

Anglais

Le Mystère des Faluns: Embark on a fascinating underground adventure

Enter a hidden world beneath the Earth's surface, where history, geology, and art come together in an extraordinary journey.

Located in Les Perrières, *Le Mystère des Faluns* is a true heritage treasure, recognized as an outstanding environmental site. The underground galleries, standing between 15 and 20 meters high, are made of *falun* — a shelly sand deposited by the sea more than 10 million years ago. Dug out by humans between the 18th and 19th centuries, these cavities have served many purposes: first as mushroom farms, then as dwellings... until they became a unique tourist attraction in the 1980s.

Today, the site comes alive thanks to the magical scenography created by the Lucie Lom agency, offering a truly immersive and artistic experience.

A journey through time and stone

Walk through immense cathedral-like caverns and follow an artistic and poetic trail. Light projections dance across the *falun* walls, while immersive soundscapes tell the story of the site and the people who lived there.

From ancient waters once filled with jellyfish and sharks to the echo of the quarrymen's tools, each room reveals a chapter of the extraordinary history of Les Perrières. Blending science and imagination, *Le Mystère des Faluns* offers an educational and emotionally rich sensory experience.

Plan your visit

- Duration: Around 1 hour
 - Accessibility: Suitable for all
 - Certification: Awarded the French "Qualité Tourisme" label, a guarantee of quality and visitor care
-

TRANSLATION OF THE TEXTS ENGRAVED ON THE ROCK

1-« Il y a 11 millions d'années. »

11 million years ago.

2-« Il y a 11 millions d'années bien avant l'apparition de l'homme régnait un climat subtropical. »

11 million years ago, long before the appearance of Man, the climate was subtropical.

3-« Ici même s'étendait la mer, la mer des faluns recouvrait une partie de la région. »

Right here, the sea stretched out, the sea of Faluns covered part of the region.

4-« La roche qui nous entoure « le falun » est le vestige de la dune sous-marine qui s'est stratifié au rythme des marées en y agglomérant des restes d'animaux. »

The rock that surrounds us, known as « Falun », is the remnant of an ancient underwater dune that formed in layers over time, shaped by the tides and compacted with animal remains.

5-« Les galeries que nous visitons aujourd'hui ont été creusées autrefois par les paysans carriers. Le parcours nous en dévoile le mystère et la majesté. »

The galleries we visit today were once dug out by stone quarrying farmers. The path through them reveals their mystery and majesty.

6-« Il y a 11 millions d'années ici même, s'étendait une savane bordée par la mer. »

11 million years ago, in this very place, there was a savannah bordered by the sea.

7-« La mer des faluns disparaît progressivement laissant derrière elle la dune sous-marine composée des vestiges des vies passées : requins, oursins, baleines. »

The sea of Faluns gradually receded, leaving behind the underwater dune made up of remnants of past life : sharks, sea urchins, whales.

8-« Le falun cristallise la mémoire des restes fossilisés de requins, de baleines, d'oursins, de microscopiques bryozoaires. »

Falun preserves the fossilized memories of sharks, whales, sea urchins, and microscopic bryozoans. These places echo with the memory of the quarrymen who, by extracting falun stone, shaped these caves.

9-« Ces lieux résonnent de la mémoire de ces hommes, les carriers qui, en extrayant la pierre de falun ont façonné ces caves. »

These places echo with the memory of the quarrymen who, by extracting falun stone, shaped these caves.

10-« La carrie où nous sommes résulte d'anciennes chambres d'extraction de pierres à bâtir. La lumière naturelle a encouragé l'installation d'un habitat troglodytique. »

The quarry where we stand is the result of ancient stone-extraction chambers for building material. Natural light later encouraged the development of troglodyte dwellings

Your opinion matters!

Our goal is to offer you an unforgettable experience. To help us improve, we invite you to complete our satisfaction survey. Thank you for your contribution!