Province de Liège

Interreg Euregio Meuse-Rhin

RANDO-M

LAKES TOUR

in the Province of Liège

© Audrey Köttgen

OVER TWO DAYS (OR THREE DAYS, WITH A VARIATION IN MONSCHAU)

BAELEN — 57 KM — BÜTGENBACH LAKE — 62 KM — BAELEN

LAKES TOUR IN THE PROVINCE OF LIÈGE

Set off to discover the four largest lakes in the Province of Liège, formed by dams, with this all-natural itinerary. This will lead you to an unspoilt setting along the Soor, a small torrential stream. You can enjoy the exceptional panoramic views offered by the Eupen and Gileppe dams. You will reach the highpoint of Belgium, before stretching out on one of the beaches at the Robertville or Bütgenbach dams. You will pedal through rural landscapes and vast green expanses around Bütgenbach Lake, before tracing the moors and bogs that characterise the landscapes in the High Fens.

This road book will provide all the details and information you need to plan your adventure. There is also a road book that outlines this itinerary in three stages instead of two.

A variation with an additional day, which passed through Monschau, is also outlined in this road book.

PRINCIPLE AND INTERMEDIATE MARKERS

Examples of nodes to follow: 41–42

A Canadian vibe at Eupen Lake

© Audrey Köttgen

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE JOURNEY

DETAILS

Car park at the entrance to Hütte woods, Baelen – Eupen(50.609324, 6.048634). For fans of slow tourism, Eupen train station is located 3.5 kilometres from the departure point.

Distance	**119 km**
Elevation	**1,404 m**
Difficulty	**Average**

PATHS TAKEN

RAVeL network and paths reserved for cyclists and pedestrians	**77 km**
Shared roads (cars & bicycles)	**39 km**
National roads	**3 km**
Asphalted roads	**74 km**
Unsurfaced roads and trails	**45 km**

TYPES OF BICYCLE

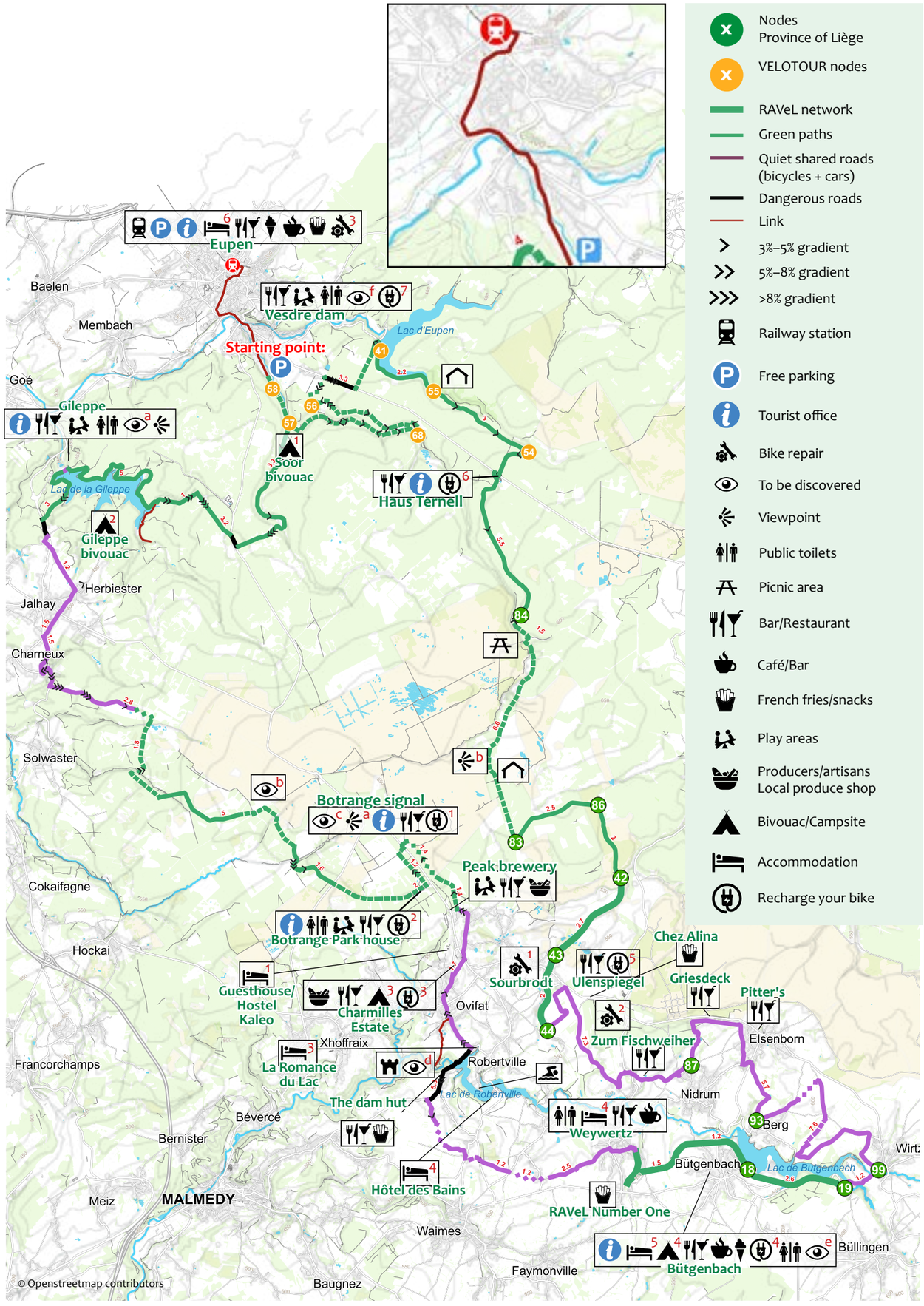
✓ All-terrain ✓ All-terrain ✓ Electric ✖ Racing ✖ City ✖ Tandem ✖ Child trailers

