

Centenary

ACCESSIBLE FOR ALL



10.00

-

FLANDERSFIELDS1418.COM





Flanders Fields formed the dramatic backdrop for some of the bloodiest battles of the First World War for four long years. One hundred years after WWI broke out, the region's landscape still tells the story of the war. It is home to hundreds of monuments and cemeteries that hold great historical significance for people all over the world.

We created this brochure in collaboration with the accessibility agency of Flanders, Inter and the West-Flanders Province. We hope it helps visitors with a disability or need for care to prepare a daytrip or holiday in the Westhoek. The brochure contains all aspects of an accessible journey or daytrip: information and reception, cafes and restaurants, sites, museums, public services, transport, assistance and care...



Do you wish to read the story behind the remembrance of the Great War?

Visit <u>www.flandersfields.be</u> of <u>www.visitflanders.com</u>.

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BEFORE YOU START...

A. HOW TO USE THIS BROCHURE?

Our information is based on objective expert inspections on the spot. Some of the locations were added based on tips and good experiences of people with disabilities.

We do not claim that all listed initiatives are autonomously wheelchair accessible. We made a selection of the more accessible businesses and facilities in the Westhoek. On the basis of the descriptions, you can decide for yourself which locations are more or less suitable or which preparations you can make to make it work.

1 / Accommodation, information offices and visitor centres

For accommodation and information offices VISITFLANDERS has developed accessibility labelling:



The label 'A+' means that the building is accessible in a comfortable and independent way.



The label 'A' means that we consider the building to be basically accessible; that it can be used by most people with limited mobility, but that it is possible that extra effort or a helper is required.

Learn more about the accessibility labels?

Navigate to www.visitflanders.com/accessibility

Learn more about a building?

For detailed information and some accessibility related pictures of a holiday accommodation, you can take a look in our accommodation brochure via <u>www.visitflanders.com/accessibility</u> > Brochures.

2 / Cemeteries, attractions and musea

Since no label yet exists for cemeteries, monuments, musea etc., the accessibility agency of Flanders, Inter, has developed the "W" symbol specifically for this project. The "W" weighting gives an idea of the degree to which a site is accessible for independent wheelchair users:



Accessible independently



Accessible with assistance



Accessible with help and extra efforts



Not wheelchair accessible

Together with the detailed descriptions, the symbols show to what degree a certain attraction or parts of the attraction are accessible to visitors with limited mobility. They also indicate which obstacles you can encounter or where you might possibly need a helping hand.

This brochure also contains a small number of initiatives that did not obtain one of these labels, but we believe that some people with a (physical) disability can experience them to a certain degree. If an attraction or museum has amenities for visitors with a visual, hearing or learning disability, this is also stated and indicated by means of the following headings:





Facilities for deaf or hearing impaired persons



Facilities for visitors with a learning disability

3 / Public toilets, pubs and restaurants

Using the thumb system for the most important measurement data and the detailed pictures of the modified toilets you can decide if a cafe, restaurant or toilet is suitable for you. Because of continuous changes in restaurants, cafes and toilets, it is possible that some information may be out of date. We therefore recommend you contact the business before your visit. If you note that a location has been moved, renovated or closed, you can notify this fact to the Flemish accessibility agency Inter at info@inter.vlaanderen or +32 (0)50 40 73 73.



CUSTOMIZED TRAVEL ADVICE

Where can I find holiday accommodation to meet my needs? Which museums provide a tactile experience or have audio information? Where can I find a restaurant where it will be safe to eat with a gluten allergy? Which travel firms take my special needs into account? Which coach companies have a vehicle with a wheelchair lift?

Flanders wants everyone to get the best welcome: young and old, with or without limitations or care needs, etc. VISIT**FLANDERS** is happy to help you with your holiday or getaway if you have special needs or wishes.

Contact us for free and independent travel advice:

Grasmarkt 61, 1000 Brussels +32 (0)2 504 03 40 accessible@visitflanders.com, www.visitflanders.com/accessibility



Rent an adapted bike or wheelchair?

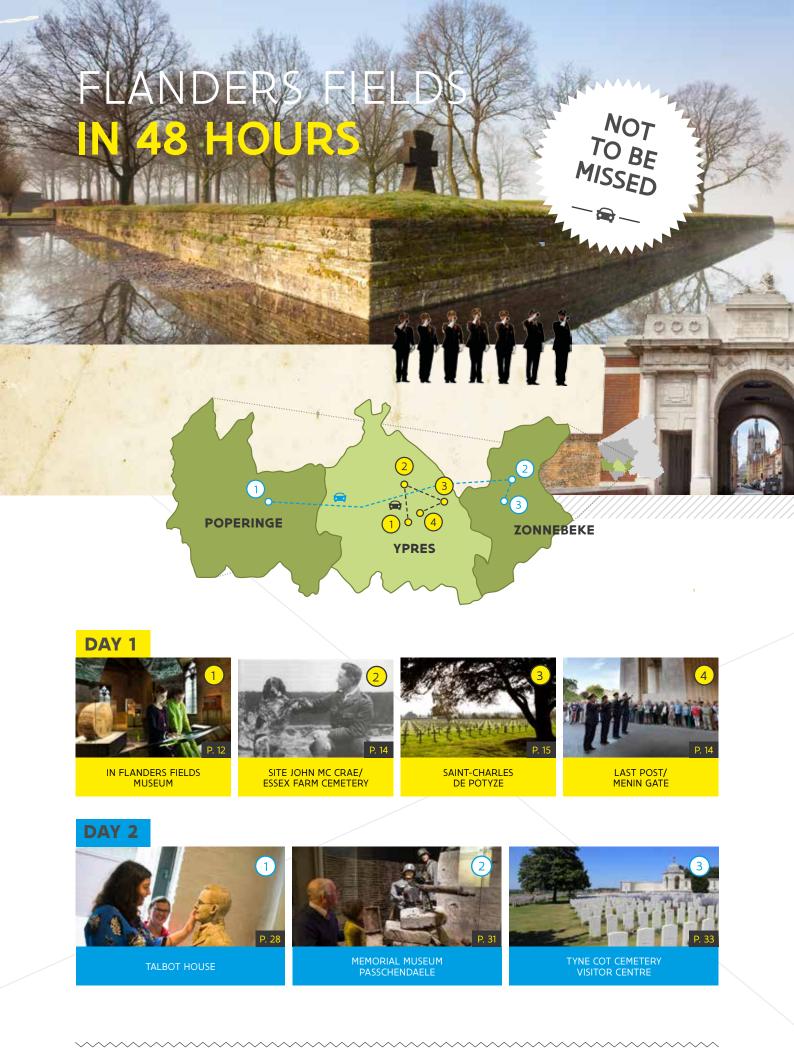
The Westhoek has a lot to offer for those who love cycling. The Province of West-Flanders rents two wheelchair bikes (electric and non-electric). The rent is 6 (non-electric) or 10 euros (electric) per week.

Make a reservation at +32 (0)50 40 76 76.

Preparing for your daytrip or holiday in the Westhoek is made even easier with the AccesSEAble app!

Are you preparing for your daytrip at home or are you already at your holiday destination? Through a personalized profile, this app shows you accessible cafes and restaurants, landmarks, attractions and public services near you that meet your needs. You can search by name, region, city or type of building. Every location is been provided with information on the most important measurement data, detailed pictures of the entrance and the adapted toilet.

Download the app through Google Play, App Store or Windows Phone Store. Learn more: <u>www.visitflanders.</u> <u>com/en</u> > Accessibility > Things to do > Flanders Fields





IN FLANDERS FIELDS MUSEUM



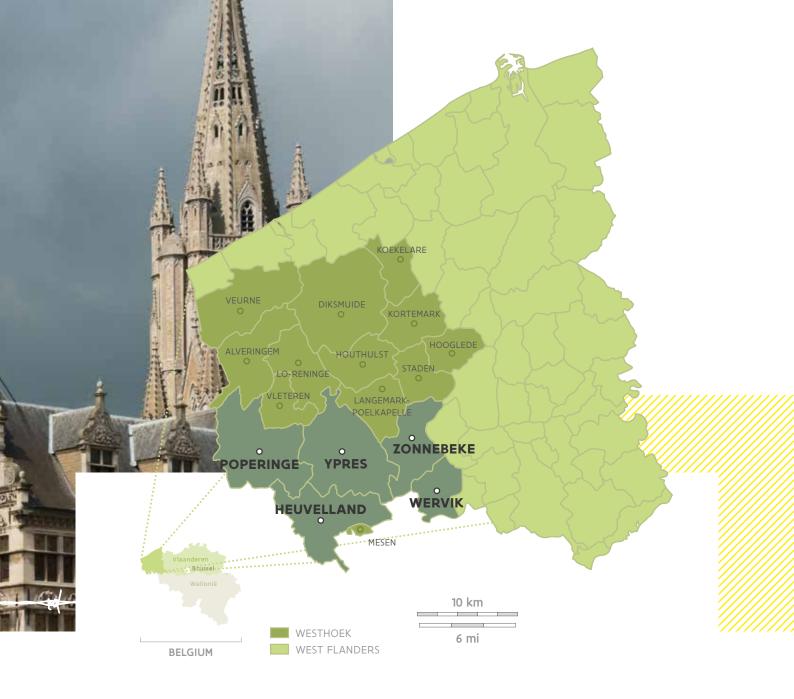




P. 26 CONDEMNED CELLS AND SHOOTING SPOT

TALBOT HOUSE







ZONNEBEKE





AND SURROUNDINGS



YPRES TOURIST OFFICE YPRES AND THE

WESTHOEK VISITOR CENTRE Lakenhalle, Grote Markt 34, 8900 leper

+32 (0)57 23 92 20 - toerisme@ieper.be - www.toerisme-ieper.be The building is easily accessible. There is a low information desk able to accommodate wheelchair users. The leaflets and brochures are within reach and all of the information is well visible from a wheelchair. The tavern and the nearby toilet are easily accessible as well.

1 / VISITS

IN FLANDERS FIELDS MUSEUM





Grote Markt 34, 8900 leper +32 (0)57 23 92 20 flandersfields@ieper.be

The In Flanders Fields Museum, renovated in 2012, takes prime place as a must-see attraction in Ypres. A new permanent exhibition focuses on personal stories of ordinary people and establishes a link to the landscape of the First World War in West Flanders. The museum has doubled in size and now hosts a WWI knowledge centre. More than 2,000 original objects and documents are on display and visitors can follow four personal stories through interactive kiosks. New scenography highlights the most recent museum applications, including touch screens, interactive poppy bracelet, video projection and soundscapes. Everything contributes to a rich experience and submerses visitors in life on the front. In addition, visitors can now climb the bell tower for an extraordinary view of what was once a completely devastated region.



The museum is accessible with assistance. You can make reservations for one of the two wheelchairs available at the desk. On the steep, metal slope, help may be needed. An adapted toilet is available. The cafeteria is accessible, and some tables are suitable for wheelchairs. The belfry is not wheelchair accessible. There's no alternative for the 213 steps to get there.





