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CHÂTEAU DU MARAIS

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THE ARCHITECTURE



Château du Marais was spared the ravages of the French Revolution and remains intact to this day. The east-facing façade's beautiful yellow ochre stone catches the morning sunshine, and in the afternoon the west-facing façade and The Mirror water feature bask in the sun.

Architect Jean Benoît Vincent Barré was an admirer of Andréa Palladio (1508-1580), and the Italian architect's influence is clearly evident in the château's design.

Proportioned to approximate the golden ratio, Château du Marais displays a remarkable symmetry and balance both inside and out.

**“THE CHÂTEAU,
THE OUTBUILDINGS
AND THE PARK
ARE LISTED AS
A NATIONAL
HISTORIC
MONUMENT”**

The residence was built on the eastern edge of a platform surrounded by water-filled moats, which previously formed the main courtyard of the original medieval building. The northwestern and southwestern corners of this platform feature two pavilions which are thought to have replaced earlier pavilions that demarcated the boundaries of the courtyard.

The château itself features classic 18th-century design elements, such as a mansard roof and recessed limestone façade with a central five-bay avant-corps and a lateral single-bay avant-corps.







“A LITTLE PIECE OF HEAVEN”

— JEAN-PIERRE CLARIS DE FLORIAN

- 50 kilometers south of Paris and to the southeast of Versailles
- 48 kilometers from Orly airport
- 7 kilometers from the A10 motorway
(Paris, Orléans, Pays de la Loire, Bordeaux)

THE HISTORY OF THE CHÂTEAU



Completed in 1779, Château du Marais was built on the site of two former châteaux. The dungeons and wide, water-filled moats remain from the original 14th-century structure, as do the 16th-century plantings of the surrounding 100-hectare (247-acre) parkland.

In 1772 preeminent Parisian architect Jean Benoit Vincent Barré was commissioned by French nobleman Jean Le Maître de La Martinière to build what was to become one of the finest Louis XVI-style châteaux in the Paris region. Barré designed "Le Marais" around its reflecting pool, "The Mirror," expanded to 550 meters by 55 meters (1,804 by 180 feet).

The result was an Italian peristyle structure with intricate friezes crafted by the era's finest sculptors, and an elegant two-level glazed passageway spanning the moats to connect the 18th-century residence with its medieval foundations.

The château was widely acclaimed by Barré's peers: The Marquis de Bombelles, a close relation of Marie Antoinette, noted in his diary that "a mere civilian has built a château worthy of royalty," while the Baron de Frénilly described Le Marais as a "fairy castle."









THE CHÂTEAU

PRINCIPAL FLOORS: 1,750 SQM (18,836.84 SQ FT)



- Courtyard level: service rooms, two entries with access to the glazed bridge passage, caretaker's accommodation, and four additional rooms
- Piano Nobile (main floor): grand reception room, two drawing rooms, antechamber, dining room, three paneled apartments, chapel, kitchen, and storage room
- Second floor: a wide landing with access to eleven luxurious bedrooms with fireplaces and antique mirrors, eight bathrooms, and three boudoirs
- Top floor: four-room apartment with kitchenette and bathroom; eight mansard rooms
- Dome level: two bedrooms and an alcove
- Additional amenities: central heating; water sourced from a natural spring within the grounds





The chapel features trompe l'oeil décor attributed to Belgian painter Plat Sauvage (1744-1818), a member of France's royal academy of painting and sculpture.



THE OUTBUILDINGS

1,300 SQM (13,993.08 SQ FT)



- Courtyard level: original stables, garage, former dungeons, two salons with antique fireplaces, a kitchen, five staircases, a boiler room (heating the château), two boilers (heating the outbuildings), and three oil tanks
- Upper floor: nineteen rooms including ten bathrooms and six kitchens/kitchenettes
- Mansard top floor: twelve rooms including two salons with fireplaces, seven bathrooms, and two kitchens