RECOMMENDED PERIOD(S)

From late March to early May: daffodil season, the first green leaves appear

June to early September: a holiday atmosphere by the water. Make the most of the good weather with a swim at the lakes in Robertville or Bütgenbach

October to November: beautiful autumn colours



STAGE ONE: EUPEN TO BÜTGENBACH

DETAILS

Distance:	**57 km**
Approximate duration (without a break):	**4 hours**
Positive elevation:	**847 m**
Negative elevation:	**580 m**

NODES TO FOLLOW

Starting point: Hütte → 0.3 km → 58 → 1.1 km → 57 → 3.3 km → 59 → 3.1 km → 61 → 1.1 km → 62 → 5.0 km → 63 → 2.8 km → 64 → 1.4 km → 65 → 1.5 km → 84 → 1.5 km → 97 → 1.5 km → 98 → 3.0 km → 98 → 0.8 km → 80 → 1.4 km → 51 → 1.4 km → 52 → 1.2 km → 50 → 1.9 km → 76 → 1.6 km → 71 → 5.2 km → 59 → 0.9 km → 58 → 1.8 km → 98 → 3.0 km → 97 → 1.5 km → 84 → 1.5 km → 65 → 1.4 km → 64 → 2.8 km → 63 → 5.0 km → 62 → 1.1 km → 61 → 3.1 km → 59 → 3.3 km → 57 → 1.1 km → 58 → 0.3 km → Starting point: Hütte

Starting point: Hütte → 0.3 km → 58 → 1.1 km → 57 → 3.3 km → 59 → 3.1 km → 61 → 1.1 km → 62 → 5.0 km → 63 → 2.8 km → 64 → 1.4 km → 65 → 1.5 km → 84 → 1.5 km → 97 → 1.5 km → 98 → 3.0 km → 98 → 0.8 km → 80 → 1.4 km → 51 → 1.4 km → 52 → 1.2 km → 50 → 1.9 km → 76 → 1.6 km → 71 → 5.2 km → 59 → 0.9 km → 58 → 1.8 km → 98 → 3.0 km → 97 → 1.5 km → 84 → 1.5 km → 65 → 1.4 km → 64 → 2.8 km → 63 → 5.0 km → 62 → 1.1 km → 61 → 3.1 km → 59 → 3.3 km → 57 → 1.1 km → 58 → 0.3 km → Starting point: Hütte