There are special guided tours for visitors with a visual impairment. All of the museumtexts are also available in large print and in braille at the desk. At the market place (Grote Markt), in front of the Cloth Hall, you can find a bronze scale model.



TRACES OF WAR: ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR EXHIBITION

FROM 17 FEBRUARY 2018 TO 15 AUGUST 2018 IN FLANDERS FIELDS MUSEUM, YPRES

When the First World War ended, the Westhoek region had been completely destroyed. The original residents returned after the war. Chinese labourers and German prisoners of war cleared most of the traces of destruction: trenches were closed up, bomb craters were filled in, and military infrastructure was dismantled. The farmers returned too and started to work in their fields again. The material evidence became part of the archaeological soil archive. More info: <u>www.inflandersfields.be</u>

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ACCESSIBILITY LEVEL OF THIS EVENT <u>PIETER.REMMERIE@INTER.VLAANDEREN</u>

LAST POST \setminus MENIN GATE

Menenstraat w.n., 8900 leper www.lastpost.be - info@lastpost.be

The Mening Gate is the most famous war memorial for missing persons of the Commonwealth of the First World War in Belgium. The gate, built in a classical style following a design of Sir Reginald Blomfield contains the names of 54,896 missing soldiers of the Commonwealth countries (except New Zealand). The victims of the United Kingdom who fell after the 16th of August are mentioned by name on the Tyne Cot Memorial. Every evening at 8 pm, a deeply moving ceremony takes place under the vast arch of the Menin Gate: the traffic stops and buglers from the local fire brigade play 'The Last Post'. The ceremony was begun in 1928. Sometimes the ceremony is attended by just few spectators on more formal occasions hundreds can be present. Irrespective of numbers, the Last Post remains a unique and moving experience. i

At the upper exterior level, you can touch the scale model, which is an exact replica of the monument.





The Menin Gate is only partially wheelchair accessible: the panels on which you can read the names are only accessible by stairs. The path that leads to the alternative route with a ramp to the the ramparts is not wheelchair accessible.

However, the main hall, where you can attend the playing of the Last Post every day, is wheelchair accessible. Wheelchair-users and others with severe physical or learning disabilities are found a special place. Those places have to be reserved, by sending an e-mail to <u>info@</u> <u>lastpost.be</u> (mention the date and the numer of persons). Having arrived at the Menin Gate, you can recognize the assistants by the badge they're wearing. Prompt arrival is recommended. Most evenings the Menin Gate is already pretty full by a quarter past seven (the ceremony begins at eight o' clock).



SITE JOHN MCCRAE \setminus ESSEX FARM CEMETERY

Diksmuidseweg 148, 8904 leper (Boezinge) toerisme@ieper.be

Along the Ypres-Yser canal, just outside of Ypres, you can find the site John McCrae. In May 1915, the Canadian doctor Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae wrote his world famous poem 'In Flanders Fields' here. John McCrae died in 1918 and is buried in Wimereux, France. Adjacent to the site John McCrae lies Essex Farm Cemetery. John McCrae dug out a hiding place here to give care to the first gas victims in 1915. The place soon became the Essex Farm Cemetery.



Wheelchair users may need some help to visit the John McCrae site. The pathways in cobble stones may cause problems. The path to the bunkers is in bad repair and very steep.



The Essex Farm Cemetery is accessible with help to cross the cobbled entrance path.



SAINT-CHARLES DE POTYZE

Zonnebeekseweg 379, 8900 leper (Zillebeke) +32 57 23 92 20

Two white stone columns flank the entrance to this French military cemetery in Ypres. Around 4,000 French soldiers are buried here, with most having died between October 1914 and April 1915. Six hundred unknown soldiers were finally laid to rest in a mass grave at the back. Beyond the entrance on the left stands an ensemble of statues, a Breton cross with a pieta. The graves are marked with upright crosses.



The access pathway in cobble stones is at some points in a bad condition.

EVENT

COMING WORLD REMEMBER ME / LAND ART INSTALLATION

30 March 2018 – 11 November 2018 De Palingbeek provincial park

Tens of thousands of people from Flanders and all around the world helped to create ComingWorldRememberMe. Together, they made the 600,000 statues. Each statue has a dog tag, the universal system of identification for frontline soldiers. Every tag is engraved with the name of a First World War victim and the name of the statue maker. In a very literal way, it unites different nationalities and different generations in common remembrance. The combined engagement of all the people involved in the project transforms the land-art installation into a symbol of peace that transcends both time and geographical borders. From April 2018 until the end of the year, you will be able to combine your visit to the pavilion with a walk that also starts from there. At various rest points along the route you can listen to war poetry. The walk ends at a viewing platform that offers a breath-taking panorama over the impressive land-art installation.



Grass as well as asphalted paths and wooden walkways will take you around the installation. Please note that the ground can therefore be rather sodden and muddy in rainy weather. The path leading directly to the panorama point is, however, fully asphalted. On the path, you can listen to poetry, but users of wheelchairs or baby buggies will need to turn back halfway along because of stairs.

EXPLORE THE YPRES SALIENT

From October 1914 to October 1918 the battlefield of the First World War was located a mile or two from the centre of Ypres. The trenches described a curve from north to south around Ypres. No fewer than five bloody battles were fought in that notorious Ypres Salient. More than 150 military cemeteries were built and monuments erected in and around the city in the 1920s, the most important of which is the Menin Gate. The monuments, sites, cemeteries and museums still remind us of the futility of war and the most tragic period in Ypres' history today. The complete story is poignantly narrated in the Ypres In Flanders Field Museum.

Three new entry points along the Ypres Salient are open for the public. There today's landscape is shown as a witness of the past, 100 years ago, in a historical film, three walking routes, a digital application and a cycling route that connects the three points.

Entry point North farm Klein Zwaanhof Kleine Poezelstraat 52

8904 leper (Boezinge)

Entry point East Hooge Crater Museum Meenseweg 467 8902 leper (Zillebeke)

Entry point South
 Palingbeek provincial park
 Palingbeekstraat 18
 8902 leper (Zillebeke)



THE BLUFF

An info box has been created at 'The Bluff' that provides background information about the Palingbeek domain and the Southern Ypres Salient. A wooden walkway leads you through the cratered landscape.

HILL 60

Hill 60 moon landscape is an authentic witness from the Great War. The artificial hill from 1850 lies about 60 meters above sea-level, hence the name. During the war, this site saw some heavy fighting. Some of the soldiers have never left. In this sense, Hill 60 is their cemetery.

CATERPILLAR CRATER SITE

The Caterpillar Crater site, a mine crater that came into being during the Battle of Messines, is located on the other side of the railway track. It has become a pool, just like the Pool of Peace.



This site is slightly more difficult for wheelchair users to access. The first part of the route (via a wooden walkway) is wheelchair-accessible, but you will need to turn back at the point where the stairs begin. The panorama point can be accessed via a very steep incline.



Some assistance is advisable for opening the gate and manoeuvring the steep inclines of the wooden walkway, for example. Wheelchair users are able to gain a view across almost the entire site, but will need to turn back at a certain point because of stairs.



Wheelchair users can use a little push on the asphalted, but rather bumpy gravel path leading to and around the Caterpillar Crater. The inclines on this path may also be a little too steep to traverse independently.









CEMETERIES

ARTILLERY WOOD CEMETERY

Poezelstraat 3, 8904 leper (Boezinge)

Artillery Wood Cemetery in Boezinge is a British military cemetery where 1,307 British soldiers are laid to rest. It was begun after the successful Pilkem Ridge battle at the end of July 1917, when the Division at Artillery Wood captured the area east of the Ypres-IJzer canal from the Germans. It continued to be a front-line cemetery until March 1918.

HILL 62 - SANCTUARY WOOD CEMETERY

Canadalaan 23, 8902 leper (Zillebeke)

Hill 62 is a hill in the neighbourhood of Ypres. '62' indicates that hill 62 is 62 metres above sea level. Hill 62 or Höhe 62 passed into German hands in 1916 but was retaken by Canadian troops who suffered great losses during this conquest.

MENIN ROAD SOUTH MILITARY CEMETERY

Meenseweg 175, 8900 leper

Menin Road South Military Cemetery is located at about 1 km from the Grand Place in Ypres. 1,657 soldiers are buried there. The cemetery was brought into use from January 1916 and was used until the summer of 1918 by medical posts and fighting units.



There is a sill at the entrance (10cm). There is an alternative access up a slope, but keep in mind that this is rather steep.



The alternative entrance for wheelchair users via the service entrance is not clearly indicated. The paths consist of even grass.

At the alternative entrance, which isn't indicated, you might need help on the steep slope.









NEW IRISH FARM CEMETERY

Briekestraat 8900 leper

This large Commonwealth cemetery was created in 1917, after this zone had been declared 'safe'. Before that, it had been in the front lines. New Irish Farm Cemetery originally contained just 73 graves. After the war, a further 4,500 burials were added, as a result of battlefield clearance or the consolidation of other smaller cemeteries.

POELCAPELLE BRITISH CEMETERY

Brugseweg 8920 Langemark-Poelkapelle +32 (0)57 49 09 41 toerisme@langemark-poelkapelle.be

This cemetery in Poelcapelle is the third largest Commonwealth cemetery in the Westhoek. Poelcapelle British Cemetery was only created in 1919. Some 7,500 soldiers are buried here. Many of them were killed during the autumn of 1917. In this cemetery, you can see the gravestone of John Condon. For a long time it was believed that he was the youngest soldier to die in the war, at just 14 years of age. However, recent research has shown that John Condon was probably older and is most likely not buried here.

POTYZE BURIAL GROUND

Potyzestraat 51, 8902 leper (Zillebeke) toerisme@ieper.be

In Potyze, there was a castle known as the 'White Château' by the British. In the summer of 1918, the castle was on the frontline. As a consequence of the fights and heavy bombardments, not much of it was left. Around the castle, several cemeteries were constructed. In this cemetery, 586 soldiers are buried.

W

The cemetery is independently accessible via an alternative entrance next to the gate. A small part of the cemetery is higher and can only be reached by steps.



The indicated alternative entrance for wheelchair users at the car park is far from the main entrance. The gate is rather heavy.



There is a step at the gate, but there is an alternative entrance too. However, this entrance is not clearly indicated.









MONUMENTS AND HISTORICAL SITES

CHARLES DRESSE MONUMENT

Poperingestraat 27, 8920 Langemark-Poelkapelle +32 (0)57 49 09 41

The Charles Dresse Monument is a memorial cross for adjutant Dresse. It consists of a Breton Calvary cross, surrounded by a large square fence.

GUYNEMER MONUMENT

Guynemerplein 8920 Langemark-Poelkapelle

This monument stands in the centre of Poelkapelle in honour of the French pilot Georges Guynemer, member of the Escadrille des Cigognes, an elite, French air force squadron that succeeded in destroying over fifty German fighter planes. He was shot down on 11 September 1917 by a German plane, but his body was never recovered. The top of the high column is crowned by a bronze stork, its wings frozen in a downward motion, flying in the direction where Guynemer apparently crashed. Guynemer's final orders are carved into the stone.

