



2014-18

Flanders Fields

Great War Centenary 2014-2018

Flanders Fields - Accessible to Everyone



VISITFLANDERS

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Flanders
State of the Art



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INTRODUCTION

For four years Flanders will be in the international spotlight for the commemoration of The Great War Centenary. Tens of thousands of international visitors of all ages, some of whom will have some form of accessibility requirement, are expected to travel to the area. To this end, Visit Flanders has initiated the “The Great War Centenary - accessible to everyone” project. The project strives for the integral accessibility of the activities commemorating WW I for the broadest possible public. Visit Flanders is seizing upon the commemoration period in Flanders Fields to implement a comprehensively accessible holiday chain, and will therefore promote the detailed provision of information in consideration of all aspects of an accessible stay: information and reception, accommodation, restaurants, cafés, great war sites, transportation, parking spaces, assistance and care, etc.... Not everything that is claimed to be accessible has been included in this brochure. Our information is always based on an objective independent on-site inspection. We use the A and A+ label, produced by Visit Flanders to indicate the level of accessibility of accommodation, tourist information offices and visitor centres. Specially developed for this project, a W symbol (basic accessibility) and W+ symbol (comfortable accessibility) will be used for the other categories. 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. You will find more information about the labels and symbols on the following pages.

Adaptations are often required for people with mobility problems to be able to visit a building or site easily. Most of the information in this brochure is therefore primarily intended for those with mobility problems. We also report on initiatives offering additional facilities for other forms of disabilities, such as visual, hearing or learning disabilities. Whether something is accessible depends to a large extent on the person concerned. After all, each disability or limitation is different. We therefore also recommend that you always contact the venue concerned beforehand to get the information you need from your own perspective. While the infor-



Noordzee
(North Sea)



mation in this brochure is certainly not complete, we believe it provides a good starting point. You can, of course, always ask us for additional information, as well as submitting tips based on your own experiences. If you want to learn more about the story behind the 'Great War Centenary'-project, you can visit the website www.flandersfields1418.com. A number of must-sees in this brochure (those sites, buildings or museums that are certainly worth visiting within the context of the Great War Centenary) are indicated by a star.

Visit Flanders' Accessible Travel Info Point provides free and independent travel information. Our website www.accessibleflanders.be provides you with accessibility information about accommodation, transportation, museums, attractions and travel organizations. You will also find holiday reports and tips from disabled travellers. Our contact information is provided at the end of this brochure.

Flemish label for accessible tourism

Since the beginning of 2008, there has been an accessibility label in Flanders for hotels, holiday centres, youth holiday centres, camping sites and guest rooms. In 2012 the label was extended to tourist information offices and visitor centres. In order to be awarded this label, strict criteria need to be met, and it is awarded by Visit Flanders after a thorough on-site inspection according to the Accessible Flanders methodology.

The results of the evaluation are presented to a committee especially established for this purpose. The label committee consists of representatives from the disability movement and the tourism sector. In the end, it is this committee that decides which label a building will be awarded or what conditions must first be fulfilled.



The A+ label means that the holiday accommodation scores positive (+) on the components mentioned below. It satisfies strict accessibility standards and is accessible so that visitors are comfortable and independent.



The A label means that the holiday accommodation can be considered to have basic accessibility. Such accommodation is still usable for most people with limited mobility, but extra effort or a helper may be needed. It is certainly advisable to read why A+ was not obtained.

(*) When awarding the accessibility label to a hotel, youth accommodation or holiday centre, we pay attention to the access walkway from the public road, the entrance, the reception area, the public toilets, the restaurant or the dining room and the bedroom with corresponding bathroom. For group accommodation, we also assess the accessibility of the multipurpose room. For a camping area, we look at the parking facilities with access path, entrance and reception area, and the sanitary facilities. Of course, we also assess the corridors between these components for all accommodations.

More information?

A label provides an important first impression, but never says everything. A full description for each holiday accommodation can be requested free of charge from the Accessible Travel Info Point. If you click on the symbol of an accommodation in the digital version of this brochure, you will be redirected automatically to the detailed information sheet.



W-symbol for project Great War Centenary – accessible for all

Since no label yet exists for restaurants, cafés, public toilets, cemeteries, monuments, etc., the accessibility agency of West-Flanders (Westkans VZW/ASBL), has developed the “W” symbol specifically for this project. The objective indicators and scores per category awarded by Accessible Flanders (Toegankelijk Vlaanderen) form the criteria for the weighting in each category. An accessibility chain is established for each type of building or site. Links in the chain are crucial for the “W” weighting. The “W” weighting gives an idea of the degree to which a site is accessible for independent wheelchair users. Extra facilities for specific target groups are indicated separately.

The following symbols are being used:



**Accessible
independently**



**Accessible
with help**



**Accessible
with help and
extra effort**



**Not wheelchair
accessible**

More information?

The ‘W’ symbol provides a useful first impression but does not tell the whole story. If you would like to know more about the accessibility of a building or site, you can get more information at the Accessible Travel Info Point (Infopunt Toegankelijk Reizen).



Where can I find more information about the WWI-sites?

Looking for more information about the site itself?

Take a look at the websites: www.flandersfields1418.com & www.greatwarcentenary.be

Looking for detailed accessibility information about the site?

Contact the Accessible Travel Info Point (Infopunt Toegankelijk Reizen).

A. Southern Westhoek

Ypres and surroundings

**Artillery Wood Cemetery**

Poezelstraat 3,
8904 Ieper (Boezinge)

Artillery Wood Cemetery in Boezinge is 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.

The cemetery is accessible with help. Issues may occur as there is a sill at the entrance. There is an alternative access up a slope, but this is very steep.

**Charles Dresse Monument**

Poperingestraat 27,
8920 Langemark-Poelkapelle
☎ +32 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.

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.

**Guynemer Monument**

Guynemerplein,
8920 Langemark-Poelkapelle
☎ +32 57 49 09 41
✉ toerisme@langemark-poelkapelle.be

In the centre of Poelcapelle, you can find the Guynemer monument honouring the French pilot Georges Guynemer. Guynemer was one of the great pioneers of aerial warfare who had 53 victories. In this spot, German troops shot Guynemer down on 11 September 1917. His body was never recovered.

