



## The Châteaux of Île de France : The Château of Breteuil



Located in the heart of the Chevreuse Valley, between Versailles and Rambouillet, the Château de Breteuil offers a unique experience where historical events and imagination intermix.

Having been continuously added on to and modified since the Middle Ages, it was progressively embellished under the influence of its successive owners, from the fortified residence of the Middle Ages to the harmonious facade of white stone and pink brick.

The Château de Breteuil boasts an impressive string of former residents: three ministers, many ambassadors, a field marshal, a female scientist, a prefect and a few bishops...

Reference to royalty occurs for the first time in 1142. The chateau then belonged to the Le Jay family, then followed by the Desportes, Chanteclerc, Renouard and finally the Breteuil family, from 1917 to today.

The scandal around the Diamond Necklace Affair of the Queen is alluded to in the chateau.

There is even a replica of the necklace which led to Cardinal de Rohan's arrest, by Louis Auguste de Breteuil, and to the unpopularity of Queen Marie-Antoinette.

As it stands today the chateau includes a square courtyard, entirely surrounded by walls and other constructions, lined by moats.

The front includes two corner pavillions (that still exist but have been raised) and a main point of entry, controlled by a drawbridge; in the back of the courtyard, spanning its entire width, stands a large building whose central body has been preserved, without much modification.

The Grévin Museum and Janie and Armand Langlois created characters and scenes derived from the fairytales of Perrault.

In the annexes, seven scenes from Perrault's most famous tales have been reconstituted: Puss in Boots, Little Red Riding Hood, Cinderella, Donkey Skin, Tom Thumb and Bluebeard.

The chateau and parc have been listed Historical Monuments since 1961.

**Directed by Jacques VICHET**

*French version*  
*English version*

A documentary of 52'

High Definition

HD Cam & Digital Betacam 16/9

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