YORKSHIRE TRENCH AND DUG-OUT

Bargiestraat w.n., 8900 leper (Boezinge) +32 (0)57 23 92 20 toerisme@ieper.be

This piece of trench was discovered in the nineties when a new industrial zone was in construction next to the canal Ypres-Yser. The 'Yorkshire Trench' was created after the first gas attack in 1915. This trench from the first British line was later extended with a 'deep dug out' or an underground shelter.

W

There is an area beside the road from where the monument can be seen. The ground consists of earth and sand. Around the monument, the ground consists of grass. You can reach it via a gate with a 3 cm step.



The small footpaths and the non-lowered pedestrian crossings are a problem. However, the monument is quite visible from a distance. W

Passages and rooms are represented aboveground. You can see the greatest part of the dugouts from the wheelchair friendly pathway.











DE PALINGBEEK PROVINCIAL PARK

Palingbeekstraat z.n., 8902 leper

VISITOR CENTRE: Vaartstraat 7, 8902 Zillebeke +32 (0)57 23 08 40 bc.palingbeek@west-vlaanderen.be www.west-vlaanderen.be/palingbeek

Extensive area for walking with lots of flora and fauna. The paths are easily accessible. A map that indicates the accessible pathways is available at the visitor centre or at the website.

Restaurant De Palingbeek is perfectly accessible and has an adapted toilet.

Visitors with a learning disability can go on a quest (paying - not suitable for wheelchair users).

There is an ecologic farm where you can voluntarily help, and which is suitable for people with a learning or motor disability and for deaf, hearing impaired, blind and visually impaired participants.



SAINT-MARTIN'S CATHEDRAL

Vandenpeereboomplein, 8900 Ieper +32 (0)57 23 92 20 toerisme@ieper.be

The impressive Saint Martin's Cathedral had to be completely rebuilt following the First World War. It was reconstructed in Gothic style. You can find the remains of the former cathedral in the Lapidarium next to the church. The graves of Bishop Jansenius and Count Robert of Bethune, "The Lion of Flanders", are located inside the church.

Complete access is via a special side entrance, although the doors are too heavy to open independently.



BELLEWAERDE PARK

Meenseweg 497, 8902 leper www.bellewaerde.be

A visit to Bellewaerde is a fun-filled day brimming with adventure and spectacular discoveries for the entire family. With dozens of attractions set in green surroundings, you will experience one adventure after another. The park also features numerous exotic animals.



Disabled persons can make use of several designated parking spaces located near the entrance at car parks A and C. You can park here free of charge on presentation of a disabled persons' parking permit.

Disabled persons can report to the information stand at Entrance A or one of the ticket offices at Entrance C for a Guest wristband. It provides faster access to all the attractions, as you don't have to queue and will be accompanied to your designated spot or car. There are disabled-accessible toilets and restaurants dispersed throughout the park. The attraction park has, however, not been screened by experts. Therefore, we do not have detailed information with regard to measurements. You will find an online brochure containing information and safety regulations for each attraction under the 'Info' tab on the website. This will help you to decide which attractions will or will not be suitable for you.





2 / FOOD AND DRINKS



PACIFIC EILAND

Eiland 2 8900 leper (leper)

ENTRANCE

Height of the step2 cm	
Width of the narrowest entrance door	-

HALL

Table:	wheelchair	accessible	height	limited	-
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TOILET

Width of the narrowest passage/door Free space in front of the toilet100 cm 📌 Free space next to the toilet90 cm 🎍





NOVOTEL YPRES CENTRE

Sint-Jacobsstraat 15 8900 leper

ENTRANCE

Height of the stepn.a.	
Width of the narrowest entrance door	

HALL

Table: wheelchair accessible height.....limited 📌

TOILET

Width of the narrowest passage/door	
to the toilet90 cm	
Toilet door	
Free space in front of the toilet120 cm	
Free space next to the toilet60 cm	P *
Number of safety rails1	-





HILL 60

Zwarteleenstraat 40 8902 leper (Zillebeke)

ENTRANCE

Height of the step6 cm	-
Width of the narrowest entrance door80 cm	-

HALL

Table: wheelchair accessible height.....limited 📌

TOILET

Width of the narrowest passage/door

to the toilet80 cm	-
Toilet door	
Free space in front of the toilet120 cm	
Free space next to the toilet90 cm	
Number of safety rails1	-





3 / PUBLIC TOILETS



IN FLANDERS FIELDS MUSEUM Grote Markt 34, 8900 leper

PATHWAY		
TO THE TOILET		-
TOILET DOOR		
Clearance in front of the toilet door	150 cm	
Width of the toilet door	90 cm	

INSIDE THE TOILET

Dimensions toilet space167 x 217 cm	
Clearance space in the toilet area 150 cm	
Free space in front of the toilet 150 cm	
Free space next to the toilet	
Number of safety rails2	
Sink	





VISITOR CENTRE FOR YPRES AND THE WESTHOEK Grote Markt 34, 8900 leper

PATHWAY	
ENTRANCE	
TO THE TOILET	
TOILET DOOR	
Clearance in front of the toilet door150 cm	
Width of the toilet door90 cm	

INSIDE THE TOILET

Dimensions toilet space167 x 217 cm	
Clearance space in the toilet area 150 cm	
Free space in front of the toilet 150 cm	
Free space next to the toilet108 cm	
Number of safety rails2	
Sink	



CHURCH BOEZINGE

Katspel z.n., 8904 Boezinge

PATHWAY	
ENTRANCE	-
TO THE TOILETn.v.t.	
TOILET DOOR	
Clearance in front of the toilet door 150 cm	
Width of the toilet door	

INSIDE THE TOILET

Dimensions toilet space183 x 209 cm	
Clearance space in the toilet area 150 cm	
Free space in front of the toilet 150 cm	
Free space next to the toilet 104 cm	
Number of safety rails1	1
Sink	





CULTURAL CENTRE HET PERRON Fochlaan 1, 8900 leper

PATHWAY	
ENTRANCE	1
TO THE TOILET	
TOILET DOOR	
Clearance in front of the toilet door 150 cm	
Width of the toilet door88 cm	

INSIDE THE TOILET

Dimensions toilet space225 x 180 cm	
Clearance space in the toilet area 150 cm	
Free space in front of the toilet72 cm	9
Free space next to the toilet	
Number of safety rails2	
Sink	



ACADEMIE

Weverijstraat 33-35, 8900 leper

PATHWAY	
ENTRANCE	-
TO THE TOILET	4
TOILET DOOR	
Clearance in front of the toilet door 150 cm	
Width of the toilet door87 cm	

INSIDE THE TOILET

Dimensions toilet space 159 x 216 cm	
Clearance space in the toilet area 150 cm	
Free space in front of the toilet 120 cm	
Free space next to the toilet90 cm	
Number of safety rails2	
Sink	-



LIBRARY YPRES Weverijstraat 9, 8900 leper

ENTRANCE
TO THE TOILET
TOILET DOOR
Clearance in front of the toilet door 150 cm
Width of the toilet door

INSIDE THE TOILET

Dimensions toilet space	
Clearance space in the toilet area 150 cm	
Free space in front of the toilet120 cm	
Free space next to the toilet	-
Number of safety rails2	
Sink	



TOWN HALL LANGEMARK

Kasteelstraat 1, 8920 Langemark

PATHWAY	
ENTRANCE	
TO THE TOILET	
TOILET DOOR	
Clearance in front of the toilet door 150 cm	
Width of the toilet door	

INSIDE THE TOILET

Dimensions toilet space152x 165 cm	
Clearance space in the toilet area 150 cm	
Free space in front of the toilet 120 cm	
Free space next to the toilet	1
Number of safety rails2	1
Sink	4





SPORTS CENTRE LANGEMARK Boezingestraat 51 A, 8920 Langemark

PATHWAY
ENTRANCE
TO THE TOILET
TOILET DOOR
Clearance in front of the toilet door .150 cm
Width of the toilet door

INSIDE THE TOILET

Dimensions toilet space215 x 160 cm	
Clearance space in the toilet area 150 cm	
Free space in front of the toilet 120 cm	
Free space next to the toilet	
Number of safety rails1	-
Sink	-



WZC DE BOOMGAARD

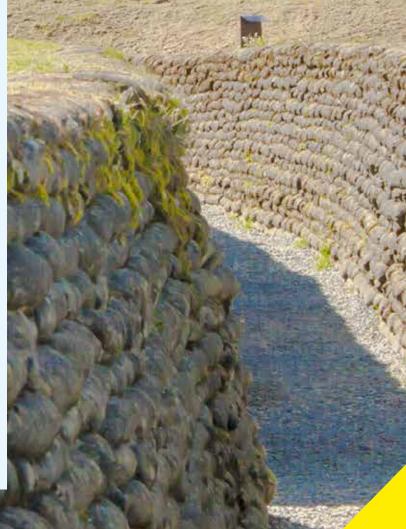
Lekkerboterstraat 1, 8920 Langemark

INSIDE THE TOILET

Dimensions toilet space196 x 170 cm	
Clearance space in the toilet area 130 cm	-
Free space in front of the toilet 120 cm	
Free space next to the toilet	
Number of safety rails2	
Sink	









1 / VISITS

CONDEMNED CELLS AND SHOOTING SPOT

Grote Markt 1 8970 Poperinge \ +32 (0)57 34 66 76 toerisme@poperinge.be

During the Great War the courtyard of Poperinge Town Hall was used as an execution site and several British soldiers faced the firing squad here. Today it is an emblematical site for reflection and remembrance.



The courtyard with execution pole is accessible independently. You can reach it through the Guido Gezellestraat.

Visitors to the death cells are confronted with a video image of a soldier waiting to be shot at dawn and can read graffiti left by prisoners.



The death cells are accessible for wheelchair users, but because of a 78 cm wide door and the limited circulation space in the cells, you might need some help to manoeuvre.







LIJSSENTHOEK MILITARY CEMETERY

(CEMETERY AND VISITOR CENTRE)

Boescheepseweg 35, 8970 Poperinge \ +32 (0)57 34 66 76 lijssenthoek@poperinge.be

Lijssenthoek was the site of the largest evacuation hospital along the Ypres Salient. Today, Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery bears witness to more than four years of warfare, with the graves of 10,784 soldiers. The Visitor Centre, situated next to the cemetery, offers information on this unique site, including details about the daily life in the hospital and the (re)creation of the cemetery.



Wheelchair users can enter the cemetery via the side entrance, adjacent to the visitor centre. To open the bolt at the gate, help may be needed. The paths in grass are fairly accessible with some help.

The visitor centre is easily accessible for wheelchair users. At the car park there's a public sanitary block with an adapted toilet. The door of the sanitary block is quite heavy to open on your own. Also keep in mind that there's only 93 cm of clearance space in front of the toilet. Next to the toilet there's enough clearance space. There's one functional grab rail.



At the corner of the car park and the path to the visitors' centre you will find a braille map of the site and another braille map of the visitors' centre inside the building.





