GARDENS
2021
VISITFLANDERS
GARDENS 2021

BRUSSELS 4

LEUVEN 14

GHENT 16

ANTWERP 20

LIMBURG 23

WEST-FLANDERS 28
FLOWER TIME BRUSSELS 2021

International top florists add flower power to Brussels City Hall. More than 100,000 flowers, thirty plus floral artists and thirteen magnificent historical rooms. The creators of the Brussels Flower Carpet and the Floraliën once again join forces for Flowertime. A must for every flower or architecture lover!

MORE INFORMATION

Dates and opening hours:
12 August 2021, 1 pm-5.30pm;
13-15 August 2021, 8 am-9.30pm.

Entrance Fee: 8 euros (free for the group leader and for children up to 10 years old).

Ticket sales for the general public will only start in May 2021, but tour companies with groups of 15 people or more can already mail to info@flowercarpet.be to request an option on the time slot they prefer. This option can be canceled free of charge until July 15, 2021.

CONTACT

Karel Goethals
Brussels Flower Carpet association
Tel: +32 (0)485 82 96 52

www.flowercarpet.be

BRUSSELS BIANNAL FLOWER CARPET

Every 2 years the Grand Place in Brussels gets covered with a flower carpet. Entrance is free, you can get a panoramic view against payment.

Mail: info@flowercarpet.be

www.flowercarpet.brussels.be
THE ROYAL GREENHOUSES (SERRES)

Brussels

It is well recommended to visit the Royal Serres in early spring, usually in the second half of April until early May, as only then they are open to the general public. It is a tradition that has been maintained since 1965.

The architect Alphonse Balat designed the complex of greenhouses for King Leopold II. The tropical garden is surmounted by a dome. The largest greenhouse is called the winter garden. For some occasions it is used as a reception space for dignitaries.

PRICE
2.50 EUR per person. Free of charge for under 18s. No prior reservation possible, be prepared for long queues in the weekends.

The entry price goes entirely to the Queen's Charities (Hulpfonds van de Koningin / Oeuvres de la Reine), to restoration work and to the purchase of art works for the Royal Collection.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT
tram: 3, 7 and 19, De Wand tram stop bus: 53 ISTIB/ MIVB, 230, 231, 232 (De Lijn), Koninklijke Serres / Serres Royales bus stop

Opening hours vary, please check website.

www.monarchie.be

FLORIST GARDENS IN LAEKEN

Brussels

This domain used to be home to the florists and gardeners of King Leopold II. Today the site has been transformed into a demonstration garden and the Brussels Centre for Horticultural Art and Technology will be located there.

Visitors will be able to admire a wide variety of plants and be introduced to different ecological gardening techniques.

Guided tours and events are also organised on a regular basis.

MORE INFORMATION
Leefmilieu Brussel Sobieskilaan, 1020 Brussels
Tel: +32 (0)2 775 75 75
Mail: info@leefmilieubrussel.be

https://gardens.brussels/nl/groene-ruimten/de-tuinen-van-de-bloemist

MEISE BOTANIC GARDEN

Meise Botanic Garden, Meise

Meise Botanic Garden is one of the largest botanic gardens in the world. It grows a treasure trove of plants from all over the world. Both in the open air and in several majestic greenhouses you can discover about 18,000 species. The greenhouse complex with the Victoria greenhouse is one of the most beautiful in Europe and covers around 1 ha. Enjoy the anemones in spring or the rich colors of autumn.

One day is simply too short to discover everything the Botanic Garden has to offer: a walk through all biomes of this Earth, a visit to the new wood museum ‘Woodlab’, wandering through the Castle of Boechout where the story of Princess Charlotte of Belgium comes to life, discovering the new Rose garden. You are welcome to enjoy a simple meal, drinks and ice-cream in the Orangerie.

In 2021, a brand new state-of-the-art visitor center will open, offering all necessary facilities. Next to the visitor center, a newly created welcome garden is the tastemaker for everything there is to discover in the Botanic garden.

