



## Office de Tourisme de Turckheim et Environs

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City-tours for groups  
can be organized by  
the Tourist Office  
on demand.



photos : O.T. Turckheim / B.J. Naegelen / H. Eichholtzer  
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## Turckheim

was mentioned for the first time in the Wissembourg charter in 743 as a winegrowing site.

In 1312 it acquired the status of a town and in 1354 it became a member of the "Decapolis", an alliance of 10 free towns in Alsace. The Thirty Years War was a harsh time for the town.

After this period, thanks to Swiss immigrants the ruined and depopulated town was rebuilt in the beginning of the 18th century. The battle of **Turckheim**, in which Turenne chased the imperial troupes on January 5th 1675, brought Alsace back to the French kingdom.

**Turckheim** is above all famous for its wines. Its "**Brand**" is situated amongst the most famous vineyards. In the past an important commerce existed with the germanic countries, Strasbourg and also with several Swiss cantons.

Conserved documents indicate that between 1538 and 1609, more than forty communes bought wine in **Turckheim**, communes located mostly in the cantons of Basle, Aargau, Zurich and Solothurn. In the 19th century the 9 mills along the "Muhlbach" channel were transformed in factories : paper mills, textile and lubricants.

Today the "**Grands Crus Brand**" are still the pride of our town. Industry is our wealth but slowly it will be replaced by a new activity : **the Tourism**.

### ● Circuit of the Night Crier :

Every evening at 10 pm from May 1 until October 31.

Departure : Tourist Office (*fountain*).

# History

GB



# Historical circuit

- **Departure** : at the Tourist Office
- **Length** : about 50 minutes

1 **Guard-House** : In former times "Laube" (Hall), later gentlemen's hall (town hall). Given to the local guilds in 1575 and further on used as guild hall. The fountain "Stockbrunna" in its present state since 1727 is the point of departure for the night crier, every evening from May 1st to October 31st.

2 **Town Hall** : Renaissance building with gothic fragments.

3 **Saint Anne Church** : Romanesque church-tower on its 1190 foundations. The building goes back to 1837. The construction of the nave required the demolition of the old ossuary and the Saint Michael's chapel. We can still find fragments of the old nave. The organs come from the Pairis Abbey. The calvary-cross circuit ; Alsatian St. James's route.

4 **Hotel Des Deux Clefs (The Two Keys)** : First mentioned in 1583. Belongs to the town until 1686, restoration in the year 1620. The former name was "The Black Eagle". Hortense Mancini stayed here in 1671.

5 **Ancient Bulls-Inn** : Renaissance building with beautiful oriels (1621).

6 **Ancient Hospital and Hospice** : In 1868 the hospital was transferred to the building in the Rösch-Street.

8 **The "Brand-Gate" (Oil Gate)** : Finished in 1377, important remainders of the town-moat, abounding in fish in former days. This gate was closed on Sundays. In 1850 it was saved of demolition thanks to a petition of the inhabitants.

9 **Ancient Residence of an Alderman to the Sovereign Council** : The village-mayors and later the lord-mayors lived in this residence during the 18th and 19th century. Then it became the rectory until 1972. Today it lodges the "Memorial Museum of the Battle of Colmar" (winter 44-45). In the wall of the square you will find a memorial on the Alsatian route to Santiago de Compostella.

10 **Ancient Royal Provost Manor - 1657** : Charles Grad (1842-1890), Alsatian publicist and politician was born in this house.

11 **Ancient Resch (or Rösch) Property** : Hospital since 1868. Curious windows from the 15th century on the right hand side of the courtyard. Chapel and windows of the 17th century.

12 **Ancient Farm** : Farm belonging to the Benedictine Abbey of Munster. Residence for the Controller of Weights and Measurements until the Revolution.

15 **The Munster Gate** : The gate of sighs. Occupied until 1952. People sentenced to death passed this gate to be executed in a place called the "Wann". 26 "witches" were burned between 1572 and 1626. The marshal Turenne and his soldiers entered the town through this gate.

24 **Turenne Monument** : In memory of the battle of 5th January 1675. Obelisk built in 1935.

16 **Renaissance House – 17th century**

19 **The Wild Man's Inn** : Built by the town in 1609, to receive the wine traders.

23 **The France-Gate** : All commerce with the "foreigners" passed through this gate. The guardian closed the two doors after the angelus in the evening and opened them again after the angelus in the morning. On Sundays, the gate remained closed until the end of the mass.