TALBOT HOUSE

Gasthuisstraat 43, 8970 Poperinge \ +32 (0)57 33 32 28 info@talbothouse.be

The most well-known soldiers' club of the Great War has been renovated. The garden has already received a makeover and various rooms in the house have been restored, including the chapel, kitchen and hall. Besides a museum, Talbot House is still the Every Man's Club it has always been. Visitors can enjoy a cup of tea in the canteen or book a room and spend the night in its guest house!

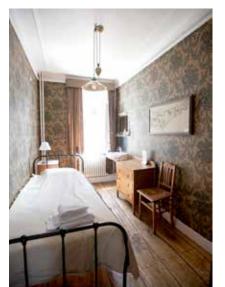


You might need help to open the rather heavy door at the entrance. The exposition on the ground floor is accessible for wheelchairs. You can reach the Concert Hall at the first floor by a lift, but there's a steep climb

on your way to it. The adapted toilets are too small for wheelchair users to use comfortably. The temporary exhibition in the garden, the 'Slessorium' and the Talbot House itself are not wheelchair accessible (because of stairs).



A tablet application invites the visitor to follow them through the museum, garden and house. Each tour consists of a certain number of hotspots throughout the house, the garden and the museum. Once a tour has been selected the tablet will automatically show the visitor the direction in which he or she should walk. When the destination - in this case the first hotspot - is reached a "story" about that location will start to play. This story can contain video, a voice, a song, an image or even some text.







CEMETERIES

POPERINGE **NEW MILITARY** CEMETERY

Deken De Bolaan 127, 8970 Poperinge +32 (0)57 34 66 76 toerisme@poperinge.be

Poperinge was in British hands for almost the entire war. It was an important place because it was the closest town to Ypres that was large and relatively safe from bombardments. The Old Military Cemetery was used during the first battle of Ypres and was closed at the beginning of May 1915. The New Military Cemetery was opened in June 1915. This cemetery has about 950 graves.



The site is accessible for wheelchair users via an alternative entrance





HOP MUSEUM

Gasthuisstraat 71,8970 Poperinge \ +32 (0)57 33 79 22 hopmuseum@poperinge.be_

The Hop Museum is housed in the buildings of the former Municipal Scales, where hops, the main ingredient of beer, were weighed, inspected and pressed until the end of the 1960s. You can now discover the Belgian hop and beer culture in an intriguing way. The history of hop growing is brought to life using hop tools and visual materials. You can also learn about the diverse applications of hops, the main one being in the production of beer. The unique aroma of this plant, the interactive section, the old short films, the beer collection with over 1,500 Belgian beers and many other things guarantee an extremely successful museum visit You might need help to open the double doors. The exhibition rooms can be reached using the lift, but because of the passageways there is little room to manoeuvre. There is an adapted toilet, but because of the position of the toilet, it is too small to use for most wheelchair users (54 cm in front of the toilet.).

SAINT JOHN'S CHURCH

Sint-Janskruisstraat,8970 Poperinge \ +32 (0)57 33 46 93 toerisme@poperinge.be_

The Gothic Saint John's Church was built between the late 13th and mid-14th century. The church is home to the miraculous statue of the Virgin Mary that is carried during the annual Maria-Ommegang, a religious historic pageant. The statue has been worshipped passionately since 1479. The tombstone in front of the altar reveals the essence of the miracle that unfolded: a stillborn child was excavated and found to be alive. The Maria-Ommegang commemorates this miraculous event with an annual procession through the streets of Poperinge, held on the first Sunday in July. There are also several paintings dating from between the 16th and 19th century and some interesting church treasures.

You reach the church via a flat path without obstacles. The entrance of the church has 2 double doors, which are easy to open. Wheelchair users must open both doors to enter as opening only one door will not provide enough space. Inside the church, everything is easily accessible.

2 / FOOD AND DRINKS



RESTAURANT CALLECANES

Callicannesweg 12, 8978 Poperinge +32 57 38 88 08 www.hotel-callecanes.be

ENTRANCE PATH	8
ENTRANCE	80
WAY TO THE TOILET	•

TOILETDOOR

Clearance in front of the toilet door150 cm	
Width of the toiletdoor90	



TOILET

Dimensions toiletspace	.223 x 173 cm	
Clearance space in the toilet area	150 cm	
Free space in front of the toilet	105 cm	-
Free space next to the toilet	90 cm	
Number of safety rails	2	
Sink		

3 / PUBLIC TOILETS



GRAND PLACE CITY HALL Grote Markt 1, 8970 Poperinge

PATHWAY	_
	1
TOILET DOOR	
Clearance in front of the toilet door 150 cm	
Width of the toilet door87 cm	
INSIDE THE TOILET	
Dimensions toilet space210 x 170 cm	
Clearance space in the toilet area 150 cm	
Free space in front of the toilet 120 cm	
Free space next to the toilet90 cm	
Number of safety rails2	
Sink	





GRAND PLACE POPERINGE Vroonhof (accross the bus stop behind the St-Bertinus Church) , 8970 Poperinge

PATHWAY	
ENTRANCE	1
TO THE TOILETn.v.t.	
TOILET DOOR	
Clearance in front of the toilet door145 cm	-
Width of the toilet door97 cm	
INSIDE THE TOILET	
Dimensions toilet space	
Clearance space in the toilet area 150 cm	
Free space in front of the toilet137 cm	
Free space next to the toilet228 cm	
Number of safety rails2	
Sink	-



LIJSSENTHOEK

Boescheepseweg 35 A, 8970 Poperinge

PATHWAY	
ENTRANCE	
TO THE TOILETn.v.t.	
TOILET DOOR	
Clearance in front of the toilet door 150 cm	
Width of the toilet door90 cm	
INSIDE THE TOILET	
Dimensions toilet space227 x 178 cm	
Clearance space in the toilet area 150 cm	
Free space in front of the toilet	1
Free space next to the toilet	
Number of safety rails1	-
Sink	-





LIBRARY DE LETTERBEEK Veurnestraat 71, 8970 Poperinge

PATHWAY
ENTRANCE
TO THE TOILET
TOILET DOOR
Clearance in front of the toilet door .150 cm
Width of the toilet door87 cm
INSIDE THE TOILET
Dimensions toilet space
Clearance space in the toilet area 150 cm
Free space in front of the toilet
Free space next to the toilet162 cm
Number of safety rails2
Sink





ZONNEBEKE

ZONNEBEKE TOURIST OFFICE

Berten Pilstraat 5A, 8980 Zonnebeke +32 (0)51 77 04 41 www.zonnebeke.be toerisme@zonnebeke.be

You may need a little help manoeuvring across the cobblestones and the dolomite access path. A wheelchair-friendly path leads from the De Letterschuur library to the tourist information office. The stairs at the entrance can be avoided by taking the lift on the side of the building (120 x 132 cm). The counter has a lowered section under which a wheelchair can be manoeuvred. Most of the flyers and brochures can be reached from a wheelchair, but you will need assistance with the top rows. The circulation space is a little tight here and there. There is a disabled-accessible toilet (info on page 34).

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1 / VISITS



MEMORIAL MUSEUM PASSCHENDAELE 1917 (MMP1917)

Berten Pilstraat 5a, 8980 Zonnebeke +32 (0)51 77 04 41 info@passchendaele.be www.passchendaele.be

The Memorial Museum Passchendaele 1917 presents the historic story of the First World War in a poignant and vivid way, with a particular emphasis on the Battle of Passchendaele. This battle in 1917 is known as one of the most horrific battles from the First World War. with more than half-a-million casualties for a territorial gain of merely eight kilometres. The Memorial Museum Passchendaele 1917 combines the interactive design of a modern museum with the exceptional aspect of experiencing the Dugouts & Trenches. The museum section

provides an overview of the five battles of Ypres, including the Battle of Passchendaele. Using historical objects, authentic letters, posters and other documents, uniforms of the various armies and video clips etc. both young and old get an insight into how life must have been on and around the battlefields. The interactive elements throughout the entire museum collection ensure that children become acquainted with this piece of history in an interesting way. The tour then continues through the unique Dugout Experience. As a visitor, you discover how the British went to live underground in 1917. An oppressive experience that creates a disconcerting picture of the miserable and claustrophobic

living conditions at that time. The visit concludes at the faithful reconstruction of German and British trenches, along which original shelters have been replicated. Experience the terrifying feeling that befell the soldiers when they were 'imprisoned' here. An intense visit that will only enrich your knowledge of the battle sites in the area. Chateau grounds: you can completely relax in the chateau grounds, read a book on a bench in the park, stroll hand-in-hand by the lake or take a moment to stop and think about the history of WWI in the 'Poppy gardens', themed gardens dedicated to the various nations that fought in the Battle of Passchendaele.



The museum is accessible, but requires a little help and extra effort. The reception staff is pleased to give you tailored advice. You can reach the entrance hall and the different

floors of the museum via the lift at the side of the building. The lift in the annexe will take you to the -1. Although both lifts are rather small, they can be used by most wheelchair users. However, these alternative routes for wheelchair users are not clearly indicated. Throughout the museum you will come across some narrow corridors and steps where you may need some help. The information screens as well as the experience elements aren't always clearly visible and usable from a wheelchair. You can visit the dugouts on -1 in your wheelchair, even though the entrance is a little narrow. The adjoining rooms are only accessible via stairs, but wheelchair users can look into the rooms from the corridor. Wheelchair users have excellent views of the trenches (these are not however accessible to them) from the viewing point outside. The adapted toilet (women's restroom) in the main building is spacious. The adapted toilet at -1 is a bit smaller and less comfortable for wheelchair users. You can also use some help to open the door.







The museum is highly interactive and appeals to all the senses. Numerous objects from WWI can be touched and visitors can experience safely and first-hand how the various types of gases smell.



THE FINAL OFFENSIVE, THE YANKS ARE COMING

FROM 21 APRIL 2018 TO 15 DECEMBER 2018 VILLA ZONNEDAELE, CHATEAU GROUNDS ZONNEBEKE

This temporary exhibition sheds light on the overall story of the last year of the war and the final offensive in which the Americans played an important role. The main focus is on the Flanders Army Group, in which British, French, US, and Belgian troops fought together to liberate Belgium. The exhibition includes material on the Belgians who liberated Zonnebeke and Passchendaele and on the significance of the fresh US troops. The exhibition starts with an opening weekend on 21 and 22 April, with numerous themed activities such as battlefield tours and the annual Living History event.

Info: <u>www.passchendaele.be</u> or <u>info@passchendaele.be</u> Free admission / Openinghours: open daily from 10.30 A.M. to 5.30 P.M.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ACCESSIBILITY LEVEL OF THIS EVENT <u>PIETER.REMMERIE@INTER.VLAANDEREN</u>



TYNE COT CEMETERY

(CEMETERY AND VISITOR CENTRE)

Tynecotstraat w.n. (car par Vijfwegestraat), 8980 Zonnebeke (Passendale) \ +32 (0)51 77 04 41 toerisme@zonnebeke.be

Tyne Cot Cemetery is the largest military cemetery of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission on the continent. This impressive cemetery has almost 12,000 tombstones. The impressive rear wall of the cemetery contains the names of 35,000 soldiers missing in action. The new visitor centre offers a unique view over the former battlefields and contains much information on Tyne Cot Cemetery and the fallen of Passchendaele.

