

# Castle of the Roche Goyon



Private  
Historical  
Monument

castle **La Latte**



## history and location :

Previously known as la **Roche Goyon**, **Fort la Latte** is situated in the **Bay of St Malo** on the point called **La Latte** near **cap Fréhel**. It resides in the department of **Côtes-d'Armor**, in the commune of **Plévenon**. It is **one of the most famous Breton castles and one of the most visited**.

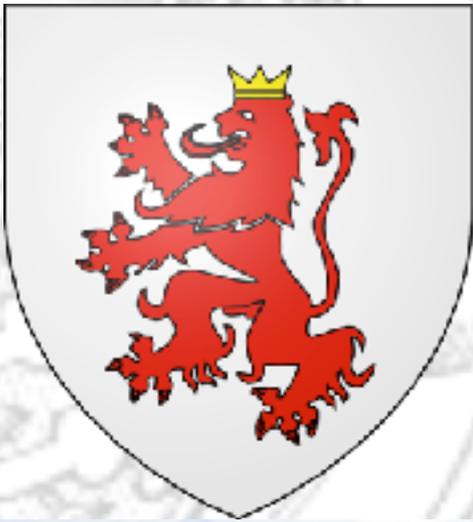


Remarquable by being situated on a rocky outcrop in the sea, it has been the backdrop of numerous films (including « Les chouans », « les vikings », the series « l'épervier" as well as the music clip "La tribu de Dana" by Manau)

The castle was classe as a **Historical Monument** 11 August 1925 and 28 February 1934.



## Blason Famille de Goyon



The castle **La Roche Goyon** was constructed in the 14th century by lord **Étienne III Goyon of Matignon**. Its construction started around 1340 and the tower dates to 1365-1370.



In 1379, after the exhibit of the Duke of Brittany **Jean IV**, the castle was sieged by **Bertrand Du Guesclin**.

It was also attacked a second time during the **religious wars in the 16th century** which marked a period of abandonment.

During the 18th century under Louis 14 the castle strategic position was used and was renovated by **Siméon Garengneau**.



The castle served its military role until the end of the **French Colonial Empire** after which warfare techniques evolved beyond the castle's adaptability.

From **1882**, the castle was sold to various private owners before brought by the passionate **Frédéric Joüon Des Longrais** in **1931** who undertook the enormous task of restoring the castle.

**Today** the castle is owned by the descendants of the passionate Frédéric Joüon Des Longrais and is a home as well as **being a tourist site visited by numerous visitors every day**.



# environnement the Roche Goyon

Set in a park of nearly **100 hectares** of forest and moorland with 5km of walking paths.

Over **8000 trees planted** by the castle's team.

**Careful cultivation of fields with farmers** from the village of Plévenon.

**Reserved zones** for wildlife.

**Protection** of coastal zones.

**Control of invasive species and prevention** with our visitors.

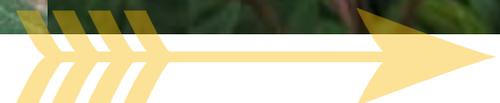
Numerous pastures for our sheep and goats as well as the goats at Chévrerie du Cap.

Numerous fields for grazing cattle with our neighboring farmer

Private gardens open to the public.

