

Car Free Style

By train, by bike or on foot

From Mons to Tournai



In collaboration with

Railtrip.travel



© WBT-Bruno Dall'Amore

Here you have a ready to go itinerary for a nature themed getaway for a few days in Wallonia without a car.

It is part of a series of interconnectable itineraries (amounting to an itinerary of around two weeks in total). By combining these short stays, you have the chance to spend a fabulous sustainable holiday in Wallonia. This roaming escapade starts from a rail station, where you will have the option of either doing the route by train and bicycle, or by train and on foot. Set off in **slow tourism** mode and take the time to enjoy the landscapes, nature, local products, cultural and historical visits and of course the welcoming accommodation in each place.

Embrace the **slow tourism** experience.



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© VanDenEynde, L. Com Ville d'Atth

From Mons to Tournai



De Doudou à Clovis

The town of **Mons** has a number of valuable assets to draw you in. Its many **museums** – show everything from pride of place to current or latter-day artistic creation (Fine Arts Museum) to reverence for wartime history (Mons Memorial Museum). Its architectural heritage and old streets give it the charm of a historic town and can be seen wherever you look: The **Belfry**, listed by **UNESCO**, the **‘Sainte-Waudru’ Collegiate church**, the **‘Grand Place’** (Town Square). The ubiquitous local folklore testifies to the attachment that the people of Mons have for it with the famous combat between Saint George and the Dragon (Doudou Festival). It is without doubt a dynamic place with no shortage of opportunities to party...

Mons is also the **Borinage** region that experienced tremendous economic momentum from the beginning of the 19th century, despite the inhuman living conditions in the mines. A certain **Vincent Van Gogh** also stayed there almost two years to find his artistic inspiration... As you walk or cycle, you'll discover magnificent castles such as the majestic **Château de Beloeil**, but also epic natural spaces such as marshes with many nestling birds, and a natural park... Don't forget the River Escaut, a 355 km river which crosses 3 countries: France where it has its source but also Belgium and the Netherlands where it flows into the North Sea. Along the River **Escaut**, you can immerse yourself in a nostalgic world of boatmen and canals. You finally arrive at the 'Town of Clovis': **Tournai**.

Tournai is one of the oldest towns in Belgium. It retains many traces of its millennial history. In terms of heritage, you can notably admire the oldest Belfry in Belgium as well as the **Notre-Dame Cathedral**, legacies from the medieval period and both on the **UNESCO** list. Don't miss the **‘Halle aux Draps’** (former cloth trading building) known for its pretty Baroque and Renaissance facade and, more recently, the many Art Nouveau buildings that line the streets. Among them, the **Museum of Fine Arts** designed by Victor Horta. These buildings contribute to the charm of the city, where looking up is as important as looking around. Heir to a rich folklore, it is a festive town with quirky carnivals and alluring legends of mythical giants who once lived here.

The route between these two historic and folkloric towns never fails to surprise and delight...

The concept of the car-free route?





A combination of train journeys and sections to be done on foot or by bicycle. In the following pages, discover the different options we offer...

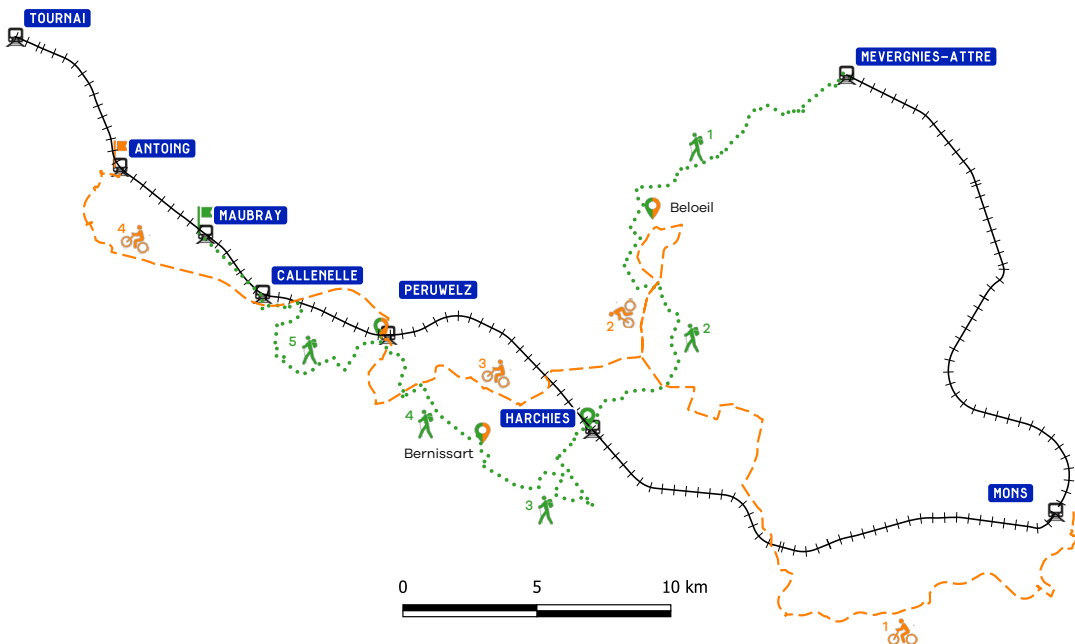
Have a nice trip

General map & itineraries



Find all our car-free itineraries on
visitwallonia.be/carfree

-  **Railway Lines**
-  **Walking Sections**
-  **Cycling Sections**
-  **Stations**
-  **Camping**
-  **Accommodation**
-  **Picnic**
-  **Must See**





By train

Sections by train

#1

Your starting point station - Mons station

Take advantage of this stop to visit the city of Mons

#2

'Gare de Mons' (Station) - 'Gare de Mévergnies-Attre' (Station)

From Mons, take line 96 then line 90. At least one train per hour on this route, the total duration is about thirty minutes.

