

ROAD BOOK

EN



DISCOVERY WALKS

Character Villages

of **ROCHFORT**
MARCHE-EN-FAMENNE
NASSOGNE





Summary

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2011 Edition

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Sources/Collaborations

- ▶ Maison du Tourisme
du Val de Lesse
- ▶ Syndicat d'Initiative de Rochefort
- ▶ Office Royal du Tourisme
de Han-sur-Lesse
- ▶ Office Communal du Tourisme
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Presentation

The non-profit making association **GAL RoMaNa*** was born in October 2009 at the initiative of the councils of Rochefort, Marche-en-Famenne and Nassogne as part of the community program **LEADER**, which is a European initiative for rural development. This initiative aims to encourage the implementation of sustainable rural development strategies in a clearly defined territory. The project, handled by our Local Action Group, plans a number of joint actions designed to promote local products, exchanges in the guise of a cultural platform, mobility projects, audio-visual promotion...

This road-book is part of the 'tourism' section of the actions undertaken by one of our LAG members, namely the Maison du Tourisme du Pays de Marche & Nassogne. These actions are realized in close collaboration with the Tourist Information Centres of the area and the Maison du Tourisme du Val de Lesse.

The idea is to make available a number of walks allowing you to discover some of our charming villages. The level of difficulty of the walks ranges from easy to average. These **9 family oriented walks** (3 per council) are a great way of (re)discovering our superb natural, rural and built heritage.

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*In English :

GAL = LAG which stands for
Local Action Group



9 DISCOVERY WALKS








1.24 miles

(2 km)





Legend

MAP OF THE
3 COUNCILS

-  Accommodation
-  Restaurant and/or pub
-  Information
-  Viewpoint
-  Picnic area
-  Barbecue area
-  Station

Legend


MAPS OF THE
WALKS

-  01 Departure
-  Tip : don't miss this!




 Gravel/earth road

 Play ground

 Parking

 Church


 Chapel

 Walking trails in Rochefort


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prolong your walk

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Rambler's code

- ▶ Please respect the traffic law which applies to country paths as well as to public roads. You also need to follow all traffic interdictions and restrictions.
- ▶ Walk on the pavement when there is one, if not walk on the left side of the road, facing the upcoming traffic.
- ▶ Make sure that you are always clearly visible for drivers (wear light/bright colours).
- ▶ Stay on the paths and follow the permanent or temporary signposting.
- ▶ Please show the utmost respect for private property, do not enter before obtaining the owner's prior permission.



- ▶ When you meet other ramblers/people, please respect the rules of common courtesy at all times. Take the initiative, greet them !
- ▶ Please be discreet, remember that noise can be a nuisance.
- ▶ Don't scare the field animals.
- ▶ Keep dogs on a leash and under tight control.
- ▶ Respect natural areas, fauna and flora, don't pick anything.
- ▶ Don't drop litter or dump rubbish.
- ▶ It is strictly prohibited to light fires.





Rochefort, tourism and heritage

**HAN-SUR-LESSE**

P. 10

**EPRAVE / LESSIVE /
VILLERS-SUR-LESSE**

P. 16

LAVAUX-SAINTE-ANNE

P. 22

Rochefort, capital of the Comedy Festival and home of the renowned Trappist beer (best drunk with a side dish of tasty Rochefort cheeses), is located in the Calestienne, a natural area whose mineral resources predestined it to give birth to myriads of mysterious caves. Its low population density resulted in a scattering of villages and hamlets, refuges synonymous with peace and quiet.

The main reasons for the expansion of tourism in the Rochefort area are definitely its incredible mineral resources and its two main watercourses, the Lesse and the Lhomme. During the course of millennia, these rivers dug out the **cave of Han** but also the **cave of Lorette-Rochefort**.

Several nature reserves are nestled around the edge of a wood or a plain and our most famous natural reserve is home to the **Wildlife Reserve in Han-sur-Lesse** and its numerous animal species.

Approximately 280 miles of **waymarked walking routes**, which you can discover on foot, by horse, bike or mountain bike will allow you to uncover the beauty of this natural environment. During your travels you will encounter breathtaking **panoramas**, such as the Belvédère in Han and the Rond du Roi in Rochefort.





The 13.6 miles long **RAVEL** foot and cycle path links Jemelle to Houyet and is a convivial way to recharge your batteries in the middle of nature. On the way back, you can visit all of our attractions while taking the time to sample one of our tasty culinary specialties or refreshing beverages comfortably seated on a cosy terrace...

Everywhere you look, you will be amazed by our rural and cultural heritage : the **castle of Lavaux-Sainte-Anne**, the **Gallo-Roman Archaeopark** of Malagne, the **Castle of the Counts** in Rochefort, the **Animation Centre for Rail and Stone, House for Country Life, Tourist Train**, an **ostrich farm** in Navaugle and a lot more.

Whether you are here for a couple of hours or a couple of days, the town centre offers you a verdant and listed park; the **Park des Roches** which boasts an open-air swimming pool, playground and miniature golf course...

The **Provincial Park of Chevetogne** is absolutely ideal for spending a nice day: sumptuous thematic gardens and magnificently designed playgrounds compete for your attention...

Culture lovers will be delighted by the **Cultural Centre des Roches**, a cultural hub which will enlighten your autumn and winter evenings with a variety of musical and theatrical shows.

The people of Rochefort love enjoying themselves and the town resounds with bursts of laughter. You can participate in all kinds of events; ranging from country balls illuminated with paper lanterns to craft markets, and from evening markets to farmers' markets...





2.8 miles
(4,5 km)

FORÊT DE FREYR

Rue du Point de Vue

N86

Rue des Chasseurs Ardennois

N86

DOMAIN OF THE CAVES OF HAN

P

P

0.12 miles
(200 m)

Rue du Plan d'Eau



Rue de la Source

N86

Rue de Charleville

Han-sur-Lesse

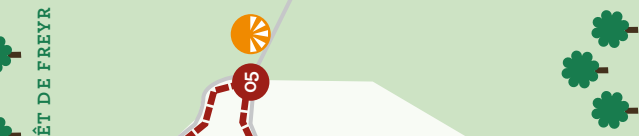


Rue des Grottes

Rue de la Fontaine Saint-Martin

Rue des Maronniers

Rue des Grottes



TIP



Han-sur-Lesse



01 THE WALK STARTS FROM THE THÉO LANNOY SQUARE.

The current **church** was built in 1905 as a replacement for one of those small religious edifices that were once at the heart of every village. In front of the church, a linden tree bears traces of a large number of nails... Local folklore attributes medicinal virtues to the tree. Apparently - so they say - all you need to do is touch the decaying tooth with a nail, then hammer the nail into the tree to pass on the ailment to the tree and be relieved of the pain...

02 WALK BY THE CHURCH AND TAKE THE RUE DES GROTTES (COBBLE STONES), THE VILLAGE'S MAIN SHOPPING STREET.

Departure

- Place Théo Lannoy
5580 Han-sur-Lesse

GPS coord.

50°7'32.38" N 5°11'13.65" E
50.12566 N 5.18713 E

Distance

2.8 miles 6.21 9.32

Level of difficulty
easy



Several buildings still bear witness to the agricultural nature of the village. For example, right after the chemist's on your left hand side, a typical farmhouse façade in limestone is a perfect illustration of a traditional farmhouse building. From left to right, the main building, the large, high barn door and the stables that used to shelter the livestock during the winter months.

On the other side of the road, the **House for Country Life and Forgotten Crafts** still carries the traces of a barn door on its façade. Its particular shape enabled easy access to the highly heaped carts of hay or straw that were used to provide food and bedding for the livestock.



03 CONTINUE ON THE RUE DES GROTTES UNTIL THE VILLAGE EXIT, THEN TAKE THE NARROW BRIDGE THAT CROSSES THE RI DE LA PLANCHE (PLANCHE MEANS PLANK: THE NAME OF THIS SMALL RIVER PROBABLY IS AN ALLUSION TO THE PLANK THAT WAS ONCE USED AS A BRIDGE).

A wide view of the landscape unfolds itself.

04 CONTINUE STRAIGHT AHEAD TOWARDS THE AGRICULTURAL UNDERTAKING THAT IS SETTLED ON THE EDGE OF THE VALLEY. WALK PAST THE FARM BEFORE WALKING UP THE MAIN HILL OF THE WALK.

You have reached one of the terraces of a former alluvial plain, as evidenced by the numerous sandstone shingles. Enjoy the opportunity of a short pause on the hilltop bench... and remind yourself of the fact that you are now in the **Famenne area**, where the altitude rarely exceeds 984 feet and where the climate is a lot more temperate than in the Ardennes...

The mineral resources of north Famenne are almost exclusively composed of schist, an extremely brittle rock. The southern





part of the Famenne, between the schist-laden Famenne soil and the Ardennes, is called the **Calestienne**, which is where you are now. The Calestienne area is a narrow strip of only a couple of miles long which stretches out across the entire breadth of Wallonia, from Chimay to Couvin in the west, to Hamoir, Ferrières and Aywaille in the east, even passing through Givet (in France), Beauraing, Rochefort, Marche-en-Famenne, Hotton and Durbuy. The word Calestienne was invented by botanists who were so impressed by the local flora - that is incomparable to anything found in the adjacent areas - that they thought it would be a good idea to give this small but singular territory its own specific name. The etymology of the word Calestienne refers to the limestone that you have had the pleasure of admiring on the façades in the village and that constitutes most of the hills that encircle the Lesse valley.

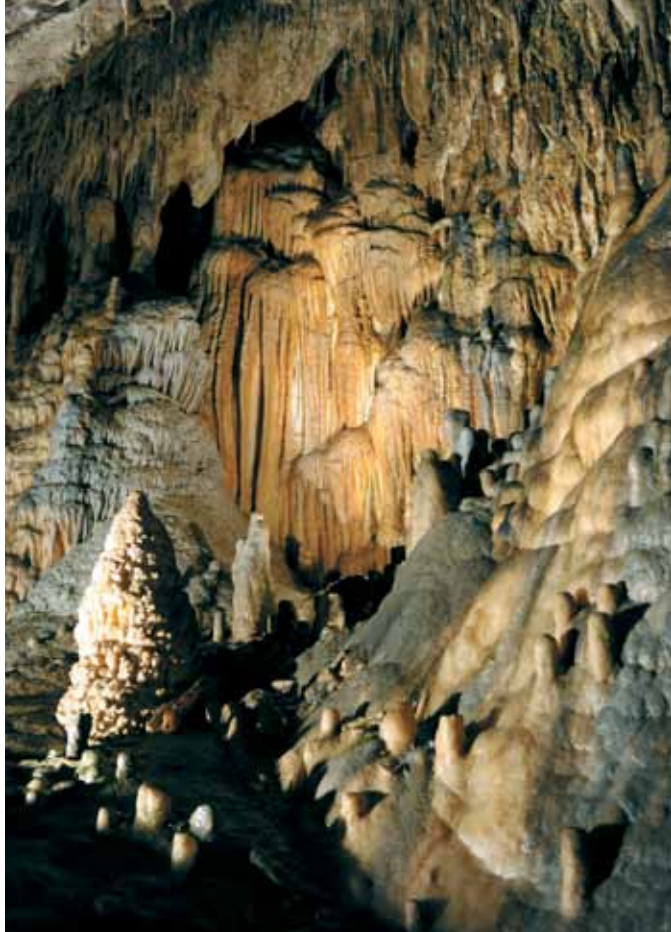
Once again, it's the physical and chemical properties of this same limestone that led to the creation of the famous caves of Han-sur-Lesse.