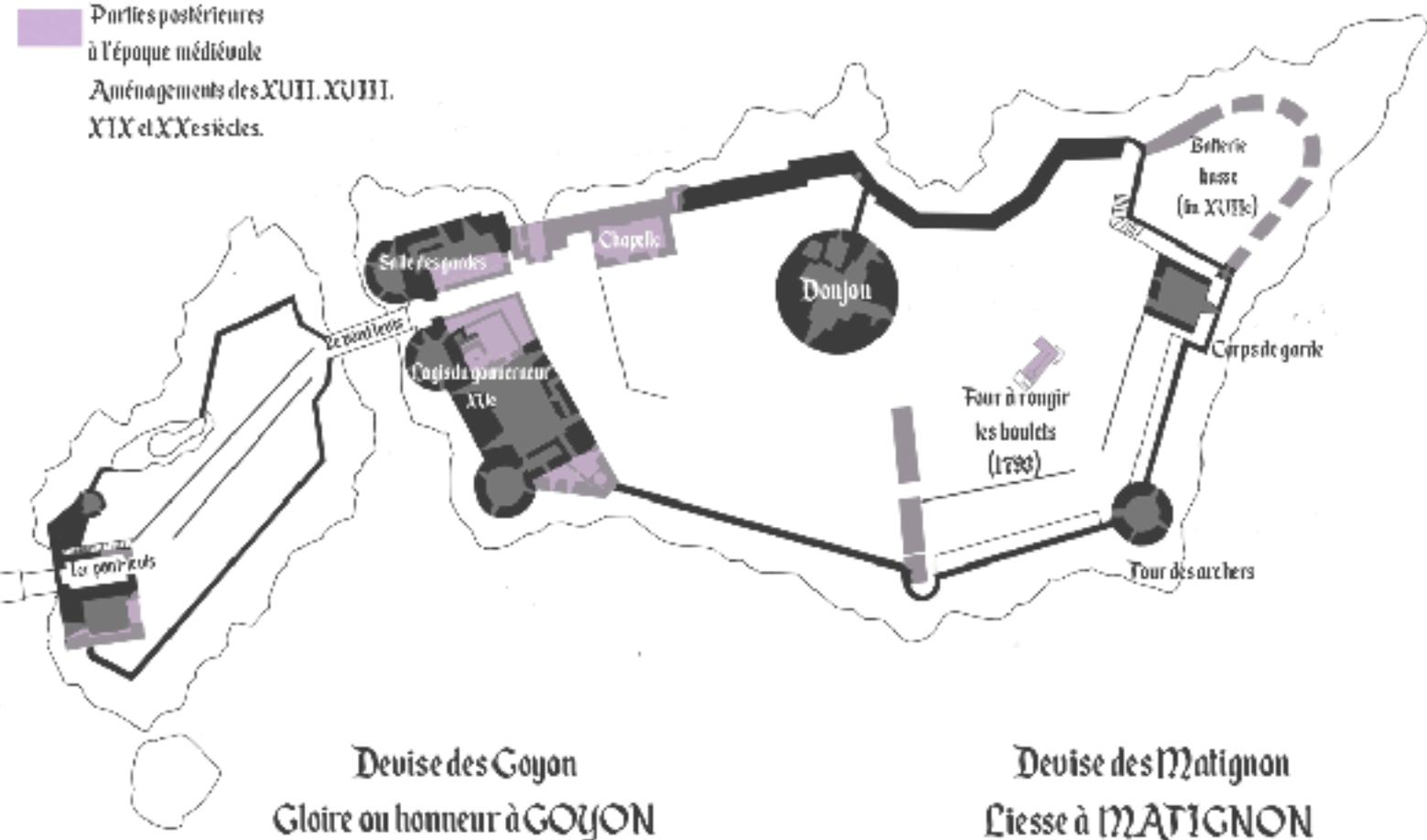
Fort La Latte protects nature and the environment for future generations.

**Our aim is to preserve while adding value.**



# Plan de La Roche Goyon ou Fort La Latte

Parties postérieures  
à l'époque médiévale  
Aménagements des XVIII, XVIII,  
XIX et XXe siècles.



## a shared space

«In **Brittany** few places can say they **attract tourists from around the world** »

The visitors of « **La Roche Goyon** » find themselves in the heart of a **unique fortress** with a mix of features from the 14th, 16th and 20th centuries.

The visitors can walk freely inside the castle's walls and take in the wonderful views of **the bay of St Malo** and towards **Cap Fréhel**.

Guided tours are organized daily between **1st April and the end of September**, giving you an **insight into the history and the daily life of the castle**.

More than **1100 guided tours** by year !

Open nearly **300 days** a year !



# a history lover

A man with a **passion for history**, **Frédéric Joüon Des Longrais** spent **44 years** of his life **Yolande De La taille Trétinville**, putting life back into **the castle of La Roche Goyon**.



Born in **Rennes** in **1892**, the son of a paleographic archivist, he also gained his diploma in 1920.

After studying **English Law, french Breton and Medieval law**, he obtained his doctorate in **law in the faculty of Paris** in 1924.

He shared his career as a professor and his research work on english law between France and England.

In **1931**, at the age of **39 ans**, he **brought the castle of La Roche Goyon**, undertaking the task of restoring the fortress.

He was also interested in the **history of Japan** and was named in **1939** as the **Director of the French-Japanese House in Tokyo** on the basis of winning numerous contracts.

During the second World War he **had to stay** in his house with his wife in the **mountainous region in Northern Tokyo**.

The castle was left unattended and **was stripped** of all its furniture.



On returning back to France after the war, he continued his work at the castle and **opened it to the public**.

The castle was rented out to Americans to be used as the film set for the film « **The Vikings** » in **1957**. He died in **1975** in **Cannes**, leaving the castle in the hands of his wife.

Since 1981 the castle is owned by the son **Frédéric** and his wife **Isabelle**.



# splendor of yesteryear



For nearly **90 years**, the **Joüon Des Longrais family** have made it a point of honor to bring back the ancient splendor to **La Roche Goyon**, putting back what was lost and giving visitors the chance to relive **medieval times**. This is the idea that guides the restoration works.

## From 1931 to 1939

The first restoration works begin soon **after the castle is brought**, as it has been left abandoned and in a derelict state for decades.



The **Governors house**, and **Guardrooms** as well as the Chapel **were stripped back** and the **rebuilding work** goes on for over 10 years.

