www.napoleonsroutetowellington.be

of this tower on the night of June 14th, 1815. The Emperor's troops camped at the foot Tour Salamandre - Beaumont

🖲 ənəH b ubA) əb

5307 587



orusHerre

now the Biercée Distillery.

Ferme de la Cour,

Ragnies

to the Napoleon Road.

For an active holiday adjacent

Lacs de l'Eau d'Heure

fighting took place here. this town, but street Napoleon did not cross uiny



et-Meuse Entre-Sambre-Marches of the

Napoleonic history. list, these processions take place

combine religious folklore and from May to October and Intangible Cultural Heritage Inscribed on the UNESCO

volissV sined \ TBW ©

38111 2000

xjnoimp[, voiza) ub ziod o

allarcinelle - otoy bl sh sysum 1010100)

Dedicated to the 262 miners who died Ancient coalmine and mining museum. Bois du Cazier photographic arts.

here accidentally in 1956.

spotlight on the technical and artistic diversity of the

graphy Museum (Musée de la Photographie) puts the Set inside an ancient Neo-Gothic church, the Photo-Photography Museum

the victory of Ligny. Napoleon slept here on the eve of Château de la Paix

KUBIJ

SUTUS17

of several memorials. This crossroads is the site Quatre Bras (Four Arms)

Suatre Bras

€ səjjəvi√

exceptional heritage site. sïs9 nsmog TM

Ranked a Wallonia Collegiate Church Sainte-Gertrude

olissV sined / T8W @

pnəjj& j-əuivag

the victory deed. Wellington signed The headquarters where Wellington Museum

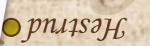
headquarters Vapoleon's last



eliverse de l'erseiner

the Cistercian monks. prestigious testimonials to the life of of this abbey offer one of Europe's most Founded in 1146, the majestic remains Villers-la-Ville Abbey

the victory and the kingdom of the Netherlands. Netherlands Pays-Bas, the Lion symbolises both Erected in 1826 at the request of William I of the bnuoM s'noiJ adT



Juounday

⊜ FTPH / A. Genart

and more!

sites, scenery, local gastronomy

olklore, UNESCO World Heritage

history, its museums, heritage,

You will discover the region's rich

to Waterloo.

step at a time, from Beaumont

ano einolleW ni beog noslogeN

the 94-kilometre stretch of the

Today, we invite you to explore

indelible mark on the region.

ne ffel even even the felone

of European history.

Waterloo changed the course

te testsb zid, this defeat at

of Wellington and Blücher.

to confront the allied armies

with his troops, on the way

Inomusea ni bevirre etreqenoa

nosloqeN ,2181 ,1315, Napoleon

of General Reille Marked by the passage Château du Fosteau

€ubstean€

อ รอเนชชม unyL

> or «Grande Voie». along the main road, his army proudly parading The Emperor watched Chapelle des «Trois Arbres

00]127D/1, 07 1U0UND2J U01f Napoleon's last victory. of Ligny (June 16th, 1815). Home to the Museum of the Battle Centre Général Gérard иоладиЪ ауз 40 sdats400£ ауз иI



Printed in Belgium (10/2014)

Rue Saint Bernard, 30 - 1060 Brusse

Walionie-Bruxelies Lourisme ASB

Vallonie-Bruxelles Tourisme ASBI

and attention of es and aut andsad 'suonesun

held liable for any error

o circumstances can the edi

This publication

Edited by

In the Footsteps of the Emperor, from Beaumont to Waterloo















1 Hestrud Napoleon's gateway to Wallonia

Set clinging to the slopes of a hill overlooking Thure valley, Hestrud is a peaceful village on the French border, midway between Avesnes and Beaumont. The bridge crossing the village river has a fascinating story to tell, for it was here, on June 14th, 1815, that a particularly audacious young villager ordered

Napoleon Bonaparte to halt his onward march. A small stele at the river's edge marks the site of this visionary conversation.

