

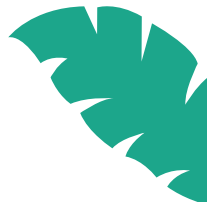


# MUSEE ORNITHOLOGIQUE CHARLES PAYRAUDEAU

## A WINDOW INTO NATURAL HISTORY

Discover the rich taxidermy collection of birds and the legacy of the great naturalist Benjamin Charles Payraudeau (1798-1865), preserved in La Chaize-le-Vicomte.

COMMUNE  
*La Chaize le*  *icomte*  
VENDÉE



# Charles Payraudeau

## THE NATURALIST FROM LA CHAIZE- LE-VICOMTE

Born in 1798 in La Réorthe, **Benjamin Charles Payraudeau** grew up in La Chaize-le-Vicomte. After studying at the Lycée Napoléon in La Roche-sur-Yon, he joined the **National Museum of Natural History** in Paris, where he developed a passion for ornithology and zoology.

Between 1824 and 1825, during an expedition to Corsica, Payraudeau cataloged the local wildlife and discovered several previously unknown species, including two iconic birds: **Audouin's Gull** and **Desmarest's Shag**.



*Charles Payraudeau  
(1798-1865)*

His collection, enriched throughout his life, was bequeathed to the municipality of La Chaize-le-Vicomte in 1868.

After years of neglect, it was restored and relocated to its current site on May 9, 1994.

This unique collection is now preserved and exhibited to the public at the Charles Payraudeau Ornithological Museum.



## A museum AT THE HEART OF HERITAGE

The Charles Payraudeau Ornithological Museum is a place dedicated to the preservation of natural heritage and raising awareness about biodiversity. Thanks to the involvement of the municipality and the association "Les Amis du Musée Ornithologique Charles Payraudeau", the museum offers a journey through the discoveries of the naturalist.



# The museum COLLECTIONS

## 2 000 BIRD SPECIES

from around the world



birds from  
the West Palearctic



birds from the  
Southern Hemisphere  
*Africa, South America,  
Australia, etc.*

nearly  
**400**  
specimens  
on display

mainly species  
from Western Europe,  
seen in Vendée.

## 71 MOLLUSKS

marine and terrestrial



### THE AUDOUIN'S GULL

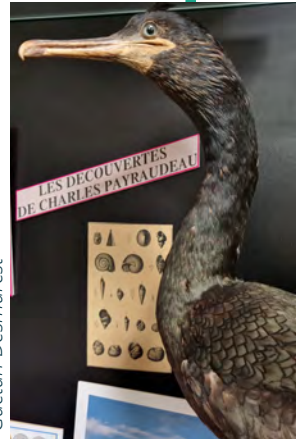
# 2 ICONI BIRDS

Named in honor of his companion  
Jean-Victor Audouin



### DESMAREST'S SHAG

Named in honor of his professor  
Gaëtan Desmarest



# Association

## "LES AMIS DU MUSEE"

The association 'Les Amis du Musée Ornithologique Charles Payraudeau' works towards the preservation and promotion of the collection, offers guided tours, and contributes to the enhancement of ornithological knowledge. The museum opens exceptionally for the European Museum Night and the European Heritage Days.



**PROMOTION  
OF THE COLLECTION**



**GUIDED  
TOURS**



**ORNITHOLOGICAL  
KNOWLEDGE**

## Contact

### DETAILS

**Musée Ornithologique  
Charles Payraudeau**



4 rue des Noyers  
85310 La Chaize-le-Vicomte  
At the back of the town hall



amisdumuseepayraudeau@gmail.com



Town hall - La Chaize-le-Vicomte  
02 51 05 70 21



### OPENING DAYS AND HOURS

All year round : Monday to Friday  
(closed on Tuesday afternoons)  
9 AM - 12 PM / 2 PM - 4:30 PM

Last admission: 12 PM and 4:30 PM



### ADMISSION

Adults: €3  
Children (up to 18 years): Free

Groups (from 10 people):  
€2 per person

Payment by bank check or cash only.



### TOURS

Self-guided tours with an audio guide in French are available.

Sheets detailing the collection are available in French, English and Portuguese.

Guided tours can be arranged upon request, subject to the availability of the association's volunteers.

As the museum is located on the upper floor, it is not accessible to individuals with reduced mobility. We apologize for any inconvenience.