

BELGIUM  
PROVINCE OF HAINAUT

**LA LOUVIÈRE :**  
**HISTORIC**  
**CANALS AND**  
**CASTLES**

GROUPS



## WELCOME IN ' LA LOUVIÈRE : HISTORIC CANALS AND CASTLES ' !

The "Park of Canals and Castles" is located between Mons and Brussel, and close to Charleroi airport . This is a region crisscrossed by charming canals and possessing an impressive industrial and cultural heritage ! There, you will discover 3 sites and 1 event listed as a world heritage by UNESCO, historic and beautiful boatlifts from the 19th century still working, the highest boatlift in the world, 8 great museum witnessing the cultural and industrial richness of the area but also castles and breweries to visit. The Park of Canals and Castles possesses also very particular green spaces : charming paths along the historic Canal du Centre, ideal for bikers and nature lovers; the park of Mariemont with its famous flowers, trees and sculptures; castles gardens; etc.

And last but not least, the Park of Canals and Castles, also known as the Centre Region, is the land of Carnivals, particularly the unmissable Carnival of Binche, listed by UNESCO.

Don't wait any longer ! Bring your group and spend one or several days exploring our region !

The Tourism Bureau of The Park of Canals and Castles

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Be guided...

In the Park of Canals and Castles

Have a walk...

In the Park of Canals and Castles

Have fun...

In the Park of Canals and Castles

Enjoy 1, 2 or 3 days...

In the Park of Canals and Castles

Grab a bite...

In the Park of Canals and Castles

Spend the night...

In the Park of Canals and Castles



# UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES

## Guided excursions on request

**Learn, admire and laugh. Dance or take a journey through time. Soak up the culture, the colors and the countryside. Defy gravity, cast off... Breathe deep.**

The Park of Canals et Castles Tourism Bureau and its partners are offering guided excursions to share with you the many treasures to be found in La Louvière and the surrounding area. For children and grown-ups; on foot, by bike or on a boat; historic, artistic, fun or countryside circuits: you're sure to find something to suit your tastes.

On your outings you'll be guided by professionals from the region who will put their heart into offering their knowledge. Are you a school or a company looking to organize an educational and cultural outing? Are you an association or group of friends seeking to succumb to the charm of the "Parc des Canaux et Châteaux" region ?

**Simply select the tourist sites that interest you and we'll help you organize your circuit: your very own tailor-made guided excursion !**

### *Offer groups*

#### **CIRCUITS MARKED OUT FOR YOU IN LA LOUVIÈRE**

Here are some of the existing guided excursions :

- "Dance with the Gilles": A walk through the heart of the La Louvière carnival (see p. 39)
- "Quite a history": A historic guided tour of La Louvière's city centre
- "Need some air?": A stroll through the country in Strépy-Bracquegnies
- "The Lift Trail": A guided bike tour along the historic Canal du Centre
- "Artistic impressions": A guided tour of La Louvière's city centre focusing on art, architecture and craftsmanship
- "Help Loulou": A fun guided tour of the city centre (children and families)
- "UNESCO masterpieces": A guided bike tour along the historic Canal du Centre and through the Bois-du-Luc mine site

**Price :** 85 € per group  
**Groups :** Max 25 persons/group  
**More information :** see p.55



## The Belfry of Binche and the medieval town



**From the Belfry to the ramparts, let's discover Binche, its medieval past and its remains.**

Starting from the Town Hall, which Belfry is included on UNESCO's World Heritage list, the guide goes through the cobblestones of Binche.

This is the opportunity to see the city in a different light. And there's plenty to discover... The city of the Gille is above all a medieval town, which current ramparts date back to the 14th century. These were very well renovated and equipped with 22 towers. They enclose the City and its rocky spur.

You can also see the remains of Mary of Hungary's palace and a history rich in development.

*Offer groups*

### GUIDED TOUR

Discover a medieval heritage !

**Description :** From the Tourist Office, a guide shows you the Ramparts, the remains of the Castle, the Town Hall and the Grand-Place of Binche

**Guided visits :** FR, NL, EN, D, ES

**Duration :** 1h30

**Target groups :** All publics

**Groups :** Max. 100 pers.

**No access for limited mobility**

**Availability :** All year

**Price :** 3 €/pers. (based on 20 persons)

**Note :** Thematic visits are also possible on demand.



**Opening period :** All year

**Schedules / days of opening :** Monday to Sunday, on reservation (tourisme@binche.be)

**Address :** Grand Place, 5 - 7130 Binche

**Website :** www.binche.be

**"The Park of Canals and Castles" has 3 other sites listed as world heritage by UNESCO**



The historic Canal du Centre : see p.9



Museum of mining and sustainable development : see p.16



The Carnival of Binche : see p.44

# THE CANALS AND ITS TREASURES



## The historic Canal du Centre



**Discover a site of exception classified world heritage and its 4 boat lifts still in service !**

Of the eight hydraulic boat lifts ever built in the world, between the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th centuries, the four boat lifts of the historic Canal du Centre are the only ones that still remain in their original working condition. Each of these monuments compensate for a difference in level of about 17 meters thanks to a single energy source: water.  
A remarkable and unique site, absolutely to visit! Admire the wealth of this exceptional site during a guided excursion combining ride on a small tourist train, guided visits of machine rooms, and of course the passage by boat of these timeless works of engineering.

**Opening period :** From April to October - 2 departures: 10:00 am and 02:00 pm.

**Schedules / days of opening :** From Tuesday to Sunday

**Address :** Departures of the boats from the funicular lift of Strepny-Thieu - 50, rue Raymond Cordier - 7070 Thieu.

**Website :** <http://voiesdeau.hainaut.be>

### HIRE ELECTRIC BOATS

Fancy a ride on the water with family or friends ? From the "Cantine des Italiens", navigate peacefully on the Historic Canal du Centre recognized UNESCO World Heritage ! On site, visit the Interpretation Centre on Immigration.

### Offer groups

#### EMBARK ON A UNIQUE CRUISE ON THE HISTORIC CANAL DU CENTRE

Be seduced by the centenary charm of 4 hydraulic lifts on the Historic Canal du Centre - site classified World Heritage by UNESCO - each to deal with a difference of about 17 meters through a single source energy: water.

**Description :** From the Funicular boat lift of Strépy-Thieu, go on a guided cruise through a lock, an old hydraulic lift and mobile bridges, combined with a tourist train ride and guided tour of a machine room.

**Guided visits :** FR, NL, EN

**Duration :** 2h30

**Target groups :** All publics

**Groups :** Max. 100 persons.

**No access for limited mobility**

**Price :** Children(4-12): 8 €/pers

12-18 years/Over 60s: 10 €/pers

Adults: 12,50 €/pers

**Availability :** See opening period - 2 departures: 10:00 am and 02:00 pm.

#### Note :

Visit only the machine room of hydraulic boat lift n°3 with audioguides (2 €/pers.). Upon reservation Presence required 30 min. before the departure of the boat.

#### TAKE A DAYTRIP TO DISCOVER THE HISTORIC CANAL DU CENTRE AND ITS FOUR HYDRAULIC LIFTS FROM THE 19TH CENTURY

Rent a boat and sail with us on the Historic Canal du Centre passing the 4 hydraulic lifts and the Funicular boat lift of Strépy-Thieu! A unique excursion with the possibility of meal on board. Starting from the funicular boat lift of Strépy-Thieu.

From 10:00 am to 06:00 pm. From 10:00 am to 06:00 pm. Upon reservation. From Tuesday to Sunday.

Presence required 30 min. before the departure of the boat trips





## The Funicular lift of Strépy-Thieu

**Come to admire the biggest double boat lift in the world !**

Open to the navigation in 2002, the Funicular lift of Strépy-Thieu is an extraordinary heritage ! Its exceptional dimensions and technical performance raise it for sure in the top of the biggest boat lifts in the world ! Rather see: 117 meter high, 130 meter long and 75 meter wide, it can overcome in once a difference in level of 73.15 meters.

Come to discover the Belgian inland navigation in the new exhibition "Waterways from yesterday, today and tomorrow" !

**Opening period :** From April to November

**Schedules / days of opening :** Every day from 10 am until 6.30 pm, except on Monday. Last ticket sold at 05.00 PM

**Address :** Rue Raymond Cordier, 50  
7070 Thieu.

**Website :** <http://voiesdeau.hainaut.be>

### Offer groups

#### VISIT AT THE FUNICULAR BOAT LIFT OF STRÉPY-THIEU - NEW EXHIBITION

Come and discover the new exhibition "Waterways from yesterday, today and tomorrow" dedicated to the inland navigation in Belgium. A film shows the working of the boat lift. Large view to the canals and the regio at the 8th floor.

**Audioguides :** FR, NL, EN, D  
**Duration :** 1h30

**Target groups :** All publics

**Groups :** Max. 100 persons

**No access for limited mobility**

**Price :** Children (4-12): 3,5 €/pers.  
Teenagers / Over-60s: 6 €/pers.  
Adults: 6,75 €/pers.

**Availability :** See above



#### SUGGESTED TOUR (1 DAY) : NAVIGATE, PEDAL AND FOLLOW THE GUIDE !

Set off on a cruise along the Canal du Centre Historique then explore La Louvière town centre on a guided cycle tour.



