

A brief history of Saint-Malo

6th c.

Mac Low, a Welsh monk established his bishopric in Alet, a stone's throw away from the rock where the walled city now stands.



> Jacques Cartier

1424
> 1590

It was to keep the Malouins under control that the Dukes of Brittany had the main castle built, which was overtaken by its inhabitants in 1590. Later, they declared themselves an independent republic, which lasted 4 years

13th c.
> 15th c.

The "Malouins" were already quite successful at catching enemy ships. In 1308, they instated a sworn city and from 1395 to 1415, they swore allegiance to King Charles VI of France, who granted their port tax-free practice.

1534

Appointed by King François I Jacques Cartier discovered the St Lawrence estuary and took possession of Canada.



> Fort National

1661

Formerly called «Saint-Malo de l'Isle», the City, within its enclosed 16 hectares, burnt down for the first time. In the following years, the architects Vauban and Garangeau rehabilitated it and extended it to 24 hectares, in 4 steps.

17th
> 18th c.

Thanks to its seafarers and merchant ship owners, who commissioned vessels to the Eastern Indies, China, Africa and the Americas, the City enjoyed prodigious prosperity; many contributed to Saint-Malo's prestige, such as the writer Chateaubriand. However, this prestige is mostly down to the famous seafarers and privateers, including Duguay-Trouin, who conquered Rio de Janeiro in 1711, and Surcouf a few decades later.

> Robert Surcouf



1815

When in 1815 the Privateers' Commissions were abolished, the ship owners of Saint-Malo commissioned their ships to Newfoundland and kept developing their port.

1944
>>>

Unfortunately, the liberation battles in 1944 devastated the town and destroyed the walled city by 80%. It is from those preserved and restored ruins that Saint-Malo rose again, thanks to a careful and heritage-conscious reconstruction design.

> Château



> Tour Solidor



St-Malo has been a sea fortress since the Middle Ages. The oldest witnesses of this are the Petit Donjon in the walled city and the Solidor Tower in Saint-Servan. Grand Donjon the Main Tower, and the 4 huge angled towers, prefaced the bastion-oriented design created by Vauban in the late 17th c. The islet forts at sea (Fort National, Fort du Petit Bé, Fort de la Conchée...) made it impossible to attack the city. The magnificent ship owners' mansions near Porte de Dinan and Porte Saint-Vincent were built in the 17th c. The wealth of the traders cannot be better expressed than by their dwelling legacy.

Rich surroundings

- Saint-Servan and the Cité d'Alet, a peninsula overlooking the Saint-Malo Bay; the Solidor Tower with its entrance bastion and 3 towers erected at the end of the 14th c. helps make up this a fortified complex.
- La Digue, a seafront wall and promenade linking Saint-Malo and Paramé
- Rothéneuf with the Manoir de Limoëlou, the manorhouse of Jacques Cartier
- Mansions specific to the region of Saint-Malo, called "Malouinières"

> La Digue



Situated between the Mont-Saint-Michel, Cancale, Dinard, Dinan and Cape Fréhel, Saint-Malo is on the so-called "Emerald Coast" ("Côte d'Émeraude") and surrounded by a number of natural, cultural and historical sites. It's definitely worth a visit!

Our services

Ticketing service
Gift Shop
Free Wifi

Tourist office

Esplanade Saint-Vincent
35400 SAINT-MALO

Contact us :
+33 825 135 200

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OPENING TIMES

January to March & October to December

Monday to Saturday:

9:00 – 13:00 / 14:00 – 18:00

Sunday & bank holidays

(school holidays):

10:00 – 13:00 / 14:00 – 17:00

April to June & September

Monday to Saturday:

9:00 – 13:00 / 14:00 – 18:30

Sunday & bank holidays:

10:00 – 13:00 / 14:00 – 18:00

July & August

Monday to Saturday:

9:00 – 19:30

Sunday & bank holidays:

10:00 – 19:00



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Saint-Malo



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SAINT-MALO
BAIE DU MONT-SAINT-MICHEL





STROLL IN Saint-Malo old city!

- 1 Castle**
History Museum
Main Tower (1424)
La Générale Tower (1475)
Moullins Tower (1500)
Quic-en-Groigne Tower (1498)
- 2 St-Louis Bastion** (1714-1721)
- 3 St-Philippe Bastion** (1714)
- 4 St-Vincent Cathedral** (11th-18th)
- 5 André Désilles Mansion** (17th)
- 6 Magon de la Lande Mansion**
'Hôtel d'Asfeld' (18th)
- 7 Half-timbered houses**
- 8 Duchess Anne's Mansion**
- 9 Tomb of François-René de Chateaubriand**

- +** **Statues**
- François-René de Chateaubriand (1768-1848)
 - Robert Surcouf (1773-1827)
 - Jacques Cartier (1491-1557)
 - René Duguay-Trouin (1673-1736)
 - Bertrand-François Mahé de la Bourdonnais (1699-1753)