05 CAREFULLY WALK DOWN THE SMALL EARTHEN ROAD ON YOUR LEFT.

Naturally dug out in the schist, this road is flanked on either side by **natural hedges** composed of hawthorn, blackthorn, hazel, oak, and wild pear-trees. At the bottom of the hill, the landscape unfolds to reveal a wide view.

06 BACK ON THE ASPHALT ROAD, TURN LEFT AND CONTINUE STRAIGHT AHEAD UNTIL THE MONUMENT.

This **inter-Allied monument** is a reminder of the tragic events of the Second World War, the acts of resistance that marked the area and the crash of an American Bomber in the nearby forest.



TO GO BACK TO THE VILLAGE OF HAN,
FOLLOW THE NARROW ASPHALT ROAD.

The road forms a number of hairpin turns before crossing the valley bottom. A small brook streams alongside the edge of the road.

07 BACK ON THE SMALL BRIDGE THAT
CROSSES THE RI DE LA PLANCHE,
TURN LEFT IMMEDIATELY AND DISCOVER
WHERE THE BROOK HAS LED YOU.

An alley of horse chestnut trees leads you to the foot of another hill that was formerly known as the **Mountain of Han**.

This is the Boine massif, the limestone hill that houses the celebrated **caves of Han**. The Lesse reappears at the cave exit. It takes the river anything from 3 to 24 hours to cross the massif, depending on its rate of flow.

The river entirely disappears in the limestone subsoil at the **Gouffre de Belvaux** (Belvaux sinkhole), a site only accessible during the visit to the Wildlife Reserve. The absorption capacity of the sinkhole is limited to 25m³/second. And yet, during periods of heavy rain or when the Ardennes snow melts, the Lesse river flow achieves a far higher rate and an overflow gathers upstream of the Gouffre de Belvaux which suddenly reaches the level of the old alluvial plain. The Lesse then flows back into its former river bed and floods the valley you have just discovered. Sometimes, this phenomenon takes place several times a year. The 'Ayets' (nickname of the villagers of Han) then say that the Lesse 'turns'...

08 GO BACK TO THE VILLAGE CENTRE BY THE SMALL PATH THAT WAS BUILT SO THAT VISITORS CAN WALK BACK TO THE VILLAGE AFTER VISITING THE CAVES.

09 OR, IF YOU'D RATHER STROLL AROUND FOR A WHILE, TAKE THE NARROW PATH THAT RUNS ALONGSIDE THE LESSE RIVER AND TAKES YOU TO THE HAMPTAY NEIGHBOURHOOD, JUST BEFORE THE CHURCH SQUARE.

The Lesse takes you back to the village, to which it gave its name, as the etymology of the word 'han' is almost certainly connected to the meander that the river forms when it runs through the village. It's probably the same term that is found in a number of localities in the Semois Valley that have place names ending in 'han': Frahan, Bohan, Poupehan...

The Lesse endowed the village of Han with the wonderful caves which have made its renown. An exceptional gift of nature that completely changed the destiny of this small countryside village !

Inspired by a text by Bruno Marée.





5.7
miles
(9,2 km)

**Villers-sur-
Lesse**



0.12 miles
(200 m)

**BOIS
DE VILLERS**

BOIS DE BEHOEGNE

Eprave

Lessive

**EPRAVE
WATER MILL**

TIP



Eprave / Lessive / Villers-sur-Lesse



01 TO START THIS WALK, TAKE THE RAVEL TOWARDS ROCHEFORT (OTHER SIDE OF THE CAR PARK).

This part of the 13.6 miles (22km) long pathway is located on the disused railway line between Jemelle and Houyet. Opened in 1880, merchant trains rode the line until 1978. Subsequently, the railway line was dismantled and joined the magnificent Réseau Autonome des Voies Lentes (Autonomous Network of Slow Ways) and is now a superb pathway, perfect for cyclists as well as walkers.

Several sections of the **RAVeL** run alongside the Lesse River, revealing some wonderful spots for an al fresco picnic. This emblematic river has its source in the Province of Luxembourg, more specifically in Ochamps, and winds its way northwards for about 52.2 miles. The Lesse crosses through the villages of Daverdisse, Halma, Chanly and Resteigne, and then

Departure

RAVeL car park
and rest area
(between Villers-sur-Lesse
and Jambline)

- ▶ Rue des Platanes
5580 Villers-sur-Lesse

GPS Coord.

50°09'39.33"N 5°06'51.81"E
50.16092 N 5.11439 E

Distance

5.7 miles 9.32

Level of difficulty
average

plunges into the sinkhole of Belvaux on the heights of Han-sur-Lesse before reappearing at the cave exit and flowing towards Lessive, Villers-sur-Lesse and Houyet, terminating its journey in Anseremme, where the river flows into the Meuse. The Lesse is home to trout, grayling, pike, barbel, carp, chub, eels, minnows, gudgeon, grey slugs and lamprey...

02 AFTER ABOUT 1.8 MILES (3 km), AT THE STRAIGHT ANGLE INTERSECTION, TURN RIGHT TOWARDS THE VILLAGE OF EPRAVE AND JOIN THE STREET CALLED RUE SAINT-NICOLAS. THE ROAD RUNS SLIGHTLY UPHILL AND YOU CAN SPOT SOME HOUSES IN THE DISTANCE.

As early as the Bronze Age, Eprave was inhabited by our forefathers who were attracted by its privileged position. Indeed, in times gone by, a platform surrounded by water was a much appreciated means of defence.

In the time of cottage industries, the villagers specialised in the fabrication of 'ramons' (which is a Walloon term for old fashioned brooms), and that is why the Eprave villagers are called 'Chovelettes' (from the Walloon 'chover' to brush). To each village its sobriquet !

03 AT THE END OF THE RUE SAINT-NICOLAS, TURN RIGHT AND CAREFULLY FOLLOW THE MAIN ROAD THAT WILL TAKE YOU TO LESSIVE.



TIP



Approximately 492 feet (150 m) along the main road, you can make a short detour of about half a mile (800 m) and walk towards the Eprave **water mill**. To get there, turn left into the Rue du Treux and continue until you reach the church, behind which the mill is hidden. From 1933, and until the beginning of the Second World War, the mill and adjoining brewery produced a beer called the 'Royale de la Lesse' (Royal Lesse beer). Afterwards, the mill was closed down until it was restored in 1993. We don't know when the mill was built, but it was mentioned in sources dating from 1445.

YOU ARRIVE IN LESSIVE BY THE MAIN ROAD, WHERE A SMALL BRIDGE CROSSES THE RIVER.

This charming village is typical of the area. The first water mill in the village (not open to the public), the embankment and dam were built in about 1585. Over the centuries, the mill often changed hands and even its business when it became a chemical fertiliser factory. Because it was unprofitable, the factory was closed in 1969, and the building was listed in 1991.

The Lesse floods the village of Lessive on a regular basis, and this is probably why the villagers were given the nickname 'Tchabots'; a 'chabot' is a small, flat headed and black coloured fish that measures 4.7 to 5.9 inches...

The villagers of Lessive are excellent fishermen, but also manage to excel at stilt walking. A long time ago, every villager, from a very young age on, had to be able to walk on stilts. Stilts were not only indispensable during the frequent floods, but were also used to ford the stream with the livestock that went to graze in pastures beyond the rivers. The tradition is perpetuated by the Lessive folk group called 'Les Skassis' (Walloon for stilts). The members of this association founded in 1950 wear blue smocks and don a cap during their public outings.

Lessive is also noteworthy as the site of the first antenna for satellite communication which was set up in 1971 (it was the RTT - former Belgian telecom - ground station). A number of essential criteria made this possible: the quality of the subsoil, the natural protection provided by the hilly landscape, the microclimate and the fact that this particular location is safe from interference waves. The antennae are definitely an eye-opener...





04 IN THE VILLAGE OF LESSIVE, TAKE THE 1ST STREET ON YOUR RIGHT (WHICH RUNS AT A STRAIGHT ANGLE), THE RUE DES SKASSIS, AND JOIN THE RUE DE L'ILE. WALK ALONGSIDE THE CHURCH ON THE RIGHT SIDE AND FOLLOW THE ROAD TILL THE VILLAGE OF VILLERS-SUR-LESSE VIA THE RUE DE LA WIMBE.

This very peaceful road intermittently runs alongside the Lesse, and during your journey you will occasionally be able to catch a glimpse of the royal castle of Ciergnon. But more about the castle later on.

05 IN VILLERS-SUR-LESSE, TAKE THE MAIN ROAD ON YOUR RIGHT, RUE DES PLATANES.

06 THEN TURN LEFT AFTER ABOUT 328 FEET (100 m).

This takes you right opposite the **'yellow castle'** which belongs to the Royal Donation. This small castle was built in the 14th century by the first Lord of Villers. It towers above a superb 18th century royal farm with walls in half-timber work on your right. Brick has quite commonly replaced the cob that was made out of clay and hay. The gable is marked with the date, and a 16th century stele ensconced in the wall represents two well-known biblical characters: Moses and Aaron, holding the tablets of Law. This magnificent farm also belongs to the Royal Donation. A noteworthy fact is that more than half of the grounds in Villers-sur-Lesse belong to the Royal Donation. The grounds and buildings that belong to it are the property of the Belgian State which is not allowed to sell them all or in part.

The village of Ciergnon is not far now! The village is home to the **royal castle** which is assigned to the use of the current reigning family. King Leopold I had this castle built on request of his wife, Queen Louise-Mary (the construction started in 1842), but it was Leopold II who was wont to stay there on a regular basis. The brick façade was rebuilt with local limestone. Two square towers were added to the building as well as a number of water features that are scattered



TIP

Don't hesitate to take the **RAVeL** in the opposite direction, towards Houyet, a walk in that way will take you past some lovely scenery...

throughout the park. Before he died, Leopold II donated the domain to the State, so that it would be protected and preserved for posterity.

Now might be the right time to remind ourselves that the history of the national domain started in 1837, when Leopold I bought, only a couple of miles from here, the land called 'terre d'Hardenne et de Ferage'. At the death of Leopold I, Leopold II continued the work of his predecessor. In 1874, he built the Royal Castle of Ardennes in Houyet in the magnificent park of the Domain of Ardennes. The castle became a hugely popular destination for the crowned heads of Europe and elsewhere. A park with water features was laid out and Leopold II managed to turn the domain into 'the place to be' for his rich Ostend clientele, who liked to organize their hunting parties there. The hotel was closed down at his death. The castle was pillaged during the First World War, and then turned into a hotel again from 1921 onwards. The hotel soon prospered and boasted 200 luxurious rooms as well as a golf course. After being occupied by the Germans the second time round, the hotel, once again, closed its doors. On the afternoon of Friday 23 August 1968, a fire started in the castle, very nearly burning down everything in its path.

07 WALK ROUND THE FARM VIA THE RIGHT AND TAKE THE NARROW ROAD. CAREFULLY CONTINUE ON THE LEFT, RUE DES PLATANES, AND AFTER APPROX. 984 FEET (300 m) YOU'RE BACK AT THE CAR PARK FROM WHICH YOU STARTED.