#3

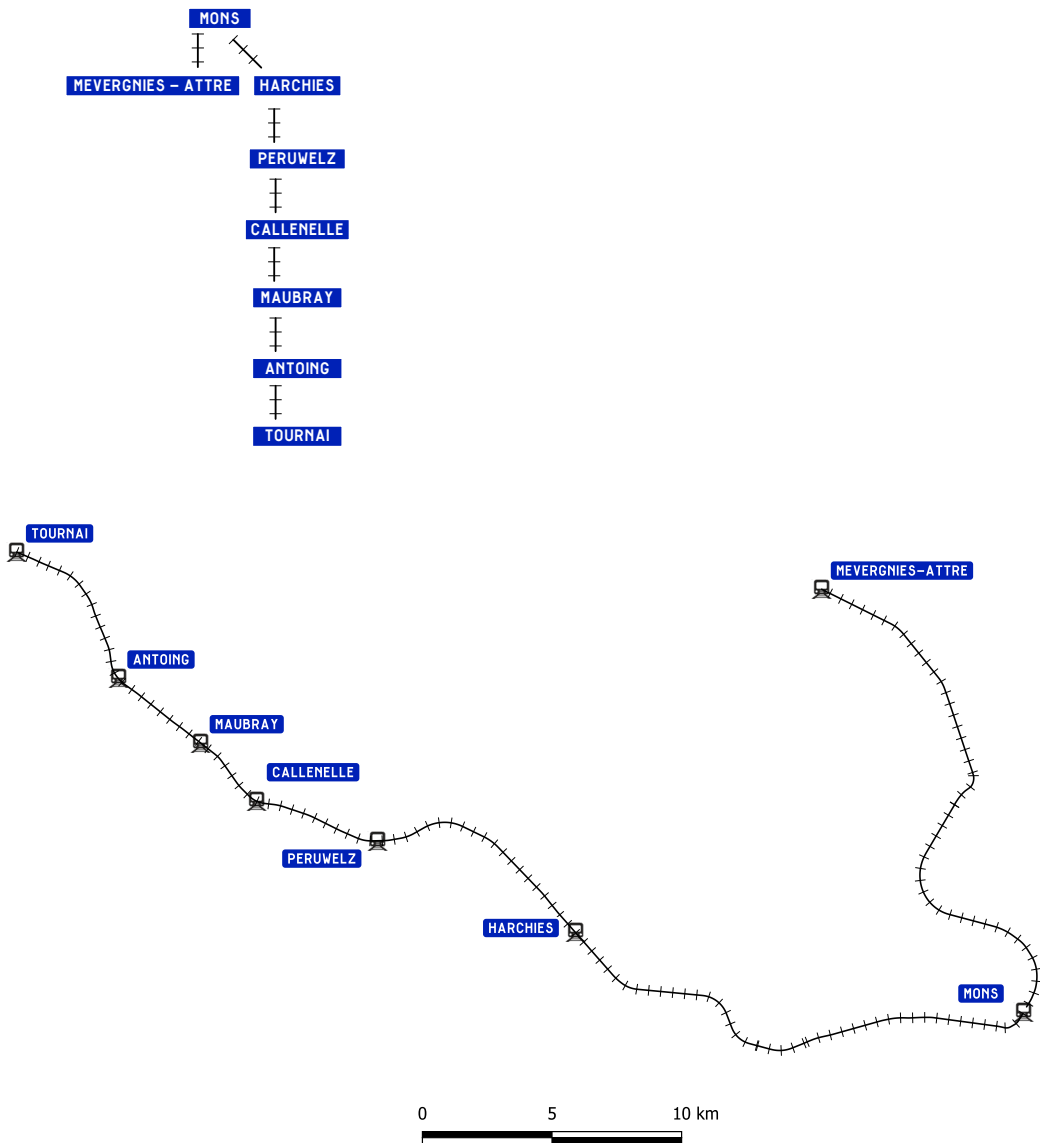
'Gare de Maubray' (Station) - 'Gare de Tournai' (Station)

Line 78 connects these two stations. One train per hour on this route (please check timetables - it only runs at the end of the day in the summer time).

PRICES & INFO

On all these rail journeys, it is possible to embark with your bikes: €4/bike/trip + ticket price.

