

# Press Release

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**Evian**  
tourisme & congrès





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Évian is a world-renowned destination thanks to the virtues of its mineral water, which have carved out this town's reputation since the advent of thermal tourism.

But, beyond this, Évian is also an exceptional setting with incredible heritage in the heart of the Alps, between lake and mountains, and much adored by its many visitors who come from all over the world to recharge their batteries.

Recognising its strengths, its importance and our responsibility to future generations, the town has embarked on an innovative and proactive approach, seeking to put the 17 sustainable development goals at the heart of its municipal project.

With the aim of preserving its image – combining tradition, modernity and innovation – Évian hopes to become a pilot town through the implementation of a sustainable and participatory territorial policy, transforming itself into a territory of excellence.

Sustainability and inclusion are core values that we defend on a daily basis here in our local area. The projects carried out by the town allow us to remain in ongoing contact with the Ministry of Ecological Transition and the United Nations.

On 5 April, I had the opportunity to speak at the International Forum of Mayors organised by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) in Geneva. I also delivered two speeches during my visit to the High-Level Political Forum in New York alongside the French delegation. One discussed educational practices and raising awareness of the sustainable development goals and the environment; while the second focused on local and regional authorities and their innovative approach to addressing environmental and societal change through good practices.

Évian is proud to lead these sustainable-development projects and share its experience with other towns and cities around the world.

This essential transition necessarily involves the adaptation of our tourism policy, which must propose new ways of discovering the territory, while preserving it.

**Josiane LEI**  
**Mayor of Évian**



*Like the town that hosts them, the companies Danone, Evian Resort and Hilton have been committed to a sustainable approach to development and tourism for many years. Preserving the environment through the minimisation of their ecological impact, creating opportunities for the local population, and defending cultural values and heritage are priorities promoted on a daily basis by all their employees.*



## ÉVIAN A JEWEL IN THE HEART OF THE ALPS

*The town of Évian is recognised around the globe. For its natural mineral water and spa resort. For the Évian Accords in 1962 and the G8 summit in 2003. For its Rencontres Musicales and the Amundi Evian Championship, a women's Major world golf tournament. What not everyone knows, however, is how this little provincial town, of just some 9,000 inhabitants, has carved itself an international reputation over the last century. The answer lies partly in its exceptional environment, and partly in what it has been able to do with it...*

### At the crossroads of the currents

Have you ever heard the Chinese proverb that says that water and the mountain will eventually meet again? In Évian, it happened a few million years ago. And since then, this ability to bring the most varied currents together has nurtured the town's personality, forged its character and conditioned its future – allowing it to transform over the centuries from port town to spa resort, from fortified city to a multi-connected town, from provincial town to world-renowned tourist destination.



### At the crossroads of cultures

Switzerland is just a stone's throw away, and accessible by lake shuttle. Italy, on the other hand, can be reached by car in just two hours. And by air, Évian is three hours from all the major European capitals, thanks to Geneva International Airport. This ideal central location places the town at the crossroads of cultures, and in doing so, opens up some fantastic opportunities.

### THE LÉMAN EXPRESS or how to bring cultures together

*Inaugurated in December 2019, the Léman Express crosses borders, with six lines departing from Coppet, Bellegarde, Annecy, Saint Gervais les Bains, Le Fayet and Évian, connecting 45 stations. With no less than 230 km of rails, it is the largest cross-border rail network in Europe.*

### WHAT'S NEW? 2023

#### Nordic walking and historical discovery

Combine well-being and culture: François will provide you with the poles and set the pace for a walk around the lake, while revealing the history and anecdotes of this spa town.

#### Meanwhile, you can still discover the ongoing restoration works at the Buvette Cachat pump room

Launched in 2022, guided tours of this exceptional site continue, with brand-new discoveries to be made. The pump room's dome was unveiled in autumn 2022, and the stained-glass windows will once again be on show from spring 2023.

*Book at the Évian Tourist Office.*





## At the forefront of trends

### Évian, pilot town for sustainable development

Located in the heart of the UNESCO Chablais Global Geopark, Évian has always been committed to preserving its exceptional environment. It was only natural, therefore, that it would respond to the global appeal launched by the United Nations, modelling its agenda on the Agenda 2030 and endorsing the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, which aim to protect the planet and create the conditions for lasting peace and prosperity. A major challenge for the town; while for visitors, it is the guarantee of a spa and tourist destination that has been, is and will remain at the top of its game, thanks to the commitments made and efforts undertaken.

