

2024
EDITION



FRENCH ARDENNES Inspirations

Get close to nature

ESCAPISM

THE GREEN
PATHS
OF FREEDOM

BRIGHT IDEA

TAKE PART
IN CHALLENGES FOR
THE WHOLE FAMILY

ESCAPADE

FOLLOW
THE ROUTE
OF LEGENDS





ESCAPISM & AUTHENTICITY

CYCLING FEATURE

- The paths of freedom · 10
 The South Ardennes greenway · 12
 The enchanting valley of the locks · 14
 Downhill runs in the midst of the forest · 16

ECOTOURISM

- The Ardennes, the flagship destination · 18
 for sustainable tourism
 An encounter in the easygoing footsteps of a donkey · 20
 Tempted to go with the flow? · 23

IN THE LAND OF LEGENDS

- A meeting with Arduin the druid 24

THE TASTE FOR WIDE OPEN SPACES

- Motor home fan vs Van lifer 26



HERITAGE & SHARING

CITY BREAK IN CHARLEVILLE-MÉZIÈRES

- Put on your Seven-league boots · 30
 I tested the Rimbaud Tour for you · 32

ADVENTURE

- Sedan Castle: 600 years of history 34

FINE ARCHITECTURE 37

- Bikers together from Rocroi to Givet ·
 On the roads with the family ·
 A Romantic stroll at Mouzon ·

THE RIMBAUD VERLAINE ROUTE

- In the footsteps of the poets Rimbaud – Verlaine 40

A STROLL WITH A DIFFERENCE

- To the rhythm of a horse 42

AN ENCOUNTER WITH ANCIENT CRAFTS

- The age-old craft of felt-making 43

REMEMBRANCE TOURISM

- The key sites of the three wars · 44
 I tested the War and Peace Museum for you · 47



FAMILY & DELIGHT

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

- 51 **Enjoy experiences with the family**
 · Become an animal keeper
 · Try the spills and thrills challenge
 · An encounter with bees
 · Enter a fairy-tale world
 · Explore the aquatic world with dry feet
 · Take a world tour
 · Change your space-time

RECHARGE YOUR BATTERIES

- 56 The Top 5 activities at the Vieilles Forges
 and Bairon Lakes

IN THE REALM OF FANTASY

- 59 Feast your eyes with the spectacular
 shows at La Cassine

MUSIC AND FESTIVITIES

- 60 Cabaret Vert, fervour unmatched worldwide

GASTRONOMY

- 62 In the kitchen of a top chef, Gratién Leroy



PRATICAL INFORMATION

- 65 Useful addresses
 Ardennes Tourist Offices
 66 Coming to the Ardennes

FRENCH ARDENNES
Inspirations





The Ardennes

The Obvious choice

Be warned. The Ardennes is a potent land, a magnetic centre, a place of arcane inspiration. It was here that Arthur Rimbaud, Paul Verlaine and others drew the power of their creativity.

In ancient times the goddess Arduinna reigned over the immense forest of the Ardennes, rich in game, surrounded by a small legendary people... Take care when you upturn a stone or climb over its rocks... when you walk through the Ardennes you run the risk of being bewitched. It also offers a getaway within easy reach, a haven of peace to recharge one's batteries and have fun. The region is dotted with lakes, rivers, leisure and wildlife parks.



Stimulate your senses and your mind



Green and cool thanks to their verdant countryside, the Ardennes can be enjoyed in a multitude of ways. On foot, on a bicycle, by boat, by train... Take the new South Ardennes Greenway to follow the course of the Meuse or the Ardennes Canal and its bucolic valley of the locks.

Discover the remarkable heritage of the "Cities of Art and History" and "Small Towns of Character"®. Venture with friends or family down byways and off the beaten track by motorbike or in a motorhome: they are sure to lead you to unforgettable buildings. The summer is enlivened by a wide choice of activities and festivals. Let your instinct guide you, and don't hesitate to ask your way. The people of the Ardennes are like their land: warm, welcoming, and epicurean !



✦
2024
EDITION
✦



// 2024

In the News ✧

✧ MYSTERY



ESCAPE GAME

Sedan castle, Ardennes Museum, in the footsteps of Verlaine in Rethel, Charlemont Fort, War and Peace Museum, Aubrives brewery ... discover our architectural and cultural heritage through numerous escape games covering the entire region... by request, with advance booking, or impromptu.

DETAILS :

● ardennes.com

2023 WINNER



THE FRENCH PEOPLE'S FAVOURITE MONUMENT IS IN SEDAN

Sedan Castle was voted favourite monument by the French in 2023, in Stéphane Bern's TV programme: a fine birthday present for the Giant of the Ardennes, which celebrates its 600th anniversary in 2024.

● www.chateau-fort-sedan.fr

D-365



FROM 19TH TO 22ND SEPTEMBER 2024: "M TIME"

A great time for marionettes, in anticipation of the World Puppet Theatre Festival every 2 years in Charleville-Mézières.

DETAILS FROM :

● festival-marionnette.com

🎭 AMUSEMENT

// Street theatre

A date for your diary: the last Sunday in August in Houldizy, for a day of laughter inspired by its Festival of street theatre. Great value, and a popular success because this will be its 23rd edition.

● festivalhouldizy.fr

🏛️ NEW

// The Slate Museum in Fumay

Fumay, a slate town since the 12th century, continues to write its own history. Discover it in the former Franciscan monastery.

● +33 (0)3 24 41 10 34

FANTASTIC



AN ACCROCOMMANDO COURSE

A Tyrolean traverse along the ramparts, a jump with a 21 metre drop, a demanding via ferrata.... Enjoy real adventure on the former commando training course in the Charlemont Fort in Givet. Tough...!

www.charlemont.fr

REMEMBRANCE

// Understanding "the Verdun of 1940"

The destiny of France changed radically at Stonne between 15th and 27th May 1940. Despite fierce, bloody fighting, the German forces advanced towards the conquest of this strategic hill. The newly created Stonne Battle Museum aims to contribute to better understanding of the "Verdun of 1940", and completes the existing facilities (viewpoint, circuits with explanatory panels, etc.).

DETAILS FROM

www.portesduluxembourg.fr

INTENSITY

// Improve your bushcraft

Discover survival basics with an intense experience in the heart of nature: hiking, camping, eating and being confronted with your limits.

DETAILS FROM

gregoutdoor.fr

SIMPLICITY

// Party with your pooch

Accommodation, restaurants, activities: make the most of your stay with your dog, with the help of the South Ardennes and Charleville-Sedan tourist offices labelled "Toutourisme", and the South Ardennes Toutouride.

DETAILS FROM

toutourismefrance.jimdoofree.com

AUTHENTIC



A BANQUET IN THE DUCAL SQUARE

On the Place Ducale during the first weekend in May, a unique gastronomic event, the Festival des Confréries (Festival of Gastronomic Brotherhoods), celebrates its 20th anniversary in 2024. "Cacasse à cul" (potato fricassee), "salade au lard" (bacon salad), "gâteau mollet" (the local brioche), Trappist beers and many other delights are represented by more than fifty Belgian and French brotherhoods. Tastings, demonstrations and concerts offer an original and festive opportunity to discover the local gastronomic traditions.

www.festivaldesconfreries.com

NATURE

// Accessible itineraries

The forest accessible to everyone exists: a 500 metre discovery circuit accessible to wheelchairs near the Forest Museum in Renwez, a 2 km trail for persons with hearing, visual or cognitive disabilities in Vireux-Molhain, personal transporters for persons with reduced mobility from the Nature Museum in Boult-aux-Bois: Nature in complete autonomy.

www.maison-nature-boult.eu

www.parc-naturel-ardennes.fr

CURIOSITY

// A village totally "Nature"

In Boult-aux-Bois, discover the Nature Museum and its many free activities and tours. Take a walk through the inspirational village where "La Hulotte" (the Tawny Owl), "the most-read magazine in the burrows", was born.

EXCELLENCE

// Play area

Handball, judo, boxing, artistic gymnastics, basketball, football, table tennis... Top-level sportspersons in the Ardennes can benefit from seven training centres for the 2024 Olympics. Among them is the fabulous Vieilles Forges site for rowing, canoe, paralympic rowing and paracanoe.

cdo8.fr

OUTDOOR

// Sedan Hiking Centre

Paddle, canoe, pedal boats, kayak, cycling, scooters, padcraft... the Hiking Centre in Sedan offers excursions on the water and in the countryside, unaccompanied or with guides. In the summer, activities around and about the river Meuse are provided in the towns and villages on the river: mini adventures, guided tours on the river, nautical park, electric scooters, etc.

+33 (0)6 74 55 79 91

LABEL

// The Ardennes in bloom

The Ardennes, a region essentially natural, is also remarkably full of flowers. In proof of this, in 2023 the region was awarded the national label for its actions in favour of the label "Towns and villages in bloom". A distinction with a sweet smell of laurels.

ardennes.com



MS



BD



VF



AT



DT



**MARC
SUMÉRA**

An enthusiastic, ethereal photographer

"The sun rises over the Vallée de Misère near Rocroi. It's August. Summer's end. The trees are slowly beginning to turn golden. Mists cling to the land. This is the first sight before me as I arrive in the regulatory area at an altitude of 150 m. With a paramotor we have a privileged, 360° view. I wanted to seize this moment, to be able to share it. As is so often the case, this valley reveals a new aspect of itself with each season and each flight: autumn, spring or winter, I have hundreds of images."



**BRIGITTE
& DENIS MIGNON**

Wild life photographers

It's summer in the Ardennes and the photographer is taking it easy, admiring an impressionist landscape in which the long pink stems of foxgloves bend in the wind over a carpet of green ferns. Then suddenly the scene is enlivened by the appearance of the head of a young roe deer. Clearly it believes it is well hidden in the greenery and pays no attention to the photographer who, fascinated, preserves the moment in his camera. A brief but moving encounter.



**ALYSSE
THOMÉ**

Native of the Ardennes, devoted photographer of the cabaret vert

"The first opening night of Face B took place in August 2021. This photo shows the culmination of months of work by FLaP, an association of voluntary and other workers devoted to this slightly mad project to open the Macérienne factory to the public. In this decor the "Wow" factor was inevitable. The absolutely spectacular setting, and above all the essentially cultural life in lieu of our beloved Cabaret Vert a return to "normal", the first day of a wager that today we can say has been won."



SHARE YOUR MOST BEAUTIFUL PHOTOS ON INSTAGRAM

#ardennes
#visitardenne
#ardennestourisme



**VINCENT
FRASIAK**

A passion for outdoor photography and beautiful images

"I took this photo in spring on my longboard on the Champ Bernard road. I enjoy mixing my passion for photography and extreme sports. With this image I wanted to bring out the combined effects of the glide and speed. For the nature sports enthusiast the Ardennes provides a wonderful, easily accessible playground to recharge one's batteries, practice mountain biking, hiking, skateboard, or any outdoor activities."



**DAVID
TRUILLARD**

Photographer illustrator

"With his height of 10 metres, Tchangara impressed us all on the Place Ducale during the 2023 World Puppet Theatre Festival. He needed eleven operators, and a troupe of dancers to open the march. The crowd seemed to enter into communication at the foot of this giant. His message of love and ecology made us forget his "mechanical" status, rather like Carlo Collodi's Pinocchio. It was an intense moment."



ESCAPISM
& AUTHENTICITY





*When we explore the Ardennes,
We don't discover a forest,
But a thousand forests.*

ANDRÉ DHÔTEL





THE PATHS of freedom

A BIKE IS A PRECIOUS ALLY FOR EXPLORING THE ARDENNES IN DEPTH, THANKS TO A VAST NETWORK OF MARKED TRAILS AND CYCLE ROUTES ACCESSIBLE TO ALL. DETAILS.

MAP

MAP OF ARDENNES GREENWAYS

The connections with the other routes in the region (Trans-Semoysienne and Ennemane) and the Belgian RAVel network in Givet are also shown.

AVAILABLE IN ALL ARDENNES TOURIST OFFICES, OR DOWNLOAD THE INTERACTIVE VERSION FROM voiesvertes.cd08.fr (version interactive)



DON'T MISS

THE MEUSE CYCLE ROUTE TRANS-ARDENNES GREENWAY



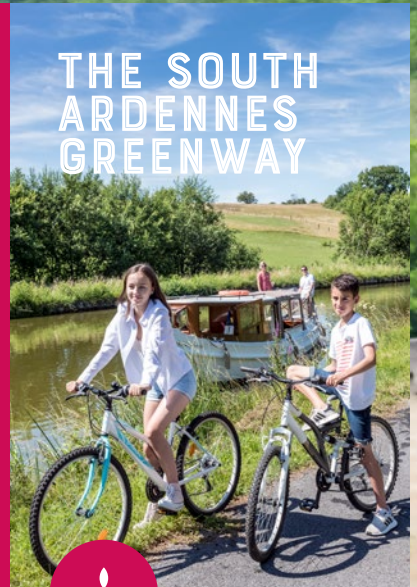
Over 1000 km of marked trails from the source of the Meuse on the Langres Plateau to its estuary in Rotterdam.

The Meuse cycle route EuroVelo 19 offers an exceptional itinerary across three countries: France, Belgium, Netherlands. The Trans-Ardenne Greenway, in the very heart of the trek, is a very restorative portion of the Meuse cycle route. This fully secure towpath, the very backbone

of stress-free touring in the Ardennes, crosses their legendary heart. 130 km of trails for the entire family, and numerous opportunities to explore other cycle paths or exceptional towns and villages: Mouzon (©Small City of Character), Sedan and Charleville-Mézières (Towns of Art and History), Monthermé (Pearl of the Meuse), Revin, Haybes, as far as Givet.

NEW

THE SOUTH ARDENNES GREENWAY



New, join the Ardennes Canal from Pont à Bar and use it as your starting point to explore the South Ardennes region.

110 km of stress-free touring along the wonderful valley of the locks before reaching the Aisne valley. Le Chesne, Attigny, Voncq, Vouziers, Rethel, Asfeld...

THE TRANSEMOSYIENNE

Follow the line of the Semoy river in Monthermé and enjoy the numerous viewpoints of that beautiful valley. The former railway line, now a greenway, takes you to the Belgian border some 20 km away. Along the Semoy you follow the Lesse and Semoy cross-border cycle trail. It continues in Belgium via the RAVel network.