2 Beaumont

Camp at the foot of the Tour Salamandre tower

The gateway to Belgium for many invading armies, Beaumont is still home to the remains of numerous medieval fortifications. Napoleon's troops set up their first camp here on June 14th, 1815, at the foot of the 11thcentury Tour Salamandre, rising to a height of 34 metres. It is now home to a small local history museum. The Emperor spent the night a stone's throw away, at the mansion house of Maurice Gabriel Joseph Riquet de Caraman, the Prince of Chimay, as witnessed by a plaque adorned with the imperial eagle on the frontage. The house is now a secondary school.



 Office du Tourisme de Beaumont 10 Grand Place à B-6500 Beaumont Tél: 0032/71.58.81.91 @:officetourismebeaumont@skynet.be



3 Thuin Two UNESCO Heritage jewels

Located 16 kilometres from Beaumont, slightly off the road taken by Napoleon, the town of Thuin is definitely worth going out of your way for. Thuin is home to 2 UNESCO World Heritage jewels: its 17th-century belfry, measuring 60 metres in height, and the Marche Saint-Roch, an equally ancient religious and folk procession (UNESCO Immaterial World

Heritage), that takes place yearly on the third weekend in May.

But this area of Wallonia, known as Thudinie, is also a region of abbeys and castles, museums dedicated to canal transport and tramways, and spectacular scenery and sights such as the hanging gardens.

Although Napoleon didn't set foot here, Thuin was the stage for various confrontations between French and Prussian troops on the morning of June 15th, 1815.

 Maison du Tourisme du Val de Sambre et Thudinie 2 place Albert 1er à B-6530 Thuin Tél: 0032/71.59.69.19

@:www.visitthudinie.be

4 Château du Fosteau The Headquarters of General Reille

It was here in this sturdy, 14th-century castle that General Reille, Chief of Napoleon's 2nd Army Corps, set up his headquarters on June 15th, 1815. Elegantly furnished in a blend of traditional and contemporary styles and adorned with magnificent grounds, the castle is also home to a small area dedicated to the illustrious general and a surprising living museum of the local apothecary.

Château du Fosteau 1 rue du Marquis à B-6530 Leers-et-Fosteau (Thuin) Tél: 0032/ 71.59.23.44 @:www.chateaufosteau.be

5 Biercée

A medieval farm turned into a distillery

Situated just a few minutes from Thuin, the village of Ragnies, ranked as one of Wallonia's most beautiful villages, is home to the only Belgian distillery producing brandy and fruit liqueurs. The distillery is set inside Ferme de la Cour, a splendid, fullyrestored square construction still featuring a 14th-century keep. The keep is a remnant of the medieval court of justice of Lobbes Abbey, which formerly laid down laws and criminal sentences. The Biercée distillery produces the acclaimed Eau de Villée, P'tit Péket, Poire William n°1 and La Mandarine Napoleon - a liqueur inspired by Napoleon's habit of mixing brandy and tangerine juice.



 Distillerie de Biercée 36 rue de la Roquette à B-6532 Ragnies Tél: 0032/71.50.00.50 @:visit@distilleriedebiercee.com



6 Ham-sur-Heure **Chapelle des Trois Arbres**

Dedicated to Notre Dame de la Victoire, this chapel is located in the hamlet of «Les Trois Arbres». Napoleon arrived here on June 15th, 1815, at around 9.30 a.m. The Emperor watched his army proudly parading along the main road, or «Grande Voie».

\bigcirc Chapelle

7 Jamioulx

des Trois Arbres 31, Chemin des Trois Arbres à B-6120 Ham-sur-Heure

The memory of a promise...

Set on the road leading to

Charleroi, after Ham-sur-Heure

and its hamlets, the village



He approached and offered him a glass of Chambertin, his

a young pear tree.

was so impressed with the priest's intelligence that he asked him to write his name down in his notebook, adding by hand that he would make a fine future Bishop of Tournai. Of course, the defeat of Waterloo thwarted this promise.

