

BALBIGNY

Why don't you visit Balbigny ?

Balbigny is located in **Loire**, in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region. There are **3,000 inhabitants** living in Balbigny and they are called "Balbignois". This is Gilles Dupin who is the mayor of Balbigny. The city is so **rural** and extremely **calm**. The surface area of Balbigny is 16,98 km².



- The history of Balbigny is so interesting and it is such a beautiful little city.
- For sporty people, there are a lot of walks in the forest or in the fields.
- And we can see fish in the river Loire, this is so relaxing !

The Tile Factory

Messrs Beaujeu and Ayel contributed to opening the tilerie at the end of the **19th century**. This tile factory made **bricks** and **tiles**. The tuilerie **closed in 1937** because of a lack of raw material. The tower is now used by **firefighters** to dry the pipes of the fire hoses.



The wells

How about seeing the wells ? The seasons are warmer and the water is rare. The wells can be full thanks to phreatic table. It's more **ecological**, and **less expensive**. Before, we used the wells a lot but now we use them **for the planet** and the future. On your way, there are a lot of wells, but they are not all used anymore.

The milestone

Now, let's discover the milestone which is next to the church, in the city-center. In the **ancient Rome**, milestones were road markers made of stone. It **showed the distance** on main Roman roads in Italy and the Roman provinces. The milestone was installed in Balbigny in **1890**. It determined the fourth Gallic league of 2,222 meters on the Roman road between Feurs and Roanne.



The altar table

Why not visit the altar table with a protruding granite rim ? It was used, to retain the sacred wine in **the VII and VIIIth century**. In 1889, the table supported a stone cross.

The church

The church of Saint-Taurin de Balbigny dates from the **19th century** and was **restored in 1998**. Before it was rectangular with a tower but in 1844, a nave and aisles were added to it. The bell tower was raised by 4 meters in July 1934.



The Town Hall

And why don't you see the Town Hall? It is an **important place** for the inhabitants to tell about their needs. The **mayor** is called **Gilles Dupin**, he was re-elected for 6 years in 2020.

The statue of the Republic

Balbigny is **one of 6 or 7 cities in France** to have a statue of the Republic. In France, there are many war memorials but very few villages have a statue of the Republic. This statue was inaugurated by the local council of Mr. Dussap, on **July 14, 1889**. It weighs **673 kilos**. This monument comes from "the foundry of the construction workshops" of Tusey in Meuse.



Zoom city-center:



Created by

Callie Philippon, Elina Carbon, Victor Villard

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photo by C. Philippon and E. Carbon

Map

40 min