TOWARDS BELGIUM

CENTRAL ARDENNES

Taking your departure from Carignan, head for Muno in the Gaume region, and enjoy its gently undulating pastoral countryside. The Centre-Ardenne cycle trail leads you through varied, delightful country to Amberloup (EuroVelo 5). This cycle trail connects with the Meuse Cycle Route.

THE ENNEMANE

This trail, some ten kilometres long, follows the Ennemanne valley starting from the village of Raucourt et Flaba, south of Sedan. It follows the route of the old railway line that used to supply the many metal processing companies in the area. A historical excursion. When you arrive in Remilly-Aillicourt you may join the Meuse and the nearby Trans-Ardenne Greenway.

CYCLE TOURING IN THE ARDENNES



www.ardennes.com/en



NEW

SOUTH ARDENNES GREENWAY

New destination for cyclists

110 EXTRA KM OF STRESS-FREE TOURING TO COME, AND AS MANY PROMISES OF DELIGHT FROM THE ARDENNES CANAL TO THE AISNE VALLEY, EN ROUTE FOR THE SOUTH ARDENNES

SOUTH ARDENNES GREENWAY



110
km



44

LOCKS
INCLUDING 26 IN ONLY 9 KM
(VALLEY OF THE LOCKS)



1831

OPENING
OF THE ARDENNES CANAL



7

STOPPING POINTS
AT PONT-À-BAR, LE CHESNE,
VOUZIERS, ATTIGNY, RETHEL,
CHÂTEAU PORCIEN AND ASFELD

Between a land of milk and honey and inspiring plains, some wild and exciting discoveries await you along this new secure itinerary.

Starting from Pont à Bar, a hamlet in the municipality of Dom le Mesnil, the towpaths of the Ardennes Canal and the Aisne Valley lead you gently from the Meuse and Rhine basin to that of the Seine. Venture behind the orchards and hedges, beyond the cereal-growing plains, and release the explorer within you. Treat yourself to excursions from Le Chesne to the Domaine de Vendresse, La Cassine, or Bairon Lake. Return to the Aisne Valley in Semuy via the Vouziers Canal. Why not turn upstream towards the famous village of Voncq, where Arthur Rimbaud used

to take the train, or even as far as Vouziers to admire the great door of the church of Saint Maurille? Or follow the valley downstream after Rilly sur Aisne. Don't miss Attigny, city of Charlemagne, followed by Reithel, the gourmet's city, Château-Porcien, Asfeld and its exceptional church shaped like a viola de gamba. When you reach Brienne sur Aisne you are at the gates of the Aisnes region. **Connected in the north with the Trans-Ardennes Greenway (EuroVelo 19), this new South Ardennes cycle trail is yet another link in the in the network, opening on the beauty of the Ardennes.** It offers you a reassuringly soothing cycling holiday. Prolong the pleasure through its connection with the Trans-Ardennes Greenway in the north and visit the main Ardennes towns in complete security: Sedan, Charleville-Mézières (both are Cities of Art and History), Vouziers and Reithel (TGV and TER stations in Sedan, Charleville-Mézières and Reithel).

OPEN TO ALL
 Hikers, cyclists, riders and rollers are all welcome. Accessible in general to any kind of non-motorised tour.



SOUTH ARDENNES GREENWAY

DON'T MISS



1



In Vendresse

Discover the world of Ironmaster Jean-Nicolas Gendarme. A beautiful park, blast furnace, aquariums, fishing lakes, recreational areas.

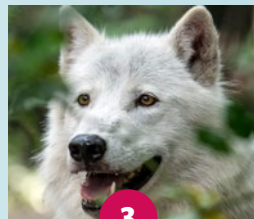


2



At Bairon Lake

Do you feel like a swim? This artificial lake in the heart of the Natura 2000 site provides water to the canal. Supervised bathing during the summer.

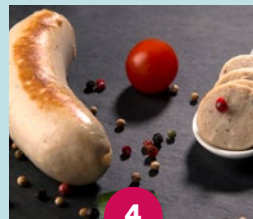


3



At Argonne Discovery Park

Eagles, genets, racoons, bats ... and two packs of wolves!



4



In Reithel

Let yourself be tempted by a gourmet stopover in the white pudding capital.



5



In Asfeld

Its church in the shape of a Viola de Gamba is unique. Don't miss it if you're in the area.





A valley of locks : enchantment :

**HOLD YOUR BREATH AND ENJOY THE MOMENT.
GLIDE THROUGH THE VALLEY OF THE LOCKS FROM LE CHESNE TO SEMUY.
THE PRIVILEGE OF BEING PART OF THE TABLEAU ADDS TO THE FEELING OF LIBERTY.**





The fragrance of freshly cut hay. A toad croaking in the early morning. The delightful blossom of a cherry tree. Peaceful, intimate, appealing: the valley of the locks is just simply charming. Is this due to its 19th century lock system, its stone built houses, its verdant, rolling hills playing hide-and-seek with you, or the exhilaration of picking up speed when you pass a lock?

Nine kilometres, 26 locks and a drop of around 70 m of altitude. These remarkable staircase locks are an absolute delight, as well as being a real haven of peace with numerous temptations to take a break: to spy on a heron or a kingfisher, or simply to lie on the grass and enjoy the scent of the flowers.

The countryside and villages seen from the towpath are a constant invitation. Le Chesne, close to Bairon Lake, high-perched Montgon, whose modern church has an impressive stained-glass façade, Neuville-Day and its Coquée area, evidence of the time when families lived facing the canal and its barges loaded with merchandise... a pleasant interval infused with the simple pleasure of living.



GOING WITH THE FLOW

FOR HETTY AND DERREK, PURE HAPPINESS

Every summer for the past 6 years this Dutch couple from Utrecht has enjoyed sailing along the valley of the locks. It's a "very special" place for Hetty. *"It's so different from back home. The countryside is so beautiful in this valley. The scenery is full of surprises. We always like to stay here for a few days. The greenway enables us to enjoy the towpath and the surrounding area. And it's easy to find fresh local produce."* "It's very picturesque," adds Derrek, who loves to amuse himself with the valley's "exceptional echo". Their dream is to buy a lock keeper's cottage.





DOWNHILL RUNS in the midst of the forest

KENNY MULLER, AN EXPERIENCED MOUNTAIN BIKER FROM THE FRENCH SOUTH-EAST, HAS FOUND HIS IDEAL RUNS IN THE ARDENNES. TESTIMONY



BIKE & MTB USEFUL INFORMATION



LABEL



ALL-INCLUSIVE OPTION

Follow the "Accueil vélo" label: a lunch basket, a secure place for your bike, and access to a repair kit if you have problems...

www.ardennes.com/en



STAYS AND RENTALS

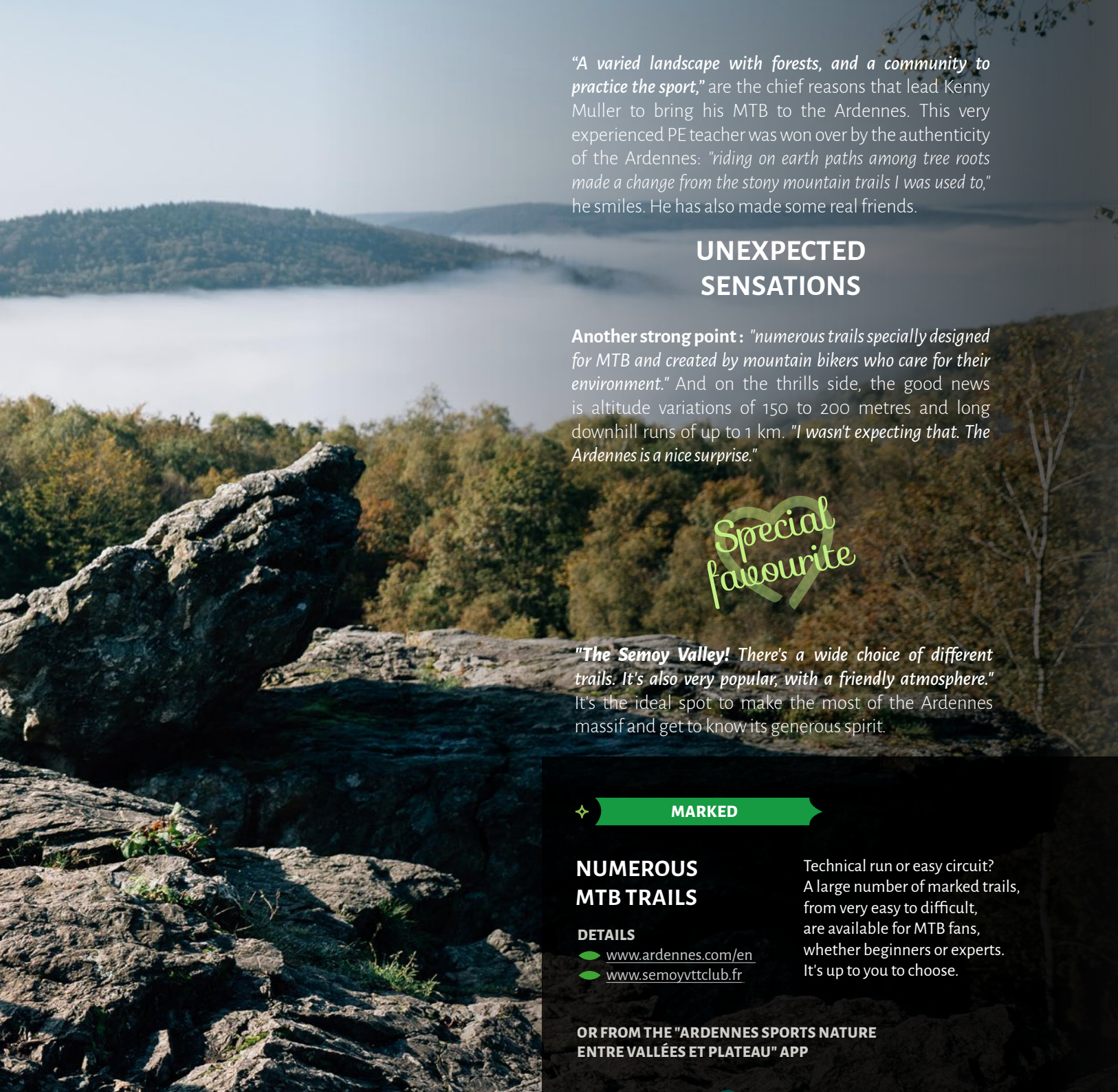
Based in Signy-l'Abbaye, Pierrot provides cycle hire and trails for all levels.

FIND THE LIST OF BICYCLE RENTALS AND REPAIRERS IN OUR DOWNLOADABLE GUIDE :

DETAILS

www.lesvelosdepierrot.fr

www.ardennes.com/en



"A varied landscape with forests, and a community to practice the sport," are the chief reasons that lead Kenny Muller to bring his MTB to the Ardennes. This very experienced PE teacher was won over by the authenticity of the Ardennes: "riding on earth paths among tree roots made a change from the stony mountain trails I was used to," he smiles. He has also made some real friends.

UNEXPECTED SENSATIONS

Another strong point: "numerous trails specially designed for MTB and created by mountain bikers who care for their environment." And on the thrills side, the good news is altitude variations of 150 to 200 metres and long downhill runs of up to 1 km. "I wasn't expecting that. The Ardennes is a nice surprise."

Special favourite

"The Semoy Valley! There's a wide choice of different trails. It's also very popular, with a friendly atmosphere." It's the ideal spot to make the most of the Ardennes massif and get to know its generous spirit.

MARKED

NUMEROUS MTB TRAILS

DETAILS

- www.ardennes.com/en
- www.semoyvtclub.fr

Technical run or easy circuit? A large number of marked trails, from very easy to difficult, are available for MTB fans, whether beginners or experts. It's up to you to choose.

OR FROM THE "ARDENNES SPORTS NATURE ENTRE VALLÉES ET PLATEAU" APP

DISCOVER

A wide choice of cycle trails, and also more hilly circuits.

SUGGESTIONS FOR TOURS FROM

- www.ardennes.com/en

AND IN OUR DOWNLOADABLE GUIDE

- Les Ardennes destination vélo

FLUO EST

THE TRAIN OF LEGENDS

GOOD IDEAS AND PODCAST ON

- ter.sncf.com

Winning duo between Charleville-Mézières and Givet: train and bike. Board with your bike at one of the 13 stations in the valley and benefit from the routes described.



The Ardennes

The flagship destination **for sustainable tourism**



AN EXTRAORDINARY, ABUNDANT AND PRESERVED ENVIRONMENT. TIMELESS VALUES SUCH AS GENEROSITY, AUTHENTICITY AND HOSPITALITY... THE ARDENNES IS, IN ITS ESSENCE, THE REGION OF CHOICE FOR SUSTAINABLE HOLIDAYS.

Easily accessible by train or waterways, it offers **an ideal setting both for leisure and for reconnecting with Nature**, with its nurturing countryside, protective forests, energising watercourses and geological masterpieces....

The exceptional variety of its landscapes and of its heritage is an incentive to explore them in depth. It is easy to discover this rural region, where each step

takes the visitor closer to its essence. The numerous discovery trails can be followed by a wide choice of means, while the network of welcoming and devoted professionals ensures that you are never far from the activities, good food and lodging you seek.

Hospitality, authenticity and sharing: travel with an easy mind and in all simplicity. Inhale the Ardennes!



✦ RIDING CIRCUITS

ARDENNES EQUESTRIAN TOURIST BOARD

www.cdte08.ffe.com

You will find the list of riding accommodation and local trails on the CDTE site. Be sure to check that the trails are open before starting out (consult the municipality or regional authorities).

✦ FIND SOME GREAT IDEAS

WITH THE DOWNLOADABLE NATURE EXCURSION GUIDE FROM

www.renard-asso.org > Learn.



ROAMING

Cultivate your curiosity

On foot, by bike, on horseback, on a donkey,
in a boat, on a quadricycle or a scooter...



ACCOMMODATION

Relax Where you wish

Château, cabin, caravan...
Ecology means a good night's sleep.



ACTIVITIES

Prioritise Nature tours

Tree activities, fishing,
visits to farms... and more.



GASTRONOMY

Eating local food is easy!

