Discover everything about cycling IN FLANDERS
Flandres is cycling. 365 days.

http://cyclinginflanders.cc
Flanders. Nowhere else is the gap between epic and ordinary, mortal and hero, dream and reality closer than these 5,000 square miles of north Belgium. All of the things that make cycling great reach a crescendo in Flanders. The legendary Flemish riders, called 'Flandriens', look more like you and me, winning with grit and endurance, not exact calculations of watts per kilo. The roads are winding, narrow and brutal, broken stones from a bygone era, vanquished in three- and four-minute bouts of suffering, not hour-long exercises in balancing on your anaerobic threshold. The races themselves, such as the Ronde or Gent-Wevelgem are as much a part of the landscape as the farmer’s fields and ancient villages they crisscross. Bicycles are cutting edge craftsmanship in Flanders.
For hard-core cycling enthusiasts, a trip to Flanders is nothing less than a pilgrimage to the most hallowed grounds in the sport. Ride on the roads where natives like Eddy Merckx, Johan Museeuw and Tom Boonen became legends.

This brochure offers an overview of all you need to know about Flanders as an all year round cycling destination par excellence. Simply flick through the pages and be inspired.

* As seen in Peloton Magazine
FACTS & FIGURES

1,200 KM
LONG DISTANCE CYCLE ROUTES

OVER A 100
OF THEMED CYCLE LOOPS

2000
RACES PER YEAR

CYCLE NODE NETWORK
OF OVER
12,000 KMS
OF CYCLING ROUTES

OVER 500
BICYCLE FRIENDLY
ACCOMMODATIONS

FLEMISH PEOPLE RIDE
8,500,000 KILOMETRES A DAY
OR THE EQUIVALENT OF
212 TIMES AROUND THE WORLD

A GOOD 60% OF HOUSEHOLDS
OWN TWO BIKES OR MORE

ACCORDING TO STRAVA,
THE FLEMISH PEOPLE ARE AMONG
THE FASTEST CYCLISTS IN THE WORLD
AND RIDE THE LONGEST DISTANCES

PEOPLE IN FLANDERS
USE THEIR BIKE FOR
1/7 OF THEIR DAILY TRIPS
IN FLANDERS

ACCORDING TO STRAVA,
THE FLEMISH PEOPLE ARE AMONG
THE FASTEST CYCLISTS IN THE WORLD
AND RIDE THE LONGEST DISTANCES

40%
OF THE TOURISTS
STAYING IN
THE FLEMISH REGIONS
CYCLE DURING
THEIR HOLIDAY

1,200 KM
LONG DISTANCE CYCLE ROUTES

OVER A 100
OF THEMED CYCLE LOOPS

2000
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IN FLANDERS
TOUR OF FLANDERS

1
FIRST RACE IN 1913

ONE OF THE FIVE BIG ‘MONUMENTS’ OF CYCLING

UCI WORLD TOUR RACE

1,000,000 SPECTATORS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD

GLOBAL TV AUDIENCE 50 MIO DIRECT AND A TOTAL OF OVER 160 MIO

16,000 PEOPLE RIDE THE SPORTIVE THE DAY BEFORE THE RACE

500 JOURNALISTS
GENERAL

INCOMING TOUR OPERATORS

Do you want to really discover Flanders from a local’s perspective? There are many Flemish tour operators who organise tours for both individuals and groups, on the routes of the classic Flemish road races. They will be only too happy to offer you a fully personalised package tour.

Veloflanders
+32 468 34 06 44
steven@veloflanders.com
www.veloflanders.com
Veloflanders offers one or several-day packages fully tailored to your wishes with an experienced local guide who can put together the ideal route for you. That way you can race your own Tour of Flanders! This formula is particularly renowned and recommended by foreign tourists but is of course also available for Belgians.

Go4Cycling
info@go4cycling.com
www.go4cycling.com
Go4Cycling mainly offers multi-day packages for national and international tourists. The mix of amateur cyclo tours and VIP road race packages is a great combination, giving you the chance to watch the pros, as well as try out the same route yourself.

Kortweg Cycling
+32 497 48 06 57
info@kortweg.be
www.kortweg.be
Kortweg offers cycling trips, with professional bicycle transport services, support cars and a fixed team of experienced staff who know the Flemish Ardennes like the back of their hand. Guests even have the option of joining a cycling tour with Johan Museeuw himself.

http://cyclinginflanders.cc

CYCLING IN FLANDERS INTRODUCES ENTHUSIASTS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD TO ALL THINGS CYCLING FLANDERS HAS TO OFFER.
Flanders is an all-in cycling destination and we love to share our well-kept secrets so everyone can enjoy Flanders as a real Flandrien does. Are you a fierce biker or a passionate supporter? Here, you'll find an endless amount of new possibilities, cycling paths and events to put on your bucket list. Get inspired! By blending interviews with insights, articles and other relevant sources of information we provide an all-encompassing platform to discover cycling culture in Flanders.
Museeuw Cycling Academy
www.johanmuseeuw.be
The Museeuw Cycling Academy provides guided cycling tours, coaching and advice by the legendary Johan Museeuw, three time winner of the Tour of Flanders. The range of options includes a Tour of Flanders package aimed at cycling tourists, social clubs and companies.

vzw Allez Roulez
+32 498 67 05 11
info@allez-roulez.be
www.allez-roulez.be
Allez Roulez is a non-profit association with a passion for the region. They offer customised and guided cycling tours following the classic routes of the pre-season road races for both national and international cycling tourists, both individuals and groups.

Baguet Bicycle Center
+32 486 30 82 01
serge.baguet@telenet.be
www.fietsstages-baguet.be
Serge Baguet is a former pro racer. His organisation Baguet Velo Events offers exclusive VIP packages for cycling races in Flanders and abroad and also organises custom team building events.

Belgian Bike Experience
+32 89 48 08 80
info@belgianbikeexperience.com
www.belgianbikeexperience.com
Experience Belgium’s cycling classics as a pro rider. Belgian Bike Experience offers a unique cycling program built around some of the most famous one day races in the world. This includes a VIP bus, three to four rides on Classic routes, dinner in the better restaurants, a taste of Belgium’s best cities and locations and tips and tricks from experienced riders. You will have a week to remember. Each trip is limited to 20 riders.

Belgium, bikes and beer
+32 498 97 20 02
https://belgiumbikesbeer.com
They offer a fun weekend trip that combines 2 of Belgium’s biggest assets : famous cycling roads and great beers. You’ll do 100 km on the mythical cobbles of the Ronde van Vlaanderen, like the Muur van Geraardsbergen, Oude Kwaremont, Koppenberg, … And in between, you’ll stay in brewery Het Anker, a beautiful brewery/hotel where you’ll get a tour, a three course meal consisting of dishes prepared with local beer and of course the opportunity to taste some of Belgium’s best beers like the Gouden Carolus.

Bidong
+32 479 71 91 38
info@bidong.be
www.bidong.be
Bidong, that’s cycling and hanging out with friends, colleagues, customers, … Head out together for a couple of hours, a day or a week. Bidong is your guide, coach and jack-of-all-trades. They surprise you with beautiful routes, take care of food, accommodation and transport, guide you, organise a party or a visit to a cycling museum or bar, … Contact them for your tailor-made cycling trip.

Flandrien Academy
hello@flandrienacademy.com
http://flandrienacademy.com
The aim of Flandrien Academy is to let you experience the unique Belgian cycling tradition and culture. Through their extensive local network they are uniquely positioned to deliver you a truly unforgettable experience. They don’t offer many tours and the groups are small, to ensure you get the best attention.

SPECIALISED GUIDES

Guideon
www.guideonflanders.com
At Guideon, three experienced guides offer three guided packages, including Classic Roads departing from Oudenaarde through the Flemish Ardennes. This operator is mainly focused on international tourists.

Flanders on Bike
flandersonbike@telenet.be
www.facebook.com/flandersonbike
www.instagram.com/flandersonbike.henk
www.flandersonbike.com
Flanders on Bike offers guided tours with a focus on the Tour of Flanders and the Flemish Ardennes. You’ll cycle the famous berghs and cobbles, see the nicest small roads, typical restaurants and it’s possible to include a brewery visit if you like. They allow you to choose the distance, intensity and level of your rides and are able to adapt to changes when necessary. You can bring your own bike or rent one.

Bonavonture
+32 470 90 11 06
peter@bonavonture.be
www.bonavonture.be
Bon Tour and Johan Museeuw offer a great retro cycling experience. You get to cycle on the roads where classic cycle races were held. Where history was made by the real Flandriens. On hellish slopes and bumpy cobbles. In a retro cycling jersey. On a retro racing bicycle. Vive le vélo!
TOUR OPERATORS WITH A WIDER RANGE

Cycling the western front
Carl Ooghe
+32 475 81 06 08
carl.ooghe@gmail.com
www.cyclingthewesternfront.co.uk
Carl Ooghe is a full time tour leader, highly specialised in cycling tours, specifically in Flanders Fields (+ northern France). Most of the tours start in Ypres. Carl works together with a licensed travel agency for hotel bookings, bicycle transport, ... He offers day tours as well as longer programmes. All tours are flexible and can be adapted in consultation with the client.

Biking Box
+32 477 59 23 82
info@bikingbox.be
www.bikingbox.be
Go cycling in Flanders Fields with experienced guides, including former professional cyclists. They plan your trip, your charming hotels and make sure that all luggage arrives in time. You can rent one of their road race bicycles if you don’t want to bring your own bike.

All About Belgium (AAB)
Kathleen Vermeiren,
General Manager
+32 53 80 98 18
info@aab-allaboutbelgium.be,
kathleen.vermeiren@aab-allaboutbelgium.be
www.aab-allaboutbelgium.be
AAB is an incoming travel agency for the Benelux countries, founded in 1997. AAB offers hotel accommodation, typical meal, guides, entrance tickets for exhibitions and special events, transfers, local assistants, company visits, theme evenings, ... Cycling is not their specialisation, but they handled cycling groups already (recreational groups, sportive groups and even professional teams). AAB is certainly willing to do this more in the future and will handle any group request for cycling, but they don’t handle individual requests.

Vos Travel
+32 51 24 03 40
info@vostravel.be
www.vostravel.be/en/cycling
VOS Travel has been an independent Belgian tour operator for 20 years. They’re specialised in cycling and have increased their incoming activities significantly during the last years. VOS Travel cycling holidays are suitable for the individual and recreational cyclist, as well as for the gourmet.

De Toerist Biking
+32 13 52 28 18
biking@detoerist.be
www.detoeristbiking.be
De Toerist Biking is a specialist in organising outgoing biking vacations, mainly for groups. They didn’t handle incoming
groups yet, so they don’t have an English website. Still, they have the infrastructure, experience and knowledge to organise incoming cycling holidays and they’re open for requests.

**Flamme Rouge**  
**Dieter D'Haene**  
+32 485 97 24 28  
info@flammerouge.be  
dieter@flammerouge.be  
www.flammerouge.be

Flamme Rouge offers customised and guided cycling tours. These include a tour through the Flemish Ardennes and theme tours on the Tour of Flanders and Gent - Wevelgem.

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**BIKE TRANSPORT**

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**SPECIALISED BIKE TRANSPORT**

Evidently, vans can be rented from the major car rental companies (Hertz, Avis, Europcar, …). But there are some attractive alternatives which are adapted to the needs of cyclists.

**Cycling support**  
Huttegem 4, 8570 Anzegem  
+32 496 84 04 41  
info@cyclingsupport.be  
www.cyclingsupport.be

Cycling support is a company offering different cycling related services. They rent specialised vans for 9 persons in which 8 bikes can be stored. It’s an ideal vehicle for groups who want to cycle for more than one day, both suitable for recreational and sportive cyclists. Cycling support can also provide guides like Eric De Clercq, a former professional cyclist and hotels (in cooperation with a licensed travel agency).

