

# ROUSSELOY

## VISITS OF THE TOWNS AND VILLAGES ADVISED BY THE TOURIST OFFICE OF PIERRE SUD OISE ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPALITIES

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### **Rousseloy**

The pride of this village mainly bordered by the forest is the title we attribute it: the **“ceinture verte du territoire”** (“The green belt of the territory”).

It is irrigated by plenty of sources gathered at a point called **“Le Rû des Flandres”** from the name of the old hamlet.

**The Saint Martin church** built in the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries presents itself as two attached chapels. It houses a 12<sup>th</sup> century baptismal tank with small columns as roman style capitals. In its bell tower still rings one of the oldest bells of the region.

Its basement is a real underground labyrinth in which stone quarries existed and were converted in mushroom beds at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Before to leave this village, do not miss **its wash house situated in the Clermont Street** and the panorama towards the **“Folle Emprise”** farm.

### **Saint-Martin church**

Rousseloy would only have a chapel that was later considered as a parish under the Saint-Martin’s term. The church spire was **destroyed on June the 19<sup>th</sup> of 1780 by a hurricane**; the bell tower had to be covered by a slate roof. During its session on September the 19<sup>th</sup> of 1819, the Town Council declared: “Having carefully examined the church choir, what can contain about one hundred people (137 souls live in the municipality), then the nave of this church cannot be conserved and must be considered as useless, reparations seem very long and hard to do and we also noticed the circumstances in what we are charged of taxes”. On July the 11<sup>th</sup> of 1824, the Town Council estimated the nave had to be destroyed and the materials had to be sold by auction. Their product would be used to make important reparations of the choir and the demolition of the nave, the refecton of the choir and of the bell tower were carried out during 1825. The **lightning fell on the bell tower on September the 15<sup>th</sup> of 1863**. We had to wait for 1870 for the reparation to be applied. In **1982**, another **hurricane took the weathercock we could never find back**.

### **The Folle Emprise farm or pheasantry**

Folemprise is a gap on the hill in the West of Flanders. The farm we can see today was **formerly a coaching inn where Jeanne d’Arc** (la folle emprise) would have made a break during her walk from Compiègne to Rouen. It could also refer to la **Jacquerie** (Jacques’ Crazy Influence). In the past, this important farm belonged to the **religious women of Sainte-Ursule de Clermont**. Numerous Latin inscriptions like burial vestiges on the surrounding wall show that being out of the cemetery, it can only be those of men and women church.

### **The quarries**

The **Flanders valley** had very old various quarries that come under the Rousseloy municipality: the quarry of the park, the Muraine quarry and two abandoned quarries: one of them is near Folle Emprise, the other one is named Priory quarry. All of these workshops gave a **stone of grain or little stick** that was used in important constructions around. Beauvais’ City Hall is made with stones of Rousseloy. Numerous 18th century texts mention the Rousseloy stone’s excellent quality.

### **Sculptor Hugard’s workshop**

**Hugard** presents you his impressing **sculptures gallery** and other very original creations exposed in exceptional settings.

Indeed, these surprising sculptures are in harmony with the artist’s house.

Large-sized and extremely sensual, these works represent the **1001 beauties and sufferances of the world** putting the visitor in a strong and full of motion atmosphere.

**Walking paths**

Distance: 13.8km

Duration: 3h30

Average difficulty (small difference in height)

Yellow marking (right direction – turn on the left – turn on the right – wrong direction – post)

Departure of the **“Walk along the sources”**

Token n°5 on demand

At the departure of the Rousselay, the raw nature is expecting you. You'll have to get further and further in the woods, you will be impressed by the beauty of vegetal and, if you can keep being discreet, animal species... you will discover extraordinary old stone quarries and discover Mello, a village with a thousand facets.

**Useful addresses:**

**For more information:**

**Opened from Monday to Friday from 9:00 am to 12.30 pm and from 1:30 pm to 5:00 pm**