

explore **me**  
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*Explore Meuse, the beating heart of Wallonia*

© Explore Meuse - Denis Clabson



Fonds européen agricole  
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VISIT  
**Wallonia**  
.be



# Between Meuse and marvels, between hills and valleys, Explore Meuse is a must in Belgium

Located at the very centre of Wallonia, Explore Meuse boasts incredible diversity covering 12 municipalities:  
**Anhée, Dinant, Éghezée, Fernelmont, Fosses-la-Ville, Hastière, La Bruyère, Mettet, Namur, Onhaye, Profondeville and Yvoir.**

## Discover a multifaceted region

- The Meuse, a long, quiet river
- Namur, Capital of Wallonia
- Dinant, a picture-postcard city
- 2 citadels with a glorious past
- 2 cable cars offering breathtaking panoramic views
- 6 valleys bathed in light
- 6 majestic plateaus dominating the horizon
- Steep cliffs at the water's edge
- Wide plains interspersed with big farms.

## Explore Meuse tourist board

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visit us

*12 regions unite  
 for a boundless  
 adventure*



## Experience emotion across the seasons

**In summer,**  
 climb, paddle, hurtle downhill, pedal, jump, fly, get the adrenaline pumping.

**In winter,**  
 enjoy, taste, explore, walk, relax, destress.

**Explore Meuse**  
 is a land to be savoured, boasting unmissable beauty spots, nature at your fingertips and stories to enthral you.

Get to know our producers, immerse yourself in our region and our way of life, share unique experiences.

*Look forward to a great adventure!*





© WBT - Denis Closon - Namur

## *Descend deep into the underground passages of the Namur Citadel*

Discover one of its hidden treasures: the Delforge Perfumery, where the finest perfumes are crafted and matured. Visit the workshop and drink in the fragrances.



© ExploreMeuse - DenisCloson - Namur



© ExploreMeuse - DenisCloson - Parfumerie Delforge

## **A treasure trove of history and culture**

Set at the confluence of the Sambre and the Meuse rivers, protected by its majestic citadel, Wallonia's capital is the perfect place to stroll around.

Dive into its maze of historic little streets. Explore the mysterious underground passages of its citadel where soldiers come back to life at your side. Discover the treasures of its museums, bearing witness to its rich cultural past.

Between lively terraces and welcoming boutiques, be charmed by the Namur lifestyle, where history mingles with contemporary life.



© Vincent Ferroz - Pixel Komando - Citadelle Namur



## *Namur, Capital of Wallonia*

© ExploreMeuse - DenisCloson - Namu Confluence



# Dinant to the tune of Sax



## A great photo opportunity

The city of Dinant is often referred to as the photogenic daughter of the Meuse. An imposing rock topped by the citadel, adorned with coloured houses and enhanced by the Meuse flowing past below, overlooks the Collegiate Church. An unmissable photo opportunity.



© Explore Meuse - Denis Closon



© Explore Meuse - Denis Closon



© Explore Meuse - Denis Closon



© Explore Meuse - Denis Closon

## A picture-postcard city

Dinant is a treasure of Belgian history, famous for its close connection with Adolphe Sax, inventor of the saxophone, as well as for its picturesque landscapes. Nestling on a narrow strip of land between the Meuse and rocks, Dinant ranks as one of Europe's most beautiful little cities. Admire its enchanting Disney-like setting from the river bank with its Croisette or esplanade.