*Just take a look at our TripAdvisor, Airbnb, and Booking.com ratings, with 80-97% "very good" to "excellent" reviews for the town of Évian, out of some 30,000 reviews gathered by the 3 platforms; spanning everything from accommodation and catering to leisure.*



### Putting heritage at the service of culture

A true masterpiece of Art Nouveau, the Buvette Cachat pump house is one of those places that - even abandoned - remains inhabited. Formerly frequented by high society coming to take the waters, it is currently preparing to return to society life, thanks to the renovation project undertaken by the town council.

*Launched in 2021, the first phase of work concerns the restoration of the covered enclosure and its inner walls. This will be followed in 2023 by an identical reconstruction of the west arcade, destroyed by fire in 1954, as well as internal restorations and interior decorations; the latter making it possible to create a scalable space in addition to a place dedicated to spring water around the Buvette, capable of hosting concerts, exhibitions, receptions and other trade shows.*

**Respecting biodiversity**  
Unique in Europe! Évian is home to the Jardins de l'Eau du Pré Curieux. An open-air exhibition entirely devoted to wetlands and, through guided tours, an educational space for all audiences.



### Offering an exceptional tourist offer...

*...With no less than 850 classified hotel rooms, half of which in four- and five-star establishments, and more than 430 apartments in tourist residences, along with a holiday village and visitor centre.*



### Protecting our water resources...

*...By sharing a culture of sustainability and eco-friendly behaviours.*

### Encouraging sporting practices...

*...In the water, on land and in the air, whether competitive or just for fun, in the town or in the mountains.*



### Encouraging intermodal travel...

*...In the town and across the local area, by favouring soft mobility, from the solar boat and the funicular, to the Léman Express and the new lake station.*







## ÉVIAN BY THE WATERSIDE

### A thermal tradition that sets its own course

From the Cachat spring to the evian® thermal spa, from the monumental dome of the Buvette Cachat pump house to the representation of the Évian sources at the Palais Lumière, from the funicular to the five-star Hôtel Royal, mineral water has left an indelible mark on the history and architecture of this town. But that's not all. Recognised as a source of youth for the body, it has offered up these same effects for the town that uncovered it. With this, Évian has been able to preserve its monuments, while offering them a renewed youth, and perpetuate thermal treatments, while adapting them to new ways of life. All this, with, in essence, a lightness, a sweetness of life and a recklessness, reminiscent of a certain art of life: the Belle Époque.



### The history of water

There are just a few drops of water in the town, but if you follow them, they will lead you along the course of its history, and of historic buildings in emblematic places. And of course, if they weren't there, they would be sorely missed.

### The Evian Experience

Reopened to the public in 2018, after 6 years of modernisation and expansion work, the evian® natural mineral-water bottling site is unique in the world! This site presents a surface area of 130 000 m<sup>2</sup>, 14 state-of-the-art packaging lines, an annual production of around 1.5 billion bottles and its own private railway station, among the largest in France.

You'll also discover the slow movement of its natural mineral water, over the course of 15 years, from the Pays de Gavot to its sale in 140 countries!

An experience to be enjoyed in person, during an immersive two-hour visit (factory tour).



[www.evianexperience.com](http://www.evianexperience.com)



## Wellness, from Spa to Spa

In the town where health itself finds its source, it is impossible not to pay a visit to the places that have made wellness their speciality: the hotel spas. Each with their own atmosphere and their own speciality.

The two-star Hôtel Ermitage Quatre Terres spa offers detoxifying and restorative treatments, based on clays, stones, crystals and mineral extracts, directly inspired by the purification and mineralisation of evian® water.

The five-star Hôtel Royal's Évian Source Spa works on balance and beauty through four major treatment focuses: re-energy, relaxation, facial revelation and body revelation. The four-star Hilton Hotel's Taaj-Ayurveda Spa invites you on a unique sensory journey to discover the harmony and well-being of both body and mind, amid a Zen and Chic environment.

<https://www.evian-tourisme.com/votre-sejour/bien-etre/thermes-et-spas/>

## Yoga: balancing by nature

In this setting between lake and mountain, the quest for perfect balance quite naturally takes over. That of the harmony of body and mind too. Yoga, with its poses, breathing and relaxation exercises, finds its place here.