Eglise Saint-André

8 Fleurus

The site of a triple French victory

The town of Fleurus was the site of three French military victories, commemorated with a monument set at the foot of an ancient mill: that of July 1st, 1690, which opposed the French troops of Marshal Luxembourg and a coalition uniting virtually all of the rest of Europe, the better-known victory of June 26th, 1794, when the French revolutionary army conquered the Dutch-Austrian coalition, and that of June 16th, 1815, which took place 2 days before Waterloo. The Battle of Fleurus-Ligny took place in several towns.



The locality, situated 14 kilometres north-east of Charleroi, is still home to various buildings that witnessed the latter battle, such as Moulin Naveau mill, where Napoleon set up camp to study the local topography, Château de Zualart, which was his headquarters, Eglise Saint-Victor, which was used as a hospital and Château de la Paix, 61 chemin de Mons, where he spent the night. Now the town hall, this building will be featuring a reconstruction of Napoleon's bedroom in 2015.

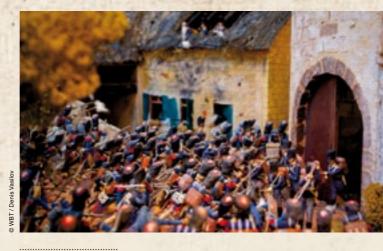
Office Communal du Tourisme fleurusien 2 rue de la Virginette à B-6220 Fleurus

Tél: 0032/71.88.50.72 - GSM: 0494.64.52.85 http://www.fleurus-tourisme.be laurent.fauville@fleurus-tourisme.be

9 Ligny

Napoleon's last victory

On Friday June 16th, 1815, a historical chapter in the life of the village of Ligny was written in blood... For over six hours 157,000 men fought here, decimating the fruit of the labour of an entire population. The Centre Général Gérard - the local tourist office - is set inside a 17th-century farmstead and features a restaurant and museum dedicated entirely to the historical Battle of Ligny and this bloody day of fighting.



Centre Général Gérard 23 rue Pont Piraux à B-5140 Ligny Tél: 0032/71.81.83.13 @:www.si-ligny.be

> Commemoration of the Bicentenary of the Battle of Ligny June 12th-16th, 2015 @:www.1815ligny2015.be



10 Quatre-Bras de Baisy-Thy The first Franco-British battle

As the Franco-Prussian battle of Ligny wound up on June 16th, 1815 with a semi-victory for the French, the battle taking place simultaneously between the French and British at Quatre-Bras de Baisy-Thy ended without a real winner, as if to pre-empt the coming Great Battle of Waterloo.

The battlefield has never even been officially recognised and only a few, sparse monuments mark the event, such as the impressive column erected in 1890 in honour of the Duke of Brunswick, who

fell while attempting to quell the wave of panic that came over the young troops.

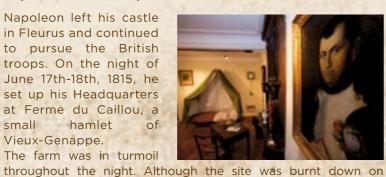
Syndicat d'initiative de Genappe 38 rue de Bruxelles à B-1470 Genappe

Tél: 0032/67.77.23.43 @: www.sigenappe.be • info@sigenappe.be

11 Vieux-Genappe Napoleon's last headquarters

Napoleon left his castle in Fleurus and continued to pursue the British troops. On the night of June 17th-18th, 1815, he set up his Headquarters at Ferme du Caillou, a small hamlet Vieux-Genappe.

The farm was in turmoil

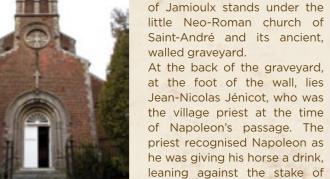


the eve of the battle, it has now been converted into an interesting museum in honour of Napoleon. Exhibits include Napoleon's authentic camp beds, his death mask, a lock of hair and personal objects, as well as many relics discovered on the battlefield.

An ossuary in the grounds houses the human bones ceaselessly unearthed on the battlefield, among those of the 10,000 or so horses that also perished during the fighting.