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

**Hill 62 - Sanctuary Wood Cemetery**

Canadalaan 23,
8902 Ieper (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 re-taken by Canadian troops who suffered great losses during this conquest. The site is accessible with help. The alternative entrance for wheelchair users via the service entrance is not clearly indicated. The paths consist of even grass.



In Flanders Fields museum ★

Grote Markt 34,
8900 Ieper
☎ +32 57 23 92 20
@ flandersfields@ieper.be

The entirely renovated In Flanders Fields Museum tells the story of the Great War in the battlefield area of West-Flanders.

The museum is accessible with assistance. 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.

Last Post every day, is wheelchair accessible. At the top of the Menin Gate, blind and visually impaired people can touch the model, which is an exact replica of the monument.



Menin Road South Military Cemetery

Meenseweg 175,
8900 Ieper

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.

The site is accessible with help and extra effort. At the alternative entrance, which isn't indicated, you need help on the steep slope.



Menin Gate ★

Meensestraat,
8900 Ieper

This memorial in the shape of a Roman triumphal arch bears the names of 54,896 missing Commonwealth soldiers from the then British Empire. Since 1928, the Last Post has been sounded here every evening at precisely 8 o'clock to commemorate the fallen soldiers.

The Menin Gate is only partially wheelchair accessible and the panels on which you can read the names are only accessible by stairs. The path that leads to the alternative route to the panels at the top of the Menin Gate is not wheelchair accessible. However, the main hall, where you can attend the playing of the



New Irish Farm Cemetery

Briekestraat,
8900 Ieper

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.

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.



Poelcapelle British Cemetery

Brugseweg,
8920 Langemark-Poelkapelle
☎ +32 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.

The site is accessible with help and extra effort, but the alternative entrance for wheelchair users at the car park is far from the main entrance and is not indicated. The gate is very heavy.



Potyze Burial Ground

Potyzestraat 51,
8902 Ieper (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.

The cemetery is accessible with help. There is a step at the gate, but there is an alternative entrance too. This entrance is not clearly indicated.

Provinciaal Domein De Palingbeek

Palingbeekstraat,
8902 Ieper
☎ +32 50 40 32 57
✉ johan.mahieu@west-vlaanderen.be

Extensive area for walking with lots of flora and fauna. The paths are easily accessible. Restaurant De Palingbeek is perfectly accessible and has an adapted toilet. Visitors with a learning disability can go on a quest (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-Charles De Potyze

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

During the First World War a small school was located near this cemetery. The French troops used this school as a medical post. Soldiers who died were buried in the adjacent garden. The garden grew into a real cemetery, but many graves were destroyed during the war. This cemetery is the largest French cemetery in Belgium. About 4,200 French soldiers are buried here, of which 616 were interred in a mass grave.

The cemetery is accessible with help. The access pathway in cobble stones is at some points in a bad condition.

St.-Martin's Cathedral

Grote Markt 34,
8900 Ieper

Situated behind the Cloth Hall, the St. Martin's Cathedral is an old gothic style bishops' church, rebuilt after the First World War. It has the graves of bishop Jansenius and of count Robrecht van Bethune, the 'Lion of Flanders'. Complete access is via a special side entrance, although the doors are too heavy to open independently.



Site John McCrae

Diksmuidseweg,
8904 Ieper (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.

The site is accessible with help and extra effort. The pathways in cobble stones may cause problems.



Site John McCrae - Essex Farm Cemetery

Diksmuidseweg,
8904 Ieper (Boezinge)
@ toerisme@ieper.be

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.

The cemetery is accessible with help to cross the cobbled entrance path.

City Walks Ypres

Grote Markt 34,
8900 Ieper
☎ +32 57 23 92 00
@ toerisme@ieper.be

“Even Snoepen van Ieper” and ‘Ieper soldaat maken’ are two new ways to discover the city in an original way. The two walks are developed with an eye to visitors with a learning disability. Along the way, you can hear, see and taste Ypres in a way you did not know before. The tours can include only two wheelchair users in their groups.



Yorkshire Trench and Dug-out

Bargiestraat,
8900 Ieper (Boezinge)
☎ +32 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. Passages and rooms are represented aboveground.

The site is accessible independently. You can see the greatest part of them from the wheelchair accessible path.

Poperinge



Condemned Cells /



Shootingspot

Guido Gezellestraat 1,
8970 Poperinge
☎ +32 57 34 66 76
@ toerisme@poperinge.be

A few British soldiers, traumatized by the force of arms, refused to return to battle or deserted. They suffered the death penalty by execution as a consequence. The two death cells where they awaited their punishment have been restored and the execution pole has been placed back in the courtyard of the city hall. Text panels and an audio tape describe what it was like to be ‘shot at dawn’.

The courtyard with execution pole is accessible independently. The death cells are accessible with help and extra effort because of a 78 cm wide door and the limited circulation space in the cells.

Hopmuseum

Gasthuisstraat 71,
8970 Poperinge
☎ +32 57 33 79 22
@ hopmuseum@poperinge.be

The Hop Museum is located in the Municipal Scale complex. It was here that they used to weigh, test and stack hop. You can find an extensive collection of authentic hop equipment, complete with audiovisual descriptions and small quizzes. You will experience the history and the life cycle of hop.

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.



Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery ★

Boescheepseweg 35 A,
8970 Poperinge
@ lijssenthoek@poperinge.be

Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery was the prime witness to more than four years of violent warfare. From 1915 until 1920 the hamlet of Lijssenthoek became the venue for the biggest evacuation hospital in the Ypres Salient. The 10,758 injured soldiers who died in the hospital, were buried on site.

The cemetery is accessible with help 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.



Poperinge New Military Cemetery

Deken De Bolaan 127,
8970 Poperinge
☎ +32 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 independently via an alternative entrance.

Saint John's Church

Sint-Janskruisstraat 1,
8970 Poperinge
☎ +32 5734 66 76
@ toerisme@poperinge.be

The St.-John's Church, a preserved monument in gothic style, is located in the Sint-Janskruisstraat. The church is mainly known as a place of pilgrimage of Our Blessed Lady. Because of her, a miracle took place in 1479, and that is why we have an annual Mary Procession.

