

BELGIAN BEER TRAILS



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Unfortunately, not all of the links included in this book lead to websites or pages in the English language.
If you have specific questions or wish to make a reservation, please send an email to the contact address listed. In most cases, you will receive a response in English.





Belgium is...

Admittedly, you may struggle to find us on the global map. Belgium is that small dot on the North Sea just across from Southern England. Yes, you have spotted us! Between the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Germany and France. We may be small but we have a big reputation. Our cities of art and culture: Brussels, Antwerp, Ghent and Bruges are known all over the world. The fiery city of Liège steered a course that was completely its own for a thousand years. Belgium is also the country of cycling legend Eddy Merckx and top tennis players Kim Clijsters and Justine Henin. In Bruges time appears to stand still. Here you can admire the art of medieval painting and architecture. Brussels will surprise you with Magritte's surrealist paintings and its art nouveau architecture designed by Horta. Cartoonist Hergé, the spiritual father of Tintin, is known for his 'clear lines' up to this day. The Dardenne brothers have gained a following through their realistic cinema. Toots Thielemans first introduced the mouth organ to jazz music. The Antwerp Six (Antwerpse Zes) took the international fashion scene by storm. The author Georges Simenon introduced his Chief Inspector Maigret to the world. Belgium is the country of beguinages, belfries, carillons and tapestries. And the town of Spa lent its name to spa resorts far and wide. The North Sea coast is perfect for soaking up the sunshine and blowing the cobwebs away. The south and the east of our country provide a surprising array of green. The forests of the Ardennes never cease to amaze you, whether covered by a white winter carpet, coloured in the fresh green of spring, baking under a leaden summer sun or clad

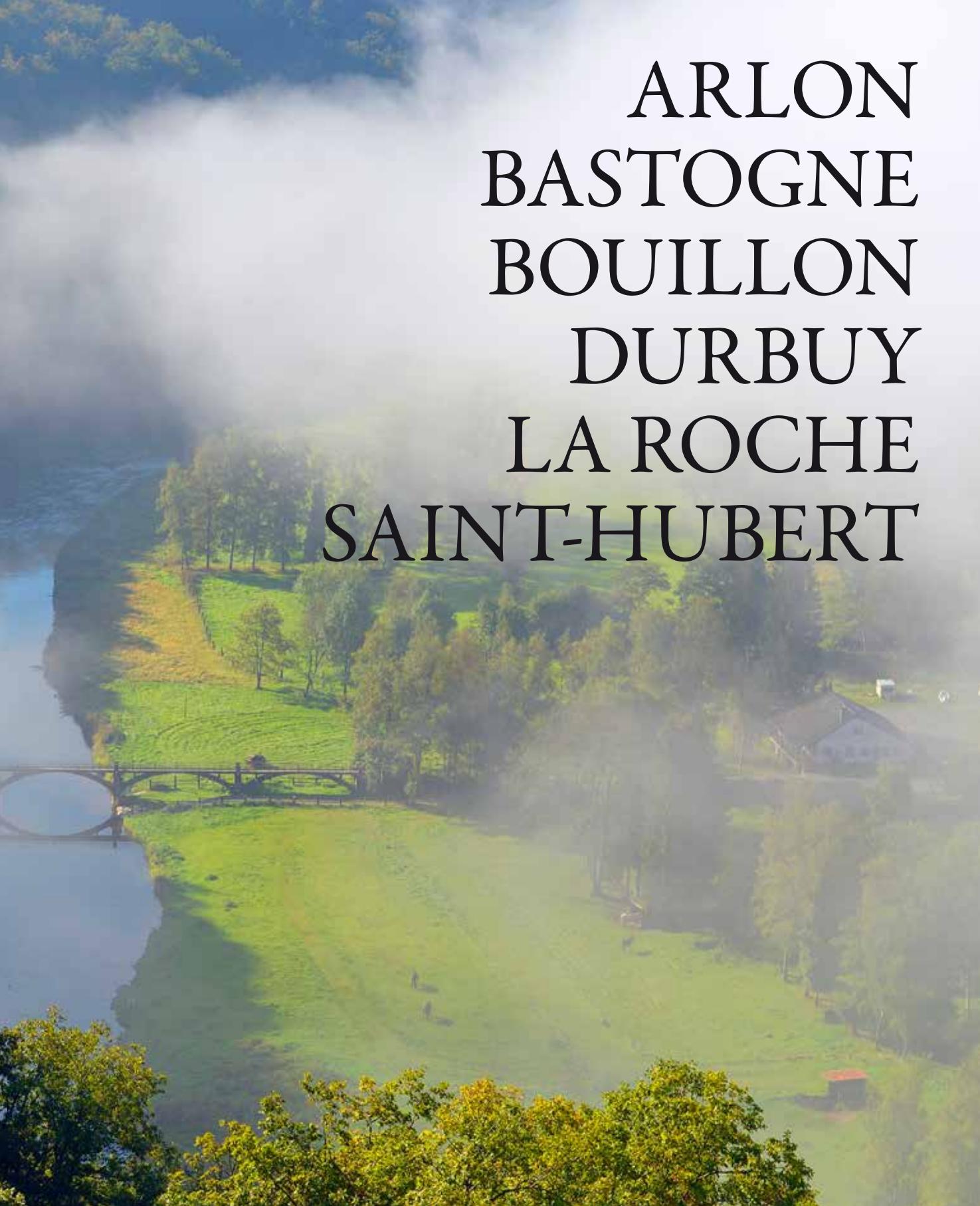
in the most beautiful autumn colours. Belgium is an intriguing small country with plenty to discover. There is no need to travel far as we are not familiar with the concept of distance. Have you ever heard of hanging gardens, tasted an escabeche or climbed a pit heap? Gorged on waffles from Brussels or Liège or enjoyed our beers...?