## The Sloping Lock of Ronquières

**Discover the prestigious Sloping Lock of Ronquières**

Built more than 50 years ago the Sloping Lock of Ronquières is a huge work of engineering without equal. Some figures explain it: 1432 meters long, making up for a difference in water level of 68 meters, 2 containers carrying boats weighting 1350 tons, tens kilometers of rails, a tower of 150 meter high... This building of the Belgian civil Engineering must be seen very close.

**Opening period :** From April to October. Except from 01 to 02/08 (Ronquières Music Festival)

**Schedules / days of opening :** Every day from 10 am until 6.30 pm, except Monday. Last tickets sold at 05:00 pm.

**Address :** Route Baccara, 1w - 7090 Ronquières

**Website :** <http://voiesdeau.hainaut.be>

### Offer groups

#### THE SLOPING LOCK OF RONQUIÈRES

Come to visit the longest sloping lock in the world in Ronquières.

**Description :** In a 3D scenery with big screens, automatons and audiovisual technology, the tour "A boat, a life" explains you the particular world of the boatmen. Do not miss the breathtaking panorama on the top of the tower. In the Visitor's Centre you can observe the canal traffic from the glass footbridges overlooking the site.

**Audioguides :** FR, NL, EN, D  
**Duration :** 2h

**Target groups :** All publics  
**Groups :** Max. 100 persons.

**Access for limited mobility**

**Price :** Children (4-12): 3,5 €/pers.  
12-18 years/Over-60s : 6 €/pers.  
Adults : 6,75 €/pers.

**Note :** Last tickets sold at 05:00 pm.



#### EVENT

Don't miss the Ronquières music festival at the bottom of the beautiful sloping lock : from 01 until 02/08/2020 !

# UNMISSABLE MUSEUMS !



## P.A.R.C.

### **P.A.R.C. , What's behind the acronym? ?**

A lot of things. P.A.R.C. is a polysemous acronym. It contains a meaning that's rather representative of the project, the Pôle des Arts en Région du Centre, but it doesn't represent the plurality of the platform. Patrimoine (Heritage), Passé (Past), Peinture (Paint), Parcours (Path), Ateliers (Workshop), Archéologie (Archaeology), Archives, Avenir (Future), ARTour, Rêve (Dream), Réseau (Network), Rythme, Rencontres (Encounters), Collection, Charbon (Coal), Carnaval (Carnaval), Canaux (Canals), Culture... In reality, behind each letter words are hidden which express the particularities of the museums, as well as their similarities. A reality that is the very strength of the platform.

### **The biggest museum in Belgium...**

Loyal with a pinch of salt, humour tinged with surrealism which characterise the Centre Region, the museums of P.A.R.C. make this statement ... while also allowing you to judge for yourself. These eight museums are so close to each other, consider them as only one...

### **Big based on the quantity of collections**

It's estimated that the collections of the museum institutions of the platform contain 150,000 pieces, and a documentary collection of more than 120,000 works (including a precious reserve of more than 25,000 books), which represents the largest collection in Wallonia and one of the largest in the Kingdom.

### **Big due to the diversity of works**

The eight institutions offer a broad spectrum of subjects (contemporary art, surrealism, symbolism, the 18th century, industrial heritage, etc.); disciplines (archaeology, literature, sculpture, painting, etc.); and technical (masks, ceramics, engraving, goldsmithery and silversmithery, etc.).

This ensemble also represents a remarkable offering in terms of chronology (from ancient times to the present day), geography (all the continents are represented) and diversity of media.

### **Big due to the density of museums within a limited space**

P.A.R.C. is made up of a group of eight museums located on a surface area of 26 km<sup>2</sup>. Five of them are located in La Louvière, including four in the city centre; the three others are in Binche, Morlanwelz and Seneffe, or less than ten kilometres from the Cité des Loups. Furthermore, circuits were created in 2016, and make it possible to easily connect the museums by bicycle. These circuits highlight the proximity of the museums to heritage sites such as the historic boat lifts of the Canal du Centre, the medieval centre of Binche and its UNESCO designated belfry, or the mining site of Bois-du-Luc, also designated by UNESCO.

**P.A.R.C., is made up of :** the Centre Daily-Bul & Co, the Centre de la Gravure et de l'Image imprimée / the Domaine du Château de Seneffe-Musée de l'Orfèvrerie / Keramis - Centre de la Céramique / the MiLL - Musée Ianchelevici / the Musée de la Mine et du Développement Durable at the mining site of Bois-du-Luc / the Musée International du Carnaval et du Masque de Binche / the Musée Royal de Mariemont.



See p. 24  
The Château de Seneffe Estate  
© Utopix-Vhella



## Keramis, Ceramics Centre

**A museum, a space for art and creativity dedicated to ceramics, Keramis was built on the site of the previous Boch Keramis ceramics factory in La Louvière.**

The museum has a remarkable collection of ceramics made in the 19th and 20th centuries at the Boch Keramis factory, once the flagship of Belgian industry. Keramis also showcases an important collection of ceramics by representative artists from the second half of the 20th century. Their creations reflect a whole unseen chapter in Belgian art. Each year, Keramis explores the world of ceramics through temporary exhibitions.

Keramis has a workshop for research and creation. Exploring and comprehending technique facilitates a better reading of the old and new pieces on display.

### Offer groups

#### GUIDED VISITS

Guided tour of the permanent collections Boch and temporary exhibitions.

#### WORKSHOPS TO EXPLORE THE EARTH

The workshop offers exploring and comprehending technique facilitates a better reading of the old and new pieces on display.

**Guided visits :** FR, NL, EN

**Duration :** Guided tours : 1h30 / workshops : 1h30

**Target groups :** All publics

**Groups :** Max. 24 persons.

**Price :** Guided tours : 100 € (+ 5 € pp)

65 + : 75 € (+ 5 € pp), weekdays only:

Workshops : 120 €

**Reservation :** edu@keramis.be



**Opening period :** All year except on 01/01, 24, 25 & 31/12 and during the carnival of La Louvière (22/03 > 24/03/2020)

**Schedules / days of opening :** Tuesday to Sunday, closed on Mondays. Tuesday : 09:00 am - 05:00 pm / Other days: 10:00 am - 06:00 pm

**Address :** Place des Fours Bouteilles, 1  
7100 La Louvière

**Website :** www.keramis.be



## Museum of mining and sustainable development



### Bois-du-Luc : a unique mining village in Europe, recognized as UNESCO World Heritage.

The Bois-du-Luc mining site is the only one which is complete and emblematic of paternalistic town planning. Preserved in its original form, it still shows a baffling authenticity. Industrial and social infrastructures testimony to the work and the everyday life in a society standing out for three centuries of existence (1685-1973). This microcosm was placed under the close surveillance of the Director: a perfect illustration of paternalism. Visiting Bois-du-Luc is immersing yourself in a both laborious and rich time in terms of technological innovation; a time that made Belgium the second most powerful country in the world in the 19th century.

**Opening period :** All year except during Christmas holidays

#### Schedules / days of opening :

**01/05 > 30/11**  
From Monday to Friday : 10:00 am - 05:00 pm / last departure : 03:30 pm / Week-ends and holidays : 10:00 am - 06:00 pm / last departure 04:30 pm

#### 01/12 > 30/04

From Monday to Friday : 10:00 am - 05:00 pm / last departure : 03:30 pm / Week-ends and holidays only for groups on reservation : 10:00 am - 05:00 pm / last departure : 03:30 pm

**Address :** Rue Saint-Patrice, 2b  
7110 La Louvière

**Website :** [www.ecomuseeboisduluc.be](http://www.ecomuseeboisduluc.be)

### Offer groups

#### GUIDED VISIT

Immerse yourself in the ambiance of a mining village that was cut off from the outside world and placed under the close surveillance of the power.

**Description :** Guided tour of about an hour and a half/two hours including a tour of the offices, the pit and the model house.

**Guided visits :** FR, NL, EN, IT

**Audioguides :** FR, NL, EN, IT

**Duration :** min 1h30, max 2h00

**Target groups :** All publics, schools

**Groups :** 15 > 25 persons.

**Access for limited mobility**

**Price guided visit :** 7 € /pers. + 80 €/group (15 > 25 pers. / 2h)

#### MADE IN BELGIUM

Belgian industrialists in Egypt, between investment and collections.

**Description :** Belgian industrial expansion in Egypt was carried out by Walloon companies who exported their know-how. The exhibition explores the many civil engineering works built at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries by the company Baume & Mercier in the land of the pyramids.

**Availability :** 05/09/2020 > 04/12/2020

**Guided visits :** FR, NL, EN

**Duration :** 1h00

**Target groups :** All publics

**Groups :** Max. 25 persons.

**Price guided visit :** guided tour : 80 € + 5 € max/pers. 1 € off on the ticket if combined with the historical visit of the mining site of Bois-du-Luc.

**Reservation required for groups :**  
[info@boisdulucmmd.be](mailto:info@boisdulucmmd.be)



## The MiLL

### Housed in the former La Louvière Palais de Justice, the museum is dedicated to the romanian-born sculptor Idel Ianchelevici (1909-1994).

The permanent collection includes around fifty original pieces in marble, bronze, stone and plaster, as well as a large number of drawings. This collection introduces visitors to some sensitive work focusing on the human figure. The museum also puts on temporary exhibitions with a diverse programme of contemporary art, as well as organising educational services for all ages.

Because art and culture are accessible to everyone, the museum offers tours to visitors with specific needs, including the hard of learning visually impaired and people with learning difficulties using multisensory displays, sign-language and appropriate educational activities.