Meise is located approximately 12km/7.5m from Brussels city centre.

MORE INFORMATION
Open daily from 9:30. Closing hours vary depending on the season. Tickets can be purchased online.

www.plantentuinmeise.be/en/agenda

FLORALIA BRUSSELS

Castle of Grand Bigard (Groot-Bijgaarden) 3 April till 2 May 2021

The park of 14 hectares incorporates nearly all spring bulb varieties. The castles’ gardeners have planted by hand more than 1 million bulbs. During the four weeks in which the exhibition takes place flower lovers will have the opportunity to discover 500 varieties including 400 tulip varieties.

INDOOR EXHIBITION
Visitors can also enjoy the prestigious indoor exhibition in the 1000 m² newly restored greenhouse. About 150 creations reflecting the trends and current fashions will be presented in a beautiful indoor garden.

The donjon, dated from the 14th century, will be accessible to its roof terrace from where you can see the Atomium and the city of Brussels. Each floor will be decorated in different themes.

The park is located 10 km from the historic centre of Brussels, and daily open from 10 am to 06 pm.

Adults: 14 EUR per person
Groups & senior: 12 EUR per person Children 16-14 year: 5 EUR per person

Mail: contact@kasteelgrootbijgaarden.be

www.floralia-brussels.be
SONIAN FOREST

The Sonian Forest—that’s 4,400 hectares (10,920 acres) of top European nature, the destination of several million visitors each year. It is also a vast and enchanting forest on the edge of Brussels.

MORE INFORMATION
Mail: Toerisme@hoeilaart.be
www.sonianforest.be/see-and-experience/walking/

GAASBEEK (CASTLE)/ PARK AND MUSEUM GARDEN

The Museum Garden is closed and will reopen in May 2021.

Gaasbeek Castle lies at the heart of an extensive park (49 hectare) that was laid out in the seventeenth century already. It has impressive avenues in a star-shaped path structure. It probably has the tallest beech trees in Belgium!!

Be aware: Gaasbeek Castle has closed its doors until 2023 for a major restoration campaign. The ambition is to keep the castle and its museum alive and dynamic. In addition, the castle must become even more accessible to a large, international audience.

MUSEUM GARDEN

The garden is made up of six different sections:

- An Italian style terrace garden with an orangery garden.
- A kitchen garden, divided into four squares, with a greenhouse, cold frames and beds for flowers and herbs. In the middle is a cloister with low standard pyramid-shaped pear trees, flat-lying garlands and rose columns.
- Berry and nut-gardens, with a cross-shaped arbour with an abundance of espaliered fruit and flowers.
- An orchard with a regional collection of half standard plum trees.
- An orchard with full standard fruit trees, typical of Pajottenland fruit farming circa 1900, with a traditional fruit shed.
- An orchard with low standard trees showing how cultivation practices have evolved over time from around 1950 to the present.

In 2012, the Museum Garden was awarded the EGHN (European Garden Heritage Network).

The park and Museum garden stay open during the restoration of the castle and are more than worth a visit.

OPENING HOURS
From 1 May to 30 September: daily from 10 am to 6 pm.
From 1 October to 31 October, daily from 10 am to 5 pm.

The garden is closed every Monday, except for public holidays.

TICKETS
Standard rate: € 5
Reduced price: € 4 for students/European Youth Card up to 26 years, 60+, people with disabilities, visitors Botanical Garden Meise.
Free: under 18 years of age, escorts of persons with disabilities, National Trust Guided tour 1h-1h30: € 60

Reservations: museumtuin.i-reserve.net/
www.natuurenbos.be/museumgarden
ROSE GARDEN OF COLOMA CASTLE
Sint-Pieters-Leeuw
Located 10 km from Brussels and 15 km from the Castle of Groot Bijgaarden you can find the internationally renowned rose gardens with approximately 3,000 varieties of roses and 30,000 rose bushes. The four themed gardens together constitute a beautifully landscaped area set inside unique castle grounds (16th century).