From the source

We will guide you through our breweries, large and small. Wherever you travel on Belgium's roads, you will come across brewers. Often invisibly, behind abbey walls, in castles, barns, stables, cafés, garages, kitchens or sheds, brewers are making beer in kettles, basins and tanks. In large breweries you will find them in the control room, the 'cockpit' in other words. Entire dynasties are proud of a brewing tradition going back as many as fifteen generations. Starters are cobbling together their own equipment using materials donated by colleagues, milk tanks even, or buy a brewing kit. They are often acquainted with an experienced colleague who is only too happy to lend a helping hand and share his wisdom and experience. The beer lover succumbs to the brewing virus that has lain dormant for a while. At the end of the road, the brewers' fate is in your hands. It is up to you whether or not you approve of their beers. Are you voting for weak, strong, pale, fruity, zesty, spicy, mild, sour, bitter or sweet? For accessible or layered, for a warming beer or a thirstquencher, a degustation beer or a quaffable one? Tasting is the message. You weigh up all the options and make your choice.

Erik Verdonck



A scenic landscape featuring a river on the left, a bridge crossing it, and rolling green hills covered in trees. The sky is filled with soft, white mist or fog, creating a serene atmosphere.

ARLON
BASTOGNE
BOUILLO
DURBUY
LA ROCHE
SAINT-HUBERT



ACHOUFFE (Brasserie d')

*Chouffe Soleil, La Chouffe, McChouffe,
Houblon Chouffe, N'Ice Chouffe*

A stone's throw from (C)houffalize two man-size gnomes point the way to their beer temple. This is where the first 'Chouffe' saw the light in a cow byre in 1982. Brasserie d'Achouffe has formed part of the Duvel Moortgat Group since 2006. It all started with a gnome, bent over by the load of hop and barley he carried on his back. Greedily, he is eyeing up a glass of La Chouffe. This icon is now travelling around the world. La Chouffe flows in abundance when La Grande Choufferie is held in Achouffe, during gastronomic weekends, at the La Chouffe Classic and at the UCI Mountain Bike World Cup in Houffalize.

Nowadays you find yourself in an ultra-modern brewery with an idyllic location amidst an oasis of green. Ideal for a day in the Ardennes, for a weekend or a longer stay. **TIP:** come down in early August to visit the legendary Grande Choufferie.