**X-cycling: motorhomes**  
Mr. Rik Geers  
+32 477 72 40 53  
rk.geers@me.com

X-cycling has two luxurious motorhomes. The bigger can host 6 people, the smaller is for 4 people. The motorhomes can transport bikes. X-cycling wants to reach clients who want a full ‘cycling experience’ for a couple of days. Mostly clients cycle a classic route on the day before the professionals do so. On the next day, they watch the race live (with the camper parked at a place where a race passes). Clients can combine this with more cycling or sightseeing on a couple of extra days. Programmes are flexible the cycling can be challenging or recreational all and upon demand.

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**Kortweg Cycling and Flamme Rouge**

also offer bike transport. Their contact details are mentioned above.
COACHES WITH BIKE TRAILERS

There are a lot of coach companies who have luggage trailers, but few who have special bike trailers. These special bike trailers typically can contain 28, 36, 40 or even 44 bikes (any type of bike: racing bikes, MTB, city bikes, …). Note that the website of these coach operators is mostly only in Dutch. But they certainly can be contacted from abroad (in English or French).

De Meibloem
(three trailers and experienced in excursions to cycling races)
Kasteelstraat 149, 8700 Tielt
+32 51 40 18 23,
info@demeibloem.be, www.demeibloem.be

Mandel Car
(bike trailer with 36 bikes)
Prins Albertlaan 78, 8870 Izegem
+32 51 31 75 74,
info@mandelcar.be, www.mandelcar.be

Albion Tours
(bike trailer with 36 bikes)
Hulkstraat 3, 8380 Zeebrugge
+32 50 51 86 88
info@albion.be, www.albion.be

Sima Tours
(bike trailer with 36 bikes)
Statiestraat 205, 8810 Lichtervelde
+32 51 54 12 99
info@simatours.be, www.simatours.be

International Tours BVBA
(bike trailer with 36 bikes)
A. Brackxstraat 16, 8400 Ostend
+32 59 70 12 59
info@internationaltours.be, www.internationaltours.be

De Buck Incentives
(several trailers)
Steenweg 233A, 9810 Eke
+32 9 385 46 46
info@debuckincentives.com, www.debuckincentives.com

Van Mullem en Zonen bvba
(two trailers: 20 and 28 bikes)
IP Soldatenplein Z2, 18, 3300 Tienen
+32 16 81 25 52
info@van-mullem.be, www.van-mullem.be

Reizen Lauwers
(two trailers)
Nijverheidsstraat 17, 2530 Boechout
+32 3 460 18 07
planning@lauwers.be, www.autocarverhuurlauwers.be

Van Bogget Reizen
(bike trailer with 36 bikes)
Aven Ackers 18, 9130 Verrebroek
+32 3 773 41 22
info@vanbogget.be, www.vanbogget.be

De Zigeuner
(7 trailers for 36-44 bikes)
Industrielaan 7, 3590 Diepenbeek
+32 11 35 04 04
info@dezigeuner.com, www.dezigeuner.be
BICYCLE-FRIENDLY PLACES TO STAY

Contemplating an overnight stay in Flanders? There are dozens of options available from hotels to guest lodges and holiday houses. Via www.visitflanders.com you can search for accommodation with facilities adapted to meet the needs of cyclists. The prices quoted are per person sharing a two-person room with breakfast. Prices are subject to change at any time. Please consult the websites directly for the most up-to-date information.

The 23 Flemish hostels are also a good choice for cyclists. All hostels have their own style and atmosphere. They have something for everyone, whether you want to cycle, relax and enjoy nature, get cultural in the city or get a breath of fresh air at the coast. On your own, with some friends or in a larger group, just go and be surprised by the wonders of Flanders and our budget-friendly hostels. You'll find all the information you need on www.jeugdherbergen.be/en/.

Looking for accommodations that breathe cycling, are beautifully located in ‘cycling territory’ or host pro-teams almost every year? Check out our tips per region in this brochure.

ROUTE PLANNING TOOLS

It's best to choose a route that's suited to you before you leave.

The easiest tool to search for routes (or create your own), is the www.routeyou.com website. You can search routes specifically suited for road racing, with a lot of climbs in them, etc.

Looking for loop routes created by other cyclists? Than be sure to check www.fietsroute.org. On this website you will find detailed descriptions of bike routes in Flanders, as well as points of interest along routes of other regions. These rides are grouped by city and route. Most of them include a description and a detailed itinerary. Flanders is a bike lover’s dream with hundreds of well signposted cycling routes. The website also enables you to create your own route using the junction points of the Flanders cycling network.

You can also make your own route via www.fietsnet.be (available in Dutch, but easy to use). You will find all the numbered junction points of the Flanders cycling network online here. Simply click your choice of junction points and create your own loop. You can print your route afterwards, just write down the numbers or export it to your GPS. Easy as that!

And then there’s also the FietsKompas app (in Dutch), which enables you to create your route using the junction points of the Flanders cycling network. The app then functions as a GPS device and also has voice instructions. Also nice: the possibility to find bike friendly pubs along your route. Available for iPhone and soon also for Android.

Of course, also www.strava.com can help you out with routes.

In this brochure, we also mention specific routes per region. Be sure to check them out too!
FLANDERS: AN ACCESSIBLE CYCLING DESTINATION

Flanders wants to be an enjoyable cycling destination for everyone young and slightly older visitors, tourists with or without disabilities or care needs, etc. Therefore, we are happy to help you if you have additional needs or questions when planning a trip to Flanders.

You will find a great deal of information on the website www.visitflanders.com/accessibility to prepare your holiday or trip according to your specific needs and requirements. You can search for a holiday accommodation, day trips, places where you can get a bite to eat or have a drink, rental of adapted bikes, suitable routes, events and so much more. Additionally, you can find information on arranging suitable transportation, care or equipment.

If you have specific questions, feel free to contact us through accessible@visitflanders.com or +32 2 504 03 40.

CYCLING AND BEER

In a region famous for its beers and its cycling culture, it should not come as a surprise that there are quite some cycling beers. Cycling and drinking beer: a difficult combination? Maybe, but somehow they go together very well in Flanders.

Sportive cyclists often finish their cycling tour with a (couple of) beer(s) – if they didn’t interrupt their tour for this already, preferably on a sunny terrace. Flemish people love the stories about the cyclists in the good old days, mixing a raw egg in their Rodenbach (a traditional sour red ale), as an ideal breakfast before the race. Some breweries actively support cyclo’s (for example the Roman brewery sponsors the Ename Classic, which is named after their famous abbey beer). Several beers are named after a famous slope or have a name that’s related to cycling in another way: Giesbaarg Muurken (local dialect for ‘Muur van Geraardsbergen’), Kwaremont, Orvélo, Malteni, Koerseklakske (cycling cap), De Bie Vélo, Kasseileggersbier (men who construct cobblestone roads)... Cycling and beer culture have always been closely related in Flanders, and without any doubt they will always be!

Quench your thirst with these beers in one of the many cycling pubs mentioned below in this brochure. For more information on Belgian beers in Flanders, visit the www.visitflanders.com website (Themes > Belgian beers) or ask for our trade brochure on beer.

AND THERE IS MORE...

www.lapermanence.cc

Looking for a great Cyclespot? A major or indeed maybe a minor racing event? The nearest place to refuel and get re-energised? Or has your bicycle had a mechanical issue en route and you’re looking for a good mechanic nearby? As a participant, you can easily and quickly cycle through regions or cities, check reviews by your predecessors, share your own opinion and create your own list of favourites. You will also be notified by email of great promotions, new events and news about hot cyclespots.
Flanders has a lot to offer. Whether you want to watch a race, join a cyclo, visit a cycling museum, ride one of the specific routes, have a pre ride coffee or post ride beer, rent a race bike, stay in a cycling accommodation or go to a stylish cycling shop. There are loads of possibilities that cater for your cycling needs. In the next chapters, we give you an overview of all this cycling wealth by region.
A PERFECT CYCLING DAY
IN EAST-FLANDERS

Wake up in B&B ’t Juiste Verzet, located on the Oude Kwaremont. Rent a bike from the nearby Fietsen Jowan bikeshop and go for one of the Tour of Flanders cycling routes. Have lunch at and pay a visit to the Tour of Flanders centre. Continue you ride and finish with a cycling beer at Café Koppenberg or In De Zon (Kwaremont).
WATCH A RACE OR JOIN A CYCLOSPORTIVE

For as long as anyone can remember, the Flemish Ardennes has formed the backdrop for an untold number of road races that have inspired both pros and amateurs to push their abilities to the limit. The region plays host to both individual races and stages in multi-day races that are drawn to the Flemish Ardennes for its cobblestones and hills. Whether you’re planning to race yourself or just come and admire the spectacle, you’ll find more than enough inspiration in this list of events:

February

Omloop Het Nieuwsblad
www.omloophetnieuwsblad.be
Omloop Het Nieuwsblad is the opening race of the Spring Classics. Racers and racing fans have been eagerly looking forward to this day for months. Contestants will be twisting and turning through the Flemish Ardennes, bumping over cobblestones and fighting the wind. The race is now part of the UCI World Tour calendar. Combine with Kuurne-Brussel-Kuurne to have the perfect opening weekend.

Omloop Het Nieuwsblad Cyclo
www.proximuscyclingchallenge.be
The Omloop for amateurs, one day after the pros.

Danilith Nokere Koerse
www.nokerekoerse.be
Semi-classic with finish on the cobbles of Nokereberg.

Danilith Nokere Koerse cyclo
www.proximuscyclingchallenge.be
Ride Nokere Koerse yourself, a couple of days before the pros.

March

Dwars door Vlaanderen
www.ddvl.eu
In the Dwars door Vlaanderen race that takes place just one and a half weeks before Flanders’ Finest, the Tour of Flanders, the best racers will have the opportunity to test their Tour legs for the first time. How prepared are they? How many percentage points are they away from their top condition? What is the competition up to? The race is now part of the UCI World Tour calendar. In 2018, it will take place on the wednesday before The Ronde.

Dwars door Vlaanderen Cyclo
www.proximuscyclingchallenge.be
Amateur race, a few weeks before the pros.
Ename Classic
www.sport.be/cyclingtour
Cycling tour that starts at the Bevegemse Vijvers in Zottegem (Flemish Ardennes).

E3 Harelbeke
www.e3harelbeke.be
The E3 Harelbeke race starts and finishes in Harelbeke over 200 kilometres and is on the UCI World Tour calendar. It is used as preparation race for the Tour of Flanders. The route is shorter but many of the climbs are tackled. The conditions are also comparable as cobbles, wind and climbs decimate the bunch. The route takes a large lap around East Flanders including 15 hills.

E3 Harelbeke cyclo - Fabian Cancellara Classic
www.e3harelbeke.be
Ride your own E3 on many hills and cobbles of the Flemish Ardennes.

April

Ronde van Vlaanderen Cyclo
www.sport.be/werideflanders
The Tour of Flanders for tourists and amateurs. Limited to 16,000 participants, so be sure to register early.

Ronde van Vlaanderen
www.rondevanvlaanderen.be
The Tour of Flanders is the undisputed crown jewel in the Flemish cycling year. There is no day that true cycling fans yearn for more than the first Sunday in April. On that day, a whole nation is roused by the race.

Peter van Petegem Classic
www.sport.be/cyclingtour
Cycling tour starting in Aalst, through the Flemish Ardennes.

May

Johan Museeuw Classic
www.superklassieker.be
A combination of the Tour of Flanders and Paris-Roubaix.

June

The Retro Ronde
www.retroronde.be
Beer routes, vintage climbs, cycling flea markets and votes for the most ravishing retro racer. Will be back in 2018.

Serge Baguet Classic
www.proximuscylingchallenge.be
Serge Baguet introduces you to his old training circuit that propelled him on his winning ride in the Tour and towards a Belgian title. The ride combines the best of the Flemish Ardenne and the Heuvelland.

Andrea Tafi Classic
www.proximuscylingchallenge.be
Andrea Tafi takes you on a tour through the Pajottenland and the Flemish Ardennes and, just before the finish, the Muur and the Bosberg.
**August**

**GP Stad Zottegem**
[www.gpstadzottegem.be](http://www.gpstadzottegem.be)
Road race starting and finishing in Zottegem. Held since 1934.

