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## News from VISITFLANDERS - November 2025

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Date Mon 11/3/2025 10:50 AM

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## News from VISITFLANDERS - November 2025

Autumn is in the air, and as the year draws to a close, we bring you the latest from Flanders and beyond. Journalists heading to World Travel Market in London are warmly invited to discover more about an exciting new collaboration marking 1,000 years since the birth of Henry the Conqueror in 2027. Closer to home, the KMSKA in Antwerp unveils the stunning restoration of a Rubens masterpiece, while November brings poignant Remembrance events across Flanders, including *The Hauntings*, a powerful temporary installation overlooking the Menin Gate. Add to that the latest on upcoming cyclocross races, and fresh news from the worlds of beer and chocolate, and there's no shortage of reasons to explore Flanders in the weeks ahead.

### Arts and Heritage:

## Adoration of the Magi – Restoration in Progress

Now until 2028

KMSKA - Antwerp



Image credit: © Royal Museum Fine Arts Antwerp

Visitors to the Royal Museum of Fine Arts Antwerp can now witness a once-in-a-lifetime event, the live restoration of Rubens' monumental *Adoration of the Magi*. In the museum's Rubens Room, conservators are meticulously bringing the masterpiece back to life, revealing new insights into Rubens' dynamic brushwork and innovative techniques.

This open conservation studio offers a rare glimpse into both the art and science behind one of the Baroque era's greatest works. While *The Adoration* is restored, Rubens' *Enthroned Madonna Adored by Saints* will take its place, keeping the master's spirit alive in the gallery.

[Find out more](#)

## Two new exhibitions - "Typefaces" and "Vanfleteren Stephan. Transcripts of a Sea"

Now until 2026

Ghent

As the days are getting shorter, the ideal museum weather has arrived. Spending an afternoon at an exhibition is all the more interesting when it is raining cats and dogs outside.

At [MSK GENT](#), discover "[Vanfleteren Stephan. Transcripts of a Sea](#)" – a powerful visual dialogue between photography and painting, running from 20 September 2025 to 4 January 2026.

At the [Museum of Industry Ghent](#), explore "Typefaces" – a fascinating look at the art and craft of typography, from 11 July 2025 to 22 February 2026.

Both exhibitions highlight Ghent's rich cultural scene and the city's unique ability to blend tradition, creativity, and innovation.



Image credit: MSK Ghent © Stad Gent

[Find out more](#)

## Cycling News

### UCI Cyclo Cross World Cup

**24 November 2025**

The 2025–2026 UCI Cyclo-cross World Cup is about to start. Last year, world champions Fem van Empe and Mathieu van der Poel thrilled fans with breathtaking solo victories. This season, the spotlight is on a new generation. The Antwerp course is famed for its technical challenges, with sandy sections, steep climbs, and tight corners. The 2024–2025 edition began with a long flat stretch before moving into steep banks and closely spaced barriers. The 2025 course is expected to present similar tests of riders' skills.

[Find out more](#)



*Image credit: © Flanders Classics*

## Flanders Fields News

**Remembrance events**

## Dendermonde World Cup

**28 December 2025**

### Dendermonde

*Image credit: © Jelle Vermeersch*



The Dendermonde World Cup joined the cyclocross calendar in 2020, though its roots go back further. Organiser Jurgen Mettepenningen, also team manager of Pauwels Sauzen–Bingoal, had previously held the title of Ambiance cross twice at Puyenbroeck in Wachtebeke. He later secured a World Cup slot and moved the race to Dendermonde's Grembergen district. In 2023, a new feature was added: a section of freshly laid cobbles to bring a touch of Paris–Roubaix to cyclocross.

[Find out more](#)

## The Hauntings

**now until 7 December**

**By the Menin Gate**

## Ypres and Zonnebeke

### Poperinge



This time of year is especially important for remembrance, honouring the sacrifices made for peace and freedom in West Flanders, a region that was the primary battleground of the First World War's Western Front in Belgium. For Armistice Day, Ypres hosts a special [Last Post ceremony](#) at the Menin Gate at 11:00 a.m. , following the annual Poppy Parade at 10:15 a.m.

Additionally, the city will hold the multi-day "Concert The Great War Remembered" at Sint-Maarthens Cathedraal, with a performance on the evening of November 11th. Zonnebeke will commemorate the end of the war with a ceremony at Tyne Cot Cemetery on November 11th and will hold the [Passchendaele Ceremony](#) on November 10th, which includes a torch parade.

[Find out more](#)

A dramatic 6.5 metre-high wrought-iron sculpture named 'The Hauntings' is currently on display at the Menin Gate in Ypres, Belgium. It faces the memorial, powerfully symbolising the thousands of soldiers who fell in battle and have no known grave. The artwork was commissioned by Jo Oliver, inspired by local legends of a ghostly soldier seen near her childhood home in the Somerset hills. The sculpture, made by Dorset Forge and Fabrication using over 1,000 pieces of scrap metal, has an intricate design that allows light to pass through, giving it a mystical, ghostly aura. 'The Hauntings' is a tribute to the common man facing adversity, not a glorification of war. The sculpture will remain in Ypres until December 2025, after which it will return to the UK for permanent installation on the Oliver family estate in Somerset.



*Image credit: © Toerisme Ieper*

[Find out more](#)

## Gastronomy and Beer

### Billies Craft Fair Fest

**7-8 November 2025**

### The Chocolate Trail

**at the Vandebulke Chocolatier**

## Antwerp

Beer enthusiasts are eagerly anticipating the annual Billie's Craft Beer Fest which returns to Antwerp, Belgium at the Waagnatie. Often hailed as the best craft beer festival in Belgium, this two-day event brings together over 60 of the world's finest breweries.

What makes it stand out is the all-inclusive ticket, which allows for unlimited tasting of around 480 different beers and the chance to meet the brewers themselves. The festival promises a high-quality, vibrant atmosphere perfect for both industry insiders and passionate beer fans.



Credit image © Visit Flanders

[Find out more](#)

## Kortrijk

The Chocolate Trail by Chocolatier Vandenbulcke offers a unique and flavorful experience in the heart of the Kortrijk region. This interactive and educational tour invites visitors to explore the world of chocolate from an insider's perspective. Guests follow the entire journey from cocoa bean to finished product, discovering the craftsmanship, tradition, and passion behind every piece of fine Belgian chocolate. The tour highlights the rich history of Chocolatier Vandenbulcke, a name synonymous with quality and authenticity. Along the way, participants enjoy a variety of tastings and sensory experiences, making this activity both informative and indulgent. The Chocolate Trail is ideal for families, groups, or chocolate enthusiasts seeking an unforgettable experience that celebrates Belgium's sweetest heritage.

[Find out more](#)



Credit image © Chocolatier Vandenbulcke - ABS Agency



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