

19 Come closer to the lake. You should be able to see Geneva's famous water fountain, the Jet d'Eau, in the distance. Can you fill in the right figures?

7 - 16 - 600 - 200 - 1 - 1891 - 250 - 140

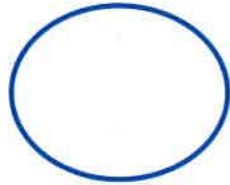
Created in _____ to celebrate _____ years of the Swiss Confederation, this famous symbol of Geneva shoots water to _____ metres above the lake. Its output is _____ litres of water per second. At entry, the water is projected at _____ km/h, and the mass of water held suspended in the air is _____ tonnes. _____ drop of water takes _____ seconds from the nozzle to the moment it falls into the lake.

➡ Turn round and look at the *Maison de Ville*. This beautiful dwelling is a former hospice.

20 Thanks to its emblazoned shutters, you'll know Coppet's official colours: **blue** and **white**.

Look up to the to the roof to find Coppet's official symbol.

Draw it here:



21 Look at the dome-shaped bell tower on the next-door church. It dates from the Baroque period (1600-1750).

What unusual material are the roof tiles made from?

- painted copper
- treated chestnut wood
- rose gold



➡ As you leave the gardens, notice on your right the gothic windows on the Mézières tower.

➡ At the exit, you can see the museum of Old Coppet opposite, a fine example of a typical bourgeois residence of the 18th and 19th centuries.



22 It contains an unusual exhibit. Note down all the pink letters you will have noticed by now in your booklet to reveal what it is.

23 At n° 75, you will find the *Maison de l'Abbé*, the Abbot's house. In the right-hand wall on the street, you can see the remains of a former alcove. What did it used to contain?

turnstile - communicate - a - with -
the - to - monks

24 Admire the magnificent wood-workmanship of the next door you come to; dating from the 15th century, it is the oldest surviving example in Romandie (Suisse romande). This is the door to the protestant church (former convent chapel). Its carved decorative motif is typical of the Early Middle Ages:

- linenfold
- cottonfold
- silkfold

➡ Enter the church by the next doorway. This former Dominican church became a protestant place of worship after the Reformation.

➡ Walk up the central aisle as far as the little floor tiles, which mark the site of the former roodscreen, which separated the choir stalls from the nave of the church. The priest could access it directly through a door high up in the wall.

25 When the folding seats in the wooden choir stalls were raised, the monks would lean on this carved shelf or 'misericord'. Look for the symbol on the second misericord to the left against the wall; why was it used?

- To remind the monks that many of Jesus' disciples were fishermen
- The scallop shell or 'coquille St Jacques' is a symbol of St James' pilgrimage to Compostela in Spain, whose route passes through Coppet.
- Scallops used to be fished in Lake Geneva

➡ In the right-hand chapel, you can see a beautiful black marble table, two armchairs donated by Necker, an alcove for storing blessed communion wine and a "monument to filial piety".

26 What decorative element in this chapel symbolizes eternity?

My first rhymes with a pronged garden tool
My second is consuming
My third is neither his nor hers
My fourth is to possess
My fifth sounds like a story
My whole symbolises eternity

➡ Come back outside the church.

➡ On the other side of the road, you will see a very beautiful red house, formerly the *Hôtel de l'Ange*, or *Angel House*, with windows in the flamboyant Gothic style.

27 As you can see from looking at this house, in the Middle Ages...

- houses did not have windows
- houses were painted
- houses were made of wood

➡ Cross the street and turn around.

Look up to find when this Dominican convent was built:

➡ Walk up *rue du Perron*.

On your right, you should be able to catch a glimpse of the footbridges which span *rue Froide* (Cold street), formerly known as *rue Punaise* (Bedbug street) because the town's sewage used to be tipped down it.

You will notice that this street becomes an alleyway beyond *place du Four* (Oven square). It also used to run off to the left before this beautiful 18th century house was built. It formed a main road linking the ramparts from one side of town to the other.

➡ Keep walking up the street.

28 A "perron" signifies the main entrance of a house with front doorsteps leading up to it. At which house numbers can you see an example of this?

➡ Turn left at the top of the street and walk back down *rue des Murs* (Wall street) as far as the wooden-fronted house with ironwork balconies.

29 This former inn, built around 1858, has been successively named after the castle (*château*), the station (*gare*) and the chestnut trees (*marronniers*) which line the street – but in which order?

- café de la Gare, café des Marronniers, then café du Château
- café du Château, café de la Gare, then café des Marronniers
- café des Marronniers, café de la Gare, then café du Château

➡ At no 8 *rue des Murs*, notice the houses set back from the street.

