



• **Water market**
Once a year, in June, the "marché sur l'eau" (water market) takes place like in the old days: the costumed "hortillons", draw up alongside the quay in their pointed boats filled with fruits and vegetables.



• **Riverside festivities**
In September, there's a weekend full of activities: medieval market, parade in medieval costumes, jousts, concerts, shows, fireworks...

• **Theatres and Cinemas**
You can go and watch a show in the Ciné Saint-Leu, the Maison du Théâtre and Puppet Theatre, right in the heart of the quarter.

Saint-Leu, the little Venice of the North

A very lively quarter

Crossed by branches of the Somme river, the Saint-Leu district dates back to the Middle Ages. At the time, the water and the mills provided the power needed by the weavers, dyers, tanners and millers. Today, Saint-Leu invites you to take a leisurely stroll where your eye will be caught by curious details. Shops and workshops give it an atmosphere that you'll appreciate as you stroll down the old streets. The terraces of cafés and restaurants invite you to come and relax and enjoy their excellent food...

Welcome to the marina for boaters!

Just a stone's throw from the cathedral and restaurants of the Saint-Leu district, between the Hortillonnages floating gardens and the city centre, enjoy the ideal setting of our marina at Port d'Amont, aboard your boat or barge. Here, your floating pontoon will be equipped with three posts offering six connections for water and electricity (2 euros for 4 hours of energy), as well as a sewage pumping station (free).



Amiens < Somme < Hauts-de-France < France

Amiens Metropolitan Tourist Office
greet you from Monday to Saturday 9.30 a.m. to 6.30 p.m.
(6 p.m. October to March) -
and on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 12 noon
and from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.



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Amiens

Focus on Saint-Leu





• **Chés Cabotans d'Amiens**
Discover the world of puppets and attend a show at the puppet theatre at, 31, rue Édouard David.
Tél. : +33 (0)3 22 22 30 90
www.ches-cabotans-damiens.com



1 The Cathedral

The cathedral was built mainly with the help of the "waidiers", who were medieval dyers from Amiens. They made their fortune from the guesde (woad), a dyeing plant that produced the famous Bleu d'Amiens. They are shown in a sculpture on the south wall of the cathedral.

2 The lower town

When you cross the garden of the bishop's palace or if you walk along the street of Metz-l'Évêque, you go from the upper town to the lower town, leaving the Notre-Dame quarter to enter the Saint-Leu quarter.

3 Place du Don

Here you'll discover the oldest houses of the town, called "maisons à pignon" (gabled houses). There's a footbridge to take you across. In the 17th century, the ground floor housed a merchant's stand or a workshop.

4 The Puppet Theater

This theatre illustrates the grand tradition of puppets in Amiens, the "cabotans en picard". Their hero, Lafleur, was born circa 1811 in Saint-Leu. This lively, rebellious, dynamic, independent and resourceful character has a single motto: "eat well, drink well and do nothing!".

5 The Church of St Leu

Saint-Leu comes from the name saint Loup, bishop of Sens who was exiled in the region of Amiens. Although the Saint-Leu church was built in the 15th century, a Roman edifice already existed on this location in the Middle Ages. The church, built according to the plan of aisles with three naves, is worth seeing!



6 University

Traditional brick and contemporary architecture form a harmonious and unexpected blend in the heart of the Saint-Leu quarter. In front of you stands the faculty of science of Université Picardie Jules Verne.

Stroll along the canals

Tour last about 60 minutes



7 The watermill "Passe-avant and Passe-arrière"

These are the last remnants of a time when nearly 25 mills operated in Saint-Leu to grind wheat, and woad leaves, crush the barks and full cloth...

• **Saint Peter park**
Cross the Samarobriva footbridge which spans the Somme and enjoy 22 hectares of greenery. A beautiful pond in a charming pastoral setting, playgrounds: there are so many good reasons to take a break before, perhaps, exploring the Hortillonnages, the floating gardens, just a short distance away.



8 Place Aristide-Briand

Lafleur, the hero of the quarter towers above the place Aristide Briand. From this square, you can see the traditional houses of the quarter. These houses have ground floors covered in weatherboarding and the first storey in cob.

9 Rue Motte

Following the curves of the canal banks, the narrow streets of Saint-Leu are conducive to neighbourhood life. Street names still recall activities from the past: Rue des Archers, des Clairons, passage des Coches...

10 Quai Bélu

A street plaque shows the former name of the quay: rue de la Queue de Vache (Cow's Tail Street). According to tales, it was the name given to the drinking trough where animals were once brought. Today, quai Bélu is one of the liveliest places of the quarter. Its elegant facades add to its charm.



11 Pont du Cange

The pont du Cange is Amiens' oldest bridge: you can still glimpse the vestiges of the fortifications, signs of the old towers. The water sports centre, with its feet in the water recalls the architecture of the "guinguettes" (open-air dance halls).

12 Water market

The "hortillons" (marsh vegetable farmers) and other local farmers meet at the Place Parmentier every Saturday morning to sell their best fresh produce. This outdoor market is aptly named because in the beginning, the "hortillons" brought and sold their produce directly from their boats.