Find more information, timetables and prices on www.belgiantrain.be





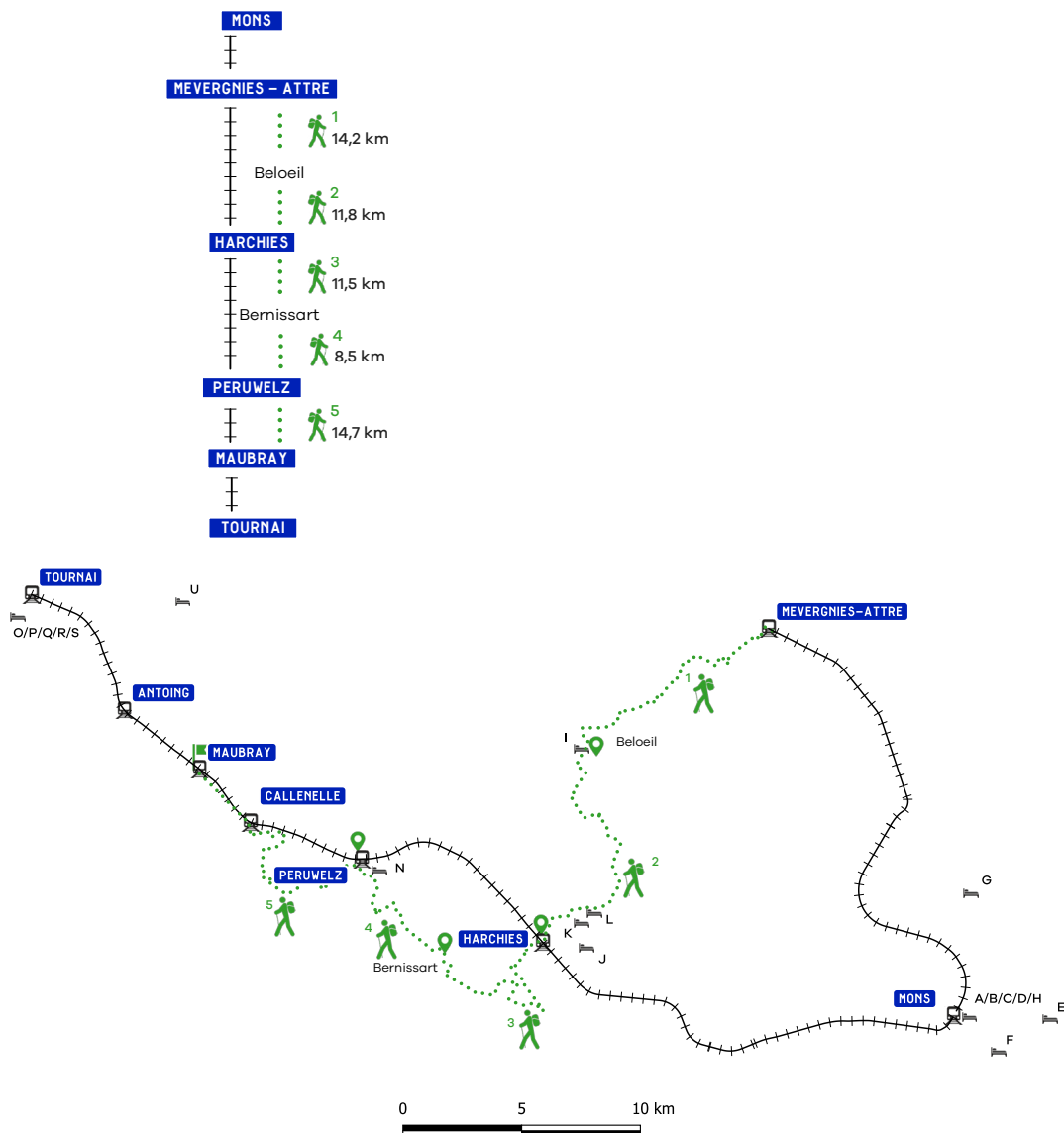
On foot



HERE'S HOW TO FOLLOW THE GUIDE

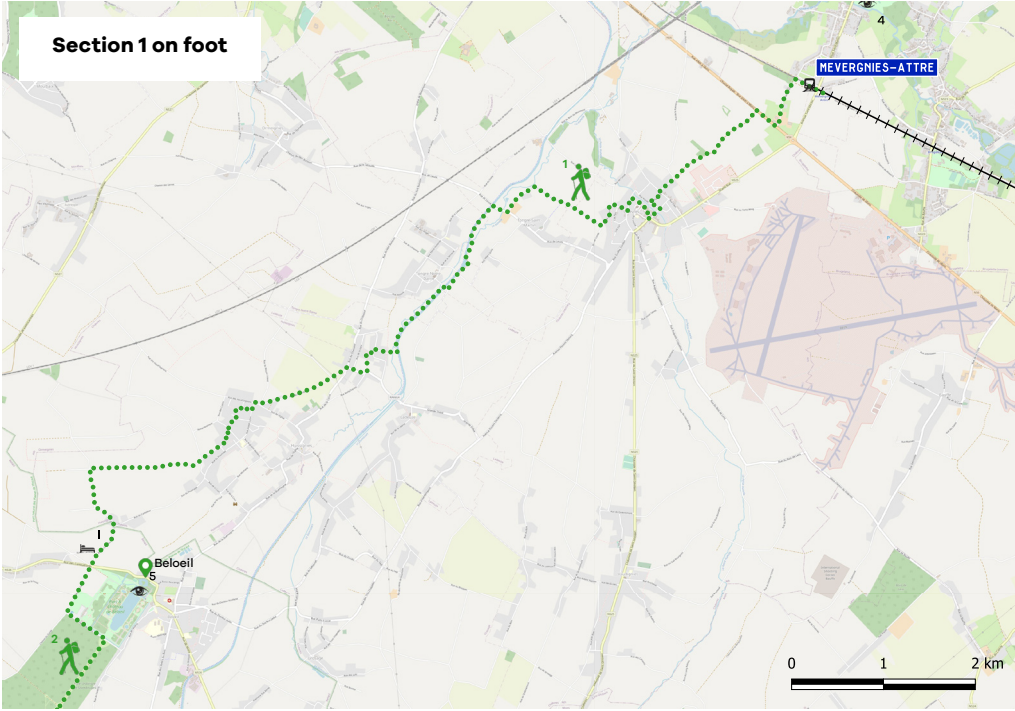
Download the GPX file or the guidance application for your mobile phone from **www.cirkwi.com**.

You will find the different stages (on foot and by bike) of this route (GPX files, activities, accommodation, etc).



Find **accommodation** on **page 33**
and **activities** on **pages 26-31**

Section 1 on foot



Km 14.2



4H00

SIGNPOSTING




On foot

1

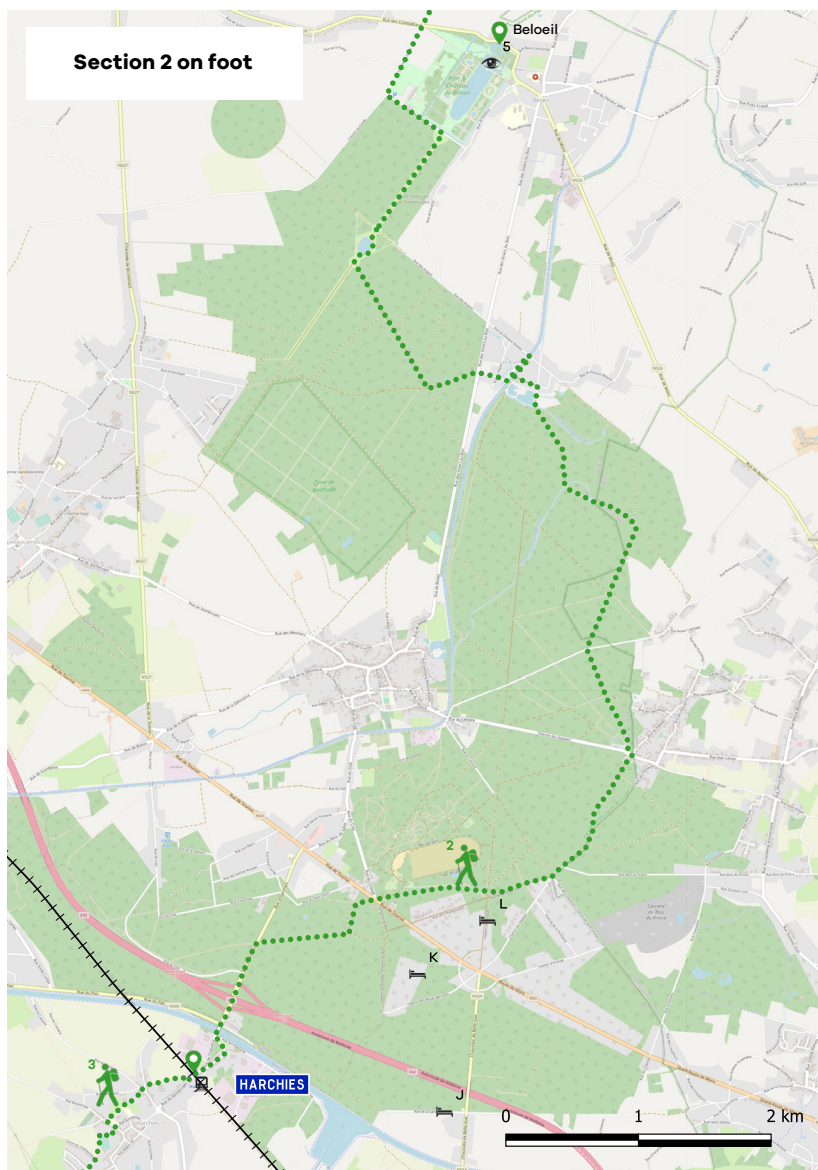
'Gare de Mévergnies-Attre' (Station) - 'Gare de Beloeil' (Station)

Signposting

 121 Wavre - Bon-Secours

- 1 At 'Mévelgnies-Attre' station, go towards the platform side "vers ATH" (towards the town of ATH)
- 2 Take the 'Rue des Enfers', a small cobblestone street that runs along the railway line and then turns left. Follow the markings for the GR 121 'Wavre - Bon-Secours' towards 'Bon-Secours' and 'Beloeil'. The GR passes just in front of the 'Château de Beloeil' (Beloeil Castle).