Starting point: Hütte → 0.3 km → 58 → 1.1 km → 57 → 3.3 km → 59 → 3.1 km → 61 → 1.1 km → 62 → 5.0 km → 63 → 2.8 km → 64 → 1.4 km → 65 → 1.5 km → 84 → 1.5 km → 97 → 1.5 km → 98 → 3.0 km → 98 → 0.8 km → 80 → 1.4 km → 51 → 1.4 km → 52 → 1.2 km → 50 → 1.9 km → 76 → 1.6 km → 71 → 5.2 km → 59 → 0.9 km → 58 → 1.8 km → 98 → 3.0 km → 97 → 1.5 km → 84 → 1.5 km → 65 → 1.4 km → 64 → 2.8 km → 63 → 5.0 km → 62 → 1.1 km → 61 → 3.1 km → 59 → 3.3 km → 57 → 1.1 km → 58 → 0.3 km → Starting point: Hütte

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Things to discover en-route

The second iconic sight at the dam is the panoramic tower. It is 77.6–metres high and can be accessed via two lifts. It is fully covered in glass and offers an unforgettable view over the dam and surrounding region.

Want to learn all about the history of this architectural triumph? Don't hesitate to visit the permanent exhibition at the base of the tower, which recounts the history of the dam.

The panoramic tower also houses a restaurant, where you can sample a special '77' beer, which takes its name from its alcohol content (7,7°) and the height of the tower. Visitors can enjoy a number of activities: a bar and terrace, a play area, tree-top ladders, mountain and e-bike rentals, geocaching, a free exhibition, sign-posted trails for walking and cycling and more.

The lake is a reserve with a capacity of 26 million m³ of drinking water, so swimming is prohibited.

www.gileppe.com/fr/

Nodes 63

a Gileppe dam

The Gileppe dam site is one of the most beautiful tourist sites in the Province of Liège. The dam is surrounded by the extensive Hertogenwald forest and spans 130 hectares. It was built in the 19th century to provide a sufficient water reserve for the wool industry, which was particularly prosperous during this period. A 13.5-metre-high monumental lion sculpture by Félix-Antoine Bouré was also crafted here. It stares east, overlooking the Prussian border, affirming Belgium's neutrality.

b The croix des fiancés

The croix des fiancés recalls the dramatic story of Marie Solheid and François Reif, two young lovers who were found dead in the fens in January 1871 while trying to reach Xhoffraix to obtain documents they needed for their impending marriage.

This can be seen between Nodes 59 and 71.

c The Botrange signal and the viewpoint over the Walloon Fens

a Welcome to the summit of Belgium! Since 1919, the Botrange signal has been the highest point in Belgium, with an altitude of 694 meters. Baltia Hill allows you to reach the symbolic altitude of 700 meters.

Two hundred meters after the Botrange signal (Point-nœud 52), the viewpoint over the Walloon Fens allows you to admire the vast expanses of moors and peat bogs, which cover nearly 660 hectares. An exceptional biotope to preserve!

At the Maison du Parc (Point-nœud 50), you will find everything you need: public toilets, a play area, a cafeteria, charging terminals for electric bikes, indoor picnic tables, a large open fire for rainy or cold days, tourist information, an exhibition and more.

www.botrange.be

Point-nœud 51

d Robertville Lake and the Château de Reinhardstein

The Robertville dam has a capacity of 7.7 million m³ and overlooks the Warche river. It was built in 1928 for three reasons: to produce electricity from the dam via a conduit from the Bévercé hydroelectric plant, to regulate the flow of the river to protect the City of Malmedy from flooding and to provide it with drinking water.

