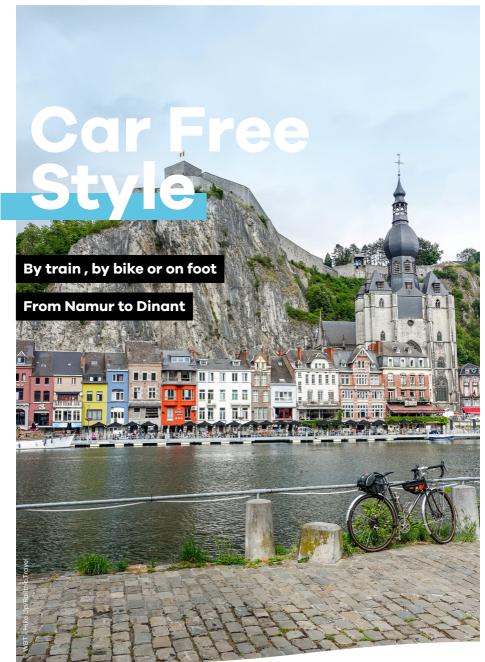
VISITWallonia be



In collaboration with

Railtrip.travel



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.





From Namur to Dinant



Go with the Flow

Namur, is a town bursting with charm. Its town centre is partially pedestrianised making it perfect for meandering through charming, bars restaurants and unique shops or for strolling by the river. In the heart of the old town you'll find lots of interesting nooks and crannies: fascinating architecture in the form of age-old churches, theatres, bell towers, even an archaeological museum. So much to see whether it's the sumptuous cathedral of **Saint Aubain**, the **churches of Saint Loup** and **Saint Jean Baptiste** or of course the famous **Citadel** which is one of the **biggest fortresses in Europe**.

From **Namur to Dinant** you're going to travel through the magnificent countryside of the Haute Meuse Valley. From the **borders of France** to the **capital of Wallonia** the river has carved out an exceptional landscape over time. In this magical valley of ancient fortresses and castles you are effortlessly transported back to different eras. From the dramatic medieval period to the 'modernity' of the Renaissance. Everywhere you go you'll find **castle strongholds, fortresses, pleasure palaces and magnificent gardens**.

«Fille de Meuse» or daughter of the River Meuse as **Dinant** is nicknamed is due to its particular positioning between rock and river. The town is literally wedged between the river and the rocky outcrop.

It's a dramatic setting which really does add to its charm whilst the surrounding valleys shelter a rich patrimony of majestic castles and abbeys such as the renowned 'Notre Dame de Leffe' Abbey - home of the world-famous Belgian beer. Culturally the town is also home to several eclectic museums such as the quirky 'Maison de la Pataphonie'. Being the birthplace of Adolphe Sax, creator of the saxophone, it's the natural choice for a museum dedicated to the instrument. Nature lovers will also adore this town, harbouring naturally formed wonders such as the 'Grotte La Merveille' translated as 'wonderful cave', with its haunting underground chambers of stalagmites and stalactites and beautiful waterfalls. If you take the cable car up towards the Citadel along the river you can enjoy a leafy and lush view down below onto the banks of the Meuse river. The region is perfect for exhilarating water sport adventure such as canoeing, kayaking and electric boating. Or for something altogether more relaxing, a river cruise with delicious gourmet options of regionally produced fayre.

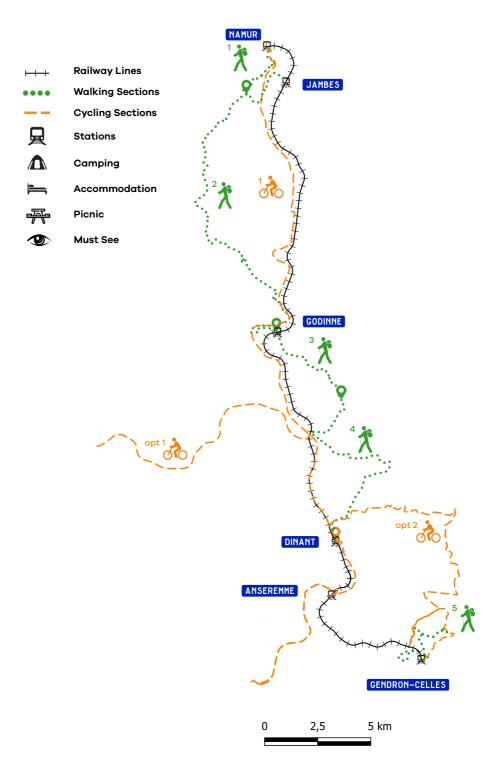
The Meuse Valley is the gift that keeps on giving...

The concept of this car-free route?

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

Have a nice trip.