The cemetery is accessible via an alternative entrance. The slopes on paths are sometimes steep. You may also need some help on a slope towards the visitor centre and for opening the door. There is an adapted toilet, but it is difficult to reach because of the path in pebble stones. The space in the toilet is limited but usable.

Passendale

OTHER TIPS ...

THE OLD CHEESE FACTORY PASSENDALE

's Graventafelstraat 48a, 8980 Passendale +32 (0)51 77 70 05 info@deoudekaasmakerij.be

In an original cheesefactory from between the two world wars 'The Old Cheesefactory' draws a picture of the process of cheese making. An exact presentation takes you on a journey back in time as several videos show the process of cheese making today. The museum is based in Passchendaele, the center of 'Flanders' Fields'. In our cafeteria you can taste the rich flavours of cheese. After a visit of the Old Cheesemakery cheese will never taste the same again. Try it!



You will probably need help on the inclined access pathway and to open the entrance door. You will also need a push along the sloped ramp to reach the exhibition rooms on the ground floor and in the basement. The exhibition rooms in the basement are accessible via a platform lift 79 cm wide and 100 cm deep. There are accessible toilets in the museum.

2 / PUBLIC TOILETS

CEMETERY TYNE COT Vijfwegenstraat, 8980 Zonnebeke

PATHWAY
ENTRANCE
TO THE TOILETn.v.t.
TOILET DOOR
Clearance in front of the toilet door 137 cm

Width of the toilet door87 cm	
INSIDE THE TOILET	
Dimensions toilet space140 x 160 cm	
Clearance space in the toilet area 130 cm	
Free space in front of the toilet90 cm	
Free space next to the toilet	1
Number of safety rails2	
Sink	





THE OLD CHEESE FACTORY 's Graventafelstraat 48 A, 8980 Passendale

PATHWAY	-
ENTRANCE	-
TO THE TOILET	-
TOILET DOOR	
Clearance in front of the toilet door 150 cm	
Width of the toilet door87 cm	
INSIDE THE TOILET	
Dimensions toilet space 150 x 210 cm	
Clearance space in the toilet area 150 cm	
Free space in front of the toilet 150 cm	
Free space next to the toilet	
Number of safety rails2	
Sink	-





ZONNEBEKE TOURIST OFFICE

Berten Pilstraat 5/A, 8980 Zonnebeke

PATHWAY	-
ENTRANCE	4
TO THE TOILET	4
TOILET DOOR	
Clearance in front of the toilet door 150 cm	
Width of the toilet door78 cm	-
INSIDE THE TOILET	
Dimensions toilet space160 x 211 cm	
Clearance space in the toilet area 150 cm	

Free space in front of the toilet	
Number of safety rails	
Sink	}

HEUVELLAND, WERVIK AND SURROUNDINGS

1 / VISITS

BAYERNWALD (BAYERN WOOD)

Voormezelestraat 4, 8953 Wijtschate (Heuvelland) + 32 (0)57 45 04 55 toerisme@heuvelland.be

This unique German site is located between the villages of Wijtschate and Voormezele. The site consists of two mine galleries, a mine shaft, a trench system and five bunkers.

It is accessed via a footpath which passes through the restored network of trenches. A series of information panels give details of the events which took place here and explain what life at the front was really like. Open daily from 9.00 to 18.00. Guided visits are possible.





(w)

Tickets are only for sale at the Kemmel Tourist Office (Polenlaan 1, +32 (0)57 45 04 55). The special ticket for wheelchair users allows you to open the wheelchair friendly gate (by entering the code on your ticket). You can park your car near the site. The trenches aren't wheelchair accessible, but from the gravel paths you can have a look inside them. In the pavillion, there's a scale model of the site, but it is difficult to watch from a wheelchair.

IRISH PEACE PARK

Armentierssteenweg, 8957 Mesen \ +32 (0)57 22 17 14 toerisme@mesen.be

Mesen is a small town with a touch of Irish charm. On the hills surrounding Mesen, soldiers from both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, protestants and catholic alike, died during the First World War. The Peace Park was created by young people from both sides of the border. The Peace Park houses a round tower. This monument to honour all the fallen from the entire island of Ireland transcends religious and political differences. The tower was built as a symbol of reconciliation for the past, the present and the future. Commemoration ceremonies are held on 7 June and 11 November.





The site is independently accessible.

CEMETERIES AND MONUMENTS

BELGIAN MILITAIRY CEMETERY WESTVLETEREN

Sint-Maartensstraat w.n. 8640 Vleteren \ +32 (0)57 40 00 99

French soldiers started the construction of this cemetery in the autumn of 1914. It was not until June 1916 that fallen Belgian soldiers found their last resting-place here. After the war, this cemetery was expanded with the graves of Belgian soldiers. The French soldiers were dug up and transferred to their place of residence. Today, you can find 1207 Belgian graves in this cemetery.



You may need a helping hand on the uneven gravel and grass paths on the cemetery.



KEMMELBERG – MONUMENT AUX SOLDATS FRANÇAIS

Kemmelbergweg w.n., 8950 Heuvelland - Kemmel

Since 1932, there has been on top of Kemmelberg Hill a commemorative pillar to honour the memory of fallen French soldiers. They fought here in April 1918 during the Battle of the Kemmelberg. This 'Monument aux Soldats Français' (monument for French soldiers) symbolizes the Roman goddess of victory Victoria. That is why the commemorative pillar is often called 'Den Engel' (the angel). This monument looks over the French mass grave at the foot of the Kemmelberg.



The paths leading to the monument are in dolomite, gravel and grass, so you could use a little push. There's a parking lot close by.



OTHER TIPS



SAINT-NICOLAS CHURCH MESEN

Kerkstraat, 8957 Mesen +32 (0)57 22 17 14

The Saint Nicholas Church in Mesen is worth a visit for a variety of reasons. Local people call it the "dikkop" (fat head) of Mesen due to its dome, the shape of which means that the tower can be seen from guite a distance. The tower houses a peace carillon made up of 46 bells! The church was badly damaged during the First World War; only the 11th century Roman crypt remained. However, the church was rebuilt after the War. In the crypt, you will find a commemorative plaque in honour of Adèle of France, Countess of Flanders, the wife of Baldwin V. Count of Flanders. The alternative entrance via the side of the church has no doorsteps. You might need some extra help to open the heavy door to the prayer and reflection room. The 'Crypt', located in the basement, is not accessible to wheelchairs.

NATIONAL TABACCO MUSEUM

Koestraat 63, 8940 Wervik \ +32 (0)56 95 24 25 tabaksmuseum@wervik.be

Do you wish to learn everything about tobacco and its history? Then you're in the right place. The Tobacco museum is based in the ranked and renovated Briekenmolen. You will discover the history of the tobacco cultivation and consumption in the museum. You will also find reconstructions of an authentic tobacco shop and a tobacco manufacturer. In total, more than 2,000 items are exhibited (pipes, tobacco pots, lighters, ashtrays, snuffboxes...). Recently, several rooms were also redecorated in light of the 100 year commemoration of the Great War: tobacco and war are surely intimately related. What is the old saying: "No Smoke, No Soldiers"?

The exhibited material can easily be viewed by people in a wheelchair. The slope in between rooms in the outbuildings of the mill is a bit steep and you may need some help here. The rooms on the floor in the old wing are not accessible to wheelchairs. There is an adjusted toilet, but it is a bit narrow for most wheelchair users.

2 / FOOD AND DRINKS

BELVEDERE RODEBERG

Rodebergstraat 49 8950 Heuvelland (Westouter)

ENTRANCE

Height of the stepn.a.	
Width of the narrowest entrance door	

HALL

Table: wheelchair accessible height...... Sufficiant 🏼 🖕

TOILET

Width of the narrowest passage/door

to the toilet120 cm	
Toilet door95 cm	
Free space in front of the toilet	-
Free space next to the toilet160 cm	
Number of safety rails1	-

HOSTELLERIE DE KEMMELBERG

Kemmelbergweg 34, 8950 Heuvelland Tel: +32 (0)57/45 21 60 info@kemmelberg.be www.kemmelberg.be

ENTRANCE

HALL

Table: wheelchair accessible height...... Sufficiant 👍

TOILET

Watch out, there is no adjusted toilet available!









3 / PUBLIC TOILETS

CITY HALL OOSTVLETEREN

Kasteelstraat 39, 8640 Oostvleteren

PATHWAY	
ENTRANCE	•
TO THE TOILET	
TOILET DOOR	
Clearance in front of the toilet door 150 cm	
Width of the toilet door85 cm	
INSIDE THE TOILET	
Dimensions toilet space167 x 152 cm	
Clearance space in the toilet area 130 cm	
Free space in front of the toilet	
Free space next to the toilet90 cm	
Number of safety rails2	•
Sink	



LIBRARY HEUVELLAND

Schoolstraat 12 A, 8950 Wijtschate

PATHWAY	-
ENTRANCE	
TO THE TOILET	
TOILET DOOR	
Clearance in front of the toilet door 150 cm	
Width of the toilet door83 cm	-
INSIDE THE TOILET	
Dimensions toilet space190 x 158 cm	
Clearance space in the toilet area100 cm	-
Free space in front of the toilet80 cm	-
Free space next to the toilet90 cm	
Number of safety rails2	-
Sink	-





NORTHERN WESTHOEK



TIP FOR A

TO DIKSMUIDE AND KOEKELARE!

> HIGH LIGHTS



DIKSMUIDE



VEURNE





TRENCH OF DEATH (VISITOR CENTRE AND MUSEUM)



FREE FATHERLAND 'LIVING BEHIND THE FRONTLINE'



(3)

KOEKELARE, NIEUWPOORT AND SURROUNDINGS



DIKSMUIDE

DIKSMUIDE TOURIST OFFICE

Grote Markt 28, 8600 Diksmuide \ +32 (0)51 51 91 46 toerisme@diksmuide.be

Wheelchair users could use a helping hand to open the rather heavy entrance door. There's a lowered desk that can accommodate wheelchairs. Most of the leaflets and brochures are within reach, for others you might need some help. A 100 cm large ramp takes you to the chamber with the digital information screen. The elevator of the city hall takes you to the exhibition room.

1 / VISITS

MUSEUM AT THE YSER





IJzerdijk 49, 8600 Diksmuide +32 (0)51 50 02 86 info@aandeijzer.be

On the occasion of the Great War Centenary, the Museum at the Yser, located in the Yser Tower, has been completely renovated in 2014. This museum tells the story of the frontlines between Belgium and Germany during the First World War via the stories of soldiers, refugees and citizens on both sides of the front. The museum is not non-committal, but gives a very clear message: No More War! The museum also looks at the political consequences of this war that led to the Flanders fight for the emancipation. In addition to the overview of the former front at the Yser, you can climb up the 84 meterhigh tower and enjoy a stunning panoramic view over Diksmuide and Westhoek.



There are informative texts, all movie fragments are subtitled.



