Why you should choose Besançon

30 thousand students

200 thousand **inhabitants**

90 thousand **emplois**

6 **national** **museums**

165 miles of fibre-optic cables

only **2 hours** by train from Paris, Lyon, Geneva…

200 historical **monuments**

50 sporting events **every year**

€ **2,000** average property price per sq m.

1,000 shops in **the city centre**

200 m² of green spaces **per inhabitant**

2,700 childcare **places**
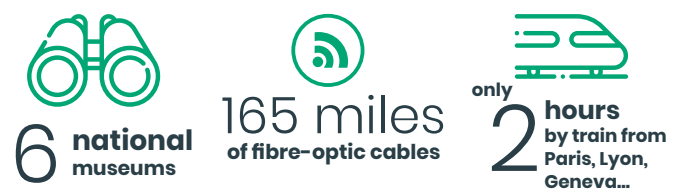
In Besançon, everyone can find **happiness!**

#happinessbooster
boosteurdebonheur.besancon.fr

Welcome to **Besançon,** the best place to live in France*!

besançon boosteur de bonheur

**"Besançon - happiness booster"**, is more than just a phrase, it's a promise

In Besançon,
**everyone
can find**
happiness!

Young & lively

1 in 5 inhabitants is a student!
Besançon rhymes with youth and vitality, with its broad range of higher education and training courses offered by its university, its centre for applied linguistics and its specialist schools. Besançon is also a perfect place for new parents, who will enjoy the wide choice of childcare services on offer here to help them find the right balance between family and working life.

A flourishing network

**2 TGV train stations – one at the heart of the city – with direct links to Paris, Lyon, Strasbourg, Geneva …
Come on, it's easy!**
And in the city too!
Buses, tramways, car-sharing, bike-sharing, cycle paths – everything is geared towards making travelling easy. As for the digital network, Besançon is a thriving hub for people of all skills. A real digital and mobility cluster!
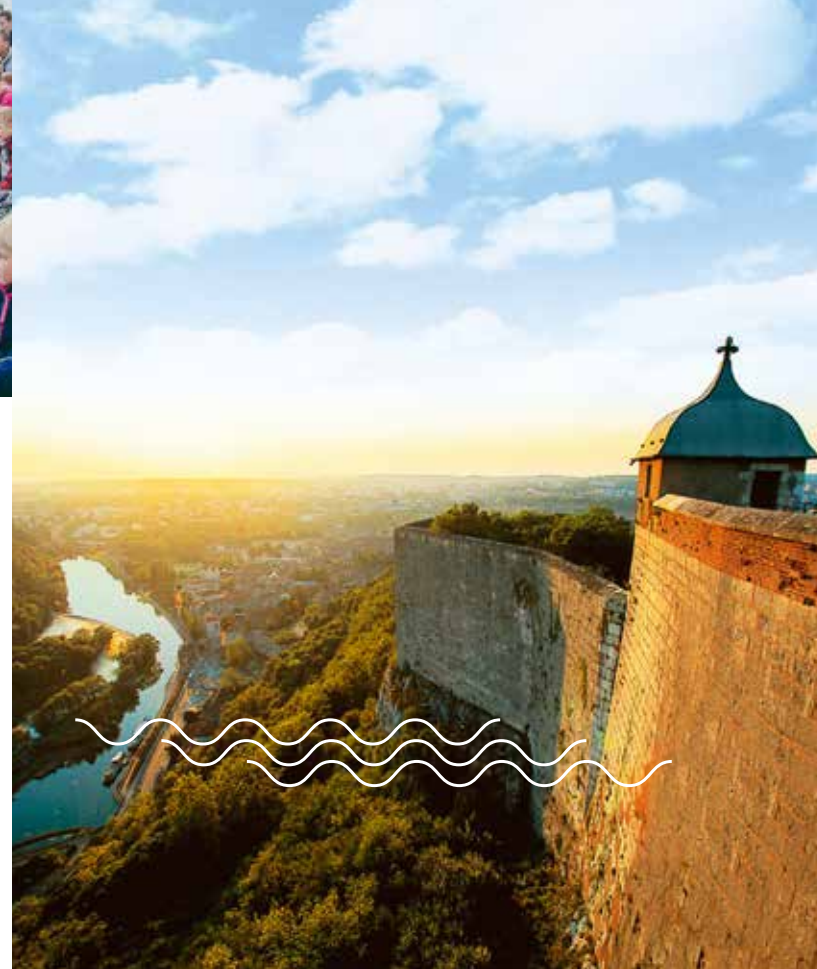
Affordable & attractive

Fancy a lovely apartment in the heart of the city, or a large house on the outskirts? Besançon offers a range of high quality properties at affordable prices. And everything you need to enjoy life! 1,000 shops in the city centre, a covered market, nice restaurants, original boutiques, local farmers' markets, leisure facilities: stadiums, swimming pools, ice rink, a climbing centre, libraries, theatres and more!

A leafy and sporty city!

With a river running through it … the Doubs. The riverbanks stretching out from the heart of the city offer countless places to relax, meet with friends, and run by the waterside.
Parks and gardens, trees on very corner – welcome to the capital of biodiversity! And it's also a paradise for all outdoor lovers, from hikers and trail runners to climbers and more!
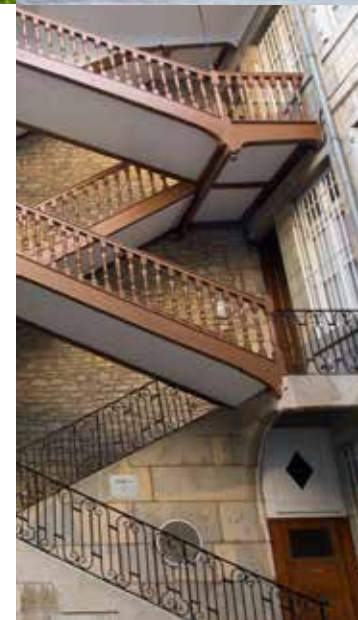
A city steeped in art and history

Besançon has an astounding wealth of heritage and beautiful architecture – its Vauban fortifications and citadel are listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, it's the birthplace of Victor Hugo, Charles Fourier and Pierre-Joseph Proudhon, and it's also the cradle of watchmaking.
Festivals celebrating everything from street art, modern or classical music, books and games, to dance and innovative exhibitions, make Besançon a vibrant city all year round.

A dynamic city

The Besançon area boasts a rich economic fabric with responsive, innovative SMEs and SMIs, high-precision microtechnology (an offshoot of the watchmaking sector), nanotechnology and biomedical companies, more than 30,000 jobs in the tertiary sector and niche openings linked to nearby Switzerland.