Napoleon's last headquarters

66 chaussée de Bruxelles à B-1472 Vieux-Genappe Tél: 0032/23.84.24.24 @:dernier.qg.napoleon@skynet.be



favourite wine. They struck up a conversation and the Emperor

5, rue Willy Brogneaux B-6120 Jamioulx

12 The Waterloo Battlefield

Spanning the towns of Braine-l'Alleud, Genappe, Lasne and Waterloo, the Waterloo Battlefield covers an area of just over 6,200 acres of fields, hills and valleys, as described by one of its former inhabitants, Victor Hugo. The battlefield stands under a monumental mound, topped by an equally monumental iron lion, symbolizing Holland's participation in the Anglo-Prussian victory.

The Lion Mound, set at its feet, has become one of Wallonia's major touristic, historic and cultural attractions over the centuries. It has undertaken major embellishment work in preparation for the bicentenary celebrations. A new memorial is set to be erected here too.

Several historic farms in the vicinity, such as Mont-Saint-Jean and Hougoumont, are also undergoing refurbishment and scenographic work. They will be welcoming a reconstruction of the Empire's largest camp from June 18th to 21st, 2015 - a first in Europe - featuring around 5,000 re-enactors.



Maison du Tourisme de Waterloo 218 chaussée de Bruxelles à B-1410 Waterloo Tél: 0032/23.52.09.10 @:www.waterloo-tourisme.com

Battle of Waterloo Bicentenary Celebrations from June 18th to 21st, 2015 @:www.waterloo2015.org

13 Braine-l'Alleud Panorama of the Battle of Waterloo

Standing in the shade of the Lion, the Panorama of the Battle of Waterloo has also undergone a facelift. An ancestor of the cinema, now a UNESCO World Heritage monument, this 110-metre long and 12-metre high canvas portrays several battle scenes.

Visitor's Centre 315 Route du Lion à B-1420 Braine-l'Alleud

Tél: 0032/23.85.19.12



14 Waterloo Wellington Museum

After the Four Arms Battle (Bataille des Quatre-Bras), Wellington set up his headquarters at the Auberge Bodenghien, in the centre of the village of Waterloo, from June 17th to 19th, 1815. It is here that he drew up

his victory bulletin, which he named Waterloo, to the detriment of Mont-Saint-Jean, Plancenoit and Belle-Alliance, preferred by many soldiers.

This vast construction, built in 1705, is now home to a remarkable museum evoking the various phases of the battle, combat by combat, and its repercussions on the history of Europe and even the world. An entire room is dedicated to the 124 other Waterloos spread throughout the world, mostly created by demobilised British veterans who were offered plots of land in the colonies and hastened to christen them with the name of their last and most glorious battle.

Set opposite the museum is the Royal Chapel of Waterloo, built in 1687 in honour of Charles II of Spain to assist him in obtaining male heirs to the throne. But it was not to be. On the day after the battle, the chapel was converted into a temple honouring Wellington and his allies. The walls of the adjacent church are adorned with numerous funeral plagues of officers and soldiers killed in combat.

Wellington Museum

- 147 chaussée de Bruxelles à B-1410 Waterloo Tél: 0032/23.57.28.60
- @:www.museewellington.be museeweelington@skynet.be



On the way...

There are many other places of interest unrelated to the story of Napoleon just near the itinerary don't miss them!

A Boussu-Lez-Walcourt

Lacs de l'Eau d'Heure Set in a vast forest. Lacs

de l'Eau d'Heure is a genuine paradise for walkers and nature

lovers. The site offers over 25 sporting and recreational activities.