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 room. In the church, everything is easily accessible.



Zonnebeke

Castle Domain Zonnebeke

Ieperstraat 7a,
8980 Zonnebeke
☎ +32 51 77 04 41
✉ info@passchendaele.be

The castle domain Zonnebeke is a magnificent 7 hectare (17 acre) forest park with open spaces and a central lake which is open as a walking area. On the domain, you'll also find the Memorial Museum Passchendaele 1917.

The domain is easily accessible; there is an accessible toilet.

Memorial Museum Passchendaele 1917 ★

Pilstraat 5a,
8980 Zonnebeke
☎ +32 51 77 04 41

During the British attack of 1917, there were 500,000 casualties in just 100 days. Passchendaele became an international symbol of senseless military violence in its most cruel form. In the Memorial Museum the memory of the battle is kept alive through images and movies, a large collection of historical artefacts and several life size displays, including an underground dugout tunnel with communication- and dressing post, headquarters, workplaces and dormitories.

This museum is easily accessible. You can visit the various floors of the museum using the platform lift in the shaft at the entrance. The dug-outs in the basement level are also wheelchair accessible. You will occasionally need help since the staging is somewhat tight in certain locations.

Old Cheese factory Passendale

's Graventafelstraat 48a,
8980 Zonnebeke
☎ +32 51 77 70 05
✉ info@deoudekaasmakerij.be

Does thinking about cheese make your mouth water? Then this is the right place for you. This museum offers a unique introduction to the production pro-

cess from milk to cheese. The Old Cheese factory (Oude kaasmakerij) is not just a museum, but also an interactive and experimental introduction to cheese in all its aspects. Here, you won't only smell and feel cheese, you'll also taste 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.



Tyne Cot Cemetery + Visitor Centre ★

Tynecotstraat 22,
8980 Zonnebeke (Passendale)
☎ +32 51 77 04 41
✉ toerisme@zonnebeke.be

Tyne Cot Cemetery is the largest Commonwealth cemetery on the continent and also the main witness of the bloody Battle of Passchendaele. About 12,000 soldiers are buried here. The impressive Tyne Cot Memorial contains the names of 35,000 soldiers missing in action.

The cemetery is accessible with help 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.

Others



Kemmelberg Monument aux Soldats Français

Kemmelbergweg,
8958 Heuvelland

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 site is accessible with help. The problem is the bad state of the foundation of the paths.



Irish Peace park

Armentierssteenweg,
8957 Mesen
☎ +32 57 22 17 14
✉ info@mesen.be

Since 1998, the Irish Peace Park in Mesen has been a national memorial for Ireland in the Westhoek. The round tower is a typical Irish symbol and commemorates every Irish soldier killed during the First World War. The Peace Park also refers to the Battle of Messines of 1917, when Catholic and Protestant Irish soldiers battled side by side. Youngsters from Ireland helped to build the tower, as a sign of peace and reconciliation. This site has a wonderful view of the surrounding hilly landscape.

The site is accessible independently.

Saint Nicholas Church

Kerkstraat 1,
8957 Mesen
☎ +32 57 22 17 14
✉ toerisme@mesen.be

This neo-roman and neo-gothic house of prayer with two corner towers and a prominent crossing tower,

was originally the abbey church of Benedictine nuns. A neighbouring house and other abbey buildings belonged to it. Around 1057, when the abbey was founded, the Roman crypt was built.

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.



Belgian Military Cemetery Westvleteren

Sint-Maartensstraat,
8640 Vleteren
☎ +32 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.

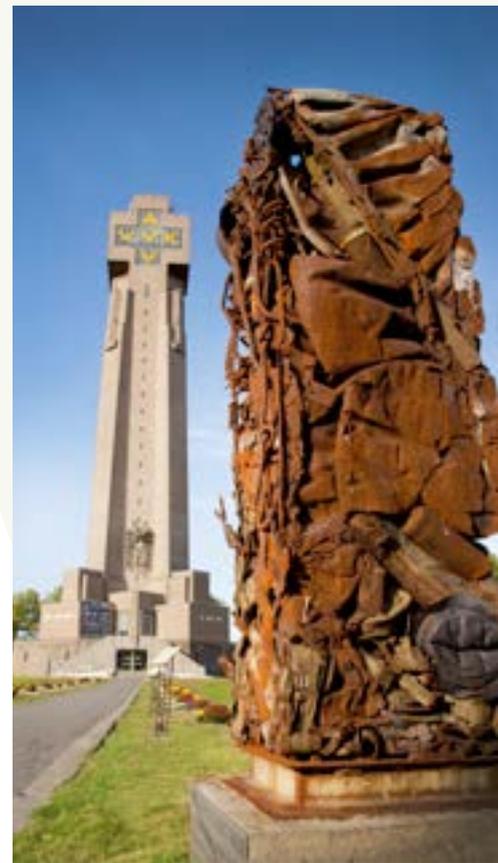
The site is accessible with help and extra effort. The problem is the uneven ground of the gravel and grass paths.

National Tobaccmuseum

Koestraat 63,
8940 Wervik
☎ +32 56 95 24 35
✉ tabaksmuseum@wervik.be

Go on a fascinating journey through the history of tobacco. Thanks to an impressive collection of tobacco advertisements, a collection of smokers' accessories and tobacco related objects and curiosities, you get an in-depth look at the habit of smoking and of local tobacco cultivation.

The displayed material is clearly visible for wheelchair users. You might need help on the slope between the exhibition rooms of the old wing. The rooms on the floor in the old wing are not wheelchair accessible. There is an adapted toilet, but it is too small to use for most wheelchair users.



B. Northern Westhoek

Diksmuide



Trench of Death (visitor centre) ★

IJzerdijk 65,
8600 Diksmuide

Next to the Yser in Diksmuide, you can find the last piece of Belgian front from World War I. The trench of death is an entrenchment where Belgian troops held up against the enemy for four years. The visitor centre shows you the life and the suffering of the front soldiers during the First World War.