The Ardennes region menu ensures
that local producers are given prominence.
And look for the "Valeurs Parc" brand.

✦ NETWORK OF

APPROVED PARTICIPANTS FOR YOUR GUIDANCE

Have you decided to slow down and live ecologically,
sourcing locally during your holidays?

The network of tourist industry providers with the "Ecotourism" label is committed to helping you to do this: **local products, environmental protection, energy management.**

**DISCOVER OUR SELECTION OF
ECOTOURISM ADDRESSES AT**

www.ardennes.com/en



✦ GOOD IDEAS

MAKING THE MOST OF THE PARK

Building a nesting box, a sustainable cooking workshop, treasure trails, meeting local producers, country walks, and more. Throughout the year the Ardennes Regional Nature Park offers **dozens of different low-key ways of discovering the Ardennes.** The Maison du Parc (Park information centre) a stone's throw from the Forest Museum in Renwez is also an excellent source of information about the region.

ARDENNES REGIONAL NATURE PARK

www.parc-naturel-ardennes.fr





"EXCURSIONS IN A GENTLE, UNDULATING LANDSCAPE."

AN ENCOUNTER IN THE EASYGOING FOOTSTEPS OF A DONKEY

FROM HIS BASE IN MÉNIL AT VAUX-VILAINE, EMMANUEL CRAMETZ PROPOSES A LIGHT-HEARTED EXCURSION WITH HIS DONKEYS.

Bertin, Marcel, Fernand, Marius, Gaston... with their big donkeys' ears, they are pampered by their owner, Emmanuel Crametz.

Chemical-free pasture in summer and organic hay in winter... and all the range they need for exercise. It was the peaceful beauty of the Ardennes that brought this citizen of Valenciennes,

inspired by his experience of hiking with his children, to the region to organise donkey tours. "From 3 or 4 years old a donkey is ideal for carrying baggage and children. A small donkey can carry up to 40 kgs." These excellent walkers can cover 15 to 20 km per day. Tours start from Vaux-Vilaine to Lalobbe and Signy-l'Abbaye in a "gentle,

undulating landscape" or in the Meuse Valley, for a more hilly excursion, "to Vieilles-Forges Lake and sometimes as far as Montcornet Château." It's an amusing experience for young children, who don't see the kilometres go by. Quietude and absence of stress guaranteed. "I see people's faces when they come back. Even the way they move is different. Everything changes at the rhythm of a donkey."

ARDENNES TRAIL HIKE COUNTRY



With its testing climbs and awe-inspiring scenery, the Ardennes massif draws increasing numbers of trail bikers every year, and several iconic local races - the Ardennes Mega Trail, the Aymon Trail or the Rimbaud City Trail - offer in-depth exploration of the region. Whether you wish to train or simply to explore and enjoy the area, a Trail section proposes 12 itineraries totalling 280 km.

MORE DETAILS FROM
 www.ardennes.com/en

INFORMATION

 +33(0)6 19 09 29 97

www.un-ane-en-ardennes.com

Natura 2000 site

✦ The Bairon lakes

Explore the Bairon lakes, a Natura 2000 site, with a programme of nature tours and educational workshops. New: an ornithological observatory installed on the banks of the old pond.

DETAILS

☎ +33 (0)3 24 71 59 93 or +33 (0)6 37 73 33 18
www.argonne-en-ardenne.fr
or visit the [FaceBook page Destination Sud-Ardenne](#)

En route for

✦ The Saint-Quentin Farm

Give your hike a special flavour with cheese tasting and a visit to Vanessa Poncin's sheep farm at Noyers-Pont-Maugis (Cheveuges-Bulson route).

DETAILS AND BOOKING

☎ +33 (0)6 60 95 58 16
nathalie@patrimoinedardennes.fr
or +33 (0)6 31 57 73 60 ponsin.vanessa@gmail.com

Walks from

✦ Ô pî d'la Voye

At Nohan-sur-Semoy, below the dreamlike château of Linchamps, Ô pî d'la Voye is the usual starting point for walks.

DETAILS FROM

☎ opidlavoye.com

In the footsteps of

✦ Juliette's gentle breaks

Woodland immersions, land art, poetry: take the time to be in the heart of nature and let your feelings guide your walk, with the family or in a group.

PRE-BOOKING ONLY ON

☎ www.cherikinort.fr



NATURE RESERVES

OBSERVE HUNDREDS OF RARE SPECIES

Black stork, eagle owl, linnet, dormouse, great crested newt, large marsh grasshopper, marsh helleborine... the denizens of the Ardennes fauna and flora include hundreds of species, some of which are rare and under threat. They are sheltered, protected and studied in the **Givet** (10 sites totalling 874 acres), **Vireux** (4.7 acres, with rocks 385 million years old) and **Bois en Val** (34.6 acres at Charleville-Mézières) **nature reserves**.

☎ www.parc-naturel-ardennes.fr



DID YOU KNOW?

FOUR GRs CROSS THE ARDENNES

Four GRs (long distance hiking trails) cross the Ardennes: the **GR 654**, the mythical Compostelle pilgrims' road, which links Namur with Vézelay via Rocroi, Signy-l'Abbaye and Vieux-lès-Asfeld. The **GR 12**, which links Amsterdam and Paris and shares the **GR 654** path from Gué-d'Hossus to Hauteville. The **GR 14**, which links the Greater Paris region with Belgium via Grandpré, Le Mont-Dieu and Sedan. Finally, **GR 16**, from Liège, enters France at Sorendal and follows the magnificent Semoy valley before joining the **GR 654** at Rimogne.

ARDENNES HIKING BOARD (CDRP08)

☎ cdrp08@orange.fr
☎ ardennes.ffrandonnee.fr



✦ TOURS

46 WALKS

The Ardennes on Foot, the hiking guide from the French Hiking Federation, proposes 46 walks.

AVAILABLE AT LIBRARIES AS WELL AS TOURIST OFFICES

✦ ON THE INTERNET

AN ARDENNES SELECTION

Find a selection of the finest walks in the region, without missing the points of interest on the way: an on-line topographic guide.

FURTHER INFORMATION ☎ randonnee-ardennes.com

✦ BROCHURE

CYCLING AND HIKING IN THE ARDENNES

Brochure published in French or Dutch by the Ardennes Tourist Development Agency.

DOWNLOADABLE FROM ☎ www.ardennes.com/en

✦ FOR THE FAMILY

REAL WILD BOAR

Discover the fauna of the Ardennes roaming in semi-liberty in the Charleville-Mézières wildlife park.

☎ www.ardennes.com/en



Your privacy is precious
and so is that of wild animals!

ADVERTISEMENT

Stay on
the marked
trails!

DON'T ENCROACH ON THEIR SPACE,
you could disturb them

PROGRAMME
Quiétude attitude
SAUVAGEMENT RESPONSABLE

WWW.QUIETUDEATTITUDE.COM



Parc
naturel
régional
des Ardennes





✦ Tempted to go with the flow? ✦



BE YOUR OWN SKIPPER



Take the wheel of a live-aboard boat (2 to 10 persons) from Ardennes Nautisme at Pont-à-Bar (no permit required) for a weekend or a week, or try the introductory offer (9-18 hours), and head north to Charleville and Belgium, east to Sedan, Mouzon, Stenay and Verdun, or south to Le Chesne, Attigny and Rethel.

DETAILS ON

www.pontabarnautisme.fr
ou +33 (0)3 24 54 01 50

DO YOU FEEL THE URGE TO HIT THE PAUSE BUTTON? GO ABOARD THE "CHARLEMAGNE" FOR A RELAXING CRUISE.

Seagulls, Canada geese, swans, herons: Lucile counts the different bird species found on the Meuse. After going on board in Givet with her parents for lunch on the river, the sun and her curiosity drew her on deck. She wants to watch the passage through the lock for herself. The relaxed and peaceful atmosphere quickly pervades.

The boat is ideal for enjoying the present moment.

Majestic citadel

Seen from the Meuse, Givet reveals its many facets, from its fortifications to the commercial port. The commentary, in French, English and Dutch, describes the history of this sentinel city. The Charlemont citadel is always majestic, seen from the river. Enough to inspire some new ideas. Next stage: discovering Charlemont and its numerous activities. The view of the Meuse is wonderful from above too.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION guided cruises with meals on request.

The Ramsès: leaving from Charleville-Mézières. www.promenades-ramses.com

The Charlemagne: departing from Givet from July to September - and departing other towns between April and June www.croisieres-charlemagne.com

? DID YOU KNOW?

THE ARDENNES WATERWAYS INCLUDE:

✦ **The Meuse**
95 km/21 locks
(Pont-à-Bar to Givet)

✦ **The Ardennes Canal**
106 km / 44 locks

✦ **Eastern Canal**
100 km/22 locks
(as far as Verdun)

✦ **River stopovers**
17 river stopovers including 2 with Pavillon bleu at Revin and Monthermé



A meeting with Arduin the druid



Jean-Luc and Claudie, French Hiking Federation qualified guides (sometimes accompanied by Arduin' the Druid) will accompany you on walks lasting from 90 minutes to 2 hours.

Bear in mind that the path can be steep: good walking shoes are essential. Pets must be on a leash.

DOWNLOAD THE PROGRAMME FROM
jeanluclemaire.fr

LEGEND

TCHAR SCAILLE A 21st century Myth

Be ready for a surprise in the hamlet of Six-Chênons: your path may lead you to this amazing circle of menhirs and its Tchar Scaille: a chariot made of schist, drawn by two horses. The creator of this work, Philippe Boudard, recalls the Celtic tradition of chariot tombs, and invites us to a journey through different worlds: a site full of enchantment.

THE SOUL OF THE ARDENNES IS CELTIC. JEAN-LUC LEMAIRE HAS NO QUALMS ABOUT DRESSING FOR THE PART. INTERVIEW.

WHAT'S A DRUID DOING IN THE ARDENNES?

"The name of the Ardennes comes from Arduinna, the Celtic goddess who protected the forest. Many of our place names recall our Celtic roots. During my commentated walks I regularly dress as Arduin' the Druid, to tell stories or enact ceremonies, wearing brogues, linen braies (breeches) and a torque, carrying a golden scythe (actually bronze). I pay attention to details but it remains educational and recreational. I didn't call myself a druid: it came from people who came on my walks."

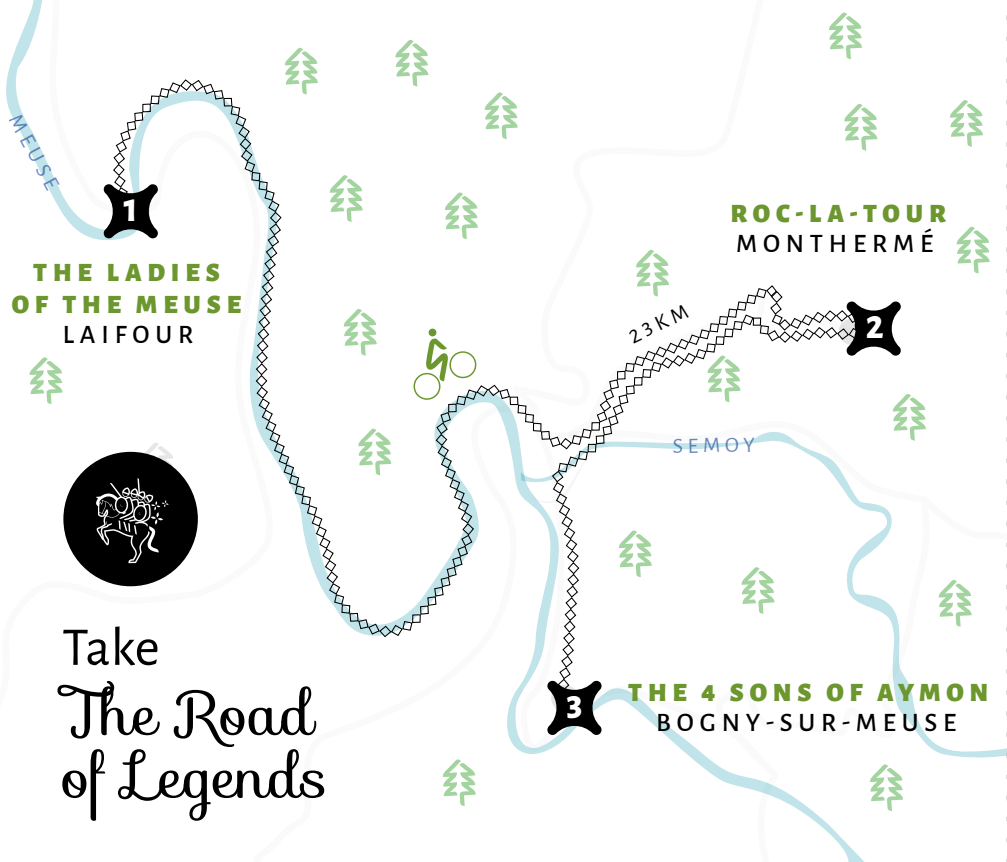
HOW CAN YOU MEET ARDUIN'?

"There are eight pagan feasts that correspond to key events in the natural cycle: the solstices (Arthan on 21st December and Efn on 21st June), the

equinoxes (Eiler on 21st March and Elfed on 21st September) and the four feasts marking the progress of light: Samain (31st October), Imbolc (2nd February), Beltaine (1st May) and Lughnasard (1st August). We attempt to recreate these ceremonies in all simplicity, in relation with Nature."

WHAT REMAINS OF THE CELTIC SOUL TODAY?

"Some sites dedicated to the Celtic gods have retained their power: the Saint-Walfroy hermitage where Arduinna was worshipped, the Saint-Roger fountain at Elan where the Ravens' fountain may still be found, the Ruha fountain... And all the stones, springs and tracks of our forest: deep, sombre and mysterious. It has a wealth of stories and legendary characters: Maugis the Enchanter, the Four Sons of Aymon, the Horse of Bayard... the mountains of the Ardennes are a magical land."



ELFY PARK

IN THE VILLAGE OF THE ELVES

Near Vieilles-Forges lake the forest shelters a people of elves who love having fun. Elfy Park, their country, is made up of games: toboggans, zip-lines, net games... over 12 acres of magic, for young and old alike.

www.elfypark.fr

DISCOVERY

CHANSON DE GESTE ON A PATH

Oyez oyez! On the plateau of the 4 sons of Aymon at Bogny-sur-Meuse, a troubadour tells the tale "of the wondering life of the the 4 sons of Aymon, pursued and persecuted by the Emperor Charlemagne" in a dozen panels. A gripping legendary saga.

