

# Discovery Tour of Eugénie les Bains



« A few story... »

It all starts with the use of the St-Loubouer's spring since very ancient times. But it's only under the reign of the king Henry IV that the Lords of the village (owners of springs) have to choose to create a place of public baths or abandon springs to the State. Their decision was quickly taken! Few times before the French Revolution, in 1750, the first public bath worthy of the name is created. But the State authorizes the exploitation of waters only in 1843! Few times later, the town of Eugénie les Bains is created in 1861 and a new place of thermal bath is built.

In 1962, the spa resort is acquired by the "Chaine Thermale du Soleil" which undertakes gradually the complete renovation of the thermal bath and the hotels. In 1993 the first Imperial Parties are given in honor of the godmother Eugénie de Montijo who gives its name to the village.

## Panorama on gardens



This is the most beautiful sight seen of Eugénie les Bains. Ponds represent the Adour from the Pyrenees to Bayonne. This river is famous for its tasty salmon. We can see some of them trying to raise the wall of water!

## Zoom on : The creation of gardens



These gardens have been totally created between 1994 and 1995.

Originally, imagine some muddy swamp and uncultivated flat grounds which contrasted with the beautiful thermal park and spa of Michel Guérard.

## Zoom on : Eugénie's creation in 1861



Eugénie les Bains is created the May 8<sup>th</sup>, 1861 thanks to Mr Dubalen, an agent of the "Société fermière des Eaux de St-Loubouer" and the future mayor. A new thermal establishment is going to be built; the previous one was too small. Concerning the name of the village, the Impress Eugénie of Montijo is chosen to be the Godmother.



## The former Streetcar station



Eugénie les Bains must be more accessible that's why a station of streetcar is built in 1902. It was situated on the line between Aire sur l'Adour and Amou and will run until 1935.

## The public school



It was built in 1892 and was the priority of the city. It first welcomes boys before to be open to the girls in 1904.

They used to be schooled in the St-Joseph Boarding School, current "Couvent aux Herbes".

## The Church Ste-Eugénie



Built in 1861, it was the first public building of the town. The plans are entrusted to a local architect Mr Dupouy. Built in a Neo-Gothic style, the church is ended in 1869 and its bell tower, realized in 1892, is added behind to the chorus.

## Zoom on : the beginning of balneology

The department of Landes possess an important network of springs and supernatural fountains. Here, in Eugénie les Bains, thermal springs are attested from the 17<sup>th</sup> Century!

Today, a mixture of sludge and two springs are used for the balneology:

The Empress Spring: it's cold (19,5°C), you can drink it to look after digestives and urinary diseases. Its diuretic properties and detoxification help in the regulation of the metabolism and are effective for the loss of weight and the cellulite.

The Christine-Marie Spring: its' warm (42°C) is collected through a drilling. It's excellent in the treatment of the rheumatisms, the degenerative osteoarthritis and the ostéo-articular diseases.

Besides the subsidized cures proposed in the establishment thermal, there is also the "Ferme Thermale" which proposes cares opened to all in this former traditional farm of 1000m<sup>2</sup>.

