

# ROMONT REGION

## STAINED GLASS COUNTRY

Perched on a hilltop overlooking the rolling Fribourg countryside stands Romont, the picturesque capital of the Glâne district. In the distance, the peaks of the Alps, which continue to enjoy snow cover in the colder months, glint in the sun. The town's well-preserved medieval architecture bears witness to its deep religious heritage and historic status as a hub of trade and commerce. Romont Castle (13th century), which dominates the town's skyline, is home to the Vitromusée, the Swiss Museum of Stained Glass and Glass Art. Here you can marvel at paintings and an impressive range of delicate, luminous glass art spanning multiple centuries, and explore the history of this art form, which remains a common sight in the Romont Region. Other architectural gems include the walkable medieval fortifications, the magnificent collegiate church built in the late Gothic style, the Cistercian abbey of La Fille-Dieu and grand townhouses. With its rich cultural, culinary

and built heritage, Romont is the perfect destination for the discerning visitor in search of a meaningful travel experience.

The Romont Region has much to offer culture and history enthusiasts, as well as those who prefer more energetic pursuits! Walking and hiking trails and over 200 kilometres of marked cycle paths criss-cross this beautiful patchwork of verdant hills, panoramic viewpoints, bucolic villages and quaint hamlets like the tiny medieval town of Rue. Among them is the famous 16-kilometre 'Stained Glass Trail' which walkers and cyclists can complete in one go or in stages. Along the way, you can stop off at the hauntingly beautiful churches and modest chapels that dot the route to admire their fine stained-glass windows and catch your breath with a visit to the Wallpaper Museum in Mézières. >>





## STAINED GLASS



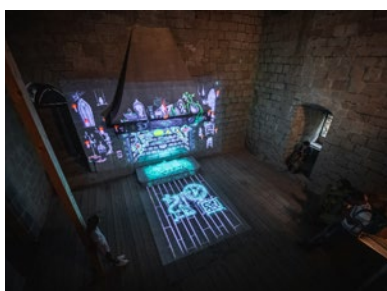
**Glass and wallpapers** – Romont Castle is a fitting home for the Swiss Museum of Stained Glass and Glass Art. The collection includes sumptuous and fascinating stained-glass windows dating from the Middle Ages to the present day. >> The Wallpaper Museum and its impressive collection could not have found a better home than Mézières Castle, which still boasts 18<sup>th</sup> century wall coverings of its own. >>

## BAREFOOT



**Natural experience** – “Going barefoot heightens the senses. After a ramble in the countryside accompanied by a wealth of anecdotes, your feet feel totally liberated ... and your head as well!”, says Frédéric Peritaz, the architect of the barefoot trails in Villarimboud near Romont. ‘Le Pied Total’ invites visitors to explore the rich and diverse plant life in the garden of an old mill. Visitors who wish to spend the night in a tree bivouac have also come to the right place. >>

## CIRCUIT SECRET



**Parts unknown** – Rue is a tiny town with some big secrets. In a magical show of light and sound, two young Fribourg artists reveal what lies behind five medieval doors that are usually closed to the public. >>

## MEDIEVAL CHARM



**On foot** – There are lots of ways to explore the history and heritage of Romont >> and Rue >>. You can take a self-guided tour or discover the medieval town with a local guide. There are also themed tours of the collegiate church and the Swiss Museum of Stained Glass and Glass Art. Hikers and cyclists, who take the Stained Glass Trail through the idyllic Glâne countryside, can also admire the stained glass art in medieval Romont and in the rural churches and chapels that dot the route.

## KEY DATES

- 1240** Founding of Romont by Peter II of Savoy, and construction of the castle, abbey and town walls
- 1981** Founding of the Swiss Museum of Stained Glass and Glass Art (Vitromusée)
- 2006** Restructuring and expansion of the Vitromusée
- 2019** Launch of the ‘Vitroparcours’ interpretive trail
- 2024** Inauguration of Circuit Secret Rue

## IN NUMBERS

- Population:**  
6,026 inhabitants (commune),  
26,749 inhabitants (region)
- Language:** French
- Altitude:** 780 m