Optional sections which can be taken

by train

#1

Your departure point – 'Gare de Namur' (Station)

Take advantage of a visit to Namur

#2

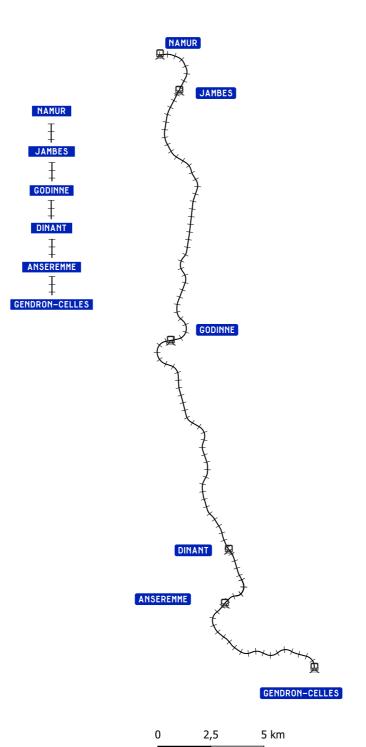
'Gare de Jambes' (Station) – 'Gare de Godinne' (Station)

One train per hour on this journey

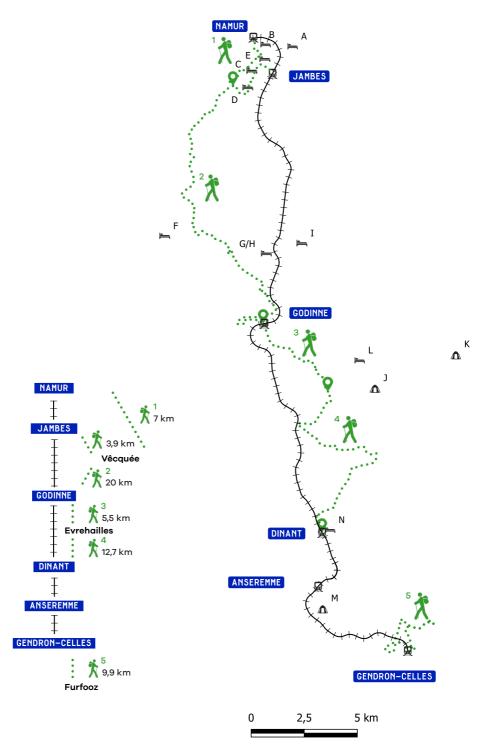
#3

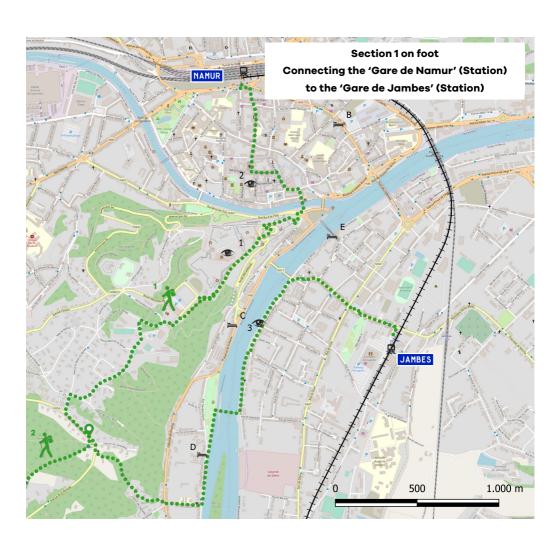
'Gare de Dinant' (Station) – 'Gare de Gendron-Celle' (Station)

Extend your itinerary if you so desire to include the thrilling forest and nature reserve attraction 'Parc de Furfooz' (Furooz Park)









Km 7 © 2H00 SIGNPOSTING

On foot

为1

'Gare de Namur' (Station) – 'Avenue de la Vêcquée' (Vêcquée Avenue)