Put your name down for a guided brewery tour and explore the brewery tavern, the shop and the local cafés and restaurants. Book a guided group tour (with a maximum of 25 visitors per guide). Individual tours – first come, first served – are held at fixed times during the week.

Achouffe 32, Wibrin (Houffalize) – +32(0)61/23 04 44
visitebrasserie@achouffe.be – www.achouffe.be

BASTOGNE (Brasserie de)

*Ardenne Saison, Ardenne Spirit Old Ale,
Ardenne Stout, Bastogne Pale Ale,
Trouffette range*

For its Trouffette the brewery found inspiration in the local carnival tradition. The label shows a lad riding a boar with a barrel around its neck: a scoundrel with a hefty dose of local folk hero Uylenspiegel. Bastogne Pale Ale is the Belgian interpretation of an IPA (India Pale Ale). This beer contains spelt, a grain variety typical of the Ardennes. Its bitterness is derived from aromatic hop varieties. The fresh citrusy touches stand out as do the hop aromas which are emphasised by the *dry hopping* (dry hopping: adding hop flowers to the cold storage tank to re-enforce the aromas and taste of the hop). With its Ardenne Stout the brewery brings back to life an originally British beer style that had been relegated to the back row in recent years. **TIP:** taste these beers in L'Aubière registre (www.laubieregiste.com) in Brussels. The microbrewery is housed in an annexe to an Ardennes farmhouse. In 2018 it will move to Baillonville (Somme-Leuze). Visit by prior arrangement.

BelleEau 3, Vaux-sur-Sûre – +32(0)475/87 83 66
info@brasseriebastogne.be
www.brasseriebastogne.be
From 2018: Zoning Industriel, Baillonville
+32(0)475/87 83 66 – www.brasseriebastogne.be



LA ROCHE-EN-ARDENNE

Things to see and do

- the fortified castle dating from the Middle Ages
- the potteries
- the Musée de la Bataille des Ardennes
- about the Second World War
- the Valley of the Ourthe

Tip: La Roche is the starting point of the 'Transardennaise' hike towards Bouillon. The walk takes seven days and luggage transfers can be arranged.

Tourisme La Roche-en-Ardenne

Place du Marché 15
B-6980 La Roche-en-Ardenne
+32(0)84/36 77 36
www.la-roche-tourisme.com



BOUILLOUN (Brasserie de)

*Blanche de Bouillon, Bouillonnaise,
Cuvée de Bouillon, Médiévale*

Brasserie de Bouillon is linked to a beer shop called Le Marché de Nathalie, in the shadow of the Bourg. Jacques Pougin manages his microbrewery on the outskirts of the city. Don't forget to try out the seasonal beers. **TIP:** visit the small city of Bouillon itself, the Bourg and the valley of the Semois.

Guided tour and a meal by arrangement.

Rue de la Girafe 76, Sensenruth (Bouillon)
+32(0)61/46 89 40
info@brasserieidebouillon.be
www.brasserieidebouillon.be
Le Marché de Nathalie, Grand'Rue 22
+32(0)61/46 89 40
info@brasserieidebouillon.be
www.brasserieidebouillon.be

BASTOGNE

Things to see and do

- the Mardasson war memorial
- the Bastogne War Museum about the Second World War
- the Bastogne Ardennes 44 Museum
- the Centre d'Interprétation de la 2ème Guerre Mondiale (Musée Royal de l'Armée)
- the 101st Airborne Museum
- the Eglise St-Pierre (St. Peter's Church)
- the medieval Porte de Trèves
- the Musée en Piconrue for the culture and folklore of the Ardennes

Tourisme Bastogne

Place McAuliffe, 60
B-6600 Bastogne
+32(0)61/26 76 11
www.paysdebastogne.be

Bouillon



BOUILLOUN

Things to see and do

- the medieval castle
- the Musée Ducal about the history of the city
- the Archéoscope Godefroid de Bouillon about the first crusade

Tip: explore the Semois valley and enjoy the views of this river's many meanders.

