



The Ardennes

LANGUAGES: FRENCH (& GERMAN AROUND EUPEN)

Includes ➔

Namur	205
Rocheftort	212
Bouillon	215
La Roche-en-Ardenne	218
Durbuy	220
Liège	223
Spa	231
Verviers	233
The Eastern Cantons	234
Stavelot	237
Bastogne	239

Why Go?

If you're looking for outdoor activities, fresh air and greenery, head for Belgium's southeastern corner. Here you'll find meandering rivers, dramatic cave systems, forested hills and deep valleys. There are some really special landscapes, with picture-perfect castle-topped medieval towns crowded into sweeping bends in a verdant-banked river. Eating is also great in the Ardennes, with pâtés, hams and other piggy products to the fore.

There's a wealth of things to see and do. It's Belgium's best zone for outdoor activities, while Stavelot, Malmedy and Eupen burst with revelry during their fabulous carnivals. Some of the Meuse Valley cities look dauntingly grimy, but they have plenty of attractions as well as lots of hidden history beneath the careworn exteriors.

Main towns are accessible by train and bus but to really appreciate the rural highlights you'll need a car or strong cycling legs.

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ La Calèche (p213)
- ➔ La Table des Sépulcrines (p217)
- ➔ Terra Terrae (p228)
- ➔ Maison Bouillon et Fils (p220)

Best Places to Stay

- ➔ La Malle Poste (p213)
- ➔ Ne5t (p208)
- ➔ Hôtel Neuvice (p228)
- ➔ Hôtel Beau Séjour (p218)
- ➔ Le Clos des Recollets (p221)

Driving Distances

Liège	60			
Bastogne	87	90		
Arlon	126	140	58	
Bouillon	106	105	63	63
	Namur	Liège	Bastogne	Arlon



The Ardennes Highlights

- 1 Driving stunning riversides to Belgium's finest view at **Rochehaut** (p217)
- 2 Descending towards the centre of the earth at **Hotton** (p220) or **Rochefort** (p212)
- 3 Paddling picturesque rivers from pretty **La Roche-en-Ardenne** (p219)
- 4 Exploring the diverse

- attractions of **Liège** (p223), then enjoying its vibrant eating and nightlife scene
- 5 Visiting picturesque **Abbaye Notre Dame** (p218) in Orval, then sipping the monks' brews
- 6 Marching the ramparts of the atmospheric Crusader-era castle at **Bouillon** (p215)
- 7 Remembering the fallen

- at Bastogne's marvellous **war museum** (p239)
- 8 Hiking the moorland landscape of the **Hautes Fagnes** (p236)
- 9 Relaxing in rural perfection at sweet little **Crupet** (p210)
- 10 Celebrating Carnival at the **Laetare** (p237) in pretty Stavelot