You can take time to admire the view of the lake and its banks shortly after Point-nœud 55. The banks are mostly covered by the forest on one side and the Warche valley on the other. It is not possible to tour the lake on a bike.

If you'd like to swim in the lake, which is renowned for the natural purity of its water, you can head to Robertville-les-bains (Route des Bains 63, Robertville).

In order to explore the resplendent Château de Reinhardstein, which overlooks the Warche valley, take a right at Point-nœud 55 and cycle to the end of the trail (warning: the return trip is uphill). A tour, activities and restaurants await. More information is available on their website.

www.robertville.be/ - www.reinhardstein.net/fr/

After Point-nœud 55

STAGE TWO: BÜTGENBACH TO EUPEN

DETAILS

Distance:	**62 km**
Approximate duration (without a break):	**4 hours**
Positive elevation:	**618 m**
Negative elevation:	**887 m**

NODES TO FOLLOW

Bütgenbach Lake 18 → (2.6 km) 19 → (1.2 km) 99 → (7.6 km) 93 → (5.6 km) 87 → (7.2 km) 44 → (2.1 km) 43 → (2.7 km) 42 → (2.0 km) 86 → (2.5 km) 83 → (6.6 km) 84 → (5.5 km) 54 → (2.9 km) 55 → (2.4 km) 41 → (0.2 km) 42 → (0.2 km) 41 → (3.2 km) 56 → (3.4 km) 68 → (3.5 km) 57 → (1.0 km) 58 → (0.3 km) 40 End point:

TYPES OF PANELS ENCOUNTERED

Panels and markers for the Province of Liège nodes network.

Panels and signposts on the VELOTOUR network. These will be replaced with nodes signposts soon.

These signposts are not found at every crossroads, but only when you need to turn.

Things to discover en-route

Bütgenbach Lake

Bütgenbach Dam was built in 1932 to regulate the flow of the Warche river, which is known as one of the most unpredictable rivers in Belgium. This reservoir, which boasts a capacity of 11 million m^3, is one of the most important tourist hubs in the High Fens and Belgian Eifel regions. The village of Bütgenbach resembles a seaside resort, but it has preserved its natural attractions, with extensive forests, vast verdant expanses, magnificent bocage landscapes and numerous nature reserves.

There is no shortage of activities at Bütgenbach Lake: the 'VENNtastic Beach' (8,000 m^2) and its supervised swimming area, the various activities in the Worriken sports centre, water sports, nature trails and restaurants that serve typical regional cuisine.

Bütgenbach.info

Point-nœud 17

Viewpoint over the Walloon Fens

After passing Point-nœud 83 and the subsequent hill, you will arrive at the highest point of this second stage: 641 m high. Don't miss the viewpoint over the Walloon Fens on your left, the vastness of which is sure to take your breath away.

A little after point-nœud 83

Eupen dam

The Vesdre dam was built at the confluence of the Vesdre and Getzbach rivers between 1936 and 1942 and 1946 and 1949. Its capacity of 25,000,000 m³ supplies Eupen, the Pays de Herve region, the outskirts of Liège and the Sart Tilman estate with drinking water.

The gigantic 63-metre-high concrete wall offers a breathtaking panoramic view of the lake and surrounding forests, as well as the narrow Langesthal valley.

The tourist site is a place for relaxation and serenity, where you can walk, cycle or ride horses. Two educational trails are available to visitors. The 'Foxy' forest educational trail (2.5 km) allows kids to learn more about local flora and fauna in an entertaining way. The educational water trail (1 km), which starts beneath the restaurant, boasts nine informative panels that recount the history of the dam's construction and explain the passage of the water and how the purifying station operates.

Perched on a hill overlooking the banks of the lake, the restaurant and visitors' centre offer a magnificent view of the entire site from their spacious terraces, as well as the surrounding Hertogenwald forest. Climbing enthusiasts can also try to climb the old 'Climbing Tower' with its panoramic vistas. Finally, there is a large play area for children.