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**Eneco Tour**
[www.enecotour.com](http://www.enecotour.com)
Multi-day road race, through Belgium and the Netherlands. The race will be renamed, but the new name was not yet announced when we finished the brochure.

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**September**

**El Toro Grand Prix**
[www.el-toro.be](http://www.el-toro.be)
A race where winning is less important than having fun, where retro outfits are compulsory at the starting line but shaven legs are forbidden, unless you are of the female variety.

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**Kwaremont Sluitingsprijs**
[www.proximuscyclingchallenge.be](http://www.proximuscyclingchallenge.be)
Close off the cyclosportive season in style.

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**October**

**Hotondcross**
[www.ronsekoerst.be](http://www.ronsekoerst.be)
Mario De Clercq Grand Prix, the opening event of the DVV Verzekeringen Trophy, on the flanks of the Hotond, the highest point in East-Flanders.

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**November**

**Koppenbergcross**
[www.koppenbergcross.be](http://www.koppenbergcross.be)
Cyclo cross race that forms part of the DVV Verzekeringen Trophy. Held every year on 1 November in the East-Flemish Melden (Oudenaarde).

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**Cyclocross Gavere**
[www.cyclocrossgavere.be](http://www.cyclocrossgavere.be)
Part of the ‘Superprestige’ cyclo cross season.

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**The Six-days of Ghent**
‘t Kuipke, Citadelpark, 9000 Ghent
[www.z6sdaagse.be](http://www.z6sdaagse.be)
Cycling enthusiasts are undoubtedly familiar with ‘t Kuipke. This cycling track hosts the yearly Six Days of Ghent, a world-famous track cycling event. This is Flanders’ point of reference in the change from autumn to winter. Following good traditions, over 40,000 spectators will attend this show. The six days is ridden on a covered track, with teams of two cyclists. The duo that has ridden the most rounds after six days and/or has scored the most points in the various auxiliary competitions wins.
VISIT A CYCLING MUSEUM, EXPERIENCE CENTRE, BIKE MANUFACTURER, TRACK, ... 

Tour of Flanders Centre
Markt 43, 9700 Oudenaarde
+32 55 33 99 33
info@crvv.be
www.crvv.be

The Tour of Flanders Centre is in more than one way the ideal base camp for your Tour of Flanders. You will not only find a wealth of history about the race at the visitors’ centre but also a wealth of comfortable and convenient facilities to start and finish your own tour of the Flemish Ardennes. There is free parking available around the corner (at the Ham, near Hotel Leopold). If you’re thinking of riding one of the three Tour of Flanders routes or the Spartacus or Bahamontes routes (more information below), be sure to ask to borrow a free chip to register your time. You’ll be able to measure your time up the Koppenberg, Kruisberg and the Muur as well as along Paddestraat. A handy self-scan system makes it even easier to register the chip. After your ride, you can enjoy a shower at the TOFC (2 euros) and the Ronde Shop offers several must-see and must-have souvenirs. And to cap off a perfect day, try a delicious locally brewed beer at the Brasserie De Flandrien. The TOFC is open every day except Monday, from 10am to 6pm.

’t Kuipke
Citadelpark, 9000 Ghent
https://visit.gent.be/en/t-kuipke
www.z6sdaagse.be

Cycling enthusiasts are undoubtedly familiar with ’t Kuipke. This cycling track hosts the yearly Six Days of Ghent, a world-famous track cycling event. With a length of 166 metres, ’t Kuipke is one of the shortest cycling tracks in the Six Days circuit. This means that you as a spectator can see the entire track. At 52%, the bends are exceptionally sharp, which means that Ghent also has one of the fastest tracks in Europe. ’t Kuipke is only open to visit during events.

Eddy Merckx Flemish Cycling Centre
Zuiderlaan 8, 9000 Ghent
+32 9 245 75 08
peter.deschoolmeester@bloso.be
www.blosso.be

Everyone is welcome on the hardwood, 250-metre long cycling track in Ghent’s Blaarmeersen Sports and Recreation Park. The track is also open to amateur cyclists and starters for a couple of hours every weekday. A day pass costs 7.50 euros. You can rent a track bike on site, which costs 8.50 euros.
VISIT SOME CYCLING MONUMENTS

Anyone who travels along Flemish roads is bound to come across cycle racing monuments! The sculptures pay tribute to the 'monuments' from Flemish cycle racing history - both cycle racers and races alike.

In the Ronde van Vlaanderenstraat in Kwaremont you can greet Karel Van Wijnendaele, founder of the Tour of Flanders. A mosaic of cobblestones has been laid out on the ground in front of the monument, featuring images of all the winners of the Tour of Flanders to date. The Ronde van Vlaanderenstraat now also has a pantheon of 10 life-size photo panels that portray mythical heroes of the Tour. The Tour’s honour roll, from 1913 until 2015, has been painted on the road surface all down the street.

One of the finest monuments is without a doubt located right next door to the church in the East Flanders village of Meerbeke, near Ninove. For thirty nine years this was the finish line for the Tour of Flanders. At the corner of the churchyard stands a beautiful ensemble of statues and a poem by Willie Verhegghe that recalls the day: “White and watchful, the finish line waits expectantly for what is to come (...) And the people look intently on and shout out the names of their gods (...) The triumphant one emerges from a snarl of wheels to forever claim his place in the hall of fame.”

On the roundabout in Brakel (N48 and N8) there is a striking construction of brightly-coloured bicycles suspended in a cylindrical structure.

On the village square in Ruien, a sub-municipality of Kluisbergen, to the right of the church there is a small monument in honour of Eddy Merckx, who won his final victory there in 1977. In Sint-Martens-Lierde (Kwaadstraat) they pay tribute to Emiel Faingnaert, winner of the Tour of Flanders in 1947. At the beginning of the Paddestraat in Velzeke there is a monument featuring a cobblestone and the metal corner profiles bear the names of the winners of the Ronde since 1973, the year that the Tour of Flanders passed over the illustrious cobblestones for the very first time.

In Wetteren, where the Ronde’s finish line was also located for a number of years, you can find ‘a monument to a monument’. ‘De Coureur’ at the Zeshoek (Kerkstraat) pays homage to Achiel Buyssse, who won the Ronde three times (1940, 1941 and 1943).

Cycling heroes are also honoured in other East Flanders regions besides the Flemish Ardennes. For example, there is a memorial to Noël Foré at the municipal swimming pool (Oostveldstraat) in Eeklo. With his list of achievements, including the Tour of Flanders, Ghent-Wevelgem, Paris-Roubaix and Kuurne-Brussels-Kuurne, he was a typical cobblestone racer. Two Ronde winners are also honoured with a monument. In Lovendegem (Oostveldkouter) a plaque commemorates Maurice De Waele’s victorious Tour of Flanders in 1929. At the church in the village of Wontergem where he was born there is a fine bronze sculpture that refers to Lucien Buysse, winner of the Tour de France in 1926.

Lastly in De Klinge, almost on the Dutch border, a small square was recently rechristened the Gebroeders De Loorplein, after the cycle racers Alfons and Gustaaf De Loor, who grew up there. Gustaaf De Loor went down in history as the winner of the very first Tour of Spain or Vuelta in 1935. The following year he won again and his brother Alfons finished in second place. To this day we have yet to see a repeat of two brothers occupying the top two positions on the podium.
Tour of Flanders cycling routes

Want to test if you have what it takes to be a die-hard cyclist or interested in exploring the Tour route? The Tour of Flanders Route will take you on a tour of the most legendary hills and cobbled sections. Tourism East-Flanders has combined three cycling loops in one unique Tour of Flanders map, with loads of information, facts and statistics about the route of the Tour. All the information you need is here: www.liveyourowntour.com

Bergs and cobbles

Meet ‘Bergs and Cobbles’, a tourist guide, full of practical information with four varied routes in the Flemish Ardennes. This guide is specifically designed for four different types of cyclists: the athlete, the gourmand, the culture lover and Tourfanatic. The routes range from 42 to 181 kilometres. Not coincidentally was the longest route named the ‘Spartacus Route’, a loop with 8 cobbles, 18 slopes and 2029 meters of climbing. The numbers on the cycling network of the 4 routes are included on a sticker, so you don't have to take the pocket with you on your trip. Apart from new cycling routes, the pocket also provides a complete overview of bicycle-friendly accommodation, cycling cafés and sporting events in the Flemish Ardennes. Check it out: www.liveyourowntour.com

On the wheel of Lucien Van Impe

The summer of ‘76 was Lucien Van Impe’s summer. That year, cycling-mad Flanders was absolutely rapturous when Lucien Van Impe won the Tour de France. Find out why Lucien loves the region around Aalst so much and follow this cycling legend for 35 km. See where he trains and discover his favourite spots en route. And don’t forget to drink a Saison de Lucien beer afterwards! www.routeyou.com

Other loop routes

In addition to the above routes, Tourism East-Flanders also has a number of brochures available on both pro and recreational cycling in the Flemish Ardennes. All routes in these brochures are loop routes. Some follow the cycling network, others deviate from it but they are all marked with the rectangular green and white signs of the cycling network, hexagonal red and white signs or the rectangular Tour of Flanders route markers. For more information, visit the tourist office at any major town or city in East-Flanders or take a look at: www.liveyourowntour.com

Create your own route

It’s best to choose a route that’s suited to you before you leave. You can always make your own route via www.tov.be/fietsrouteplanner. You will find all the numbered junction points of the East-Flanders cycling network online here. Simply click your choice of junction points and create your own loop. You can print your route afterwards, either as a map, or as a list of junction point numbers.
RENT A RACE BIKE

The following rental companies offer high-quality racing bikes for hire, all fully adjusted to your size, often with your own choice of parts and accessories. Some companies will even deliver your bike to your chosen destination. Want to try out something different? Get in touch with:

BMC Concept Store
Begoniastraat 6c, 9810 Eke-Nazareth
+32 9 336 86 53
hello@bmconceptstore.be
www.bmcconceptstore.be

Fietsen Jowan
Buissestraat 34, 9690 Kluisbergen
+32 55 38 84 07
info@jowan.be
www.jowan.be

Het Verzet
Nieuwstraat 41, 9800 Deinze
+32 9 380 27 20
info@hetverzet.be
www.hetverzet.be

Asfra-Flanders Fietsen
Bergstraat 75, 9700 Oudenaarde
+32 55 31 57 40, +32 475 84 32 68
info@asfra.be
www.asfra.be

Kortweg Cycling
Kouterlosstraat 35, 9800 Deinze
+32 497 48 06 57
info@kortweg.be
www.kortweg.be

Wheelpalace
Ambachtstraat 6, 9700 Oudenaarde
+32 55 31 20 79
info@wheelpalace.be
www.wheelpalace.be

Fietsen D’hose
Tempel 70, 9570 Lierde
+32 55 42 61 28
ludwig.fietsen.dhose@telenet.be
www.fietsen-dhose.be

More information on

Fietsen Fieles
Zuidlaan 150, 9630 Zwalm
+32 55 21 03 83, +32 476 27 52 09
info@fietsenfieles.be
www.fietsenfieles.be

More information on

STAY IN A CYCLING ACCOMMODATION

Apart from the bike friendly accommodations mentioned in the general part of this brochure, we want to highlight some places to stay that breathe cycling, are beautifully located in ‘cycling territory’ or host pro-teams almost every year. Check them out:

HOTELS

Hotel Moriaanshoofd **
Moriaanshoofd 27, 9700 Oudenaarde
+32 9 384 37 87, +32 491 25 02 66
info@moriaanshoofd.be
www.moriaanshoofd.be
Yearly home of the Etixx-Quickstep team during the Tour of Flanders. Located close to Oudenaarde along cycling routes. Has a free and locked bicycle parking.

Leopold Hotel Oudenaarde ****
De Ham 14, 9700 Oudenaarde
+32 55 69 99 65
info.oudenaarde@leopoldhotels.com
www.leopoldhoteloudenaarde.com
With 58 deluxe guest rooms and a trendy bar, this is a stylish boutique hotel located in the city centre of Oudenaarde. Special accommodation for cycling groups.
Hotel Molenwiek **
Molenstraat 1, 9661 Parike
+32 55 42 26 15
info@molenwiek.be
www.molenwiek.be
Located in the beautiful heart of the Flemish Ardennes along cycling routes. Has a locked bicycle parking.