Coloma is one of the most extensive rose gardens in Europe. You can probably find every type of rose on the planet there: antique roses, the most recent hybrids, climbing roses, rambling roses and bush roses.

MORE INFORMATION
Free Entrance.
The rose garden of Coloma is open all year from Tuesday to Sunday from 9 am till 8 pm. From October till March the garden closes at 5 pm. Also open on public holidays. The recommended visit period is from June to the beginning of October.

Reservation for guided tours:
Tel: +32 (0)2 371 22 62 or
Mail: toerisme@sint-pieters-leeuw.be
www.natuurenbos.be/coloma

HALLERBOS
Halle Blue Bells: Mid April – Beginning of May
Hallerbos – ‘The Blue Forest’ – is the most important and most extensive forest area between Zenne and Zoniën. The forest is a public’s favorite thanks to the beautiful purple carpet of bluebells, which start to bloom from around mid-April until first or second week of May. The giant Sequoia trees and rolling hills also make a visit to this forest more than worth it.

MORE INFORMATION
The best way to explore the Hallerbos is with the free walking map. There are also three marked hiking loops (yellow, blue and white/black) in the forest. You can learn more about the forest on one of the many free open walks with a nature guide. A group can request a guided visit with a nature guide.


TERVUREN PARK AND ARBORETUM
Tervuren
TERVUREN PARK
Tervuren park, also called Warande Park, covers 205 ha and was once the hunting ground of the Dukes of Brabant.

It is one of the gateways to the Sonian Forest. A walk between majestic oak and beech trees, past elegant French gardens, ponds and flower beds, is a breath of fresh air after a day in busy Brussels.

In front of the park there is a French garden featuring ponds, flower beds and statues, which extends to a series of ponds that receive water from the rivulet the Voer. Combine your walk with a visit to the AfricaMuseum.

www.Africamuseum.be

ARBORETUM OF TERVUREN
In addition to the existing Royal Walk, which allows you to explore the domain over the beautiful avenues, five themed walking routes have been set up, which penetrate deeper into the interior of the arboretum via forest paths and meadows.

The Arboretum is an area open to the public free of charge.

MORE INFORMATION
Booking guided tours:
Tel: +32 (0)2 766 53 40
Mail: toerisme@tervuren.be

VAN BUUREN MUSEUM & GARDENS
Ukkel
The garden, which Jules Buyssens designed, shows a great unity of style with the Art Deco house. Alice commissioned René Pechère 45 years later to design the new gardens to complement the villa.

Now, the garden can be divided into the “picturesque garden”, the “Labyrinth” and the “Garden of the Heart”. The “Picturesque garden” is an “ordinary” garden, with a geometrically constructed rose garden, reminiscent of the straightforwardness of Art Deco. The whole forms a green shrine in the heart of Brussels, which can be visited all year round.

MORE INFORMATION
Registration is required.
Open on all public holidays.

Individuals: every day 14h00-17h30. Closed on Tuesday.
Groups: every day 10h00-17h30.

More information and reservation guided tours:
Tel: +32 (0)2 343 48 51
Mail: info@museumvanbuuren.be
RECOMMENDED
A COMBINATION OF:

- Meise Botanic Garden (always open)
- Serres of Laeken (!! when open – only 3 weeks a year in spring!)
- Floralia – Castle of Groot-Bijgaarden (3/4 -2/5/2021)
- Rose Garden of Coloma (spring + summer)
- Hallerbos, when the blue bells are blooming (mid April – beginning of May)
- Museum Garden (May till October) and park of the Castle of Gaasbeek (May till October)
- when in Brussels, get some fresh air in the Sonian Forest, or combine exquisite art with the beautiful and atypical gardens in Museum Van Buuren.

ALSO INTERESTING

Brussels:

the ‘green belt’ surrounding Brussels:
**HERB GARDEN AND TROPICAL GREENHOUSE OF LEUVEN**

**Open Daily**

The garden is open daily and entrance is free. Open from October till April from 09:00 till 17:00, from May till September from 09:00 till 20:00.