BOIS DE VILLERS



3.1 miles
(5 km)

E411

E411



TIP
ROCHEFORT

BOIS DU SOLIN

Lavaux-Sainte-Anne

CASTLE OF
LAVAU-SAINTE-ANNE



0.12 miles
(200 m)

Lavaux-Sainte-Anne



01 THE WALK STARTS FROM THE CASTLE OF LAVAUX-SAINTE-ANNE. WALK AROUND THE CASTLE ON THE RIGHT AND TAKE THE STRAIGHT ROAD THAT RUNS ALONGSIDE THE MARSHY AREA ON YOUR RIGHT.

This **marshy area** was recently created in the vicinity of the castle, but had never existed as such. It is an artificial environment that presents, in a limited space, some of the quintessential aspects of marsh areas in the Famenne region as they were at the end of the 19th and the early 20th century. It is open for visitors.

As well as a visit to the castle, you can discover **three distinct natural habitats**. The **pond** is a naturally fertile environment teeming with an astonishing variety of life forms.

Departure

Car park of the castle of Lavaux-Sainte-Anne
▶ Rue du Château
5580 Lavaux-Sainte-Anne

GPS coord.

50°06'58.18" N 5°05'34.46" E
50.11617 N 5.0929 E

Distance

3.1 miles 6.21 9.32

Level of difficulty
easy



As a wintering site or resting place for migrating birds it welcomes numerous herons, moorhens and ducks. The abundance of vegetation form natural nesting sites but also provides nourishment as well as a natural shelter for a multitude of insects, spiders, amphibians and fish. Innumerable pike, roach and bream, but also gudgeon and bleak swim around in an effort to escape their natural predators. Then comes the **marsh**, where reeds, rushes and marsh willows grow. The dense reed curtains offer shelter to innumerable birds, from the kingfisher to the moorhen and the marsh warbler. Two distinct amphibian families share this habitat: the anurans (frogs and toads) and the caudate (newts and salamanders). Up to the 20th century, villagers visited the marshy area to harvest reeds and rushes and craft them into baskets or chairs. The third and final habitat is the **meadow**. In days gone by, cereals were the heart and core of the farming industry. At the end of the 19th century, the poverty of the Famenne soil forced the farmers to convert to livestock farming and to settle on the meadows, creating these small hedged farmlands that are so typical of the Famenne landscape.

02 AT THE END OF THE ROAD,
NEAR THE FARM, TAKE THE PATH
ON YOUR LEFT AND CONTINUE STRAIGHT
AHEAD UNTIL THE NEXT CROSSROADS
(AT A STRAIGHT ANGLE).

TIP



Not so far from Lavaux, the **castle of Rochefort** that proudly towers above the town of the same name is quite an impressive sight. Once this was the Castle of the Counts, now, only ruins remain. The donjon that was built by order of the Lord of Montaigu dates from the 11th century. There was a time when it was one of the largest castles of the Famenne area. The town of Rochefort was named after this fortress (rocha fortis - Latin for fortress) that was built on a rocky spur by the first Lords of Rochefort. The castle has a long and eventful history. It was many times besieged because of its strategic position, converted into a palace, and finally used as a stone quarry by pragmatically minded inhabitants, before becoming the centre for history and archaeology that it is today. The Rue Jacquet, below the castle, is home to the oldest houses in Rochefort.

03 THEN TURN LEFT AND GO BACK DOWN TO THE CASTLE.

This walk is an excellent opportunity to discover the **castle** from a different angle as it takes you nearly all the way round.

In the 13th century, the Lord Jacques de Wellin called de Lavaux, ordered the construction of a simple tower on the banks of the Wimbe, which was to be used to keep a watch on the main forest road. The seigniorship then passed on to the Berlo family. In 1450, the knight Jean II de Berlo built the castle, whose towers and curtain walls are still visible. In 1500, the seigniorship belonged to the Baron R. de Mérode who ordered the construction of the 4th tower. In 1627, the Baron Sieger de Groesbeek sold the seigniorship of Lavaux lock, stock and barrel to the Baron Rouveroy, an infantry colonel in the army of the Emperor Ferdinand III. The Baron partially converted the castle and added a huge farm to the property. Circa 1730, the great grand-son of the Baron built a five-sided turret next to the farmhouse. The turret houses the actual chapel and, in its basement, a rather quaint roman style bathroom. The Lords of Berlo and Rouveroy both contributed architectural splendours to the castle and were a huge influence on the history of the domain of Lavaux. In 1795, after the tumult of the French Revolution, the domain was sold as state property. It was bought in 1810 by the Malaccord family, thus putting an end to the castle's seigniorial 'vocation'. It was later abandoned and eventually fell into ruin. In 1927 it was sold on to a real estate firm that gifted the castle to the Royal Committee for Sites and





Monuments. In 1933, it was sold on to the ‘League of Friends of the Castle of Lavaux’, founded by the Baroness Lemonnier, who gave a new lease of life to the ruins by converting it into a superb castle.

Recently, the castle has undergone numerous rearrangements and has been fitted out with a brand new scenography. It houses **three museums**: the first is dedicated to old-fashioned crafts and the everyday life of the Lavaux villagers in the 19th and early 20th centuries, the second presents seigniorial life during the 17th and 18th centuries, and the last one is devoted to nature and agricultural life throughout the seasons.

04 AT THE END OF THE ROAD, A SMALL BRIDGE THAT USED TO LEAD TO THE MARKET SQUARE CROSSES THE WIMBE. AFTER YOU’VE WALKED ROUND THE CASTLE, AT THE CROSSING, TURN RIGHT ON THE RUE DU PILORI, AND JOIN THE RUE DE LA BARONNE LEMONNIER, THE VILLAGE’S MAIN ROAD.

05 TURN RIGHT AND AFTER APPROX. 328 FEET (100 m),

06 TURN LEFT AND TAKE THE RUE BASSE UNTIL THE END OF THE ROAD.

07 AT THE JUNCTION, THE STREET VEERS TOWARDS THE LEFT AND THEN GOES ROUND A COPSE OF CONIFERS.

08 THEN IMMEDIATELY TURN LEFT (STRAIGHT ANGLE) AND TAKE THE RUE DES MONTAS (EARTH ROAD).



Take a couple of minutes to admire the pretty **chapel** called **Our Lady of Walcourt**. This charming little chapel, remote from the village, dates from 1820. The village, on the other hand, dates from Merovingian era. In days gone by, Lavaux-Sainte-Anne belonged to the principality of Liège. The villagers are known by the nickname ‘Petias’, which means ‘little wild pears’.

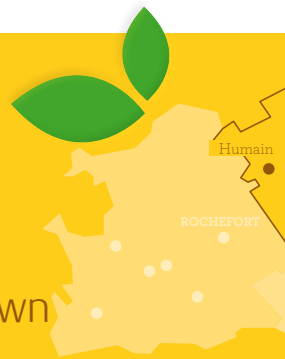
It is said that during the Second World War, hundreds of crates containing paintings belonging to the Bruges Museum, as well as books from the Plantin Museum in Antwerp, were secretly stored in the castle cellar. This explains why the local policemen kept the castle under very close, yet discreet, surveillance...

09 CONTINUE STRAIGHT AHEAD, AND IN FRONT OF THE FARM, TURN LEFT TO JOIN RUE DE LA BARONNE LEMONNIER,

10 THEN LEFT AGAIN TOWARDS THE VILLAGE CENTRE AND VILLAGE SQUARE.

This rather superb - but also somewhat bucolic - village square has been entirely renovated. Next to a lovely fountain, note the rather ‘disturbing’ presence of a pillory, the pillar where criminals were exposed to public ridicule...

11 NOW FOLLOW THE MAIN ROAD UNTIL THE RIGHT HAND JUNCTION THAT WILL TAKE YOU BACK TO THE CASTLE’S CAR PARK.



Marche,

a charming Famenne town

**HARGIMONT**

P. 30

AYE

P. 36

HUMAIN

P. 42

The district of **Marche** stretches from the edge of the Famenne depression, in the north, and the threshold of the Ardennes Forest, in the south. With a surface area of 12143 ha, it totals more than 17.200 inhabitants and is composed of the villages of Aye, Champlon-Famenne, Grimbiémont, Hargimont, Hollogne, Humain, Lignièrès, Marloie, On, Roy, Verdenne and Waha that are spread round the town of Marche-en-Famenne.

In this booklet, we want to take you for a journey past the hidden treasures of the villages of Aye, Humain and Hargimont, but other circuits are also available at the Maison du Tourisme (for example 'the village of Waha', 'the town of Marche'...).

Justifiably proud of its natural, architectural and historical heritage but also of its economic, cultural and touristic development, Marche-en-Famenne is a very attractive regional hub. The area is also renowned for its many initiatives that contribute to its promising future. Based near two major roads and served by rail, the town enjoys a prominent location. Easily accessible and nearby numerous renowned tourist sites, it is an **ideal base for excursions** for visitors wishing to discover the many treasures of the area.





The town of Marche has been **remarkably well renovated** while successfully preserving significant traces of its past. Need proof? Take a look at some of the remarkable 16th century buildings scattered throughout the town... Or take a lovely, relaxing stroll in the maze of little streets that look like alleys... The unique combination of innumerable **sculptures and fountains**, leafy squares, as well as pedestrian areas contribute to a general feeling of wellbeing.

It is worth noting that the town of Marche won an award in the European EDEN contest '**European Destination of Excellence**' for 2011, mainly because of its impressive number of rehabilitated sites. On this note, a visit of the **old Town** is definitely a must. Essential sightseeing also includes the **stained-glass windows** of the **Waha church** created by the well-known Belgian artist, **Jean-Michel Folon**, which sparkles with a fabulous array of colours...

Marche, is also about **shops** and the comfort offered by its numerous infrastructures and urban services in verdant surroundings. The city offers little corner shops in the heart of the town as well as well known supermarket brands on the outskirts, which is why shopping in Marche is always a pleasant experience... As for **culinary pleasures**, we cater for almost every taste: French, Italian, Chinese, Greek, Tunisian cuisine, a quick bite or even Nouvelle cuisine, every taste and every budget can be catered for !

Feel like a nice **walk** or **bike ride**, a **museum** visit, want to go to the movies, play a game of bowling with friends or just go for a nice, quiet drink? In and around Marche there are plenty of things to do and see, plenty of **entertainment**... especially as a wide variety of events, concerts, shows, exhibitions and other cultural activities are organised all year round.





1.6
or
2.8
miles
(2,6 or 4,6 km)



Hargimont

CASTLE OF
JEMEPEPE

BOIS DE SAUVAGE

BOIS DE L'HÔPITAL

TIP

Rue Saint-Isidore

Rue du Beau Revoir

Rue Félix Lefèvre

Rue de Binte

Rue d'Ambly

Rue Edmond
Debray

Rue du Presbytère

Rue de la Commanderie

Rue de la Commanderie

N86

N896

N86

N836

0.12 miles

(200 m)



08

09

10

01

02

03

04

05

06

07

08

09

10

01

02

03



Hargimont



THE WALK STARTS FROM THE SAINT-GOBERT CHURCH.

This neo-classical church was built between 1875 and 1877. Nearby the church there is a Centenary Tree commemorating the anniversary of the 1830 Belgian Revolution, a monument remembering the First World War casualties, as well as a small chapel dedicated to Saint Anthony of Padoue (opposite the school).