**Opening period :** All year except on 01/01, 23/03, 24/03, and 25/12

**Schedules / days of opening :** Tuesday to Friday 11:00 am - 05:00 pm, on Week-ends 02:00 pm - 06:00 pm

**Address :** Place Communale, 21 7100 La Louvière

**Website :** [www.lemill.be](http://www.lemill.be)

### Offer groups

#### SCULPTURES AND DRAWINGS BY IDEL IANCHELEVICI

Visit the permanent collection of the museum devoted to the artist Idel Ianchelevici of Romanian origin, author of monuments Le Plongeur (Liège), Le Résistant (National Memorial Fort Breendonk ), L'Appel (La Louvière). Sculptures in bronze, original modeling in plaster, stone sizes direct.

**Description :** Guided tour of the permanent collections.

**Guided visits :** FR, NL, sign language, visually impaired

**Audioguides :** FR / NL

**Target groups :** All publics public

**Groups :** Max. 25 persons.

**No access for limited mobility**

**Price :** 50 €/group + 1,5 €/pers.





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## The Centre for Engravings

**The Centre de la Gravure in La Louvière is a museum dedicated to the art of engraving, an exceptional collection, original exhibitions and a dynamic educational department !**

The Centre for engravings is a museum dedicated to the art of printing, a unique collection, original exhibitions and an educative offer with multiple facets. It's a beautiful space that was renovated and extended in 2011.

Just like a jewel box hidden in the city of La Louvière, the Centre for engravings is revealing the multiple facets of the contemporary prints.

Pierre Alechinsky, Louise Bourgeois, David Lynch, Joan Miro, Pablo Picasso, Luc Tuymans, ... 1640 Belgian and international artists from the second half of the 20th century to the present day constitute the astonishing collection of 13,500 works held at 10 rue des Amours.

A workshop of engraving and typography, a discovery space with matrices available to the public complete the vocation of this dynamic place.

**Opening period :** 2 periods of exhibition a year – closed between

**Schedules / days of opening :** Tuesday to Sunday, from 10:00 am to 06:00 pm (periods of exhibition)

**Address :** Rue des Amours, 10 – 7100 La Louvière

**Website :** [www.centredelagravure.be](http://www.centredelagravure.be)

### Offer groups

#### KIKI SMITH, ENTRE CHIEN ET LOUP (IN THE TWILIGHT)

The title refers to that particular hour when day becomes night, that moment when the dog must protect the sheep and when the wolf makes use of the darkness to come out of the wood ! The blue hour is also considered the best hour to smell the scent of flowers and to hear the birds sing. In many of her most recent works, Kiki Smith presents an allegory of a world in which concord and serenity would reign for a brief moment.

**Availability :** 05/10/2019 > 23/02/2020

#### JEAN DUBUFFET - LES PHÉNOMÈNES

Jean Dubuffet represents an emblematic figure of the art brut. From 1958 to 1962, he undertook to establish an atlas of all the natural phenomena of the world, which he reproduced through lithography, about 324 plates entitled "Les Phénomènes". Its purpose is to restore these phenomena without the intervention of the artist's hand on the lithographic stone.

**Availability :** 28/03/2020 > 06/09/2020

#### FOR ALL THE EXHIBITIONS :

**Guided visits :** FR, NL, EN, PL

**Duration :** 1h30

**Target groups :** All ages

**Groups :** Max. 25 persons.

**Price :** 5 €/pers.

**Note :** Reservation required for groups 15 days in advance :

+32 (0) 64 27 87 21 - [edu@centredelagravure.be](mailto:edu@centredelagravure.be)



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## The Royal Museum of Mariemont

**Culture and nature meet at the Estate of Mariemont**

When entering the 45 ha park of the Estate, you discover huge trees, some of them being old or exotic specimens, sculptures and statues by renowned and local sculptors and even a few sociable animals.

Then, in the heart of this park you will find the Royal Museum of Mariemont, a Museum of Art, History and mainly antiquities that will take you from ancient Greece to the Hainaut, through China and Gaul. This is how an Egyptian mummy can be found next to sculptures of Roman divinities, alongside a smiling statue of Buddha, antique gallo-roman jewels, the largest collection of porcelain from Tournai and a genuine Japanese tea house. Most artefacts exhibited were gathered by Raoul Warocqué, a rich coal magnate, who was passionate about art, Antiquity, books, education and history, among others.

**Opening period :** All year long

**Schedules / days of opening :** Every day except not holiday Mondays. From 10 :00 am till 06 :00 pm from April till September and from 10:00 am till 05:00 pm from October till March

**Address :** Chaussée de Mariemont, 100 – 7140 Morlanwelz.

**Website :** [www.musee-mariemont.be](http://www.musee-mariemont.be)

### Offer groups

#### TREASURES OF MARIEMONT

Presentation of the treasures of our different collections

**Description :** The crème de la crème ! A general tour of the Museum to present you the history of the Estate and the masterpieces of the different collections exhibited in the Museum. The main thread of the tour : our favorite pieces !

**Guided visits :** FR, EN, NL

**Audioguides :** FR, EN

**Duration :** 1h30 – 2h

**Target groups :** All ages

**Groups :** 1 or 2 groups of maximum 25 persons

**Access for limited mobility**

**Price :**

100 € (guided tour) + 4 € per person

Group of seniors : 75 € (guided tour) + 2,5 € per person

School group : 75 € (guided tour) + 1 € per person

**Availability :** All year long

**Note :** Thematic visits are also possible on demand !





## Centre Daily-Bul & C°

### The Daily-Bul: a thought, a review, a publishing house.

The Daily-Bul is a thought, a review (1957-1983) and a publishing house founded by André Balthazar and Pol Bury in La Louvière, in 1957, in the footsteps of the COBRA movement and Belgian surrealism. Supporters of the idea of self-publishing, Pol Bury and André Balthazar released their work in the Daily-Bul, which also published the likes of Christian Dotremont, Pierre Alechinsky, Achille Chavée, Jean-Michel Folon and Théodore Koenig.

Set up in 2009, the purpose of the Centre Daily-Bul & C° is to promote the activities of the Daily-Bul and its national and international colleagues. Exhibitions and events are put on regularly in a manor house dating back to the late 19th century, with a garden, that houses five bronze sculptures by Pol Bury.

**Opening period :** During the temporary exhibitions - Upon reservation

**Schedules / days of opening :** From Tuesday to Friday from 01:00 pm to 05:00 pm and from Saturday to Sunday from 02:00 pm to 06:00 pm

**Address :** Rue de la Loi, 14 - 7100 La Louvière

**Website :** [www.dailybulandco.be](http://www.dailybulandco.be)

### Offer groups

#### DOCUMENTATION CENTRE

**Description :** View archive  
**Guided visits :** only upon reservation (From Tuesday to Friday)  
**Groups :** Min. 8 pers. - max. 15 pers.

#### TEMPORARY EXHIBITION

**Description :** Visits for group on demand  
**Group :** Min. 8 pers. - max. 15 pers. (From Tuesday to Sunday, from 02:00 pm - 06:00 pm)  
**Price :** 2 €/pers. (with a guide)



## The International Carnival and Mask Museum

### Would you like to travel around the world ?

The international Carnival and Mask Museum invites you on an amazing journey through the festivals and rites of all five continents. On your trip from the winter feasts of Europe, to the masked ceremonies of Latin and North America, from the mysterious customs of Africa to the fascinating traditions of Asia and Oceania, you will discover the universality of the mask and the various ways of using it. The museum displays hundreds of masks and disguises which will impress you with their variety of forms and materials.

**Opening period :** year except 06/03, 01/11 and from 24/12 to 01/01

**Schedules / days of opening :** Tuesday to Friday, 09 :30 am - 05 :00 pm. Week-ends : 10 :00 am - 05 :00 pm. Closed on Mondays

**Address :** Rue Saint-Moustier, 10 - 7130 Binche

**Website :** [www.museedumasque.be](http://www.museedumasque.be)

#### THE INTERPRETATION CENTER ON THE CARNIVAL OF BINCHE !

Immerse yourself in the heart of a unique folklore recognized by UNESCO and discover the amazing Carnival of Binche as if you were there.

**Description :** Discover the Carnival of Binche, its history, its actors, its customs and traditions by means of an immersive and multi-sensory experience. The exhibition is composed of the most beautiful pieces of the museum's collection. It also shows archive images never presented before, exclusive testimonials, photographs and documentary films. You can even touch diverse objects and smell carnival. More than a simple museum visit, the Interpretation Centre is a real experience which will awaken your senses !

#### A COLLECTION WHICH IS UNIQUE IN EUROPE

The international Carnival and Mask Museum possesses a collection which is unique of its kind and internationally recognized.

**Description :** With more than 10,000 ethnographic pieces, it has become a real research and documentation center preserving masked traditions from all over the world.

#### TICUNA. A PEOPLE OF THE AMAZON

The forthcoming temporary exhibition of the international Carnival and Mask Museum will be dedicated to the largest Indian group of Brazil, the TICUNA.

**Description :** The exhibition is a true immersion in TICUNA mythology and presents not only the contextual aspects and the daily life of the tribe, but also the masked ritual of the Feast of the New Girl. One section of the exhibition will also be dedicated to the Ticuna's struggle for the official demarcation of their territory in which Pedro Inacio was one of the iconic figures. His death in July 2018 prompted us to organize this exhibition in his honour.