<https://www.evianresort.com/offres-bon-plan-week-end-sejour/sejour-ete-yoga-season-experience>

## evian® Thermal Spa - Source of wellness

It is here that we discover the very source of health itself: at the heart of this establishment, entirely renovated and equipped with the latest-generation technology and a pool filled with natural mineral water – unique in the world! To allow everyone to enjoy the effects and benefits of evian® water, this spa establishment offers thermal and comforting treatments, as well as stays and days dedicated to relaxation and healing.

*Not to be missed: the Absolute Day at the evian® Thermal Spa, including back treatment (50 min), facial and scalp massage (20 min) and plantar reflexology (45 min), with free access to sauna, hammam, leisure pool and whirlpool bath, as well as relaxation rooms and cardio space.*

<https://lesthermesevian.com/>

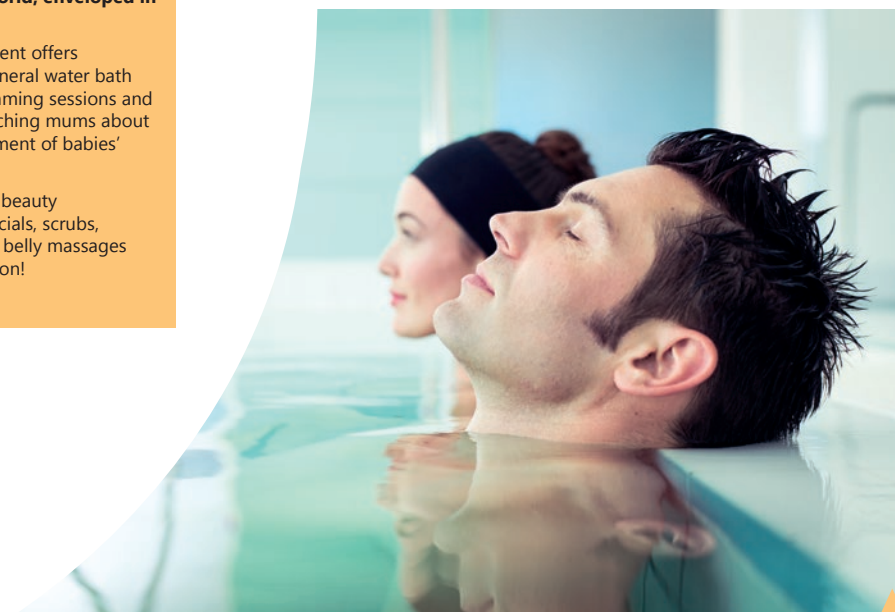


### BABY AND MOTHER STAYS

**Ideal for ensuring a smooth recovery after childbirth, our baby and mother stays offer a break from the world, enveloped in well-being and bonding.**

For babies, the establishment offers massages in an evian® mineral water bath heated to 37°C, baby swimming sessions and Baby Evian workshops teaching mums about massage and the development of babies' motor skills and senses.

For mums, a wellness and beauty programme, alternating facials, scrubs, high-pressure jet showers, belly massages or a physical-therapy session!





## ÉVIAN BY THE WATERSIDE

### Wave and waterfall activities

Between Lake Geneva, the largest lake in Western Europe, and Mont Blanc, the roof of Europe, Évian is an extraordinary space for play, training and pushing your limits. It also offers sport and leisure facilities designed for preparation and competition, with a unique golf course, remarkable watersports centre and the resorts of Bernex, Thollon and Châtel, to name but a few. Finally, it is an ideal thermal establishment for recovery, combining hydrotherapy and cryogenics, complemented by a Wellness area.

All this makes it possible to enjoy sports of all kinds and at all levels. And, as an added extra and specific to the town of Évian: ascending and descending streets to maintain your cardio, gardens and parks to stay in shape, and a spring water naturally rich in minerals for optimal hydration and regeneration.

### FOR BUDDING ATHLETES

A 2 km course open to all!

Ideal for getting started in sport while enjoying yourself, the Quai Promenade can be covered on foot, by bike, with a stroller or on a scooter. Along the way: two playgrounds equipped with gym apparatuses or equipment to test your abilities, develop your skills and improve your self-confidence.

**Route duration:** we'll leave that up to the parents, because if we listen to the kids...



### A watersports centre and so much more

Open from the end of April to the end of September, the Évian watersports centre brings together an Olympic pool and learning pool, both completely renovated and heated to 27°C.

And that's not all...

Across its 3.5 ha of landscaped and wooded land, it also offers:

- Diving boards, a 160 m slide, volleyball courts and ping-pong tables
- A kindergarten, with two paddling pools, water games and slides
- Waterfall activities, including water polo, aquagym, beach volleyball, archery, pétanque, yoga, synchronised swimming, educational boxing (and all the rest)

On top of all this, a Blue Flag beach, certified since 2020, opening onto Lake Geneva and offering water-ski outings and disciplines such as wakeboarding, barefoot water-skiing, wakesurfing or wakeskating.