The visitor centre is accessible with help. There is an adapted toilet. You might need help because of the rather bad condition of the access roads. The trenches themselves are not accessible to wheelchairs.

Yser Tower ★

IJzerdijk 49,
8600 Diksmuide
☎ +32 51 50 02 86
@ info@ijzertoren.org

The IJzertoren (Yser Tower) houses a museum about World War I and II. You can experience both wars, feel the fear of soldiers and citizens, walk in trenches and sit in the middle of bombardments. Sloping areas help you over obstacles, there are adapted toilets and the cafeteria is accessible. A lift leads to the most important floors. The whole museum is available through a virtual tour on a museum computer, so you can enjoy all floors – including those that cannot be reached by lift - at your own pace, and thus also the floors that cannot be reached by lift. There is a Braille model with Braille text and audio explanation. The staff are always ready to help.



Others



Belgian Military Cemetery Oeren

Oerenstraat,
8690 Alveringem
☎ +32 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.

The site is accessible with help. The problem is the bad state of the foundation of the paths and the gate which is quite heavy.



Belgian Military Cemetery Adinkerke

Heldenweg,
8660 De Panne

By the coast in Adinkerke, 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 about 1,650 Belgian graves in the cemetery.

The site is accessible with help. Note, there is a 7 cm high doorstep at the entrance.



Coxyde Military Cemetery

Robert Vandammestraat,
8670 Koksijde
☎ +32 58 53 34 40

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.

The site is accessible with help and extra effort. The grass paths are not always even. The alternative route for wheelchair users via the pavilions is not clearly indicated.

Patrimony walks for everyone

Markt 17a,
8647 Lo-Reninge
☎ +32 58 28 91 66
✉ info@lauka.be

Historic patrimony walks through Lo. An excellent flash card about the walk with all the information about accessibility can be downloaded: http://www.westkans.be/assets/files/Lo_fl.pdf. The information dates from 2004.



Monument Lt. Juul De Winde

Poelkappellestraat,
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 Poelkappellestraat and the Hyndricksbosstraat in Westrozebeke was unveiled.

There is a small area next to the main road from where you can see the monument.



Belgian Military Cemetery Steenkerke

Steenkerkestraat,
8630 Veurne
@ infoerisme@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 there 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.

The cemetery is accessible with help. The surface of both the car park and access pathway are not good and you will probably require assistance.

Patrimony walks for everyone

Grote Markt 29,
8630 Veurne
☎ +32 58 33 55 31
@ infoerisme@veurne.be

Historic patrimony walks through Veurne. An excellent flash card about the walk with all the information about accessibility can be downloaded: www.westkans.be/assets/files/Veurne_fl.pdf. The information dates from 2004.



French Ossuary Furnes

Oude Vestingstraat,
8630 Veurne
☎ +32 58 33 55 31

This municipal cemetery in the centre of Furnes 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.

The site is accessible with help, which may be needed because of the bad state of the pathways.

St-Walburgachurch

Sint-Walburgastraat,
8630 Veurne
☎ +32 58 33 55 31
@ infoerisme@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 trans-chapels, 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.

Over the next few years, many events will take place in commemoration of the Great War. In this brochure, we list those events that are putting measures in place to welcome visitors with physical or mental disabilities – for instance by providing an accessible entrance, accessible toilets or parking spaces. Because of the temporary nature of an event, we can't guarantee that these facilities will always be correctly or sufficiently provided. We therefore also recommend that you always contact the organisation concerned beforehand to get the information you need from your own perspective.

Bruges in War

Markt,
8000 Brugge
☎ +32 50 44 87 08
@ sarah.bauwens@brugge.be

Friday 14th of November 2014
- Sunday 22th of February 2015

Exactly 100 years after the German invasion of Bruges, the city of Bruges is commemorating the Great War with three exhibitions. This world conflict is shown both in its Bruges context and its international framework, from both a historical and an artistic point of view. A historical exhibition ("An occupied city in the force fields of global war") tells the little-known history of a city living under occupation while serving as an operations base for the war at sea. It zooms in on daily life in wartime Bruges and widens the canvas to take in the global dimension of the First World War. Two photography exhibitions ("The timeless power of historical images" & "Contemporary photographers' gaze on war") continue this broader perspective and propel us forward to the present day. The work of contemporary photographers forms a counterpoint to archival photographs. With its long tradition of art exhibitions, the city of Bruges focuses once again on potent image-making.

GoneWest

Tuesday 14th of October 2014
- Sunday 11th of November 2018

In English, 'to go west' is a euphemism for 'passing away', but the expression acquired another meaning during World War I. The Allied forces, who occupied the western part of the Western Front, literally brought their fallen and injured soldiers to the west. Furthermore, with the German invasion, the war moved from east to west throughout the whole country. GoneWest is therefore the name that was chosen for the artistic commemoration of the Great War in the province of West Flanders, and will begin in 2014.

Lijssenthoek Terminus

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

1st of January 2015 – 31st of July 2015

Lijssenthoek Terminus is a musical theatre production based on the personal stories behind the cemetery's 10,784 headstones. Appealing to a large audience, this multilingual play will be presented as a universal drama, full of emotion, and is being brought to the stage by a cast of major actors and musicians.

It will be shown in a unique setting: an open-air theatre erected at the Visitor Centre, next to the cemetery.



**Poperinge Terminus:
L.69 Railway line
Poperinge-Hazebrouck**

Ieperstraat 167,
8970 Poperinge
☎ +32 (0)57 34 66 76
@ toerisme@poperinge.be

Saturday 6th of September 2014
– Saturday 5th of September 2015

Poperinge's railway station was a major hub and central crossroads for medical evacuation to France. Not only were soldiers and freight moved to and from the frontline through railway line L.69, but the wounded, sick and refugees also passed through. An outdoor exhibition, "Heavy Traffic", focuses on railway L.69. Highlights are the enlargement of a railway station scene at a 1:1 scale and a model of the same scene (diorama). A multilingual digital application tells the story of L.69, departing from the

railway station and taking the visitor on a cycling trip or hike to 15 WW1-sites where images from the past appear and old railway maps provide an ingenious network. The launch of the application is linked with the reissue of an authentic roadmap. This event is part of Poperinge Terminus.