Section 2 on foot


Km 11.8



3H00

SIGNPOSTING

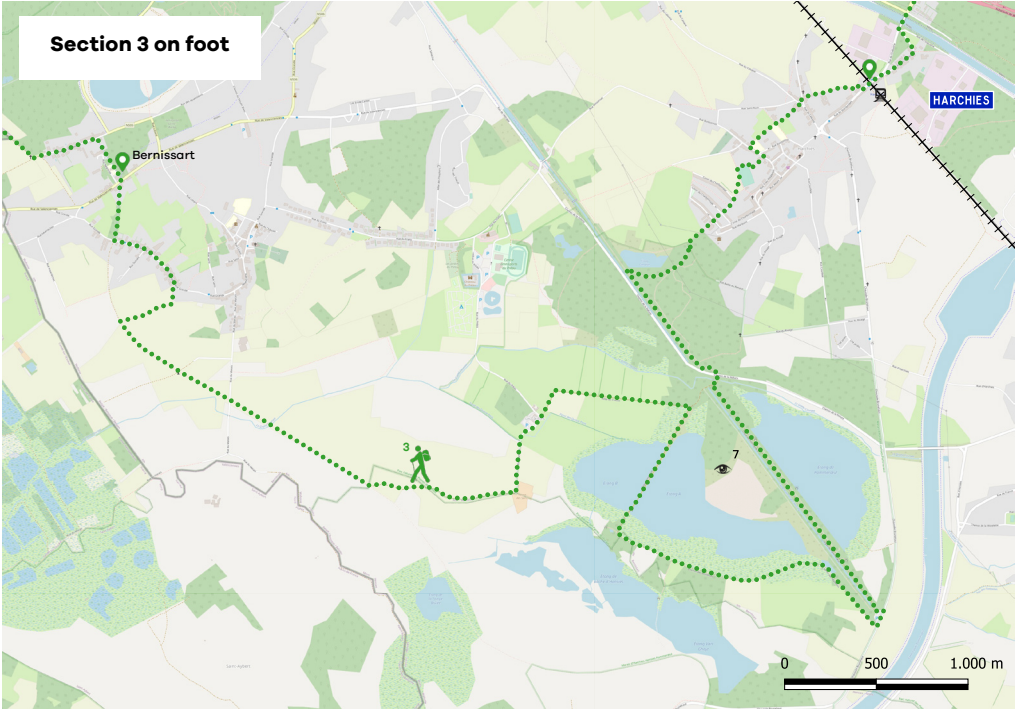


'Gare de Beloeil' (Station) - 'Gare de Archies' (Station)**Signposting** 121 Wavre - Bon-Secours

At the 'Château de Beloeil' (Beloeil Castle), continue walking and follow the signposting GR 121 walking trail 'Wavre - Bon-Secours' markings until you reach 'Archies' station

(When you arrive at 'Archies' station, you can either take the train to 'Peruwelz' (or Tournai) station to shorten the route; or continue the pedestrian route with section 3).





Km 11.5





3H00

SIGNPOSTING



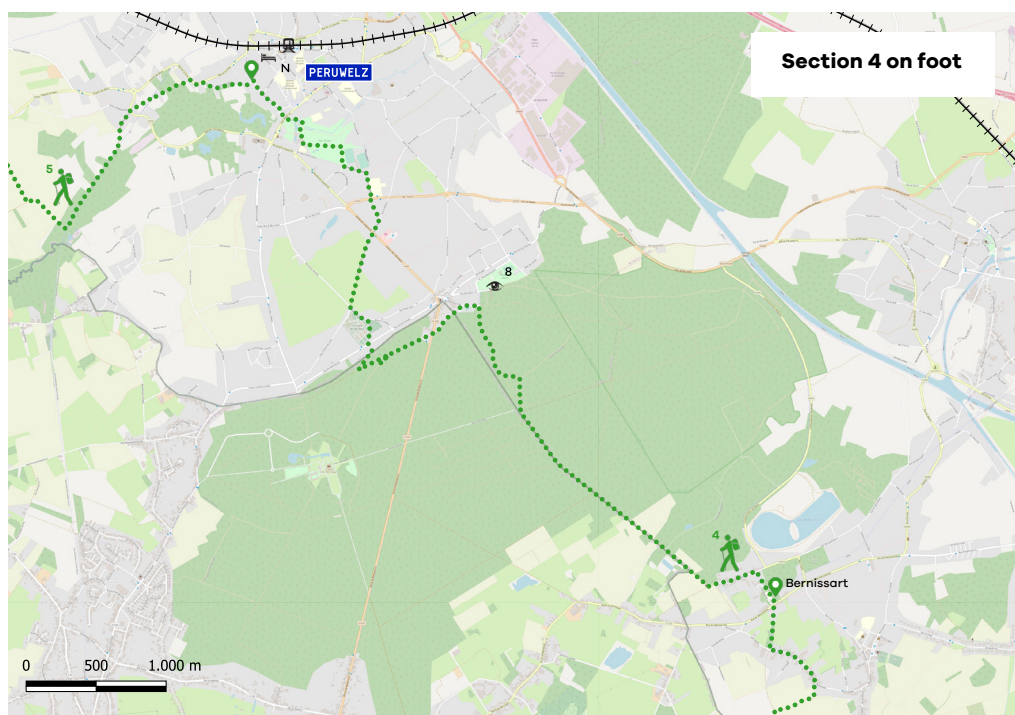
'Gare de Archie' (Station) - 'Gare de Bernissart' (Station)

Signposting

 121 'Wavre - Bon-Secours' and  412 walking trails

- 1 From 'Archies' station, follow the GR 121 'Wavre - Bon-Secours' route towards 'Bon-Secours'.
- 2 **ACRONYMS** Note After 2 km, you arrive at the edge of the 'Pommeroeul-Antoing' canal. Do not follow the GR which continues to the right along the canal, but follow the canal to the left for 800 metres until you reach the 'Chemin de la Nature' and to the entrance of the 'Marais d'Harchies' (Harchies Marshes).
- 3 Then follow the path that crosses the 'Marais' (Marshes) between the two ponds.
- 4 At the end of this path and at a car park, turn right onto 'Chaussée de Brunehaut' for 100m.
- 5 Then take the path on your right that again enters the 'Marais d 'Harchies' (Marshes) and then follow the markings for the GR 412 trail.
- 6 After following the GR 412 trail for 6.6 km, you will arrive at the municipality of 'Bernissart'.