DETAILS FROM

www.ardennes.com/en

Take
The Road of Legends

TWELVE ESCAPADES FROM 20 TO 50 KM

In the Ardennes they say there's a legend under every stone. The Road of Legends gives you the opportunity to overturn one or two as it takes you through the valleys of the Meuse, Semoy and Val-de-Lesse. Twelve escapades from 20 to 50 km, by car or bicycle.



1 THE LADIES OF THE MEUSE



2 ROC-LA-TOUR



3 THE 4 SONS OF AYMON

At Laifour you will meet the forever petrified Ladies of the Meuse, Hodierno, Berthe and Ige, the three beautiful daughters of the Lord of Rethel. The three sisters were punished by Heaven for being unfaithful to their husbands, Héribrand, Geoffroid and Vauthier, the three sons of the Lord of Hierges, while on the Crusades.

In Monthermé, Roc-La-Tour will certainly enthral you. This chaotic mass of stone is said to be the ruins of a castle, the gift of a penniless lord for his lady love. The Devil promised to build it for him in a single night, in exchange for his soul. But the cock sang too soon, and the enraged Devil destroyed the castle with a kick.

At Bogny-sur-Meuse the 4 sons of Aymon ride Bayard, the magic horse, for all eternity. Set forever in schist, they overlook the town. Nearby, on the plateau of the 4 sons of Aymon, a statue of them recalls that they once hid here in their Castle at Montessor, built with the help of Maugis the Enchanter, to escape from Charlemagne.

THE ROAD OF LEGENDS CONTINUES IN BELGIUM, RETURNING TO FRANCE VIA LES HAUTS BUTTÉS ET LES VIEILLES-FORGES.

DETAILS FROM

www.ardennes.com/en





MOTOR HOME FAN VS VAN LIFER



MOTOR HOME OR VAN? TWO DIFFERENT LIFESTYLES BUT THE SAME INTEREST IN LANDSCAPES, SAVOURS AND OTHER PEOPLE, AND A RECOMMENDED DESTINATION: **THE ARDENNES.**

THE TASTE FOR WIDE OPEN SPACES



“The Ardennes are a glimpse of heaven for motor home owners.”

Romy and Killian frequently tour the Ardennes. Romy caught the bug during her childhood and especially appreciates her breaks in the Ardennes, characterised by authenticity and simplicity: *“There’s room, and open spaces. It’s a very natural region, which is still wild yet has towns and services within easy reach.”*

The region’s many assets include its greenways and numerous cycle tracks, which they find “ideal” for experiencing the Ardennes in all their diversity.

✦ **WITH COMPLETE EASE.**

Free motorways, camping sites, service areas with grey and black water discharge points, electricity, dustbins, access to water, shops, greenways and cycle tracks: the Ardennes offers a wide range of services for motor home owners and van lifers.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION AND A MAP OF SERVICE AREAS FROM

✦ www.ardennes.com/en

Caroline and Vincent, who are accustomed to travelling throughout Europe, recommend the van for exploring the Ardennes. **Freedom, discretion and adventure are the watchwords for their tours, and the Ardennes region lends itself perfectly to their requirement for unspoilt countryside.** "In the van we can drive to the end of

the track and stop in the middle of the forest, only a few steps away from wonderful views." Like hikers, they appreciate being able to camp in a quiet, peaceful setting. "Slow tourism" enthusiasts, they like to enjoy the moment while respecting the environment, and love meeting the local inhabitants.



HOLIDAY ROUTES TO DISCOVER

Touring is made easier for motor home owners and van lifers by marked road circuits with themes such as the legends of the Ardennes, churches and fortifications, and the Rimbaud-Verlaine cross-border routes, or beer and its flavours. For food lovers the route also offers many possibilities for tasting the Ardennes cuisine: local producers, markets, restaurants: from the north to the south, gourmets will enjoy comparing the white puddings from Rethel and Haybes, bacon salad, "cacasse à cul nu", "galette au sucre" and "gâteau mollet".

Good food, cordiality and enjoyment. The beauty of the Ardennes is stunning whatever the season, whether during the blooming of spring, in the height of summer or in autumn's glorious colours. Both motor home owners and van lifers describe their stay in the same terms: "peace and quiet, natural landscapes and freedom."



DID YOU KNOW?

As well as the Highway Code, there is a good behaviour charter for van and motor home users:

FIND IT ON

www.ardennes.com/en





HERITAGE
& SHARING



*Here, History
awakens everywhere
beneath your feet.*

JULES MICHELET







Charleville-Mézières

IN GIANT STEPS

A



MONT-OLYMPE

A "green lung" and a popular leisure spot. For jogging, picnics, hiking or cycling. Multi-purpose sports fields, aqua leisure centre. Near the start of the Greenway.

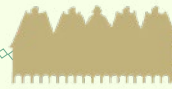
B



MUSÉE RIMBAUD MAISON DES AILLEURS

Charlestown is imbued with Rimbaud's spirit, and these two sites evoke the poet and his work. Follow it with the Rimbaud Trail, among other options.

C



PLACE DUCALE

This is the beating heart of the life of the city, filled with café tables in season... an ideal starting point for local tours, and an impressive backcloth for numerous events throughout the year.

D

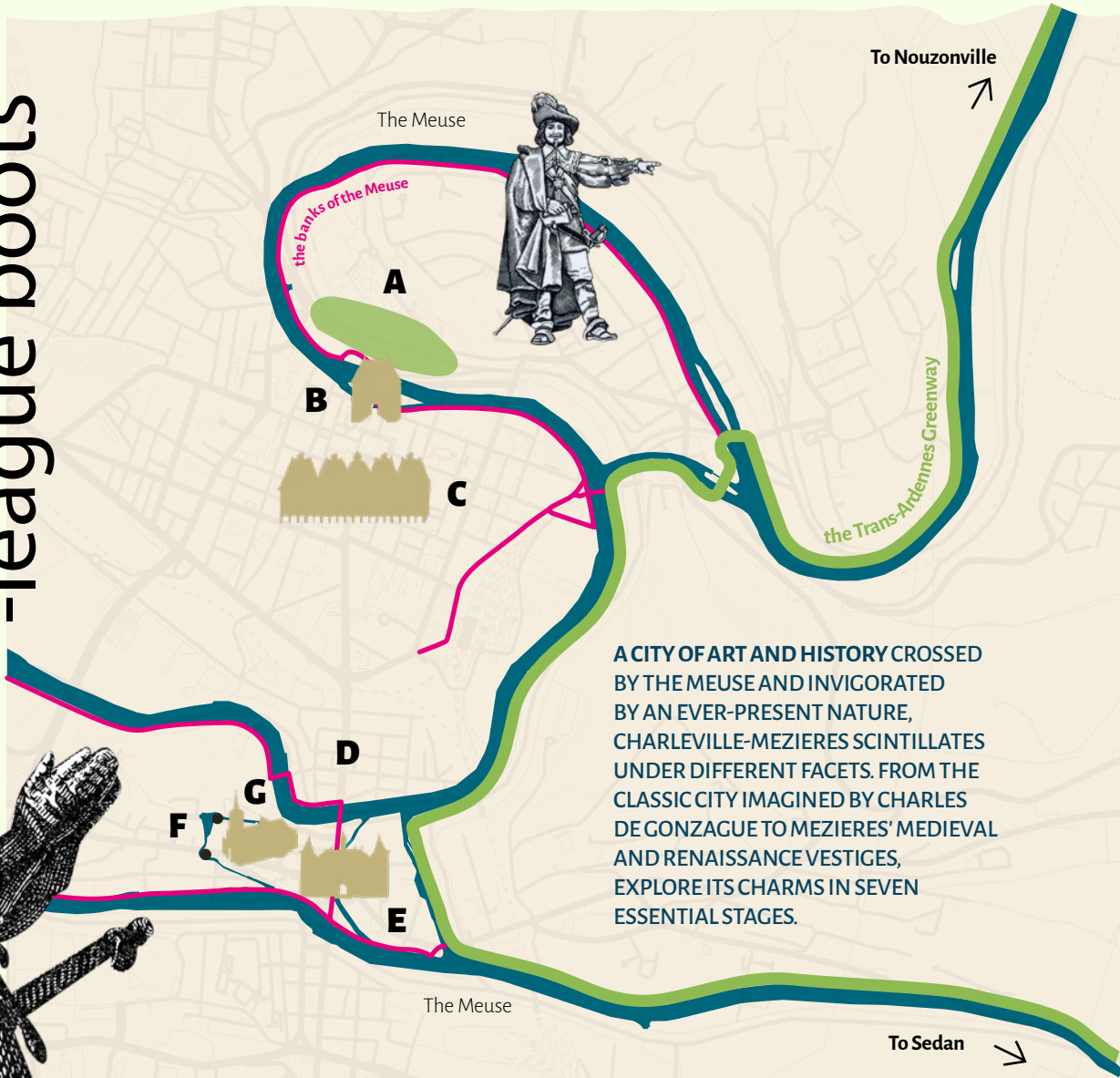


FAÇADES ART DÉCO

When you stroll along the Avenue d'Arches, a delightful link between Charleville and Mézières, and its surrounding streets, remember to keep your head in the air.

Put on your seven-league boots

CITY BREAK



A CITY OF ART AND HISTORY CROSSED BY THE MEUSE AND INVIGORATED BY AN EVER-PRESENT NATURE, CHARLEVILLE-MEZIERES SCINTILLATES UNDER DIFFERENT FACETS. FROM THE CLASSIC CITY IMAGINED BY CHARLES DE GONZAGUE TO MEZIERES' MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE VESTIGES, EXPLORE ITS CHARMS IN SEVEN ESSENTIAL STAGES.





E

MEZIERES TOWN HALL

Although it was built in 1930 its façade pays homage to the Medieval style, with touches of Renaissance and Baroque. Pop inside to admire its monumental staircase and its wrought iron work.



F

MEZIERES RAMPARTS

The town ramparts, Renaissance vestiges built by King François I along with the Milard and King's Towers, recall the troubled period of the medieval city saved by the Chevalier Bayard.



G

OUR LADY OF HOPE BASILICA

It was in this beautiful 15th-17th century church that Charles IX and Elisabeth of Austria were married in 1570. In the 20th century Picasso's pupil René Dürrbach enriched it with 1000 sq m of symbolic stained glass. Don't miss the treasure of the basilica .



MARSTERPIECE

MUSEUM OF THE ARDENNES

The Museum of the Ardennes, an architectural masterpiece of stone and glass, is situated behind a house on the Place Ducale. Its four floors take visitors on a journey through 2000 years of the history of the Ardennes: "It's really a condensed encyclopaedia of the Ardennes from prehistory to the 20th century. Our archaeological collection is one of the finest in the region," says Carole Marquet-Morelle, the Museum Director. It includes an immersive experience, relief maps, arms collections, puppets, painting and sculpture, and much more. New: the Family Game, inspired by escape games, for a recreational Museum visit.



BY BICYCLE

Explore the town while you pedal, via the cycle tracks and the banks of the Meuse, renovated and developed for a pastoral promenade: a link to the Trans-Ardennes Greenway towards Sedan or Givet, a circuit around Mont-Olympe, and a promenade in Mézières.



DETAILS

City of Art and History label

+33(0)3 24 32 44 75





Rimbaud Tour

IN CHARLEVILLE-MÉZIÈRES



VOYELLES,
MA BOHÈME,
LE DORMEUR DU VAL,
OPHÉLIE...

FOLLOW THE WALL FRESCOS
CELEBRATING HIS VERSES
AND TAKE A POETIC STROLL
IN THE CHARLESTOWN OF
RIMBAUD AND BEYOND.

I tested the Rimbaud Tour for you

Absolutely modern

The poet's injunction has been adhered to. More than a dozen of his poems are illustrated on the walls of the city in determinedly contemporary street art. An open air book and museum.

The life of the poet

As you pass from one fresco to the next, discover the key sites in the life of the poet: the Arthur Rimbaud Centre (museum displaying autographed poems and drawings, Maison des Ailleurs, "poem-chairs") his birthplace, his grave. A visual and historical artistic tour.

On foot or by bicycle

Most of the works are in the centre of Charleville. Some of them call for you to venture to the outskirts. They are most easily seen by bicycle, using the cycle tracks or the banks of the Meuse.

GUIDED TOUR AND BOOKLET AVAILABLE AT THE TOURIST OFFICE AND MUSEUM OF THE ARDENNES.

BOOKLET CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM
www.charleville-sedan-tourisme.fr



Antoine Maquet, artist, illustrator, Jack of all trades and Carolomacerian.

3 questions for...

WERE YOU THE FIRST ARTIST TO CREATE A FRESCO?

Indeed. Mehdi Amghar, who created Ophélie, and I had the leisure to choose both the poem and the wall. I wanted it to be visible from a distance, to encourage people to come and read it.

COULD YOU TALK TO US ABOUT YOUR WORK?

I like to mix the abstract and realism. The keys to the poem are visible, the jacket, the holed pockets, and the boots of the walker that Rimbaud was. For his thoughts, I turned to the abstract and graffiti.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE "MA BOHEME"?

I learnt it at school, a many of us did, but it really spoke to me. The creation of this fresco encouraged me to immerse myself in Rimbaud's work again, and I still enjoy reading it today.



A SELECTION OF THE EVENTS IN SPRING-SUMMER

FIRST WEEKEND IN MAY

Festival of Gastronomic Brotherhoods



WHIT WEEKEND IN JUNE

Beer Festival



FROM 6TH JULY TO 18TH AUGUST

Ducale Beach (entertainment, games, concerts)



FROM 15TH TO 18TH AUGUST

Cabaret Vert Festival



FROM 19TH TO 22ND SEPTEMBER

"M Time" - D-365 before the World Puppet Theatre Festival



GUIDED TOURS

Choose your tour at the Tourist Office:

the Town Hall belfry; the town centre; in the footsteps of Arthur Rimbaud; Mézières and the Tour du Roy; the Basilica, its stained glass and the treasure of Ardennes sacred art; Charleville by lamplight; torchlit Mézières; flash visit; treasure hunt (for 6-12 year olds), puppetesque guided tour.

