

Napoleon Bonaparte (Napoleon 1er)



France
Empereur
Ajaccio (Corse) 15/08/1769 - Ste Helena 05/05/1821

It's in Brienne-le-Château (1779 - 1784), that Bonaparte starts his military training . Nurtured with philosophers and history , he is revealed, from the siege of Toulon and Italy campaign, as a leader with a prodigious ascendancy and an inspired strategist.

His glamour facilitates his coup d'etat (18 brumaire- 11/9/1796). He becomes first Consul with exorbitant powers.

He very quickly restores economy, reorganizes and centralizes administration (prefects) , justice, and finance.

After Marengo victory - which eliminates the Austrian threat - and the Amiens peace (1802) with England , he can devote himself to continuing the reforms : civil code, Bank of France, concordat with the pope.

Monarchical Europe sees him as an heir to the Revolution. So war starts again .

He replies by having himself crowned as **Emperor Napoleon the 1st** (December 2nd 1804).

His reign begins with brilliant issues, extension of the Empire, and an even more overbearing power.

But this hugeness ends in wearing him : plots , resistance of Spain, bogging down in the England continental blocus , disastrous campaign of Russia.

He abdicates after Waterloo defeat (06/18/1815). Run away from his exile in Elbe island, he reigns anew during *les Cent-Jours* (100 days).

It's once more around Brienne-le-Château that - after a series of victories over the coalition - Paris' surrender compels him to abdicate.

He ends his life in Sainte-Helena accompanied by his faithful companions.

Lots of French institutions still remain nowadays such as Napoleon established them.

