

CULTURAL HERITAGE, LA CHAUX-DE-FONDS

THE CHIME

Sounding, moving, colourful and luminous, the MIH Chime offers a spectacular interpretation of the measurement of time. Its monumental stainless-steel structure houses an ingenious system combining horology, mechanics, music and light.

Every fifteen minutes, its 24 tubular bells ring out while 12 movable slats come to life in time with the music. The melodies change with the seasons, while the moving elements also change colour to harmonise with the surrounding natural environment. At nightfall, spotlights add another dimension to the display.

A digital clock integrated into the work indicates the hours, minutes and seconds and can be read from up to 150 metres away. Behind this imposing installation lies a precise mechanism: a master clock synchronises the system, while electronic programming controls the various elements of the display.

Installed in 1980 to complete the architectural ensemble of the International Museum of Horology, the Chime is now one of the emblematic features of the Museums Park. An original work that, every quarter of an hour, reminds visitors of the special relationship La Chaux-de-Fonds has with time.

GOOD TO KNOW

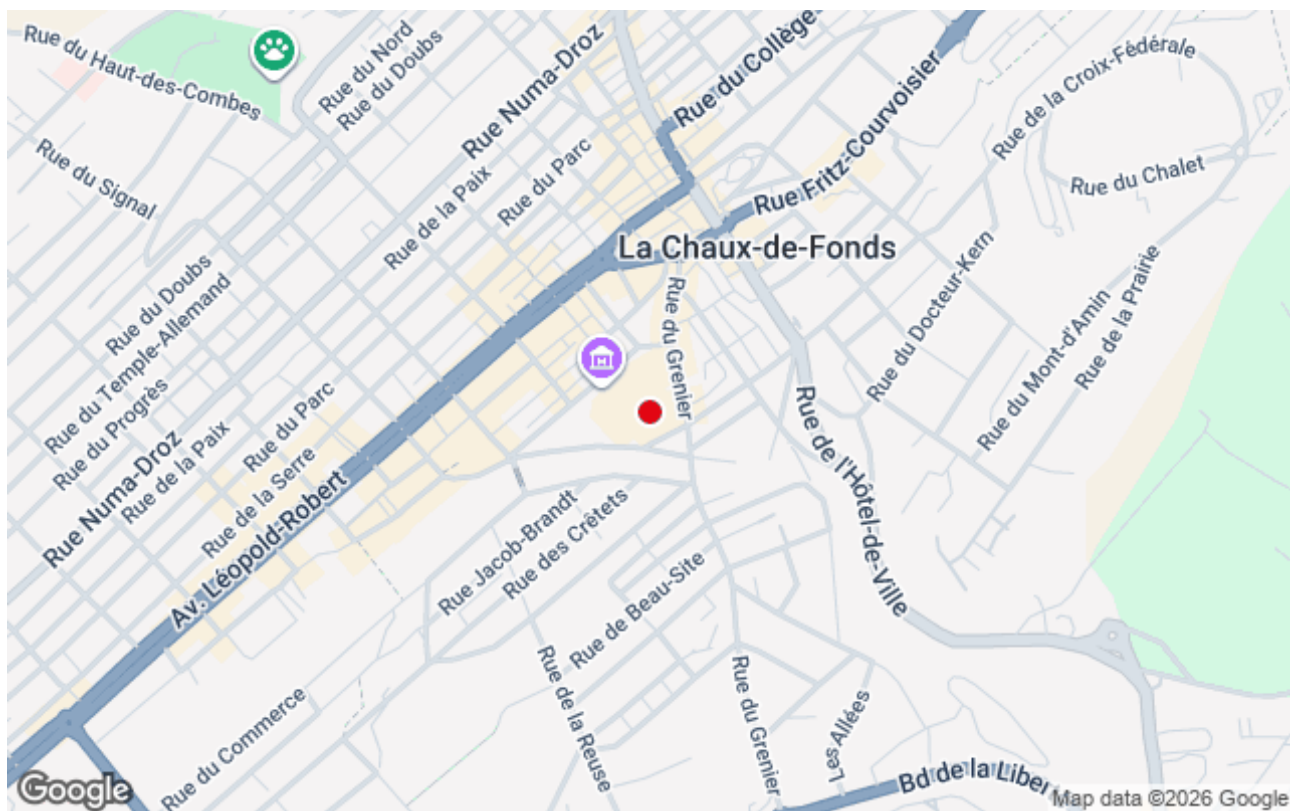
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