**Poperinge Terminus:
'Illustrated by the War'**

Reningelstplein,
8970 Reningelst

Wednesday 18th of March 2015
– Sunday 13th September 2015

Local and international illustrators will display their artistic interpretations of the story of the war, placed in the landscape of the past and of today. The exhibition will be accompanied by a smartphone application offering a guided tour experience.

Exhibition 'War and Trauma: Soldiers & Ambulances. 1914-1918'

Grote Markt 34,
8900 Ieper
☎ +32 (0)57 23 92 20

Friday 1st November 2013 - Monday 30th June 2014

At the start of the First World War none of the European armies could cope with the gigantic stream of casualties from this first industrialised conflict. However, by 1917 and 1918 the organisation of care had been optimised and the one true achievement that resulted from this was the (reluctant) recognition of the psychological trauma of warfare. Two Flemish museums, in Ypres and Ghent, are working together to narrate this important and touching story. On the eve of the great remembrance ceremonies this twin exhibition draws attention to the fate of the people impacted, even after 100 years. The organisation of general care for the patients on the Flanders front during the war is addressed at the In Flanders Fields Museum, Ypres.

Exhibition 'The old Contemptibles'

Ieperstraat 5,
8980 Zonnebeke
☎ +32 (0)51 77 04 41
@ toerisme@zonnebeke.be

Friday 15th of August 2014
- Monday 15th of December 2014

On 22nd August 1914 a British Expeditionary Force of over 100,000 men saw action in Western Europe for the first time in over 100 years. They succeeded in slowing down the German advance in Belgium, even bringing it to a standstill at Gheluvelt (Zonnebeke) in October and November 1914. However, the cost was high: the loss of half their troops. The surviving 'Old Contemptibles' spent the winter in Ploegsteert, where the legendary 'Old Bill' was created and the famous Christmas Truce took place.

The prestigious exhibitions have been set up in close collaboration with the Royal British Legion, the National Army Museum and various British regimental museums. All have contributed to

bringing hundreds of historical pieces back to Belgium for the first time in a century.

During the opening weekend (15-17 August) there will be a unique historical re-enactment by more than 150 actors from seven countries, focusing on the Old Contemptibles and their historic retreat from Mons to Gheluvelt and Plugstreet.

ANZAC-day

Ieperstraat 5,
8980 Zonnebeke
☎ +32 (0)51 77 04 41
@ toerisme@zonnebeke.be

Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th of April 2015

25 April 2015 marks the day, exactly 100 years on, that Australian and New Zealand soldiers landed at Gallipoli, and where their participation in the Great War started. Both nationalities were present in Flanders in 1917, taking part in the brutal battle of Passchendaele. ANZAC Day traditionally begins with a Dawn Service at Polygon Wood, followed by an ANZAC breakfast for all attendees.

On ANZAC Day, UBA (the organisation representing over 3,000 radio amateurs in Belgium) will broadcast an international message of peace and reconciliation.

On Sunday 26 April the Flanders Scottish Memorial day will focus on Scottish traditions and communities in Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Many Scottish battalions were established, especially in the Canadian army, adopting the traditions of their British sister regiments. Designed to appeal to a broad section of the public, the event will include highland games, bagpipes and Scottish gastronomy.



5 FOOD AND DRINKS



Restaurant 't Gemeentehuis

Lostraat 1,
8600 Diksmuide
☎ +32 58 28 98 71
✉ tgemeentehuis@hotmail.com

Restaurant and tearoom 't Gemeentehuis is located in the rural polder village (that is, built on land reclaimed from the sea) Nieuwkapelle, a borough of Diksmuide.

The restaurant is accessible with help. It doesn't have its own car park, but within a radius of 200 m, there are adapted parking spaces on the public domain. At the entrance, there is a doorstep, but this is provided with a (temporary) ramp. On the inside, the circulation room is limited because of the screens placed to create a lock. There is enough circulation space in the room. The way to the toilets is wide enough and without obstacles. The door to the adapted toilet is 82 cm wide. There is enough circulation room in the toilet and there are handrails.



Restaurant Belvedere Rodeberg

Rodebergstraat 49,
8950 Heuvelland
☎ +32 57 44 41 13
✉ info@hotelbelvedere.be

In the beautiful landscape of Heuvelland, on top of the Rodeberg hill, there is the restaurant Belvedere.

The restaurant is accessible with help. It has its own car park in asphalt with adapted parking place. The access pathway is without obstacles and is wide enough. Both the inclined plane at the front of the building and the platform lift serving the entrance at the back of the building, are easily accessible. There is enough circulation space in the room. The tables can accommodate wheelchair users. The way to the toilets is wide enough and without doorsteps. At the door of the adapted toilet, the circulation space is limited. The adapted toilet is large enough, but lacks a handrail at the open side of the toilet.



Tearoom De Kippe

Stationsstraat 50a,
8650 Houthulst (Merkem)
☎ +32 51 54 40 48
✉ dekippe@telenet.be

De Kippe is a cosy place where children are welcome in the quiet town of Merksem. It is a café, tearoom, bistro and an art gallery all rolled into one.

De Kippe is accessible with help. It doesn't have its own car park, but within a radius of 200 m, there are adapted parking spaces. The access road through the terrace is even and without doorsteps. The entrance is large enough, without doorsteps and there is enough circulation space. There is enough circulation space in the room. The tables are adapted to wheelchairs. On the way to the toilets, the circulation space after the lock door is limited. The space at the door is narrow, but usable. In the adapted toilet, only a handrail at the closed side of the toilet is lacking.



Restaurant Pacific Eiland

Eiland 2,
8900 Ieper
☎ +32 57 20 05 28
✉ info@pacificeiland.be

Restaurant and tearoom Pacific Eiland is on an idyllic island along the historic "vestingroute" in Ypres.