The Herb Garden of Leuven dates back to 1738 and is therefore the oldest in Belgium. Just as the gardens of Antwerp and Ghent, this garden was originally used for growing medicinal plants. For a large part this is still the case today and the garden is widely considered of great scientific importance. Besides the 2.2 ha of medicinal herbs, plants and trees, there is a greenhouse with 450 m² of tropical and subtropical plants.

**MORE INFORMATION**

Guided visits are free and can be requested for groups up to 30 people. It’s possible to have a guided tour around a specific subject.

Tel: +32 16 27 23 80
Mail: toerisme@leuven.be

---

**ARBORETUM OF WESPELAAR**

The collection was started in the 1970’s by Philippe de Spoelberch, a passionate dendrologist. The domain now covers 20 hectares and has a specialised collection of shrubs and trees from all over the world, of which many are threatened in the wild.

Acer, Magnolia, Rhododendron and Stewartia are particularly well represented. The garden is of interest in all seasons, as the beautiful autumn colours vary from green, yellow, orange, red to even purple.

The Arboretum has been voted one of the 13 most beautiful arboreta in the world, according to the Huffington Post.

**PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

Entrance fees:
Adults and children +12 years: € 5
Children -12 years (accompanied by an adult): free

**GUIDED TOURS**

To be requested in advance, also possible on other days than the opening days
€ 50 per group (max. 25 persons) and € 5 entrance fee per person.

www.arboretumwespelaar.be/EN/Contact_and_visits/
These gardens combine the splendour of 4 typical garden styles into one harmonious symphony of scents and colours. In the Gardens of Adegem you can wander around for hours while fully enjoying the exuberant shapes, plants, shrubs and water features. Visit can be combined with the adjacent Canadamuseum.

MORE INFORMATION

Daily open from 1pm till 6pm, except on Monday and Tuesday.
Reachable on Wednesdays and Sundays between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.
GUIDED VISITS ONLY
Reservation required.
Tel: +32 (0)50 71 06 66
Mail: info@tuinenvanadegem.com
Admission is 7 EUR pp, guide is free

The collections serve scientific and educational purposes.
The greenhouses are a safe haven for tropical and subtropical plant groups. There are three large public greenhouses, which are open to the public and more than 20 smaller ones which are dedicated to specialized collections. The latter are unfortunately not open to the public. There is also a herb and seed collection.
The garden as well as the Victoria greenhouse and the tropical and subtropical greenhouse are open daily. Admission is free.

Trained guides will show you the most captivating plants in the garden and in the greenhouses. The children’s tour includes a tasting session of fruits and other plant products. A guided tour of about 2 hours is available in English and costs 25 EUR. Groups are limited to 25 persons per guide. With combi ticket of 38 EUR you can also visit the Museum of Zoology.

MORE INFORMATION

For reservations, please contact Ferdinand Cobbaut via Mail: fcoobbaut@scarlet.be

www.ugent.be/we/en/services/garden
FLORALIES GHENT (2021)

Postponed until May 2022

My paradise, a worldly garden’ will be the theme of the Floralies.

In our society, people are increasingly looking for silence and peace, for themselves and for their personal paradise. That paradise is in a different place for everyone. Some find it in their green living room, others feel best in a park or in their own garden.

Sources of inspiration for the theme are a print of the garden of Bishop Triest and the Mystic Lamb by the Flemish master Van Eyck. The central panel of the Mystic Lamb shows a paradisiacal medieval garden full of symbolism.

MORE INFORMATION
Information regarding booking and Covid measures can be found here:
www.floralien2021.be

FLORALIES CYCLING TOURS

Surroundings of Ghent.

The Floralies theme tours run along five loops that are interconnected.