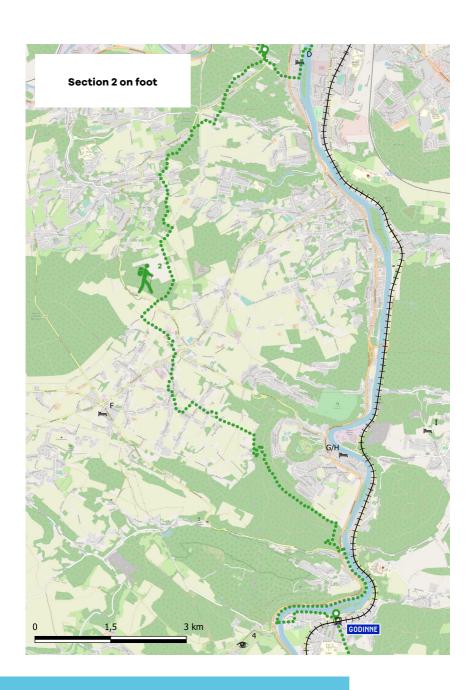
Signposting

GR 654 + GR 126

- 1 As you come out of the station take the zebra crossing to cross the road.
- 2 Take 'l'Avenue de la Station' (Station Street) on your left then take the path up to the Brasserie 'Le Copenhague'.
- 3 After the covered passageway continue straight on 'Rue des Carmes' (Carmes Street) where you then continue to on to the 'La Rue de L'Ouverage' (Ouverage Street).
- At the crossing point, continue straight ahead on 'Rue Saint-Loup' (Saint Loup Street) where you'll see the magnificent church facade on your right.
- Then take the left on 'Rue de la Croix' (Croix Street) at the end of the pedestrian street then continue right 'Rue de L'Ange' (Ange Street).
- After take a left on 'Rue de Marchovelette' (Marchovelette Street) until you get to the top of 'La Place d'Armes' (Armes Square) where there is the old stock exchange then take a right on the 'Rue du Pont' (Pont Street) towards the River Sambre.

- 7 Once you've crossed the River Sambre, you'll arrive at a roundabout where you'll see the Wallonia Regional Government building on your left. Cross the street to find yourself at the foot of the Citadel.
- Look out for the stairs that go to the top of the Citadel then pass by the statue «Searching for Utopia» (the turtle) by Jan Fabre.
- ⁹ At the foot of the stairway climb the 'La Route Merveilleuse' (the Wonderful Route) on your right. At the last set of stairs before the 'l'Esplanade de la Citadelle' (Citadel Esplanade), continue straight ahead by the treelined path 'Chemin Romagnesi' (Romagnesi Path) and follow the signposting GR 654.

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



+ a part of Stage 1 from Namur station (3.9 km)



6Н00

SIGNPOSTING

'Avenue de la Vecquée' (Avenue Vecquée) – 'Gare de Godinne' (Godinne Station) - which you have to combine with Stage 1

Signposting

GR 654 then GR 126

- Follow the signposting GR 654 until
 Wépion, Profondeville or Bois de Villers
 all pretty villages where we can offer
 accommodation suggestions. The GR
 654 path will take you to the RAVeL trail
 on the banks of the River Meuse.
- 2 After the lock on the River Meuse don't take the GR654 which ascends on your right but continue on the RAVeL trail along the Meuse until you get to the Rouillon bridge where you can re-join GR126.
- 3 Cross the Meuse by the bridge and follow the GR signposting until Godinne station.

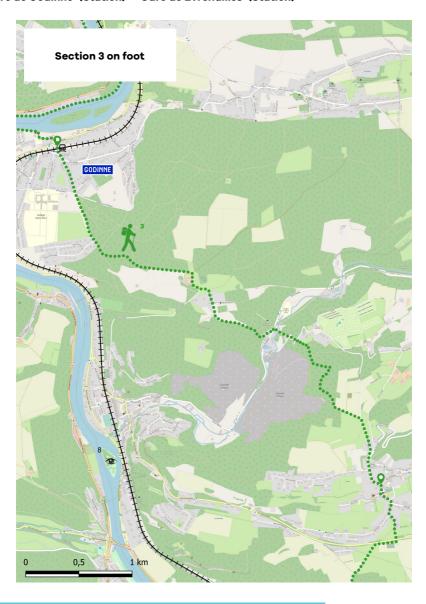
Alternative you could follow Stage 2 via rail: taking your bike until you arrive at '10

de l'Avenue de la Vecquée' (10 Vecquée Avenue) where you then go down the Citadel ramparts to re-join the 'La Gare de Jambes' (Jambes Station) taking the train to the village of 'Godinne' (Godinne village) instead of on foot. (Jambes to Godinne)

- 4 To come back down from the Citadel continue on 'l'Avenue de la Vecquée' (Vecquée Avenue) and take the path that goes alongside the chapel. Follow the signposting GR 126 to the bottom until you reach Chaussée de Dinant.
- Take the Chaussée de Dinant on the right for a few yards for a few metres then 'Rue Alphonse Delonnoy' (Alphonse Delonnoy Street) on the left.
- At the end of the street take the RAVeL route on your left, which follows the River Meuse until you pass beside the 'Parc de la Plante' (Plant Park).
- When you arrive at the lock there take the passageway to get to the other side of the River. When you get to the right side (bank) of the river, take the left along Boulevard de Meuse until 'Pont de Jambes' (Jambes Street) where you take the commercial street 'L'Avenue Materne' (Materne Avenue) on your right.
- Continue straight ahead for around 1km until you reach 'La Gare de Jambes'
 (Jambes Station) on your right.