Hargimont and its Jemeppe hamlet stretch out over 796 acres and are separated by the **Hédrée brook**. It is generally thought that the name Hargimont stems from 'mont' and 'ars' which means 'mount cleared by fire' while Jemeppe is thought to come from the word 'ganapia' meaning 'swamp'. The Wamme valley, upstream from Jemeppe, is separated from the Hédrée valley by a vast and pretty steep promontory.

Departure

Church car park
▶ Rue d'Ambly
6900 Hargimont

GPS Coord.

50°11'1.72" N 5°18'28.07" E
50.18381 N 5.30808 E

Distance

1.6 miles 6.21 9.32



OR 2.8 miles 6.21 9.32



Level of difficulty
easy



The village is partly located on the site of an old Gallo-roman villa, on the place called Prince-Loup (behind the cemetery). Horses were bred in this important agricultural settlement that also boasted an aqueduct, a sheep pen and a pigsty. Since the Roman era, the village also had a fulling mill, a tile factory and a forge.

01 LEAVE THE CHURCH BEHIND YOU AND WALK UP THE RUE D'AMBLY (WALKING PAST THE BRONZE HORSES).

The bronze horses were made after a model by Pierre-Jules Mene, a French sculptor who belonged to the great 19th century French 'Animalier' movement.

The only hill of this walk might seem a bit steep, but the view of the Jemeppe castle (on your left) is worth the effort.

02 DESCEND THE 3RD STREET ON THE RIGHT, RUE DU PRESBYTÈRE (HAIRPIN BEND).

Enjoy the **superb view** of the village of On and the Famenne valley (on your left), a rough landscape of dales and crests, with a gaily coloured patchwork of pastures, speckled with the dark green spots of hardwood and conifer forests.

You can see the date of construction (1774) of the old **parsonage** (n° 21) on a stone that is ensconced on top of the door. If the walls could talk, they would probably tell you a dark tale... Under the French occupation, the area was blighted by acts of violence and compulsory conscription. Progressively, the churches were closed down. The Hargimont parish priest, Arnold Lombart, was threatened several times but bravely refused to yield to pressure. In March 1804, the French occupiers set fire to the parsonage and the priest, then aged 80, perished in the flames... Rebuilt in 1830, the parsonage was damaged again during the Ardennes offensive and restored between 1961 and 1963. Further down, at the intersection, on your left, there is a small grotto dedicated to Our Lady of Lourdes that dates from the second half of the 19th century.



03 AT THE CROSSROADS, TURN LEFT, AND CONTINUE DOWNWARDS.

Further down, just before the bridge that crosses the **Wamme**, the small maisonette with the red shutters is typical of the area's older buildings.

04 CROSS THE WAMME BRIDGE, YOU ARRIVE OPPOSITE THE COMMANDRY FARM.

This building (n° 31) owes its name to its 14th century owners, the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of Saint-John of Jerusalem. It is said that Henry II, called Henry the Blind, Count of Namur and Luxemburg, donated in 1191 his Hargimont fief to the Templers so that they could establish a house of their order there. By this gesture he hoped to obtain 'the remission of his sins and peace for the souls of his predecessors'. This commandry, that was mainly dedicated to breeding, passed on, as did all of those that belonged to Templers, in the hands of the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of Saint-John of Jerusalem (future Order of Malta) by a 1312 papal bull. Abolished in 1797 under the French revolutionary regime the commandry was converted into a farm.

The building that you now see has been superbly renovated and converted into apartments. The renovation work was carried out between 1999 and 2002. The building was erected on the location of the former commandry during the second half of the 18th century.

05 TURN RIGHT AND CAREFULLY WALK ALONG THE RUE DE LA COMMANDERIE.

At n° 29, observe an old farm from the beginning of the 19th century that has been converted into a home. Further on, at n° 23, the building called the **Hospital Farm** dates from the 19th and 20th centuries. Its name and location remind us of the existence of such a farm in Hargimont. On your left, after the junction with the Rue Verte, '**Le verger d'à côté**' (which means the orchard next door) produces 100% natural fruit juices (pure apple juice, pear and apple...). A fruit pressing, pasteurization and bottling service are also available.



06 WALK PAST THE JUNCTION WITH THE RUE D'AMBLY THAT OVERLOOKS THE WAMME AND, IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE BUS STOP, TAKE THE LITTLE PATH THAT IS A LITTLE SET BACK ON YOUR RIGHT.

The small niche on your left, dedicated to Our Lady of Foy, dates from 1853. From the small footbridge, you can observe, on your right, the meeting between two rivers : the Hedrée and the Wamme.

07 AT THE END OF THE PATH, CONTINUE STRAIGHT AHEAD IN THE RUE DE LA WAMME.

At the intersection with the Rue de la Chapelle, on your left, the **Saint Christopher chapel** dates from 1051 and is listed since 1952. The chapel is made out of a roman nave and a 17th century choir. It was damaged in 1944, but recovered its initial aspect thanks to the restoration works carried out between 1969 and 1971. The chapel houses two funeral monuments, a massive altar, a confessional from the mid 19th century and a number of benches, among others those in front surrounded by a partition which were reserved for the Lord of the manor and his family.

08 AT THE INTERSECTION WITH THE RUE DE LA CHAPELLE, TAKE THE SMALL FOOTBRIDGE THAT CROSSES THE WAMME ON YOUR RIGHT.

09 AT THE FOLLOWING JUNCTION, TURN LEFT, RUE SAINT-GOBERT, AND GO STRAIGHT AHEAD TO ADMIRE THE **JEMEPEE CASTLE** FROM CLOSER BY (PRIVATE PROPERTY).





We suggest you make a round-trip of about 1.2 miles (2 km) towards the **Hargipont footbridge** over the Wamme, where a **picnic area** has recently been created.

In this case, beyond the bridge on the Rue Saint-Gobert, take the uphill road on your left, Rue de Genal, then turn left, Rue de Binte. After a ten minutes walk, take the downhill path on your left, towards the footbridge, which takes you to the picnic area and the **'Wamme fish farm'**, that can only be visited by appointment (different species of traditionally raised trout and brook trout are farmed and marketed here - T : +32(0)84/22.17.10).

Retrace your steps to go back to the church.

The castle was the residence of the Lords of Jemeppe, until the annexation by France and the end of the Ancient Regime. The first known Lord is Jean Dochain (1280). Originally, the castle consisted solely of a 80 feet high square donjon that was built in the 13th century. It was built with a double purpose: as a residence and as a means of defence (at the time, the dynasties of Namur and Luxemburg were at war), and remained the property of the Dochain family until 1616. In the 17th century, during the time of the Ans family, three wings were added to the donjon and formed the quadrilateral building you can now admire. The farm was also built during the 17th century. It was composed of a hayloft, stables, a sheep barn, and the domestic's quarters. The next owners were the Grady family during the 18th century, then the Sauvage-Vercours from 1838 onwards. The building was abandoned in the 20th century, but fortunately it was eventually purchased, entirely renovated and completely rehabilitated as a luxurious congress centre. The whole complex was listed in 1982.

10 RETRACE YOUR STEPS RUE SAINT-GOBERT AND GO PAST THE BRIDGE OVER THE WAMME.

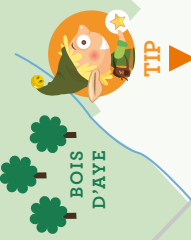
IF YOU WISH TO REACH THE CHURCH DIRECTLY, CONTINUE STRAIGHT AHEAD.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO ADD A TOUCH OF 'NATURE' TO YOUR WALK, FOLLOW OUR TIP ABOVE.





2.2 miles
(3,6 km)



TIP

BOIS D'AYE

PLATEAU DU GERNY



TIP

PLATEAU DU GERNY

0.12 miles

(200 m)



Aye



ROCHEFORT

MARCHE

NASSOGNE

THE WALK STARTS FROM THE SAINT-SÉVERIN CHURCH.

The Saint-Séverin church was built in dressed limestone and is thought to predate the Crusades. It was rebuilt during the second half of the 16th century and enlarged in 1876. Locals christened it the church 'of the seven castles' because it is surrounded by **seven venerable and stately edifices**.

On your right, at n° 1, stands a small **neo-classical castle** from the first half of the 19th century surrounded by a park (private property).

01 LEAVE THE CHURCH BEHIND
YOU AND WALK TOWARDS
THE VILLAGE CENTRE.

Departure

Church car park
▶ Rue Grande
6900 Aye

GPS Coord.

50°13'24.70"N 5°17'55.65"E
50.22353 N 5.29879 E

Distance

2.2 miles 6.21 9.32

Level of difficulty
easy

Aye



On your left, at n° 12, you will notice an old L-shaped **farm-house** that dates from the late 18th century (private property). Further on, looms the **Manor** with its traditional architecture (private property). The Manor dates from 1699-1700 and is composed of a vast main building surrounded by outbuildings. After suffering damage during the First World War, it was restored between 1920 and 1927. It changed hands a couple of times and underwent restoration once again between 1967 and 1970. Built in brick and Belgian bluestone on a limestone base, the Manor comprises a main building (from which the original third floor was removed during the second restoration), several carriage houses all round the courtyard, a barn and a second living area in the east. There is an old well in the courtyard's right hand corner. On the Manor's right, at n° 20, the Aye **Castle-farm** (private property) was built during the first half of the 17th century. In olden times, the main building was surrounded by moats, and could only be accessed via the drawbridge. The moats and drawbridges, now disappeared, resisted the test of time and are even mentioned in 1877 documents. During the second half of the 17th century, a long Louis XIII style building was added on to the south-east tower flank. During the same period, a second wing with stables and carriage houses, originally set apart from the main building, was added in the south, as well as narrow wing in the north. The castle was converted into a farm in the 18th century.

02 AT THE CROSSROADS, TURN LEFT TOWARDS MARLOIE, RUE DE TAVVYS.

The Monument just opposite you is dedicated to the memory of the casualties suffered during the two World Wars.

A bit further on, the **landscaped multid denominational cemetery** was inspired by Anglo-Saxon graveyards; i.e. it is covered with grass, dotted with benches and encircled by low walls.

03 CONTINUE STRAIGHT AHEAD FOR 2000 FEET (600 m) AND TAKE THE SMALL GRAVEL PATH ON YOUR RIGHT (JUST BEFORE THE SAINT-DONATUS CHAPEL ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ROAD THAT DATES FROM THE SECOND HALF OF THE 19th CENTURY).

From this small country path, you have a superb **view of the Famenne** and the rocky spurs that herald the **threshold of the Ardennes**. The village of Aye lies on schist bank at an altitude of approximately 803 feet, snugly nestled between the Lesse Valley and the Ourthe Valley.

04 AT THE NEXT CROSSROADS, TAKE THE ASPHALT ROAD ON YOUR RIGHT, RUE DU VIEUX MARBRE.

Take a closer look at n° 1, a 19th century house.

And now for some history... Although the fortified town of Marche was supposed to protect the village of Aye, it suffered greatly from military requisitions and passing troops. The village was destroyed in 1625, 1639 and 1670, the last destruction dates back to when the area was invaded by Louis XIV's troops.

From the 17th to the 20th century, the village of Aye mainly derived its resources from the flourishing wood industry. Numerous bark mills, sawmills, joineries, cartwrights and cooper's shops contributed to the flourishing village economy. During the 19th century, lace making was an important craft that employed around 200 people, working from home.