- **THE BEGONIA ROUTE** (32 km) starts at the Castle of Laarne.
- **THE ROSARY ROUTE** (34 km) starts at Parking Aard in Wetteren. The tour takes you past the Provincial Domain Den Blakken.
- **THE AZALEA ROUTE** (40 km) starts in the heart of flowers municipality Lochristi. The tour takes you past farms, the Research Centre for Ornamental Plants in Destelbergen and impressive azalea and begonia fields.
- **THE TREES ROUTE** (51 km) starts at the Informationpoint Munte and takes you past many farms and florists with home sales.
- **THE RHODODENDRON ROUTE** (53 km) starts as tour in Provincial Domain Puyenbroeck Wachtebeke.

Order the route brochure on this website (the route is only available in Dutch, but gives a good overview of the different stops):
www.tov.be/nl/pagina/fietsroutes-blov

GARDENS OF THE OOIDONK CASTLE

Ooidonk

The Ooidonk Castle is well known, but the beautiful gardens surrounding the castle are also well worth a visit in themselves. They can also be visited separately from the castle.

MORE INFORMATION
GROUPS
On request from 1 March to 20 November
Contact: Elis Lisabeth
Tel: +32 (0)9 282 26 38
Mail: lisabeth.els@skynet.be
www.ooidonk.be

BIJSTERVELD FARM

Oosteeklo

A walled-in domain that once belonged to a Cistercian abbey from the 14th century. In the middle of this unique and untouched piece of ‘measuringjesland’ with populated avenues, polders and creeks, the special gardens of this historic farm flourish. Majestic pollard willows surround the romantic courtyard garden with hydrangeas, wisteria, honeysuckle and clematis. Outside the old farm walls, between the centuries-old fruit trees, various rose arcades and beech and box hedges grow. The gardens of Bijsterveld are the perfect place to unwind and definitely worth a visit.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION
You can visit the gardens by appointment (minimum 15 people). The costs are €9 per person (including a cup of coffee).

Reservations by email are required:
birgit.rousere@bijsterveld.be
ARBORETUM

Kalmthout

Arboretum Kalmthout is open every day from 10am to 5pm from January 6th until December 21st 2018.

Arboretum Kalmthout is a unique site with amazing flowering borders, a colourful rose garden and a butterfly garden full of life. In spring there are flowering magnolias and cherries, while in autumn the maples are ablaze with colour. Enjoy a magnificent nature walk and admire over 7,000 different varieties of plants from all over the world.

Kalmthout is a small town in the Province of Antwerp, approximately 30km/19m from the Antwerp city centre.

MORE INFORMATION

ADMISSION
Adults 7 EUR, children (under 12) free, seniors 6 EUR, students 5 EUR, tour guide 50 EUR

GUIDED TOURS
A guided tour lasts two hours, and you can choose the start time. There is no set minimum for the number of people. The group rate of € 6 per person will apply to groups of 15 or more. A guide for a group of up to 25 costs 50 EUR.

BOOK YOUR GUIDED TOUR ONLINE

CONTACT INFORMATION
Arboretum Kalmthout Heuvel 2
2920 Kalmthout
Tel: +32 (0)3 666 67 41
Mail: info@arboretumkalmthout.be
www.arboretumkalmthout.be/en

GRENSPARK KALMTHOUTSE HEIDE

Only excursions on demand

And while you are in the town of Kalmthout, why not pay a visit to Grenspark Kalmthoutse Heide. This cross-border nature reserve has many pools, bright purple heathland (in August/September), inland dunes and vast forests.

The whole area measures +/- 6,000 ha (15,000 acres) and is home to some real ecological treasures. Moreover, the entire nature reserve constitutes a landscape of great cultural-historical value. The area is cut into two by the Belgian-Dutch border.

This diversity makes the park well worth a visit. Grenspark Kalmthoutse Heide is officially a ‘Silence Area’.

The park is easy to reach with public transport, trains coming from Antwerp Central Station twice every hour (except for weekends). There is ample parking space for coaches.

