

A boat ride aboard The Vauban

A report by Captain Quentin Mielle, Leading seaman Shadi Alsayed and Lieutenant Thomas Triponney

On Saturday 6th, we took a tour boat which started next to Parc Micaud and the tourist office. The itinerary of the boat was a loop of the River Doubs around the old city of Besançon.

First, we arrived before a manual tide gate which is classified world heritage by UNESCO. Then, we passed beneath the Citadelle and we had an amazing view from the bow of the boat. After this dreamlike panorama, we entered the tunnel which is 375m long. This tunnel was manually carved in the mountain under the Citadelle. At the end of this tunnel, we passed a second tide gate. Then, we saw the city center and the Battant and Chamar areas. To finish, we continued under the Republic Bridge, and we came very near from the statue of the Minotor, which was spitting water.

The boat is made of two decks: the upper deck with a sort of terrace, and the lower deck which is covered. On this boat, there are two employees: a captain who is also the guide, and another person which helps him.

When we were at the upper deck terrace, we had a better view than when we were downstairs, but it was a little cold, rainy and windy. It could have been better if the weather had been sunny.

We enjoyed this visit of Besançon a lot; it was very convivial and we discovered a new view of Besançon which we didn't know before. Our penfriend really liked it too.

During the trip everyone was chatting and laughing. It was a really nice atmosphere.

Then, we made a picture of the group along the River Doubs but there were so many of us that it was difficult to see all of us!



Inside the boat



Our boat : the upper deck and its terrace



The last picture of the whole group