

LA RÉGION  
DES LUMIÈRES

AUVERGNE - RHÔNE - ALPES



BASILICA OF NOTRE - DAME DE

FOURVIÈRE

FROM 2 DECEMBER 2021  
TO 2 JANUARY 2022



notre-dame de  
FOURVIÈRE



La Région  
Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes

# ÉDITOS



*"Among all the architectural treasures of our region, the site of La Fourvière is certainly one of the most extraordinary. It bears witness to our region's multi-millennial history, with its incredibly well-preserved Gallo-Roman remains. The Basilica of Fourvière is also an architectural masterpiece that sits atop the city of Lyon, attracting millions of visitors every year. Since 2017, the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region has been funding the Fourvière Foundation's plans to give new impetus to this emblematic city site. This is a highly symbolic and spiritual place for the people of Lyon, who, whatever their beliefs, light up their windows with candles every 8 December in thanksgiving to the Virgin Mary. When we launched the Region of Lights in 2019, our ambition was to unite the inhabitants of the region around the culture and heritage that embodies our identity.*

*These traditions and this heritage are the legacy we have received, which we are now responsible for preserving, promoting and passing on. This is our ambition for this production of the Region of Lights."*

**Laurent WAUQUIEZ,**

President of the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region

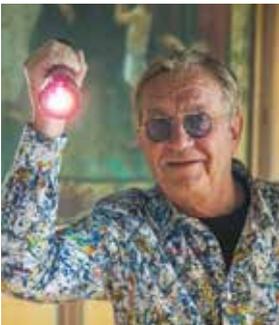




*“Through the Region of Lights, we can offer the people of Lyon, the inhabitants of the region and visitors to Notre-Dame de Fourvière, a journey through over 2000 years of history. This colourful display highlights all the different facets of this iconic site. A place of history and life, of creation and inspiration, a place of welcome, prayer and hope, Notre-Dame de Fourvière remains a site of meditation, inspiration, reunion and wonder. This exceptional heritage can also be admired from the inside. Once the show is over, you are all welcome to come inside the basilica and continue your journey.*

*Admire, immerse yourself in the peace of the site, rest, reflect and above all live your own experience... you will leave a different person. Thank you to the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region and Les Allumeurs de Rêves for creating this fabulous show, which is a real gift of lights for the end-of-year celebrations.”*

**Philippe Desmarescaux,**  
President of the Fourvière Foundation



*“A wealth of legacies that are symbols of our civilisation radiate from Fourvière: Gallo-Roman vestiges, mixed with Christian roots, humanitarian movements and the Enlightenment. So many sources of inspiration!*

*The artists chosen to produce this Region of Lights display worked with such enthusiasm. They came from the Auvergne, the Rhône and the Alps. These dozens of professionals, accustomed to major venues around the world, were passionately involved in the creation of this monumental work.*

*Their deep commitment to the success of this ex-voto is a chance for me to thank all those who pass on the very highest standards that lie at the very core of their crafts ... whether at the prestigious Émile Cohl school, the SWing le Lab innovation centre, Ateliers BK, or in the region's conservatories, choirs, orchestras or operas.”*

**Gilbert Coudène,**  
President of the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes company  
« Les Allumeurs de Rêves »

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# THE SHOW

*Five sequences that shed light on the history of Fourvière*



## 1 Lugdunum

The chapel and basilica of Notre-Dame de Fourvière emerge amidst a shower of stars. Lugdunum is revealed and images taken from recent archaeological discoveries on the site are displayed on the façade. Two exceptional finds, never before presented to the general public, are highlighted... and completed by archaeological exhibits from the Lugdunum Museum.



## 2 Birth of the Basilica

Images projected onto the chapel evoke the «Vow of the Aldermen» of 1643, when the city's notables asked Mary for protection from the plague that was raging in Europe.

Two centuries later, in 1870, the Prussians invaded France. The women of Lyon once again asked the Virgin for protection against the invasion of their city.

The eagle, emblem of the Prussian army, fights the lion. Despite France's defeat, Lyon was not invaded by the enemy.

To thank Mary, construction of the basilica began in 1872. Fourvière is therefore an ex-voto, a thanksgiving. The names of the families who contributed funds for the construction are displayed on the façade. The light retraces the architecture of the basilica, revealing the monument as a whole, as designed by architect Pierre Bossan. It was inaugurated in 1896.



### 3 Treasures of Fourvière

The basilica conceals a multitude of treasures, which bear witness to our culture and the richness of our heritage and civilisation. The show highlights the beauty of the stained glass windows, mosaics and paintings. The mosaic fresco in the crypt, representing Saint-James of Compostela, is also presented.



### 4 International reach

Lyon has been the birthplace of many humanist initiatives. The crypt of the basilica bears witness to this openness to the world, with sculptures representing virgins from different countries. The show pays tribute to these virgins as well as to the famous charities, personalities and initiatives that originated in Lyon, such as Pauline Jaricot, Claudine Thévenet, Abbé Pierre and Handicap International.



### 5 8 December, the origin of the Festival of Lights

The final sequence evokes the Festival of Lights, which began in 1852 at Fourvière. The inauguration of the golden statue of Mary, planned for 8 September, had to be postponed to 8 December because of heavy storms. It was then once again thwarted by torrential rain and the people of Lyon replaced the planned fireworks display with thousands of lights in their windows.

Since then, the tradition has continued every 8 December.

At the end of the projection, the word «MERCI» appears on the façade. The applause also extends to the frontline workers who have done so much to help fight Covid 19.

**At the end of the show, the doors of the basilica open and invite the public in to discover the marvellous decor of the basilica and its treasures.**

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# THE REGIONAL PROGRAMME

## The Region of Lights illuminates the sites of Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes

For over 3 years, the Region has been turning the spotlight on its major sites through the Region of Lights. Some thirty towns have already hosted a show. Each time it involves a unique work, created especially for the heritage site, whether a church, palace, castle, château or town hall. Drawing inspiration from the richness of the region's cultural and historical heritage, these sound and light shows produced by the Allumeurs de Rêves team use techniques such as video-mapping, 2D and 3D.



*Technology  
inviting  
young and old  
alike to fall  
under the  
spell of  
light!*



**This winter, in addition to the Fourvière  
Basilica in Lyon, you can see Region of  
Lights shows:**

FROM 3/12 TO 2/01

**GANNAT (03)**

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FROM 4/12 TO 2/01

**MONTÉLIMAR (26)**

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FROM 7/12 TO 2/01

**CHAMONIX (74)**

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FROM 8/12 TO 2/01

**FEURS (42)**

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FROM 10/12 TO 9/01

**VILLEFRANCHE-SUR-  
SAÔNE (69)**





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AUVERGNE - RHÔNE - ALPES 

**FROM 2 DECEMBER 2021  
TO 2 JANUARY 2022**

**EVERY EVENING FROM 6.45 TO 9.45 P.M.\***

*The show takes place on the basilica square,  
with a projection every 20 minutes*

\* December 8 from 9.30 p.m. to 11 p.m.  
No shows on December 24 and 25

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**ACCESS:**

**PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

Funicular F2 (Vieux-Lyon < > Fourvière)

**ON FOOT**

From the Jardins du Rosaire (gardens close at 10.30pm) - From St Paul, take the Montée St Barthélemy and walk up to Fourvière

**BY CAR**

Access up to Montée Decourtray. Drop off only.  
No parking on site.

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More information on: [auvergnerhonealpes.fr](http://auvergnerhonealpes.fr)

*Access to the show is subject to compliance with the health regulations in force.*