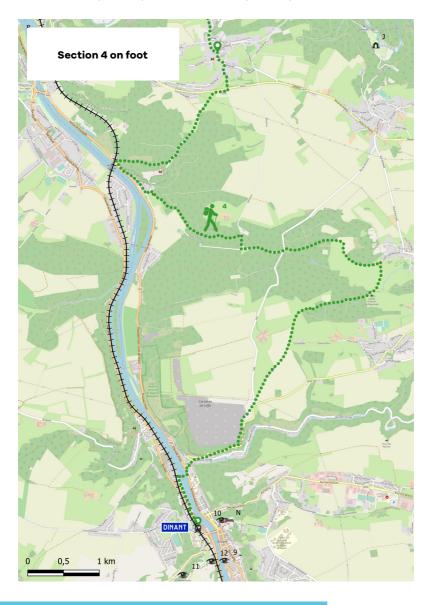
Find **accommodation** on **page 33** and **activities** on pages **26-31**

'Gare de Godinne' (Station) – 'Gare de Evrehailles' (Station)



Km 5.5 SIGNPOSTING SIGNPOSTING Starting from the station.

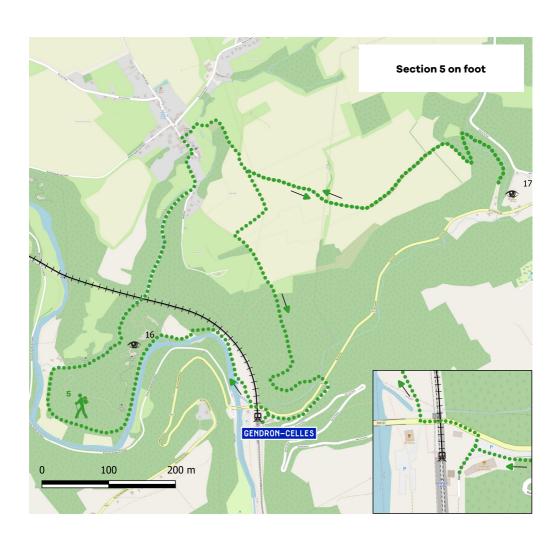
'Gare de Evrehailles' (Station) - 'Gare de Dinant' (Station)



Km **12.7**



SIGNPOSTING _____ 126



Km 9.9 🍪 2H30 SIGNPOSTING

対5

'Gare de Dinant' (Station) – 'Parc de Furfooz' (Furfooz Park) – 'Gare de Dinant' (Station)

Take the train from Dinant Station to Gendron-Celles station then walk to the 'Parc de Furfooz' (Furfooz Park) then continue until you get to 'Château de Vêves' (Vêves Castle). Then return to Gendron-Celles station to get back to Dinant. (We suggest you plan in one day for this part of the itinerary)

Signposting

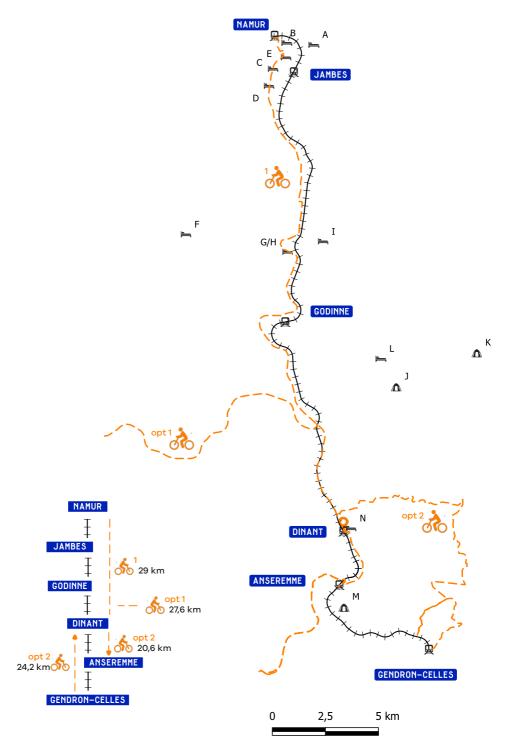
GR 126 starting from the station

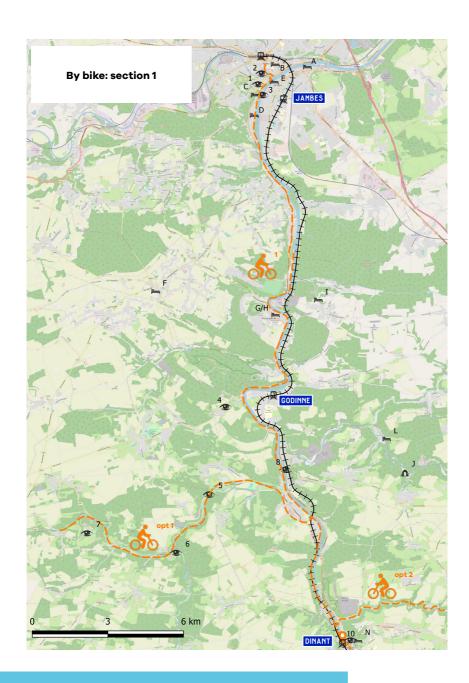
- 1 Coming out of Gendron Station, take a left towards the River Lesse then after a few metres take a right on the GR 126 following the river up to the point kayak rental company.
- 2 Following the signposting, cross the railway line and you arrive at the 'Rue du Camp Romain' (Roman Camp Street). On this street you'll find the entrance to the 'Parc Furfooz' (Furfooz Park).
- 3 After visiting the park continue on the GR towards Furfooz village.
- 4 Arriving at the village, take the righthand path signposted 'Promenade des 4 villages' at number 24, 'Rue du Camp Romain' (24 Roman Camp Street).

