

The “Parcours Rachi”, a surprising cultural journey

In 2019, Aube en Champagne joined the European Cultural Route of Jewish Heritage as the birthplace of an intangible heritage that is universally recognized and shared by Jewish communities around the world, thanks to the legacy of Rashi.

Created in 2022, the “Parcours Rachi” is an artistic and memorial itinerary built around three murals (permanently and freely accessible), offering visitors the opportunity to discover the history of medieval Jewish communities in the Aube. It is an integral part of The Jewish Medieval Route of Rashi in Champagne, alongside the Maison Rashi, the Rashi Institute, and the former Jewish quarter in Troyes. Books and the written word are the guiding threads of this journey.

Three murals at the heart of village life

In Dampierre, Ramerupt, and Lhuître, three unexpected works of art draw inspiration from Rashi (1040–1105) and his disciples, major Jewish scholars of our region. They highlight their deep connection to the land of Champagne.

A participatory adventure

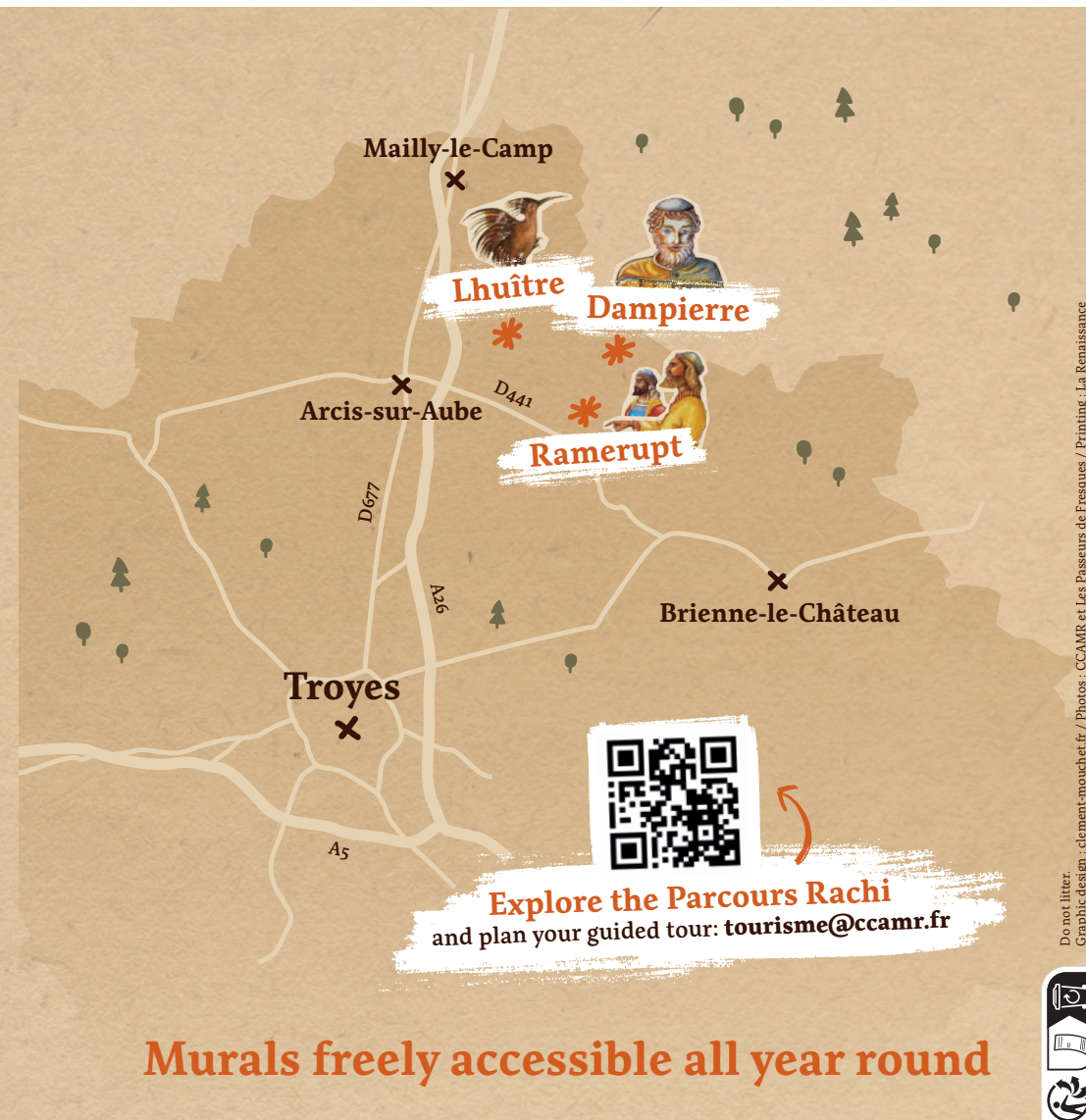
Conceived by three artists and brought to life with the support of the association *Les Passeurs de Fresques* and the involvement of local residents, these murals reveal a chapter of history waiting to be rediscovered, set in the prestigious era of the Counts of Champagne. This collective civic project enhances the appeal and vitality of our villages.