Hotel Horenbecca **
Kerkplein 11,
9667 Sint-Maria-Horebeke
+32 55 45 69 13
info@horenbecca.com
www.horenbecca.com
Located in a charming town in the Flemish Ardennes. Has a locked bicycle parking.

Hotel Auberge St.-Sebastien **
Sint-Pietersnieuwstraat 36-38,
9600 Ronse
+32 55 21 38 66
frederikvandriessche@skynet.be
www.st-sebastien.be
Located in the heart of Ronse and a good base for exploring the region.

B&B ’t Juiste Verzet ****
Broektestraat 11, 9690 Kluisbergen
+32 55 38 78 61
info@tjuisteverzet.be
www.tjuisteverzet.be
Located on the Oude Kwaremont and with a big heart for cycling. The rooms are decorated with cycling artefacts.

B&B Hof Ter Kammen ***
Schapendries 53, 9700 Oudenaarde
+32 497 46 08 37
info@hofterkammen.be
www.hofterkammen.be
Simple and hospitable family house in the heart of the Flemish Ardennes, between the historic Oudenaarde town centre and the foot of the Koppenberg. The guesthouse is decorated in the theme of the Ronde Van Vlaanderen. The four rooms are named after famous hills. Bicycles for rent.

B&B De Boomgaard ***
Cotthem 15, 9520 Sint-Lievens-Houtem
+32 9 360 57 99, +32 472 21 81 18
info@de-boomgaard.com
www.de-boomgaard.com
Peacefully located in the middle of the nature, close to the Flemish Ardennes and along cycling routes.

B&B ’t Sprankelend Toeval ****
Maarkeweg 43, 9680 Maarkedal
+32 476 42 08 41
info@hetsprankelendtoeval.be
www.hetsprankelendtoeval.be
This B&B offers 4 rooms above a former pub that now serves as a common room. There’s a swimming pool and covered patio in the spacious garden with petanque court and trampoline. Free bikes are available (electric bikes at extra cost). There is a Tour of Flanders package. Apart from cycling, beer is the central theme. More than 100 beers are available. Dinners can be arranged with an emphasis on local beers. All rooms are named after a local beer.

B&B Refuge Kapelleberg ****
Kapelleberg 16, 9680 Maarke-Kerkem
+32 495 59 94 33
info@refugekapelleberg.be
www.refugekapelleberg.be
This B&B is popular with groups of up to 20 persons. It is beautifully located on the Kapelleberg, one of the challenging hills in the Flemish Ardennes. There is a secure bicycle parking.

B&B Cimbarsaca ****
Dorpstraat 39, 9890 Semmerzake
+32 9 384 17 34, +32 498 24 11 19
info@cimbarsaca.be
www.cimbarsaca.be
Located within 20 minutes from Ghent and Oudenaarde. Offers a cycling package.

Holiday Inn Express Gent ***
Akkerhage 2, 9000 Ghent
+32 9 222 58 85
hotel@hiexpress.com
www.hiexpress.com
There’s a big chance of running into some pro’s during spring here, since this hotel is the home of a number of pro teams during the spring classics in Flanders. Just a couple of minutes from the convenient E17 motorists’ road and four km from medieval Ghent city centre, make the contemporary Holiday Inn Express Gent your base for exploring the Flanders region. Brussels, Bruges and Oudenaarde are within 35 minutes’ drive.

De Flandrienhoeve ***
Hoogstad 2, 9690 Kluisbergen
+32 494 33 32 57
info@deflandrienhoeve.be
www.deflandrienhoeve.be
Located close to the Oude Kwaremont. Suitable for groups from 20 to 30 persons. The rooms are named after pro cyclists and are decorated likewise.

De Fietsende Haring
Dijkstraat 68, 9700 Oudenaarde
+32 491 88 11 44
defietsendeharing@hotmail.com
www.defietsendeharing.be
Bike friendly apartment and rooms in the centre of Oudenaarde. Has cycling decorations and offers cycling beers. It also has a secure bicycle shed.
The ChainStay
Doornikse Heerweg 44
9700 Oudenaarde
+32 498 36 51 10
info@thechainstay.com
www.thechainstay.com
The ChainStay is located in Oudenaarde, Belgium; situated in the heart of the Flemish Ardennes. This 7 bedroom home is specifically designed to accommodate cyclists and include all the amenities of home. It has a secure bike storage area, a large fully equipped kitchen, a large living room with digital cable TV and many English speaking programmes and channels. The large backyard has a large patio and a dedicated bike washing area. They also have two washing machines and a dryer. Also included in the cost of your stay is the use of the large 9-person van with room for 9 bikes on the roof rack. This eliminates the stress of having to ride to races and finding storage for your bags once there, and eliminates the limitation of racing only within riding distance.

Adelaide ****
Wijnstraat 28, 9600 Ronse
+32 473 85 37 85
contact@adelaide.be
www.adelaide.be
Located in Ronse. Possibility for guided cycling tours in the Flemish Ardennes.

Lozer Lodge ****
Spiegelstraat 1, 9770 Kruishoutem
+32 477 40 92 72, +32 496 24 66 35
info@lozerlodge.be
www.lozerlodge.be
Lozer Lodge can accommodate small and/or large groups. The entire site, in the quiet countryside, covers a surface area of 6,000 square metres and has two holiday cottages, Lozerhof (10 guests) and Lozerdorp (25 guests). Lozer Lodge also has a rustic, multi-purpose space called Lozer Lounge for all kinds of activities and events. There is a covered barn on the estate, where you can BBQ in winter and are protected from the elements during a game of pétanque. The site also has a lockable bicycle shed and an area where you can hose down your bicycle. The wonderful heated pool and pool house is also a great place to while away the time.

ENJOY A PRE-RIDE COFFEE, POST-RIDE BEER OR GREAT MEAL

The Flemish Ardennes is almost as famous for its cafés as it is for its cycling. They are not only spread across the many hills and valleys (and thus a very convenient stop on the way!) but are also often frequented by former riders. In any case, they are the ideal location to snap up some cycling trivia, anecdotes or stories. The following list contains cafés whose publicans won’t mind you washing off the chain grease from your hands, where you won’t get funny looks because your legs are covered in balsam and above all, where the racing history is dripping from the walls. They are, in other words, the ideal place to raise your glass to good times and good companions, both on and off the road.

Arriva
http://arriva.cc/
Arriva, that’s coffee and cycling. Retro caravan ‘Eddy’ brings you your pre-ride coffee wherever you need it. Also available is a reparation service and the possibility to use guides for your cycling tour.

Ride on Coffee
+32 478 27 39 30
idolikemail@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/Ride-On-Coffee
Another caravan that brings you coffee, but also food, where you need it. It also has a small shop and a guiding service.

Hoorens Coffee
Sint-Hubertusplein 20,
9620 St-Maria-Oudenhove
Enjoy a great pre-ride coffee after a visit to this local coffee-roasting factory.

Café Koppenberg
Berchemweg 228, 9700 Oudenaarde
Cyclist pub with a photo exhibition about the Tour of Flanders and the Koppenberg (with special attention to Jesper Skibby’s crash on the Koppenberg in 1987).

d’Oude Hoeve
Ronde van Vlaanderenstraat 3,
9690 Kwaremont
http://doudehoeve.be
Authentic bar, ideally located in the Ronde van Vlaanderenstraat. You can also have a shower here, grab something to eat or use some tools to fix your bike.

Brasserie De Flandrien
Markt 45, 9700 Oudenaarde
This is the ‘brasserie’ of the Centre Ronde van Vlaanderen. Therefore, it has unusual opening hours for a pub (11.00-18.00). Enter a world of cycling shirts, cycling pictures, water bottles and other memorabilia.

De Nieuwe Keizer
Hauwaert 22, 9700 Mater
Pub with large photos of old Belgian cycling legends on the façade. Inside are the signed jerseys of great Belgian cyclo cross champions like Sven Nijs and Niels Albert.
Het Sportpaleis  
Kerkplein 6, 9750 Zingem  
The bartender is the cousin of Arthur Decabooter, who won the Tour of Flanders in 1960. On the walls is a large collection of posters, pictures, press articles, ...

In den trap op  
Heerweg 45, 9667 Horebeke  
Popular café to watch races live on TV. Several of the spring classics pass by this café.

Café In de Zon  
Kwaremontplein 13, 9690 Kwaremont  
Have a beer while climbing the Kwaremont.

Bar Gidon  
Markt 11, 9500 Geraardsbergen  
Bar that breathes cycling, run by former pro rider Frederik Penne. Very close to the Muur.

Café Molen ten Hotond  
Zandstraat 4, 9690 Zulzeke

In de Koning van Engeland – bij den Absjaar  
Kohoornstraat 2, 9500 Zarlardinge

In den Hengst  
Twaalfbunderstraat 53, 9660 Brakel

Rimalin  
Beaucarnestraat 21, 9700 Ename

’t Berghof  
Bergestraat 1  
9550 Steenhuize-Wijnhuize

’t Hoekske  
Gentsestraat 59, 9660 Brakel

De Karper  
Kortrijksesteenweg 2, 9000 Ghent  
Supporters café of Iljo Keisse, with his dad Ronnie behind the bar. This is where the after parties of the z6sdaagse take place. Tip: drink an Orvélo beer.

Bar Bidon  
Bisdomkaai 25, 9000 Ghent  
Coffee bar slash bicycle shop.

’t Velootje  
Kalversteeg 2, 9000 Ghent  
We love ancient bicycles, bicycle history, crazy bicycles, and general geekiness. Mr. Lieven has a relaxed personality with visitors and his pub lat present somewhat condensed boasts an amazing collection of bicycles, train lamps, and other items in an appealingly eccentric atmosphere. You have to be a bit lucky to find it open though.

De Bevoorrading  
A. Nichelstraat 14, 9300 Aalst  
www.cimorne.be/de-bevoorrading  
Good preparation is essential for every cyclist. As part of the CIMORNE site, Jan & Sven ensure that you don’t go hungry or thirsty. You can pop in any time of the day for a delicious coffee, some fast sugars or a cold beer. Every morning De Bevoorrading entices its visitors with a hearty breakfast, while for lunch you can get a toastie with just that little something extra, or a mouth-watering sandwich. The De Bevoorrading team welcomes you in a friendly atmosphere.

Visit www.liveyourowntour.com for more information and short movies about cycling cafés in the Flemish Ardennes.

GO TO A STYLISH CYCLING SHOP, BUY LOCAL PRODUCE, ...

If you fly in and bring your own bicycle, you can have it tuned by professionals, e.g. at Fietsatelier Kortweg. They can assist you with the assembly, repair and maintenance of any brand. This is a good starting point for any cycle holiday.  
Kouterlosstraat 35, 9800 Deinze  
+32 497 48 06 57  
www.kortweg.be

The feeling in the calves is probably the most rewarding memento of your cycling trip through the Flemish Ardennes. But maybe you’d also like to take something more tangible home with you? You’re sure to find the perfect souvenir or gift in the following shops.

RondeShop  
Tour of Flanders Centre  
Markt 43, 9700 Oudenaarde  
+32 55 33 99 33  
www.crvv.be  
For retro shirts, team shirts, cycling outfits, Tour of Flanders T-shirts, cycling pants, cycling maps, beer, tourist guides and gadgets.

Reymundo cycle station  
Stationstraat 66, 9690 Kluisbergen  
+32 55 60 48 59  
lieven@reymundo.be  
www.reymundo.be  
Reymundo cycle station is a compact and cozy bicycle shop where service comes first. The shop is centrally located in the Flemish Ardennes at the foot of the Kwaremont, on the local circuit of the Tour of Flanders. The railway next to this former station has made way for a bicycle trail, which is perfect for cycling trips or to test a bicycle. And if the weather is reasonable, the bar also opens.
Blanco Bike Luxury
Bennesteeg 19-21, 9000 Ghent
+32 497 62 10 02
info@blancobikeluxury.be
www.blancobikeluxury.be
Personalised bikes, accessories, vintage items, steel frames, semi-antique parts combined with innovative, contemporary parts, repairs and servicing.