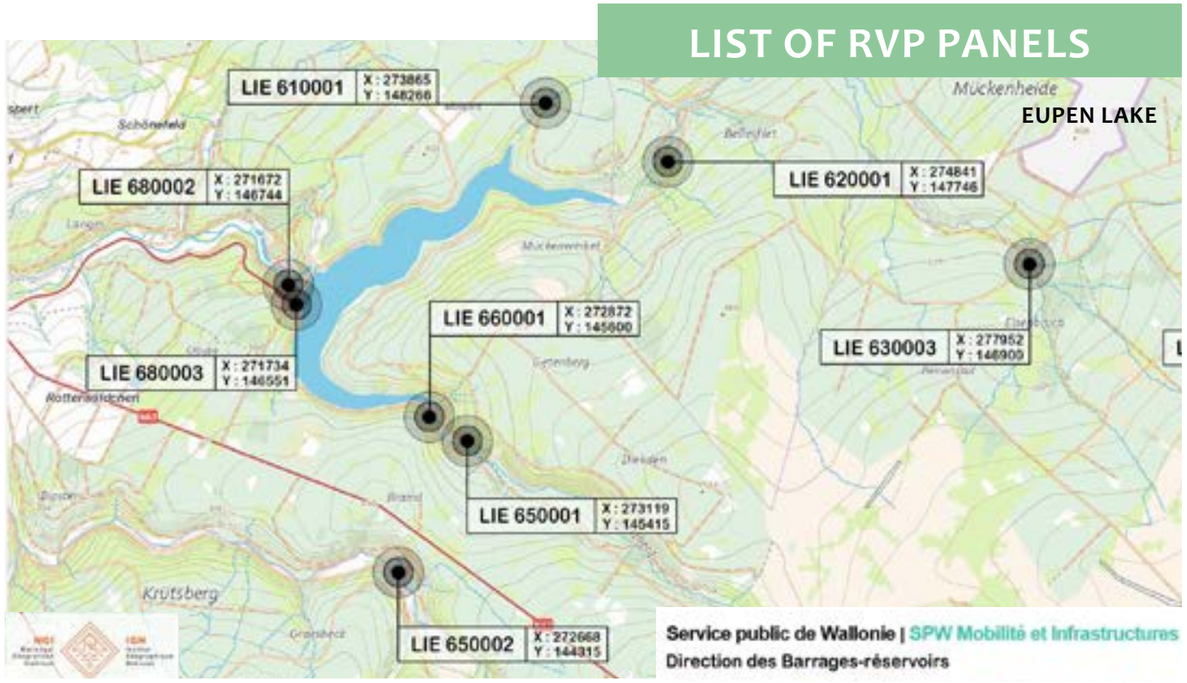
Point-nœud 41

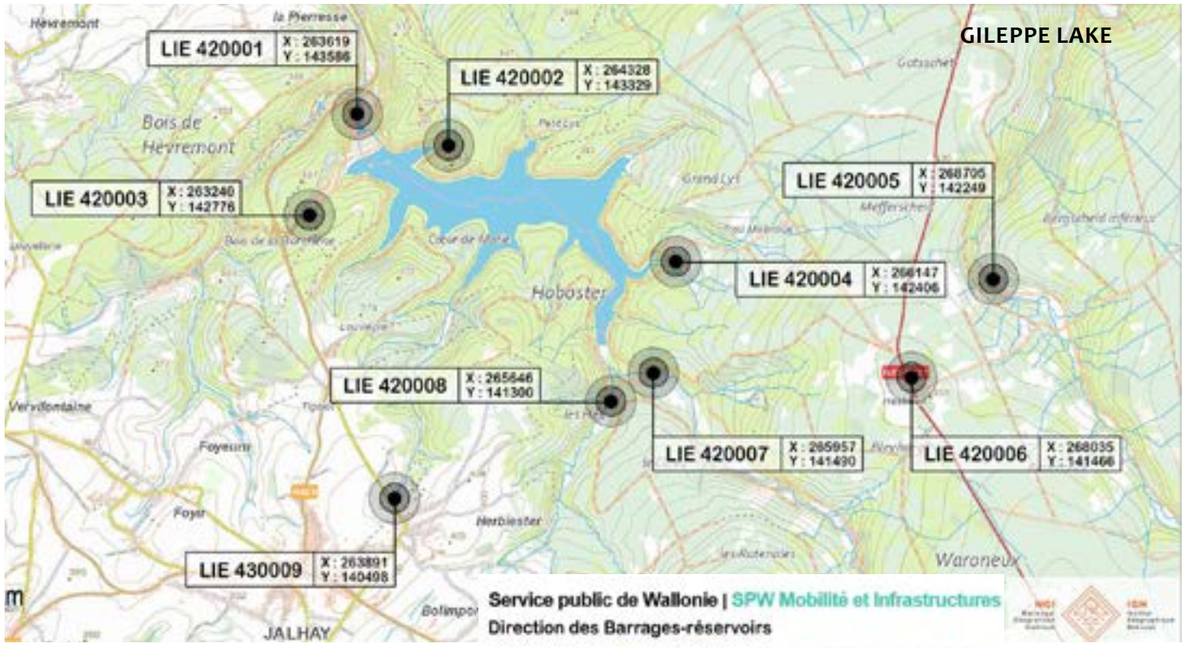
RVP (Rendez-vous Point) panels make it safer for users hiking in isolated areas. They make it easier to find and access emergency services in areas where reception is poor.

When you call 112 from a reception area, you give the unique number of the nearest RVP to the operator, so that they can easily find the location in the system and send the emergency services to the previously established location.

You can then wait for the emergency services near the RVP panel to guide them to the site of the accident or incident.

LIST OF RVP PANELS





EATING AND DRINKING

You can eat and drink in Gileppe, Botrange, Ovifat, Weywertz, Bütgenbach, Elsenborn, Nidrum, Sourbrodt Ternell and Eupen (see the map on page 4).

RENTING A BIKE

At Bike

Delivery service (from 12 people)

11, Rue Coirville, 4950 WAIMES
Phone no.: +32 (0) 80 67 83 82

www.atbike.be

Eupen Lives

Marktplatz 7, 4700 Eupen
Phone no.: +32 (0) 472 88 04 69

eupenlives.be/fr/e-bikes

Aide SOS VoG

Nöretherstrasse 53, 4700 Eupen
Phone no.: +32 (0) 55 21 08

velo-eupen.be