- 5 By following the 'Promenade des 4 villages' signs, you arrive at the 'Château de Vêves', (Vêves Castle). near the Rue de Furfooz (Furfooz Street).
- Retrace your steps to the crossroads where 'Promenade des 4 villages' and the 'Promenade de l'Aiguille de Chaleux' meet and take the path that goes downwards to the left.
- 7 Follow the signs 'Promenade de l'Aiguille de Chaleux' to 'Gendron-Celles' station and then return to Dinant by train.

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









H30

SIGNPOSTING



By bike



'Gare de Namur' (Station) – 'Gare de Dinant' (Station)

Signposting: Meuse à Vélo

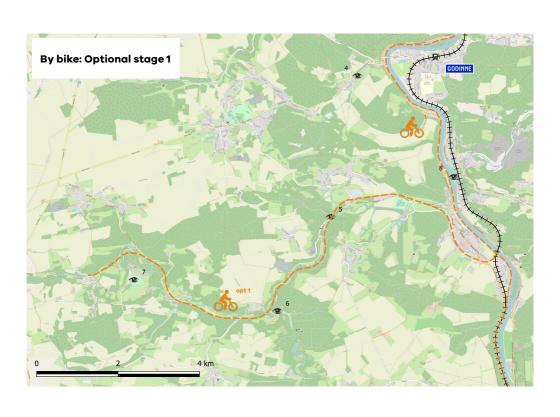


- With your back to the station take 'Avenue de la Gare' (Station Street) on your left, then 'Rue de Fer' (Fer Street) directly on your right, which goes down and passes in front of the 'Hôtel de Ville de Namur' (Namur Town Hall).
- Then continue on 'Avenue de l'Ange' (Ange Avenue). At the end of the Avenue, turn left into 'Rue de Marchovelette' (Marchovelette Street).
- 3 Turn right into 'Rue du Pont' (Pont Street).
- When you reach the roundabout, take the last exit on the left, along the 'Saint-Gilles', which is the building that houses the Walloon Regional Parliament.

- When you arrive near the 'L'Enjambée' cycle-pedestrian footbridge, go down the stairs by means of the gully to reach the 'Quai des Chasseurs Ardennes' below 'Boulevard Louis Huart'.
- Syou are then along the River Meuse on the "Meuse à Vélo" path (EuroVelo path on the River Meuse) which you follow as far as Dinant.

The section is designed according to the accommodation and stops suggested in this route. The sections can also be combined with the train according to your desired pace. Rail stations are almost always available at each stopping point.





Km 27.6 SIGNPOSTING RAVEL



Optional Stage 1: Molignée Valley

Starting point: Bord de Meuse à Anhée (at Anhee village on the River Meuse near the railway bridge)

Signposting: RAVeL Ligne 150

When you are on the "Meuse à Vélo" cycle trail in Anhée, just before the railway bridge, you come to a junction with another bicycle route, the RAVeL 150 route which goes on your right. It's the part of the RAVeL route set in the stunning Molignée valley.

We suggest you take it as far as Maredret to visit the Abbey of the same name.

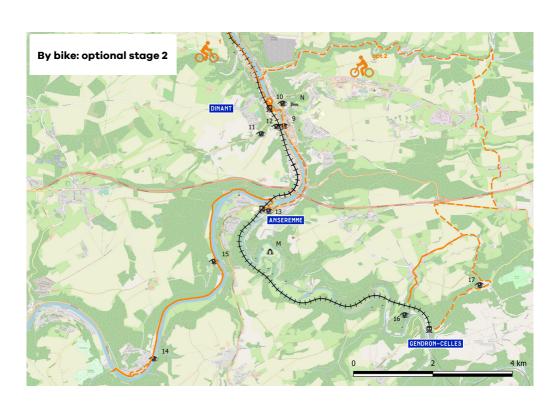
There are various points of interest well worth seeing on this trail: the quirky Molignée rail bikes, the Warnant Snail Farm, the Montaigle Castle ruins and the Abbey of Maredsous.

Then, the same route in the other direction to reach the starting point: the banks of the Meuse at Anhée.

We recommend a day's visit before reaching Dinant (6 km).

