



The church of Binic



Discover Binic catholic church and its history, its stained glass windows and the artefacts it houses.

The church of Binic is fairly recent, it was built in 1821. Before that date, Binic was not a independent town but was part of the parish of Etables. The main church, Notre Dame, was therefore located there.



Place de l'Eglise at Binic.
Open every day from 9am to 5pm
(subject to change depending on
volunteer availability and mass hours)



Mass on thursday morning
and some sunday mornings.
The church is dark from 3pm
in winter

1 LA CHAPELLE DES PÉRIS EN MER - CHAPEL OF THE PERISHED AT SEA

The history of the port of Binic was marked by four centuries of cod fishing in Newfoundland and Iceland. In 1845, it was even one of France's leading ports for this type of fishing. Many sailors lost their lives during these four centuries of fishing in very harsh conditions. Located on the right as you enter, the Chapel of the Perished at Sea was erected shortly after the loss of the ship "Maria", owned by the ship owner Maria Verry-Carfantan, in April 1901. The white marble crown dedicated to this shipwreck, pays tribute to Captain Pierre Pomiès, nicknamed 'the Rooster of Iceland', and to the 27 sailors who disappeared. Three of them were from Binic.



There are also marble commemorative plaques, on which the names of the lost sailors are engraved in gold letters, along with their dates (between the early 19th century and the first half of the 20th century).

2 THE STAINED GLASS WINDOWS OF THE NORTH NAVE

The stained glass windows of the nave were created in 1932 by Etablissements Rault. They depict, in order of appearance: Joseph and the Baby Jesus in the Carpenter's Workshop, The Wedding at Cana, The Crucifixion on Mount Golgotha, Pentecost, The Death of the Virgin, The Coronation of the Virgin.



3 THE STAINED GLASS WINDOWS OF THE NORTH TRANSEPT

They were made in 1903 by the Haussaire et Payan Company in Paris. Beneath the stained glass window depicting Jesus Calming the Storm are two medallions. The one on the left depicts the blessing of boats in the port of Binic. This ceremony took place a few days before the schooners set sail in February and April. The medallion on the right shows the port in 1830.

4 OBJECTS AND FURNITURE OF THE CHURCH

In 1974, several items of church furniture were listed in the Inventory of Historic Monuments: the statues of Saint Julian (patron saint of boatmen) and Saint Clement (patron saint of sailors) in 18th-century polychrome wood, the votive boat (located in [the chapel](#)), and the painting depicting the Death of Saint Louis (located in [the chapel](#)), donated by the Duchess of Angoulême in 1824. She contributed to the [creation](#) of the commune.



St-Julian statue

5 THE STATUE OF OUR LADY OF "BON VOYAGE"

Placed in an illuminated alcove, the Virgin stands on a rock holding an anchor in her left hand, a symbol of hope. On this rock, you can see the bow of a boat on the left and a rudder on the right.

The mould for the statue was broken, making this model unique. It was sculpted in 1870 by Jean-Baptiste Barré, a sculptor and painter from Nantes (1804–1877).



Preparatory statue

However, Binic had two chapels:

- **The Chapel of Saint-Julien** (the Hospitaller), located a few metres from the current church, was destroyed in 1821. Several columns dating from the 9th century are believed to be part of the chapel's peristyle and were later used to support the lintel of the entrance door of the Hôtel de la Plage – now called “Miléade” – located on Banche beach. One of these columns still remains today at the entrance of Rue des Bernains and in Square Fichet Desgrèves, that opposite the Tourist Office car park.
- **Notre Dame de Bon Voyage Chapel**, which already existed in the 18th century. Falling into ruin, it was partially destroyed and rebuilt in 1868 and transformed into the current town hall.