Plum
Nederkouter 141, 9000 Ghent
+32 9 225 44 62
info@plum-gent.be
http://plum-gent.be
This bike store also has a small museum hidden in the back of the store.

REcyclismo
Sluizekenstraat 3, 9000 Ghent
+32 9 398 21 56
www.facebook.com/REcyclismo/

Bakkerij Molentje
Molenstraat 92, 9690 Berchem (Kluisbergen)
The one and only rice pudding tarts, tasted and approved by hundreds of pro cyclists. Essential fuel for anyone planning to enter a classic Flemish road race.

Artisanne
Sint-Martensstraat 51/53, 9600 Ronse
+32 491 44 40 16
info@artisanne.be
www.artisanne.be
Regional produce from the Flemish Ardennes such as wine, beer, jenever, fruit juices, chocolate, cheese, specialty hams, gingerbread biscuits, ...

De Fietsersij
A. Nichelsstraat 14, 9300 Aalst
+32 53 71 13 00, +32 491 34 85 67
info@fietsersij.be
www.cimorne.be/fietserij
De Fietsersij sells reliable second-hand bicycles, which have been carefully checked and fixed. Are you tinkering with your bicycle and looking for a specific part? Then have a look at the second-hand parts on offer. You can even buy vintage bicycle frames here. De Fietsersij also sells Achielle and Creme Cycles, two bicycle brands which are renowned for their high-end quality and design. Stylish yet practical bicycle bags, original accessories made of recycled bicycle tyres, cycling jerseys and caps (both vintage and new… you name it, De Fietsersij sells it. Pop over to De Beveroording (see above) for a drink and a bite to eat.
Wiemu

Kemmelberg

Johan Museeuw

Freddy Maertens

Marcel Kint

Briek Schotte

Ghent-Wevelgem
West-Flanders

A PERFECT CYCLING DAY IN WEST-FLANDERS

Wake up at the Parkhotel in Kortrijk and meet some pro riders staying here for the spring classics. Rent a race bike at Veloods and head off to Heuvelland, where you climb the Kemmelberg and many other hills close to Flanders Fields. Watch the Gent-Welvsegem race while you’re there.

Have lunch at Herberg In De Zon. Head over to Roeselare and continue your day with a visit to the WieMu / Cycling is a religion expo. Test you track racing skills on the Defraye-Sercu open air track. Close off with a beer and diner at Kaffee Carlito in Tielt.
**February**

**NoordzeeCross in Middelkerke**
www.noordzeecross.com
Sandy ‘Superprestige’ cyclo cross by the sea.

**Cyclocross Masters in Waregem**
www.soudalclassics.be
The spectacular indoor closing race of the cyclo cross season.

**Kuurne-Brussel-Kuurne Cyclo**
www.kuurne-brussel-kuurne.be
Ride your own race one day before the pros.

**March**

**Dwars door West-Vlaanderen**
www.ddwvl.be
Three-day road race in West-Flanders.

**Handzame Classic**
www.handzameclassic.be
This classic takes the riders from the coast to the heart of West-Flanders.

**Gent-Wevelgem Cyclo**
www.proximuscyclingchallenge.be
Ride your own Gent-Wevelgem.

**May**

**Belcantour**
www.belcantour.be
Nice cyclo that takes you along many of the hills of West-Flanders and Northern-France.

**Para-cycling road world cup**
www.uci.ch/para-cycling
Ostend hosts a para-cycling world cup in the years to come, and closes of with the world championships. Don’t miss out on these cycling heroes on handbikes, tandems, tricycles, …
June

Ride Brugge
www.sport.be/nl/wielrennen
This cyclo takes you to the most beautiful spots of Bruges and the province of West-Flanders.

August

Belcanto Classic
www.belcantoclassic.be
One of the most charming amateur races in Flanders. Or, as the organisation likes to put it, ‘a race to love, not to win’.

Dernycriterium Lombardsijde
www.dernycriterium-lombardsijde.be
Always great to watch a derny race.

September

International Criterium Bavikhove
www.wielercriteriumbavikhove.be
Watch and experience a typical Flemish ‘Criterium’.

Wevelgem-Roubaix Cyclo
www.wtcdetrapperswevelgem.be/
?page_id=295
Start and finish in Roubaix or Wevelgem.

October

Kampioenschap van Vlaanderen
www.kampioenschapvanvlaanderen.be
Road race with a long history. Part of the UCI Europe Tour.

November

Wevelgem-Roubaix Cyclo
www.wtcdetrapperswevelgem.be/
?page_id=295
Start and finish in Roubaix or Wevelgem.

December

Memorial Briek Schotte (Desselgem Koerse)
www.desselgemkoerse.be
Hails one of the greatest Flandriens ever.

Groote Oorlog
www.proximuscyclingchallenge.be
The traces of the First World War are still visible in the Westhoek. The closing race of the Proximus Cycling Challenge takes you on a cycling tour along the iconic remains and monuments of the Great War.

VISIT A CYCLING MUSEUM, EXPERIENCE CENTRE, BIKE MANUFACTURER, TRACK, ...

WieMU / Wielermuseum
Delaerestraat 33 (Paterskerk), 8800 Roeselare
+32 51 26 96 00
wielermuseum@roeselare.be
www.wielermuseum.be
www.koersisreligie.be
(Cycling is a religion)
The WieMU (or Wielermuseum) is a museum and information center, highlighting the history of the bicycle and bicycle racing and stories of heroism, determination and suffering. The museum is currently closed for renovation. The re-opening is planned for 2018. Until then, you can visit the Cycling is a Religion expo in the nearby Paterskerk. This exhibition explains why cycling is a religion, on the basis of two routes. In the side aisles of the Father’s Church visitors will discover ‘The Pilgrimage: a procession of cycling chapels’, while in the nave they will have the opportunity to follow ‘The Way of the Cross: Via Dolorosa of the cyclists’. On the way, you will have the chance to observe the unique Cycling Garments, a Peloton of Cycling Gods and the impressive Iron Cross.

Flanders Cycling
Flanders is a great place to experience cycling races in a unique way, especially in West Flanders, a real nirvana for cycling fans.

Open air track Defraye-Sercu
Kwadestraat 13, 8800 Rumbeke
+32 476 48 22 90
marc.dm@skynet.be
www.defraeye-sercu.be
Open air track close to the WieMU with a long history. Groups and individuals can rent the track, including bicycles and helmets.
Flandrienhuis
Markt 13, 8700 Tielt
+32 51 42 81 11
vrijetijds@tielt.be
www.tielt.be
(Dutch only)
The birth place of Briek Schotte honors its Flandrien-hero with this small museum.

Wielermuseum de Gistelse Flandriens
Warandestraat 29, 8470 Gistel
+32 59 27 02 17
toerisme@gistel.be
(Dutch only)
This small museum, located next to a former mill barn in Gistel, hosts an exhibition on 'the Flandriens from Gistel' (Sylveer Maes and Johan Museeuw). Sylveer Maes was Tour de France winner in 1936 and 1939. Johan Museeuw (the 'Lion of Flanders'), won many classic races (including the 'Ronde' in 1993, 1995 and 1998). There's a permanent collection with many pictures providing an overview of the performance of both Flandriens.

Jaegher Cycles
Bruggestraat 120, 8755 Ruiselede
ateliers@jaegher.com
www.jaegher.com
The brand ‘jaeger’ is quite new, but the firm producing the frames goes back four generations and has produced the bicycles of champions such as Eddy Merckx, Freddy Maertens, etc. The firm had a very strong reputation after WW II but did not enter in aluminium and carbon. They decided to start producing tailor made racing bikes in the authentic production hall again, now that there’s a renewed interest in steel frames.

Nichelson
Harelbekestraat 155, 8540 Deerlijk
+32 473 52 83 81
thomas@nichelson.be
www.nichelson.be
Cycling brand founded by a young man who combined his marketing study with amateur racing. Aims at the high end market with very much attention to design, quality, customer service and performance for the demanding or well off cyclist. Thomas Nichelson has designed specific models, all starting from a functional priority (e.g. should it be good on cobbles, on fast tracks, in the mountains). It’s a young brand, trying to find its place between all the big names. Frames are made in Taiwan and assembled in Belgium.

Martelly
Eddy Martens
Hille 217B, 8750 Zwevezele
+32 476 45 57 13
martelly@skynet.be
www.martelly.be
In 1913, Arthur Martens took fifth place in the first edition of the Tour of Flanders, over a distance of 350 kilometres. Arthur launched his first handmade frames. Since then, the company and, therefore, the experience, passed from father to son three times in a row. Martelly is one of the few manufacturers of handmade road, cyclo-cross and MTB frames in Belgium.

Achielle
Brugsesteenweg 203, 8740 Pittem
+32 51 46 66 36
info@dija-oostcolor.eu
www.achielle.be
Vintage and nostalgic bicycles, handmade and cycling around since 1946.

Visiting Cycling Monuments
West Flanders has played a pioneering role in the rich Flemish cycle racing scene. At the beginning of the 20th century, Cyriel Van Hauwaert brought the whole country under the spell of the bicycle with his great performances in the international classics. Another celebrity from West Flanders, Odiel Defraeye, was the first Fleming to win the Tour de France. A statue of each of them has been erected in their birthplaces of Moorslede and Rumbeke respectively. Karel Van Wijndauwe was born in Torhout. He was one of the founders of modern reporting on cycle races and co-founder of the Tour of Flanders. There is a memorial plate to this legendary figure on the 'Burg', where he lived for many years. Karel Van Wijndauwe found his inspiration for the Tour of Flanders in Koolskamp, where the Championship of Flanders had been contested every year since 1908. You will find a memorial on the village square in honour of this historic race. In Waregem, between the town hall and the De Schakel cultural centre, there stands a special bronze sculpture – ‘De Sprint’ – that was erected to commemorate the start of a stage of the Tour in 2007, but it also serves as a memorial of the world championship that took place in 1957 and that was won by Rik Van Steenbergen.
At the church in Bellegem, a handsome sculpture serves as a memorial to Germain Derycke, who won the Tour of Flanders in 1958. As for Henri Vanlerberghe, the 1919 winner of the Tour of Flanders with the biggest lead ever recorded, there hangs a plaque of him in in Lichtervelde, his birthplace. Henri Vanlerberghe was one of the many ‘flandriens’ from West Flanders. You will come across an ode to these flandriens both on the market square of Ichtgem and next to the church in Kanegem, where a racer sits hunched over his bicycle riding over the cobblestones. Alberic ‘Briek’ Schotte modelled for the stunning statue of Jef Claerbout. Another statue of the two-times world champion himself as well as a big canvas measuring 6 x 4 metres with his photo can be found in Desselgem. Other world champions from West Flanders who have been immortalised are Freddy Maertens in Lombardsijde and Marcel Kint in Kortrijk and Zwevegem. West Flanders has also had some legendary Tour racers. A monument was erected in Zerkegem, the birthplace of Romain Mass, 1935 winner of the Tour. Jef Demuysere put in a stunning performance in the Giro and a statue was erected of him in Wervik, as was one for Tour hero Jef Planckaert in Otegem.