Km 8.5



2H10

SIGNPOSTING



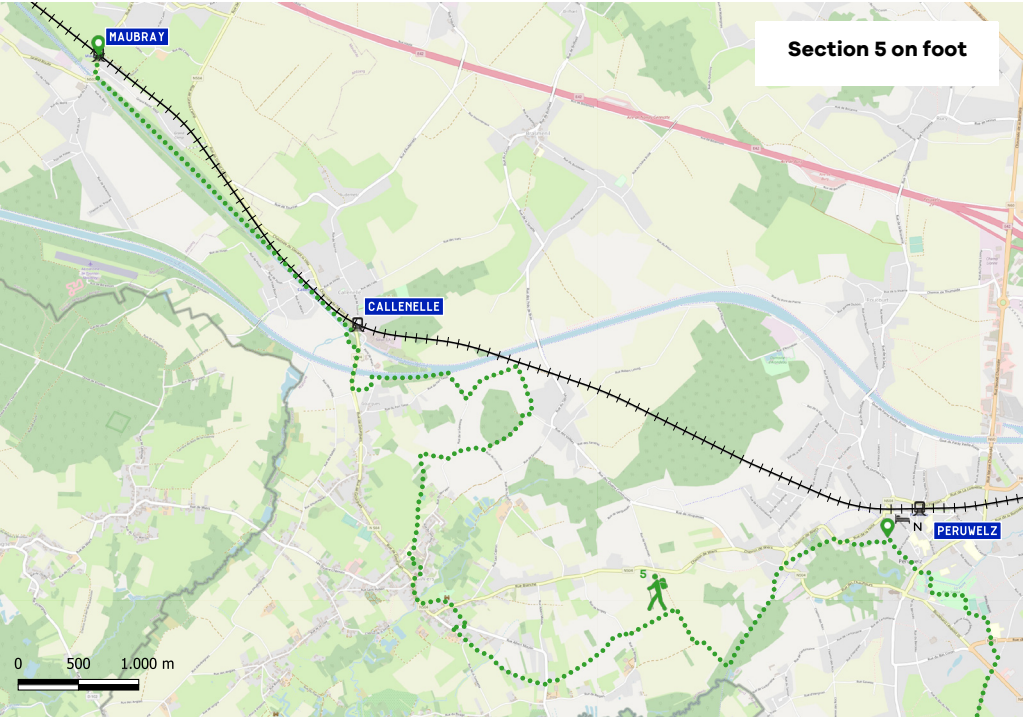
Bernissart - Peruwelz

Signposting

 121 'Wavre - Bon-Secours' trail and  122 trail 'En Wallonie'

- 1 In the village of Bernissart, in 'Rue Grande' (Grande Street), after having followed the GR 412, you must take the GR 'Wavre - Bon-Secours' trail back towards Bon-Secours. This is the same path as the GR 'En Wallonie' (yellow and red markings).
- 2 When you arrive near the 'Peruwelz' cemetery, there is a crossing of two GR trails. Continue to the right towards the cemetery and towards Peruwelz on the GR 122 'En Wallonie'.





Km 14.7




3H35

SIGNPOSTING



'Gare de Peruwelz' (Station) - 'Gare de Maubray' (Station)**Signposting**

 122 trail 'En Wallonie'

- 1 Follow the GR 122 'En Wallonie' (yellow-red markings) to Maubray station.
- 2 Take the train to Tournai. A great opportunity to visit the city...





By bike

STARTING POINT

'Grand Place de Mons' (Mons Town Square)

Length: 77.6 km

When you are at the **Mons Tourist Office**, you will find the arrow indicating the **first 'Point-Noeuds'** markers, number 11. This is where your ride begins. Follow the 'Point-Noeuds' in the order shown. The stages are designed according to the accommodation and stops suggested in this route. The stages can of course be combined with the train according to your desired pace. Stations are available at almost every stop.

INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE OF THE 'POINTS-NOEUDS' MARKERS

The 'Points-Noeuds' marker system is very simple: each intersection is numbered and provided with a directional marker which includes the number of the intersection (Point-Noeud) and the arrows to the following numbered intersections. Follow the 'Points-Noeud' indicated in the following pages as a route.

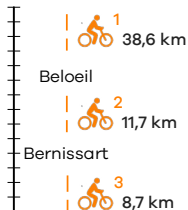
EASY TO USE GUIDE

Download the GPX file or the guidance application for your mobile phone from **www.cirkwi.com**.

You will find the different stages (on foot and by bike) of this route (GPX files, activities, accommodation, etc).