**Availability :** 26/10/2019 > 26/04/2020

#### FOR ALL THE EXHIBITIONS ABOVE :

**Duration :** +/- 1h15  
**Guided visits :** FR, EN, NL, IT, ES, D (advance booking required)  
**Target groups :** Children from 7y/o, adults  
**Groups :** Max. 25 persons.  
**Access for limited mobility**  
**Price :** Children : 35 €/group + 3 €/pers. (entrance)  
 Adults : 45 €/group + 7 €/pers. (entrance)

### Offer groups

#### MASKS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD

Discover the universality of the mask and its use on the five continents.

**Description :** Guided tour of the permanent collections.





# THE CASTLES



## The Château de Seneffe Estate

### Live the 18th century in the Château de Seneffe Estate !

Plunge you right into the 18th century, the Enlightenment. The neoclassical Château de Seneffe invites you to discover the permanent silverware collection of the Federation Wallonia-Brussels and also exhibitions. You'll find it an engrossing and enthralling experience. If you like walking, the 18th century Seneffe Estate Park with its green setting and distinctive gardens reflects man's relationship with nature in the Age of Enlightenment. It is also a venue for outdoor exhibitions, an event space where you can experience the beauty of the place and the magic of the activities held here.

**Opening period :** All year except on 01/01, 24/12, 25/12 and 31/12.

**Schedules / days of opening :** Tuesday to Sunday, 10:00 am - 06:00 pm. Closed on Mondays (Except on public holidays).

**Address :** Rue Lucien Plasman, 7-9, 7180 Seneffe

**Website :** [www.chateaudeseneffe.be](http://www.chateaudeseneffe.be)

### Offer groups

#### « PASSION » GUIDED TOURS

Discover different facets of life in the 18th century.

**Description :** A guided tour of 1 hour of the permanent collection or exhibition (in the museum or in the park).

**Guided visits :** FR, EN, NL, IT, ES

**Duration :** 1h

**Target groups :** and cultural groups, seniors

**Groups :** Max. 20 persons.

**Access for limited mobility**

**Price :** 55 €/group + 3-4€/pers (entrance)

**Availability :** every day apart from working Mondays, from 10:00 am to 06:00 pm

#### GUIDED TOURS WITH WORKSHOP

Chocolate or seduction of the 18th century.

**Description :** A guided tour of 1 hour and workshop (30') You must make a reservation (15 days before the visit).

**Guided visits :** FR, EN, NL, IT, ES

**Duration :** 1h30

**Target groups :** Children from 7y/o, adults

**Groups :** Max. 20 persons.

**Access for limited mobility**

**Price :** 85€/group + 3-4€/pers. (entrance)

**Availability :** All year

#### TAILOR-MADE TOURS

A visit which combines your targets and your wishes.

**Description :** Visit(s) and/or workshop(s) Tasting lounge (chocolate, tea, coffee and cakes)...Estimate on request.

**Guided visits :** FR, EN, NL, IT, ES

**Duration :** On demand

**Target groups :** Small cultural groups, with friends or family

**Groups :** Max. 10 persons.

**Access for limited mobility**

**Price :** On demand

**Availability :** All year

**Note :** Possibility to organize a whole day

For these offers, you must make a reservation (15 days before the visit). You must arrive 15 minutes in advance (because of the walking between the parking and the museum, slippers compulsory, cloakroom)



## The Castle of Louvignies

### Lakefront English park of 13 hectares, a 19th century castle tells the life of the Belle Epoque, the masters and servants.

The board room with his irons equipment and wooden grille from the 18th century to the kitchen with its copper pans, cake molds and imposing its furnace, through loans lounges for receptions, all remained in place.

The rooms also have kept the flavor of the past. Their cupboards open on the toilet and frills of the ladies of yesteryear. satin dresses and brocade bodices beads, silk scarves, range ... ornaments that evoke an entire rustling past.

The imposing furnace have followed generations cords blue-cookers which made the reputation of the owners.

In the dining room, very end of the century, spreads the family service to armorial bearings, commissioned in Paris in 1867.

**Opening period :** All year on previous request

**Schedules / days of opening :** On demand - Booking request

**Address :** Rue de Villegas, 1  
7063 Ch-Nd- Louvignies

**Website :** [www.chateau-louvignies.be](http://www.chateau-louvignies.be)

### Offer groups

#### VISIT THE CASTLE OF LOUVIGNIES

The lives of masters and servants in the 19th century.

**Description :** Home of the group on the stairs of the castle. Tour of the ground floor lounges, visiting floors with their themed rooms, tour of the kitchen in the basement, visit the cooler in the park and visit to the park .

**Guided visits :** FR, NL, EN

**Duration :** 1h30

**Target groups :** All publics

**Groups :** Max. 25 persons/group

**Access for limited mobility**

**Availability :** All year on previous request



# LOCAL PRODUCTS



## The Brewery St-Feuillien

**145 years of passion and know-how.**

The St-Feuillien brewery was founded in 1873 by Stéphanie Friart. In 1920, production was transferred to more modern buildings, which are still home to the majority of the current production facilities today. The construction of these buildings dates back to 1893. They have thus been the subject of continual renovations over the past few years, designed to harmoniously integrate modern equipment and 19th century industrial heritage. Now in its 5th generation of brewing tradition, the Friart family continues to turn out a wide range of quality beers, such as St-Feuillien and Grisette.

### Offer groups

#### ST-FEULLIEN BREWERY TOUR

Guided tour of the Brewery and tastings.

**Description :** Guided tour of the 19th Brewery and the new one + tastings of 2 beers.

**Guided visits :** FR, EN, NL, D

**Duration :** 2 hours (one for the tour and one for the tastings)

**Target groups :** All publics

**Groups :** Max. 80 persons

**Access for limited mobility**

**Price :** 8 €/pers.



**Opening period :** All year

**Schedules / days of opening :** 7/7 on reservation

**Address :** Rue d'Houdeng, 20 - 7070 Le Roeulx

**Website :** [www.st-feuillien.com](http://www.st-feuillien.com)



## « La Binchoise » Brewery

Located at the foot of the well-known ramparts of Binche, La Binchoise Brewery-Restaurant welcomes you the unique authentic setting of an old malt house.

Founded in 1987, the brewery revived the brewing tradition of the town by putting local beers using traditional methods back on the market.

The doors of this establishment have been open to the public since 2000. This room with its authentic character, bearing witness to its brewing past, welcomes you for guided tours on the lesser known aspects of the profession of brewer, but also to try beers manufactured in public. Also an opportunity to get together to savour a "binchoise" with a slice of bread and cheese, etc. In the Binchoise shop, you can find different items bearing the brewery's brand...

**Opening period :** All year

**Schedules / days of opening :** Guided tour can be organized on request

**Address :** Faubourg St - Paul, 38 - 7130 Binche

**Website :** [www.brasseriebinchoise.be](http://www.brasseriebinchoise.be)

### Offer groups

#### GUIDED TOUR

Tour of the brewery and tasting of 2 beers.

**Description :** Guided tour of the 19th Brewery and tastings of 2 beers.

**Guided visits :** FR, EN, NL

**Duration :** 1 h

**Target groups :** All publics

**Groups :** Min. 10 persons

**No access for limited mobility**

**Price :** 7 €/pers. - 3 € / child



# HERITAGE



## The Collegiate Church Saint-Vincent / Chaptermuseum

### The Saint-Vincent Collegiate Church, an exceptional example of Romanesque art

The collegiate church of Soignies is a milestone in the history of architecture in Belgium. Started around the year one thousand, it inaugurated the great Romanesque architecture that expanded in the western part of our country under Anglo-Saxon influence. It was enriched with baroque ornaments in the 17th century. The church was the seat of a powerful community of canons until the late 18th century and a pilgrimage church dedicated to Saint Vincent, patron of the city, whose worship is still alive.

The Chaptermuseum is a place that is closely related to the church. It takes place in an arm of the cloister with an exposed timber frame, of great aesthetic strength, and in the former administrative buildings of the canons. The museum brings back to life precious objects of religious art from the 11th to the 18th century.

**Opening period :** All year

**Schedules / days of opening :** Every day, 08:00 am - 05:00 pm / 06:00 pm (winter/summer). Partial access for free visits (except Church services) / Guided visits all year on request only the afternoon)

**Address :** Grand'Place - 7060 Soignies

**Website :** [www.collegialesaintvincent.be](http://www.collegialesaintvincent.be) - [www.collegiale-soignies.be](http://www.collegiale-soignies.be)

### Offer groups

#### DISCOVER THE SAINT-VINCENT COLLEGIATE CHURCH

An exceptional example of Romanesque Art.

**Description :** Guided tour of about an hour and a half/two hours including a tour of the offices, the pit and the model house.

**Guided visits :** FR, NL, EN

**Duration :** 1h15 - 1h30

**Target groups :** All publics, schools

**Groups :** 25 - 30 persons / group

**Access for limited mobility (Special gate)**

**Price :** 40 €/group

**Availability :** Partial access for free visits (except church services) / Guided visits all year on request, only the afternoon. Every day. 08:00 am - 05:00 pm / 06:00 pm (winter/summer)

#### VISIT THE CHAPTERMUSEUM, TREASURE OF THE SAINT-VINCENT COLLEGIATE CHURCH

**Guided visits :** FR, NL, EN

**Duration :** 45 min

**Target groups :** All publics, schools

**Groups :** 20 - 25 persons/ group.

**Price :** 30 €/group + 1 €/pers. (entrance)

**Availability :** Guided visits all year on request, only the afternoon



## The Blue Stone of Soignies Quarry and documentation centre - Walking tours

### Discover this unique industrial heritage !

#### The quarry

It's a spectacular sight to see these men working deep down in the quarry and manoeuvring mechanical monsters amidst the din of roaring engines and the rattle of the chains as they lift the huge blocks of limestone.

