

Tourist Office of Pays de Lauzun

tourisme@paysdelauzun.com

www.paysdelauzun.com



Our the Tourist Office centers :

Miramont-de-Guyenne

1 rue Pasteur
47800 Miramont-de-Guyenne
+33 5 53 93 38 94
Interactive information terminal 24h/24

Lauzun

5 rue Marcel Hervé
47410 Lauzun
+33 5 53 20 10 07
Interactive information terminal 24h/24

Allemans-du-Dropt

Interactive information terminal 24h/24



*Discover
the story of the
castel of Lauzun*



HISTORIC GUIDE

Lauzun and it's castle



HISTORY OF LAUZUN

The village of Lauzun (meaning "The larks hill") is closed to the south by the mullion windowed side of the castle. This is where the ancestors of Antonin Nomparr, Marquis of Puyguilhem and Comte de Lauzun lived. It was not until 1692, after his separation with the overly jealous Mademoiselle, that Antonin obtained the title of duke for having served the cause of the dethroned sovereigns of England.

Here, you will discover the story of Lauzun's castle.



YOU CAN VISIT THE PAYS DE LAUZUN !



Discover the beautiful countryside of Pays de Lauzun. Explore cute towns and take a moment to breath. Take your guide books at our tourist office centers !

However, most prefer the chimney of the king's chambers, smaller but extensively decorated. Again the corinthien columns and the lintel are both masterpieces, but the focus is on the sculptures of the mantle, of a rare perfection; around a central panel, four panels with scenes too numerous to be described here represent the four elements.

In all likelihood, it was Souffron Jean, a native of La Roque-Gageac who moved to Lauzun, who performed this work with his two sons. They would later work in the magnificent Auch cathedral.

In the gardens amongst the centennial trees, stand four Roman columns and a Roman votive altar, once brought from Tonneins and now sheltered from the elements.



A fortified castle was built during the 11th and 12th centuries. Then, after the Hundred Years War, a new wing was added, which is visible from the interior of the village.

Nompar Gabriel de Caumont, husband of Charlotte of Estissac was the main creator of this magnificent Renaissance wing which extends to the right of the chapel towards the 15th century buildings. It was around this time that the castle sheltered, on August the 5th 1565, Catherine de Medici and Charles IX on their way to Bergerac. The castle also received the visit of Henri de Navarre on the 1st of August 1576. There was at that time in the guardroom, an arsenal of swords, daggers and muskets, and the silver bell brought forth so many eager vassals and servants that Henri exclaimed: "My cousin you are more powerful than me, bring down that bell that I hear it no more." His wishes were granted.

In the 17th century, Gabriel Nompar, father of Antonin erected the entrance gates (at the summit of what is now called "Rue du Château") with their two polychrome marble columns and began the work on a circular staircase to connect the wing to the renaissance house of the 15th century.

After his death in 1723 the estate passed to Biron (Antonin Nompar beeing too worldly to enjoy staying in Lauzun (he even sold the woods to appease his creditors).

The most famous owner was the "Beau Lauzun" who enjoyed as much good fortune as Antonin Nomparr but also shared his disgrace for supposedly flirting with Marie-Antoinette !

He was guillotined during the french revolution.

Ruined by the Revolution, the castle was bought in 1807 by Becquery-Beaupré, who continued the demolition work. He demolished what remained of the old castle, the 13th century tower as well as terraces and ramparts to the South and East.

The Charrié family, who kept the castle for seventy-five years restored the remains of the 15th century buildings, bringing back to life the decorative mullioned windows, and completed the construction of the Dome drafted in the 17th century.

Next came the Count de Lattre Folchi who dedicated his life to completing the restoration of this magnificent home.

Finally, Mr. and Mrs. Baron completed the restoration and enhancement.

The entire castle, in its complexity, is of great interest, from the chapel to the barrel shaped attic, which can be accessed by a spiral staircase, not to mention the rich library collected by Mr. de Lattre Folchi

The renaissance part is the most intact needing in itself a long visit with its extensive guardroom and the king's chambers with their paneled ceilings and beautiful woodwork.

The most impressive features are by far the two chimney breasts that have very few equals in the whole of France.

That of the "Salle des Gardes" is the largest (5.5m tall and 4, 25m wide). It is decorated with slender polychrome marble columns and two caryatids (generaly female armless figures) represening fawns. The lintel supports a great coat of arms flanked by marble columns above a frieze with delicate foliage and is topped by a cornice with fluted bands. Striking by its sober elegance.

