



## Quimper Tourist Office - Gregory.

Rob Now I am in the very busy Office de Tourisme in Quimper speaking with Gregory - hi!

Gregory Hi!

Rob Could you tell us quickly what is there for visitors to see in Quimper?

Gregory Well, Quimper is a real nice city, it's the capital of Cornouaille, and there are 3 distinctive areas of history. The three areas are in the old town: there is around the cathedral - one area is around the cathedral then the other area is in Locmaria where the pottery was born 300 years ago. And the third area is the area of the Duke of Cornouaille. So these three areas are making the old town of Quimper which is cobblestoned streets and timber-framed houses of 17, 18th century, it's really really nice country.

Rob And there's something special about the cathedral of St. Corentin, what's special about that?

Gregory Well the cathedral was built in 16th century and is one of the most beautiful in, in Brittany. Is really typical of the Brittany art, gothic art of Brittany. And now she was rebuilt in the 16th century and she is brand new since 10 years ago. And she's really beautiful cathedral.

Rob I understand that there's a... the knave isn't straight.

Gregory No, it's not straight because it was close to the river it's quite a muddy area...

Rob A muddy area.

Gregory And when they built the cathedrals they find a rock, a big rock. To build the cathedral it have to make the - I don't know the word in English but le fondation...

Rob The foundations.

Gregory ..... on this rock and the rock wasn't straight on the bottom, with the bottom.

Rob OK and the façade, which is very impressive, there's a statue of a man on a horse. What's that?

Gregory Yes. That's the King Gradelon, it was a legend. And the King Gradelon was the king who built the city. And the name is ... the name of the horse is Morvar.

Rob It's strange because it's a legend and it's on a religious building

Gregory Yes, it's a legend but maybe it's true as well. It could be true.

Rob It could be true, yeah indeed. So the three areas in the town are the old parts of the town...

Gregory That's the old part of the city, yes it is.

Rob It was a very rich city

Gregory It was very rich because it was the first harbour ) in the Middle Age for the trade of the pottery.

Rob Ok, the pottery trade.

Gregory The pottery trade.

Rob So the richness of the city was based on the pottery. Is it possible still to travel on the river, down the river?

Gregory Yes you can do that in Ap... since the month of April to September from Benodet or from Quimper. It depends on the tide; the departures depend on the tide if it's high or not. And you can do the full trip every day in between 1st April to the end of September.

Rob Now, for visitors in the summer, this coming summer in June and July are there special events happening in Quimper that people should know about?

Gregory The Fête de Cornouaille. It's between the 21st and 27th of July each year in the end of July and it's one of the most important festivals in the area of traditional music and dances with traditional costumes and music during 6, 6 days.

Rob It's a special event, a big event.

Gregory That's the biggest event in Quimper.

Rob And otherwise there are other events happening in the summer?

Gregory There are other events in the summer. In the beginning of August is the summer musical of Cornouaille it's a festival of classic music during 10 days. They have one concert per day in the cathedral, in the church and in the theatre of Cornouaille by classical music.

Rob Okay, so people who are interested in coming to the concerts can find information, where can they find information?

Gregory At the tourist office and we sell tickets for the concerts.

Rob Okay, that's great. That's great. Thank you very much indeed for your time Gregory.

Gregory Thank you.

Rob I know this office is very busy and people can hear

Gregory Lots of people.

Rob Lots of action, lots of activity and not much staff (No!) So I appreciate your time, thank you very much indeed.

Gregory Thank you