#### The Pierre Bleue documentation centre

Situated at the foot of the Collegiate Church, the Pierre Bleue Documentation Centre houses a collection of minerals and fossils; here, visitors can learn more about the natural material and how it was formed 345 million years ago.

**Opening period :** All year (except on week-ends), on request (Tourist Office of Soignies).

**Schedules / days of opening :** Tourist Office of Soignies : Tuesday to Friday, 08:30 am - 12:00 pm / 01:30 pm - 04:15 pm // Week-ends: 02:00 pm - 06:00 pm (June to September).

**Address :** Rue du Lombard, 2  
7060 Soignies

**Website :** [www.soignies.be](http://www.soignies.be)

### Offer groups

#### GUIDED TOUR OF A WORKING BLUE STONE QUARRY

**Description :** Meet in the quarry car park. Tour of the working quarry's installations with the guide then return to the starting point.

**Guided visits :** FR, NL, EN

**Duration :** 2h30

**Target groups :** Children 8+, teenagers, adults

**Groups :** Max. 20 persons/group

**No access for limited mobility**

**Price :** 4 €/pers. (or 60 €/group < 15 pers.)

**Availability :** All year on previous request except week-ends and annual holidays.

#### GUIDED TOUR OF THE PIERRE BLEUE DOCUMENTATION CENTRE

**Description :** Tour of the stone mason's lean-to, the geological history room (fossils and minerals) and the tool room.

**Guided visits :** FR, NL, EN

**Duration :** +/- 1h

**Target groups :** All publics

**Groups :** Max. 20 pers./group

**No access for limited mobility**

**Price :** 2,50 €/pers. (38 €/group < 15 pers.)





## The Abbey of Our Lady of Good Hope

### The only abbey in Hainaut remained intact after the French revolution !

In Abbey based in 1125, located on the territory of Estinnes (5km of Binche), on the current site since 1130. The marshy nature of the ground obliged the first monks to change three times of places. Today, we arrive in a large garden having, at the 19th century, replaced the main courtyard. We continue the visit inside where we will discover the main staircase, the cloister, the refectory, old kitchen, the chapter house and the Basilica. If imposed time allows it, one can in the back discover the excavations of the second abbey church which, it, was Gothic. Weekends from April to September from 14.00 to 20.30, opening of the Mill : visit, small restoration, bar, sets of children.

### Offer groups

#### ABBEY OF OUR LADY OF GOOD HOPE

Visit the abbey.

**Description :** Guided tour of about an hour and a half/two hours including a tour of the offices, the pit and the model house.

**Guided visits :** FR, NL

**Duration :** 1h30

**Target groups :** All, but especially interested in culture

**Groups :** 50 persons.

**Access for limited mobility :** About 80% of the tour

**Price :** 5 €/ pers.

**Availability :** All year



**Opening period :** For groups all the year

**Schedules / days of opening :** For groups by appointment

**Address :** Rue Grégoire Jurion, 22  
1720 Vellereilles-les-Brayeux (Estinnes)

**Website :**  
<http://www.bonne-esperance.be/abbaye>

Be guided...

In the Park of Canals and Castles

Have a walk...

In the Park of Canals and Castles

Have fun...

In the Park of Canals and Castles

Enjoy 1, 2 or 3 days...

In the Park of Canals and Castles

Grab a bite...

In the Park of Canals and Castles

Spend the night...

In the Park of Canals and Castles



## The Park of Canals and Castles by bike !

The Park of Canals and Castles offers a wide range of discovery circuits for exploring the region on foot or by bike.

Tourist trails have been mapped out and waymarked. The circuits will take you to a number of unique heritage sites: the Historic Canal du Centre with its UNESCO-listed hydraulic boat lifts, the giant Strépy-Thieu lift, the Bois-du-Luc mine site and its famous workers' housing development, etc.

Its situation bordering the Brussels-Charleroi Canal also provides opportunities for outings to Seneffe and its prestigious château, the Parc de Mariemont and Ronquières, famous for its Inclined Plane. The Tourism Bureau has a fleet of over 80 bikes.

### More informations

#### Price :

Hire rate: 2 € an hour  
6 € for 4 hours  
8 € a day  
14 € a weekend

You will be asked to provide a security deposit of 20 € per bike, along with proof of identity.

Groups (10, bikes or more): 6€ a day

You will be asked to provide a security deposit of 50 € for every 10 bikes, along with proof of identity.

#### Available at the Tourism Bureau :

Place Mansart, 21 22  
7100 La Louvière

There's also a possibility to rent bikes and get them from several places of the region. For more information, contact the Tourism Bureau (see p.55)



## Vhello

Come and discover the tourist attractions of the Mons and Centre Regions with VHELLO, the network of cycle nodes in the heart of Hainaut !

### Get on your bike and...

- go for a ride along the water's edge !
- visit museums and castles !
- discover heritage listed by UNESCO !
- enjoy the local gastronomy !
- retrace the footsteps of Vincent Van Gogh in Borinage and explore the mining heritage !

This new 880-km network of bicycle routes in the Heart of Hainaut will be connected to a series of node networks made up of over 41,000 km of marked sections. The nearest networks, which are already marked, are the Wallonie Picarde and Brabant Wallon networks.