<https://ville-evian.fr/fr/loisirs/piscine>

### Paddleboarding - The latest trend in sport!

Without a doubt, this is the discipline of the moment. And when you're called Évian and you've grown up on the edge of Lake Geneva, surfing the trends comes naturally.

<https://beta.voile-evian.fr/activites/>

### Aquagym - A wave of benefits

Another time, another practice! To transform the effects of water into benefits for the body, discover aquagym at the evian® thermal spa and the pools of the watersports centre.

<https://lesthermesevian.com/les-cours-collectifs-aquafitness.html>







### MINIGOLF IN THE JARDIN DE BENICASIM

Ideal for learning to pull, push and putt, the Évian mini-golf course offers up an 18-hole course looking out onto the lake. With, on the green, a garden mixing perennial plants, bamboo and palm trees, and, as a club house, a small terrace on which to enjoy drinks and ice-creams.



### Evian Terre de jeux

Labelled "Terre de Jeux 2024" this autumn, Évian adds the title of sports-preparation centre to its list of awards, for athletics, football, trampolining and table tennis.

This recognition leads us to a new challenge: deploying a whole programme to promote and encourage the practice of sport across the territory, including sporting competitions and public events scheduled throughout the season:

**APRIL 29:** Urban Trail

**14 JUNE:** Start of the Coupe des Alpes rally

**14 JULY:** Swim across the lake (Lausanne-Evian)

**27-30 JULY:** Amundi Evian Championship  
(women's golf competition)

**23-24 SEPTEMBER:** Run Mate  
(team race around Lake Geneva)

### Amundi Evian Championship

An unmissable golf destination for all those who enjoy demanding, rhythmic and strategic courses, the Evian Resort Golf Club will host the Amundi Evian Championship from 27 to 30 July 2023.

Establishing itself as the one and only Major tournament in continental Europe, its 28th edition will bring the greatest female golfers in the world to our fairways, before crowning just one: the very best of the moment.

This is the opportunity for tens of thousands of spectators to put their passion into practice, with a host of activities on offer. And for the town of Évian, the chance to put on a show once more.



## ÉVIAN BY THE WATERSIDE

### A way of life that flows from the source

Here, parks and gardens roll out their green carpets at the feet of large hotels and summer residences. Restaurants, tea rooms and cultural clubs, where we love to put the world to rights between dessert and coffee. The casino, which makes it a point of honour to recreate itself. The funicular, continually levelling out the ups and the downs, for a certain sweetness of life along the rails. But make no mistake! Évian has only retained the very best from the Belle Epoque: its heritage, to better adapt to modern tastes, its openness to the world, to remain at the forefront of trends, and the atmosphere of the last lounges where we chat the hours away, to better put our visitors at ease.



### SENSORY TOUR FOR ALL THE FAMILY

More than a guided tour, this is a fun and interactive discovery of Évian, awakening the senses and getting the children involved. As for the parents, they can't get enough.

<https://www.evian-tourisme.com/fete-etmanifestation/evian-visite-sensorielle-enfamille-evian-les-bains/>



### From the water town to the garden town

They have been so well incorporated into the landscape that you'd almost believe they shot up naturally, all these parks and gardens that slowly stretch from one neighbourhood to another across the town.

The truth is, they come from a time when heading to the countryside and cultivating carefreeness was the order of the day, strolling casually: the favourite sport of high society.

An understanding of life and of the town inherited from its spa past, carefully maintained over the seasons by more than 30 gardeners, and which has earned Évian multiple distinctions: "Quatre Fleurs" since 1968, President of the Republic Award in 1986, Grand Prix National in 1988, gold medal in the Entente Florale Europe competition in 2002 and Fleur d'Or in 2009 and 2015.

### The funicular: a story along the rails

Commissioned by the evian® water company in 1907 and put back into service by the town council in 2022, the so-called «little Évian metro» crosses the town at a rate of three circulations per hour, from May to September.

Moving at a speed of two metres per second, it connects the heights and valleys of Évian in minutes. Minutes that, strangely, seem to last for centuries. Because in this funicular, classified as a historic monument, travelling is a whole story in itself..