MORE INFORMATION
Visit Kalmthout
Putsesteenweg 131
2920 Kalmthout
Tel: +32 (0)3 666 61 01
Mail: visit@kalmthout.be
grensparkkalmthoutseheide.com/english
VRIJBROEK PARK ROSE GARDENS

Mechelen

The most spectacular part of the Vrijbroek Park, situated just outside Mechelen, is its magnificent rose garden. In 2003, the garden was given the prestigious Award of Garden Excellence by the World Federation of Rose Societies. Three pavilions house over a thousand different roses.

The Vrijbroekpark is located approximately 3.5km/2m from the city centre, just of the E19 Motorway, and open every day from sunrise till sunset.

GARDEN PARC “‘T POEIER”

This beautiful flower garden can especially be visited during the summer months, when the garden is at its best.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION:
Poederstraat 55 - 2370 Arendonk

Open every Sunday in July and August from 2pm to 6pm.

Or by appointment for groups during the year.

Entrance fee: 5 Euro/pers including a free drink.

www.tpoeier.be

FLEURS DES DAMES
castle d’Ursel/ castle zellaer

Flower event in the Castle d’Ursel, OR in the Castle of Zellaer, TBC.

LOCATION AND PROGRAM WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER.

ALL INFO HERE
www.fleursdesdames.be/home.htm

LIMBURG
JAPANESE GARDEN

Hasselt

Open from Tue to Sun from 10am to 5pm. Closed on Monday and during winter season (November – March).

With its 2.5 ha, this is the largest Japanese Garden in Europe. The garden was laid out in 1992, with the help of the Japanese city of Itami after the model of an original 17th century tea garden. The main garden contains a ceremonial house, a tea house, several water features and exceptional plants. There is also a park with 250 Japanese cherry trees.

The Hasselt Japanese Garden is an ideal place to walk around, while enjoying the views and listening to the softly flowing water. The garden is located between the city centre and the main ring, yet breathes a delightful calm. It is the ideal place for contemplation and meditation. Also not to be missed: a tea demonstration or a Japanese flower arrangement class in this unique garden.

MORE INFORMATION
Several group arrangements are possible.

Adults 5 EUR, seniors/ groups of 15 people 4 EUR
Tel: +32 (0)1 123 52 00

BOKRIJK

Genk

Bokrijk is more than the Open Air Museum. Discover 550 hectares of pure variety. Take a healthy walk or bike ride in the beautiful nature.

ARBORETUM
Arboreta have huge collections of plants that have something to offer scientifically. The scenic arboreta, which also includes Bokrijk, are a must for every garden lover. Bokrijk has specialized in the genera holly (Ilex), Magnolia, the woody grasses and the Rhododendrons. Of course that was also a deliberate choice, as they are all very decorative or usable genera.

In addition, investments were made in the innovative cycle route “Cycling through the water”. This way you cycle straight through a pond without getting wet.

MORE INFORMATION

FLEURAMOUR

24 – 27 September 2021

The captivating beauty of flowers in the historic setting, of Alden Biesen Castle, that is Fleuramour. Thousands of flowers are processed in floral arrangements of an exceptional quality. Floral arrangement enthusiasts and master flower binders from all corners of the world come together here and turn this flower arrangement event into a unique happening.

TICKETS
Early Birds 20 EUR, entrance 23 EUR, children (14 year) free, groups (10 people) 22 EUR
Tel: +32 (0)1 428 60 80
http://en.fleuramour.be/

ROMANTIC GARDEN OF DINA DEFERME

This wonderful 4-hectare (10-acre) garden with an English touch belonging to garden designer Dina Deferme and Tony Pirotte is to be found in a rural area not far from Hasselt.

A garden full of surprises where every part radiates pure relaxation and fascinates by its unique atmosphere. The impressive borders change their colour every month.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION
Guided tours on request.
Mail: info@deferme.be
www.deferme.be

MORE INFORMATION
Several group arrangements are possible.