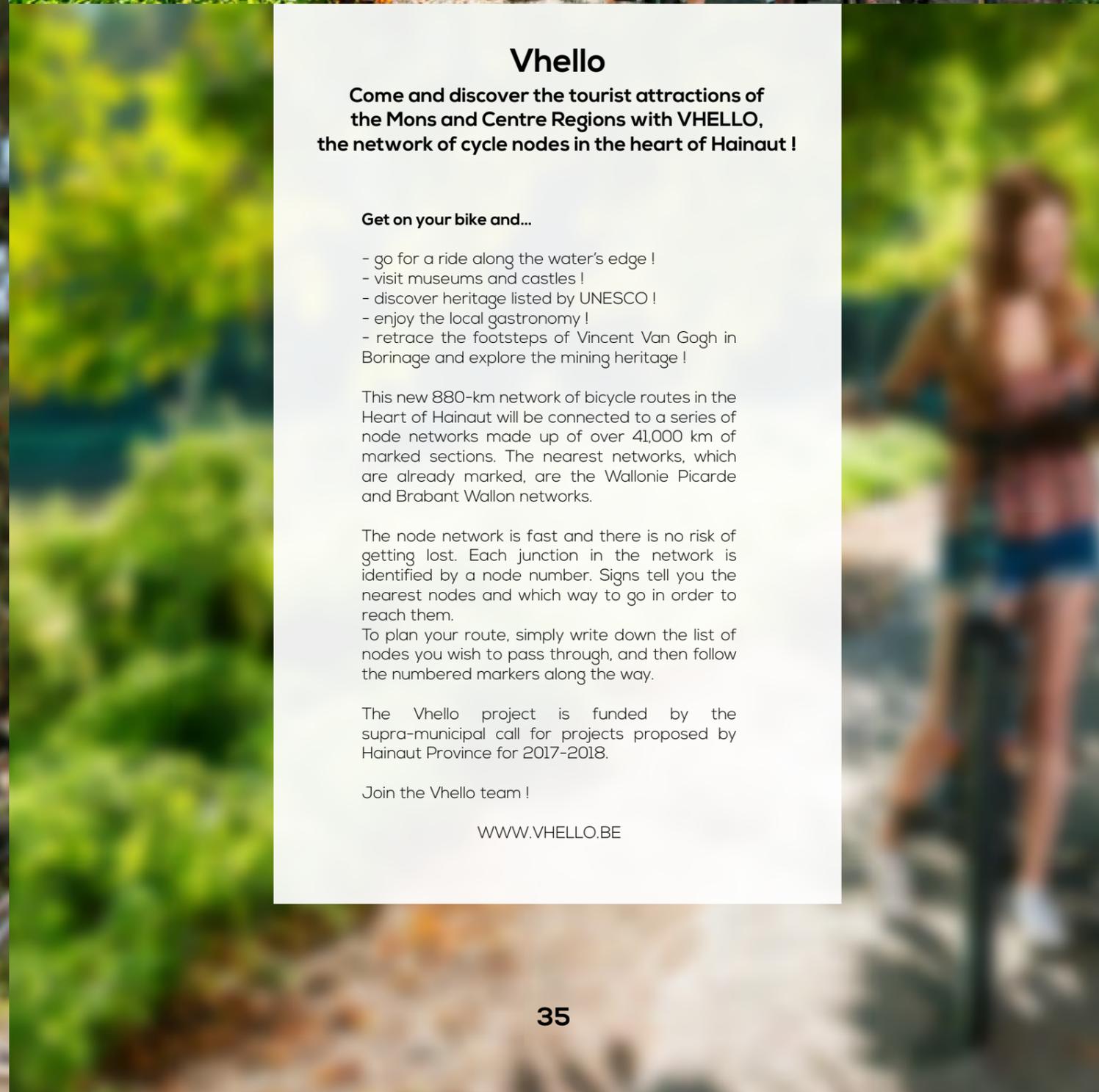
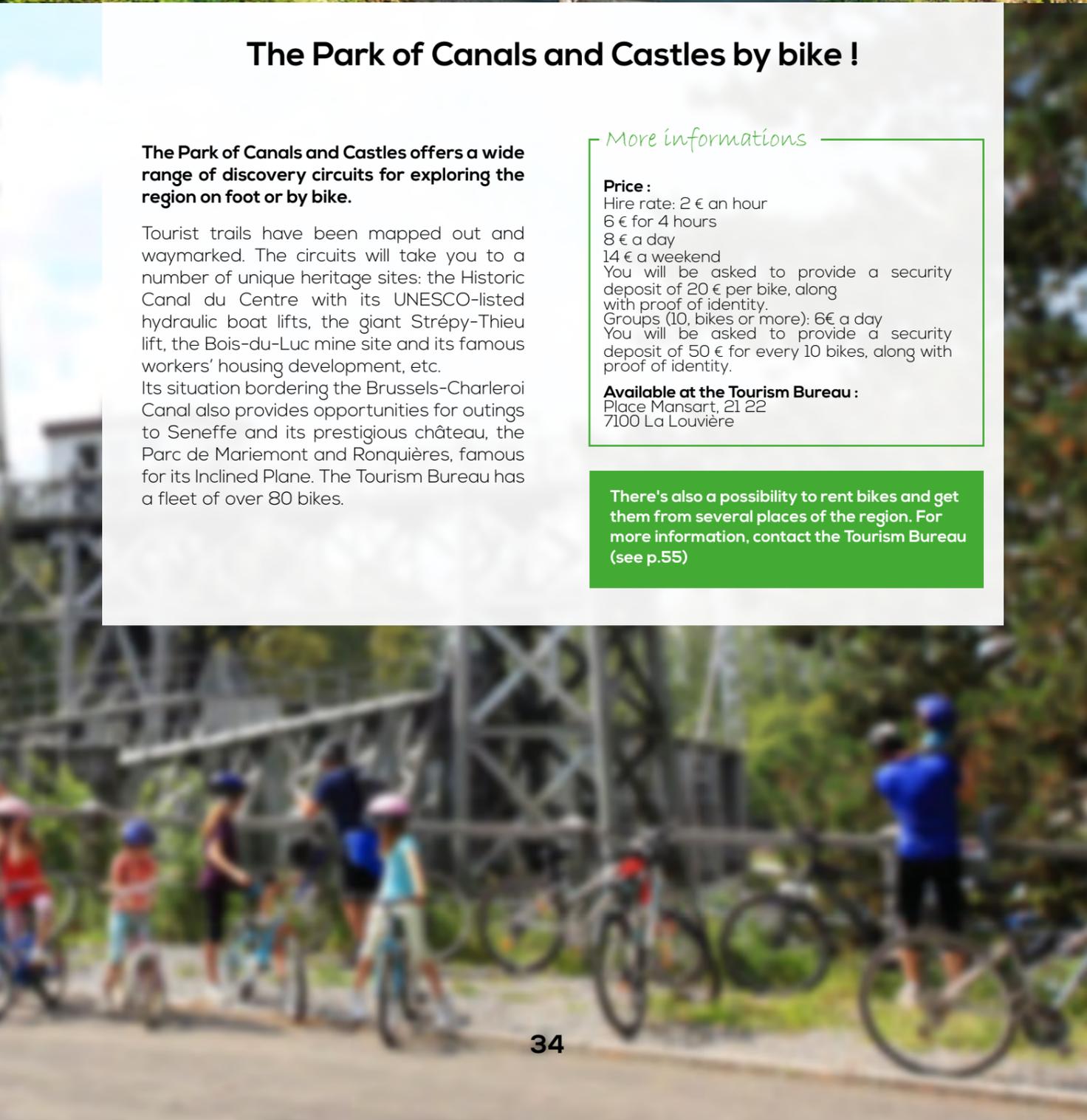
The node network is fast and there is no risk of getting lost. Each junction in the network is identified by a node number. Signs tell you the nearest nodes and which way to go in order to reach them.

To plan your route, simply write down the list of nodes you wish to pass through, and then follow the numbered markers along the way.

The Vhello project is funded by the supra-municipal call for projects proposed by Hainaut Province for 2017-2018.

Join the Vhello team !

WWW.VHELLO.BE



## EVENTS RIDES OF LA MAISON DU TOURISME DU PARC DES CANAUX ET CHÂTEAUX

### GOING WITH THE FLOW AND UNESCO (See p 38-39)

**Route description :** With 19 UNESCO World Heritage sites and events and one property registered in UNESCO's Memory of the World Programme, Hainaut Province holds a Belgian record. You will be starting your journey at the foot of the Strépy-Thieu boat lift (Ascenseur de Strépy-Thieu), the largest in Europe! A few miles away, you will join the historic Canal du Centre (Belgium) with its green banks. As you continue along the canal, admire the four hydraulic boat lifts. Then, pedal as far as the Port de Plaisance de Thieu and fill your lungs with fresh air in this charming marina. Finish off your ride by stopping off at the George Price Memorial, a place steeped in history.

**CONFIRMED - Level 3 - distance 22km**

### LA LOUVIÈRE UNESCO HERITAGE SITE

**Route description :** On this route, you can take a step back in time and explore the remarkable mining heritage of the Centre Region. The mining village of Bois-du-Luc is unique in Europe for having preserved all of its industrial buildings, school, workers' houses and church. Get on your bike and thoroughly explore one of the oldest and long-lasting coal mining sites in Belgium. Then continue your ride by discovering the watery surroundings of the Étangs de Strépy and the nature reserve. After a few more pedal strokes and you'll reach the banks of the historical Canal du Centre.

**FAMILY - Level 2 - distance 15km**

## EVENTS RIDES OF LA MAISON DU TOURISME DU PARC DES CANAUX ET CHÂTEAUX

### THE CASTLE TRAIL

**Route description :** Start your off ride with a visit to the Château de Seneffe and its Silverware museum. On arriving at this sumptuous estate, you will have the chance to discover a host of treasures: 54 acres of park and gardens that will delight nature lovers and walkers, as well as the largest silverware museum in Belgium. Then head for the historic Charleroi-Brussels Canal; its lush green banks are the perfect spot for taking a break and unwinding. Next follow the trail to the Château Fort d'Ecaus-sinnes-Lalaing - a major Walloon heritage site.

**CONFIRMED - Level 3 - distance 31km**

### EXPLORE THE BOIS DE LA HOUSSIÈRE

**Route description :** Start your ride at the Ronquières Inclined Plane. Visible for many miles around, the boat lift's tower offers both stunning views and a presentation about shipping entitled "A boat, a life". You can then head off to discover the Château Fort d'Ecaussinnes-Lalaing. Recognised as a major Walloon heritage site, this fortified castle sits on a rocky bluff above the village that grew around it. Finish up your ride by exploring the wooded town of Braine-le-Comte.

**CONFIRMED - Level 3 - distance 25km**

### A GOURMET RIDE FROM THE VINEYARD TO THE ABBEY

**Route description :** Ride into the heart of the Estinnes countryside and explore the vignoble des Agaises. The vineyard has been continuing the Champagne tradition in Belgium for 17 years now, producing sparkling wines (Ruffus cuvée) which have received prizes at major competitions. Not far away is the abbaye de Bonne- Espérance. Founded in 1130, this is the only abbey in Hainaut to have been spared the assaults of the French Revolution.

**FAMILY - Level 2 - distance 23km**

You want to see all the circuits ?

Go check our website : [WWW.VHELLO.BE](http://WWW.VHELLO.BE)