RIDE ONE OF THE SPECIFIC ROUTES

**Hellingenroute Heuvelland**
You can choose between three routes. The longest one tackles 40 hills (the Kemmelberg is the most famous one), over a total distance of 116 kms and makes you climb 1498 m.
www.debergen.be (only in Dutch)

**West-Vlaamse Bergenroute**
Cyclists will puff and pant their way up Heuvelland’s ancient chain of hills, which have played such a prominent role in the region’s history and still dominate its landscape. In addition to the famous Kemmelberg (Kemmel Hill) and Rodeberg (Red Hill), the route also takes in Mesen (Messines), a small town situated right on the Belgian language frontier (with French-speaking Wallonia), as well as the Palingbeek provincial domain. More information on: www.routeyou.com (only available in Dutch)

**Freddy Maertens route**
Freddy Maertens is a former cyclist who became world champion in 1976 and 1981, won the green jersey in the Tour de France 3 times and won 28 stages in the Tour and Vuelta. More than enough reasons to name this cycling route after him. The 42 km long route takes you along the coastline and the quiet landscapes behind it. More information (in Dutch): www.fietsroute.org/fietsen/kietsroute/freddy-maertensroute or www.routeyou.com

**Michel Pollentier route**
Michel Pollentier is a former professional rider. Among the highlights of his career where his overall win in the 1977 Giro d’Italia and his win in the 1980s edition of the Ronde van Vlaanderen. The 62 km route starts in his birth town Diksmuide and takes you to the coast. www.routeyou.com
## RENT A RACE BIKE

**Veloods**  
Windhoek 17, 8790 Waregem  
+32 56 61 34 38  
veloods@werkplus.be  
www.werkplus.be/veloods  

Rents race bikes and mountain bikes, possibility for bike wash.

**DuVelo**  
Wahistraat 5, 8930 Menen  
+32 473 80 47 07  
info@duvelo.be  
www.duvelo.be  

Rents fully equipped Trekking bikes.

**Bruges Bike Rental**  
www.brugesbikerental.be  
Rents race bikes and mountain bikes.

## STAY IN A CYCLING ACCOMMODATION

Apart from the bike friendly accommodations mentioned in the general part of this brochure, we want to highlight some places to stay that breathe cycling, are beautifully located in ‘cycling territory’ or host pro-teams almost every year.

### HOTELS

**De Peracker *****  
Caseelstraat 45, 8790 Waregem  
+32 56 60 03 31  
info@deperacker.be  
www.deperacker.be  

Easy access to Kortrijk, Ghent and the Flemish Ardennes.

**Velotel ******  
Handboogstraat 1, 8000 Brugge  
+32 50 25 25 25  
info@hotельvelotel.com  
www.hotельvelotel.com  

Right in the middle of a park, just on the outskirts of Bruges, is where you will find the Velotel. It is only a 5 minute drive from the hotel to the city centre, where there are numerous historic sights, nice shops and good restaurants. The medieval town walls and city gates are also nearby. The Velotel has cycling related colours in its branding and offers a fitness, sauna, massages, bike rental and storage, adapted meals, ...

**Elckerlyck Inn **  
Rollegemkerkstraat 56, 8510 Rollegem (Kortrijk)  
+32 56 21 51 64  
elckerlyck.inn.hotel@skynet.be  
www.elckerlyck-inn.be  

Basic bicycle friendly hotel near Kortrijk. They have a cycling package and bike parking.

The following hotels are the home of pro teams during the spring classics and thus have experience with and amenities for groups of cyclists:

**Parkhotel ******  
Stationsplein 2, 8500 Kortrijk  
+32 56 22 03 03  
info.parkhotel@parkhotel.be  
www.parkhotel.be  

Home base of pro teams like Katusha during the spring classics.

**Ibis Styles Kortrijk Expo *****  
Pres. Kennedypark 1, 8500 Kortrijk  
+32 56 20 06 87  
ha240@accor.com  
www.ibis.com
Hotel Damier ****
Grote Markt 41, 8500 Kortrijk
+32 56 22 15 47
info@hoteldamier.be
www.hoteldamier.be

GUEST ROOMS

2 Sprong ***
Menenstraat 45-47, 8560 Wevelgem
+32 56 41 63 01, +32 479 61 16 28
info@2sprong.be
www.2sprong.be
This b&b has some decorations in the cycling theme and has a locked bicycle parking, bike rental and cycling maps.

Maison Kerkhove ****
Baarmstraat 1, 8581 Kerkhove
+32 472 75 42 96
info@maisonkerkhove.be
www.maisonkerkhove.be
Located very close to the Flemish Ardennes (the Oude Kwaremont is just a stone’s throw away) and popular with cyclists. Offers cycling- and beer packages.

HOLIDAY HOMES

Grote Goesting *****
Rivierstraat 40, 8560 Wevelgem
+32 473 78 23 80
info@grotegoesting.be
www.grotegoesting.be
Bike friendly holiday home with bicycle parking and possibility to wash your bike.
Enjoy a pre-ride coffee, post-ride beer or great meal

**Restaurant De Engel**
Oostendsesteenweg 1, 8480 Ichtegem
+32 51 58 81 76
http://de-engel.tumblr.com/
Frans Dewilde and Rosa Maeckelbergh are the third generation in this family business. The building dates from 1786 and eradiates nostalgia. The interior of the restaurant is largely dominated by ‘flandrien’ Jules Vanhevel, Rosa’s uncle. Jules Vanhevel won the Tour of Flanders (1920), Paris-Roubaix (1924) and the Tour of Belgium (1928). The restaurant was recently rewarded with a 13/20 in the Gault & Millau restaurant guide.

**Café Den Arend**
Polenplein 1, 8800 Roeselare
+32 51 80 90 27
Fan club of a local pro cyclist Guillaume Van Keirsbulck and grandchild of Benoni Beheyt (1963 World Champion).

**Café L’Europe**
Ooststraat 121, 8800 Roeselare
+32 51 80 36 81
With cycling pictures of Valère Ollevier (local pro cyclist from 1943 to 1955 and also called King of the Kermis-races).

**De Buuzestove**
Stationstraat 174, 8480 Eernegem
+32 59 29 03 42
info@debuuzestove.be
http://users.telenet.be/sdk/buuzestove/
Eernegem has a reputation as the village of ‘kasseileggers’ (men who construct cobblestone roads). Different members of the same family often shared this profession. Café De Buuzestove is a rustic pub where time seems to have stood still. It’s also a restaurant. They have their own house beer (Kasseileggersbier). There are still a few active ‘kasseileggers’ and they’re willing to talk about their job.

**Kaffee Carlito**
Kortrijkstraat 80, 8700 Tielt
+32 495 40 30 42
kaffecarlito@gmail.com
www.carlitotielt.be
Brasserie filled with cycling memorabilia. Combine this with a visit to the Wielermuseum in Roeselare or a factory visit to Jaegher cycles.

**Café De Hert**
Markt 9, 8480 Ichtegem
+32 51 58 18 47
Typical popular pub full of cycling trumpery.

**Supporterscafé St Barbara**
Vanackerestraat 11, 8560 Wevelgem
+32 56 41 27 70
Typical popular pub. Home of an Etixx-Quickstep fan club.

**Café Sultan**
Sint-Maartensplein 13, 8940 Wervik
+32 56 31 24 33
Typical popular pub. Home of an Alexander Kristoff fan club.

**Herberg In De Zon**
Dikkebusstraat 80, 8950 De Klijte (Heuvelland)
+32 57 21 26 26
info@indezon.be
www.indezon.be
Cosy restaurant with cycling decorations.

**Herbego In De Zon**
Dikkebusstraat 80, 8950 De Klijte (Heuvelland)
+32 57 21 26 26
info@indezon.be
www.indezon.be
Cosy restaurant with cycling decorations.

**Wielrijdersrust het Dorstige Hart**
Dijk 33, 8670 Wulpen
+32 474 40 99 69
info@wielrijdersrust-hetdorstigehart.be
Restaurant, brasserie and B&B, beautifully located in the village of Wulpen along the canal Nieuwpoort-Duinkerke. Ideal stop for cyclists.

**Café Sultan**
Sint-Maartensplein 13, 8940 Wervik
+32 56 31 24 33
Typical popular pub. Home of a local cycling club.
Het Salon by Marcel Kint
Authentic Custom Handmade Bike
Proosdijstraat 21, 8500 Kortrijk
+32 496 78 66 56
info@marcelkint.be
www.marcelkint.be
Marcel Kint is to date the longest-reigning world champion ever. The Black Eagle from Zwevegem wore the rainbow jersey in 1939 and because of the outbreak of war, he had to wait until 1946 before a next world championship was coming – which he won. After his career he starts a company bicycles and bicycle parts. Today his grandson Marniek Kint and his wife Lien Baguette maintain the family tradition, in the original home of the former world champion.

Exceller Bikes
Philipstockstraat 43, 8000 Brugge
+32 50 70 68 12
ride@excellerbikes.com
www.excellerbikes.com
A showroom, lounge en trendy bib and bikes are key. That magic combination alone guarantees this ‘Brugse Schone’ (beauty of Bruges) a place in this list. Also, you can test numerous first class bikes on the city’s cobblestones.
BRABANTSE PIJL

BRUSSELS CYCLING CLASSIC

SPORTIMONIUM

EDDY MERCKX

SVEN NYS
Flemish Brabant and Brussels

A PERFECT CYCLING DAY IN FLEMISH BRABANT

Wake up in B&B Den Engel and head over to beautiful Leuven to ride the Brabantse Pijl cyclosportive. Have lunch in one of the many restaurants in Leuven. Continue with a visit to the Sportimonium museum or the Eddy Merckx cycles factory. Real Merckx fans might want to take a look at the monument in Eddy’s birthplace Meensel-Kiezegem, and have a drink there in the Café Boerenhof pub.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Website</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td><strong>Grote Prijs Sven Nys</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://www.sport.be/gpsvennys/">www.sport.be/gpsvennys/</a></td>
<td>Each year on the first of January, the Balenberg is thé place to be for cyclo cross fans. Pay a visit to the Sven Nys Cycling Center while you’re there.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td><strong>Brabantse Pijl</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://www.debrabantsepijl.be">www.debrabantsepijl.be</a></td>
<td>The closing race of the Flemish Spring and the last of the Flanders Classics. This challenging circuit with a few really steep hills is the perfect race to lead up to the Ardennes Classics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Brabantse Pijl cyclo</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://www.proximuscyclingchallenge.be">www.proximuscyclingchallenge.be</a></td>
<td>The Brabantse Pijl for amateurs, with start and finish in the city centre of Leuven.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td><strong>Pajotse 400</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://www.pajotse400.be">www.pajotse400.be</a></td>
<td>Dare to join this 400 km monsterride?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Dwars door het Hageland</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://www.dwarsdoorhetlageland.be">www.dwarsdoorhetlageland.be</a></td>
<td>The combination of the region and uniqueness of the race guarantee the spectacle.</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>GP Jef Scherens</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://www.gpjefscherens.be">www.gpjefscherens.be</a></td>
<td>Takes place in beautiful Leuven and is part of the UCI Europe Tour.</td>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td><strong>Brussels Cycling Classic</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://www.brusselscyclingclassic.be">www.brusselscyclingclassic.be</a></td>
<td>Road race with a lot of big names from the peloton, which starts and ends in beautiful Brussels.</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Primus Classic Impanis - Van Petegem</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://www.primusclassic.be">www.primusclassic.be</a></td>
<td>This race starts in Brakel and finishes in front of the Haacht brewery.</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Primus Classic</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://www.sport.be/primusclassic">www.sport.be/primusclassic</a></td>
<td>Participate in the cyclo and watch the pros arrive afterwards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td><strong>Druivencross Overijse</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://www.desportvriendenoverijse.be">www.desportvriendenoverijse.be</a></td>
<td>The mother of all cyclo cross races.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Superprestige Diegem</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://www.superprestigiediegem.be">www.superprestigiediegem.be</a></td>
<td>Unique cyclo cross in the Christmas season that takes place in the evening.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VISIT A CYCLING MUSEUM, EXPERIENCE CENTRE, BIKE MANUFACTURER, TRACK, ...

Sportimonium
Blosos-domein, Trianon-dreef 19, 1981 Hofstade-Zemst
+32 15 61 82 22
sportimonium@sportimonium.be
www.sportimonium.be
www.inhetwielvaneddymerckx.be
(On the wheel of Eddy Merckx)
The Sportimonium is the Olympic Museum in Belgium. It covers a lot of sports, but since the spring of 2013 the Sportimonium focuses on cycling heritage and more specifically on cycling icon Eddy Merckx. A digital guide tells you the story of the highlights of cycling history and commemorates the memorable moments from Merckx’s career.