<https://www.evian-tourisme.com/equipement/le-funiculaire-evian-les-bains/>





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### The Casino pulls out all the stops

It has become such a part of the scenery here in Évian that it is hard to imagine this institution as anything but unchanging. We forget that a casino, like all its regulars, occasionally needs to recreate itself. Recreating itself, of course, but without ever losing its soul, nor the façade...

Launched by Evian Resort for a period of two years, the restoration works for the iconic Évian casino will allow the building to be restored to its former radiance in terms of the façade, while modernising its interior spaces. In particular, the casino entrance is to be moved to the front of the theatre walkway at the end of 2020; while the new restaurant will open and slot machines will be moved to the Gala Lounges in 2022, with the renovation of the Antoine Ribout Theatre and the opening of the new casino planned for 2023, 111 years after it first opened. With an interior design that plays on the latest trends, a brand new bar and restaurant and a «lounge» offer that reshuffles the cards and offers up games based on new technologies. The aim of the game: to ensure that the casino retains its roots while anchoring itself in its time.

And to make sure the fun continues, the establishment will remain open for the duration of the works.

<https://www.casino-evian.com/>

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### Fera & Abondance Cheese: local stars

Generous by nature, the Évian terroir is packed full of local specialities.

Some of the delicacies you'll always find on the menu: fera in meunière sauce, baked en papillote or marinated, alongside Abondance cheese, as it is or melted. Available from small local producers on Évian markets, every Tuesday and Friday morning.

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### The chef's secret: the Hôtel Royal's vegetable garden

The Les Fresques restaurant with its Michelin star, renewed in 2022: well known by all lovers of great cuisine.

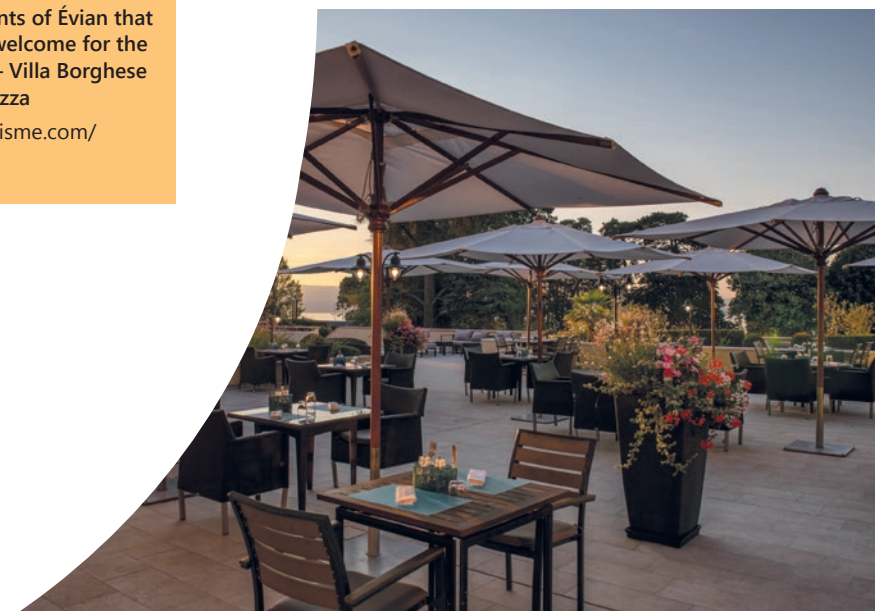
What they don't know is that, in order to offer them the very best, chef Patrice Vander has a secret: a French-style vegetable garden of 3000 m<sup>2</sup>, which stretches out below the hotel, guaranteeing the freshness of ingredients and enhancing the flavour of his dishes.



**Bending over backwards for you to guarantee fantastic moments with family.**

These are the restaurants of Évian that reserve the very best welcome for the little ones: La Verniaz – Villa Borghese – Les Cygnes and La Pizza

<https://www.evian-tourisme.com/restauration/>





## ÉVIAN FROM SEASON TO SEASON

### Cultivating the difference

Whether sporting or cultural, recreational or artistic, in Évian, our spring highlights are all sure to make a splash. Why? Because of this tradition of hospitality, deeply anchored in the hearts of our inhabitants, which means that, here, the only way we know how to welcome visitors is by thinking big.