Adults 5 EUR, seniors/ groups of 15 people 4 EUR
Tel: +32 (0)1 123 52 00

PRACTICAL INFORMATION
Guided tours on request.
Mail: info@deferme.be
www.deferme.be
ALDEN BIESEN CASTLE

GRAND COMMANDERY ALDEN BIESEN

A magnificent heritage site, an international culture and conference centre and a tourist draw: The Grand Commandery Alden Biesen has more than one ace up its sleeve. Originally built by the Teutonic Order, it is now one of the largest castle estates of the Euregion. A visit to Alden Biesen isn’t complete until you’ve explored the natural beauty on and around the castle estate. So strap on those hiking boots or mount your (rented) bicycle and off you go, with or without a guide. Thanks to the cycle route network, cycling in and around Alden Biesen is enjoyable and safe. The routes run along mostly car-free cycle paths via a unique bicycle junction network.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Kasteelstraat 6, 3740 Bilzen (B)
Tel: +32 (0) 89 51 93 93
GPS: Roelants du Vivierlaan (visitor parking)

OPENING HOURS

Summer (April 1 - September 30)
Weekdays: 7:30 am - 8:00 pm
Weekend and public holidays: 9:00 am - 8:00 pm

Winter (October 1 - March 31)
Weekdays: 7:30 am - 8:00 pm
Weekend and public holidays: 10 am - 4 pm

PRACTICAL INFORMATION


ALDEN BIESEN CASTLE

4-6 June and 11-12 September 2021

The Castle of Hex was built in the 18th century on a beautiful natural site. It was then surrounded by 12.5 acres of formal gardens set in a 150 acre English style park. The gardens, park and woodlands have always been immaculately maintained.

Hex is a private estate. The castle is inhabited by the d’Ursel family, who are the distant relatives of the founders of the estate in the 18th century. However, guided visits can be arranged on working days (only) from 10:00 till 12:00 and from 14:00 till 17:00.

The entrance fee is 15 €, with a minimum of 20 persons per group. Groups of more than 35 persons will be split up into two groups.

GARDEN DAYS OF HEX CASTLE

The gardens are also open to the public twice a year, in June and September, for the Flower and Plant show. It is the perfect opportunity to get inspired and find the right flower for your garden. Get informed by attending exhibitions, demonstrations and lectures by professionals from Belgium and abroad, and shop at the nurseries specialised in old and botanic roses and breeders of rare plants. The formal gardens are regularly replanted, and the terraces in front of the south-east façade were redesigned in 1990 by the internationally renowned landscape architect Jacques Wirtz. The surrounding park, created in 1770, has survived almost untouched to this day.

OPENING HOURS

from 10 am to 5 pm

TICKETS

11 € pp, presale online 9.5 € pp
(children till 16 years old are free)
No dogs allowed
Free parking
Tel: +32 (0) 1 274 73 41
Mail: gardens@hex.be

www.hex.be

NATIONAL PARK HOGE KEMPEN

More than 12 000 hectares of forest and heathland are managed and protected in this unique nature reserve.

Extensive pine forests alternate with purple-flowering heather and shifting dunes. Large ponds bear witness to former gravel and sand extraction. High peaks offer great views. ... Numerous rare and unusual animals live in this natural setting.

In National Park Hoge Kempen, a brand new cycle path called ‘Cycling through the Heathland’ will open in spring 2021:

www.visitlimburg.be/en/cycling-through-the-heathland

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

www.nationaalparkhogekempen.be/en

Guided tours with a park ranger on request:

The Zwin is a beautiful nature reserve at the Belgian coast, an ‘international bird airport’, but also a dream for plant lovers. Thanks to the permanent influence of the salty water, the Zwin boasts certain species that can barely be found elsewhere along the Belgian coasts.

Since its reopening in Summer 2016, the completely refurbished park is a unique and varied top attraction where visitors experience nature to the full. The new Zwin has something in store for everyone.