DETAILS

● www.charleville-sedan-tourisme.fr
+33 (0)3 24 55 69 90



MUSEUM OF THE ARDENNES

● www.charleville-sedan-tourisme.fr
31 place Ducale, +33 (0)3 24 32 44 60

RIMBAUD MUSEUM

● www.musee-arthurrimbaud.fr
quai Arthur Rimbaud, +33 (0)3 24 32 44 65

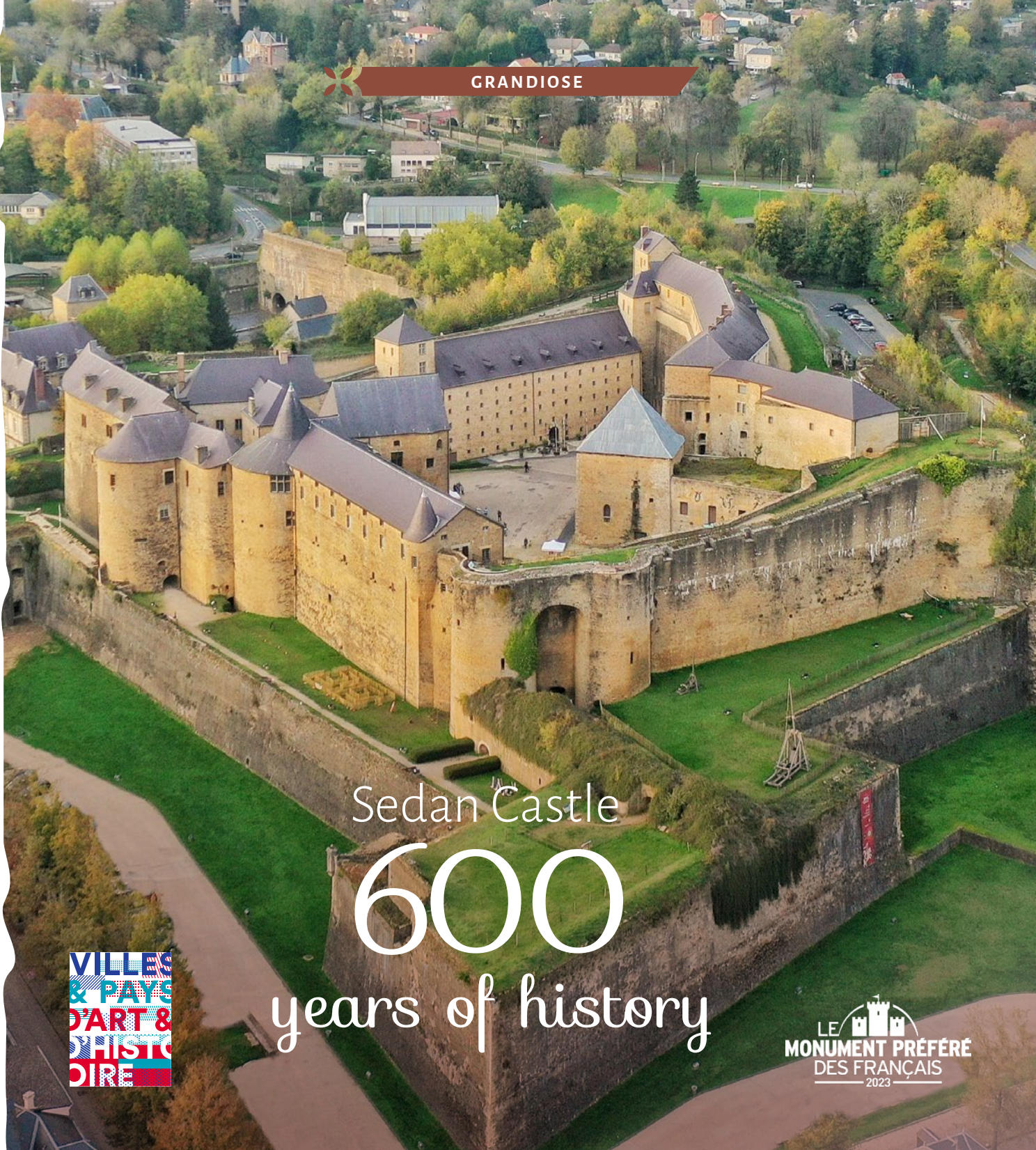
MAISON DES AILLEURS (RIMBAUD'S FAMILY RESIDENCE)

● 7 quai Arthur Rimbaud - +33 (0)3 24 32 44 70



GRANDIOSE

ADVENTURE



Sedan Castle 600 years of history



CITY OF ART AND HISTORY

The Heritage Museum in the former Sedan public baths will ensure you make the most of the architectural treasures of Sedan, classified as a City of Art and History for 20 years now. Permanent exhibition about the town, temporary exhibitions and guided tours (Sedan in ten tales, the traces of Turenne, textile factories, religious heritage, etc.).

CENTRE FOR THE INTERPRETATION OF ARCHITECTURE AND HERITAGE

+33 (0)3 24 27 84 85 - patrimoine@ville-sedan.fr



CELEBRATE THE ANNIVERSARY OF THIS MAJESTIC COLOSSUS, VOTED THE MOST POPULAR HISTORIC MONUMENT IN FRANCE, IN AN IMMERSIVE AND BEWITCHING TOUR.

New

You are on the threshold of 600 years of history, about to penetrate a fantastic vortex, with an entirely new tour programme. This impressive colossus, the symbol of the principality of Sedan, contains a labyrinth of halls and ramparts. 35,000 square metres of pleasure and emotions.

Experience

Maugis, the Flamberge sword, the de La Marck dynasty: in a few seconds, immerse yourself in time immemorial, pass through a besieged tower, launch the assault with a trebuchet, admire Charlotte de la Marck's wedding banquet... **childrens' tour, immersive workshops, historical re-enactments, individual or guided tours – blend wonder and historical knowledge.**

Spectacular

Experience History during an exceptional edition of the Sedan Medieval Festival from 24th to 26th May 2024: 2,500 square metres of encampments, a market and a variety of animated displays. During the summer season, enjoy thrilling jousting tournaments and riveting dramatised nocturnal tours. Don't miss these other events: Playmobil exhibition, Easter, the Witches' Castle, Christmas and more, with the anniversary programme around the castle (mapping, conferences, exhibitions etc.).

Escape game

Experience an exciting adventure in the King's Bastion, looking for the sword of Robert de la Marck. **With or without the castle tour. For 10 years and older.**

DETAILS

The castle is open all year round (see web site or contact the reception desk for opening times and other information).

CHARLEVILLE/SEDAN TOURIST OFFICE

+33(0)3 24 27 73 73

● www.charleville-sedan-tourisme.fr

SEDAN CASTLE

+33(0)3 24 29 98 80

● www.chateau-fort-sedan.fr

ONE HIKE, TWO CASTLES

The castles of Sedan and Bouillon are 22 km apart. With a route taking them through woodlands and the Semoy Valley, this is ideal for regular hikers: and the return trip is by car. A princely walk.

DETAILS FROM

Hiking Centre +33 (0)6 74 55 79 91
contact@lamaisondesrandonnees.fr





PARC NATUREL RÉGIONAL
DES ARDENNES

JOINTLY COMMITTED
TO RESPECTING
THE ENVIRONMENT...

...THE FULFILMENT
OF OUR CITIZENS...

...AND THE LOCAL ECONOMY



Maison du Parc naturel régional des Ardennes

Route Sécheval - RD140

(FR) 08150 RENWEZ

TÉL : + 33 (0)3 24 42 90 57

www.parc-naturel-ardennes.fr



GEMS

FINE ARCHITECTURE

Welcome to Wonderland

FROM THE CHARACTERFUL CITIES OF ROCROI AND MOUZON, THE REMAINS OF THE CASTLES AT MONTCORNET AND HIERGES, TO THE WONDERFUL FORTIFIED CHURCHES IN THIERACHE... HISTORY HAS LEFT AN EXCEPTIONAL ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE IN THE ARDENNES. ENJOY IT AS IT SUITES YOUR TASTE.



Romantic stroll

✦ 1 ✦

Mouzon

Like Rocroi, Mouzon is a “small characterful city”, perfect for a romantic escapade in a magic setting.

Stroll through its medieval streets, kiss in its secret courtyards, take the time to dream by a canal ... discover the Museum of Felt and its collections original clothes, including a beautiful wedding dress and its veil. Just the place for a marriage proposal!

✦ FURTHER DETAILS

PORTES DU LUXEMBOURG TOURIST OFFICE

+33(0)3 24 29 79 91

www.portesduluxembourg.fr



DID YOU KNOW?

The Belgian cartoonist Jean-Claude Servais sited the story of his album "Malmaison", in the "Tendre violette" series, in Mouzon. Several of his plates can be found in the town.

On the roads with the family

✦ 2 ✦

Fortified churches and strongholds in Thiérache

Follow the 150 km of the circuit of the fortified churches in Thiérache, through pastoral, undulating countryside, and discover how the inhabitants in the frontier regions resisted the attacks of numerous war hordes. **The defensive architecture gave rise to some very fine edifices, and some superb strongholds** in Servion, Signy-le-Petit, Rumigny, Liart, Rocquigny...and many more.

✦ PLAN YOUR STAGES

FIND A WIDE CHOICE OF TOUR IDEAS AT

www.ardennes.com/en

Bikers together

✦ 3 ✦

From Rocroi to Givet

✦ INFORMATION

ARDENNES VALLEYS & PLATEAU TOURIST OFFICE

+33(0)3 24 54 20 06

www.tourisme-valleesetplateaudardenne.com

VAL D'ARDENNE TOURIST OFFICE

+33(0)3 24 42 92 42

www.valdardennetourisme.com



1



2



4

OTHER BRILLIANT SITES

MONTCORNET CASTLE

The castle of the lords of Croÿ, built in the 11th and 12th centuries, rebuilt in 16th century, is an example of the adaptation of military architecture to the development of artillery: a fascinating tour, between ruins and preserved halls.

ASSOCIATION OF FRIENDS OF MONTCORNET
 +33 6 32 36 97 36 ou +33 6 07 61 15 57
www.chateaudemontcornet.fr

CHARLEMONT CITADEL OF GIVET

Built in the 16th century on the orders of Charles Quint, rebuilt by Vauban in the 17th century, this strategic monument offers remarkable views over Givet and its valley. Unaccompanied tours, or with guides in FR and EN; autoguides in FR / EN / NL / DE.

CHARLEMONT-CITADELLE DE GIVET
 +33(0)3 24 56 96 87
www.charlemont-citadelle-de-givet.fr

ASFELD: CHURCH OF SAINT DIDIER 4

A key baroque church in the shape of a viola de gamba. Built entirely of bricks. None of its walls follow a straight line. A discovery trail starts from the church.

DESTINATION SUD-ARDENNES TOURIST OFFICE
 +33(0)9 54 82 84 22 - paysrethelois-tourisme.com

 LABEL



3

FACILITIES FOR BIKERS THE ARDENNE BY BIKE

90 approved sites, from castles to camp sites and B&Bs. The label guarantees a garage or secure parking, a room to dry clothes, equipment for minor repairs, road maps and biker trail maps, and a list of local repairers.



MORE DETAILS AND IDEAS FOR TOURS FROM
www.ardennes.com/en



In the footsteps of the



Poets

RIMBAUD & VERLAINE

ARTHUR RIMBAUD AND PAUL VERLAINE ARE DEEPLY ROOTED IN THE ARDENNES. THEY BOTH SPENT THEIR CHILDHOOD HERE, PASSED EACH OTHER UNCONSCIOUSLY, AND DREW THEIR STRENGTH AND INSPIRATION HERE. THE RIMBAUD-VERLAINE ROUTE RETRACES THEIR STEPS IN 8 ESSENTIAL STAGES...

SECTION
01

Junierville

SECTION
02

Roche

SECTION
03

Charleville-
Mézières

SECTION
04

Vresse-sur-
-Semois

SECTION
05

Bouillon

SECTION
06

Paliseul

SECTION
07

Redu

SECTION
08

Givet



8 sections

300 km

Juniville

Verlaine was a regular at the Auberge du Lion d'Or from 1880 to 1882, after teaching and living in Rethel. He had a room close by, and spent hours here writing at a table that can still be seen. Seeking redemption after years of suffering, it was there that he put the finishing touches to "Sagesse" and began work on "Jadis et Naguère". The renovated Auberge is now the Verlaine Museum, renamed "Maison des Illustres".

Roche

In August 1873, Rimbaud returned to his mother's village, overwhelmed by the pistol shot in Brussels which had injured him and sent Verlaine to prison in Mons. There he completed "Une Saison en enfer" in the loft of the Cuif-Rimbaud family farm. Today all that is left of the farm is one wall (a painting of the farm by Paternie Berrichon may be seen in the Rimbaud Museum).

Charleville-Mézières

This was where Rimbaud was born in 1854, and is the epicentre of the Myth, with the Rimbaud Museum, the Rimbaud frescos trail, the Maison des Ailleurs, the railway station square, and his grave where he was buried in 1891... Surprising - there is a letter box in the cemetery, where he continues to receive mail.

Bouillon

On 25th May 1873 Verlaine, Rimbaud and their friend Delahaye got drunk in the Hôtel des Ardennes. The two decided to go to London. On 9th July Verlaine shot Rimbaud in Brussels.

FIND THE ROUTE IN DETAIL ON

visitardenne.com

Arm in arm with Marc Gaillot, enthusiastic guide at the Verlaine Museum.

"Nothing is left, only reminiscences" he says, "these are key sites for the understanding of Verlaine's life and work."



AND A FEW ESCAPADES

Rethel : sheltered by the Jesuits for 18 months, Verlaine was at peace.

Coulommès : He edited "Sagesse" here, and wrote "Amour".

Corbion : Barred from Belgium after the Brussels incident, he sometimes took refuge here, a stone's throw from France.

Vouziers : 1885. Suffering from depression, after problems with some inhabitants of Coulommès, he spent a month in the prison at Vouziers.



THE VERLAINE MUSEUM, IN JUNIVILLE

musee-verlaine.fr

+33 (0)9 61 25 97 33



NEW TRAIL FROM ROCHE

Discover the countryside Rimbaud walked during his youth, following new information panels (7 km).

