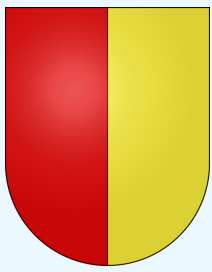


# *History of Aubonne*

## Key dates

- 1001 Mention of the first Lords of Aubonne in the plea of Eysins
- 1189 Mention of a locality around the castle
- 1234 Granting of the Franchises of Aubonne (delimitation of rights between the Lords and the citizens). Aubonne obtains the status of a town
- 1236-1242 Construction of the castle tower (keep)
- 1536-1798 Occupation of the Pays de Vaud by Bern
  - 1670 Transformation of the castle by Baron Tavernier. Reunion of the former and latter castles - repair of the keep
- 1701-1798 Bernese bailiwick of Aubonne
  - 1798 Vaud Canton Revolution (24 January)
- 1801-1802 Construction of the new market hall on the Place du Marché
- 1803-2007 Aubonne becomes the capital of the district of the same name
  - 1835 The castle becomes communal property and is used for schools, prisons and the court (20 June)
  - 1847 Construction of the new road linking Aubonne to Lavigny
  - 1853 Establishment of a Federal Powder Magazine in Aubonne
  - 1873 Foundation of the Aubonne Infirmary
  - 1901 Classification of the castle as a historical monument
  - 1948 Invention of Velcro by Georges de Mestral
  - 1970 Development of the Aubonne industrial and commercial zone
- 1980-1985 Complete restoration of the castle (discovery of the 1677 paving, Persian carpet)
- 2008 Creation of the district of Morges, Aubonne becomes the city-centre of the region
- 2011 Aubonne and Pizy merge





# History of Aubonne

## Historical figures of the town



**Jean-Baptiste Tavernier**  
Baron of Aubonne  
from 1670 to 1685



**Henri Duquesne**  
Baron of Aubonne  
from 1685 to 1701



**Jean-Daniel Boinod**  
(1756-1842)  
Bookseller and printer  
in Aubonne  
Inspector of the reviews  
of the Italian army



**Louis-Marc Bégoz**  
(1784-1859)  
Colonel - Judge in  
Aubonne



**Alexandre Yersin**  
(1863-1943)  
Physician and  
bacteriologist, born in  
Aubonne



**Georges de Mestral**  
(1907-1990)  
Inventor of Velcro  
Establishment of his  
company in  
Aubonne

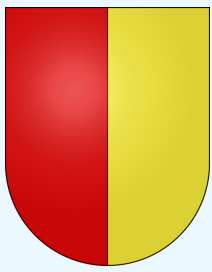
## Aubonne Castle

Successively owned by the Lords of Aubonne, the House of Savoy, the Lords of Grandson and the Committee of Gruyère, the building, whose foundations date back to the 12th century, remained a medieval castle until the mid-17th century.

After Jean-Baptiste Tavernier and Henri Duquesne, and from 1701 onwards, 17 Bernese bailiffs took over the castle, which became the property of the State of Vaud on 24 January 1789. Then, in 1835, it became the property of the commune of Aubonne, which installed classes and prisons there.

Today it houses the secondary school.





# *History of Aubonne*

## **Economic development of the town**

For centuries, agriculture and viticulture have been the main resources of the people of Aubonne.

Creation of the Aubonne Savings Bank in 1837.

In 1853, a federal powder factory was set up in Aubonne, under the authority of the Federal Military Department. Privatised in 1997, this company continues to produce gunpowder, explosives and fireworks.

Created in 1894, the Société électrique des Forces de l'Aubonne (SEFA) is a company whose twofold mission was to build and operate the tramway, which has been replaced since 1952 by a bus service (ARCC), and to develop an electrical network.

In 1906, 13 winegrowers founded an independent winery in Aubonne, the Aubonne Winegrowers' Association (AVA). The wines produced by this cellar are now produced by the Cave de la Côte in Tolochenaz.

Inaugurated in 1968 under the name of "Regional Wine Tasting Centre", the Caveau du Château presented the wines of regional winegrowers.

Things changed in the second half of the 20th century: the allocation of part of the municipal territory to industrial and craft zones allowed a sustainable diversification of commercial companies (Ikea in 1977) and companies active in biotech (Hypolab in 1980).

There are many small and medium-sized business that make up a varied economic fabric.

## **Swiss cultural property of national importance**

- Aubonne Castle
- House of Aspre and its orangery
- Town Hall and Grenette
- Bougy-St-Martin Manor and Riding School
- La Vaux Powder Magazine