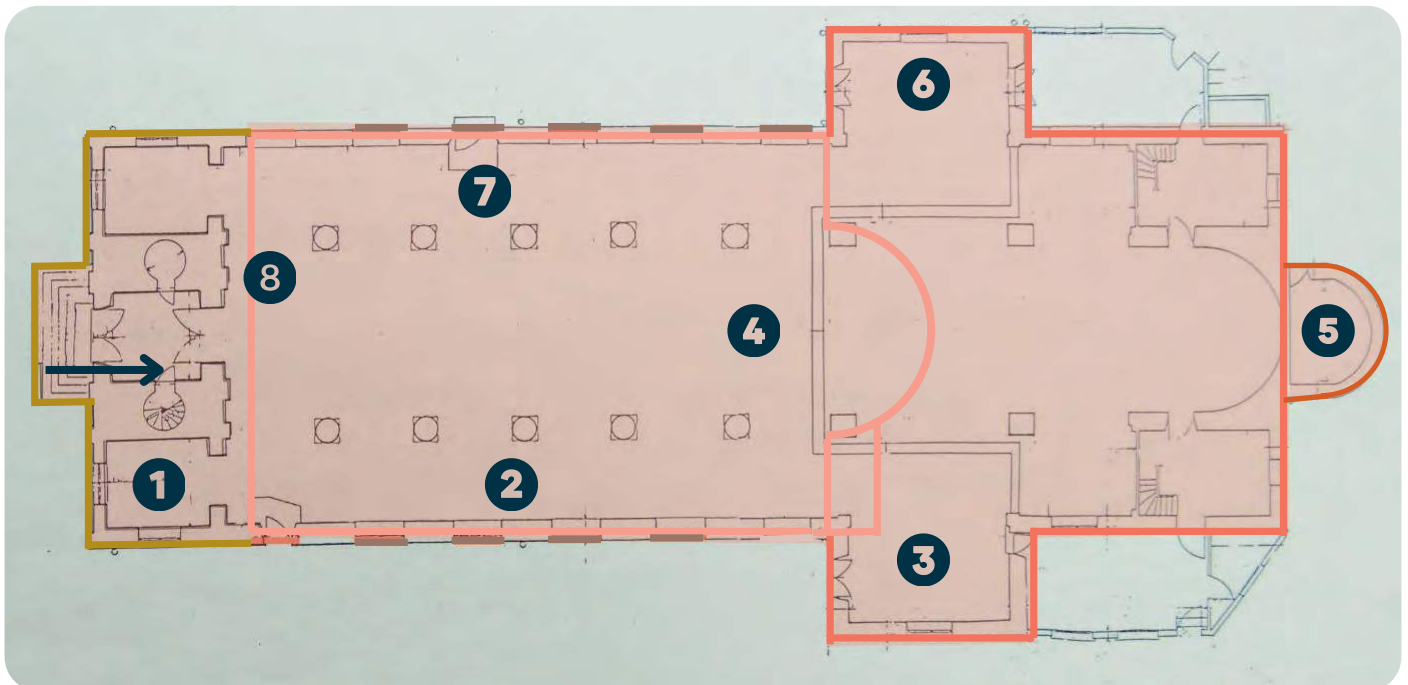
Fichet Desgrèves
Square's column

Thanks to powerful supporters at the King's Court, the shipowners of Binic obtained the creation of the commune of Binic on 22 August 1821. It was therefore decided to build a church, and the first stone was laid and blessed on 22 October.

Notre-Dame-de-Bon-Voyage was built in granite, schist and sandstone on a Latin cross plan. The presence of the rocky cliff meant that the entrance porch had to be built on the east side and the altar had to be placed facing west, which was not customary.



The first church quickly proved to be too small, and extension works continued until 1930. The plan below shows the evolution of the building:



- The church in 1821
- 1858 - 1860 : reconstruction of the choir and addition of the transept
- 1870 : addition of the statue of Our Lady of “Bon Voyage” and its alcove
- 1895 : addition of the façade and the bell tower, installation of new bells in 1901 and of the stained glass windows in the transept in 1903
- 1930 : connection of the façade to the transept with the construction of large arches and vaults, creation of the stained glass windows in the nave in 1932

6 THE STAINED GLASS WINDOWS OF THE SOUTH TRANSEPT

Beneath the stained glass window depicting The Miraculous Catch, hidden behind the organ, medallions show a schooner setting sail for Iceland, with the lighthouse and the Virgin Mary, protector of sailors, visible in the background.

The organ was inaugurated in 1985 and rebuilt by the Jean Renaud factory.



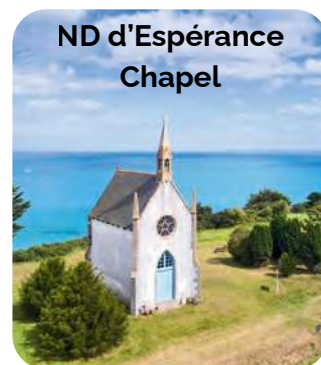
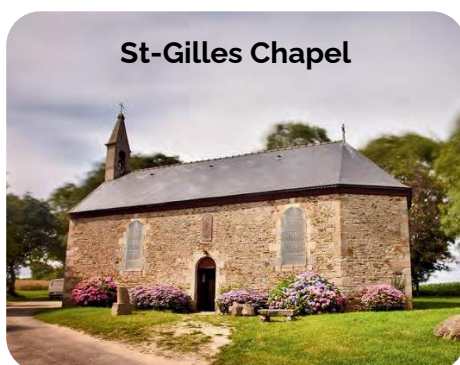
7 THE STAINED GLASS WINDOWS OF THE SOUTH NAVE

They represent in order of appearance: The Holy Family, The Presentation of Mary at the Temple, The Union of Mary and Joseph (dedicated to Captain Pomiès), The Annunciation, The Visitation of Elizabeth, The Visit of the Magi.

8 THE STELLA MARIS EX-VOTO

This model is a schooner from the Great Fishing, probably made at the beginning of the 20th century by shipyard workers. It evokes a shipwreck whose history is no longer known with certainty. This ex-voto is carried on 15 August for the sea procession. Listed in the Supplementary Inventory of Historic Monuments, it was restored by Louis Bonny, a model maker and retired sailor.

We invite you to continue exploring our religious heritage by visiting the church in Etables-sur-Mer, thanks to the dedicated heritage leaflet. Admire the exteriors of the chapels of St-Gilles and Notre-Dame d'Espérance, as they are rarely open to the public.



Sources : Book "Binic, port du Goëlo" from Christian Quéré and documentary collection of the town, compiled by Ronan Guillo

The heritage collection :

- The Pourrhis viaduct
- The sea caves
- The history of Binic
- The route of a tourist at Etables