## STARTING POINT

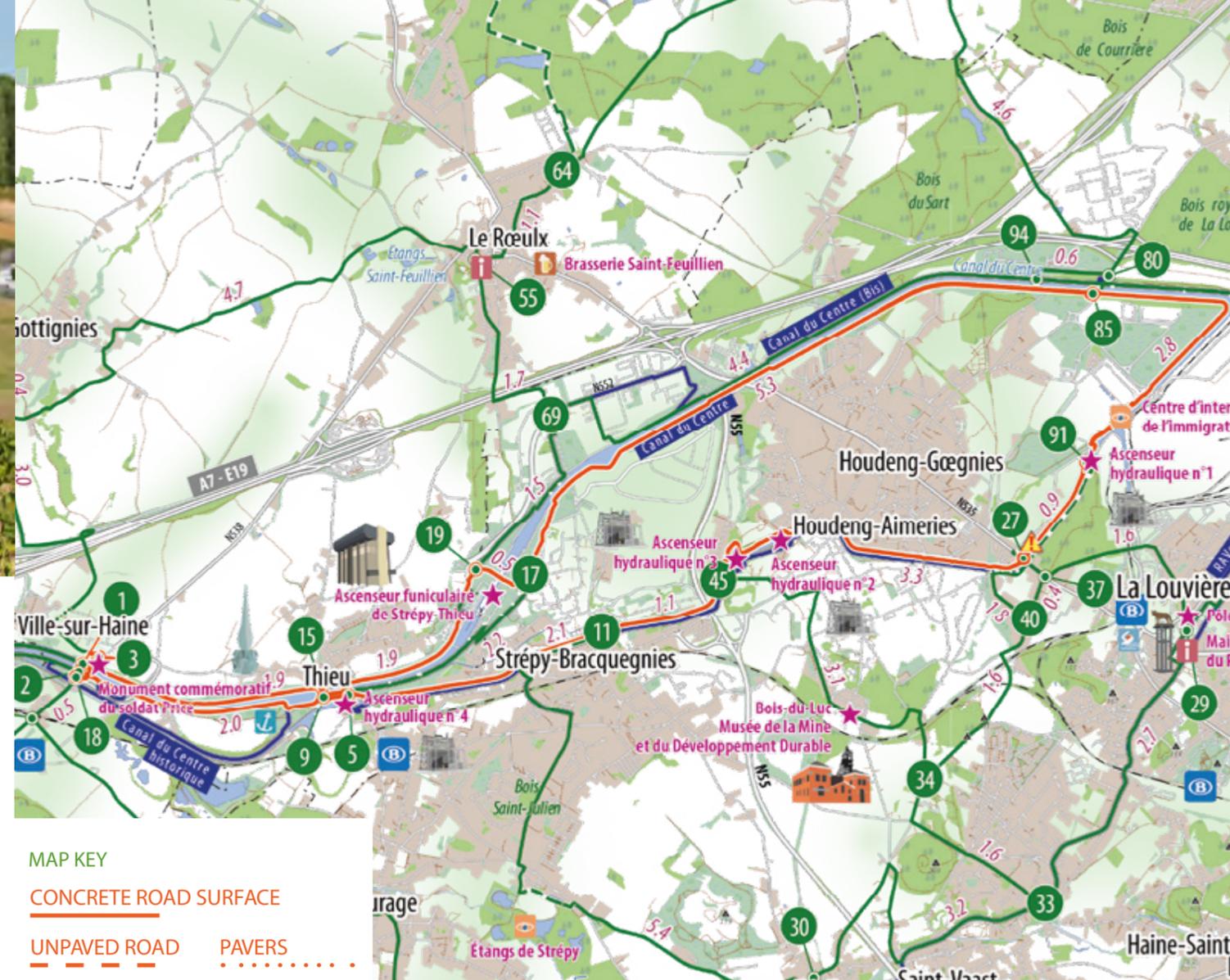
### Strépy-Thieu Boat Lift

Rue Raymond Cordier 50, 7070 Thieu

## ROUTE DESCRIPTION

With **19 UNESCO World Heritage sites and events and one property registered in UNESCO's Memory of the World Programme**, Hainaut Province holds a Belgian record.

You will be starting your journey at the foot of the **Strépy-Thieu boat lift** (Ascenseur de Strépy-Thieu), **the largest in Europe** ! This exceptional structure is open to the public and offers a visit full of discoveries. If the mood takes you, you can join a cruise and pass through the hundred-year-old boat lifts aboard a barge. A few miles away, you will join the **historic Canal du Centre (Belgium)** with its green banks. As you continue along the canal, admire the **four hydraulic boat lifts** – the only ones in the world in their original working condition ! Then, pedal as far as the **Port de Plaisance de Thieu** and fill your lungs with fresh air in this charming marina. You'll also be able to make the most of an **incredible view** of the old and new Canal du Centre. Finish off your ride by stopping off at the **George Price Memorial**, a place steeped in history. This monument is dedicated to the last Commonwealth soldier killed in the First World War and was inaugurated in 2018.



### MAP KEY

CONCRETE ROAD SURFACE

UNPAVED ROAD

PAVERS

### CYCLE NODES





See p. 43  
The Carnival of La Louvière

*Be guided...*

In the Park of Canals and Castles

*Have a walk...*

In the Park of Canals and Castles

*Have fun...*

In the Park of Canals and Castles

*Enjoy 1, 2 or 3 days...*

In the Park of Canals and Castles

*Grab a bite...*

In the Park of Canals and Castles

*Spend the night...*

In the Park of Canals and Castles



## The Carnival of Binche



**The carnival of Binche is a living and exceptional heritage, a popular, human and social event. It has been recognized as a "Masterpiece of the oral and intangible heritage of humanity" by UNESCO in 2003.**

This folkloric event, coming from a long oral tradition, is a real rite that gives the participants the feeling to be unique. For the inhabitants, and according to the famous quote, "there is no place like Binche in the world".

During a few months, the inhabitants and the City prepared their Carnival, in a real communion, and it is obviously the most important moment in the life of the City of Binche. The next Carnival will happen on the 23rd, 24th, 25th February 2020 with as highlight the journey of more than 1000 Gilles on Shrove Tuesday. This preparation process requires a lot of coordination for a lot of people : the association for the defense of Folklore, the association for the defense of the Shrove Monday, the committees of the Carnival societies, the Nonprofit Organization Carnival of Binche, de City of Binche, the Police, the assistance services,...

Through this website you will find all the historical, folkloric, and practical information linked to the Carnival of Binche.

You will also discover the photo galleries and the videos of the Carnival festivities and its preparations.

**Website :** [www.carnavaldebinche.be](http://www.carnavaldebinche.be)

*When ?*

**23rd, 24th, 25th February 2020**

## The Carnival of La Louvière

The carnival of La Louvière is called Laetare, after the latin verb meaning "To enjoy" (the introit at mass on the fourth Sunday of Lent begins Laetare Jerusalem, Rejoice Jerusalem). It lasts three days, Sunday to Tuesday, and takes place in the middle of Lent. The Gilles are out on all three days, stomping to the rhythm of their music and distributing oranges to the passers-by. Giant puppets and various other groups also take part in the parades and festivities

*When ?*

**22nd, 23rd, 24th March 2020**

### Guided excursion : "Dance with the gilles".

**You'll wake up bravely, shrouded in the warmth of a night already full of promise.**

You'll be plunged into the intimate atmosphere to be found behind the scenes of the festival, as you share a solemn moment with a "Gille" as he meticulously dresses himself.

You'll thrill to the hammering of the clogs and the beat of the drums and you'll be transported, hypnotized by clarinets and fifes, into the supernatural world of the carnival.

Oysters, champagne and oranges; crazy dances and colourful rondos: a world of magic for you to share.

On Sunday 22nd March 2020, you can be part of the pack at the "City of wolves" carnival, led by a guide born and bred in La Louvière.

#### Guided tour programme \*

- 3.30 am: Meet at the 'Park of Canals and Castles' Tourism Bureau.
- Dressing of the Gille.
- "Ramassage": the Gilles are "taken" from house to house.
- Traditional breakfast: champagne and oysters/salmon.
- 9.00 am: "Masked Rondo" on Place Jules Mansart.
- Visit to the "Laetare down through history" exhibition".
- 12.30 pm: "Grand Rondo" on Place Communale.

\*Apart from the meeting time, the above timings are all approximate.

**Price :** Guided tour: 20€ per person\*

\*Entry to the exhibition and the traditional breakfast are included in the price.

**Availability :** Sunday 22nd March 2020

**Note :** Please contact the Tourism Bureau if you would like to stay in a hotel for the night of Saturday 21st March to Sunday 22nd March.

**« Make a two days trip in the carnival theme » : see p. 49**



## 'Décrocher la lune'

### Urban opera

Created in 2000 by Franco Dragone, the urban opera "Décrocher la lune" has flourished ever since, becoming a flagship project of La Louvière. A not-for-profit organisation was founded in 2014, taking the work of the project beyond the performance itself. The event brings together all sorts of cultural and local participants, in an atmosphere where people learn and share different aspects of street art. A number of "Lunar Companies" have been created: the "Grand Orchestre National Lunaire" (80 amateur musicians and singers), the "Compagnie Altitude 80" (stilt walkers), the "Compagnie des Sept Lieux" (giant puppets), "Les Filoups" (tightrope walkers) and "Contre-Pointe" (aerial dancers). These "Lunar Companies" work throughout La Louvière and Belgium, as well as abroad!

**The eighth event of its kind will be taking place of september 2021!**

[www.decrocherlalune.eu](http://www.decrocherlalune.eu)



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Spend the night...

In the Park of Canals and Castles

## ONE DAY IN THE PARK OF CANALS AND CASTLES

### UNESCO IN LA LOUVIÈRE

**Morning :** Visit of the mine site of Bois-du-Luc (see p. 16)

**Noon :** Meal in the city centre (see restaurants p. 52)

**Afternoon :** Cruise on the historic Canal du Centre (see p. 9)

### GASTRONOMY

**Morning :** Visit of the brewery St-Feuillien (see p. 27)

**Noon :** Meal in a gastronomic restaurant/at the brewery (see restaurants p. 52)

**Afternoon :** Visit of The Château de Seneffe Estate + tasting coffee, chocolate or tea as it was made in the 18th century. (see p. 24)

### CULTURE AND NATURE

**Morning :** Visit of the Royal Museum of Mariemont (see p. 19)

**Noon :** Meal in the city centre (see p. 52)

**Afternoon :** Cruise on the historic Canal du Centre (see p. 9)

### ART

**Morning :** Guided visit "Artistic impressions" in the city centre of La Louvière (see p. 4)

**Noon :** Meal in the city centre (see p. 52)

**Afternoon :** Visit of one museum of La Louvière-centre (Keramis, MiLL, Centre for Engravings or Centre Daily-bul & co) + Visit of the Gallery/shop "Brock 'n' Roll" (only on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays) (see p. 12)