It is now an all-weather location and includes a landmark Visitor Centre with a permanent exhibition, a restaurant and a Zwin Boutique. The visitor center and cafeteria offer a unique and stunning 360° panoramic view of the park, the surrounding nature of the Zwinduinen-and polders and the vast Zwinstreek. In the nature reserve, with its numerous dunes and dune pools, landscaped trails provide access to the various’ experience shacks. Apart from the Zwin Nature Park, the Zwin is accessible free of charge: the Zwin Bistro, the Zwin Shop, the Zwin Region Information Centre and no less than 220 ha of Zwin dunes and polders which guide you to the Zwin Nature Park on foot or by bike from Knokke Het Zoute.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**
Zwin Nature Park
Graaf Léon Lippensdreef 8
8300 Knokke - Heist

**HET ZWIN**

Knokke

The Zwin is a beautiful nature reserve at the Belgian coast, an ‘international bird airport’, but also a dream for plant lovers. Thanks to the permanent influence of the salty water, the Zwin boasts certain species that can barely be found elsewhere along the Belgian coasts.

Since its reopening in Summer 2016, the completely refurbished park is a unique and varied top attraction where visitors experience nature to the full. The new Zwin has something in store for everyone.

It is now an all-weather location and includes a landmark Visitor Centre with a permanent exhibition, a restaurant and a Zwin Boutique. The visitor center and cafeteria offer a unique and stunning 360° panoramic view of the park, the surrounding nature of the Zwinduinen-and polders and the vast Zwinstreek. In the nature reserve, with its numerous dunes and dune pools, landscaped trails provide access to the various’ experience shacks. Apart from the Zwin Nature Park, the Zwin is accessible free of charge: the Zwin Bistro, the Zwin Shop, the Zwin Region Information Centre and no less than 220 ha of Zwin dunes and polders which guide you to the Zwin Nature Park on foot or by bike from Knokke Het Zoute.

**PARK VAN BEERVELDE**

**GARDEN DAYS**
7-9 May 2021 / 8-10 October 2021

This event takes place twice a year, each second weekend of May and October.

During these weekends, more than 220 nurseriesmen, designers and artisans exhibit, for the public’s pleasure and enlightenment, probably the most spectacular variety of plants and garden-related ware one could hope to see in Belgium. It is worthwhile mentioning that prices of the plants are definitely lower in Belgium than in England or France.

Beervelde is also particularly attractive because each time twice a year the organizer creates a new theme, which is worked out by the participants.

**PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

www.parkvanbeervelde.be/en
GARDENS OF OOSTKERKE CASTLE

The internationally renowned Dutch garden architect Mien Ruys was commissioned to create the garden around the castle. The garden lives in perfect harmony with the surrounding polder landscape. The garden is privately owned by Baron van der Elst, but can sometimes be visited during the open garden days in the month of June. Groups may be allowed with a local guide. Information at Visit Damme.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION
Visit Damme
Jacob van Maerlantstraat 3
8340 Damme
Tel: +32 (0)50 28 86 10
Mail: toerisme@damme.be

BONEM FARM

Bonem farm, whose history dates back to the 13th century, lies on a mound and is completely surrounded by water, a remnant of the former creek area.

In 2005 the restoration of the farm, the garden and the landscape around it (16 ha) was started. Renowned landscape designer Erik Dhont took up the challenge to implement an innovative contemporary vision with respect for the intimacy and history of the farm and the surrounding polder landscape. Ponds and a swimming pond have been constructed. There is an orchard and a vegetable garden, hay meadows with grass paths, thickets with old roses. Contemporary art (Antony Gormley, Houseago, Wurm, Richard Long...) was integrated into the landscape. Information at Visit Damme.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION
Visit Damme
Jacob van Maerlantstraat 3
8340 Damme
Tel: +32 (0)50 28 86 10
Mail: toerisme@damme.be

RESPONSIBLE PUBLISHER
Peter De Wilde, VISITFLANDERS, Grasmarkt 61, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

LEGAL DEPOT
D/2020/5635/18/4

MORE INFORMATION
www.visitflanders.com

COPYRIGHTS

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a database or retrieval system, or be published in any form or in any way electronically, mechanically, by print, photoprint, microfilm or any other means! without prior written permission from the Publisher.