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





Km 20.6 + Km 24.2



1H45 D1 + 2H00 D2

SIGNPOSTING



Optional Stage 2: Waulsort -Furfooz Park

Starting point: Pont Charles de Gaulle à Dinant (Charles de Gaule Bridge)

Signposting Meuse à Vélo (+ RV2



It is possible to enjoy this adventure in just **one day** but you'll have to make a decision on which activities and places to choose.

If you want to visit the 'Château de Freÿr' (Freÿr Castle) for instance, take a picnic in Waulsort and take the little ferry boat at the same time. Or visit the 'Château de Vêves' (Vêves Castle) and the 'Parc Furfooz' (Furfooz Park) you will need two days to really savour this itinerary by sleeping an extra night in Dinant.

Day 1:

- Leave from Dinant following the signs of the «Meuse à Vélo» towards Hastière and Givet villages as far as Waulsort village. passina by Château de Freÿr (Freÿr castle) on the way.
- When you arrive in Waulsort village, you can make a stop at the picnic area near the picturesque Waulsort lock.
- 3 Then, we suggest that you return by the same path towards Dinant but stopping at 'Gare Anseremme' (Anseremme station). To get to Anseremme station: after the lock footbridge, turn directly to the right and then to the left twice to arrive on 'Rue des Tilleuls' (Tilleuls Street) where the station is located.

Day 2:

- Take the train towards Gendron-Celles. station (from Dinant or Anseremme depending on departure point).
- At the station exit, turn right on the RV2 (Rando Velo 2 trail) towards Vêves village.
- Take the 'Rue de Furfooz' (Furfooz Street) (still on the RV2 markings), where you will pass in front of the romantic 'Château de Vêves' (Vêves' castle).
- After the castle, continue on 'Rue de Furfooz' (Furfooz Street) and the RV2 for 2.7 km until you reach a crossroads and a hamlet
- 5 Take the 'Route de Vêves' on the left and leave the RV2 markings.
- 6 Continuing on the 'Route de Vêves', take the 'Rue du Monchon' (Monchon Street). You will then arrive at Furfooz village.
- 7 At the church, take 'Rue du Camp Romain' (Roman Camp Street) to the entrance to 'Parc de Furfooz' (Furfooz Street)
- After your visit to the park, return by the same path to the intersection between Route de Vêves and Rue de Furfooz. On the left, take the RV2 in the direction of Dinant for 20km

Discover

1 The Citadel of Namur and its underground passages

Listed as a Walloon heritage, the Citadel offers a breathtaking view of the city. You will also appreciate the impressive underground passages with their atmospheric lighting and visit the Terra-Nova Visitor Centre. The surrounding green spaces also make the Citadel a source of nature in the heart of the town—a popular place for walks, cycling and picnics. For amateurs, a small train guides you through the site.

Route Merveilleuse 64 5000 Namur www.citadelle.namur.be

2 Historic pedestrian centre of Namur, Namourette (rickshaw tours)

The old quarters give the town a village feel, with a special atmosphere. They are entirely pedestrianized with shops, bars and restaurants. The alleys are also punctuated by architectural treasures such as the Belfry or the Saint-Aubain cathedral. Want to discover the city in an original way? Test the fun way of seeing the sites with a quirky rickshaw tour or 'La Namourette' as it's known.

Namur Tourist Office

Place de la Station 5000 Namur www.namurtourisme.be

① 'Les Capitaineries' (Harbourmaster), Namur

A leisure centre with quirky activities such as Stand up Paddle, the Les Capitaineries' (Harbour Master) offers nautical activities and licence free rental boats. There's also a floating terrace and entertaining events on the water. It's the perfect place for a lunch break.

Boulevard De La Meuse 40 5100 Namur www.lescapitaineries-de-namur.be

4 Annevoie Water Gardens

Listed as a major heritage of Wallonia, they were landscaped out in the 18th century. You'll discover a new landscape around every corner: perspectives of French style, whimsical aspects of English style and intimate charm of Italian style. Curves, contrasts, levels and effects of surprise: the marriage of all three cultures is really what makes the romance of these gardens stunning apparent.

