

The Pré Curieux, a history of water

The Pré Curieux property was bought in 1994 by the commune of Evian les Bains, Publier and the Conservatoire du Littoral.

The Evian project was launched in 1998 : a portfolio of activities, financed by the Danone group which owns the Evian Mineral Water company, aimed at strengthening the Convention de Ramsar (convention for the protection of wetlands).

Supported by the French government, the town of Evian, the Conservatoire du Littoral and the Convention of Ramsar, part of the project was to build an information and awareness centre at the Pré Curieux site in Evian, focusing on the protection of wetlands.

Work started at Pré Curieux in 1998, with the transformation of the house into an exhibition space and finished in 2002 when the garden was remodelled into different wetland areas.

Infographie et photos

Service Parcs, Jardins et Cadre de Vie de la Ville d'Evian-les-Bains

Illustrations

Sonia Laden, "Atelier Mandibules", Evian



Open

May-June-September : wednesday to sunday.

July and August : daily.

Départure

Access by boat from the wharf opposite the casino at 10 a.m - 1:45 p.m - 3:30 p.m. Duration of the visite : 1 h 45.

Tarifs

(bateau + visite)

Adults : 10 €

Groups : 8 €

Children : 5.50 € (6 à 12 ans)

Family : 26 € (2 adultes + 2 enfants)

Réservation

Wharf opposite the casino.

Tél : (00 33) 04.50.70.15.44.

Port : (00 33) 06.25.07.60.60.

Evian Tourist Office

Tél : (00 33) 04.50.75.04.26.

Fax : (00 33) 04.50.75.61.08.

Mail : info@eviantourism.com

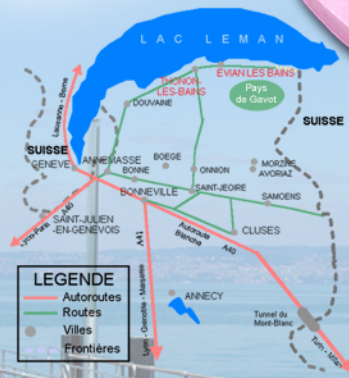
Web : www.eviantourism.com

Pré Curieux Water Gardens

Mail : info@precurieux.com

Web : www.precurieux.com

Accès



WATER GARDENS at



Pré Curieux



What exactly are wetlands?

They are, in fact, any area connected to water: lakes, ponds, rivers, streams, marches, peat bogs, paddy fields...

Areas rich in fauna and flora, which play an important part in filtering water as well as flood defence. Areas of natural heritage which are often overlooked...

The 3.5 hectares of the Pré Curieux Water Gardens are entirely given over to the conservation of wetlands, in the hope that all these different aquatic environments will encourage you to find more out about the marshes and streams near you and how you can protect them.



A bad reputation



The strange phenomena which occur in marshland areas have produced a number of legends: the Vouivre, a horrible monster which lives there; will-o'-the-wisps; home of the Devil's beasts (toads); strange noises heard at night... Sometimes the legends have a basis in reality. Many corpses have been found in peat bogs – which is enough to start your imagination working overtime!

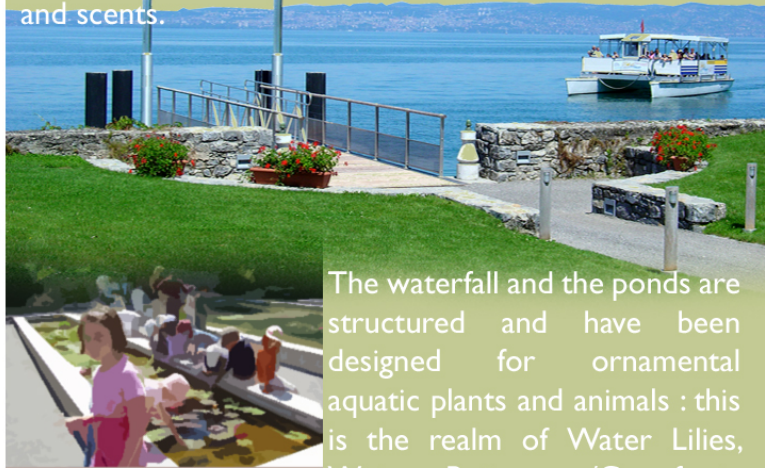
The House

This has been transformed into an exhibition space where visitors can find out information about the various wetlands throughout the world. There is also an interactive section for children.



The Pleasure garden

Created around a series of pools which are home to aquatic plants and fish, the garden is planted with a collection of perennial plants offering a variety of blooms and scents.



The waterfall and the ponds are structured and have been designed for ornamental aquatic plants and animals : this is the realm of Water Lilies, Water Buttercups/Crowfoots and Carp.

These watery environments give an opportunity to discover the wonders of an aquatic garden.



The "wild" garden

To call it 'Natural' is ambiguous, because a lot of human work has been put into creating this garden ! Our main aim has been to recreate different aquatic ecosystems (plants and animals which are found living together naturally) which are dependent on different rates of flow of water – still or running/flowing which all together make up the habitat we call Wetlands.

The Garden will become an observation area for the natural evolution of these Wetlands and their aquatic flora and fauna.

Then visit, observe and respect !

