



Picture © Eugénie Baccot

FRANCE 

Heritage Interpretation & Innovative Practices



Partners:     

EPALE

Heritage Interpretation & Innovative Practices

PROJECT



NAME OF THE PROJECT

Heritage Interpretation & Innovative Practices



AIM

To rethink access to culture



TARGET GROUP

Adults working in cultural field



WEB PAGE

www.abbayeauxdames.org/en



COORDINATOR AND PARTNERS

- **FRANCE:** *Abbaye aux Dames, la Cité Musicale (Saintes);*
- **CROATIA:** *Grad Dubrovnik;*
- **DENMARK:** *Skanderborg Municipality;*
- **GERMANY:** *Alden Biesen, Stadt;*
- **ITALY:** *Veliko Tarnovo Municipality;*
- **SPAIN:** *University of Girona, Island Council of Mallorca.*

This project offered an offbeat discovery of the town of Saintes and its heritage. Starting from the square in front of Abbaye aux Dames, an iconic monument built in the 11th century, this guided tour was led by local residents who offered visits of their neighbourhoods using new methods of discovery. These methods were inspired by their trips in Europe made thanks to the Erasmus+ programme. Since social exchange is as important as heritage appreciation of the visited place, the guides planned an off the beaten track tour of the city.

According to the European project manager of the Abbaye, "It is important to be able to go beyond the emblematic figure of the guide whose approach, not necessarily inclusive, does not always make it possible to create dialogue with the public." He also adds: "We wanted to imagine new interactions to get out of the classic tour format with the guide, the one who has the knowledge and the participant - the one who receives."

During the tour, participants used mirror to express their feelings. The interpretive walk continued under the arch of Germanicus, on the banks of the Charente river. Both young and old people were encouraged to draw an element of the landscape. The matter was not producing art, but laying down on the paper its feelings before sharing it with the group.



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