Rue des Jardins 37 A 5537 Annevoie-Rouillon www.annevoie.be

5 The Molignée Rail Bikes

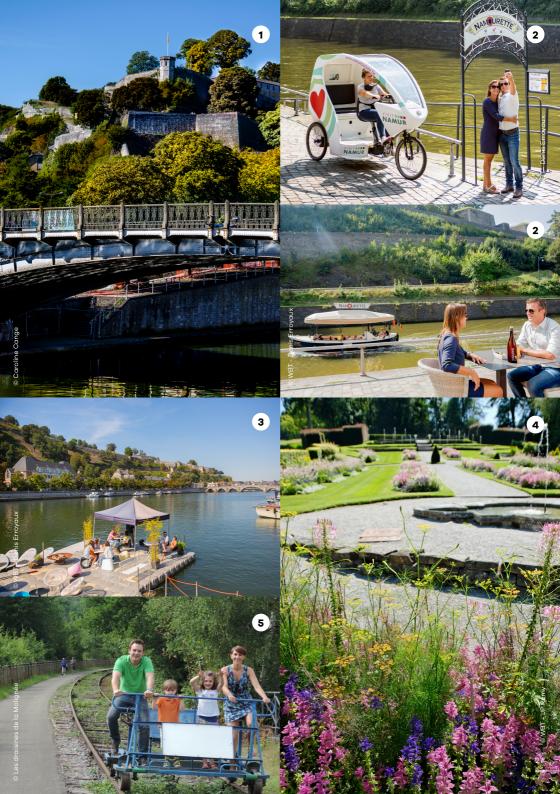
The 'draisines' as they are known in Wallonia, or bicycles on rails, are funny machines on which the visitor discovers the landscape while moving on railway tracks. You pedal at your own pace on the old railway line which runs along the picturesque valley of the Molignée.

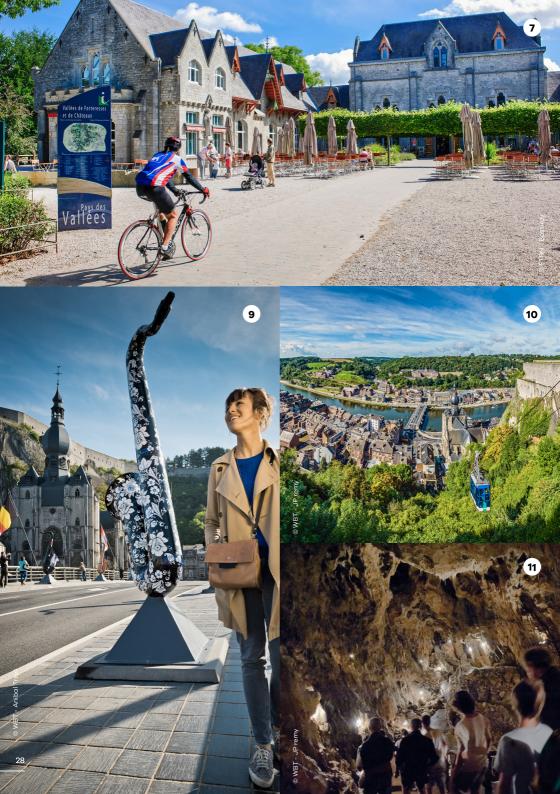
Rue de la Molignée 116 5537 Anhée www.draisines.online

1 The Ruins of Montaigle Castle

Visiting the ruins of Montaigle Castle you can almost rewind back in time to the middle ages with knights, swords and dramatic battles Today there is a different atmosphere as the ruins, overgrown by vegetation sit beautifully amidst nature.

Rue du Marteau 10 5522 Falaen www.montaigle.be





7 Maredsous Abbey

One of the most beautiful abbeys in Belgium. Take advantage of your visit to admire the monastery architecture and taste the famous Maredsous beer and scrumptious cheeses.

Information Centre Saint-Jospeh Rue de Maredsous 11 – 5537 Denée

www.tourisme-maredsous.be

ile d'Yvoir (Yvoir island)

In its superb green setting of 2.5 hectares, 'Île d'Yvoir' (Yvoir Island) is the only island in Belgium to be exploited for tourist purposes. An automated water ferryman invites you to join its chill out zone, its terrace, tavern style restaurant and all the great activities (paddling pool, kayaks, pedal boats, water skiing or jet-skiing).

Île d'Yvoir

5530 Yvoir

www.iledyvoir.com

Oinant

Often known as 'Fille de Meuse' (Daughter of the Meuse), Dinant takes its nickname from its unique location between its cliffs and the River Meuse. The town is literally embedded between the two, which gives it all its charm.

On the cultural side, the city has eclectic museums like the Maison de la Pataphonie. Birthplace of the famous Adolphe Sax, the creator of the saxophone, it devotes its space to the instrument and to its inventor it has an information centre, the 'Maison de Monsieur Sax'.

The Meuse Valley Tourist Office

Avenue Colonel Cadoux 8 – 5500 Dinant

10 Dinant Citadel

Proudly dominating the town of Dinant, the Citadel was built in 1821 by the Dutch occupier on a site inhabited by a fortified castle since the 11th century. By cable car or on foot, if you're feeling brave, you can reach the top of this fortress which offers a breathtaking view of the River Meuse and one of the most beautiful valleys in Belgium.

Place Reine Astrid 5 – 5500 Dinant www.citadellededinant.be

11 Dinant Caves 'La Merveilleuse' (The Wonderful)

The cave, is presented as nature has shaped it. You can admire the abundance of stalactites, stalagmites and waterfalls, each as fine and white as the next. It's a beautifully haunting place.