05 AT THE NEXT CROSSROADS, TURN RIGHT RUE JAMODENNE, THEN IMMEDIATELY RIGHT AGAIN, RUE DU BOSERON.

The main building as well as the outbuilding at n° 10 both date from the 19th century.

06 AT THE NEXT CROSSROADS, TURN RIGHT RUE JAMODENNE AND CONTINUE STRAIGHT AHEAD.

The village of Aye is a typical 'village-rue' (type of settlement with houses arranged in a series along a road) and you are now in its main street. You will walk by a number of farms and dwellings dating from the 19th or the beginning of the 20th century. On the left side of n° 10, the chapel dedicated to the Holy Virgin of Beauraing dates from the second half of the 20th century and has a quite impressive bell tower for such a small building.

CONTINUE STRAIGHT AHEAD UNTIL THE PLACE DU BATY (RED PAVING).

On your right, at n° 74, the **mural called 'A Mon les Godis'** created in 2000 by the artist Pierre Fromont is certainly worth a look. By the way, the Aye villagers are nicknamed the 'Godis'.

On the other side, the **Aye Lady**, work of Jean-Marc Bois known as Siob, has pride of place. This bluestone **sculpture**, made in 1998, represents a lady of fashion wearing a veil on her shoulders. The author has stated that the veil is in fact the character's aura, which is symbolised by wavy lines.

The n° 49, a building from 1861, used to house the town hall and village school.

07 AFTER THE PLACE DU BATY, TURN LEFT, RUE EN BRONZE, AND THEN RIGHT, RUE GOTTO ROÏAU/RUE DES JOLIS BOIS.

The Saint-Christophe chapel, just opposite n° 75, dates from 1954 and was constructed in limestone.

TIP



The 'Plateau du Gerny', rural cheese dairy, offers a range of traditional hand-crafted cheeses straight from the producer to the consumer. Milk, 'maquee' (typical Belgian cheese with fresh paste made from cow's milk), yoghourts, cheeses (hard cheeses, soft cheeses, cream cheese, plain or with spices...) are for sale from 02pm to 07pm, the 1st, 3rd and 5th Friday of the month from Anne Walhin-Lecaillie (Rue de Tavys, 29) and the 2nd and 4th Friday in the month from Vivianne Maillen-Evrard (Rue devant le Bois, 61).



FOLLOW THE RUE DES JOLIS BOIS UNTIL THE RAILWAY BRIDGE.

Opposite n° 15, there is a limestone basin dating from the second half of the 19th century, as well as a water fountain (don't drink the water : it's unsafe for consumption).

On the right hand side of n° 1, you can see a cross planted underneath a tall beech tree. The cross bears a chronogram. The cross was built following an act of blasphemy that left a lasting impression on the villagers, as is explained in the inscription: 'PræDones eCCLeslam spoLiaVere / [...]' ([...] evildoers pillaged the sacred vessels kept in the Aye church and threw the sacred Host here on the night of 20 to 21 June 1807).

08 CONTINUE ON YOUR RIGHT, RUE GRANDE, TOWARDS THE CHURCH.

The beautiful dwelling at n° 6 on your left dates from the second half of the 19th century.





2.9
miles
(4,7 km)



Humain



THE WALK STARTS FROM THE SAINT-MARTIN CHURCH.

Constructed in 1953, this church is about 328 feet away from the location of the former church that was bombed and burnt down in 1944. The off-centre tower is crested by a very high spire and the façade boasts a bluestone Calvary. Inside, a huge 19th century wooden statue represents the Holy Virgin squashing a snake, the symbol of original sin.

All around the inside door, you can admire sculptured scenes illustrating episodes of the life of the Saint Martin. Note that, as a rule, a parish that has Saint Martin for Patron Saint is usually quite old.

01 LEAVE THE CHURCH BEHIND YOU AND WALK DOWN THE RUE D'AYE ON YOUR RIGHT.

Departure

Church car park
▶ Rue du Gerny
6900 Humain

GPS coord.

50°12'17.14"N 5°15'24.75"E
50.20476 N 5.25688 E

Distance

2.9 miles 6.21 9.32

Level of difficulty
average



The buildings at n° 3 and 5, right in front of you, respectively date from the beginning of the 20th and the 19th century.

At n° 1, you can see a partly enclosed farm from the mid-nineteenth century. Built in neo-classical style in brick and bluestone, it has one main building and two barns that together form a U-shape. An additional barn, bearing the date 1849, closes the building.

02 AT THE CROSSROADS, BELOW THE CAR PARK OF THE VILLAGE HALL, TURN RIGHT RUE DE BORZILEUX, AND THEN TAKE DIRECTLY THE PATH ON YOUR LEFT.



You are walking along the castle's enclosing wall. The dwelling at n° 4 dates from the first half of the 19th century.

03 AT THE NEXT INTERSECTION (HAIRPIN BEND), TURN RIGHT AND GO STRAIGHT AHEAD. THEN, CAREFULLY CROSS THE CROSSROADS AND TAKE THE SMALL UPWARDS PATH OPPOSITE YOU, CHEMIN DES FALLEUX. AT THE NEXT INTERSECTION, TURN LEFT, AND THEN AT THE Y-SHAPED CROSSROADS, TURN LEFT AGAIN, RUE DU GERNY.



Along your walk you can admire a number of farms and houses, often in Belgian bluestone and dating from the 19th and 20th century.

04 APPROXIMATELY 820 FEET (250 m) HIGHER, TAKE THE NARROW UPHILL ROAD ON YOUR RIGHT, RUE DE LA SAPINIÈRE. AT THE NEXT CROSSROADS, TURN RIGHT (TAKE CARE, IT'S A PRETTY BUSY ROAD) AND CONTINUE STRAIGHT AHEAD.



You will probably have noticed that the buildings in the village of Humain rise in terraces... But don't worry; you're at the top of the hill now, more specifically on the **Gerny plateau**. The

Gerny is a fertile plain whose name is thought to derive from the Latin word 'Germanica' a Latin word meaning 'granary' which explains why its also called 'the Famenne's granary'.

The landscape that unfolds in front of you provides you with a strange sight : bang in the middle of the verdant fields stands a group of satellite dishes which are used to study variations in solar activity...

The main resource of the village of Humain may well have been agriculture; marble mining was nonetheless an equally important economic factor thanks to the extension of the pink marble quarry that opened in 1732. The Saint-Hubert abbey ran the Saint-Martin quarry (on the road between Aye and Humain) until 1760. The marble was chiefly used to decorate the Saint-Hubert church and abbey. The quarry was abandoned in 1975.

05 AT THE NEXT CROSSROADS, TURN RIGHT AND WALK DOWN THE VALLEY.

As you emerge from the forest, a **brehtaking panorama** unfolds before you.

06 SHORTLY AFTER THE LONG BEND IN THE ROAD, TAKE THE SMALL ROAD ON YOUR RIGHT, CHEMIN SAINT-REMY.

Throughout your walk, take the time to enjoy the beautiful views of the Province of Namur and of Havrenne, a village that was once part of Humain.

07 AT THE END OF THE CHEMIN SAINT-REMY, TURN LEFT, THEN TURN RIGHT IMMEDIATELY, RUE DE THYS.

At n° 71, the U-shaped farm's classically styled main building dates from 1771. This bluestone two-storied building has seven rows of windows. The barn, built in 1878, closed the courtyard on the right. The outbuildings on the other side of the road were built during the 19th and 20th centuries.

On your right, at n° 38, the old **Monks' farm** probably belonged to the Rochefort monks. It is made out of two





parallel buildings. On the left, the narrow main building from the 17th century is flanked by two annexes from the 19th and 20th centuries. On the right, a 17th century wing, that housed stables and a barn.

08 NOW TAKE THE 1ST UPHILL ROAD ON YOUR RIGHT, RUE D'AYE.

At the crossroads, take a closer look at the small Saint-Roch chapel from the 19th century.

At n° 7, you'll notice a farm that goes back to the second half of the 19th century, composed of a main building, stables and a barn.

09 AT THE TOP OF THE HILL, RIGHT AFTER N° 9, TAKE THE SMALL DOWNHILL PATH ON YOUR LEFT (NEXT TO THE CALVARY).

At the end of the pathway, you end up just opposite n° 45 in the Rue de Thys, an old 19th century farm.

10 TURN RIGHT IN THE RUE DE THYS. Several farms and houses from the 18th and 19th centuries are scattered throughout the street.

11 YOUR WALK ENDS HERE, OPPOSITE THE **CASTLE OF HUMAIN** (PRIVATE PROPERTY).

This castle was built in 1756 by Charles-Antoine de Rossius, Lord of Humain. It is surrounded by a vast park with ponds. The entrance of the domain is marked by two 19th century pilasters topped with vases. This U-shaped castle is composed of several wings: the main building, divided in three by rows of pilasters, and lower outbuildings that are also from the 18th century. The park boasts a small 18th century observation tower with a beautiful view of the ponds and the whole valley.

AT THE CROSSROADS, OPPOSITE THE CASTLE, TURN RIGHT TO GO BACK TO THE CHURCH.



**BANDE**

P. 50

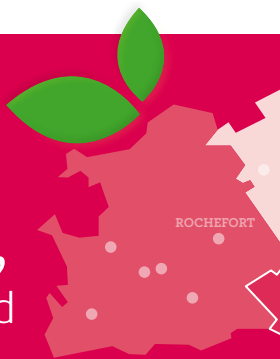
GRUNE

P. 56

AMBLY

P. 62

Nassogne, or the Ardennes revealed

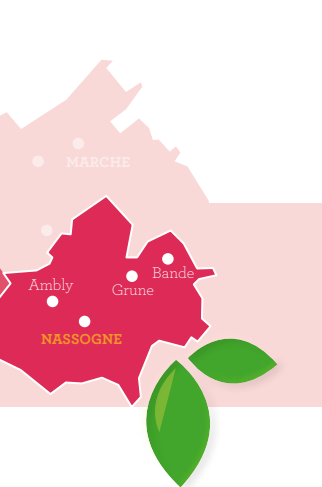


The council of **Nassogne** sits **astride the Ardennes and the Famenne**. It stretches out over an area of 11.196 ha, has around 5.200 inhabitants and is composed of the villages and hamlets of Ambly, Bande, Charneux, Chavanne, Forrières, Grune, Harsin, Lesterny, Masbourg, Mormont and Nassogne. The forest, 60% deciduous and 40% coniferous, stretches out over half the council area and marks the threshold of the **Ardennes massif**.

With this guide, you will discover the villages of Bande, Grune and Ambly, but other discovery trails are also available from the Maison du Tourisme (for example 'the village of Nassogne', the 'Panorama tour'...).

Nassogne has many charms, not least its great location and the tranquillity of the area. Nassogne, away from the beaten tracks, has a wonderful natural environment, dotted with hills and dales; in short, it's the **perfect destination for walks and rambles**.





Deep and **mysterious forests** contain an unspoilt, wild habitat, an **astonishing flora**, an **abundant and diverse fauna**: stags, deer, roe deer and wild boar. Its magnificent **landscapes** reveal their charm throughout the four seasons: strange yet alluring during the winter months when a mantle of snow and a mist shrouds the landscape, carpeted with flowers during spring, luminous under the July sky and totally unforgettable when autumn comes and a ray of sun sets the brownish, red and rusty tints alight.