Tourisme Bouillon

Quai des Saulx 12
B-6830 Bouillon
+32(0)61/46 52 11
www.bouillon-tourisme.be

DEMANEZ (Brasserie)

B.R. Blonde, Triple & Noël bio

Meet Sébastien Demanez, a former banker and now a firm brewing convert. 'I am not really cut out for numbers; I want to be surrounded by smells, noise, life.' By the way: B.R. stands for 'beer'. **TIP:** taste the beer in Le Coin Gourmand in St-Hubert. Visit by prior arrangement.

Magerotte 7, Sainte-Ode
+32(0)61/21 95 74 – sebastien@demanez.be
www.demanez.be

FANTÔME (Brasserie)

Fantôme, Saison d'Erezée

Dany Prignon may produce a green-coloured beer from time to time. Any challenge that comes his way is faced with courage and determination. How about a *saison* brewed with dandelions? Or a spinach-based beer with green tea aromas? Or one made with chocolate or Provençal herbs...?



Visits by prior arrangement for groups of 15 and over. Beer tasting opportunity. Tavern open at the weekend and during school holidays.

Rue Préal 8, Soy (Erezée)
+32(0)86/47 70 44 – contact@fantome.be
www.fantome.be

GENGOULF (Brasserie)

GenGoulf

A former laboratory worker at Orval is now brewing in the shade of this legendary abbey and produces beers that are less bitter than this iconic Trappist beer but with plenty of character. Friendship is the secret ingredient. **TIP:** visit Orval and taste the beers created by this abbey in the Hostellerie d'Orval, located close by, or in the star-awarded restaurant La Grappe d'Or (www.lagrappeedor.com) in Torgny. Visit by prior arrangement.

Rue des Hawys 24,
Villers-devant-Orval (Florenville)
+32(0)61/29 22 39 – contact@gengoulf.be
www.gengoulf.be

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La Roche – Saint-Hubert

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Eupen	177	ticular for their kind and enjoyable co-operation:	
Genk	161	François-Xavier Allard (Fédération du Tourisme	
Geraardsbergen	139	du Hainaut) Floriane De Decker (Fédération du	
Ghent	139	Tourisme du Brabant Wallon) Vital Geeraerts	
Halle	97	(Toerisme Vlaams-Brabant) Marie-Hélène Gillis	
Hasselt	161	(Fédération du Tourisme de la Province de Na-	
Houffalize		mur) Ronny Luyckx (Toerisme Limburg) Dirk	
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Ieper/Ypres	65	du Tourisme de la Province de Liège) Morgane	
Kortrijk/Courtrai	65	Vander Linden (Wallonie Bruxelles Tourisme)	
La Roche	11	Frank Vansteeland (Westtoer) Leentje Verlinden	
Leuven	97	(Toerisme Limburg) Pascal Willems (Fédération	
Liège/ Luik	177	du Tourisme du Luxembourg Belge)	
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Acknowledgements

I would like to thank the following people in particular for their kind and enjoyable co-operation:
François-Xavier Allard (Fédération du Tourisme du Hainaut) Floriane De Decker (Fédération du Tourisme du Brabant Wallon) Vital Geeraerts (Toerisme Vlaams-Brabant) Marie-Hélène Gillis (Fédération du Tourisme de la Province de Namur) Ronny Luyckx (Toerisme Limburg) Dirk Marteel (Westtoer) Michael Mathot (Fédération du Tourisme de la Province de Liège) Morgane Vander Linden (Wallonie Bruxelles Tourisme) Frank Vansteeland (Westtoer) Leentje Verlinden (Toerisme Limburg) Pascal Willems (Fédération du Tourisme du Luxembourg Belge)

Once again, many thanks to all!

Erik Verdonck

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Text: Erik Verdonck

Photography: Erik Verdonck

English translation: Hoppy Media

Design: Bart Luijten

If you have observations or questions,
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© Lannoo Publishers, Tielt, 2017

D/2017/45/227 – NUR 440

ISBN: 978 94 014 4147 6

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