perpetual motion.



Tous au club

### Twinning & associations

A rich and active network of clubs.

# 200

**clubs**

of many different kinds, from educational to social, sports and cultural

# 1800

**volunteers**

# 8200

**members**

An outward looking city...

- **Borgo Val Di Taro** – Italy
- **Büren** – Germany
- **Berlin, quartier de Tempelhof-Schöneberg** – Germany
- **Trowbridge** – Great Britain
- **Zichron – Yaacov** – Israel



Tempelhof City Hall

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Charenton has enjoyed an active twinning relationship with the Tempelhof-Schöneberg community of Berlin since 1984. Why? To forge links between communities and develop a better knowledge and understanding of each other's culture, economy, society, sports and education.

**TWIN TOWNS & CITIES**

## A packed calendar

### September to November

- **Clubs forum** – 1st Sunday after the start of the school year in September
- **European Heritage Days coupled with a city tour for new residents** – 3rd weekend of September
- **Toy swap exchange in the Parc de Conflans** – 3rd Sunday of September
- **Charentonnaise Entreprises Race** September or October
- **National Semaine Bleue week for senior citizens** – October
- **Armistice Day commemoration on 11 November**
- **Open day at the Maison des Artistes** November

### December to February

- **Charenton on ice** – a pop-up skating rink and figure skating gala in the Place Aristide Briand December-January
- **New Year wishes from the City Council to residents** – 1st Monday evening after the schools reopen in January
- **Conservatoire André Navarra Night** January
- **The Salon de Charenton art exhibition at the Espace Art et Liberté** – January/February
- **The Foulées Charentonnaises race** February

### March to May

- **Basketball Lions Cup** – Easter weekend
- **Annual concert season by the Nouvel Orchestre du Conservatoire at T2R** March-April-May
- **Local communities festival** – last Friday of May
- **VE Day commemoration on 8 May**
- **Print Day at the Atelier Pierre Soulages** – around 26 May

### June to August

- **Sustainable Development Day** May-June
- **Open day at the Atelier Pierre Soulages** – June
- **Conservatoire open day** – June
- **Music festival** – 21 June
- **Bastille Day fireworks** – 14 July
- **Summer Storytelling Festival – the city's media libraries host open-air storytelling sessions for children in one of the parks** – July
- **Tous au Club – A holiday and summer activities club in the Place Aristide Briand** – July and the 1st week of August

## The shops

No city can be vibrant without its retail energy! In Charenton, more than 360 retailers bring excitement and life to the entire community, but particularly the city centre, providing residents with high-quality local services.

**360**  
local retailers,



**70**  
restaurants

**40**  
retail units  
in the Bercy 2 centre

## DON'T MISS...

- **The semi-pedestrian street**  
Rue de Paris | [Map H3](#)
- **Galerie commerciale de la Coupole** | [Map C3](#)  
3, place des Marseillais
- **Rue du Général Leclerc**  
[Map F2-F3](#)
- **Avenue Jean Jaurès**  
[Map E2-F3](#)
- **Avenue du Maréchal de Lattre de Tassigny**  
[Map G1-G2-H3](#)
- **Quai des Carrières**  
[Map D5-H3](#)

## 1 market

in the city centre with

## 60 traders

open Wednesdays  
and Saturday mornings from 8am to 1pm.

### DID YOU KNOW?

At 2 kilometres long, the Rue de Paris links the Charenton bridge to the capital and is flanked by dozens of shops and services.



[charenton.fr](http://charenton.fr)

Keep up with all the latest news on events during your stay.

# 4

## Charenton is... a dynamic city

Its dynamic economy is another major strength of Charenton. More than 3,000 companies employing 15,000 people are located here, and together create a diversified economic fabric that spans VSEs, SMEs, SMIs and major companies. The creation of the future Charenton-Bercy district as part of the new Virtual Reality tech hub will dynamically boost the appeal of the entire urban community.



The Future Charenton-Bercy district



### Key numbers for employment in Charenton

20 companies employing more than 100 people.

1 job for every 2 residents.



#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Formed in 2008, Club Gravelle Entreprendre is an integral part of the local economy, and has around a hundred members based in Charenton, Saint-Maurice and Maisons-Alfort. This business club proactively promotes the economic development of the entire area.

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

The area's wine-growing past - which was closely linked to the historical importance of Les Magasins Généraux - is still very much alive: La Martiniquaise, France's second-largest wine and spirits company, is still based here.

### Major companies choose Charenton



## Charenton-Bercy, a new and connected inner-city community

To revitalise its Bercy district, the City Council signed a National Interest Contract (CIN) with the French government in 2016. The project also won the Inventing the Greater Paris Metropolis competition in 2018. The emergence of a new environmentally and economically iconic open community will be led by the City Council, UrbanEra-Bouygues, Grand Paris Aménagement and ParisEst-Marne&Bois.