ESCAPE GAME IN RETHEL

Explore Verlaine's Rethel with the Escape Game "Ô Voleurs!" (for 12 years and over). Discover the living heritage where street art also pays homage to the poet.

THE VERLAINE MUSEUM QUADRICYCLES

A discovery trail starts from the museum, with a games booklet. On foot or quadricycle (9 sections, 45 minutes).

A FAN NAMED PATTI SMITH

The "house of Rimbaud" in Roche, built on the former family farm, has been the property of the singer Patti Smith since 2017. A writers' house project is under consideration.





To the rhythm of a horse



IF YOU HAVE ALWAYS DREAMED OF CRYING, "LET'S GO, COACHMAN!" A RIDE IN A BAROUCHE FROM THE POSTAL STATION IN LAUNOIS-SUR-VENCE MAY FULFIL YOUR WISH.

Hooves echo under the carriage entrance to the Postal station in Launois-sur-Vence. A barouche enters the courtyard, and two couples alight, clearly delighted with the half day their ride has taken. **Since 2020 this 17th century historical monument is again alive to the rhythm of horses:** beautiful Ardennes draft horses, sturdy and powerful, with their bay coat and black socks. Every day they take visitors through fields, woodland, and farms depending on the promenade that is booked. In the evening they return to their stables and drink from stone troughs four centuries old. The station is a

real gem. After its renovation in 2024, the wonderful main building will be open to the public (autumn). **Afterwards, an exhibition, devoted to the history of postal stations will be presented.**

A tour of the courtyard will complete your return to the times of the Royal Mail-Coach Service and the mail carried between Paris and Sedan once per week: carriage entrances, accommodation for travellers and the watchman, halls for the coaches, rose garden, conservatory garden... It's all there. Then take a coach for the theme ride of your choice, from one hour to a full day.

17TH CENTURY HISTORICAL MONUMENT



VISUAL SENSATION



AMAZING ECORDAL PIGMENT MILL

DETAILS

Guided tours on certain dates.
Details and booking:
Ardennes Foothills Tourist Office.
☎ +33 (0)3 24 35 02 69

These piles of coloured earth create a striking image, with a hint of India in the shimmering colours, yet this is the heart of the Ardennes countryside, in **one of the last pigment mills in France**. This exceptional heritage site, dating from 1866 and classified "Enterprise of Living Heritage", continues to produce coloured earths sought after throughout the world.

DETAILS

Ardennes Foothills Tourist Office
☎ au +33 (0)3 24 35 02 69
www.cretespreardennaisesetourisme.fr

TO BOOK WALKS

With the Les Sabots du Relais association:
☎ au +33 (0)6 52 65 12 70
or +33 (0)6 84 35 82 40
☎ lessabotsdurelais@gmail.com

VILLAGES ÉTAPE

With easy access from the toll-free Ardennes motorways, A34 and A304, **Launois-sur-Vence/ Poix-Terron and Rocroi have been granted the "Village étape" label**, and as such, offer a range of services on the holiday route, in an exceptional setting.

SHOPPING

At the Launois-sur-Vence Postal Station, a **farmers' market** is held every first Friday in the month from 3:30 pm to 8 pm; an **antiques fair and flea market** is held every second Sunday in the month from 9 am to 6 pm.



DID YOU KNOW ?

In Buancy the château d'Augeard hosts the history of the Ardennes draft horse, the emblem of the agricultural region. The museum in the former cattle stalls is in the shape of a horseshoe: both simple and magnificent.

DETAILS

(+33)(0)6 18 25 53 83.



The age-old craft of felt-making

Made from raw wool, washed and carded but not spun, this non-woven textile is the oldest in the world. Nevertheless, its uses remain very modern: felt-tipped pens, chair gliders, gaming mats, glass and teeth polishing, and for sound insulation in vehicles.

This environmentally-friendly material, malleable and ideal for any whimsy, is especially appreciated by contemporary creators and couturiers. The display cases in the museum give an idea of the depth of their creativity. Are you ready to try? You will need water, soap, heat... and your hands. That's all.

FELT, THE FIRST TEXTILE TO BE PRODUCED BY MAN 8,000 YEARS AGO, IS A LIVING MATERIAL THAT THE FELT MUSEUM IN MOUZON SHOWS YOU HOW TO TAME.

Introduction to felt-making (1 hour), creation of objects with a felt-maker (half day), adult workshops to make a beret or a scarf (1 day)... Discover this ancestral art at the Felt Museum & Workshop in Mouzon, the only site dedicated to this material in France (April - October), and an accredited Museum of France.



✦ **SUBLIME**

SPANISH HOUSE

This 16th century vestige of the Spanish occupation houses the Museum of Old Revin, and objects from the collection of the pioneers Faure, Arthur Martin and Porcher. There are other Spanish houses in Mouzon.



THE ARDENNES IN 4 ELEMENTS

Wood

Arduenna Silva, the primary forest, is the region's lungs. A museum is dedicated to it and to the crafts it gave rise to.

MUSEUM OF THE FOREST, RENWEZ

+33 (0)3 24 40 17 92

👉 www.renwez.com



Metal

Metalworking has powered the heart of the Ardennes for centuries. The Vendresse blast furnace and the Museum of Metallurgy bear witness to it.

MUSEUM OF METALLURGY, BOGNY-SUR-MEUSE

+33 (0)3 24 35 06 71

👉 www.musee-metallurgie-ardennes.fr

Slate

The subsoil is full of it. It fashions the countryside and local architecture: facades, roofs, fountains, gravestones and the remains of quarries...

SLATE MUSEUM, FUMAY

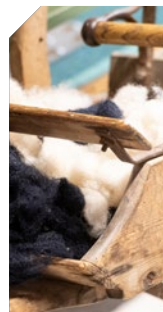
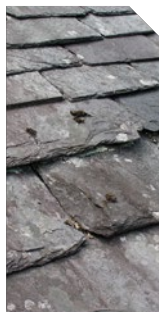
+33 (0)3 24 41 10 34

👉 www.ville-fumay.net/tourisme

HOUSE OF SLATE, RIMOGNE

+33 (0)3 24 35 13 14

👉 www.village-ardoise-rimogne.fr



Felt

From wool to the material in all its many uses, discover felt in Mouzon, the last town in France to have a felt factory.

FELT MUSEUM & WORKSHOP, MOUZON

+33 (0)3 24 26 19 91

👉 www.mouzon.fr



DID YOU KNOW?

In Toges and Boulton-aux-Bois wicker continues to be widely used as a raw material. Two craft basket-makers maintain the use of baskets of every kind for picking mushrooms, cherries, blackberries and other fruit.





The key sites of three wars

THREE WARS, TOTALLY OCCUPIED THREE TIMES. FROM 1870 TO 1945, KEY PAGES OF EUROPEAN HISTORY WERE WRITTEN IN THE ARDENNES. NUMEROUS SITES BEAR WITNESS TO IT.

From the capitulation of Napoléon III at Sedan in 1870, the HQ of the Emperor William II and his staff in Charleville from 1914 to 1916, the death of the last French soldier at Vrigne-Meuse in 1918, to the Sedan breakthrough in 1940 : **the Ardennes region was deeply impacted by the conflicts which changed the face of Europe from 1870 to 1945.**

In consequence, it contains a unique memory-based heritage, such as the collection in Sedan castle of objects from the site of the 1870 battle.

The Museum of War and Peace in the Ardennes is a key introduction (p.47) to understanding events in detail or for considering the bigger picture, but other sources remain to be considered, and especially those of persons wishing to pass on the history that impacted generations



of inhabitants of the Ardennes: the "Les Pousse Cailloux" House of Remembrance (Gespunsart), the Museum of the Two World Wars (Chagny), the Spahis Museum (La Horgne) or that of the May-June 1940 battle (Semuy).

Some sites
still resonate!

Some sites resonate still with the tragedies they witnessed, such as the village of Haybes, the Museum of the "Last cartridge" ("dernière cartouche") in Bazeilles, or the poignant Fort of La Ferté, a symbol of the Maginot Line, untouched since the battle of

14th May 1940.

Necropolis, war cemeteries and exceptional sites remind visitors of the sacrifice of the fallen of many nationalities. (Floing, La Marfée, Torcy, Chestres, Villy-la-Ferté, Semide Orfeuill and others), as are the remembrance tours throughout the region (Stonne, for example). The Ardennes region is an open book of living history.



SMARTPHONE APPLICATION

**THE ARDENNES,
LAND OF REMEMBRANCE**

Download this application and be sure not to miss the 68 noteworthy sites listed: it will tell you when you are in the vicinity of each of the localities associated with one of the key conflicts which beset the region (1870-1871, 1914-1918, 1939-1945). At the Museum of War and Peace an interactive terminal completes this application with an overview of the sites, allowing you to prepare a list of your favourites by flashing the site QR code.

Available in French, English and German from Apple Store and Android market.



KEY SITES



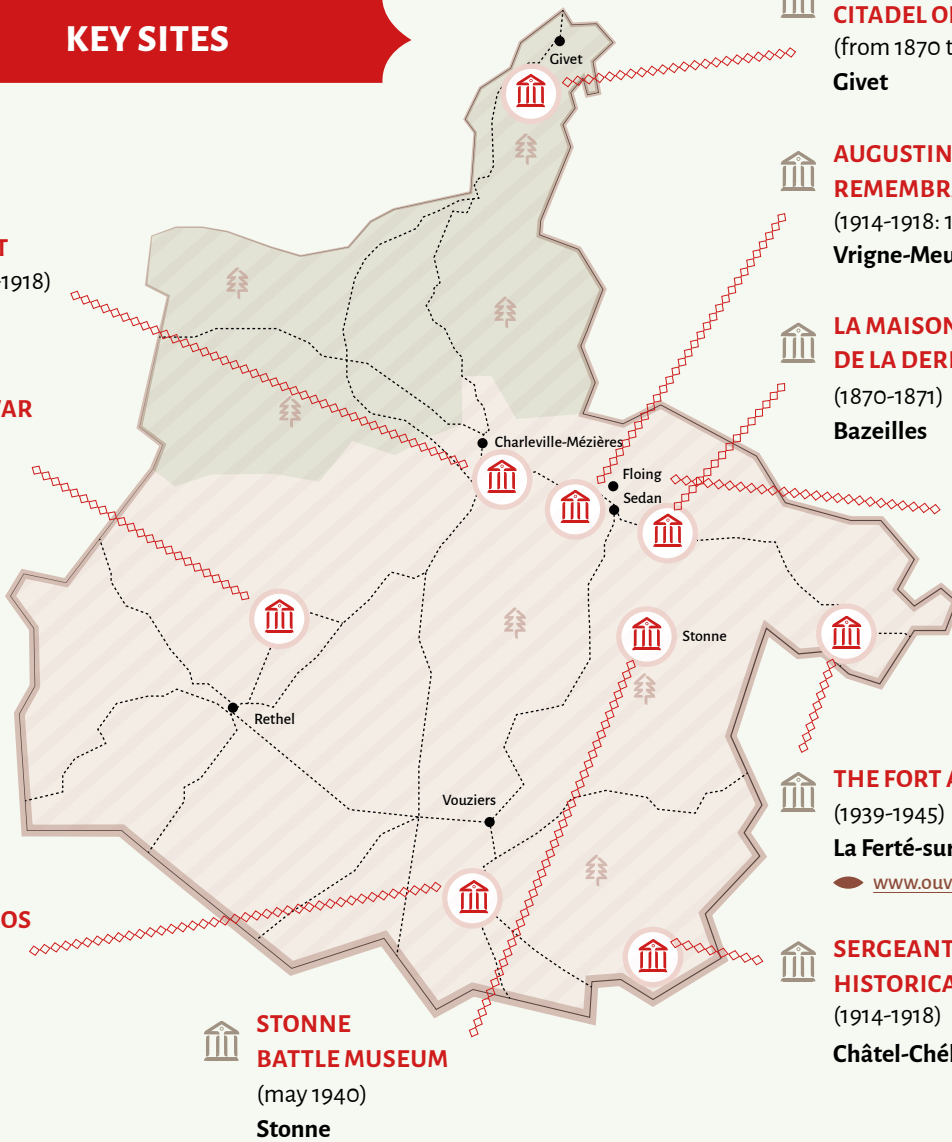
AYVELLES FORT
(from 1877; 1914-1918)
La Francheville



MUSEUM OF WAR AND PEACE
(1870 to 1945)
Novion-Porcien



ROLAND GARROS MONUMENT
(1914-1918)
Saint-Morel



CHARLEMONT CITADEL OF GIVET
(from 1870 to 1945)
Givet



AUGUSTIN TRÉBUCHON REMEMBRANCE TRAIL
(1914-1918: 1.7 km unaccompanied)
Vrigne-Meuse



LA MAISON DE LA DERNIÈRE CARTOUCHE
(1870-1871)
Bazeilles



GAULIER CAVE
(1944)
Floing



THE FORT AT VILLY LA FERTE
(1939-1945)
La Ferté-sur-Chiers
www.ouvrageslaferte.fr



SERGEANT YORK HISTORICAL TOUR
(1914-1918)
Châtel-Chéhéry



STONNE BATTLE MUSEUM
(may 1940)
Stonne

✦ VISITS AND ITINERARIES

• UNACCOMPANIED WITH BOOKLETS

Sedan during the Great War; remembrance tours in the Sedan region (1870/1914/1940); Charleville, Mézières: French capitals of Germany 1914-1918.

DOWNLOAD FROM

www.charleville-sedan-tourisme.fr
+33 (0)3 24 27 73 73

• GUIDED TOURS OF SEDAN

Year-round, with the town heritage department.

DETAILS

www.sedan.fr
+33 (0)3 24 27 84 86

✦ FURTHER INFORMATION

“THE ARDENNES, LAND OF REMEMBRANCE”

DOWNLOAD FROM

www.ardennes.com/en

✦ TOUR

VILLA RENAUDIN

Several rooms in the Villa Renaudin, the residence of the Kaiser and Kronprinz from 1914 to 1916, have been refurbished to enable visitors to immerse themselves in the martial atmosphere of the period. Entry to the map room, infirmary and the Kaiser's bunk throughout the year

INFORMATION FROM

www.villa-renaudin.fr



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COMPARE
THE COST
OF WAR
AND THE
VALUE OF PEACE**

THE STORY OF 3 WARS.