### Highlights of the year

<https://www.evian-tourisme.com/agenda/>



#### FEBRUARY

Carnival

#### APRIL

Piano Marathon

26-27-28 MAY

Festiléman

10 JUNE

Arrival of the Natur'elles Aventures rally

15 JUNE

Start of the La Coupe des Alpes rally

21 JUNE

Festival of Music

FROM 1 JULY TO 5 NOVEMBER

"Man Ray" exhibition at the Palais Lumière

FROM 28 JUNE TO 8 JULY

"Les Rencontres Musicales d'Évian" Festival

FROM 27 TO 30 JULY

Amundi Evian Championship

AUGUST

Estivales Théâtrales (suburban theatre)

SEPTEMBER

Heritage Days

OCTOBER

• Les Recompensa

• Evian Tattoo Show

DÉCEMBER

The Fabulous Village



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### Festiléman - Sowing joy

This event forms part of our great tradition of popular festivals. But behind its apparent light-heartedness, it pays a vibrant tribute to life on the banks of Lake Geneva.

Over the course of three days, this event launched by the Évian town council grants pride of place to the singularly diverse character of life on the banks of Lake Geneva, through themes as varied as nature, culture, gastronomy, heritage and the environment.

The concept: a joyful mix of genres – made up of workshops for children, interactive games, exhibition and demonstration stands, various activities, musical stages and dedicated spaces. There's truly something for everyone. Proof of this: though this festival is only in its third edition, it is already an unmissable event.

Contact : Yves-Marie Guyot, chef de projet événementiel / yves-marie.guyot@ville-evian.fr

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### Natur'elles Aventure Rally - Roaming differently

100% female, this new partner challenge connects Paris and Évian along a 1,000 km course, crossed partly in an electric car and partly by trekking. Along the way, racers will find checkpoints and overcome daily challenges

A week bringing together little mistakes, moments of truth and experiences of a lifetime. All this, with the feeling of successfully returning to one's roots at the finish line, no matter your ranking, which seems like a victory in itself

<https://naturellesaventures.fr/>







## ÉVIAN FROM SEASON TO SEASON

### Harvesting excellence

#### Palais Lumière - Exploring the artistic field

Converted into a cultural and conference centre in 2006, this former spa establishment – in operation from 1903 to 1984 – puts its remarkable architecture and singular atmosphere at the service of the exhibitions it hosts, in order to better highlight them. A true work in itself, it is one of the few to benefit from the Ministry of Culture's seal of approval, sharing this title with the largest national museums. A mark of distinction granting international recognition and visibility and allowing the centre to offer visitors collections worthy of the greatest artistic venues.

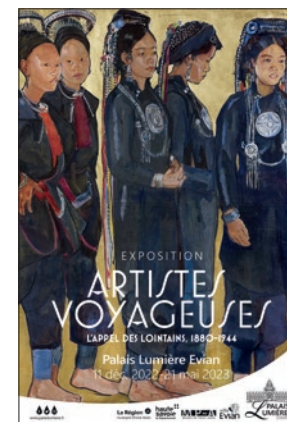
#### On the agenda for 2023

**UNTIL 21 MAY**

**Travelling Artists - The Call of Remote Lands, 1880-1944**

**FROM 1 JULY TO 5 NOVEMBER**

**"Man Ray"**





## And in winter, we welcome back the magic of this fabulous village

For more than 15 years, the Flottins – created by the La Toupine theatre – take over the town of Évian throughout the Christmas holidays. This little group of leprechauns and elves build their fabulous village of driftwood in the town centre, offering a more sustainable alternative to traditional Christmas markets. Here, nothing is bought: everything is created and dreamt up – while both big and small can let themselves be carried away in this imaginary and magical world.

[www.lesflottins.com](http://www.lesflottins.com)





## Évian Tourisme & Congrès

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## Press contact

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frederique.alleon@evian-tourisme.com

## By road

Paris : 580 km via A6 / A40 / N206 / D1005  
Lyon : 190 km via A42 / A40 / N206 / D1005  
Annecy : 85 km via A41 / N206 / D1005  
Genève : 45 km via D1005

## Évian SNCF train station

Daily high-speed and regional train connections between Paris and Évian via Bellegarde: about 4 hours 15 minutes. Direct Paris/Évian high-speed trains on weekends in summer and winter.  
SNCF information and bookings: [www.voyages-sncf.com](http://www.voyages-sncf.com) and on 3635

New railway network: "The Léman Express".

Direct connections from Geneva Cornavin station to Évian in 1 hour and 11 minutes. Consult timetables online

## By plane

Geneva/Cointrin International Airport is 50 km away.  
Flight information: (00 41) 900 57 15 00  
Visitor centre: (00 41) 22 717 71 05  
[www.gva.ch](http://www.gva.ch)