## From 1950 to today

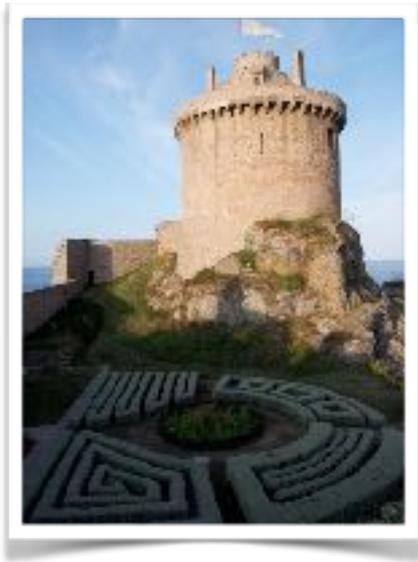
From then on, **every winter** is synonymous with restoration works.

Work on the **exterior walls** takes place.



## 1980

Earth is excavated in the second Guardroom (dating to 15th century).



The **Medieval garden** is added.

**2000**

**Electricity** is installed in the castle as well **running water**.

**2004**

The walls of the Tower/Keep **are consolidated**.

**2016**

The walls of the Archers' tower are renovated.

**2006 - 2013- 2017**

**Consolidation** of the **rocks holding up the walls** in various places.

**2015**

Floors in the **Governors House** were tightened.

**2014 - 2017**

The interior of the tower **was updated** to bring the **lords' rooms back to life**, adding new metalwork in the fireplace **adorned with the Goyon des Matignon shield** as well as **lighting and furniture**.

**2016**

A **new drawbridge added** on the first gatehouse.

**2017 - 2018**

Restoration of the **Guardrooms**.



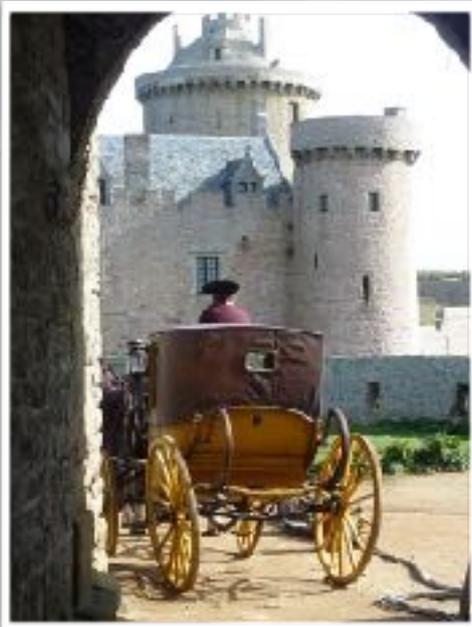
**All of this is possible due to the numerous visitors who come every year.**





**Castles** such as this are wonderful reminder of the **majestic medieval period**, which never stops to feed **our imaginations**.

**Travel in time** inside the walls of « La Roche Goyon »



# festival

## « The Medieval of La Roche Goyon »

This year, the Medieval Grandes extend ! It's not 3 days but 4 days of festival !



# medieval of august

## 11, 12, 13 and 14 august 2020

For this **12th edition**, at the Program:

Street show, Magic, Falconry, Grand Tournament of chivalry, Musicians, entertainment and games for children, medieval village with reenactment troops, large medieval market, fire eaters...

[www.medieval-fortlallatte.com](http://www.medieval-fortlallatte.com)





## Useful information

### Opening time

The castle and its park are open almost **300 days a year**.

### Visits

**Free visit** (about twenty explanatory panels throughout the park and the castle)

**Guided tour in medieval costume** from April 1st to September 30th.

Group visit by reservation.

Mois Month	Horaires Parc et château	Ouverture Open	Fermeture Closed
De Novembre à Mars	13h - 17h	Les week-ends, vacances scolaires et jours fériés	Du 6 Janvier au 8 Février
Avril à Juin	10h30 - 17h30		
Juillet - Août	10h30 - 19h		
Septembre	10h30 - 18h	Tous les jours (every day)	
Octobre	13h - 17h30		Le 25 décembre et 1 Janvier

Visites guidées Toute l'année sur demande.  
Group visits all year round upon request  
réservation sur le site : [www.lefortlalatte.com](http://www.lefortlalatte.com)

The site is partially accessible to people with reduced mobility.



### Practical information



The drawbridge can be operated upon request during the visits with reservation.  
Free admission for children under 5 years old  
Free vehicle parking 100 m from the entrance of the castle park..



### Access

Follow the direction of Cap Fréhel.

40km from St Malo, Dinan  
48km from St Brieuc  
30km from Lamballe

48°40' 06" North and  
2°17'05 » West

**Château de La Roche Goyon - 22240 Plévenon Cap Fréhel - Tél. : 02 96 41 57 11**  
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