You can drop someone off in front of the entrance of the ticket desk. There are adapted parking spots, but they're quite far away. To get to the entrance of the museum from the ticket desk, you have to pass a rather steep slope. The chapel on the ground floor is hard to reach for wheelchair users because of another steep slope and a narrow door. The elevator takes you to six of the 22 floors. The other floors aren't wheelchair accessible. Wheelchair users and their assistent are offered a 50% discount. As an alternative to the non-accessible roof terrace, the lowered windows in the accessible Panorama Room give an excellent view of the fields of Flanders. On the ground floor there is an adapted toilet. Ask the staff for the key.



A general explanation in Braille is available next to the reception, as wel as a scale model of the Yser Tower, the Pax Gate and the Crypt, enabling you to feel the tiniest details and a relief map showing the positioning of the three monuments on this site. Both the introduction film of the museum as well as the audio tape in the crypt are available in 4 languages.



There are informative texts, all movie fragments are subtitled.

TRENCH OF DEATH

(VISITOR CENTRE AND MUSEUM)

IJzerdijk 57, 8600 Diksmuide (Kaaskerke) +32 (0)51 50 53 44

The Trench of Death at Dixmude is the last remnant of the Belgian First World War trench system. In 2014 the attached interpretation centre was thoroughly refurbished. The history of the infamous Trench of Death is recalled through fifteen interactive applications, pictures, film footage and over one hundred original objects. The visitor is confronted with both life and death, and some personal stories really get under one's skin. A gigantic aerial picture taken in 1916 makes it possible to compare past and presentday landscapes. Last year a German bunker was incorporated into the site: both sides of the war story can now be told. The Trench of Death: a soldiers' hell during the war, a touching tourist highlight since 1919.





The exhibition room at the first floor, as wel as the panoramic view on the second floor are easily accessible via a large lift, allthough some of the interactive screens are hard to reach for wheelchair users. Mind that wheelchair users can not go down into the adjoining trenches, though a plank footpath (75 cm large) leads you upto these trenches, and you can also get a good overview on them from the second floor.

CEMETERIES

GERMAN MILITARY CEMETERY VLADSLO

Houtlandstraat, 8600 Diksmuide +32 (0)51 79 30 50 toerisme@diksmuide.be tourism.diksmuide.be

The Vladslo German Military Cemetery is the final resting place of the young war volunteer Peter Kollwitz. He had not yet turned eighteen when he perished in October 1914. Deeply affected by the death of her son, Käthe Kollwitz created the world-famous expressionist sculpture 'Grieving Parents'. The sculptural ensemble, on which the Berlin artist worked for years, was erected on the Roggeveld in Esen in 1932 and moved to the Praetbos in Vladslo in 1957. The gravestone in front of the sculptural ensemble features a number of names, including that of her son. A total of 25,644 victims lay buried here.



The cemetery is difficult for wheelchair users to access. Manual wheelchair users that are helped to cross the convex cobblestone access path and get over the 15 cm threshold at the entrance, are able to visit the cemetery with its famous sculptural ensemble ' Grieving Parents' by Käthe Kollwitz. Two paved paths (70 cm wide) lead you through the cemetery to this masterpiece.

2 / FOOD AND DRINKS

'T GEMEENTEHUIS

Lostraat 1, 8600 Diksmuide (Nieuwkapelle) +32 (0)58 62 48 35 tgemeentehuis@hotmail.com www.restaurant-tgemeentehuis.com

ENTRANCE

Height of the stepnvt	
Width of the narrowest entrance door	

HALL

Table: wheelchair accessible height.. onderrijdbaar 🏼 🖕

TOILET

Width of the narrowest passage/door

to the toilet120 cm	
Toilet door82 cm	-
Free space in front of the toilet120 cm	
Free space next to the toilet	
Number of safety rails2	



PUBLIC TOILETS

VISITOR CENTRE TRENCH OF DEATH

IJzerdijk 65, 8600 Diksmuide

PATHWAY	-
ENTRANCE	
TO THE TOILET	
TOILET DOOR	
Clearance in front of the toilet door 150 cm	
Width of the toilet door87 cm	
INSIDE THE TOILET	
Dimensions toilet space 215 x 170 cm	
Clearance space in the toilet area 150 cm	
Free space in front of the toilet 110 cm	-
Free space next to the toilet	-
Number of safety rails1	-
Sink	



CITY HALL DIKSMUIDE Grote markt 6,

8600 Diksmuide

PATHWAY
ENTRANCE
TO THE TOILET
TOILET DOOR
Clearance in front of the toilet door 150 cm
Width of the toilet door84 cm
INSIDE THE TOILET
Dimensions toilet space162 x 252 cm
Clearance space in the toilet area138 cm
Free space in front of the toilet126 cm
Free space next to the toilet
Number of safety rails1
Sink



YSERHEEM IJzerheemplein 1, 8600 Diksmuide

PATHWAY	
ENTRANCE	
TO THE TOILET	
TOILET DOOR	
Clearance in front of the toilet door 150 cm	
Width of the toilet door90 cm	
INSIDE THE TOILET	
Dimensions toilet space195 x 159 cm	
Clearance space in the toilet area 150 cm	



Veume



VEURNE TOURIST OFFICE

Grote Markt 29, 8630 Veurne \ +32 (0)58 33 55 31 infotoerisme@veurne.be

The entrance and the visitor centre itself are easily accessible. The low information desk is suitable for wheelchair users. Most leaflets and brochures are well within reach: because of the vertical placement you don't need the higher top rows. The information screens as well as the experience elements are clearly visible and usable from a wheelchair.

1 / VISITS

FREE FATHERLAND 'LIVING BEHIND THE FRONTLINE'

Grote Markt 29, 8630 Veurne +32 (0)58 33 55 31 infotoerisme@veurne.be

"Free Fatherland" focuses not on the battlefield, but on the tiny, last bit of free Belgium that was left, called the Belgian Sector. This is where Albert I, King of the Belgians, succeeded in holding out against the German occupying forces. We experience the events behind the front, the daily life in this last unoccupied area and see a veritable melting pot of people, multiculturality before the term even existed. All of a sudden, Veurne and the surrounding area were populated not only with soldiers from all over the country and from other continents, but also with refugees, doctors and nurses. "Free Fatherland" tells this story using compelling scenography including both modern media and more conventional exhibition techniques.







All film fragments in the museum have subtitles.



All texts in the museum are read in four languages.

On the ground floor of the building you will find the tourist service and the visitor centre, both are accessible to people in wheelchairs. At the lowered desk you can buy a ticket for the experience centre on +1, which you can reach via the elevator. The exhibited material is easy to view for everyone, however the touch screen can sometimes be difficult to reach for people in wheelchairs. You can ask for a tablet at the desk, on which you can read all museum texts. Two wheelchairs are available at the desk of the information office. There is a large accessible toilet near the lift on +1.

CEMETERIES

BELGIAN MILITARY CEMETERY STEENKERKE

Steenkerkestraat z.n., 8630 Veurne infotoerisme@veurne.be

In Steenkerke, near Veurne, you can find a Belgian military cemetery. 508 Belgian soldiers are buried here. During WW I, Steenkerke had a hospital. Soldiers that died here were buried in this cemetery. Until 1932, corporal Joe English had his last resting-place here. He is now buried in the crypt of the Ysertower.

OSSUAIRE FRANÇAIS VEURNE

Oude Vestingstraat z.n., 8630 Veurne +32 (0)58 33 55 31

This municipal cemetery in the centre of Veurne contains the mass grave of 80 French soldiers. A further 150 French casualties are buried in individual graves. There are also 8 Arabian tombstones in between the French ones. The grave of Karel Cogge can be found here. Cogge – an old lock-keeper - played a crucial role in the defensive inundation of the Yser valley in 1914.



You can park your car at the cemetery. Keep in mind that there's no adjusted parking spot and that the gravel paths will probably require some assistance.



Because of the bad state of the pathways, you may need someone to push you.





OTHER TIPS

SAINT-WALBURGA CHURCH

Sint-Walburgastraat z.n., 8630 Veurne +32 (0)58 31 11 99 infotoerisme@veurne.be

The St. Walburga church is the only example in the coastal area of a majestic gothic church. There had been made plans for a choir and transchapels, a transept, a nave and towers, but only the choir section, the eastern transept wall and the western tower spring have been realised. During the summer, you can enjoy pipe organ concerts in the church.

Right after the entrance door there are two steps. A ramp is provided but it is too steep to use without help.

2 / PUBLIC TOILETS

CITY OFFICE DE SEYLSTEEN

Sint-Denisplaats 16, 8630 Veurne

PATHWAY	-
ENTRANCE	
TO THE TOILET	
TOILET DOOR	
Clearance in front of the toilet door 150 cm	
Width of the toilet door87 cm	
INSIDE THE TOILET	
Dimensions toilet space153 x 204 cm	
Clearance space in the toilet area 150 cm	

Free space in front of the toilet77 cm	-
Free space next to the toilet	-
Number of safety rails1	-
Sink	



3 KOEKELARE NIEUWPOORTAND SURROUNDINGS

KOEKELARE TOURIST OFFICE:

Sint-Maartensplein 15b, 8680 Koekelare \ + 32 (0)51 61 04 94 info@koekelare.be

The tourist office is located on the ground floor of the old Brewery of Koekelare. There is adjusted parking on the square in front of the brewery site. There is an indicated alternative entrance for people in wheelchairs next to the glass main entrance. On the steep downward slope towards it, help may be needed. You will reach the reception of the main office via an angled step of 6 cm that contains a lowered desk you can ride under. There is a small adjusted toilet near the alternative entrance and the reception, but the sink hinders a forward transfer.



1 / VISITS

KÄTHE KOLLWITZ MUSEUM

Sint-Maartensplein 15b, 8680 Koekelare, +32 (0)51 61 04 94 cultuurentoerisme@koekelare.be_

'The Grieving Parents' by Käthe Kollwitz is a world-famous work of art that symbolises the terrible suffering that war inflicts. She made this statue, which is now at the German military cemetery in Vladslo, as a memorial to her dead son. You can see more of her work at the Käthe Kollwitz museum in Koekelare, which houses seventy of her graphic works. Her work is characterised by a deep compassion for all the victims of poverty, exploitation and oppression. Her pacifism and abhorrence of war can be clearly felt.



The Käthe Kollwitz Museum is based in the former Malt Attic of the old Brewery in Koekelare. There is adjusted parking on the square in front of the brewery site. There is an alternative entrance for people in wheelchairs next to the glass main entrance (which is not accessible

to wheelchairs). On the steep downwards slope towards it, some help may be needed. On your way to the reception, you'll pass an angled step of 6 cm.

A small elevator (107 x 127 cm) will take you to the museum on +2. Everything is easy to view for all, although small texts could be difficult to read. There is a small adjusted toilet near the alternative entrance and the reception, but the sink hinders a forward transfer.



VISITOR CENTRE WESTFRONT NIEUWPOORT

Kustweg 2, 8620 Nieuwpoort \ +32 (0)58 23 07 33 info@westfrontnieuwpoort.be - www.westfrontnieuwpoort.be

An innovative visitor centre is built in Nieuwpoort, on the site of the King Albert Monument, next to the Ganzepoot (Goose Foot) lock complex .