Route de Philippeville 142 – 5500 Dinant www.valleedelameuse-tourisme.be

12 Maison Leffe

Leffe beer, is one of the most famous Belgian abbey beers, has a fantastic museum to offer visitors the inside story of its history. Did you know for instance that the beer was deemed by the monks to be a healthy beverage, prepared as it was with boiling water during the fermentation process which killed the germs at a time rife with diseases like the plague. Prepared for pilgrims this beverage has always embodied the spirit of hospitality and so prominent in Belgian culture. Discover the fascinating stories and secrets from way back to 1240.

Charreau des Capucins 23 – 5500 Dinant

13 Dinant Evasion Aventure

There are brilliant experiences to enjoy on the program: fabulous cruises on the River Meuse, the rental of electric boats, kayaks, thrilling zip wires and tree climbing park...

www.dinant-evasion.be

Waulsort Ferry Crossing

In Waulsort, to go from one bank of the Meuse to the other side is a sweet experience of latter-day river culture. Ask the charming water ferryman to take you. A crossing of about 10 minutes that takes you back to the 'old days'.

Rue de Meuse – 5540 Waulsort

(5) Château de Freÿr-sur-Meuse and gardens (Freyr Castle and gardens)

In Hastière, the Renaissance-style Château de Freÿr, surrounded by magnificent gardens, is classified as an Exceptional Heritage of Wallonia. The site, bordered by the River Meuse, is nestled in a magnificent hilly setting. The 350-year-old Orange trees box planted in the gardens are a particular delight, their citrusy scent filling the air as you stroll in this divine place.

Freÿr 12 – 5540 Hastière www.freyr.be

(N.B. you can check the walking route: take a cruise in Dinant which offers the trip + the visit)

Parc de Furfooz

Not far from Dinant in the province of Namur, you can enjoy a family walk that always keeps the River Lesse close-by. It's an interesting place to discover archaeological, natural and geological heritage.

Rue du Camp Romain 79 – 5500 Furfooz www.parcdefurfooz.be

(Take the train to Anseremme and walk 6.4 km to the entrance to the Nature Reserve or the TEC Bus from Dinant station)

🕡 Château de Vêves

With its magnificent towers and beautiful woodwork, Château de Vêves is straight out of a fairy tale. It is considered to be one of the most beautiful medieval castles in Belgium, an exceptional heritage of Wallonia.

Route de Furfooz 3 – 5561 Celles www.chateau-de-veves.be

Notes



Taste of Wallonia

Pleur de Lait, artisan ice cream parlour

Chaussée de Dinant 910 5100 Wépion www.fleurdelait.be

Sol et Fruits:
(organic fruit juices and ciders)

Rue Franz Pelouse 19 5170 Bois de Villers www.sol-et-fruits.be

Warnant Escargotiere (Snail Farm)

Rue de la Gare 1 5537 Warnant

www.escargotiere.be

Le Veritable Pastis de Marcel (local liqueurs in Profondeville)

f leveritablepastisdemarcel

Mosans Vergiers
(orchards and beehives)

Chaussée Romaine 109 5500 Dinant www.vrm.be

Le Safran de Patr'Ann (Saffron Farm)

Route de Floreffe 6 5170 Profondeville

www.lesafrandepatrann.com



Where to Stay?

🕽 Chambre d'hôtes Avou 'nozotes 🎂

Rue Alfred Stévenne 10 5100 Namur

www.avounozotes.be

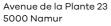
📵 Hôtel Ibis Namur Centre-ville 🎂



Rue du Premier Lanciers 10 5000 Namur

www.accorhotels.com

💿 The Royal Snail Hotel 🐣



www.theroyalsnail.com

Félicien Rops **Youth Hostel**



Avenue Félicien Rops 8 5000 Namur

www.lesaubergesdejeunesse.be/namur

📵 La Villa Balat 🎂 Ouai de Meuse 39

5000 Namur www.villabalat.be

Espace Medissev

Chemin des Seize Pieds 5b 5170 Bois-de-Villers www.medissev.be

La Ruelle

Ruelle Pvot 7 5170 Profondeville www.laruelleprofondeville.be

🗓 De plumes et de miel 🎂 Ruelle Pvot 3



5170 Profondeville www.chambre-hotes-profondeville.be

Au Monty

Rue Monty 8 5170 Profondeville www.aumonty.be

Camping du Bocq

Avenue de la Vallée 2 5530 Purnode www.domainedubocq.be

Camping du pommier Rustique

Route de Spontin 5530 Durnal

www.camping-durnal.net

Les 3 Salamandres

Chemin d'Harnov 18 5530 Evrehailles romh@live.ca

M Camping Villatoile 🍮



Ferme de Pont-à-Lesse 31 5500 Anseremme www.villatoile.be

Les Voisins de Monsieur Sax

Rue Adolphe Sax 26 5500 Dinant www.dormiradinant.be





VISITWallonia.be

The Ultimate Belgian Getaway

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