THE MAISON DU PARC ET DU GEOPARK
A SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT HUB

Welcome to the Maison du Parc and Geopark in Wast, headquarters of the Cross-Channel Geopark.

This historic site has been carefully renovated to become a model of sustainable development. The project demonstrates how heritage buildings can be preserved and modernised while reducing environmental impact and supporting the ecological transition.

A key objective of the renovation was to protect and enhance the site's architectural heritage. Historic features were restored using traditional materials and techniques that respect the character of the original buildings, while improving comfort and energy performance to meet modern standards.

Environmental responsibility guided every stage of the project. Wherever possible, existing materials were reused, recycled or repurposed, helping to reduce waste and conserve resources. The renovation prioritised bio-based, recycled and locally sourced materials, including regional timber, earth, straw, hemp, flax and recycled textile insulation. New buildings were constructed using timber-frame techniques and bioclimatic design principles that maximise natural light, solar gain and ventilation.
The renovated buildings now benefit from high-performance insulation, abundant natural daylight, energy-efficient ventilation systems and a renewable woodchip heating network. Together, these measures significantly reduce energy consumption and carbon emissions while providing a comfortable indoor environment throughout the year.

The project also places strong emphasis on biodiversity. Existing habitats have been preserved and enhanced through the planting of native species, the creation of a pond and the installation of dedicated nesting and shelter spaces for bats, birds and other wildlife. These actions contribute to strengthening local ecosystems and increasing the site's ecological value.

Today, the Maison du Parc and Geopark serves as a living demonstration site for eco-renovation, ecological construction, renewable energy, biodiversity enhancement and circular economy principles. It shows how heritage conservation, innovation and environmental responsibility can work together to create a resilient and sustainable future for rural areas.

Take a walk through the buildings and around the site and keep an eye out for QR codes along the way!