The centre is dedicated to the deliberate flooding of the Yser plain, during the Battle of the Yser, to stop the German advance towards the French Channel Ports and the supply lines of the British Expeditionary Force (BEF) in France.

The top of the King Albert Monument offers visitors an impressive view of the plain. The BBC/HBO drama series Parade's End, based on four novels by Ford Madox Ford, was partly filmed in Nieuwpoort and other areas of the Westhoek.



The visitor centre is easily accessible to wheelchairs. The panoramic view from the top of the monument (accessible via a lift in the visitor centre) itself is partially obstructed for people in wheelchairs because of a rather high balustrade.

LOCK COMPLEX DE GANZEPOOT (GOOSE FOOT)

Kustweg 2, 8620 Nieuwpoort +32 (0)58 23 39 26 info@nieuwpoort.be

The lock complex of Nieuwpoort is better known as 'De Ganzepoot'. The name refers to the shape of the entire complex. His place played a crucial role in the First World War. In October 1914 opening the locks resulted in the flooding of the IJzervlakte. This ended the advance of German troops. Because of the locks, the IJzervlakte remained flooded for the remainder of the war. In the adjacent visitor centre Westfront Nieuwpoort you will find more information about the role of the lock complex and the flooding during WW I.

Take the long, wheelchair accessible slope if you want to have a closer look at the King Albert Monument.



BELGIAN MILITARY CEMETERY OEREN

Oerenstraat, 8690 Alveringem +32 (0)58 28 88 81

A military cemetery was created in World War I around the church of the borough of Alveringem, Oeren. 508 Belgian soldiers are buried here. Once, there were many "heldenhuldezerkjes" (hero tribute tombstones), marked by the letters AVV-VVK. In February 1918, about 38 graves were painted with these letters. Today, you can find 5 "heldenhuldezerkjes" in this cemetery.

BELGIAN MILITAIRY CEMETERY ADINKERKE

Heldenweg 8660 De Panne

By the coast in Adinkerke (De Panne), you can find this Belgian military cemetery. It was created at the beginning of the First World War, as an extension of the existing cemetery. In the period '14-'18, the military hospital Cabour was located in Adinkerke. Many soldiers who died in this hospital were buried here. There are 1,651 Belgian graves in the cemetery.

COXYDE MILITARY CEMETERY

Robert Vandammestraat 8670 Koksijde \ +32 (0)58 53 34 40 toerisme@koksijde.be_

During the Great War, Coxyde was located about 10 km (6 miles) behind the front. The village was used as a place to rest for the troops and was occasionally fired on by artillery. The cemetery was originally constructed by the French. Later, also British soldiers were buried there. It was used again in the Second World War.



You could use a helping hand to open the gate, which is quite heavy. During summer, the gate is always open though. The main concrete path is wheelchair accessible, but on the grass sidepaths you might use a little push.



Apart from the 7 cm high doorstep at the entrance, the cemetery is accessible for wheelchair users.



The alternative route for wheelchair users via the pavilions is not clearly indicated. You might need a helping hand, because of the grass paths that are not always even.







MONUMENTS LT. JUUL DE WINDE

Hyndrickxbosstraat 1 8840 Staden

The pro-Flemish Lieutenant Juul De Winde was killed during the attack for the liberation of Westrozebeke on 28 September 1918. After the war, Lieutenant De Winde was interred in the crypt of the Yser Tower next to 8 other war heroes amongst whom are the brothers Van Raemdonck and Joe English. On 8 May 1938, the monument on the corner of the Poelkapellestraat and the Hyndricksbosstraat in Westrozebeke was unveiled. September 2013, the renovated monument has been replaced to the Hyndrickxbosstraat 1. Westrozebeke.



The monument is accessible with help and extra effort. The path is pebbled. To take a closer look at the monument, you can pass a footbridge. Wheelchair users could use a helping hand because of the little slope, the limited free turning radius, and the path in pebbles.

2 / FOOD AND DRINKS

DE KIPPE

Stationsstraat 50 A, 8650 Houthulst (Merkem)

ENTRANCE

Height of the step.....nvt Width of the narrowest entrance door......100 cm

HALL

Table: wheelchair accessible height..Onderrijdbaar 🏼 🖕

TOILET

Number of safety rails1 🐈







3 / PUBLIC TOILETS

CITY HALL HOOGLEDE

Marktplaats, 8830 Hooglede

PATHWAY	
ENTRANCE	-
TO THE TOILETn.v.t.	
TOILET DOOR	
Clearance in front of the toilet door 150 cm	
Width of the toilet door90 cm	
INSIDE THE TOILET	
Dimensions toilet space236 x 217 cm	
Clearance space in the toilet area 150 cm	
Free space in front of the toilet 120 cm	
Free space next to the toilet90 cm	
Number of safety rails2	-
Sink	



WZC DE OEVER

Meulebroekenlaan 11, 8840 Oostnieuwkerke

PATHWAY	
ENTRANCE	
TO THE TOILET	
TOILET DOOR	
Clearance in front of the toilet door 150 cm	
Width of the toilet door90 cm	
INSIDE THE TOILET	
Dimensions toilet space172 x 217 cm	
Clearance space in the toilet area 150 cm	
Free space in front of the toilet148 cm	
Free space next to the toilet 109 cm	
Number of safety rails2	
Sink	



EVENT & EXHIBITION

THE WATERFRONT PERFORMANCES 29 june 2018 \ More info: www.gonewest.be

From the harbour channel of Zeebrugge to the harbour channel of Ostend, over a distance of 26.9 km, monumental performances will be created on or around the water in Zeebrugge, Blankenberge, De Haan, Bredene, and Ostend, culminating in the harbour channel of Ostend. As a participatory event, Waterfront above all wants to focus people's attention on the future, on hope, reconciliation, forgiveness, and a new start for humankind.

WWI, THE BATTLE OF THE NORTH SEA EXHIBITION

Provincial Courthouse, Markt 3, Bruges from 23 April 2018 to 30 August 2018

More info: ruth.pirlet@vliz.be

The German Marinekorps Flandern had established a well-oiled war machine in the coastal area between the front line and the Dutch border. Given the region's exceptional strategic importance as a base of operations for naval and aerial battles in the North Sea, the German occupying forces installed a vast network of ports, artillery batteries, bunkers, and airfields in this area. Operating from the ports of Ostend and Zeebrugge, they sank no fewer than 2,550 allied ships. Eventually, this intense submarine warfare partly triggered the American decision to join WWI.

Using historical artefacts and illustrations never seen before, this exhibition aims to shed light on the little-known story of the war at sea and the essential role of Bruges as the nerve centre of the entire operation.

LEARN MORE ON THE ACCESSIBILITY OF THESE EVENTS <u>PIETER.REMMERIE@INTER.VLAANDEREN</u>

HOLDAY ACCOMMODATIONS

Looking for an accessible stay in the Flanders Fields region? Below, we provide a brief overview of accessible holiday accommodation in the Westhoek, with an indication of the accessibility label level. For more information about a holiday accommodation take a look in our brochure 'All In, accessible holiday accommodation in Flanders and Brussels'. The brochure can be found on www.visitflanders.com/accessibility > Brochures.

1 \ HOTELS

HOTEL AAN ZEE

Markt 6 8660 De Panne +32 (0)58 41 46 40 info@aanzeehotel.be www.aanzeehotel.be

BELVEDÈRE

Rodebergstraat 49 8954 Heuvelland (Westouter) +32 (0)57 44 41 13 info@hotelbelvedere.be www.hotelbelvedere.be



NOVOTEL IEPER CENTRUM

Sint-Jacobsstraat 15 8900 leper +32 (0)57 42 96 00 H3172@accor.com www.novotel.com



M. Blieckstraat 2-4-6 8760 Koksijde + 32 (0)58 51 41 51 info@casinohotel.be

COSMOPOLITE

Albert I Laan 141 8620 Nieuwpoort +32 (0)58 23 33 66 info@cosmopolite.be www.cosmopolite.be



SANDESHOVED

Goethalsstraat 1 8620 Nieuwpoort +32 (0)58 22 23 60 info@sandeshoved.be www.sandeshoved.be

CALLECANES

Callecanesweg 12 8978 Poperinge (Watou) +32 (0)57 38 88 08 info-reservatie@hotel-callecanes.be www.hotel-callecanes.be







$2 \setminus \mathbf{GUESTROOMS}$

BUYTENSHUYS

Gitsbergstraat 39 8830 Hooglede (Gits) +32 (0)51 20 37 53 of +32 (0)476 45 62 31 info@buytenshuys.be www.buytenshuys.be



PREDIKHERENHOF

Elverdingseweg 25 8970 Poperinge +32 (0)57 42 23 66 predikherenhof@telenet.be www.predikherenhof.be



3 \ HOLIDAY CENTRES

REIGERSNEST

Prins Boudewijnlaan 39 8670 Koksijde +32 (0)58 51 29 25 reigersnest@gezinsbond.be www.gezinsvakantie.be



TER DUINEN

Louisweg 46 8620 Nieuwpoort +32 (0)58 22 33 11 ter.duinen@cm.be www.ter-duinen.be



$4 \setminus \text{HOLIDAY HOUSES}$

HOLIDAY HOUSE BRIESLAND

Oude Kapelle-steenweg 18 8690 Alveringem +32 (0)58 28 81 09 of +32 (0)474 94 28 62 info@briesland.be www.briesland.be

HOLIDAY HOUSE 'T LAPPERSFORT

Moerestraat 34a 8600 Diksmuide (Leke) +32 (0)51 51 06 32 <u>lucmarina@telenet.be</u> www.lappersfort.be

HOLIDAY HOUSE RODEBERG

Schomminkelstraat 26 8954 Heuvelland (Westouter) +32 (0)57 44 42 86 of +32 (0)477 37 10 33



info@vhrodeberg.be www.vhrodeberg.be

DE PALINGBEEKHOEVE

Komenseweg 88 8902 leper (Hollebeke) +32 (0)57 20 26 42 info@depalingbeekhoeve.be

www.depalingbeekhoeve.be

AKKERNEST

Eendepoelstraat 2 8954 Westouter +32 (0)493 30 55 66 info@akkernest.be www.akkernest.be



Zillebekevijverdreef 2A 8902 leper (Zillebeke) +32 (0)57 21 46 00 info@vijverhuis.be www.vijverhuis.be





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5 \ YOUTH HOLIDAY CENTRES

DE PANNENHOEVE

Groenestraat 76 8691 Alveringem (Leisele) +32 (0)475 85 08 17 vandenberghe.david@telenet.be www.cjt.be

J-CLUB

Blauwe Distelweg 2 8660 De Panne +32 (0)58 41 23 41 info.depanne@j-club.be www.j-club.be

JEUGDVERBLIJFS-CENTRUM FLIPPER

Sint-Elisabethlaan 16 8660 De Panne +32 (0)58 41 44 40 info@flipper.be

DE BOSGEUS

Dranouterstraat 24 8950 Nieuwkerke +32 (0)57 48 68 60 info@bosgeus.com www.bosgeus.com