The restaurant is accessible with help. It doesn't have its own car park, but within a radius of 200 m, there are adapted parking places. The access pathway goes via a footbridge. The slope of the bridge is rather steep. Some help may be necessary. The entrance is wide enough and is without doorsteps. The door is heavy. Near the entrance to the tearoom, there is a 6 cm doorstep. There is enough circulation space in the room, but there is limited space for wheelchair users to slide under the tables (they are only 30 cm deep). On the way to the toilet, the lock door is heavy to open. The adapted toilet is small, but can be used by a wheelchair user (turning circle inside the toilet is 140 cm, room next to the toilet is 90 cm, in front of the toilet, 100 cm).



Tearoom-restaurant Hill 60

Zwarteleenstraat 40,
8902 Ieper (Zillebeke)
☎ +32 57 20 88 60
✉ info@hill-60.be

Tearoom-restaurant Hill 60 is close to the historic site in Zillebeke, a borough of Ypres.

The restaurant is accessible with help. It has its own car park, but there are no adapted parking spaces provided. The foundation consists of pebble stones. Both from the public domain and from the car park, the access pathway is flat and without obstacles. Near the entrance, there is a doorstep. The passage way is narrow (only 80 cm wide). There is enough circulation space in the tearoom, but there is limited space for wheelchair users to slide under the tables (they are only 30 cm deep). The door to the toilet is 80 cm wide. The adapted toilet is large enough but lacks a handrail at the wall next to the toilet.



6

PUBLIC LAVATORIES



Public Toilets Visitor Centre Trench of Death, Diksmuide

IJzerdijk 65,
8600 Diksmuide

In the visitor centre at the Trench of Death, the famous entrenchment, there is a public lavatory with an adapted toilet.

The toilets are accessible with help. You might need help on the sloping access pathway in cobbles. There is one handrail at the open side next to the toilet.



Public Toilets Yserheem Rest Home, Diksmuide

IJzerheemplein 1,
8600 Diksmuide

The Yserheem residential care centre has made its accessible toilet open to the public. The toilet is accessible with assistance. The free space next to the toilet is limited and the self-closing tap is difficult to operate for people with reduced function in their hands.



Public Toilets Town Hall, Diksmuide

Van Pouckestraat,
8600 Diksmuide

In a sidestreet of the Grand Place in Diksmuide, near the Yser Tower, there is a public lavatory with an adapted toilet.

The toilets are accessible with help and extra effort. The access pathway is in pebble stones, there is a 3 cm high doorstep and the space in the toilet is narrow. There is 87 cm of space next to and 96 cm of space in front of the toilet. There is one handrail at the closed side next to the toilet.



Public Toilets Church, Ypres

Katspel,
8904 Ieper (Boezinge)

At the church in the centre of Boezinge, a locality of Ypres, there are public lavatories with an adapted toilet. The toilets are accessible with help. The door is a bit heavy to open independently. It is also not as wide as it should be but it is usable. There is one handrail at the open side next to the toilet.



Public Toilets Ypres and Westhoek Visitor Centre, Ypres

Grote Markt 34,
8900 Ieper

There is a public lavatory with a specially adapted toilet in the Ypres and Westhoek Visitor Centre, in the Lakenhallen (Cloth Hall).

The toilet is accessible with help because of the self-closing tap at the wasbasin, which can be difficult to operate for people with reduced function in their hands.



Public Toilets In Flanders Fields Museum, Ypres

Grote Markt 34,
8900 Ieper

At the entrance to the In Flanders Fields Museum, at the locker room level, there is a public lavatory with a specially adapted toilet.

The toilet is accessible with help. You will need help on the somewhat steep, metal slope to gain entrance to the in Flanders Fields Museum. You can ask for the key to the toilet at the desk.



Public Toilets at Het Perron, Ypres

Fochlaan 1,
8900 Ieper

Het Perron is a cultural centre at the train station square that has a public lavatory with a specially adapted toilet. The WC is accessible with assistance. You will need assistance in opening the heavy, double doors at the entrance to the building. Despite the somewhat unfortunate installation of the washbasin, the WC is easily usable.



Public Toilet at the Academy, Ypres

Weverijstraat 33-35,
8900 Ieper

The Academy (Academie) of Ypres has public lavatories with a specially adapted toilet. The toilet is

accessible with assistance. The double doors are somewhat heavy to open without assistance. The WC is very spacious due to the lack of a washbasin. The height of the toilet could be problematic.



Public Toilet Library, Ypres

Weverijstraat 9,
8900 Ieper

The Ypres Library has public lavatories with an accessible toilet. The toilet is accessible with assistance. The hallway leading to the WC is somewhat narrow. The height of the toilet could also be problematic. The self-closing tap on the washbasin could present a problem for people with reduced function in their hands.



Public Toilet Town Hall, Langemark

Kasteelstraat 1,
8920 Langemark-Poelkapelle

The public lavatories at the Langemark town hall have an accessible toilet. The door is difficult to open without assistance. A sideways transfer can be difficult for some due to the limited amount of staging space and the limited free space next to the toilet. Support bars are present, but they cannot be used because of their mounting location. The small washbasin is not very practical for wheelchair users.



Public Toilet Library De Letterbeek, Poperinge

Veurnestraat 71,
8970 Poperinge

The Ypres Library has public lavatories with an accessible toilet. The toilet is accessible with assistance and extra effort. In spite of the automatic door, the sill and poles at the entrance may cause problems. Although there's sufficient clearance space next to the toilet, there isn't enough space at the door nor in front of the toilet (84 cm) and wash basin. The small washbasin is not very practical for wheelchair users.



Public Toilets Grand Place City Hall, Poperinge

**Grote Markt 1,
8970 Poperinge**

In the city hall of the charming city of Poperinge, there is a public lavatory with an adapted toilet.

The toilets are accessible with help. The lift on the way to the toilet is 100 cm wide and 140 cm deep, the lift door is 80 cm wide. The buttons are a bit difficult to reach.



Public Toilets Grand Place, Poperinge

**Grote Markt,
8970 Poperinge**

On the Grand Place of Poperinge, there is a public lavatory with an adapted toilet.

The toilets are accessible with help. The door width is limited, but usable. The door is a bit heavy to open independently.