Explore this trail

to gain a deeper understanding of
this universal intangible heritage
and its role in local, national, and
European history.



Learn more
about Rashi and medieval Jewish heritage in Champagne



Murals freely accessible all year round

Developed by the *Communauté de Communes Arcis-Mailly-Ramerupt* as part of the Jewish Medieval Route of Rashi in Champagne (European Route of Jewish Heritage), the Parcours Rachi was initiated by *Aube en Champagne Attractivité*.



Parcours Rachi

**An Artistic and Memorial Itinerary
of The Jewish Medieval Route of Rashi in Champagne**

Dampierre - Ramerupt - Lhuître



Communauté de communes
Arcis Mailly Ramerupt



* Dampierre

“Isaac of Dampierre” Remembering a Scholar of Champagne

The Dampierre mural, created in 2022, can be seen on the wall of the town hall.

Artist Jean-Philippe Ledit presents a highly colorful 3-by-3-meter work, at the center of which Isaac of Dampierre, Rashi's great-grandson, is depicted studying sacred texts. In the 12th century, he was a leading figure of the Tosafists, Rashi's school of thought.

Within five blue circles symbolizing the five books of the Torah (Pentateuch), the mural illustrates the story of Isaac and his ties to the Champagne region.

His spiritual teachers—Rashi and his grandfather Simha of Vitry—stand to his right, while his students and his wife appear to his left. The village of Dampierre is highlighted at the



Réalisation Les Passeurs de Fresques (2022)

foot of its church and medieval gatehouse. To portray the agricultural life shared by Jews and Christians, scenes of grape harvesting and fieldwork appear in the foreground.

The composition is enriched by a commentary by Rashi on a verse from Deuteronomy, using the local Champenois word *hasle* (east wind).

The medieval coat of arms of Dampierre and a Star of David frame the artwork, symbolizing the fruitful encounter between Judaism and the land of Champagne.

Find the mural
Dampierre Town Hall, 8 rue Gibert

* Ramerupt

“Rabbenou Tam and Henry I the Liberal” A Dialogue at the Heart of the Middle Ages

Facing the church, the wall of the village's former school hosts the Ramerupt mural, measuring 4.20 by 3 meters.

Created in 2023 by artist Javier de Sierra Salaberry, it depicts a meeting between Jacob (Rabbenou Tam), Rashi's grandson, and Henry I the Liberal, Count of Champagne, as they lean over the interpretation of a biblical commentary.

The two men, richly dressed, stand at the center of the composition on a colorful tiled floor, alongside Samuel (Rashbam), Jacob's brother, and their mother Yochebed, Rashi's daughter. Their house features a grapevine trellis and a *mezuzah* (ritual object). These symbols recall the activities of Rabbenou Tam—a wine merchant and renowned 12th-century Talmudic commentator, and a charismatic leading figure of the Tosafists, Rashi's school of thought.

In the background, two squires carry the coats of arms of Henry I the Liberal and of the Lord of Ramerupt. Harvest scenes emphasize the region's agricultural past, shared by Christians and Jews alike.

To further illustrate the mural, a commentary by Rashi describes a woven motif featuring a lion and an eagle, in which the local Champenois word *faissis* (belt) appears.



Réalisation Les Passeurs de Fresques (2023)

Find the mural
1 rue Charles Delaunay

* Lhuître

“Rashi, His Disciples and His Daughters” A Commitment to Transmission

In the Middle Ages, the village of Lhuître was home to a Jewish community. In 2023, to commemorate this now-vanished presence - whose names have not come down to us - muralist Jean-Jacques Jolinon created an artwork on the north wall of the town hall. It depicts Rashi surrounded by his wife, his daughters, and his disciples.

In the composition, Rashi is shown deep in concentration, as a hoopoe whispers sacred words into his ear. His daughters appear as educated women, reflecting the importance Rashi placed on the role of women. His famous grandson Samuel (Rashbam), a great scholar in the making, is rocked in his grandmother's arms. As a counterpoint, Saint Tanche, the patron saint of Lhuître, appears before her chapel.

In the background, harvest scenes bring together Jewish and Christian peasants.

These connections are symbolized by the small bridge over the Lhuître river at the bottom of the mural, by a series of *menorot* (candelabras), and by the Hebrew alphabet, intertwined with wheat sheaves and grape clusters. These fruits of Israel further evoke the village's agricultural identity.

To complete this 3.80-by-2.75-meter mural, a commentary by Rashi on a verse from Deuteronomy uses the local Champenois word *harupe* (hoopoe).



Réalisation Les Passeurs de Fresques (2023)

Find the mural
Lhuître Town Hall, 7 rue de Badin