Nassogne also has its share of farms where traditionally bred animals are turned into delicacies by **dedicated craftsmen**, using methods that respect both the animals as well as nature: deer, pork grazing the Ardennes grasslands, goats, sheep and even bees...

A profusion of **waymarked walks, observation platforms, mountain bike and cycle trails**, the **'Panorama trail'** or even a **ride in a horse-drawn carriage**, there are many different ways to discover this small corner of paradise. Located in the very heart of the forest, the **Château du Bois** (i.e. 'the castle in the woods', a restaurant) is also worth a look. The pavilion was built in 1871 on request of Prince Pierre Napoleon Bonaparte, nephew of the famous Emperor...

In Nassogne, the word **'gastronomy'** really means something and the variety of accommodation on offer (hotels, self-catering cottages, guest rooms, campsites) is part of the appeal of this little countryside council where the villagers' friendliness is rivalled only by their quality of life...





2.9
or **4.4**
miles
(4,8 or 7,2 km)

BOIS DE GRUNE



Bande

CHATEAUBRIAND
STELE

0.12 miles
(200m)

E46

N4

Bande



01 THE WALK STARTS OFF FROM THE CAR PARK BELOW THE CHURCH.

The church, built between 1840 and 1844, was renovated in 1902 and is dedicated to Saint Jacques.

02 WALK DOWN THE GRAND'RUE FOR ABOUT 160 FEET (50 m) AND TAKE THE 1ST ROAD ON YOUR LEFT (HAIRPIN BEND), RUE FONZAY.

The bottom of the valley hosts three 19th century **farms** built in half-timber work (with wooden frames) and mud bricks. As a rule, the buildings were constructed so that the main building (the living area) and barn were set apart from each other, to protect the residents if the hay or harvest caught fire.

Departure

Church car park
Grand'Rue
6951 Bande

GPS coord.

50° 9' 59.74" N 5° 24' 53.3" E
50.16659 N 5.41481 E

Distance

2.9 miles 6.21 9.32

OR 4.4 miles 9.32

Level of difficulty
average



03 GO AHEAD AND ON TOP OF THE HILL, TURN LEFT, RUE BONNY.

The wooden Christ, on the small square with the fountain, dates from the 19th century. Near the fountain, an oak planted in 1980 in celebration of Belgium's 150th anniversary. At n° 7, there is an old farm, built in limestone sometime during the 19th century. The main building was on the right and the stable, which has a portal dated 1856, was on the left. The gable is made out of half-timber work and bricks. The building now houses the **'Haras du Bonny'**, an equestrian centre, where horses are bred as well as trained. A pony club and horse stables are also available.

04 AT THE NEXT CROSSROADS, TURN RIGHT, RUE INZEHAMBAY.

The first ever mention of the village was found in a 1189 papal bull. In this document, the pope Lucius III, confirms that the 'villa de Bandres' belongs to the Saint-Hubert abbey. In the 17th century, the forest was divided between the Saint-Hubert abbey and the La Roche Earldom. In 1741, the Abbey donated part of its forest to the villagers of Bande. The villagers put the numerous resources of the forest to good use and soon, the village grew more prosperous. During the 19th and 20th century the area around Bande was pretty affluent, benefiting as it did from very low taxation, free water as well as free waste removal. Unfortunately for the villagers, these benefits were abolished in 1977...



05 AT THE NEXT CROSSROADS, EITHER YOU TURN RIGHT, AND AT THE NEXT CROSSROADS (WITH THE CROSS), TURN RIGHT AGAIN TO JOIN DIRECTLY THE BONNY NEIGHBOURHOOD, OR YOU WALK AN EXTRA 1.5 MILES (2,4 km) AND DISCOVER THE PLACE CALLED AU ZÉRO AND THE STELE OF CHATEAUBRIAND, WITH MAGNIFICENT OPEN VIEWS OF THE VALLEY...

The place known as **'Au Zéro'** is all that remains of a - now completely disappeared - small hamlet. Located alongside what was at the time the main road, the hamlet is thought to have had three inns, patronized by coach drivers for whom the inns provided fresh horses for their stagecoaches. The empress Mary-Theresa of Austria is said to have stayed there as well as the famous French writer Chateaubriand who mentions the place in his book 'Memoirs from Beyond the Grave'. Chateaubriand, who had enrolled in the armies that favoured the return of the King of France and that fought against the armies of the young republic, was injured during the horrific battle of Argonne in 1792, in north-east France. He then tried to reach England by travelling through the Ardennes on foot. That is how he was sheltered and nursed back to health in the place named Au Zéro. A stele was put up in his honour and inaugurated in 1948 by the French ambassador.





When and why did this neighbourhood disappear? Circa 1826, William of Orange, King of the Netherlands and of our regions since 1815, wanted to improve the road that linked Brussels to Luxemburg. His engineers recommended that he build a new road in the Wamme valley, rather than modernize the existing road that ran through the Zéro. Traffic moved away towards the Wamme valley thus sounding the death bell for the coach inn.

If you want to continue the walk, instead of turning right, you need to continue straight ahead.

A bit higher up, on your left, you can spot the factory that used to bottle and market the water from the **Bande Pouhon Source**.



At the T-shaped crossroads on top of the hill, turn right.

You'll walk past the **stele dedicated to Chateaubriand** on the place called 'Au Zéro'.

At the next junction, turn right, then continue on the main road until you reach the Y-shaped crossroads (where there's a cross), where you need to turn left towards the Bonny neighbourhood.



06 AT THE CROSSROADS ON THE MAIN ROAD, RUE BONNY, TURN LEFT. A BIT HIGHER UP, AT THE Y-SHAPED CROSSROADS, CONTINUE ON YOUR RIGHT, RUE SAUSET. AT THE T-SHAPED CROSSROADS ON TOP OF THE HILL, TURN RIGHT.

Descending towards the village, you can enjoy a magnificent **view of the Ardennes massif**.



Bande is located in the Ardennes, on the schist-laden soils of a rocky spur overlooking the Bonnier, a tributary of the

Wamme. This small water course allowed the expansion of the village by providing it with the energy necessary to power the many furnaces, sawmills, mills and stone quarries that settled alongside the river banks from the 16th century onwards.

07 FOLLOW THE ASPHALT ROAD UNTIL THE T-SHAPED CROSSROADS, THEN TURN RIGHT TOWARDS THE VILLAGE, RUE DE HAUTE TAHÉE. AT THE NEXT CROSSROADS, TURN RIGHT.

At the intersection with the Grand'Rue, on the rocky promontory on the other side of the road, a lane of linden trees leads to the lovely little **chapel** dedicated to **Our Lady of Salette**, 'she who reconciles sinners'. This neo-classical chapel was built in the 19th century. Legend has it that the chapel was built on the spot where, a long time ago, a castle served as hiding place for bandits who ransomed travellers and locals. The small chapel below dates from 1852.

08 TURN RIGHT IN THE GRAND'RUE AND WALK UP THE VILLAGE TOWARDS THE CHURCH.

Throughout the street, there are many **old farms**.

Bande's is infamous for the massacre perpetrated by the Germans on Christmas Eve 1944 when 34 young people from the village and neighbouring villages were murdered in an abandoned house alongside the N4 road. Only one of them, Léon Praille, managed to escape... A **memorial** was erected in memory of the victims on the location of the massacre (village entrance, alongside the N4).

A **monument** to the casualties of the two World Wars was put up in the village centre (a bit above the church, on the right).



E46



3.2 miles
(5,2 km)

BOIS DE GRUNE



Rue du Centre

Rue Au delà de l'eau

lane of linden trees

Grune

Rue du Moustier

Rue de Froidmont

Les Goffes

Rue du Presbytère

CASTLE OF GRUNE

Rue du Centre

Rue Roly

Rue Cocrainmont

Rue Cocrainmont

Rue du Centre

Ry d'Oeure

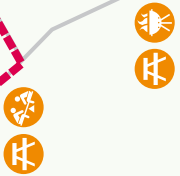
Chemin du Bois de Grune

0.12 miles

(200 m)



TIP



Grune



THE WALK STARTS AT THE SALLE SAINT-PIERRE (VILLAGE HALL), RUE DU CENTRE (NEXT TO THE SCHOOL).

During the course of 2011, the walk will be supplemented by a number of old photographs. This selection of enlarged period pictures, representative of village life between 1900 and 1930, will also include notes and historical context. The booklet **'Picturesque Grune'** which will compile these photographic illustrations, will be available from the Maison du Tourisme du Pays de Marche & Nassogne (Tourist Information Office).

01 YOUR BACK TOWARDS THE SALLE SAINT-PIERRE, FOLLOW THE RUE DU CENTRE ON YOUR LEFT (TOWARDS THE CHURCH).

Departure

Salle Saint-Pierre

- ▶ Rue du Centre
6952 Grune

GPS coord.

50°9'18.05"N 5°22'53.01"E
50.15501 N 5.38139 E

Distance

3.2 miles 6.21 9.32

Level of difficulty
easy



The house opposite the school, converted after 1918, was for a long time the village shop as well as village pub. As early as 1900, Grune was served by the local tram service that linked Marche to Martelange. At the time, the village boasted 4 grocers and 2 inns (family pensions) for a population of more than 600 villagers. Nowadays, the population is a little over 330 and there are no more shops in the village.



A lot of the houses still bear traces of a barn door. The barns were used to store the hay and shelter the carts, which is why the doors are quite large. Many of the houses also have a small outbuilding - generally built near the road, away from the living quarters - that was used as a pigsty.



The **older constructions**, mostly from the 19th or early 20th century, are built either with sandstone that was extracted from a quarry in the Grune wood, half-timber work and cob, or in some cases, with the bricks that were baked in the old Harsin brick factory. Paradoxically, brick was at the time considered as a 'noble' material (some of the façades are made out of brick, while the back of the houses and the gables are in Belgian bluestone...).

02 ARRIVED AT THE CROSSROADS NEAR THE CHURCH, CONTINUE STRAIGHT AHEAD TOWARDS THE BUS SHELTER.

Walking down the road on your right, you will go along the **Castle of Grune** (private property). The history of the village is intimately linked to the history of its castle. The castle was



the seat of a high seigniorship that was under the jurisdiction of the feudal court of the La Roche Earldom. Henri de Wellin, Lord of Grune, Crupet and Masbourg, is the first Lord ever mentioned in a 1290 document.

The castle was surrounded by ditches until the beginning of the 19th century. The building forms a quadrilateral shape and is composed of a seigniorial dwelling and a farm that has fallen into ruin. The house was built in 1613 by Gilles de Mozet, Lord of Grune. In 1851, it was restored by Th. Pety de Thozée. In 1894, it was restored a second time round by the Count Maurice de Ramaix. This event is commemorated by a stone bearing his arms and motto sealed into the back of the building. The farm dates from the early 18th century and the portal exterior is topped with a stone bearing the arms of the Mozet-Waha family. The castle suffered greatly during the Second World War. It was almost entirely burnt down, and the building was (partially) restored in 1946. Listed as a historic monument since 28 August 1947, the castle is currently occupied by the Ramaix family.

03 AT THE INTERSECTION BELOW THE CASTLE, TURN RIGHT, RUE AU DELÀ DE L'EAU.

At the crossroads, before turning right, just have a look at the **lane of linden trees** on your left (private property). This remarkable, listed lane is a little over 0.6 miles long and has 318 linden trees that were planted circa 1900.