# A nature reserve with Castles, Fortresses and Water Gardens

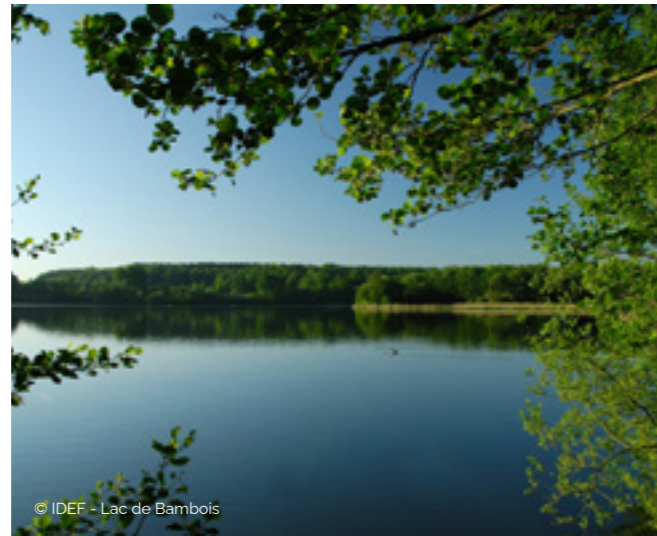
Set off to explore our medieval ruins and our two Great Ladies, the citadels of Namur and Dinant, bearing historical witness to the strategic importance of the region across the centuries. As a highly coveted stronghold throughout the ages, the Meuse valley is home to many castles. Perched on a rocky outcrop or standing peacefully on the plain, the Meuse castles showcase an incredible variety of landscapes and architecture.

Discover our priceless natural treasures, including the Annevoie Gardens, where water dances among the flowerbeds thanks to dozens of waterfalls, fountains, ponds and pools.

The gardens of Bambois Lake, meanwhile, are a haven of peace set in the midst of lush, protected countryside. A paradise for many birds.



Our citadels, castles and fortresses



© IDEF - Lac de Bambois



© Daniel Fouss - Jardins d'Annevoie



©Citadelle Dinant



©Schmitt - GlobalView - Citadelle Namur

History, from Citadels to Fortresses



Montaigne fortified castle

© Philippe Francx - Utopix



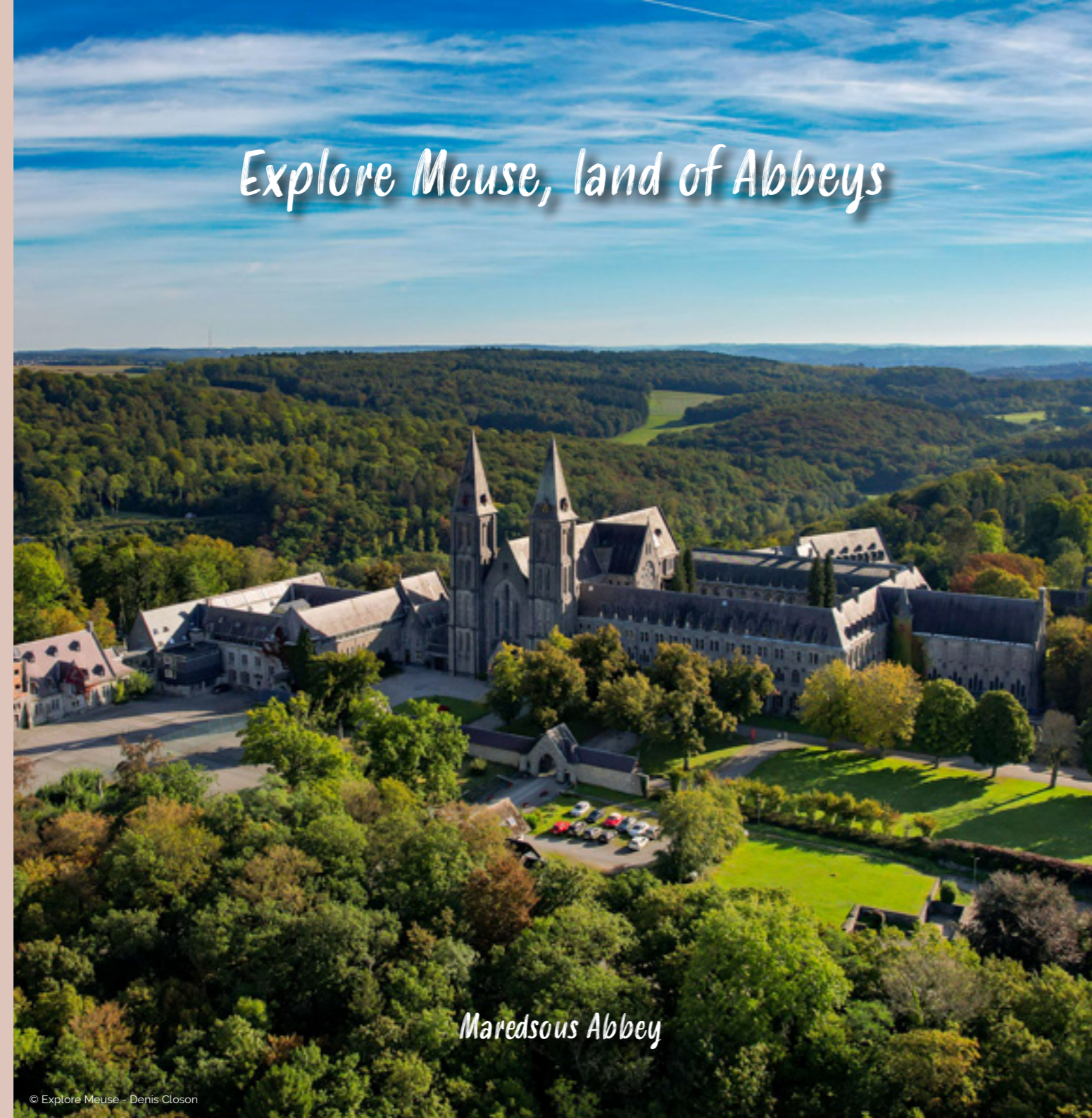
## Churches and Abbeys, a sacred heritage