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WWW.GUERREETPAIX.FR


ARDENNES
Conseil Départemental

I tested for you


The War & Peace museum

IMMERSIVE MUSEOGRAPHY, RICHNESS OF COLLECTIONS AND COMMENTARY. THE WAR AND PEACE MUSEUM IS FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY. EACH AT THEIR OWN PACE.

"Mum! Germans on the left, French on the right!" As soon as they enter the Museum of War and Peace in the Ardennes, children are caught up by the superb dioramas representing the Sedan battlefield of 1870. Good to know! Information points with labels at their level have been made together with the well-known children's publisher "Quelle Histoire !" to offer a tour suitable for children of 9 years and older. Perfect. It leaves me time to take in the story panels on the walls and the many objects illustrating this period of History. The gallery of time begins in 1852, during the Crimean war, the root of three successive wars, and leads us to 1945 and the Liberation, en route for peace. **4,000 m², 14,000 objects, and over 160 uniforms.** The figures are enough to make one dizzy, yet once

inside the museum, it all becomes clear and we are carried away. **The immersive museography and the original presentation bring history alive and help visitors to understand: a 1914 trench, an archaeological dig, audiovisual aids...** Life for the civilian population, and the innovations introduced, are highlighted by numerous day-to-day objects. From detailed scale models to impressive heavy equipment, exploration is multi-faceted. History is presented for old and young alike with the aim of education for peace and citizenship. You'll want to come back.

THE WAR AND PEACE MUSEUM

www.guerreetpaix.fr
 [Museum of War and Peace](#)
 +33 (0)3 24 72 69 50



FOR THE FAMILY


MURDER PARTY

Delve into the archives of Emile Leblanc, police inspector during WWII, and find who killed General de Geoffreville. The General, the wealthy owner and director of a printing works specialising in propaganda posters, was assassinated in 1943. The Museum, providing the backcloth to a novel inquiry inspired by the Cluedo® board game, has carefully reconstituted the scene of the crime with genuine collectors' items. With a total of seven suspects, you have to find the clues, examine the proof and solve the murder. **From 12 years or older.**



FAMILY
& DELIGHT





*In a dream I shall feel
its coolness on my feet ;
I'll let the wind bathe
my bare head.*

**ARTHUR
RIMBAUD**



The French people's favourite monument

EUROPE'S LARGEST FORTIFIED CASTLE

www.chateau-fort-sedan.fr

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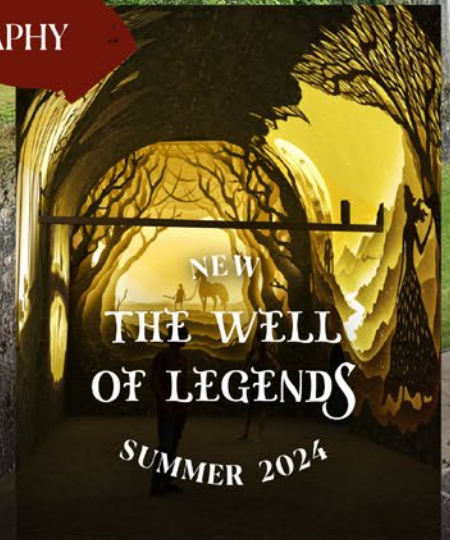
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THE PRINCELY
Wedding



**The besieged
— fortress —**



NEW
**THE WELL
OF LEGENDS**
SUMMER 2024

50 | 50

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DISCOVERY

Enjoy experiences with the family



YOUR CLAN IS THIRSTING FOR KNOWLEDGE,
TO GET STUCK IN AND SURPASS THEMSELVES.
ACTION, EVERYONE !

Become an animal keeper

✦ AT ARGONNE DISCOVERY PARK

DETAILS

www.parc-argonne-decouverte.fr

Prepare the fruit skewers for the bats, go into the racoon enclosure or learn about the life of wolves...**enjoy a unique experience** by accompanying an animal keeper for a morning in the Argonne discovery Park. **And many other activities: bouncy hammock, shows, etc...** From 7 years and older, accompagnied by an adult.



TAKE THE FANTASTICABLE THRILLS AND SPILLS CHALLENGE

The Fantasticable at the Fumay TerrAltitude Park is a mathematical challenge that could appeal to your teenager: how long will he take to travel 1.2 km at 110 km/hour, bearing in mind that his trip through the air will be 110 metres above the Meuse forest? He found the answer already? **Try some other challenges in these**

incomparable settings: a bungee jump from the 20 metre tower in Fumay or the 37 metre Exermont viaduct, 380 metres of MTB enduro downhill biking or trail climbs (between 35% and 40% for the Haulmé Wall), or a jump from 3,500 metres at 200 km/hour in freefall with the Belval parclub...



BREATH TAKING

TRY THESE OTHER THRILLS

CLIMB THE LEGENDARY ARDENNES SITES

(Roc-la-Tour in Monthermé, the Corpias in Tournavaux, la Roche aux Corbeaux in Hautes-Rivières...)

DETAILS

From Charleville Alpine Club

- www.cafca08.fr
- www.ardennes.com/en

HAVE FUN IN THE AERIAL ADVENTURE PARCS

(TerrAltitude in Fumay, Ardennes Terre d'Aventures at Vieilles-Forges Lake and Chêne Perché in Signy-l'Abbaye: for all the family.

DETAILS

- www.ardennes.com/en



110
KM/H



✦ **FANTASTICABLE: BUNGEE JUMPING AT FUMAY**

• www.terraltitude.com

✦ **TRAIL**

• www.ardennes.com/en
• Trail section : espacetrail.run/en/ardenne

✦

ENDURO MTB

• [Page facebook Semoy VTT - club de Monthermé](#)
• www.semoyvttclub.fr

✦

PARAGLIDERS, LIGHT AIRCRAFT AND ULM

• www.ardennes.com/en

✦

ELECTRIC OFF ROAD STEP

• www.ardennes.com/en

✦

PARACHUTING

• Belval Paracub
Registration on
+33(0)6 84 05 20 05

✦

BUNGEE JUMPING FROM EXERMONT VIADUCT

• www.adrenaline-elastique.com/exermont.html
+33(0)6 73 58 66 45

✦

HOT-AIR BALLOON FLIGHTS

Rethel Region
Hot-air balloon club
• +33 (0)6 72 04 77 37



An encounter with bees

"RUCHER DU MARCASSIN"

Go as close as you wish: at the Seraincourt educational apiarian farm you can observe the bees in complete safety, and **learn everything about pollinating and the history of bee-keeping**. Tour of the honey house, observation of a hive, tour of the herb garden and discovery of pollinating insects.

lerucherdumarcassin.blogspot.com



Enter a fairy-tale world

ELFY PARK

Elfy Park, dedicated to the legends of the Ardennes, is a haven of peace, freshness and games in the heart of the forest... just where elves live. Can you see them climbing the netting or in the tree houses? Summer toboggan runs, Tyrolean traverses, sleds, barefoot trail ... all facilities are open to young and old alike. Let yourself be carried away by the magic of the place!

www.elfypark.fr



Explore the aquatic world with dry feet

VENDRESSE

Plunge into the world of fresh water fish, slip beneath the frogs' terrarium or the axolotls' grotto. This is the magic of the Domaine de Vendresse. This wooded leisure park proposes an amusing and educational discovery of the aquatic milieu, accessible to children, **with a Nature Area, barefoot trail, water and open air games, and the 19th century blast furnace: a fabulous place both to play and learn.**

www.domaine-de-vendresse.fr



IDEAS

LOTS OF ACTIVITIES FOR ALL THE FAMILY

Enjoy other amusing experiences: explore **the Nichet cave system at Fromelennes** (the only underground cave open to the public in north-east France), discover **the Aisne Valley by autorail** (Micheline, Picasso) from Attigny, immerse yourself in 3D in **the slate mines at Rimogne**, meet **the animals at the educational farm in**

Liart, visit the Early Aviation Museum in Douzy, see the plane flown by Roland-Garros (playbook) and admire the Street Art in Vouziers, visit Semide, follow the heritage quiz trail, and be sure not to leave before greeting **Woinic, the giant boar, the emblem of the Ardennes.**

✦ **GAMES** Escape Games, bowling, go-karts, games parks open in summer or year round.

www.ardennes.com/en



✦ **AND MORE...**

Gyropode scooter, quadricycle, horseriding...a selection of sports and outdoor leisure activities in the Ardennes is available through the Ardennes Nature and Adventures network, which lists all service providers.

www.ardennes.com/en



DOMAINE DE VENDRESSE



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GAMES AREAS,
TOUCH TANK,
AQUARIUMS,
SON & LUMIERE,
BRASSERIE,
FISHING



Domaine de Vendresse

www.domaine-de-vendresse.fr

Les Crêtes
Préardennaises
Communauté de Communes



Take a world tour WITH NOAH'S ARK



DISCOVER THE ANIMALS OF THE WORLD WITH SOPHIE THIRIET AND ROMAIN BOURDON IN ETEIGNIÈRES.

Noah's Ark came to rest in the heart of the Ardennes Thiérache hedgerow country, freeing **more than 150 animals and 55 species**. Discover this astonishing fauna while strolling through this 5 hectare (12 acre) park. A sea of greenery where you will encounter the Göttingen minipig, camels from the Asian steppes, Lamas from Latin America, and the Taiwanese Muntjac, "the smallest deer in the world."...

Many more surprises await you in this educational, amusing and environmentally responsible park (rainwater for the toilettes, wind generators for the lamps heating the tortoises, and solar panels). Stroll at your ease along secure trails accessible to even the smallest children, take the time to sit and watch, and make use of the children's play area and the summer picnic space. A world tour in complete safety.

DETAILS  www.archedenoe08.com




WHAT A STORY!

CHANGE YOUR SPACE-TIME WITH THE VILLAGE OF MONT-CORNU



Knights in training, a combat between legionaries, a demonstration by a blacksmith or a spinner ... and look! there's a Druid in the midst of a ritual. Anything can happen in the historic village of Mont-Cornu. Go back in time, step by step through 1,500 years of history. Observe the development of buildings through the Gallic, Gallo-roman, Merovingian, Carolingian and medieval periods, admire the herb garden, and enjoy the re-enactments, shows and guided tours. From the third century BCE to the 14th century: a fascinating adventure. Regular displays and event weekends from May to September.

MORE DETAILS FROM  www.tourisme-vallees-etplateaudardenne.com





THE TOP

5

activities at the Vieilles Forges and Bairon Lakes



BATHING

Enjoy the freshwater lakes and their beaches. Bathing at Vieilles-Forges and Bairon, supervised from 1 pm to 7 pm every day in summer, is an ideal way to recharge your batteries. Or do you feel like something more energetic? Plunge into the Wi-Splash aquatic arena at Vieilles-Forges: 24 modules in an area of 1500 m2, with two circuits (one for all the family over 6 years, and a more demanding itinerary for adolescents and adults).



PLAYING ON THE BEACH

Karate, laser guns, table tennis, beach rugby, beach basketball, tchouk ball, speed ball, ultimate, sailing, fencing : let your curiosity guide you, and discover over twenty summer sporting and cultural activities offered free of charge on the beaches of both lakes for all ages.

ONE IS IMMERSSED IN THE ARDENNES FOREST WHILE THE OTHER SHIMMERS IN A PRESERVED MILIEU. THE VIEILLES-FORGES AND BAIRON LAKES OFFER AS MANY FACETS AS THEIR SPARKLING WATERS. HERE ARE FIVE IDEAS FOR PLEASURES TO SHARE, BETWEEN GOLDEN SANDS AND FRESH GRASS.

TRY A NEW PERSPECTIVE



Go up in the world at the treetop rope park in Ardennes Terre d'Aventure in Vieilles-Forges. Climb to the truck of a full-size galleon mast, or storm a castle and its climbing wall (10 circuits, 5 levels, for 6 years and older). Discover the ecological diversity of Bairon and its surrounding villages. Observe the peat bogs, meadows and their rich fauna throughout the year on commented nature rambles.

GET AWAY FROM IT ALL BY THE LAKE



On foot, MTB, horseback or electric scooter, explore the shores of Vieilles-Forges and its surroundings. A 2.5 km walk starting from the beach leads you easily to the Aulnes bridge. For the more athletic: the circuit of the lake (11.3 km, mostly level). In Bairon, a site with the Natura 2000 label, visitors' experiences depend on the circuit they choose: the tour of the lake, the old pond, the Courtiseaux heights: by MTB, electric scooter or on foot, watch for the great egret, grey heron or great crested grebe from an observatory, without disturbing them.

TRY YOUR HAND AT WATER SPORTS



Canoe (for 1 to 9 persons), kayak, paddle, windsurfing, sailing for beginners, water bike... or relax with a pedal boat. Both lakes offer stimulating water activities. Roam over the water at your own pace.

MORE DETAILS FROM

www.ardennes.com/en and www.lacsenardennes.fr



DID YOU KNOW?

Every summer the Ardennes regional council organises activities at the Bairon and Vieilles-Forges beaches. Team games, tchoukball, archery, keep fit, introduction to handisport.

1001 WAYS TO

take the plunge



BUCOLIC, FRESH OR NAUTICAL....
THE ARDENNES WATERWAYS ARE MULTI-FACETED: RIVERS, LAKES, PONDS OR STREAMS, EACH TO THEIR STYLE.



CANOE IN THE SEMOY VALLEY

Paddle towards adventure on the white water of the region's rivers and savour the pleasure of discovering the countryside at your own pace. Several routes are available in the Semoy valley, on the Aisne or the Meuse.



SWIMMING AT BUZANCY

Hot sand under your feet, invigorating water between your fingers, the laughter of children... **benefit from one of the 7 supervised beaches this summer:** Vieilles-Forges, Douzy, Bairon, Sedan, La Warenne (Charleville-Mézières), La Samaritaine (Buzancy) and La Motte (Signy-le-Petit).



PADDLE AT DOUZY

Like small sea resorts, the leisure centres of Bairon, Douzy and Vieilles-Forges offer a **wide choice of activities:** pedal boats, canoe, kayak, stand-up paddle, miniature golf course etc.