30 Take a look at this original plan of the fortified town of Coppet in 1660; you can see that these houses are built on the line of the old



(clue: see question 9)

➡ Walk on down the street. At the corner of *Grand-Rue* (main street), cross over towards *place des Ormes* (Elm square), and take a look at *Government House* and the typical Savoy customs houses on your left.

31 Since the Middle Ages and right up to the 19th century, Coppet levied a tax on all merchandise in transit. Scales were used to prevent fraud by weighing:

- souls
- carts
- the pros and the cons

➡ Walk to the end of the jetty.

32 Taking inspiration from this magnificent view over Coppet, what motto can you come up with for the commune?

Well done, you've reached the end of the trail. You are now privy to all of Coppet's secrets.

Thanks go to the local residents who helped make this trail guide possible.

Source: *Coppet, history and architecture*, Monique Bory

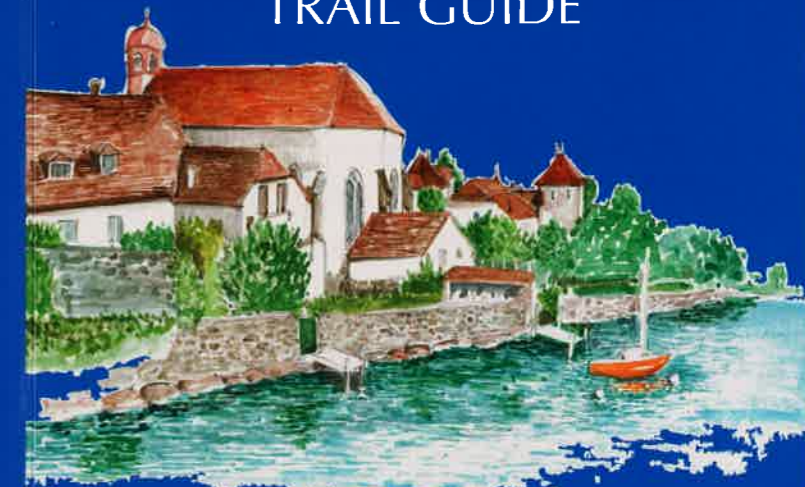
This complimentary trail guide is available at Coppet Tourist Office, *Grand-Rue* 65, CH-1296 Coppet www.coppet.ch

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COPPET

TRAIL GUIDE



You are about to find out all about Coppet on this 90 minute walk. The name Coppet first made its appearance in 1299. This new town was built on a key communication route in the Middle Ages intentionally, an important passage from the Jura towards the west of the Swiss Plateau. It was both a military stronghold and a town of refuge.

➡ Our trail begins in front of the gatehouse at n° 52 *route Suisse* (Swiss Road), at the entrance to the large driveway of Coppet Castle.



1 Along the trail, you will come across the details in the photos below. Look for them as you go along and note the question number at or after which you saw them.



n° n° n° n°

This avenue was created by Auguste de Staël, son of Madame de Staël. It leads to the palace which was bought in 1784 by Jacques Necker, Louis XVI's finance minister. Germaine de Staël, his daughter, stayed here occasionally to escape the French Revolution, before being sent into exile by Napoleon in 1803 for her controversial and influential opinions. She then settled in Coppet.

2 Come closer and look between the first two plane trees on the right:

I am both French and Swiss.

I am crescent-shaped.

3 cantons border my banks.

Who am I?

➡ Continue as far as the 10th plane tree on the right.

3 Protected by the Jura mountain range, ideally situated on the Lake road between France and Italy to the south and Germany to the north, and easily accessible thanks to the lake and the Rhone, the site of Coppet was highly:



Decode the semaphore to find the answer:

A = E = I =
S = T = R = G = C =

➡ Carry on to the next bench.

4 Germaine de Staël, a strong personality and influential intellectual, received a considerable number of friends in Coppet. Thinkers, intellectuals, statesmen, all enjoyed coming here to exchange ideas and debate their opinions. Out of this list, who never came here?

- Chateaubriand
- Napoléon
- Benjamin Constant
- JULIETTE RÉCAMIER

The author Stendhal later referred to this intellectual adventure as "the General States of European Opinion".

➡ Continue along the avenue.

5 You will see hidden in the grove to your left the Necker family tomb (closed to the public), which consists of two black marble cisterns filled with alcohol. Why did Madame Necker request this?



Germaine de Staël rests in peace at her parents' feet.

➡ At the end of the avenue, you will see a house on your left which Adèle de Staël, Germaine de Staël's daughter-in-law, had converted into a village school. Cross the road and take a closer look at the palace.