THE PARK AND GARDENS

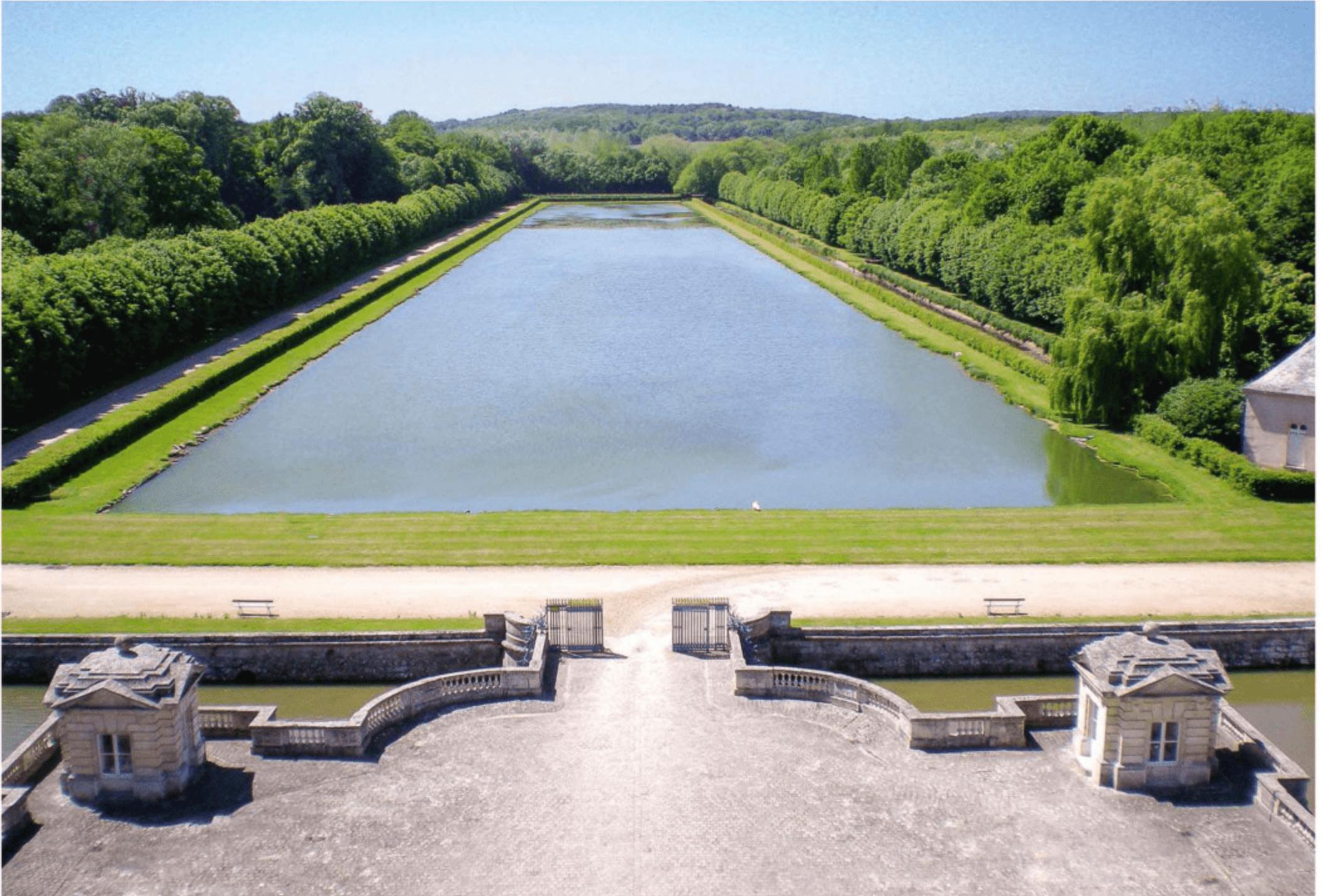
100 HECTARES (247 ACRES)



Transformed into an English-style garden in the early 19th century, the park was designed by landscape designer Achille Duchêne between 1903 and 1906 for the Marquis de Castellane (1867-1932). The main water feature is an extension of a former canal and is fed by the Rémarde river (a tributary of the River Orge).

- To the west, a water feature reflecting the château, "The Mirror," spans 550 meters long by 55 meters wide. It is fed by the "Fontaine Moreau" spring in the marshland bordering the park
- To the east, canals surround a French Formal garden designed by landscape architect Achille Duchêne
- To the north, a majestic drive lined by plane trees leads from the entrance gates towards the château. From end to end, the drive is bordered by about 30 hectares (approximately 74 acres) of fields and woodland
- To the south, the land is at a slight elevation and features 25 hectares (approximately 61 acres) of mature woodland traversed by paths and offering delightful views
- Bordering the park, 7 additional hectares (approximately 17 acres) of wooded farmland is available for purchase







PAVILLON DU PARC

150 SQM (1,614.59 SQ FT)

- Four rooms including a bathroom and kitchen
- Gas heating; mains water supply

PAVILLON DE LA GRILLE

142 SQM (1,528.48 SQ FT)

- Three rooms: two bathrooms and a kitchen
- Oil heating; mains water supply

THE MILL

- Renovated in the 19th century in the neo-Gothic style
- Ideal as an exhibition space



The parkland, formerly dense woods and rambling meadows, is today a tranquil oasis of greenery, with centuries-old trees, sparkling moats, and sun-drenched paths.





- Historic chateau with 100 hectares (247 acres) of parkland and gardens
- 874 square meters (9,117 square feet) of living space on each principal floor, plus a courtyard level, mansard top floor, and a dome
- Outbuildings encompassing 1,300 square meters (13,993 square feet): stables, a garage, two pavilions, and a former mill
- Private water supply sourced from a natural spring on the property

“THE CHÂTEAU, THE OUTBUILDINGS AND THE PARK ARE LISTED AS A NATIONAL HISTORIC MONUMENT”

- An outstanding example of Louis XVI-style architecture, the chateau is unparalleled both inside and out
- A remarkable witness to history, this rare chateau remained intact during the French Revolution
- A magnificent property in harmony with its beautiful setting