MONSALVAET, LANCELOOT EN PARSIFAL

Schomminkelstraat 20-22 8954 Heuvelland (Westouter) +32 (0)475 24 29 15 info@ksahemen.be www.ksahemen.be

VAKANTIEHUIS DE LORK

Kattekerkhofstraat 2 8956 Heuvelland (Kemmel) +32 (0)57 44 59 70 lork@cjt.be www.lork.be

DE IEP

Poperingseweg 34 8900 leper +32 (0)57 20 88 11



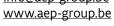
<u>iep@cjt.be</u> www.deiep.be

RAVENHOF

Poperingseweg 412 8908 leper (Vlamertinge) +32 (0)57 33 33 29 ravenhof412@hotmail.com www.cit.be

HUIZE EMMAÜS

Ernest Bertrandlaan 23 8670 Koksijde +32 (0)58 51 16 63 info@aep-group.be



MIDWESTER

Koninklijke Prinslaan 36 8670 Koksijde +32 (0)58 51 92 22 <u>midwester@cjt.be</u> <u>www.midwester.be</u>

MUNCHENHOF

Markt 43 8920 Langemark- Poelkapelle +32 (0)57 48 83 13 +32 (0)57 48 99 16 info@munchenhof.be www.munchenhof.be

VREDESDORP/ PEACE VILLAGE

Nieuwkerkestraat 9a 8957 Mesen +32 (0)57 22 60 40 info@peacevillage.be www.peacevillage.be

DE BARKENTIJN

Albert I-laan 126 8620 Nieuwpoort +32 (0)58 24 37 60 of +32 (0)493 23 69 09 info@debarkentijn.be www.debarkentijn.be



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DE SLIKKE EN DE SCHORRE



Brugsesteenweg 19 8620 Nieuwpoort +32 (0)58 24 12 40 of +32 (0)58 22 23 60 info@sandeshoved.be_ www.sandeshoved.be/ Slikke_ Schorre.html



Brugse Vaart 50 8620 Nieuwpoort +32 (0)58 23 14 04



+32 (0)58 23 14 04 info@theoutsidercoast.be www.theoutsider coast.be/nl-BE/ nieuwpoort-kraaiennest

ONTMOETINGSCENTRUM DE SCEURE

Veurnestraat 4 8640 Oostvleteren +32 (0)57 40 09 01 zaalbeheer@vleteren.be www.vleteren.be

HET DORPSHUIS HARINGE



Moenaardestraat 95 8972 Roesbrugge-Haringe +32 (0)57 30 03 09 cit@cit.be

www.cjt.be

PLOKKERSHEEM

Douvieweg 14-14a 8978 Watou +32 (0)493 55 78 46 info@plokkersheem.be plokkersheem.weebly.com



Lotegatstraat 22 8980 Zonnebeke +32 (0)57 46 80 03 lotegat@scarlet.be www.cjt.be







NURSING, ASSISTANCE AND MOBILITY AIDS ON HOLIDAY

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATIONS OFFERING CARE FACILITIES

The following specialized holiday accommodations in the Flanders Fields area are currently offering a care framework. This can mean that you will find facilities such as hoists or hospital beds, and that you can call on care staff (nursing, assistance). Some houses have their own staff available for this, for others the necessary assistance is hired externally.

- B&B Altijd Genieten, Damme
- Villa Rozerood, De Panne
- Vakantieverblijf Middelpunt, Middelkerke
- Zorgverblijf Ter Duinen, Nieuwpoort
- Zorghotel Gezondheidscentrum Koninklijke Villa, Oostende

NURSING SERVICE

Off course, the offerings increase if you make your own arrangements. Holiday-makers in Flanders can call upon a regional service or independent nurses who operate near your holiday address. Contact a nursing service as quickly as possible so that you can discuss the possibilities and conditions on time. A few big organizations that can help you include:

- The White-Yellow cross (Wit-Gele Kruis) is a home nursing organization with branches all over Flanders. You can find the contact addresses per province on <u>www.wgk.be</u>.
- The Flemish Association for Independent Nurses (VBZV) lists where you can go for home nursing on the website <u>www.verplegingthuis.be</u>. You can contact a nurse directly to discuss your concrete requests.
- Home nursing and other forms of care can also be arranged via a local or regional social service or joint venture. The Flemish Agency for Care and Health familiarizes you with the offerings via this website: <u>www.zorg-en-gezondheid.be</u>.

ASSISTANCE

You can off course bring your own assistance on your holiday or daytrip. If you decide to travel by yourself, you'll need someone assisting you at your holiday destination. As mentioned above, some holiday accommodations offer extra care facilities where the staff can give you a hand. If not, you can look for an assistant elsewhere. In that case feel free to contact us; we will try and help you find a solution.

MEDICAL DEVICES ON HOLIDAY

You need a hospital bed, hoist, scoot mobile, etc. at your holiday address? If you are in need of a completely adjusted infrastructure (often combined with a demand for care), you can stay in one of the holiday accommodations with care framework (see above). These accommodations have all the basic requirements such as a high-low bed, wheelchair, and hoist... and a nursing staff.

But you can also just make your choice from the extensive offer of hotels, guesthouses, holiday accommodations... and obtain your requirements from a local lending service. Some devices, usually lighter items, must be collected; other items can be delivered to and/or installed at your holiday address. Contact us if you're looking for a local lending service.

> Still didn't find an adequate solution for your specific needs? We're happy to help you along: +32 (0)2 504 03 40 or <u>accessible@visitflanders.com</u>.



TRANSPORT AND PARKING

TRAIN

Belgian Rail provides assistance when boarding or disembarking a train in 131 stations. Find out which stations offer (free) assistance: <u>www.belgianrail.be/en</u> > Customer Service > Passengers with reduced mobility > Stations with assistance.

Assistance must be reserved at least 24 hours in advance. Make your request for assistance via <u>www.belgianrail.be/</u><u>en</u> > Customer Service > Passengers with reduced mobility > Reserve your assistance or dial +32 (0)2 528 28 28.

You can also download or request the brochure 'Guide for travellers with reduced mobility', also available in Braille or audio CD.

BUS

The new buses of the 'De Lijn' company are equipped with a low floor, ramp and hydraulic kneeling device. The ramp can only be used safely at an accessible (raised) stop. So, if you want to take the bus in Flanders, you must make a reservation one day (24 hours) in advance by phoning De Lijn. That way you can be sure that your ride is wheelchair accessible.

Book an accessible ride: <u>www.delijn.be/en</u> > contact > Plan an accessible trip.

The bus also includes places reserved for people with reduced mobility. These places are located at the front of the bus near the driver and at the wheelchair-accessible door. They are marked with pictograms.

DIAL-A-BUS

The dial-a-bus service operates on weekdays from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m., on weekends and holidays from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. There is room for one wheelchair user on each dial-a-bus. If you want to reserve a ride on the dial-a-bus in flanders then you must phone the switch-board at least 2 hours in advance.

Book an accessible ride: <u>www.delijn.be/en</u> > contact > Plan an accessible trip.

BLUEASSIST

De Lijn is making its services more accessible via BlueAssist. BlueAssist is an aid for people who find it difficult to understand all forms of communication or have difficulty asking questions. Thanks to BlueAssist they can easily ask fellow passengers or the bus driver to notify them when the bus is approaching the stop where they want to disembark.

Read more about blue assist: <u>www.blueassist.eu</u>

BUS COMPANIES WITH A WHEELCHAIR LIFT BUS

DE MEIBLOEM

De Meibloem NV has four wheelchair lift buses for transporting wheelchair users. The company can arrange customised day trips for your association or group in the Westhoek (including organisation and a guide if desired). Kasteelstraat 149, 8700 Tielt, +32 (0)51 40 18 23 info@demeibloem.be - www.demeibloem.be

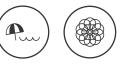
PARKING

Finding a parking place in the Westhoek (or on the coast) is a lot easier using the website www.navigeerenparkeer. be. This gives you a handy list of the parking spaces reserved for people with a disability. You can zoom in on a map or aerial photo for each municipality until you are right over the parking place. You can even get the dimensions and a photo of each space so that you know whether it is entirely suitable to your needs. This site also gives you detailed instructions on how to locate the reserved parking places on your GPS device.

Whoever holds a european parking ticket for people with a disability, can also park in Flanders in parking spots reserved for people with a disability parking sticker. Whether it is possible to park in zones of paid parking for free and/or unlimited differs from municipality to municipality. So it's best to always check the parking meters.

At <u>www.visitflanders.be/accessibility</u> > transport, you can discover practical tips about flying, where you can find an accessible taxi, lift bus or even a mobile home, etc.

KNOKKE-HEIST 0 **BLANKENBERGE** TI A IT 0 BREDENE **ODE HAAN** 0 BRUGES 0 OSTEND 0 **MIDDELKERKE** KOKSIJDE 0 0 NIEUWPOORT **DE PANNE** KOEKELARE С VEURNE DIKSMUIDE KORTEMARK ALVERINGEM STADEN EO-RENINGE POELKAPELLE ZONNEBEKE HEUVELLAND MESEN 10 km WESTHOEK WEST FLANDERS 6 mi BELGIUM THE COAST



EXTEND YOUR VISIT TO FLANDERS FIELDS WITH A TRIP TO THE FLEMISH COAST OR BRUGES



For many local and foreign vacationers our 42 miles (or 67 km) long coastal strip is and remains the holiday destination of choice. The sandy beaches are ideal for children. During high season, life guards ensure everyone's safe-ty. Tourists can enjoy a healthy holiday thanks to the large quantities of salt and iodine in the Flemish sea air. You can also wander along the dike and the boardwalks, rent a bicycle or visit one of the many coastal attractions. And enjoying a nice bite to eat creates the perfect ending to a visit to the coast. However, our ten coastal municipalities do not just offer activities to please everyone's taste but also to suit everyone's needs. Slightly older tourists and holidaymakers with a temporary or permanent disability or people in need of some extra comfort or care while on holiday can also enjoy a holiday at our coast with peace of mind.



Discover the many assets of the Flemish coast in our brochure 'The Flemish coast, accessible for everyone. You can order or download it via <u>www.visitflanders.com/accessibility</u> > Brochures.



BRUGES, WORLD HERITAGE CITY

Bruges is also located just a stone's throw away from the Westhoek. This Flemish winner has everything for an unforgettable city trip: medieval alleys and canals, world class chocolatiers, ancient Flemish heritage in churches and castles, and of course superb lacework.



More inspiration for an accessible visit to Bruges can be found in our brochure 'Bruges, accessible for all'. The brochure gives you inspiring and accessibility related info on the main tourist attractions of Bruges, but also contains a wheelchair friendly walk in the old city centre. Editor Peter De Wilde, VISIT FLANDERS Grasmarkt 61, 1000 Brussel

Contact

Mail: accessible@visitflanders.com Web: www.visitflanders.com/accessiblity

Twitter: www.twitter.com/valiesje

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