DETAILS

Details of lakes and bodies of water, sailing centres and swimming pools, and sailing activities from tourist offices.

www.ardennes.com/en
www.lacsenardennes.fr



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Feast your eyes with the spectacular shows at La Cassine

UNIQUE IN EUROPE, THE CASSINE EN ARDENNE® SUMMER SHOW OFFERS A UNUSUAL EXPERIENCE IN A SUPERB SETTING. FOLLOW THE SON ET LUMIÈRE FROM A MOBILE STAND.

Notre-Dame: behind the facade. For its 40th anniversary La Cassine pays homage to *Notre-Dame de Paris* by adapting Victor Hugo's famous novel. Exciting, convivial and unusual, this enchanting *son et lumière* offers an entirely new, captivating experience. Each summer, as night falls, spectators take their seats in a mobile, covered stand the length of a 320 metre stage (1650 seats with backs). A unique concept in Europe.

From the esplanade of Notre Dame to the backstreets of Paris and the court of

miracles, they will literally follow the story of Esmeralda, Frolo and Quasimodo, presented in a series of tableaux in the magnificent park of La Cassine en Ardenne®. Class history and burning love are at the heart of this tale, interpreted by one hundred amateur actors, all voluntary.

Take a good look at the actors. You may have encountered some of them in the monastery converted into the dining room, or backstage (VIP option) before they abandoned their aprons for their stage costumes. This is another special feature of this event. The team does everything: the show, costumes, scenery, cooking, and maintenance. It's a fabulous human adventure and a great story.

DETAILS

www.la-cassine.com



DID YOU KNOW?

La Cassine en Ardenne® is supported by the French Heritage Foundation and was selected in 2019 by the Bern mission for the conservation of endangered heritage sites.

AN ANNUAL PROGRAMME

La Cassine is open all year round:

- Gourmet walks, European Heritage Days, open air cinema, Béhourd
- Tournament (part of the French Jousting Championships), Halloween weekend, Crime at La Cassine...

IN THE REALM OF FANTASY





CABARET VERT

A FERVOUR UNMATCHED WORLDWIDE



DETERMINED

TO ENDURE

Secure in its territory, independent thanks to the investment of the people of the Ardennes and 2,300 voluntary workers, **the Cabaret celebrates a certain art of living "à l'ardennaise"**: generous, epicurean and responsible. Short supply chains, waste management, debates and workshops around the environment: with their feet on the ground, and their head in the stars.



AN ECLECTIC

MEETING PLACE

Music, yes, but not only...

Comic book festival, street arts, and cinema: the festival offers a wide range of experiences to festival-goers, with ambiance changes using scenery that alternates between grandiose and intimacy. Welcome to a new dimension.



AND MORE MUSIC

MUSICAL AND SEASONAL NOTES

In addition to the concerts and shows presented under cover and in cultural centres, the region's towns and villages offer cordial events in very varied settings. From classical music to rock and percussion, in remarkable buildings, in the streets or in the country, here is a non-exhaustive selection:

FROM 20TH TO 25TH MAY

Festive drums in Charleville-Mézières.

IN JUNE

FestiBarock'in at Monthermé.

FROM 28TH JUNE TO 12TH JULY

Guitar and Heritage Festival in Sedan

IN JULY AND AUGUST

- Ardenn'Rock in Signy-l'Abbaye,
- Aymon Folk Festival in Bogny-sur-Meuse,
- Cuivres en Ardennes in Sedan (du 27/7 au 3/8),
- Les Musicales de Louvergny,
- Boul-t-aux-Bois et Cordes in Boul-t-aux-Bois...

DETAILS FROM  ardennes.com/en

**FROM 15TH TO 18TH
AUGUST 2024**

**FOR ITS 18TH EDITION
IN BAYARD SQUARE.**

**THE FESTIVAL, THE KEY SUMMER
EVENT IN THE ARDENNES,**

INTERNATIONAL ARTISTS

**DJ Snake, Black Eyed Peas,
Travis Scott, Stromae.**

Since 2005 numerous international stars have set foot in Bayard Square in the heart of Charleville-Mézières. Rock, rap, electro, punk, reggae: the vast panorama of the Cabaret Vert has a place for every style. **Rated among the top 10 French festivals, it welcomed 127,000 festival-goers in 2023.**

MUSIC AND FESTIVITIES

PRESTIGE

THE ASFELD VIOLA DE GAMBA FESTIVAL

The 11th biannual International Viola de Gamba Festival will be held in Asfeld on 5th, 6th and 7th July 2024. This exceptional musical event will take place in a magical setting: the Saint Didier church in Asfeld, a marvel of the 17th century, the only church in the world in the shape of a viola de gamba. Delicate and beautiful, this bowed instrument played in the European courts from the 15th to 18th centuries continues to hold audiences spellbound during concerts, particularly during this giant concert which brings together musicians from across Europe to play a score which has been rehearsed remotely throughout the year. An instrument makers area, juggling, dance and other events complete this wonderful festival. Among others, the programme includes the Trompettes du Carrousel, Christophe Coin, and the Près de votre oreille ensemble, directed by Robin Pharo.



SHARING

In the kitchen of a top chef Gratien Leroy



HIS PASSION FOR GASTRONOMY BROUGHT HIM IN FRONT OF THE CAMERAS. THE PROTEGE OF THE STARRED CHEF PHILIPPE ETCHEBEST OPENS HIS DOOR.



ARDENNES DE FRANCE: FOR LOCAL PRODUCE

If the source of raw materials and the quality of products, services and know-how are important for you, you can rely on the "Ardennes de France" logo: some 40 producers with this label propose over 150 quality products, the result of their exceptional savoir-faire.

www.ardennes.com/en



... AND LOCAL FARMERS' MARKETS

The smell of cheese, the good humour of the market gardeners, their colourful stalls Friendliness, freshness and authenticity are the perquisite of the Local Farmers' Markets: a sure source of local, seasonal food and farm quality produce.

www.marches-producteurs.com



LOGIS DES ARDENNES

Logis des Ardennes restaurateurs offer regionally-inspired menus and select, where possible, the best local produce.

www.logis-ardennes.com/en



TOURISM BREWING

A festive and friendly local product, beer is also a great way to discover the Ardennes, its landscapes, its know-how and its know-how. Cruise, brewery visit, tasting...

echappee-biere.com

"We prepare our dishes with our hearts, with passion and with appetite." For Gratien Leroy, the winner of the "Objectif Top Chef" programme on France's M6 channel, and a cordial and enthusiastic participant in the 11th season, three key words are inherent in Ardennes cuisine: conviviality, sharing and generosity. Ever true to these values, this native of the Meuse valley

(Nouzonville) agreed to share one of his trademark recipes. And he does so with especial pleasure because it gives prominence to a typical local product: the Ardennes red turkey. "It's more tasty than traditional salads. It can be served as a starter or as a main course. You only have to adapt the pieces of meat." The ball is in your court!



ARDENNES RED TURKEY, CAESAR SALAD STYLE.

FOR 4 PERSONS:

- 400 gm Ardennes red turkey thigh
- 500 gm roquette salad
- 125 gm parsley
- 100 gm olive oil
- 5 gm pistachio paste
- 1 garlic clove
- 200 gm Parmesan
- 150 gm milk + 250 gm cream
- 2 anchovies / 1 egg yolk
- Worcester / tabasco



RECIPE:

- ✦ **Sear** the turkey thighs.
- ✦ **Blend** the blanched roquette and parsley, olive oil, garlic, pistachio paste, salt and pepper.
- ✦ **Blend** the Parmesan, anchovies and egg yolk with the mixture of milk and warm cream, and season with Worcester sauce and tabasco. Strain, then pour into a siphon.
- ✦ **Garnish** the turkey pieces with drops of the sauce and blender mixture, some roquette leaves, a slice of Parmesan, crusty bread and roquette pesto.



LE SAVIEZ-VOUS ?

La Dinde Rouge des Ardennes est arrivée en Europe avec ses congénères après la découverte de l'Amérique.



TERROIR

EACH REGION HAS ITS SPECIALITY

The Ardennes region is a Garden of Eden: fruits from Tourteron and Semoy, cider from the foothills, cheese from Rocroy, onion tarte from Givet, Haybes ham, Rethel white pudding ...not forgetting the essential boar, "cacasse à cul nu", bacon salad, "galette à suc" and "gâteau mollet" - local brioche.

FURTHER INFORMATION FROM

👉 www.ardennes.com/en



CROSS-BORDER ROUTE

BEER-LOVERS TOUR

Between tasting, tours and sporting activities, follow cross-border beer route, which links Mariembourg and Bouillon in 20 stages via Charleville-Mézières and discover the brewing heritage of the Ardennes: museums, abbeys, breweriess (Chimay, Maredsous, PBA, Ardwen, Orval). 648 intoxicating kilometres. The pass'bière issued by Adrien Donnette, the region's brewing ambassador, can entitle you to benefits.

DETAILS

👉 www.visitardenne.com



Gîtes de France Ardennes



Scan me



To explore the region or for a relaxing weekend, rambles in the forest, excursions on MBT or on the water, culture, architecture, history, legends.... There are so many good reasons for staying in the Ardennes ! **And we propose some 200 doors awaiting you**, each a guarantee of a quality stay. Find all our offers: **accommodation, holiday cottage booking, and other promotions on www.gites-de-france-ardennes.com/en**

RELAXATION



The ideal place for your stay

To ensure that your nights will be as delightful as your days, a catalogue of different types of accommodation is available: homes of character, welcoming rooms, unusual cabins, camping in the wild, or just a cosy bed...

FIND OUR SELECTION OF HOLIDAY RENTALS ON

www.ardennes.com/en



Useful addresses



Ardennes Tourist Offices

ARDENNES TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

www.ardennes.com/en

GÎTES DE FRANCE ARDENNES

Tél. +33 (0)3 24 56 89 65

www.gites-de-france-ardennes.com



CléVacances

CLÉVACANCES ARDENNES

Tél. +33 (0)3 24 56 68 69

www.clevacances.com

BIENVENUE À LA FERME

CHAMBRE D'AGRICULTURE

Tél. +33 (0)3 24 56 89 40

www.ardennes.chambre-agriculture.fr



ARDENNES REGIONAL NATURE PARK

Tél. +33 (0)3 24 42 90 57

www.parc-naturel-ardennes.fr

ARDENNES HIKING BOARD

Tél. +33 (0)6 37 11 07 90

ardennes.ffrandonnee.fr

ARDENNES FEDERATION FOR FISHING AND PROTECTION OF THE AQUATIC ENVIRONMENT

Tél. +33 (0)3 24 56 41 32

www.generationpeche.fr

REGIONAL OLYMPIC AND SPORTING COMMITTEE

Tél. +33 (0)3 24 56 03 86

ou +33 (0)6 82 17 13 57

www.cdos-ardennes.fr

VAL D'ARDENNE TOURIST OFFICE

GIVET

Tél. +33 (0)3 24 42 92 42

www.valdardennetourisme.com

Sales of holiday packages

VIREUX-WALLERAND

Tél. +33 (0)3 24 42 92 42

www.valdardennetourisme.com

CHARLEVILLE/SEDAN EN ARDENNE TOURIST OFFICE

CHARLEVILLE-MÉZIÈRES

Tél. +33 (0)3 24 55 69 90

www.charleville-sedan-tourisme.fr

Sales of holiday packages

SEDAN

Tél. +33 (0)3 24 27 73 73

www.charleville-sedan-tourisme.fr

ARDENNES FOOTHILLS TOURIST OFFICE

Tél. +33 (0)3 24 35 02 69

www.cretespreardennaisetourisme.fr

ARDENNES VALLEYS AND PLATEAU TOURIST OFFICE

ROCROI

Tél. +33 (0)3 24 54 20 06

www.tourisme-valleesetplateaudardenne.com

MONTHERMÉ

Tél. +33 (0)3 24 54 46 73

www.tourisme-valleesetplateaudardenne.com

PORTES DU LUXEMBOURG TOURIST OFFICE

Tél. +33 (0)3 24 29 79 91

www.portesduluxembourg.fr

ARDENNES THIÉRACHE

Tél. +33 (0)3 24 26 13 31

www.ardennes-thierache.com

SOUTH ARDENNES REGION TOURIST BOARD

RETHEL

Tél. +33 (0)9 54 82 84 22

paysrethelois-tourisme.com

Sales of holiday packages

VOUZIERES

Tél. +33 (0)3 24 71 97 57

www.argonne-en-ardenne.fr



Coming to the Ardennes

PRACTICAL NOTES

CAR

- From Paris :**
Take A4 motorway, signposted Reims, then A34, signposted Charleville-Mézières.
- From Lille :**
Follow signs to Tournai, Mons, Charleroi, Philippeville (N5/ E420), Rocroi (A304) and Charleville-Mézières.
- From Sarrebruck :**
Follow signs to Luxembourg (E25/ E411) then from Libramont, to Sedan and Charleville-Mézières.
- From Cologne :**
Follow signs to Aachen, Liège, then to Luxembourg (E25), and Namur and Libramont (E411), then to Sedan and Charleville-Mézières.
- From Brussels and Amsterdam :**
Follow signs to Charleroi, Philippeville (N5/E420), Rocroi (A304) and Charleville-Mézières.
- From London, via Calais :**
Follow signs to Reims (A26), then to Charleville-Mézières (A34).

TRAIN

TGV Est Paris
Charleville-Mézières 1hr40,
2 through trains daily

BOAT

From the North, via the Meuse.
From the South, via Marne canal then Ardennes canal.

NEARBY AIRPORTS

- Paris (Charles de Gaulle)
- Paris-Vatry
- Luxembourg (Findel)
- Brussels (Zaventem)
- Charleroi (Bruxelles-Sud)



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ACTUAL - <http://www.actual.tm.fr> - actual@actual.tm.fr

VISIT ARDENNE

FROM ONE ARDENNE TO ANOTHER

France, Belgium, Luxembourg: the Ardennes reveal themselves with or without that "s". To help you, the Ardennes cross-border tourist group has created the [visitardenne.com](http://www.visitardenne.com) web site.

www.visitardenne.com



In 2024, prepare your next stay
on our website
www.ardennes.com/en

Voies vertes

in the Ardennes

Go with the flow for 240 km

In the heart of the Ardennes,
explore the **Trans-Ardennes Greenway**
from Givet to Mouzon (EuroVelo 19) linking with
the **South Ardennes Greenway**,
without leaving the watercourse !

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