O Centre d'accueil de la Plate Taille 99 route de la Plate Taille à B-6440 Boussu-lez-Walcourt

Tel: 0032/71.50.92.92 Fax: 0032/71.50.92.93 @:www.lacsdeleaudheure.be

B Marcinelle



Bois du Cazier in Marcinelle is a reconstruction of life in the collieries of yesteryear. This mine was created further to an Imperial decree. Today, it is also home to two museums dedicated to glass and industry - a fitting remin-

Bois-du-Cazier

Ranked as a UNESCO

World Heritage Site

and a living memorial

to one of the biggest

ever mining disasters,

Maison du Tourisme du Pays de Charleroi 20 place Charles II à B-6000 Charleroi Tél: 0032/71.86.14.14

der of the Charleroi area's rich industrial past.

Le Bois du Cazier 80 rue du Cazier à B-6001 Marcinelle Tél : 0032/71.88.08.56 @:www.leboisducazier.be

@:www.paysdecharleroi.be

C Charleroi **Photography Museum**



Set inside an ancient Neo-Sothic church, the Photography Museum (Musée de la notographie) puts the spotlight on the technical and artistic diversity of the art of photography. It is currently urope's largest photography seum

Maison du Tourisme du Pays de Charleroi 20 place Charles II à B-6000 Charleroi Tél: 0032/71.86.14.14

Musée de la Photographie de Charleroi 11 avenue Paul Pastur à B-6032 Charleroi Tél: 0032/71.43.58.10 @:www.museephoto.be

D Villers-la-Ville Abbey **Europe's finest Cistercian remains!**

@:www.paysdecharleroi.be

One of Wallonia's foremost heritage sites and a must-do during your visit, the exceptional remains of Villers-la-Ville Abbey are located just a stone's throw from the road taken by Napoleon's troops. Founded in 1146 under the impetus of Saint Bernard, this Cistercian abbey lived its spiritual heyday in the 13th century, when it was home to up to 100 monks and three times as many lay brothers. During the French Revolution, it was sold by the State to a building supplier, who set about dismantling it. However, its remains still stand witness to its former pomp and splendour.

Without a doubt one of the finest Cistercian monuments in Europe, the abbey has inspired many romantic authors including Victor Hugo, who used it as the setting for some of the scenes from Les Misérables.



Maison du Tourisme du Pays

Tél: 0032/71.88.09.90

Abbaye de Villers

@:www.villers.be info@villers.be

de Villers en Brabant wallon

55 rue de l'Abbaye à B-1495 Villers-la-Ville

@:www.paysdevillers-tourisme.be

info@paysdevillers-tourisme.be

55 rue de l'Abbaye à B-1495 Villers-la-Ville

summer, the abbey velcomes various theatrical, musical and historical events. ts atmosphere is truly magical: the medicinal plant garden offers a fascinating nsight into the history of medicine and the guided ours, on a variety of themes, are not to be missed (with reservation).

E Sainte-Gertrude de Nivelles Coll legiate Church



Ranked as a Wallonia exceptional heritage site, the Collégiale Sainte-Gertrude is a majestic monument boasting an exceptionally harmonious architecture. The church overlooks the Grand-Place, with its chic new facelift. This absolute jewel of Romanesque art, set right in the fully-redesigned town centre, forms the heart of Nivelles and attracts many tourists every year.

It originally dates back to the Merovingian era: the wife of Pépin de Landen founded an abbey in 650, whose first Abbess was their daughter, Saint Gertrude, the greatgreat-aunt of Charlemagne.

Maison du Tourisme du Roman Païs 48 Rue de Saintes à B-1400 Nivelles Tél : 0032/67.22.04.44 Fax : 0032/67.21.98.88 @:www.tourisme-roman-pais.be info@tourisme-roman-pais.be

Office du Tourisme de Nivelles 48 Rue de Saintes à B-1400 Nivelles Tél: 0032/67.84.08.64 Fax: 0032/67.21.57.13 a: www.tourisme-nivelles.be info@tourisme-nivelles.be



Waterloo Braine-l'Alleud

Quatre Bras D O Abbave de Villers-la-Vi

Fleurus

O Bois du Cazier

Z Jamioulx

Charlero Marcinelle

Inun. 3 Ragnies 5

de l'Eau d'Heure 🔿 🗚

Leers-et-Fosteau O 4

Beaumont