Sven Nys cycling center
Balenbergstraatje 11, 3128 Baal-Tremelo
+32 16 41 72 68
info@svennyscyclingcenter.be
www.svennyscyclingcenter.be
There’s only one place to go for offroad cycling fans: the Sven Nys Cycling Center! The centre’s main attraction is its experience centre. Beneath the championship jerseys you walk from one historic cycling event to another victory. Check out the camper where the cyclo-cross racers prepare for a race. See how far you can get with your bicycle in the sand pit. Match the right tyre profile to the right road surface. And after all the hard work, you can relax with a drink or a snack on the terrace of Velo café.
But the real work starts around the Experience Centre, on the flanks of the Balenberg. Try the famed cyclo-cross circuit of the GP Sven Nys or test the BMX freestyle or trial circuit.

Eddy Merckx Cycles
Frans Schachtstraat 29, 1731 Zellik
+32 2 269 62 72
info@eddymerckx.com
www.eddymerckx.com
The Eddy Merckx Company was established in 1980 with a mission to produce the finest cycles in the world, and that goal hasn’t changed a bit. Of course, Eddy is still at the heart of the company, and his eye for detail and quality strives each of us to yet higher standards. He is an integral part of the design process, and always tests each new model himself. Eddy Merckx was, in our opinion, the greatest cyclist of the 20th century. We feel it is our duty to keep the flame of that legacy alive by producing legendary cycles fit for today’s demanding cyclist.
VISIT SOME CYCLING MONUMENTS

One name especially marked the cycling history of Brussels and Flemish Brabant: **Eddy Merckx**. Two statues have been erected in his honour: one in Tiiitsestraat in Meensel right across his birth house in Meensel-Kiezegem, and the other near the city hall in Wolvertem.

RIDE ONE OF THE SPECIFIC ROUTES

**On the wheel of Eddy Merckx**

Would you like to try for yourself how our cycling heroes prepare for races in their own area? If so, you can do it on the three circular cycling routes marked out for this purpose. Armed with a cycling map you can start and stop wherever you like at the information panels along the route. You can also take the digital option using your smartphone. Just scan the panels along the way and we will immerse you in the experience on:

www.inhetwielvaneddymerckx.be

**The Hageland Eddy Merckx loop**

Starts from Boerenhof cycling café near the church in Meensel (Binkomstraat 12, 3391 Meensel-Kiezegem) and takes you along the same roads where a young Eddy Merckx trained for the first time. This 30-km recreational route follows the nodes of the Flemish Brabant cycle network. This 70-km sporty route has its own signposts. Be prepared for a few challenging slopes. We think a break now and then will be more than welcome, especially if you can see some amazing sights along the way.

www.toerismevlaamsbrabant.be/fietsen/fietsproducten/hagelandse-eddy-merckxroute

**Sven Nys Cycling Route**

The Hageland hills, which are lined with rows and rows of vines and fruit trees, provide a stunning rural backdrop for your ride. But the steep hills also make for a gruelling trek requiring you to stand up on your pedals. Just ask Sven Nys, who criss-crossed through the Hageland from his Balenberg during his many training sessions. This sporty route starts from the Sven Nys Cycling Center. Sven Nys himself mapped out this 93-kilometre loop, which follows his favourite training route. A challenging ride, with a few beauty spots en route to take a break.

www.sport.be/svennyscyclingcenter/nl/fietsen (Dutch)
STAY IN A CYCLING ACCOMMODATION

Apart from the bike friendly accommodations mentioned in the general part of this brochure, we want to highlight some places to stay that breathe cycling, are beautifully located in ‘cycling territory’ or host pro-teams almost every year.

Check this one out:

B&B Den Engel ****
Dorpsplein 13, 3071 Erps-Kwerps
+32 474 42 70 54
adinda@bnb-denengel.be
www.bnb-denengel.be
Charming B&B in Erps-Kwerps, a small village near Brussels, with an original Eddy Merckx bike for you to look/drool at.

ENJOY A PRE-RIDE COFFEE, POST-RIDE BEER OR GREAT MEAL

Kring
Place du jardin aux fleurs 2a, 1000 Brussels
+32 2 514 30 45
info@kring-kring.com
www.facebook.com/kringbike
http://kring-kring.com
Cool bike shop and bar in Brussels. Also organises group rides on sundays, sometimes even combined with a brunch with (former) pro riders.

Eetcafé Velo
Balenbergstraatje 11, 3128 Baal (Tremelo)
+32 475 52 28 60
+32 16 90 66 99
info@eetcafe-velo.be
www.eetcafe-velo.be
Eetcafé Velo is the bar and restaurant of the Sven Nys Cycling Center. This makes it the ideal stop for a nice meal or a post-ride beer. You will find Svens last crossbike on the wall.

Café Boerenhof
Binkomstraat 10, 3391 Meensel-Kiezegem
+32 495 56 84 12
https://www.facebook.com/CafeBoerenhof?fref=ts
Typical popular pub in the birth place of Eddy Merckx himself.

Mie Katoen
Bellestraat 164, 1790 Affligem
+32 53 68 09 05
eethuismiekatoen@skynet.be
www.eethuismiekatoen.be
Regular home base of celebrating champions and television interviews with pro cyclists. Lots of cycling related decorations.

GO TO A STYLISH CYCLING SHOP

Niels Albert Bike Store
Kruisstraat 126, 3120 Tremelo
+32 16 41 60 60
info@nielsalbertbikestore.be
www.nielsalbertbikestore.be
Bike store owned by former cyclo cross champion Niels Albert.
START OF THE RONDE VAN VLAANDEREN

Cyclo Cross

SCHELDEPRIJS

RIK VAN STEENBERGEN
A PERFECT CYCLING DAY IN ANTWERP

Wake up in Antwerp, a city that combines hip ambiance with gorgeous historical surroundings, and head over to the Grote Markt for the start of the Ronde van Vlaanderen. Pay a visit to the cool bike store Velodome and have lunch in De Pelgrim. City Brewery De Koninck is just across the street. Go and watch the race in Café Mombasa, a bar with lots of Belgian beers on the menu.
WATCH A RACE OR JOIN A CYCLOSPORTIVE

**April**

**Start Ronde van Vlaanderen**
www.rondevanvlaanderen.be

**Scheldeprijs** Recommended
www.scheldeprijs.be
On the agenda during the sacred week between the Tour of Flanders and Paris-Roubaix, there is the Scheldeprijs - the sprinters’ classic.

**Scheldeprijs Cyclo**
www.proximuscyclingchallenge.be
Ride the Scheldeprijs yourself.

**August**

**Derny Antwerpen**
www.dernyantwerpen.be
Post-Tour Criterium in Antwerp with a lot of big names from the pro-peloton.

**Schaal Sels Cyclo**
www.schaalsels.be
Ride your own Schaal Sels one week before the pros.

**Schaal Sels**
www.schaalsels.be
Schaal Sels Sels is a one-day cycling race that is traditionally scheduled for the last Sunday in August. The contest is part of the UCI Europe Tour. The first Schaal Sels ever was held in 1921.
Sluitingsprijs Putte-Kapellen  
www.sluitingsprijs.be  
Popular closing race of the road cycling season in Flanders.

November  
Jaarmarktcross Niel  
www.sport.be/cyclocrossclassics

December  
ZilvermeerCross Mol  
www.zilvermeercross.be

Scheldecross Antwerpen  
www.sport.be/scheldecross

Azencross Loenhout  
www.sport.be/azencross

Visit a cycling museum, experience centre, bike manufacturer, track, …

Wielercentrum Antwerp  
Moerelei 117, 2610 Wilrijk  
+32 3 774 14 40  
www.wielercentrumantwerpen.be  
Home of a 333m outdoor oval cycling track and a bmx-trail.

Outdoor track in Hulshout  
Sportpark Joris Verhaegen, Industriepark 3, 2235 Hulshout  
+32 474 17 33 21  
sportbarhulshout@hotmail.com  
http://www.sportbarhulshout.be/207418785

Ride one of the specific routes

On the wheel of Eddy Merckx  
Would you like to try for yourself how our cycling heroes prepare for races in their own area? If so, you can do it on the three circular cycling routes marked out for this purpose. Armed with a cycling map you can start and stop wherever you like at the information panels along the route. You can also take the digital option using your smartphone. Just scan the panels along the way and we will immerse you in the experience on:  
www.inhetwielvaneddymerckx.be

Cyclo cross trail in Lichtaart  
www.kasterlee.be/product/85/cyclocrossparcours  
Practice your cyclo cross skills on this 2500m long trail in Lichtaart, near the Floreal Kempen campsite. Open from the first of September to the end of February.

Rent a race bike

Fietsen Van De Water  
Geelsebaan 22, 2460 Kasterlee  
+32 14 85 05 25  
info@fietsenvandewater.be  
www.fietsenvandewater.be  
Rental of cross-, mountain- and race bikes.
Apart from the bike friendly accommodations mentioned in the general part of this brochure, we want to highlight some places to stay that breathe cycling, are beautifully located in ‘cycling territory’ or host pro-teams almost every year. Check them out:

**HOTEL**

**Muske Pitter **
Hanswijkstraat 70, 2800 Mechelen  
+32 15 43 63 03  
info@muskepitter.be  
http://muskepitter.be  
This little family hotel is situated in Mechelen (Malines) within walking distance from the historical centre and the station. The hotel radiates a homelike, personal and pro-cycling atmosphere. It has a bicycle parking and offers breakdown assistance.

**HOLIDAY PARK**

**Sunparks ***
Postelsesteenweg 100, 2400 Mol  
+32 14 81 72 52  
www.sunparks.com  
Situated in the green Kempen region of Belgium, Kempense Meren is surrounded by idyllic natural beauty with a lot of cycling routes to be explored. There’s also a mountain bike and cyclo cross trail close by.

**CAMPSITE AND HOLIDAY HOMES**

**Provinciaal Recreatiedomein Zilvermeer ****
Zilvermeerlaan 2, 2400 Mol  
+32 14 82 95 00  
camping@zilvermeer.be  
www.zilvermeer.be  
This is where the yearly pro cyclo cross race ‘Zilvermeercross’ takes place. There’s a lot of cycling routes to be explored in the region.

**GROUP ACCOMMODATION**

**Bielebale**  
Elshoutbaan 15 & 19, 2930 Brasschaat  
+32 3 653 52 74  
vakantie@bielebale.be  
www.bielebale.be  
Bielebale is located in an attractive and quiet park in Brasschaat, close to Antwerp. It can accommodate both small and big groups and is more than suitable for sports groups. You can choose between self-catering or full-board. You’ll find quite some cycling routes in the neighbourhood.
ENJOY A PRE-RIDE COFFEE, POST-RIDE BEER OR GREAT MEAL

**Velodome/De Pelgrim**

Boomgaardstraat 14, 2600 Berchem  
+32 3 283 44 49  
info@velodome.cc  
http://velodome.cc/fietsenwinkel-in-antwerpen/

Velo Dome is located in the old stables of brewery De Koninck (which is just across the street, ideal for a visit). A unique setting. With the focus on the better racing bicycles and mountain bikes, such as the Belgian Ridley and handmade Condor Cycles. If you’re hungry or thirsty, then you’ll find a fine pub and restaurant here too: De Pelgrim.

**Peloton de Paris**  
Recommended

Hoogostraat 49, 2800 Mechelen  
+32 15 64 48 26  
hello@pelotondeparis.cc  
www.pelotondeparis.cc

Peloton de Paris combines a bar and a bicycle shop with a bicycle repair shop. Delicious coffee, beer, bicycles, and watching races on a big screen. ... They have it all! This concept store attracts cyclists for a minor repair, major maintenance or just a cold beer and a spring classic. Small repairs are performed while waiting for a drink, but they are also up for some larger repairs or teaching you how to maintain your bike yourself. In the bar, everyone is welcome, whether you share the bicycle passion or not. It is a unique concept in Mechelen. The menu offers some tasty snacks or breakfast at weekends. You can also relax in the sunny garden!

**Bar LEFT**

Galgenweelpark, 2050 Antwerp  
+32 468 13 38 88  
info@barleft.be  
www.facebook.com/barleft

Pop up summer bar frequented by hipsters & cyclists, a combination of both or basically anyone who enjoys a drink or a bite at a great location.