CycloLibre, atelier vélo de quartier

Bikes, saddle bags, child seats, trailers, accessories and bike racks.
Rue Saint-Pholien, 12 - 4020 LIEGE
Tél. : +32 (0) 478 67 25 43
info@cyclolibre.be
Every day by appointment
www.cyclolibre.be

Décathlon

Bikes, saddle bags, child seats, trailers, accessories and bike racks.
www.decathlon.be/fr/location/location-velo

REPAIRING YOUR BIKE

Buckardt (1)

Rue de la Station 29, 4950 Sourbrodt
Phone no.: +32 (0) 80 44 64 36
Tuesday to Friday: 8.30 am –12 pm and 1 pm– 6 pm.
Saturday: 8.30 am – 3 pm.

East Side Bike Shop (2)

Sourbrodter Straße 46, 4750 Bütgenbach
Phone no.: +32 (0) 494 87 03 57
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 2 pm – 7 pm.
Saturday: 9 am – 4 pm.

Aide SOS VoG (3)

Nöretherstrasse 53, 4700 Eupen
Phone no.: +32 (0) 55 21 08

Monday: 8.30 am – 4 pm.
Tuesday to Friday: 8.30 am – 5.30 pm.
Saturday: 9.30 am – 12.30 pm.

Tourist-Info – Bütgenbach

Need to fill your can or inflate your tires? Head to Bütgenbach Tourist Info where you will find everything you need + good advice (at no charge). You can also buy repair kits and other accessories.