MONS



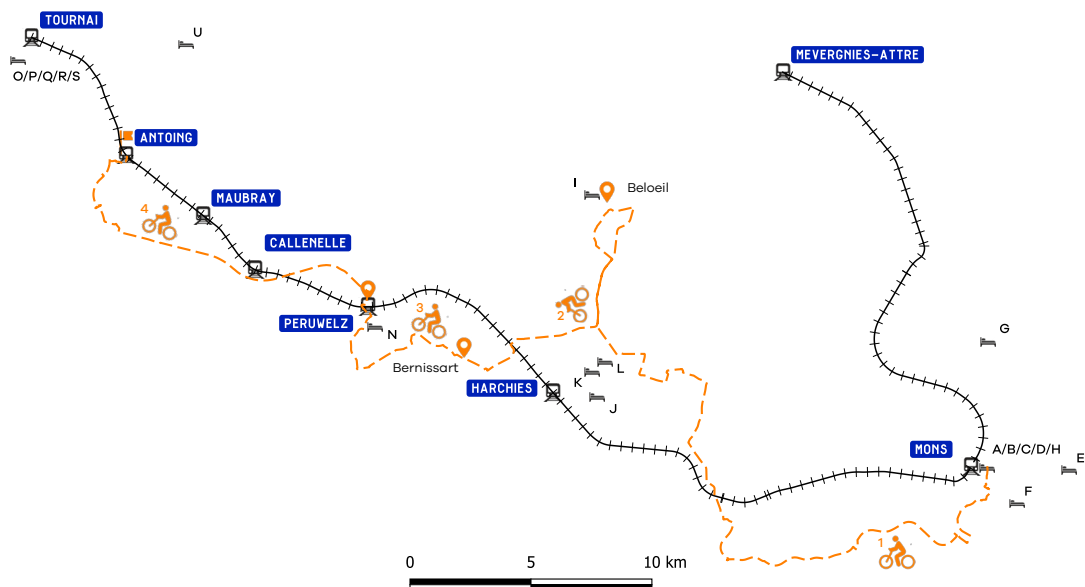
PERUWELZ



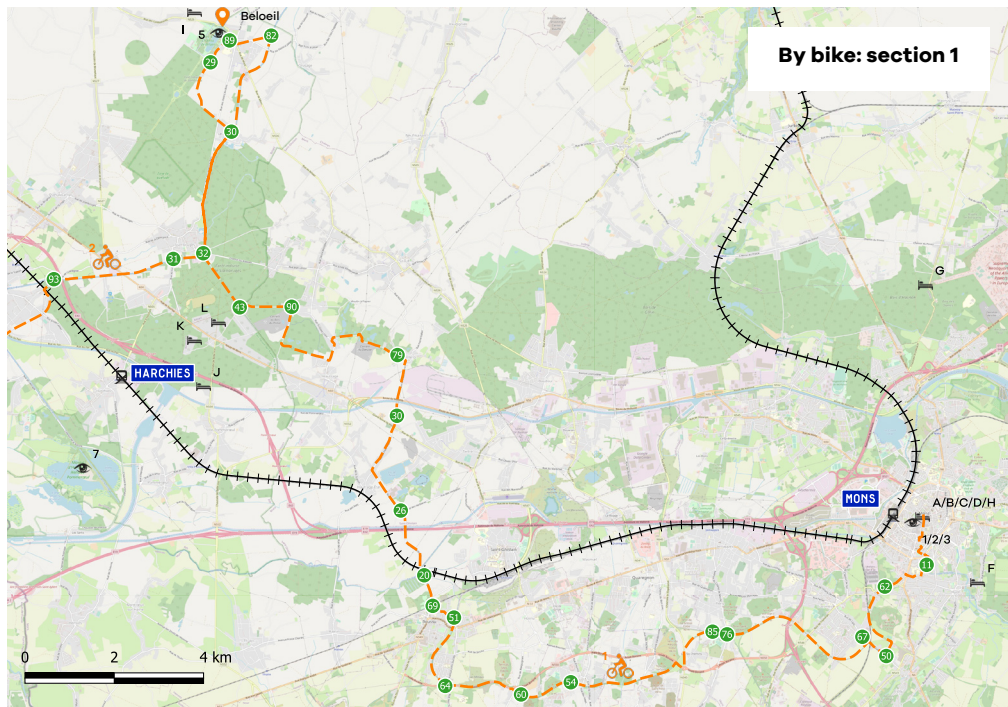
ANTOING



TOURNAI

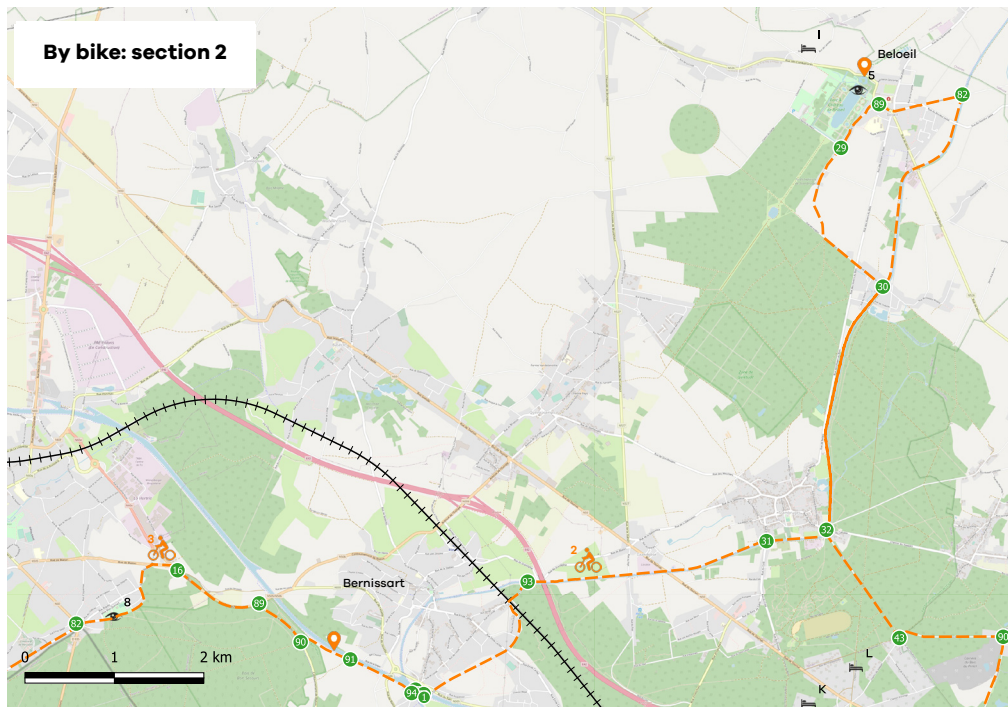


Find **accommodation** on **page 33**
and **activities** on **pages 26-31**



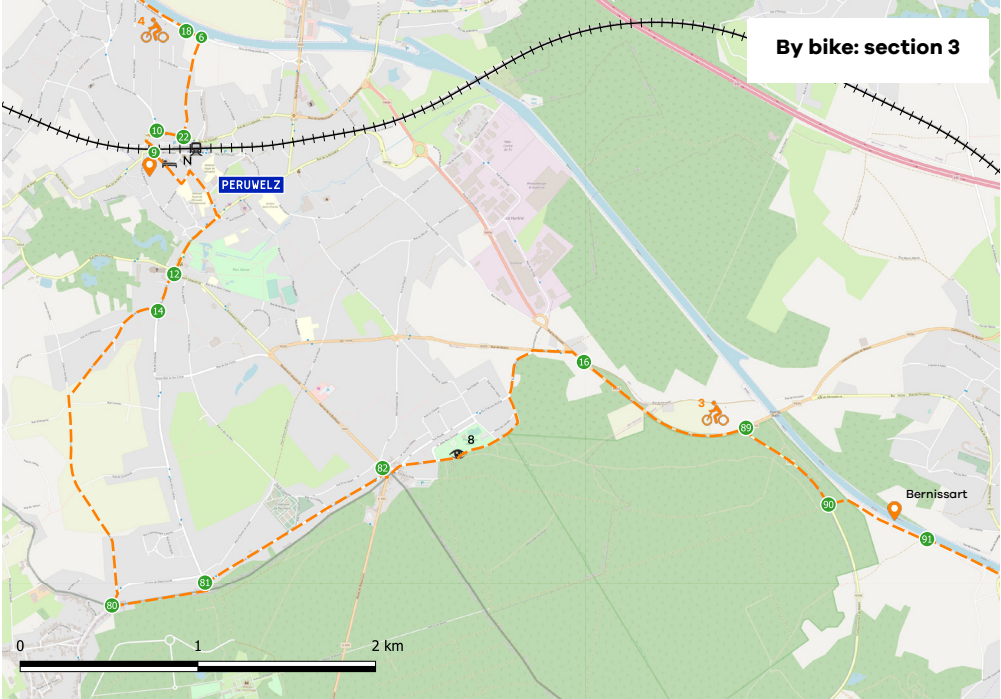
Grand-Place de Mons – Beloeil (38.6 km - 3h15): 11 – 62 – 50 – 67 – 76 – 85 – 54 – 60 – 64 – 64 – 51 – 69 – 20 – 26 – 30 – 79 – 90 – 43 – 32 – 30 – 82 – 89