The future Valmy footbridge

### **A GROUNDBREAKING ARCHITECTURAL COMMITMENT**

An iconic architectural landscape, which will be visible from Paris and the Périphérique ring road, will be created at the heart of this new district by 2025-2030: a 180-metre green tower with exemplary sustainable development credentials will include a hotel, many homes and 5,000 m<sup>2</sup> of hanging gardens.

### **BRINGING NATURE INTO THE CITY**

The 12-hectare future eco-sensitive urban community will have 3.6 hectares of green open spaces, including a public garden covering more than 5,000 m<sup>2</sup>. The Valmy footbridge will be widened and landscaped. A much-needed second footbridge providing a link to the Seine will be built. The principle of planting one tree per home built has also been embraced. The future community and its many buildings are expected to be accredited by many of the most demanding eco-labelling schemes.



### **A VIRTUAL REALITY TECH HUB**

This future economic centre of excellence will focus on virtual reality, video gaming, 3D animation and special effects. Its many enterprises will form an economic cluster with international reach, and are forecast ultimately to provide 15,000 jobs. This could potentially double the number of employees in the Charenton region to 30,000.



The Fabrique du Spectacle

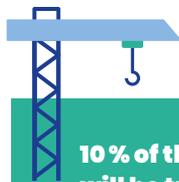
### **DID YOU KNOW?**

The virtual reality industry recognises French excellence in this field and has been completely untouched by the global economic crisis. In 2017, the video gaming market was worth \$100 billion in sales worldwide, and €4.3 billion in France.



## **FUTURE ICONS**

- A “**Fabrique du spectacle**” (Show Factory) will open in the refurbished former Assistance Publique – Hôpitaux de Paris hospital, with a 3D animation studio and a programme of public events.
- The **Rue Baron Le Roy** will be extended from Paris to Charenton, replacing the current Escoffier warehouses. As well as making travel smoother and easier, this new arterial road will also be very lively in retail terms, because some of the retailers currently located in the Bercy 2 shopping centre will be relocated here.



### **10% of the city will be transformed**

- 1,000 homes, including 30% social housing
- 167,000 m<sup>2</sup> of offices
- 43,000 m<sup>2</sup> of retail and leisure facilities
- 15,000 new jobs created

*The urban renewal of the Bercy de Charenton district covers an area of 360,000 m<sup>2</sup>. Work will begin in parallel on a 600,000 m<sup>2</sup> Bercy-Charenton urban development in the 12th arrondissement of Paris.*



[charenton.fr](http://charenton.fr)

Everything you need to know about the future of Charenton!



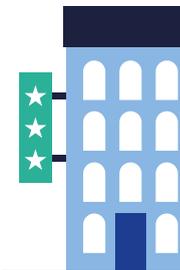
A 180-metre green tower  
at the heart of the new district



CHARENTON IS... EASY TO GET TO!



Charenton is...  
easy to get to!



## THE MAIN HOTELS

- **Adagio access**  
203, rue de Paris | [Map B3](#)
- **Ibis Budget**  
2, place de l'Europe | [Map A5](#)
- **Hôtel Ibis**  
2, place de l'Europe | [Map A5](#)
- **Novotel**  
5, place des Marseillais  
[Map C3](#)

## GETTING HERE

### BY CAR

- **Two exits from the A4 motorway**  
Exit 2: Charenton-Centre-Bercy  
Exit 3: Charenton-Gravelle
- **Link to the Périphérique  
and Boulevard des Maréchaux**  
Porte de Charenton and Porte de Bercy

### BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

- **Metro line 8**  
Porte de Charenton,  
Liberté and Charenton-Écoles
- **Bus**  
Lignes 24, 111, 180, 325 and 109
- **Tramway T3**  
Baron Leroy and Porte de Charenton
- **3 Vélib' bike share stations**

### CAR PARKS

- **City Hall**  
Rue de la Mairie | 70 spaces | [Map G3](#)
- **De Lattre de Tassigny**  
5, rue du Maréchal de Lattre  
de Tassigny | 46 spaces | [Map G2](#)
- **La Coupole**  
139, rue de Paris | 360 spaces | [Map C3](#)
- **Centre commercial Bercy 2**  
2 300 places | [Map A5](#)
- **Toffoli**  
12, rue du Cadran | 106 spaces | [Map F3](#)  
(various season ticket options:  
monthly/quarterly/annually)



Flash the code to find out  
everything you need to know at

**charenton.fr**



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