**Café Mombasa**

Moorkensplein 37, 2140 Antwerp  
+32 498 52 11 94  
reinadons@yahoo.com  
www.cafemombasa.be

Cool bar with its own cycling club, lots of beers on the menu and races live on screen.
The Antwerp Kempen region is a cyclo cross hotspot, so it’s no big surprise that a lot of pubs are the home of fan clubs of former cyclo cross pro cyclists. Here’s some of them:

**De Craawaett**
Poederleeseweg 2a, 2275 Lille
+32 14 88 30 58, +32 497 79 29 24
www.decraawaett.be

**Café 't Centrum**
Heidestatieplein 8, 2920 Kalmthout
+32 479 27 93 59
tcentrum@telenet.be
www.tcentrum.be

**Café 't Brouwershuis**
Noordeind 31, 2920 Kalmthout
+32 497 47 99 94
www.boskal.be/brouwershuis

**Café De Kroon**
Kerkeneind 26, 2920 Kalmthout
+32 3 666 62 35
cafedekroon.eh@gmail.com

**Café De Toekomst**
Boulevard 34, 2290 Vorselaar
http://users.skynet.be/detoekomst/

**Sportcafé De Meeuw**
Stationsstraat 90, 2910 Essen
+32 3 667 21 96

**Café Volkshuis**
Stationsstraat 136, 2910 Essen
+32 3 667 59 27

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GO TO A STYLISH CYCLING SHOP

**Velodome/De Pelgrim**
Boomgaardstraat 14, 2600 Berchem
+32 3 283 44 49
info@velodome.cc
http://velodome.cc/rijstkleding-winkel-antwerpen/

Velo Dome is located in the old stables of brewery De Koninck (which is just across the street, ideal for a visit). A unique setting. With the focus on the better racing bicycles and mountain bikes, such as the Belgian Ridley and handmade Condor Cycles. If you’re hungry or thirsty, then you’ll find a fine pub and restaurant here too: De Pelgrim.

**De Vélodrome**
Dageraadplaats 34, 2018 Antwerpen
+32 3 236 22 37
info@develodrome.be
www.develodrome.be

The name refers to a famous track that used to be in this neighbourhood. Apart from that, this is just another cool bikestore in Antwerp.

**Bike Project Fixerati**
Lange Koepoortstraat 47, 2000 Antwerp
+32 3 770 76 00
https://www.facebook.com/AntwerpFixerati

Repairs, second hand, vintage, road, race, city, fixed, single and more! With a coffee, beer or cold drinks. Need we say more?

**Peloton de Paris**
More information above (pubs).
CIRCUIT ZOLDER

TIM WELLENS

ERIC VANDERAERDEN

FLANDERS BIKE VALLEY

MARC WAUTERS

WILLY VANNITSEN
A PERFECT CYCLING DAY IN LIMBURG

Wake up in room 11 of Hotel Malpertuus and feel like a winner. Ride one of the hilly routes through Limburg. Stop for a cycling beer at cycling pub Café Coureur. Ride on the F1-circuit of Zolder in the early evening and end the day with dinner at cycling café De Krikel.
WATCH A RACE OR JOIN A CYCLOSPORTIVE

May

Baloise Belgium Tour
www.baloisebelgiumtour.be
Multi-day race, right through Belgium.

June

Ronde van Limburg
www.limburgkoerst.be
Road race through Limburg.

Cristal Alken Classic
http://fietsclubcristalalken.be
Cyclo that starts in the Cristal Alken brewery and takes you through Haspengouw and the Ardennes.

July

GP Tim Wellens
www.groteprijstimwellens.be
Road race in Sint-Truiden named after their famous pro rider.

August

Eneco Tour
www.enecotour.com
Multi-day road race through Belgium and the Netherlands. The race will be renamed, but the new name was not yet announced when we finished the brochure.

Willy Vannitsen Classic
www.willyvannitsenclassic.be
Willy Vannitsen was a pro cyclist from 1954 until 1966. He won stages in the Tour de France, Paris-Nice and the Giro. This cyclo takes you from Limburg to the Ardennes and back.

Go4Cycling Classic
www.go4cycling.com
Choose between 5 challenges that take you through Haspengouw and the Ardennes.
October

Superprestige Zonhoven
www.sport.be/cyclocrosszonhoven
“When ‘De Kuil’ [the pit] opens its mouth, all hell breaks loose! It’s impressive each time, both for spectators as for the riders themselves.” - Erwin Vervecken (former cyclo cross champion)

Urban Cross Borgloon
www.urbancross.be
Everyone is more than welcome to attend this unique cycling festival in the car-free centre of Borgloon. There will also be a cycling beer counter again this year. Coming October, this will be quite the challenging trial, combining a different take on bicycling fun with a stunning landscape experience and a sporty competition for people of all ages!

November

GP Hasselt
www.sport.be/gphasselt

GP Neerpelt
www.sport.be/cyclocrossclassics/1617/neerpelt/nl/

December

World Cup Zolder
www.worldcupcyclocross.be
Several world cups and world championships in cyclo cross already took place around the circuit of Zolder.

VISIT A CYCLING MUSEUM, EXPERIENCE CENTRE, BIKE MANUFACTURER, TRACK, ...

Circuit Zolder
Terlaemen 30, 3550 Heusden-Zolder
+32 11 85 88 88
Besides a renowned F1 circuit, the Circuit of Zolder has also been a cycling temple for years, hosting big races such as the Belgian Championships road cycling in 1963, the World Championships road cycling in 1969 and 2002 and the arrival of the Tour de France in 1981. Several world cups and world championships in cyclo cross also took place around the circuit. Today, the circuit also houses the Flemish Cycling School and UCI BMX track. Wednesday and Thursday evening between 18:15 and 21:30, cyclists can have a safe training on the illuminated circuit. The Pro Tour cycling teams like to test teams and material at the legendary tarmac of the Terlaemen track.

Flanders Bike Valley
Tervantstraat 2b, 3583 Paal
+32 472 62 05 66
www.flandersbikevalley.be
Flanders’ Bike Valley was established in 2013 as one of the first bottom-up clusters in Flanders. As an Open Innovation Centre for the Cycling Industry the cluster was founded by BioRacer (a cycling clothes manufacturer), Lazer Sport (helmets), Ridley Race Productions, Voxdale (a specialist in aerodynamics who engineered and designed for Indycar) and Flanders’ Drive (a knowledge centre for the Automotive Industry). Flanders’ Bike Valley organises partner matching events (often together with other clusters/valleys), is setting-up breakthrough open innovation projects for multiple partners and will also focus on joint internationalisation and incubation in cooperation with BikeVille Incubator. The Flanders’ Bike Valley wind tunnel is a unique, independent, low speed wind tunnel designed specifically for cyclists and the cycling industry, where aerodynamic drag and turbulence can be measured for manufacturers, product developers, and athletes. You will also find the EdiVero topsportrestaurant here (www.ediverotopsportrestaurant.be).

Ridley Bikes
Beverlosesteenweg 85, 3583 Beringen
info@ridley-bikes.com
www.ridley-bikes.com
As the bicycle sponsor of World Tour Team Lotto-Belisol, this is a top level brand. There’s a showroom for press and dealers, where the newest collection is shown. Ridley has its own paintshop and assembly hall. No production of frames.
RIDE ONE OF THE SPECIFIC ROUTES

Climbing in the ‘Toscane of Limburg’
Gorgeous and tough route from the centre of Borgloon through the rolling countryside of South Limburg with beautiful views. Along the way, you will conquer various climbs. The route uses the cycling network and is suitable for recreational cyclists who like a sporting challenge.
http://www.routeyou.com

1000m of climbing in South-Limburg
1000 m of climbing through South Limburg? You can! Along the way, you can enjoy the beautiful South Limburg scenery while taming the most challenging slopes in the Tour of Limburg, like the Slingerberg in Kanne or ‘petit L’Alpe-d‘Huez’ with its ten serpentines. Start and finish are in the Land Commandery Alden Biesen, one of the largest castle complexes in the Euroregion.
http://www.routeyou.com

Limburg Cycling Tour
Ride the Tour of Limburg track. Discover and enjoy the stunning scenery with tough slopes and challenging cobbled streets.
http://www.routeyou.com
(small loop)
http://www.routeyou.com
(big loop)

Tongria Classic
You ride along the beautiful castles and rolling countryside of South Limburg and Haspengouw. Enjoy the beautiful vistas and flowering blossoms. On these low-traffic roads you can quietly enjoy a tour around Tongeren and Borgloon.
http://www.routeyou.com

STAY IN A CYCLING ACCOMMODATION

Apart from the bike friendly accommodations mentioned in the general part of this brochure, we want to highlight some places to stay that breathe cycling, are beautifully located in ‘cycling territory’ or host pro-teams almost every year. Check this one out:

Hotel Malpertuus
Tongersesteenweg 145, 3770 Riemst
+32 12 45 15 38
info@malpertuus.be
www.malpertuus.be

ENJOY A PRE-RIDE COFFEE, POST-RIDE BEER OR GREAT MEAL

**Café Coureur**  Recommended
Daaleindestraat 52, 3720 Kortessem
hello@cafecoureur.cc
http://cafe-coureur.myshopify.com

This café is just what a cycling café should be:
1. All cyclists are welcome (even the most muddy and soaked ones)
2. Each cyclist will be treated to a ‘Madeleineke’ mini cake
3. If there’s a race on TV, they will certainly show this, no one can do anything about that
4. They count with seven bicycle beers on the menu: Kwaremont, Malteni blond, Malteni white, amber Malteni, Cyclist, Orvélo Tripel and Orvélo Drome
5. The decor of the café = an ode to cycling
6. There are plenty of books on cycling
7. And on top of it all: all tough cycling stories are more than welcome here!

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**Cycling pub De Kriekel**
Sint Jozefsplein 2, 3980 Tessenderlo
+32 496 68 29 89
www.wielercafe-dekriekel.be

The cycling bar is ideal for enjoying a drink in a unique cycling decor. Caution ...before you know it, you’ll be seated next to a well-known cycling hero. In addition to enjoying the cycling interior, you can also enjoy the chef’s cooking at very reasonable prices. Uniquely, all dishes are adapted to the cycling year.

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**Fietsbar**
Minderbroedersstraat 54, 3500 Hasselt
+32 484 61 96 62
hallo@fietsbar.com
www.fietsbar.com

Fietsbar is a bicycle repair centre, a bicycle shop, bar and lunch spot in the centre of Hasselt. Here you can have your bicycle repaired, buy a bicycle or bicycle accessories, enjoy a good coffee, some organic lemonade or a beer and stop for breakfast, a piece of cake or a light lunch.

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**GO TO A STYLISH CYCLING SHOP**

**Café Coureur**
Daaleindestraat 52, 3720 Kortessem
hello@cafecoureur.cc
http://cafe-coureur.myshopify.com

Shop with a bunch of cool cycling brands that make you look good on your bike.

**Fietsbar**
See above.
Tour of Flanders 1934 - Kwaremont Pinguin CRVV

Tour of Flanders 1922 - Devos Pinguin CRVV

Tour of Flanders 1919 Pinguin CRVV

Tour of Flanders 1933 Schepers Pinguin CRVV

Tour of Flanders 1946 Van Steenbergen Pinguin CRVV

Karel van Wijnendaele, the founder of the Tour of Flanders Archief CRVV

Merckx wins Tour of Flanders 1975 Archief WieMu

Van Looy and Sels - Kruisberg Pinguin CRVV

ZONDAGSVRIEND

G AZEIL VAN ANTWEPEN

Tour of Flanders 1966 Van Looy and Sels - Kruisberg Pinguin CRVV
COLOPHON

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Contact
info@toerismevlaanderen.be

More information
www.visitflanders.com


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This trade folder has been put together based on information that we requested from our partners. Over the course of time, some information could change. For this reason, we request that before you visit a company, you kindly check their website.

We hope that this brochure helps you in putting together your tour(s). Anything missing? Any comments? Please contact your Trade Contact at VISITFLANDERS (contact details on the back cover). He/she would love to hear your reactions.
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