04 CONTINUE STRAIGHT AHEAD AND THEN TAKE THE SLIGHTLY UPHILL GRAVEL PATH ON YOUR RIGHT.

From there, you can enjoy a **lovely view** of the village of Bande and its church (village you might want to discover with another one of our discovery trails...).

05 AT THE END OF THE GRAVEL PATH, TAKE RIGHT (TARMAC ROAD). CONTINUE UNTIL THE T-SHAPED CROSSROADS AT THE VILLAGE ENTRANCE, WHERE YOU NEED TO TURN RIGHT, RUE ROLY.





The **Roly neighbourhood** is the village's main extension and the Rue Roly leads to the Grune Wood. Most of the houses were built during the 19th century and are laid out asymmetrically, with the house fronts either parallel or perpendicular to the road, which confers a singular style to the neighbourhood. The vast majority of the houses are composed of a main building, stables and a barn; some of them even have a hayloft or bakery.

Take particular notice at the group of buildings at n° 13-15 : an old, long farmhouse bearing the date 1818 on the portal hooks; at n° 9 the house called 'Les Buis' (boxwood) an imposing dwelling which we can trace back to 1885 thanks to the anchors on the left gable; and lastly, an impressive farmhouse at n° 8, built with sandstone bricks in 1811.

You can also see the last remaining water pump, remnant of the first public water supply. It dates from 1930 and stands in front of n° 8.

06 AT THE T-SHAPED CROSSROADS WITH THE RUE DU CENTRE, TURN LEFT. AT THE NEXT JUNCTION (BEND IN THE ROAD), TURN RIGHT, RUE COCRAIMONT.



TIP



It's worth making a short 2000 feet (600 m) detour to the **Ry d'Oeure nature reserve** with its picnic area and educational trail. To reach the rest area, instead of continuing straight ahead, take the turn and follow the road towards Nassogne. The neighbourhood that you will pass through is called Laveu (Walloon name for wash-house) and is a reminder of the former public wash-house that once sat alongside the Ry d'Oeure. Note that the vast stone basins have been moved to the place known as 'la Pépinette' in Nassogne.

07 CONTINUE ON THE TARMAC ROAD AND TAKE THE 1ST GRAVEL PATH ON YOUR RIGHT (HAIRPIN BEND).

On your left, is a wide view of the valley of the Wassoie. With the Saint-Hubert forest as a backdrop, the village of Grune overlooks the **valleys of the Wamme and the Hédrée**.

08 AT THE T-SHAPED JUNCTION WITH THE RUE DU PRESBYTÈRE, TURN LEFT.

A small detour of about 328 feet (100 m), takes you to the **Goffes Viewpoint area**. From there, you look out over : the Godefroid villa, in the north, the Chefneufays castle, in the north-east, the village of Bande and the Roy church tower in the east.

A bit further on in the Rue du Moustier and facing the Godefroid villa, stands the Grune mill dating from 1786.

09 RETRACE YOUR STEPS AND GO DOWN THE RUE DU PRESBYTÈRE.

The house at n° 11 is a former independent girls' school. It was founded in 1890 by the Mayor Maurice de Ramaix and ran by the Sisters of Providence until 1934, and had around 60 pupils until 1968. The current school (where this walk starts) used to be a public boys' school, founded in 1880 by the mayor Jules Pety de Thozée.

Dated 1839, the Saint-Peter's church is built out of dressed sandstone and bluestone. In 1908, the Count de Ramaix paid for the church's new choir and neo-roman tower. The church is home to 17th and 18th century altarpieces as well as a painting on wood representing Our Lady with Grapes. Opposite the church, at n° 3, an old farm built in half-timber work and bricks, entirely stuccoed, except for the right gable.

AFTER THE CHURCH, TURN RIGHT TOWARDS THE SALLE SAINT-PIERRE.





2.6
or
5.6
miles
(4,2 or 9 km)

Chemin de Royy

Chemin Sur le Foy



TIP

HAFLINGER FARM



TIP

Ambly



Rue du Ford des Lays

Chemin de Royy

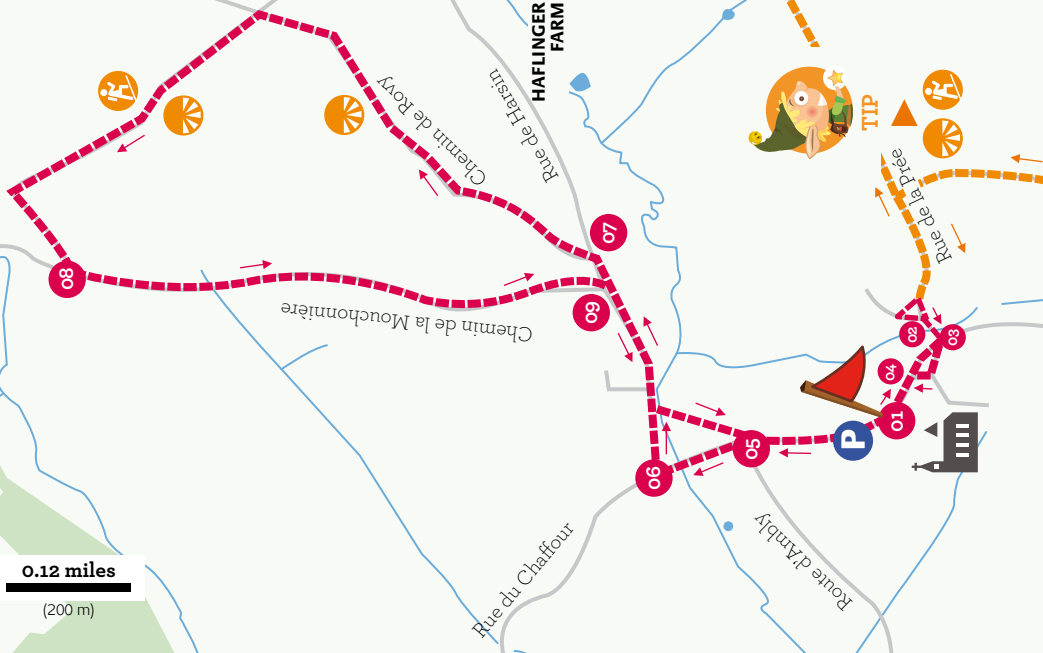
Rue de Hasain

Chemin de la Mouchonnère

Rue de la Pree

Rue du Châfour

Route d'Ambly



0.12 miles
(200 m)

Ambly



ROCHEFORT

MARCHE

NASSOGNE

Ambly

63

01 THE WALK STARTS FROM THE SAINT-JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH.

This neo-classical church was built between 1854 and 1855. The central altar has a revolving tabernacle and a painting from the second half of the 18th century represents the beheading of Saint-John the Baptist.

Ambly sits astride the Famenne and the Ardennes, and its hilly **landscapes** offer visitors many magnificent panoramas. This charming village totals approximately 400 inhabitants. Numerous exquisitely restored 19th century **stone farms** are scattered throughout the village, as well as a few half-timbered houses.

The village of Ambly was for a long time a bone of contention between the Duke of Luxemburg and the Bishop (also Prince) of Liège. The village remained a fiefdom of the County of Rochefort (and as such, part of Namur) until 1976, when the councils were merged.

Departure

Church

- Rue Principale
6953 Ambly

GPS coord.

50°8'30.77" N 5°18'47.01" E
50.14188 N 5.31306 E

Distance

2.6 miles 6.21 9.32

OR 5.6 miles 9.32


Level of difficulty

easy



The 7th century **Mousty** (chapel or oratory) in the place called Javingle is the oldest building in the village. It can be seen alongside the 5.4 miles (8,8km) long waymarked walking trail of the same name.



02 WALK UP THE RUE PRINCIPALE FOR ABOUT 200 FEET (50 m) AND TAKE THE 1ST ROAD ON THE LEFT, RUE DE LA PRÉE, TO JOIN A **PRETTY LITTLE NEIGHBOURHOOD**. 



The 1st house on the right, at n° 2, is quite an eye-catcher. This long limestone and sandstone farm has a gable dated 1749. The village elders still call it 'Maison Colle' or the 'Maison des bourgmestres'. The front door lock is decorated with the Napoleonic eagle, and is, like the rest of the neighbourhood doors, fitted with a door knocker. Rumour has it that during the Revolution, a priest was hidden in this house. The villagers also remember when the whole neighbourhood met at the bakery for the legendary 'poiret' (traditional, jam-like pear syrup) and vinegar making evenings. Nowadays, the house is for rent as a self-catering countryside cottage.



A long time ago, between the 'Maison Colle' and the brook, there was a building that was called 'la salinerie', where saltpetre was produced and sold in Dinant. On 30 April 1862, a fire started in this house, killing a small ten year old girl and destroying nine other houses.



The mill, at n° 1, dates from 1843 and used to be a sheep farm. Its 1969 buyer not only consolidated the banks of the brook, but also turned the farm into a mill.

Go towards the other end of the square and discover at n° 5 '**La Ferme de la Prée**', where Mr and Mrs Collard-Rulmont offer products from their **duck farm**: foie gras, duck breast, rillettes... (open on Thursdays and Fridays from 04pm to 07pm, Saturdays from 10am to 06pm and Sunday mornings only by appointment - T: +32(0)84/47.88.31).



Among the other comprehensively restored buildings, you can admire an old farm from 1845, at n° 7.



If you'd like to add a touch of 'nature' to your tour, follow the waymarking of **the walk called 'Derrière le bois'** (marking = green cross) that is about 2.7 miles (4,4 km) long. This walking trail offers beautiful views of the woods and surrounding countryside. At the crossroads of two country lanes, you will see the Demanet cross, marking the place where a crime was committed... You can learn more about this incident on the didactic panel near the cross.

03 RETRACE YOU STEPS, CROSS THE RUE PRINCIPALE AND GO SLIGHTLY TOWARDS THE LEFT, RUE DU CIMETIÈRE.

You will walk round an old 19th farm, built with dressed sandstone (except for the front of the house which is built with dressed limestone).

At n° 2, you can see the old parsonage (which is now a family house), that is surrounded by low walls, and dates from the second part of the 19th century. The King of Belgium, Albert II, stayed there quite a few times.

Past the cemetery gates, you can spot the graves of eight members of the Royal Air Force and the Royal Canadian Air Force, whose plane crashed somewhere between Ambly and Hargimont on 06 January 1945, gunned down by a German fighter plane.

04 WALK PAST THE CHURCH AND THEN WALK DOWN THE RUE PRINCIPALE.

Left of the church, at n° 25, there is long farm building dating from 1842. The 'Compagnons Bâisseurs' (master-builders) stayed in that farm while they built the church.

The house at n° 30 used to resound with the sound of laughter and conversation... as it used to be the village grocers as well as village pub, where the villagers would come and play a game of cards after attending mass.





On your left, at n° 41, the traditional **'Saint-Monon Brewery'** produces 3 different beers: an amber beer (6.5 % alc.), a brown beer (7.5 % alc.) and a honey-flavoured beer (8 % alc.). This family-run business, started in 1996, produces about 600HL per year. You can buy your beer from the brewery every day between 09am and midday and from 01.30 to 06pm (except on Sundays).

On your left a bit further on, the building that houses the nursery school is built in Art Nouveau style, which is extremely rare for the area.