6 In the 13th century, there was a fortress here. In the 17th century, the Barons of Coppet rebuilt the palace in classical style; you are looking at the western façade.

The main façade and the grand entrance court face the Jura. Why does the palace turn its back on the lake?

- the lake was dry
- the lake was polluted
- the lake was haunted.

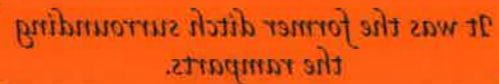
➡ Look at the beautiful building on your right, which was built in 1723.



7 What used to be kept here? Circle the right answer.



8 Just to your right, you will notice that the road lies at a lower level than the gardens. Why is this?



➡ Leave the garage on your right and enter the village by rue du Greny.



The two stone posts mark the original village gateway.



9 Immediately to the right at n° 7, you can see some carving in the wall at the top of the façade. What is it?

Remains of the former: R O O O O O O

Clue: they protected the town

➡ Follow alongside the castle wall as far as the Greny, the little canal. To the right, this canal continues as far as the large house further down. It used to be a watermill, one of many which could be found along the Greny.

10 What did "Kopé" mean in the local dialect?

- co-operative of molasse stone quarriers
- cup of tea
- the blade of a watermill wheel

➡ Carry on to the corner of the palace and look up to the different windows.

11 Cross off the odd one out of these statements about the windows:

- They opened onto Madame de Staël's former bedroom.
- The stained glass is in the Gothic style.
- They decorate a catholic chapel.
- They let light into a gymnasium.



➡ Walk on as far as rue des Belles-Filles (Daughter-in-laws' street) on the right and turn down it.

➡ On the left you will see one of the fountains which was installed in the commune in _____ before running water arrived in 1902.

12 At n° 8, observe the pretty wooden balcony and complete this photo:



13 On your left, you are walking alongside the old wall of the former:



➡ At the end of this wall, continue down the road taking:

10 GIANT steps forwards
4 skips
turn around
and finally, 10 ants' steps backwards

14 From here, we can see all sorts of details reminding us of the history and daily life of Coppet. To find them, complete the following text with these words:

FLOWER - ORANGE - FOOTBRIDGES - DRINKS - OVEN

There used to be a communal _____ on this square. In the Middle Ages, the houses along the main street reached their gardens by _____.

The princes of Dohna, governors of the town of _____, gave their name to the eponymous hotel; you were only allowed to sell _____ there. The Greny, now an underground stream, flows beneath the _____ shop.



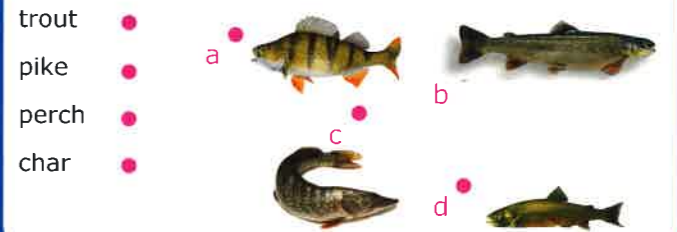
➡ Carry on as far as the Stop sign. Cross over and take the little lane la ruelle de la Canebière (Hemp lane), until you reach place du Lac (Lake square).

15 There has been a little harbour here from as long ago as the 14th century, largely because of the quarries beyond the ramparts on the banks of the lake (now flooded).

Right up to the 19th century, the town of Coppet continued to expand, particularly thanks to the business surrounding this raw material, which was widely used in the construction of the town. What is it called? Cross off the Ws and Xs:

WMXWOXWXLWAWXSXSWWEX

16 Coppet was also a fishing port. Can you recognize the different types of fish which live in the lake? Join the dots.



➡ Retrace your footsteps and turn down the main street in the direction of the church tower.

Look into the flower shop as you go past, to see the drinking fountain supplied direct with water from the Greny.

➡ Stop at the gate to n° 63.

17 This 15th century manor house was a farm until the 1970s, the fief of Mézières, which belonged to the Quisard family. What is inside the hexagonal tower?

- a staircase
- a Copétan
- a prison

➡ Advance to the next doorway.

18 Above the doorway, you can see Mr Quisard's coat of arms, 3 horizontal stripes, next to his wife, Marie-Madeleine's. You should be able to guess her family name:

- Marie-Madeleine Pêcheur (fisher)
- Marie-Madeleine Chasseur (hunter)
- Marie-Madeleine Coiffeur (hairdresser)

➡ You have a wonderful viewpoint here of the arcade, some of which date back to the 14th century.

➡ Continue as far as the Tourist Office, enter through the archway and make your way to the gardens behind the Maison de Ville, the Townhouse.