Explore these majestic sites brimming with spirituality and secrets, impressive for both their size and their history. From small churches to cathedrals, the atmosphere in these buildings dotted throughout the region will arouse your admiration. Discover our abbeys and be captivated by the beauty of their architecture, the tranquillity of their gardens and the wealth of their monastic traditions.



Discover our churches and abbeys

## Explore Meuse, land of Abbeys



Maredsous Abbey

### ♥ Maredsous Abbey In the footsteps of the Benedictine monks

Maredsous Abbey perpetuates the welcoming tradition of the Benedictine monks. Enjoy the serenity and the friendliness that pervade the site. Treat your taste buds to its typical gastronomy, visit its little cheesemaking museum and savour the unmissable Maredsous beers, including those brewed on site. Maredsous Abbey will share with you its soul of bygone days in the heart of the Molinee valley.



### ♥ Saint-Loup Church

Standing in the historic centre of Namur, Saint-Loup Church is a gem of Baroque art. Listed as part of the exceptional heritage of Wallonia, it boasts a grandiose interior enhanced by superb furnishings.



### ♥ Notre-Dame du Vivier Abbey A place marked by history in a green setting

A few kilometres from Namur, on the edge of the Marche-les-Dames woods, stands Notre-Dame du Vivier Abbey, a Cistercian monastery dating back almost a thousand years. Of all the women's abbeys founded in the Namur region, this is the only one whose buildings and site remain intact. The abbey has returned to life, with activities and events organised throughout the seasons. Take a break to enjoy gourmet food in the Bethléem chapel and savour the 'Clem de Castro' beer.





*Stunning panoramas at every turn*



*The medieval ruins of Poilvache*





*Magnificent landscapes  
await you*

## The quiet Meuse, a natural haven of peace

Let yourself be carried along by the gentle Meuse, where time slows down to allow you to enjoy the tranquillity of its peaceful waters. Discover rejuvenating activities on calm waters and through undulating landscapes, shaped by tributaries that spring from the neighbouring plateaus. Explore our picturesque villages pervaded by serenity, culture and local traditions.



*Walking with a difference*



© Denis Closon



© Agence Voila



© WBT - Bruno D'Alimonte - Draisines de la Molinee



© WBT - Olivier Bourgi



© Denis Closon

### *A trip back in time on the rails*

Start your trip on board an authentic railcar dating from the 1950s on Belgium's most spectacular railway line: the Bocq valley line. Then head towards the old railway along the Molinee valley to enjoy a picturesque, energetic trip on a draisine, a pedal-powered railbike.



