

Nantes

European Green Capital 2013



Natural sanctuaries

The close proximity of the estuary is the reason for the blue and green landscape. Natural, agricultural, viticultural and urban areas are all influenced by minor or major waterways, such as the Loire, natural features for the local population to enjoy.

A TAILORED APPROACH TO NATURE

- > Management plans for unique areas (Petite Amazonie, Bois Saint Louis, l'Îlette wetland, etc.)
- > Conservation plans for protected species (Estuary Angelica, Triangular Club-Rush)
- > An ornithological study in association with organisations such as the LPO
- > A new type of public space, urban forests: 1,400 ha of woodland space and hedgerows



Black-headed night heron, *Nycticorax nycticorax*, a nocturnal bird, it lives near marshes and river banks with dense vegetation.

Christian König



Snake's head fritillary, *Fritillaria meleagris*, a plant that lives in wet meadows and water-logged pasture land.

Christian König

Biodiversity

4 Natura 2000
areas protected on a European level
(12.9% of the total land area)

47 protected plants
127 rare or threatened plants
19 protected animals
15 rare or threatened animals

4 IBAs (Important Bird Area)
33 ZNIEFFs (Natural Areas of Ecological Faunistic and Floristic Interest)

Over 250 km of major waterways
15,500 ha of natural landscape of which 9,500 ha are wetlands
15,000 ha of agricultural land

A solid network and the prospect of soft transport

The history, layout and future of a city are closely linked to its transport. Over 30 years, Nantes has developed a public transport network which spreads across its 24 districts and links the north and south banks of the Loire.

- > 7 new Chronobus routes with the potential to add 100,000 new passengers by 2013
- > 3 tram routes and 1 guided bus route
- > 2 tram train lines in the urban area:
Nantes Vertou Clisson in 2010.
Nantes Nort-sur-Erdre - Châteaubriand in 2012.
- > Full accessibility for those with reduced mobility by 2015.
- > 19 collection points and 25 Marguerite car club vehicles
- > 355km of cycle paths
- > 880 bicycles for hire available from 102 collection points
- > 15 carpool areas and 5 in the P+R car parks.

The prospect of soft transport:

A "city-centre plan" (2011-2014) to reduce traffic and give priority to soft transport.

A bike plan for 2010-2014 with an investment of 40 million Euros.

Walking and cycling calms down the rhythm of the city. Here, by the side of the Loire, they are in unison with the tranquil and sweeping step of the Elephant, a creation of La Machine.



Patrick Garçon

transport

600,000 inhabitants

2 million journeys per day

The Navibus

It crosses the Loire in 6 minutes and connects the old fishing village of Trentemoult, Rezé, to Nantes. Here it is coming into the city centre.

Patrick Garçon

Making cities the place for solutions

In Europe and the world, Nantes Métropole is one of the areas most committed to the fight against climate change.

CITY AMBASSADOR

On a world level,

- > **it chairs** the Climate working group (formed with Manaus, Dakar and Durban) of the United Cities and Local Government network (UCLG) and also takes part in climate negotiations at the United Nations.

On a European level,

- > **it co-chairs, with Copenhagen,** the working group on climate change in Euro cities

LOCAL ACTION: HERE, NOW, TOGETHER.

Since 2007, Nantes Métropole has had a Climate Plan.
Its aim: to half greenhouse gas emissions by 2025.

To be effective, the Climate Plan relies on **three factors for success:**

- > Exemplary internal administration,
- > Public policy (transport, housing, urban development, etc.),
- > The mobilization of all development players using an original organisational approach.

The Atelier Climat and its 150 households (June 2010 to June 2011) Its purpose: to understand how to support and encourage residents to reduce their CO₂ emissions.



Patrick Garçon

climate

More than
70% of greenhouse gas emissions
come from urban areas

For its Climate Plan, Nantes Métropole is using

A scientific and technical consultancy group with members from local universities and higher education institutions, etc.

Subject groups formed with institutions, associations, public and private operators to exchange good practices and to create local initiatives.

The 600,000 residents: from the Atelier Climat's recommendations to residents, new solutions will allow everyone to reduce their impact on the climate.

European Green Capitals

«European Green Capital» is an award recently created by the European Commission. Its aim is to recognise the willingness and ability of a city to:

- > limit and reduce its environmental impact
- > improve the quality of life of its citizens.

12 evaluation criteria:

1. Climate
2. Transport
3. Green spaces
4. Land use
5. Biodiversity
6. Air quality
7. Noise pollution
8. Waste management
9. Water
10. Waste water treatment
11. Environmental management
12. Communication

European Green City winners

2010> Stockholm	>> 800,000 inhabitants
2011> Hamburg	>> 1.8 million inhabitants
2012> Vitoria-Gasteiz	>> 240,000 inhabitants
2013> Nantes (Metropolitan area)	>> 600,000 inhabitants

Nantes Métropole met all twelve of the selection criteria. Its strengths include: biodiversity, transport and climate.

2013 will be the year when Nantes gets a chance to get its residents and European and local partners interested in sustainable development in original and exciting ways.

Cities recognised for their high environmental standards and good quality of life.

Aérofloral 1, the enigmatic flying plant, chartered by La Machine, landed at the Place Royale in Nantes, during the Sustainable Development Week in April 2010.