By bike: section 2

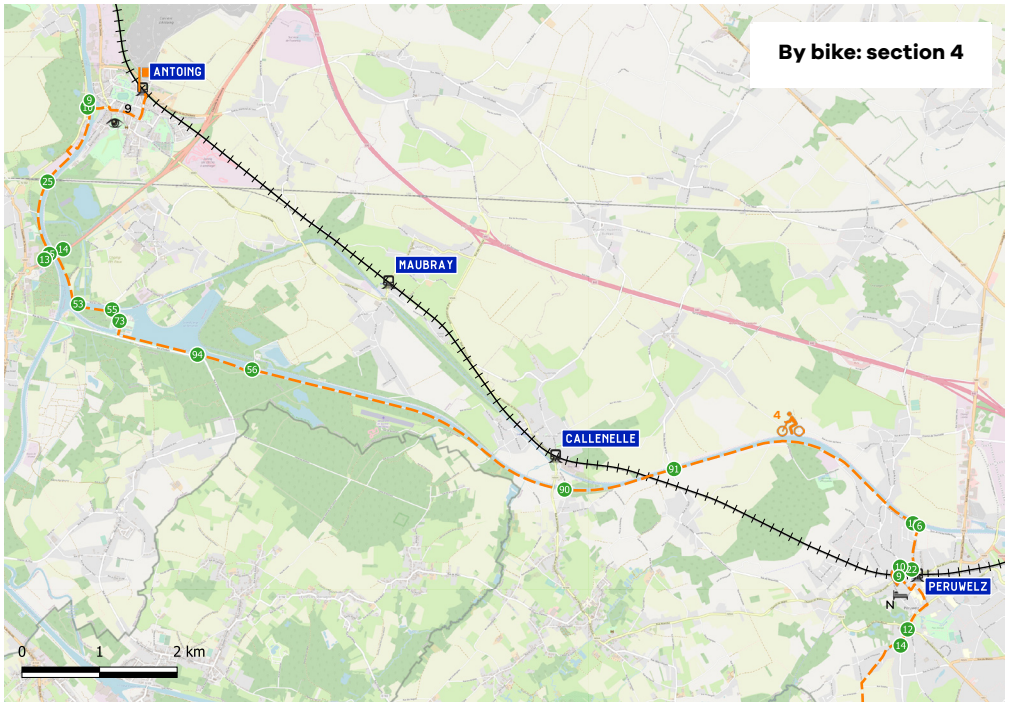


J/K/L

Beloeil - Bernissart (11.7 km- 59 min): 89 – 29 – 30 – 32 – 31 – 93 – 1 – 99 – 95 – 94 – 91



Bernissart – Peruwelz (8.7 km- 45 min): 91 – 90 – 89 – 16 – 82 – 81 – 80 – 14 – 12 – 9



4

Peruwelz - Antoing (Castle) (18.6 km - 1h35): 9 – 10 – 22 – 6 – 18 – 91 – 90 – 56 – 94 – 73 – 55 – 53 – 14 – 13 – 15 – 25 – 9 – 10

To get to 'Antoing' station from the castle, take 'Rue Fontenoy' (Fontenoy Street) then turn right onto 'Rue Philippart' (Philippart Street) then left onto 'Rue de la Station' (Station Street).

Take the train to Tournai and take the opportunity to visit the city.



Discover

1 The Belfry of Mons

This 87-metre-high building is the only baroque-style Belfry in Belgium. 'El Catiau', as the locals call it, was built between 1661 and 1669. Its roof is in the form of a central bulb with a skylight accompanied by four small corner bulbs. It once served as a watchtower and town clock amongst other interesting incarnations. It also houses an information centre dedicated to the history of the Belfry and its close links with the city. If you're brave enough to climb the steps as it offers an exceptional view of the city. Don't worry though, there is also a lift.

Parc du Château – 7000 Mons
www.beffroi.mons.be

2 'Doudou' Museum

The Doudou Museum invites you to enter the weird and wonderful world of the 'Ducasse' (an annual folkloric festival) from different angles and interactivity. The festival includes a ritualistic procession that takes place over Trinity weekend, a mythical re-enactment of the combat between Saint George and the Dragon which takes place in the main square. This event has been part of the local folklore since 1380. A visit to the museum will give you a good idea of its importance to local culture. Not to be missed.

Jardin du Mayeur
 Grand'Place – 7000 Mons
www.museedudoudou.mons.be

3 Collegiate Church of Saint-Waudru

This impressive Gothic-style collegiate church was built from 1450 to 1621. Its exquisitely carved alabaster statues by Jacques Du Broeucq, the illuminating stained-glass windows from the 16th century and even its treasure - one of the most remarkable silver and gold collections of Belgian religious work, are impressive to say the least. This collegiate church also contains other gems well anchored in Mons folklore such as the priceless golden carriage used during the 'Doudou Festival'

Place du Chapitre – 7000 Mons
www.tresorsaintewaudru.mons.be

4 Attre Castle

One of the most authentic witnesses of the 18th century in Belgium. The Neoclassical and French style castle has a listed forest park and landscaped gardens which are also worth a detour.

Avenue du Château 8 – 7941 Attre
www.attare.be

5 Beloeil Castle

The magnificent Beloeil castle is often named the 'Belgian Versailles'. Established for 8 centuries in the middle of its moat, it rises with its turrets in a vast park, forming a dramatic centerpiece. There's a little train that allows visitors to discover it and cross its beautiful French gardens.

Rue du Château 11 – 7970 Beloeil
www.chateaubeloeil.com

6 The Archeosite and 'Aubechies-Beloeil' Museum

The largest archaeological reconstruction site in Belgium. An extraordinary journey through 5,000 years of history. Learn how to live as a Caveman.

Rue de l'Abbaye 1 – 7972 Aubechies
www.archeosite.be





11



8



9



10

7 'Les Marais d'Harchies' (Harchies Marshes)

The site of the Harchies marshes is a wetland of ornithological interest in the region. Welcome to one of the most biodiverse natural areas in Wallonia.

Chemin des Préaux 5 – 7321 Harchies
crieharchies.natagora.be

8 Escale Forestière (Forest Stopover)

Discover the forest thanks to the interactive areas and playful facilities at the 'Escal Forestière' in the village of 'Bon-Secours'. A walk through the forest, via the sensory barefoot path is magical and peaceful whilst the hiking trails in the natural park 'Plaines de l'Escaut' offer an exhilarating outdoor experience.

Rue des Sapins 31 – 7603 Bon-Secours
plainesdelescaut.be

9 Le Château des Princes de Ligne (Princes de Ligne Castle)

Neo-Gothic style mansion with a rich history spanning several centuries.

Tickets and visit can be purchased via the Antoing Tourist Office

Place Bara 19 – 7640 Antoing
www.antoing.net

10 Notre-Dame Cathedral and Tournai Belfry

Both recognized as UNESCO heritage, they soar into the sky and invite tourists to look up. The cathedral with five bell towers, in Romanesque and Gothic styles, is a true gem of medieval architecture. Currently undergoing a thorough restoration, the Belfry is the oldest in Belgium. At the top of its 257 steps, you will discover a breathtaking panorama of the city and its surroundings.

Grand'Place 15 – 7500 Tournai
www.visittournai.be

11 The Grand-Place in Tournai (Main Square Tournai)

The Grand-Place in Tournai bursting with life, punctuated by cafes, shops and restaurants. It owes its triangular shape to the layout of the old Roman roads. Almost entirely pedestrianized, it's a great place to relax on the terrace with friends, family or lovers in the shade of its houses with typical Renaissance facades including the 'Halle aux Draps' (Cloth Hall)... In hot weather, the fountains are a refreshing experience. Dip your toes in..

www.visittournai.be

12 Museum of Fine Arts

The building in which the Museum of Fine Arts is located was born from the genius of 'Art Nouveau Architecture' - Victor Horta. It was designed to house the rich collections bequeathed by the patron Henri Van Cutsem. The building itself is worth a visit, so original is the combination of radiant rooms arranged around a central polygonal hall. The collections, for their part, allow visitors a comprehensive approach to art history from the 15th century to the present day. It's an eclectic and priceless mix with particular treasures signed Roger van der Weyden, Manet, Monet, Seurat, Ensor and Van Gogh.

Enclos Saint-Martin 3 – 7500 Tournai
mba.tournai.be

13 "Adventure-games" bag (Tournai)

The "adventure-games" bags are game bags intended for families designed for a fun and quirky tourist experience. A bag of games is like a treasure chest. It includes a map, water bottle, compass, puzzle... allowing you to take part in a treasure hunt of approximately 1.5 hours through the heritage of the city.

