

VISITFLANDERS *Belgium*
Flanders
 State of the Art


September 2023

WWI memorial sites on UNESCO list



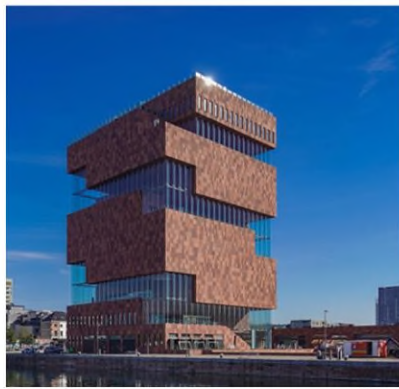
139 WWI cemeteries and memorial sites along the Western Front have been added to the UNESCO World Heritage List. They include sites in Flanders, Wallonia, and France. That decision was taken on 20 September 2023 at the annual meeting of the World Heritage Committee.

France, Wallonia, and Flanders have been working on the proposal for more than 15 years. 27 sites in Flanders are included on the list.

This new entry is not only great news for France, Flanders, and Wallonia. This heritage also belongs to the more than 130 countries whose fallen were given their final resting place in our region. Many of these countries did not exist at the time of World War I. The registration of those cemeteries and memorial sites as World Heritage Sites ensures that their contribution is and remains recognized.

Rare and Indispensable exhibition

Michelangelo, Magritte, Francis Bacon, Ensor, Henry Moore and Rubens are just a few of the world-famous names on display at the MAS in autumn 2023. The unmissable exhibition 'Rare & Indispensable' displays a unique selection of works from the Flemish Masterpiece



List.

'Rare & Indispensable' (31.Oct. 2023 to 25.Feb. 2024) is an absolute must-see that takes visitors on an art history walk through gems from Flemish collections. Some 35 large and small museums, as well as churches, libraries, and private collectors, are temporarily loaning out the masterpieces from their collections.

New St. Bernardus brewery experience center



The new visitor experience is the provisional capstone of the brewery's tourist accessibility. Besides bicycle rental, they also offer overnight stays at Guesthouse Brouwershuis (11 rooms).

For more than 10 years, authentic, guided tours were organized throughout the brewery. The Brewery Tour has become a true museum 'experience', where you can discover the unique story of St. Bernardus at your own pace. You will be immersed in the history of the brewery, discover the product range, lift the veil on the brewing process and get an exclusive look behind the scenes of production. It is a sensory, audio-visual experience, ending with the natural beer tasting in our rooftop bar Bar Bernard.

European Road Cycling Championships 2024



Next year's European Road Cycling Championships will take place in Flanders from 11 to 15 September 2024, with the picturesque province of Limburg serving as the setting for 14 European championships. Each race starts from the Circuit Zolder motorsport racetrack and finishes in the center of Hasselt, the capital of Limburg. The time trials will be held on flat stretches of road while the road races wind their way through the hilly landscape of Haspengouw, incorporating the DNA of the Ronde van Limburg.

Flanders is the heartland of cycling, with a rich tradition of iconic spring cycling events but this time around, Limburg will be touting its assets.

Following the announcement of the course, the countdown has officially started. All information about the event, the competitions can be found on www.limburg2024.be.

In the spotlight: Art Cities Iconic Cycling Route



Flanders offers optimal conditions for cycling tourists. A special highlight is the Art Cities Route: It starts in the Belgian capital, connects the art cities of Brussels, Leuven, Mechelen, Antwerp, Ghent, and Bruges over a total of 213 miles ending on the coast in Ostend. The changes between vibrant and historically significant cities and picturesque green landscapes makes this well-signposted cycling route particularly attractive.

Along the way, idyllic cafés and restaurants entice you with typical Flemish delicacies. The Art Cities Route is one of the so-called iconic cycle paths: Each of the nine routes connects the most beautiful places and places in the Flemish landscape around a central theme through well-developed cycle paths.

Situated in the north of Belgium, Flanders boasts six beautifully preserved historic cities: **Antwerp, Bruges, Brussels, Ghent, Leuven, and Mechelen.**

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