# The Meuse in action, an adventure along the water

Dive into the sparkling summer of the Meuse! Kayaks, paddles, pedalos or packrafts: be carried away by the nautical fun to be had on this dynamic river. Summer is set to be a season of unforgettable adventures borne by the flowing water.



*More info*



© Dinant Evasion



© Club Alpin Belge - François Kivik



©WBT - Benjamin Potie - The Flow



© ExploreMeuse - Denis Closon



© OTN-Namur - Les capitaineries Namur

## Drop anchor in Explore Meuse



©Explore Meuse - Denis Closon - Namur sans amarres



# A life-size playground

The Freÿr Rocks

## From adventure to adventure, on the ground or up in the air

Explore Meuse is the ideal destination for sports lovers and thrill seekers. In the forest, in the air or on the ground: mountaineering, paragliding, freefall or driving on a professional circuit in the heart of the countryside - the region has no lack of challenges to take on!



All the sports activities



## Head for the heights

The Freÿr Rocks are renowned as Belgium's best rock climbing site. These steep cliffs comprise five main rocks with almost 600 climbing paths, a highline of 770 metres and above all, a breathtaking view across the valley.



*In Explore Meuse, we love to party!*



*Namur stilt walkers*



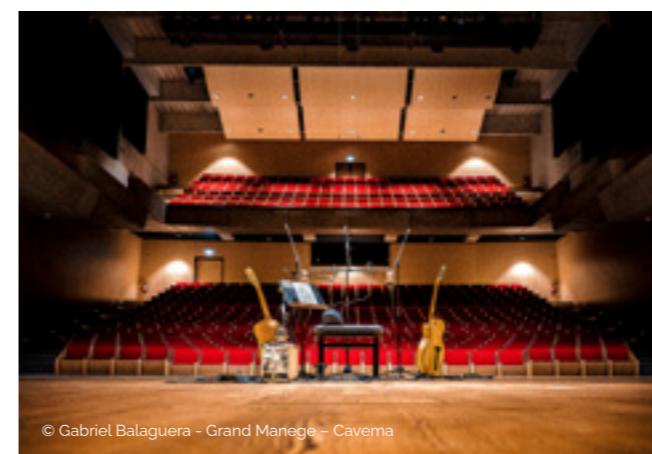
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© Gabriel Balaguera - Grand Manège - Cavema



© COTN - Namur en Mai

## Events, Culture & Folklore

Delve into the folklore traditions of the Meuse region, bearing witness to its rich, vibrant cultural heritage. Admire the elegance of the Namur stilt walkers, take part in the Chinels Carnival and the seven-year Saint-Feuillen folklore walk, and celebrate the very essence of Wallonia during the Festival of Wallonia.

The city of Namur is a crossroads of culture and folklore, hosting multiple annual events that transform the city into planet people, an open-air circus and a great musical gathering.

In the city centre, you can also discover the Grand Manège concert hall, an unmissable spot for music lovers in Namur. It offers a varied, high-quality programme in a superb setting.



Events calendar



# Regional products and craft workers, local treasures to savour

Meet our local producers and discover the authentic flavours of the Explore Meuse region. Enjoy the fine wines from our many vineyards, the variety of beers produced in our craft breweries and the delicious Wépion strawberries, the valley's emblematic fruit.

What's more, Explore Meuse is rich in gastronomic experiences. Here you will find a varied range of starred restaurants where you can discover elegant dishes prepared for your delight by our renowned chefs.

Dive into a unique gastronomic experience where every mouthful reveals the flavours of our region.



© Denis Closon



© CGT - Arnaud Siquet



© WBT



© Explore Meuse - Denis Closon



Discover our regional products



© Explore Meuse - Denis Closon



Wine beckons in Sambre et Meuse

© Domaine du Chenoy



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Anhée – Dinant – Eghezée – Fernelmont

Fosses-la-Ville – Hastière – La Bruyère

Mettet – Namur – Onhaye – Profondeville – Yvoir