Office du Tourisme

Place Paul-Emile Janson 1 – 7500 Tournai
www.visittournai.be

14 Walking tour of the historic heart of Tournai

Departing from the Tourist Office, a 4km walk allows you to discover the historic heart of Tournai

Office du Tourisme

Place Paul-Emile Janson 1 – 7500 Tournai
www.visittournai.be

15 Walk along the River Escaut (Scheldt in Dutch) in Tournai

Stroll along the right and left banks of the river. A friendly and atmospheric place for pedestrians and cyclists on the recently regenerated riverside...

Quai Donat Casterman – 7500 Tournai
www.visittournai.be

16 Eco-park Adventures

Discover the forest around 9 tree climbing courses, 180 workshops and 2300 m of pathways and trails. Get ready for heart racing fun in a safe and professional environment.

Rue de l'Orient 1 – 7500 Tournai
www.ecopark-adventures.com

Notes



Taste of Wallonia

Les Halles Coopératives (organic food producers)

Rue des droits de l'Homme 2
7000 Mons

www.leshallesdumanège.be

Le BB Comptoir (organic grocer)

Route d'Ath 138
7020 Mons

www.lebbcomptoir.be

Au Brasse-Temps (micro-brewery and restaurant)

Boulevard André Delvaux 1/2
7000 Mons

www.brassetemps.be

Brasserie des Carrières – Diôle (artisanal brewery)

Rue de Condé 62
7971 Beloeil

www.diôle.be

Brasserie Caulier (brewery)

Rue de Sondeville 134
7600 Péruwelz

www.brasseriecaulier.beer

Authentique Brasserie (brewery)

Rue de Condé 5
7321 Bernissart

www.authentiquebrasserie.be

Les Ballons Noirs de Tournai (bakery)

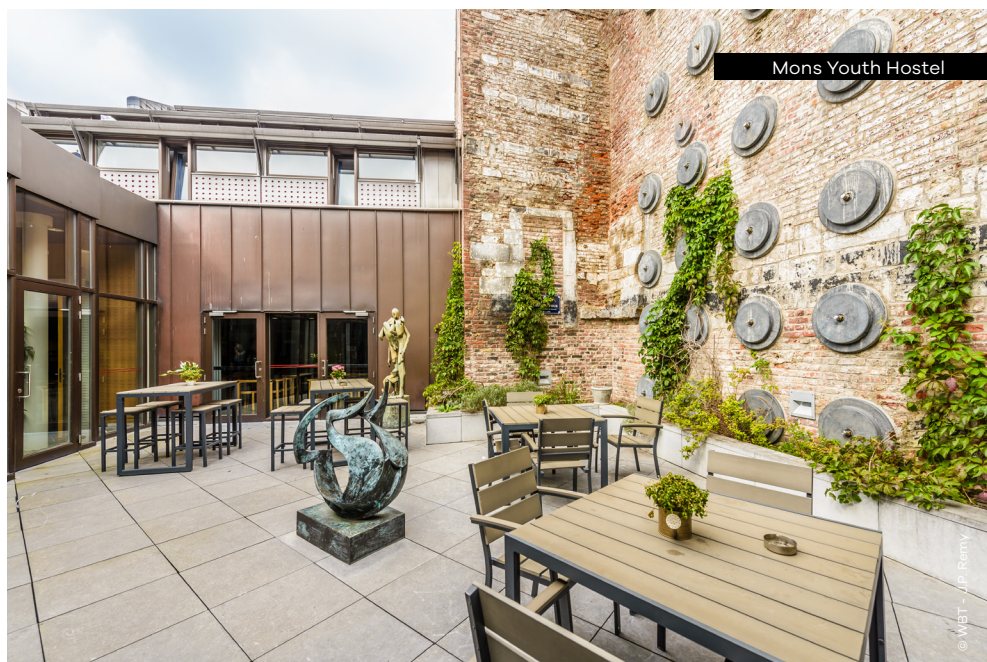
Pâtisserie Quenoy - Place Crombez 2
7500 Tournai

www.patisseriequenoy.be

Brasserie de Cazeau (Tournai) (brewery)

Rue de Cazeau 67
7520 Templeuve

www.brasseriedecazeau.be



Where to Stay?



- A Mons Youth Hostel**  
Rampe du Château 2
7000 Mons
www.lesaubergesdejeunesse.be/mons
- B Martin's Dream Hotel** 
Rue de la Grande Triperie 17
7000 Mons
www.martinshotels.com
- C Hôtel Infotel** 
Rue d'Havré 32
7000 Mons
www.hotelinfotel.be
- D Hotel Ibis Centre-Gare** 
Boulevard Charles Quint 27b
7000 Mons
www.all.accor.com
- E Les Chambourlettes** 
Rue Guy de Brès 53
7000 Mons
www.leschambourlettes.com
- F Au petit Dragon**  
Rue de la Genièverrie 49
7022 Mons
www.aupetitdragon.be
- G Hôtel Utopia**
Chaussée Brunehaut 392
7050 Masnuy-Saint-Jean
www.utoxia-hotel.com
- H Compagnons 11** 
Rue des Compagnons 11
7000 Mons
www.compagnons11.be
- I Au petit Canteleu**
Rue de Canteleu 19
7972 Beloeil
www.aupetitcanteleu.com
- J La Garde des Ablais** 
Rue de la Garde 1
7322 Bernissart
www.visitwapi.be/la-garde-des-ablais
- K Ambiance Prince des Bois**
Chemin du Grippet 1
7322 Beloeil
 [ambianceprincesdesbois](https://www.facebook.com/ambianceprincesdesbois)



- L Mer et Sable**
Chemin du Bosquet 1a
7322 Bernissart
www.meretsable.be
- M Le Château de Biez**
Rue de Lannoy 145
7740 Pecq
www.lechateaudubiez.be
- N Hôtel Saint-Daniel** 
Rue Bataille 16
7600 Péruwelz
www.hotelsaintdaniel.be
- O Maison Tahereh** 
Boulevard du Roi Albert 40
7500 Tournai
www.bed-breakfast-tournai.be
- P Tournai Youth Hostel**  
Rue Saint Martin 64
7500 Tournai
www.lesaubergesdejeunesse.be/tournai
- Q Villa Tournesol**
Rue de la Justice 24
7500 Tournai
www.villatournesol.wordpress.com
- R Hôtel Alcantara** 
Rue des Bouchers Saint-Jacques 2
7500 Tournai
www.hotelalcantara.be
- S À 1 train d'ici** 
Place Crombez 17
7500 Tournai
www.visittournai.be
- T La Roseraie** 
Rue de Roubaix 98
7520 Templeuve
www.laroseraie-tournai.com
- U Le Roc Paisible** 
Rue des Combattants, 189
7531 Havinnes
www.lerocpaisible.be



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VISITWallonia.be

The Ultimate Belgian Getaway

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Alcohol abuse is harmful to health. Consume and enjoy in moderation.