Public Toilets Lijssenthoek, Poperinge

**Boescheepseweg 35 A,
8970 Poperinge**

There is a new Visitor Centre at the entrance to the Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery. There is a public lavatory block with a specially adapted toilet in the building on the carpark.

The toilet is accessible with help. You may need help to open the heavy door to the toilet. The clearance in front of the toilet is rather limited.



Public Toilets De Seylsteen, Furnes

**Sint-Denisplaats 16,
8630 Veurne**

There are two specially adapted public toilets in the Seylsteen Administrative Centre. The toilets are accessible with help and extra effort. There is sufficient clearance space in the toilet, except for in

front of both toilets, because of the way in which the facilities are laid out. There is no grab rail on the closed side in either toilet.



Public toilet The Old Cheesefactory, Zonnebeke

**'s Graventafelstraat 48A
8980 Zonnebeke**

There are toilets with a specially adapted toilet in the Old Cheese Factory (De Oude Kaasmakerij) museum. The toilet is accessible with assistance. You will likely need some assistance on the somewhat overly steep part of the access path. The door's threshold is also difficult to negotiate without assistance. Along the way to the toilet the space shrinks to 81 cm.



Public Toilets Tyne Cot, Zonnebeke

**Vijfwegenstraat 1,
8980 Zonnebeke**

There is a public lavatory with a specially adapted toilet at the Tyne Cot Cemetery.

The toilet is accessible with help and extra effort. You may need help on the paved gravel path, as well as to open the somewhat heavy access door. There is little room to manoeuvre in the lavatory.



Public Toilets Tourist Information Office, Zonnebeke

**Ieperstraat 7 a,
8980 Zonnebeke**

There is a public lavatory with a specially adapted toilet in the town centre in the Zonnebeke Tourist Information Office, located in Kasteelpark (Castle Park).

The toilet is accessible with help and extra effort. You can reach the toilet through an entrance at the side of the building and use the lift (120 x 132 cm). The toilet door is only 78 cm wide.

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 at our brochure 'All In, accessible holiday accommodation in Flanders and Brussels' or click on the label in the digital version of this brochure. The brochure can be found on our website or you can request a hardcopy from the Accessible Travel Info Point.

Hotels

**Novotel Ieper Centrum**

Sint-Jacobsstraat 15
8900 Ieper

☎ +32 57 42 96 00
☎ +32 57 42 96 01
✉ H3172@accor.com
🌐 www.novotel.com

**Belvedere**

Rodebergstraat 49
8954 Heuvelland (Westouter)

☎ +32 57 44 41 13
☎ +32 57 44 70 05
✉ info@hotelbelvedere.be
🌐 www.hotelbelvedere.be

**Cosmopolite**

Albert I Laan 141
8620 Nieuwpoort

☎ +32 58 23 33 66
☎ +32 58 23 81 35
✉ info@cosmopolite.be
🌐 www.cosmopolite.be

**Callecanes**

Callecanesweg 12
8978 Poperinge (Watou)

☎ +32 57 38 88 08
☎ +32 57 38 87 83
✉ info-reservatie@hotel-callecanes.be
🌐 www.hotel-callecanes.be

Guest Rooms

**Buytenshuys**

Gitsbergstraat 39
8830 Hooglede (Gits)

☎ +32 51 20 37 53
☎ +32 476 45 62 31
☎ +32 51 20 37 53
✉ info@buytenshuys.be
🌐 www.buytenshuys.be

**Predikherenhof**

Elverdingseweg 25
8970 Poperinge

☎ +32 57 42 23 66
☎ +32 57 42 15 31
✉ predikherenhof@telenet.be
🌐 www.predikherenhof.be

Holiday Centers

**Ter Duinen**

Louisweg 46
8620 Nieuwpoort

☎ +32 58 22 33 11
☎ +32 58 22 33 00
✉ ter.duinen@cm.be
🌐 www.ter-duinen.be

Holiday Houses

**Vakantiehoeve Briesland**

Oude Kapelle-steenweg 18
8690 Alveringem

☎ +32 58 28 81 09
☎ +32 474 94 28 62
☎ +32 58 28 99 30
✉ info@briesland.be
🌐 www.briesland.be

**De Palingbeekhoeve**

Komenseweg 88
8902 Ieper (Hollebeke)

☎ +32 57 20 26 42
☎ +32 57 20 26 42
✉ info@depalingbeekhoeve.be
🌐 www.depalingbeekhoeve.be

**Vijverhuis**

Zillebekevijverdreef 2A
8902 Ieper (Zillebeke)

☎ +32 57 21 46 00
✉ info@vijverhuis.be
🌐 www.vijverhuis.be

**Vakantiehoeve Rodeberg**

Schomminkelstraat 26
8954 Heuvelland (Westouter)

☎ +32 57 44 42 86
☎ +32 477 37 10 33
☎ +32 57 44 86 63
✉ info@vhrodeberg.be
🌐 www.vhrodeberg.be



(Youth) holiday centres



De Pannenhoeve

Groenestraat 76
8691 Alveringem (Leisele)

☎ +32 475 85 08 17
✉ vandenberghedavid@telenet.be
🌐 www.cjt.be



De Iep

Poperingseweg 34
8900 Ieper

☎ +32 57 20 88 11
☎ +32 57 20 88 11
✉ iep@cjt.be
🌐 www.deiep.be



Ravenhof

Poperingseweg 412
8908 Ieper (Vlamertinge)

☎ +32 57 33 33 29
☎ +32 496 14 47 23
✉ ravenhof412@hotmail.com
🌐 www.cjt.be



Munchenhof

Markt 43
8920 Langemark-
Poelkapelle (Langemark)

☎ +32 57 48 83 13
☎ +32 57 48 99 16
✉ info@munchenhof.be
🌐 www.munchenhof.be



De Bosgeus

Dranouterstraat 24
8950 Heuvelland
(Nieuwkerke)

☎ +32 57 48 68 60
☎ +32 475 59 91 57
✉ info@bosgeus.com
🌐 www.bosgeus.com



Vakantiehuis De Lork

Kattekerkhofstraat 2
8956 Heuvelland
(Kemmel)