The small niche and funeral cross that are sealed in the façade of the first house in the Entre Deux Bancs street (that veers towards the left) mark the spot where, in 1916, a villager was run over and killed by a cart.

05 CONTINUE IN THE RUE DU CHAFFOUR, ALONGSIDE THE MONUMENT (LEFT SIDE).

At the end of the road, you can spot a very beautiful house built in Belgian bluestone. During the Second World War, the German army requisitioned the house as well as the house opposite and set up their headquarters there.

06 AT THE NEXT INTERSECTION, TAKE RIGHT, RUE DE HARSIN.

Three brooks flow through Ambly: the Ri de Fosse that circles the village, the Ri de Warlet and the Pépinette. The Ri de Warlet, that takes its source in the place called Inzès Fochales, flows into the Pépinette to form the Ri de Bonêfosse.



At the village exit, on the Rue de Harsin, there is a **farm that breeds Haflinger horses**. As well as a visit to the farm, Mr and Mrs Lepage propose, on appointment, a **carriage ride** through the countryside and forest (T : +32(0)84/21.42.20).

07 TAKE THE 2ND ROAD ON THE LEFT, RUE DE ROVY, AND CONTINUE STRAIGHT AHEAD UNTIL THE INTERSECTION WITH A GRAVEL PATH, WHERE YOU NEED TO TURN LEFT.

The villagers of Amby are nicknamed 'les Boucs' (the billy goats). This sobriquet is linked to the story of the shepherd called Winant... One day when he had taken his herd to graze near the Lhomme, a violent storm suddenly broke out, forcing him to put in his herd. By way of bridge, the only thing available was a rather big oak tree. The animals had great difficulty crossing the river and Winant, annoyed, hit them with a big stick, knocking some of the animals senseless. The stunned animals fell into the water and were swept away by the current. As for the goats, they split up from the herd, carefully avoiding 'the bridge' and, after a long detour, went back to Amby...

08 AT THE END OF THE PATH, TURN LEFT, CHEMIN DE MOUCHONNIÈRE (BE CAREFUL AS THIS IS A VERY BUSY ROAD), TO GO BACK TO THE VILLAGE.

Alongside this road, there are a number of houses dating from the 19th century.

09 AT THE NEXT CROSSROADS, TURN RIGHT, RUE D'HARSIN, THEN TAKE THE 1ST ON THE LEFT, RUE PRINCIPALE, TO GO TOWARDS THE CHURCH.





**Maison du Tourisme du Pays
de Marche & Nassogne
Royal Syndicat d'Initiative
de Marche-en-Famenne**

Place de l'Étang, 15
6900 Marche-en-Famenne
T +32(0)84/34.53.27
infotourisme@marche.be
www.maisontourisme.nassogne.marche.be

Open from Monday to Friday from 08.30am to 5.30pm.
Weekends and bank holidays from 09.30am to 05pm.
Closed on 01/01, 01/11 and 25/12.

**Office Communal du Tourisme
de l'Entité de Nassogne**

Rue de Lahaut • 6950 Nassogne
T +32(0)84/22.15.58
tourisme.nassogne@skynet.be

Open from Tuesday to Friday from 10am to midday
and from 01 to 04pm, on Saturday from 09am till midday
and from 01 to 04pm.
Closed on Sundays and Mondays.
In July and August, open every day
from 10am till noon and from 01 to 04pm.



**Maison du Tourisme
du Val de Lesse**

Rue de Behogne, 5
5580 Rochefort
T +32(0)84/34.51.72
info@valdelesse.be
www.valdelesse.be

Open from Monday to Friday
from 08am to 05pm (06pm in July and August).
Weekends from 09.30am to 05pm (May to October)
and from 10am to 04pm (November to April).
Closed on 01/01, 02/01 and 25/12.

Tourist Information Centres

Syndicat d'Initiative de Rochefort
Rue de Behogne, 5 • 5580 Rochefort
T +32(0)84/21.25.37
infos@rochefort-tourisme.be

Open from Monday to Friday from 08am to 05pm
(06pm in July and August).
Weekends from 09.30am to 05pm (May to October)
and from 10am to 04pm (November to April).
Closed on 01/01, 02/01 and 25/12.

**Office Royal du Tourisme
de Han-sur-Lesse**

Place Théo Lannoy • 5580 Han-sur-Lesse
T +32(0)84/37.75.96
han.tourisme@skynet.be

Open from Monday to Sunday from 10am to 04pm
(January, February, November, December),
from 10am to 04pm (March), from 09.30am to
04.30pm (April), from 09.30am to 05pm (May, June,
September, October) and from 09.30am to 05.30pm
(July and August).





Walking maps & roadbooks

Walking map - Rochefort council

Topographic map 1/25.000

30 waymarked walks

7,50 €

Walking map - Rochefort town

Topographic map 1/10.000

7 waymarked walks

4,00 €

Walking map - Village of Han-sur-Lesse

Topographic map 1/10.000

7 waymarked walks

4,00 €

Walking map

Marche-en-Famenne council

Topographic map 1/25.000

20 waymarked walks

7,50 €

Walk through the heart of Marche-en-Famenne

Explanatory booklet (French only)

walking trail +/- 3.1 miles

2,00 €

Walk through the heart of Waha

Explanatory booklet (French only)

walking trail +/- 4.3 miles

2,00 €

Walking map

Nassogne council

Topographic map 1/25.000

23 waymarked walks

7,00 €

Nassogne, typical village

Explanatory booklet (French only)

walking trail +/- 4.3 miles

2,00 €





CHEVETOGNE

- **Provincial Domain**

This vast domain that stretches out over 550ha offers fantastic playing grounds, thematic ornamental gardens, ponds, an open-air swimming pool, a miniature golf, waymarked walking trails as well as the Nature Extraordinary Museum.

HAN-SUR-LESSE

- **Domain of the Caves of Han**

Cave, Wildlife Reserve, Speleogame... A centenary tram takes you to the entrance of the cave of Han. A guide will then take you for a tour of the magnificent concretions which were rewarded with 3 stars in the green Michelin Guide ! Safari-cars take you for a tour of the 220ha Wildlife Reserve where you can admire animal species that still populate, or once populated our regions : brown bears, lynx, deer, wild boars...

- **House for Country Life and Forgotten Crafts**

The old crafts that were practised round 1900 are illustrated through scenes of everyday life.

JEMELLE

- **Centre for Rail and Stone**

This Centre gives tribute to the rich railway history of the village. It is filled with memories of times gone by...

LAVAUX-SAINTE-ANNE

- **Feudal castle and marshy area**

The most beautiful plain castle of the Famenne area has been almost entirely revamped. Next to the medieval dwelling, you can visit the marshy area which is dotted with explanatory boards.

NAVAUGLE

- **Doneu Ostrich Farm**

Visit... an ostrich farm !

ROCHFORT

- **Remains of the Castle of the Counts**

Since the 11th century, this imposing sentinel, built on a rocky spur, overlooks the town of Rochefort.

- **Gallo-Roman Archaeopark of Malagne**

The remains of one of the largest Gallo-Roman villa's in North Gaul. The villa has a nature path, they breed ancient livestock, experiment with archaeology...

- **Tourist train**

Discover the essential spots of the town of Rochefort with our Tourist train.

- **Cave of Lorette-Rochefort**

A journey 197 feet underground.

- **Park des Roches**

Superb listed park with open-air swimming pool, mini golf, playground, tennis...

MARCHE-EN-FAMENNE

- **Old Town and urban renewal**
The architectural harmony of the town, its exquisitely renovated streets and buildings, its pedestrian area, its leafy squares and numerous fountains and sculptures are as many signs of a successful urban renewal...
- **Dynamic Cinema**
Fasten your seatbelts on and join Elliott for an unforgettable journey through the Famenne area.
- **Museum of the Famenne**
Located in a splendid 18th century edifice, this museum takes you for a journey, ranging from Prehistory to Modern Art. Frankish archaeology, the sculptures of the 'Master of Waha' and the historical site of the Monument are celebrated here. An area is dedicated to the Famenne and the town of Marche, to its geological characteristics and eventful history, with a magnificent scale model of Marche in the year 1600. The crafts of old, and in particular lace making, which is an age-old tradition in Marche, are also represented here. The Museum also boasts a beautiful collection of Modern and Contemporary Art.
- **Permanent Exhibition of the international lute-making school**
Presentation of how string quartet instruments (violas, violins, violoncellos) are made as well as the personal creations of Gauthier Louppe, a stringed-instrument master.

WAHA

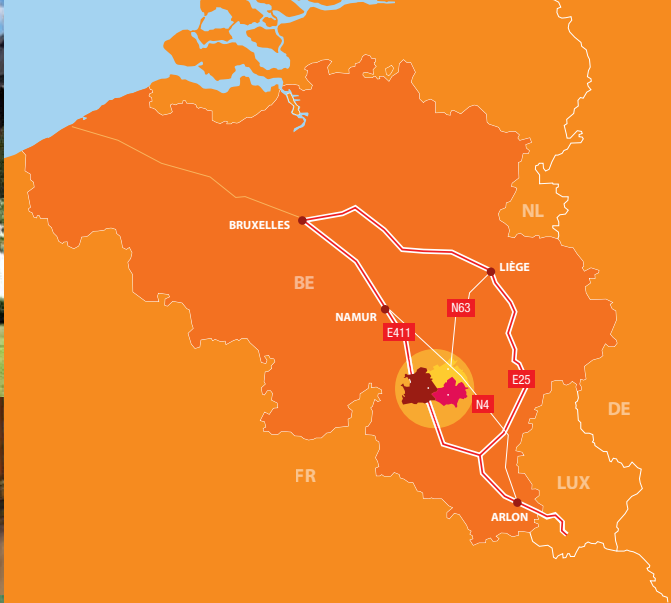
- **Saint-Etienne church and stained-glass windows by Jean-Michel Folon**
The Saint-Etienne church is a remarkable Romanesque-style edifice (1050) listed as Major Walloon Heritage Site. It is surrounded by its ancient cemetery and protected by a linden tree that is several hundreds of years old and under which a 'White Monk' is silently praying. The incredibly rich elements of heritage that are preserved in the church (dedication stone, 16th century baptismal fonts, a 13th century reliquary, works by the mysterious 'Master of Waha',...) are illuminated by the fabulous array of colours that emerge from the stunning stained-glass windows designed by the well-known Belgian artist Jean-Michel Folon.

NASSOGNE

- **Observation platforms**
See without being seen; observe without disturbing, blend in with the surrounding forest... You can do this thanks to the three observation platforms that blend in discreetly with the landscape. Each one of them allows you to view Nassogne from a particular angle: the birds and pond in 'Bilaude', large animals and the fen in 'Priesse' and a beautiful landscape in 'Huttes'.

AND A LOT MORE

- Plenty of events : Comedy Festival, 1900 Market, thematic walks...
- Tasty delicacies : Rochefort Trappist beer, Saint-Monon beer, Rochefort cheeses, the 'Baisers de Marche' biscuits... & other traditional 'terroir' and farm products
- A wealth of picturesque villages...



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'This action is part of the LEADER initiative funded by the European Union and Wallonia with the support of the councils of Rochefort, Marche-en-Famenne and Nassogne.'

European Regional Development Fund: investing in our regions.
With the support of the 'Commissariat Général au Tourisme' (www.tourismewallonie.be • www.opt.be)