## TWO DAYS IN THE PARK OF CANALS AND CASTLES

### UNESCO IN CŒUR DU HAINAUT

#### Day 1

**Morning:** Visit of the mine site of Bois-du-Luc (see p. 16)

**Noon:** Meal in the city centre (see restaurants p. 52)

**Afternoon:** Cruise on the historic Canal du Centre (see p. 9)

#### Day 2

**Morning:** Visit of the International Carnival and Mask Museum (see p. 20) / The Belfry of Binche and the Medieval town (see p. 6)

**Noon:** Meal in the historic city center of Mons

**Afternoon:** Visit of the historic city center of Mons (Belfry and/or Doudou Museum)

### UNMISSABLES OF THE PARK OF CANALS AND CASTLES

#### Day 1

**Morning:** Visit of the Royal Museum of Mariemont (see p. 19)

**Noon:** Meal in the city center of La Louvière (see p. 52)

**Afternoon:** Cruise on the historic Canal du Centre (see p. 9) + Visit of the funicular lift of Strepv-thieu (see p. 10)

#### Day 2

**Morning:** Visit of Keramis (see p. 15) / Centre for Engravings (see p. 18) / Mine site of Bois-du-luc (see p. 12)

**Noon:** Meal in the city center of La Louvière (see p. 52)

**Afternoon:** Visit of the Château de Seneffe estate (see p. 24)

### CARNIVAL - 'DANCE WITH THE GILLES' (ONLY FROM 21ST TO 22ND MARCH 2020)

#### Day 1

**Morning:** Visit of the historic center of Binche (medieval city) (see p. 6)

**Noon:** Meal in the City Center of Binche

**Afternoon:** Visit of the International Carnival and Mask Museum (see p. 20)

**Evening:** Meal in the City Center of La Louvière or at "La Planche" (beside the hotel)

#### Day 2

**Morning:** Guided visit "Danse avec les Gilles" (see p. 45)

**Afternoon:** back to the hotel (tardive check-out possible)



## THREE DAYS IN THE PARK OF CANALS AND CASTLES

### UNMISSABLES OF THE PARK OF CANALS AND CASTLES

#### Day 1

**Morning :** Visit of Keramis, Ceramics Centre (see p. 15)

**Noon :** Meal in the city center of La Louvière (see p. 52)

**Afternoon :** Cruise on the historic Canal du Centre (see p. 9)

#### Day 2

**Morning :** Visit of the mine site of Bois-du-Luc (see p. 16)

**Noon :** Meal in the city center of La Louvière (see p. 52)

**Afternoon :** Visit of the Royal Museum of Mariemont (see p. 19)  
+ Visit of the brewery of St-Feuillien and tasting (see p. 27)

#### Day 3

**Morning :** Visit of the International Carnival and Mask Museum  
(see p. 20) + View of the Belfry (see p. 6)

**Noon :** Meal in the center of Binche

**Afternoon :** Visit of the Château de Seneffe estate (see p. 24)

*Be guided...*

In the Park of Canals and Castles

*Have a walk...*

In the Park of Canals and Castles

*Have fun...*

In the Park of Canals and Castles

*Enjoy 1, 2 or 3 days...*

In the Park of Canals and Castles

*Grab a bite...*

In the Park of Canals and Castles

*Spend the night...*

In the Park of Canals and Castles

## RESTAURANTS\*

### LA HALLE AUX DRAPS

Grand Place, 5  
7060 Soignies  
Tel : ++32(0)67/55.32.23  
www.lahalleauxdraps.com

### LA TOUR GLACÉE

Route Baccara 4  
7090 Ronquières  
Tel : ++32(0)67/64.61.16  
www.latourglacee.be

### LE VÔTRE

Chaussée de Bruxelles, 390  
7090 Braine-Le-Comte  
Tel : ++32(0)67/55.61.22  
www.levotre.be

### LA CANTINE DES ITALIENS

Rue Tout-y-Faut, 90  
7110 Houdeng-Goegnies  
Tel : ++32(0)64/ 84.78.32

### L'ORIGINE

Rue de l'Arbre Borne, 2  
7100 Trivières  
Tel : ++32(0)64/26.42.64  
www.lorigine.be

### LES BRASSERIES DU MANSART

Place Mansart, 1  
7100 La Louvière  
Tel : ++32(0)64/ 26.12.59  
www.brasseriesmansart.be

### LA TABLE DE MARYLOU

Rue de Mons, 15  
7060 Soignies  
Tel : ++32(0)67/21.13.00  
www.latabledemarylou.be

### BRASSERIE "LA TERRASSE DE MARIEMONT"

Chaussée de Mariemont, 100  
7140 Morlanwelz  
Tel : ++32(0)64/ 27.37.63  
www.musee-mariemont.be

### LA DOLCE VITA

Place Maugrétout, 3  
7100 La Louvière  
Tel : ++32(0)64/ 21.74.40  
www.geletaria-dolcevita.be

### LES GOURMANDS DISENT

Rue Sylvain Guyaux, 8  
7100 La Louvière  
Tel : ++32(0)64/ 28.40.95  
www.lesgournadsdisent.be

### BRASSERIE L'ORANGERIE

Rue L.Plasman 7/9  
7180 Seneffe  
Tel : ++32(0)64/ 23.93.68  
http://www.traiteur-lmdt.be/

### LA PLANCHE

Chaussée du Pont du Sart, 240  
7110 Houdeng-Aimeries  
Tel : ++32(0)64/ 45.15.17  
http://newsites.resto.com/laplanche/

### LA BRACE

Place Verte, 9  
7060 Soignies  
Tel : ++32(67)/33.30.08

### LE TOURNEBRIDE

Rue Grégoire Jurion 18,  
7120 Vellereille-les-Brayeux  
Tél.: +32(0)64/33.11.47  
http://www.bonneesperance.be/fr/le-  
tournebride

### LA BRASSERIE DU DAMIER

Rue de l'Hospice 59,  
7110 Houdeng-Aimeries  
Tél : ++32(0)64/22.28.70  
www.labrasseriédudamier.be

### BRASSERIE LA BINCHOISE

Faubourg Saint-Paul, 38  
7130 Binche  
Tél : ++32(0)64/33.61.86  
www.brasseriela binchoise.be

### RESTAURANT « L'INTRA MUROS »

Avenue Charles Delière, 35  
7130 Binche  
Tél : ++32(0)476/62.58.08  
www.lintramuros.be

\* This is a non-exhaustive list, for more information, contact the Tourism Bureau

Be guided...

In the Park of Canals and Castles

Have a walk...

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Have fun...

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Grab a bite...

In the Park of Canals and Castles

Spend the night...

In the Park of Canals and Castles

# HOTELS\*

## HOTEL ORANGE \*\*\*

Chaussée du Pont du Sart, 238  
7110 La Louvière  
Tel: ++32(0)64/77.33.00  
info@orangehotel.be  
www.orangehotel.be



## HOTEL BELLE-VUE \*\*\*

Rue de Belle-Vue, 126  
7100 La Louvière  
Tel: ++32(0)64/43.18.00  
info@hotel-belle-vue.be  
www.hotel-belle-vue.be



## HOTEL LE VAL-FAYT \*\*\*

Rue de la Croyère, 21  
7170 Fayt-Lez-Manage  
Tel : ++32(0)64/ 23.90.85  
reception@valfayt.be  
www.valfayt.be



## CASTEAU RESORT HOTEL \*\*\*\*

Chaussée de Bruxelles, 38  
7061 Casteau  
Tel: ++32(0)65/32.04.00  
info@casteauresort.be  
www.casteauresortmons.be



## HOTEL IBIS STYLE

Rue du Wavrin, 4  
7110 Houdeng-Goegnies  
Tel: ++ 32(0)64/66.44.44  
iHA8G3@accor.com  
www.ibis.com



## DOMAINE DE LA LOUVE

Rue Léopold III, 6  
7100 Saint-Vaast  
Tel : ++32(0)64/ 22.95.80  
++32(0)64/ 22.57.12

## LE TRISTAR \*\*\*\*

Place Maugrétout, 5  
7100 La Louvière  
Tel: ++32(0)64/23.62.60  
info@hoteltristar.be  
www.hoteltristar.be



## LE MANOIR DU CAPITAINE \*\*\*

Chemin de Boulouffe, 1  
7181 Feluy  
Tel: ++32(0)67/87.45.40  
welcome@manoirducapitaine.com  
www.manoirducapitaine.com



\* This is a non-exhaustive list, for more information, contact the Tourism Bureau



## PLAN YOUR STAY!

Are you looking to spend a day, a weekend or longer innovative the Parc des Canaux et Châteaux? Are you travelling through the region and don't know what to visit?

**Associations, coach firms, travel agencies, tour operators, schools and companies:** we'll provide you with advice and information! We can also concoct a tailor-made stay based on your wishes and interests and can put you in touch with our partners to ensure that your stay in the Parc des Canaux et Châteaux becomes an unforgettable experience !

**For all requests, please contact the Maison du Tourisme du Parc des Canaux et Châteaux (at least 2 weeks before the date of your visit):**

By email : [maisondutourisme@lalouviere.be](mailto:maisondutourisme@lalouviere.be)

By téléphone : ++32(0)64/26.15.00

Address : Place Jules Mansart, 21-22, 7100 La Louvière

Website : [www.parcdescanauxetchateaux.be](http://www.parcdescanauxetchateaux.be)



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**TOURISM BUREAU  
OF THE PARK OF CANALS AND  
CASTLES**

Place J. Mansart, 21 - 22  
7100 La Louvière

++32(0)64/26.15.00

maisondutourisme@lalouviere.be  
www.parcdescanauxetchateaux.be