☎ +32 57 44 59 70
☎ +32 57 44 68 89
✉ lork@cjt.be
🌐 www.lork.be



Monsalvaet, Lanceloot en Parsifal

Schomminkelstraat 20-22
8954 Heuvelland
(Westouter)

☎ +32 475 24 29 15
☎ +32 56 40 48 13
✉ info@ksahemen.be
🌐 www.ksahemen.be



Vredesdorp / Peace Village

Nieuwkerkestraat 9a
8957 Mesen

☎ +32 57 22 60 40
☎ +32 57 22 60 45
✉ info@peacevillage.be
🌐 www.peacevillage.be



De Barkentijn

Albert I-laan 126
8620 Nieuwpoort

☎ +32 58 24 37 60
☎ +32 493 23 69 09
☎ +32 58 23 96 62
✉ info@debarkentijn.be
🌐 www.debarkentijn.be



De Slikke en De Schorre

Brugsesteenweg 19
8620 Nieuwpoort

☎ +32 58 24 12 40
☎ +32 58 22 23 60
☎ +32 58 23 95 23
✉ info@sandeshoved.be
🌐 www.sandeshoved.be/
Slikke_Schorre.html



't Kraaienest

Brugse Vaart 50
8620 Nieuwpoort

☎ +32 58 23 14 04
☎ +32 58 24 21 80
✉ info@theoutsidercoast.be
🌐 www.theoutsidercoast.be
/nl-BE/nieuwpoort-
kraaiennest



't Lotegat

Lotegatstraat 22
8980 Zonnebeke

☎ +32 57 46 80 03
☎ +32 479 28 74 75
✉ lotegat@scarlet.be
🌐 www.cjt.be





8

TOURIST INFORMATION OFFICES AND VISITOR CENTRES



Visitor Centre and Tourist Office Furnes

Grote Markt 29,
8630 Veurne
☎ +32 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.



Tourism Poperinge

Grote Markt 1,
8970 Poperinge
☎ +32 57 34 66 76
✉ toerisme@poperinge.be
🌐 www.toerismepoperinge.be

A slope leads you to the entrance of the town hall without having to go over a doorstep. Inside, the passage is a narrow 88 cm. Apart from that, the information office is easily accessible. A lift, provided with a door of 80 cm wide takes you to the accessible toilet. It is rather hard to reach the lift buttons on your own.



Visitor Centre for Ypres and the Westhoek

Lakenhalle, Grote Markt 34,
8900 Ieper
☎ +32 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.



Visitor Centre Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery

Boescheepseweg 35 A,
8970 Poperinge
✉ toerisme@poperinge.be
🌐 www.lijssenthoek.be

Next to Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery you can find the new visitor centre, which tells you the story of this unique site. The visitor centre is accessible with help. The problem is situated in the toilet: the door is somewhat heavy, there's not enough clearance space and there's only one grab rail.



9 TRANSPORT

Accessible railways



Belgian Railways provides assistance services for entering and exiting trains in 131 stations. To be sure that the service can be provided, you must book your journey 24 hours in advance. You can make a reservation by calling + 32 2 528 28 28 or using the online form.

All information, including special rates, can be found at: www.belgianrail.be under "Stations and on-board services", or in the brochure 'Guide for persons with reduced mobility'. The brochure is available at all stations or can be downloaded from the website. To receive this brochure in Braille, please send an e-mail to: assistance@nmbs.be.

@ assistance@nmbs.be
 🌐 www.belgianrail.be/en

Get away with the buses and trams of De Lijn



The Flemish transport company De Lijn is also concerned with accessibility. However, wheelchair users must book their bus or tram ride (return) at least one day in advance in order to check whether the stop and the vehicle are sufficiently accessible. You can book this service via the dial-a-bus centre in the province of departure. You can find the contact details on www.delijn.be, section De Lijn, Offerings. For all other questions, call +32 70 22 02 00. You do not have to book the coast tram. On the website www.delijn.be/kusttram (Travel Information, Locations and Stops) you can find an overview of the accessible stops.

Are you unsure and looking for an easy way to put your questions to the driver or someone else? Blue Assist gives you this option. Take a look in advance at www.blueassist.eu (in Dutch).

🌐 www.delijn.be

Meer Mobiel

The website 'Meer Mobiel' (More Mobile) is an information platform for all means of transport for the less mobile. On this website Enter VZW gives an overview of the entire range of public and door-to-door transport available in Flanders. You can find out immediately who you should contact for your transport needs by entering a postcode and your personal situation.

 www.meermobiel.be

 info@meermobiel.be

More tips

You will find more tips in the brochure 'Accessible transport in Flanders and Brussels' from the Accessible Travel Info Point. You will discover practical tips about flying, where you can find an accessible taxi, lift bus or even a mobile home, etc..

This information is always based on objective expert inspection or the experience of people with a disability. You can find the brochure on the website at www.accessinfo.be or request a printed copy.

 www.accessinfo.be

Browse and then park

Finding a parking place in the Westhoek (or on the coast) is a lot easier using the website www.navigereenparkeer.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.



10

CARE, EQUIPMENT AND ASSISTANCE

Need assistance or nursing?

Do you need nursing during your stay? You can contact a home care service. The largest organization for home nursing, with departments throughout Flanders, is the “Wit-Gele Kruis” (White-Yellow Cross). The contact points for each province can be found at: www.wgk.be.

Equipment on your holiday

Do you need specific equipment during your holiday? For large and small aids in the vicinity of your accommodation you can, among other things, go to the home care shops (www.thuiszorgwinkel.be), Medishops (www.socmut.be) and the “Rode Kruis” (Red Cross) (tel. +32 15 44 35 07, uitleendienst@rodekruis.be).



visit
flanders

Accessible Travel Info Point

Grasmarkt 61,
1000 Brussels

☎ +32 (0)2 504 03 40

☎ +32 (0)2 504 04 05

✉ post@accessinfo.be

🌐 www.accessibleflanders.be



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Visit Flanders,
Grasmarkt 61, 1000 Brussels

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www.flandersfields1418.com



Flanders
State of the Art