Opening hours are found on the next page

www.butgenbach.info

Hexplo

Hexplo is a new app that allows you to talk with other 'Hexplorers'. Flat tire? Need a patch? Ask for help on the Hexplo mobile app

RECHARGING YOUR BIKE

Brasserie Wesertalsperre (7)

Langesthal 164
4700 Eupen

Botrange Signal (1)

Route de Botrange 133B, 4950 Waimes

Botrange Park house (2)

Route de Botrange 131
4950 Waimes

Domaine des Charmilles (Bar à Bout) (3)

Rue des Charmilles 66, 4950 Ovifat

Camping Worriken (4)

Worriken 9

4750 Bütgenbach

Bütgenbacher Hof (4)

Marktplatz 8
4750 Bütgenbach

Ulenspiegel (5)

Rue de la Station 46, 4950 Waimes

Ternell nature centre (6)

Ternell 2-3
4700 Eupen

INFORMATION POINTS

Gileppe tourist information

Route de la Gileppe 55A
4845 Jalhay

Phone no.: +32(0) 479 81 00 98

July to August: 10 am – 5 pm, 7 days a week

Botrange signal tourist information

Rue de Botrange 133b
4950 Botrange

Phone no.: +32 (0) 80 44 73 00

tourisme@waimes.be

Opening hours: Tuesday to Wednesday from 3 pm to 5 pm, and Friday and Saturday, as well as bank holidays, from 10 am to 4 pm

www.waimeshautesfagnes.be

Botrange Park house

Route de Botrange 131
4950 Waimes
Phone no.: +32 (0) 80 44 03 00

Monday to Friday: 9 am – 5 pm
Weekends and public holidays: 10 am – 6 pm

www.botrange.be

Bütgenbach Tourist Info

Marktplatz 13a

4750 Bütgenbach

Phone no.: +32 (0) 80 86 47 23

touristinfo@Bütgenbach.be

September to June: Tuesday to Friday: 9 am – 4 pm. Saturday: 9 am – 3 pm. Sunday and public holidays: 10 am – 1 pm

July to August: Monday to Saturday: 9 am – 4.30 pm. Sunday and public holidays: 9 am – 3 pm

www.butgenbach.info

Maison Nature Ternell

Ternell 2-3

4700 Eupen

Phone no.: +32 (0) 80 55 23 13

Monday to Friday: 10 am –12 pm and 1 pm– 5 pm.
Weekends and public holidays: 10 am – 5 pm.

www.ternell.be

Eupen Tourist Info

Marktplatz 7
4700 Eupen

Phone no.: +32 (0) 87 55 34 50

Monday: 9 am –12 pm and 1 pm– 5 pm. Tuesday to Friday: 9 am – 5 pm. Saturday: 9 am – 1 pm.

July to August: + Sunday: 9 am – 1 pm.

eupenlives.be

ACCOMMODATION

All of the accommodation and camping options below (excluding bivouac areas and Welcome To My Garden) have the 'Bienvenue Vélo' or 'Bed & Bike' label. They are located on, or near, your route. They guarantee services and equipment for cyclists (repair, charging, cleaning equipment, maps, etc.), as well as a safe place to store your bike overnight.

Gîtes Kaleo Ovifat (1)

Rue des Charmilles 69, 4950 Ovifat

Phone no.: +32 (0) 80 44 46 77

ovifat@kaleo-asbl.be

www.kaleo-asbl.be/fr/gites/ovifat/

La Romance du Lac (2)

Rue du Barrage 19, 4950 Robertville
Phone no.: +32(80) 44 41 63

romancedulac@skynet.be

laromancedulac.be

Hôtel des Bains & Wellness (3)

Haelen 2, 4950 Waimes
080/67.09.10

info@hoteldesbains.be

www.robert-hotels.com

Lindenhof Hôtel – Restaurant (4)

Neuer Weg 1, 4750 Weywertz

Phone no.: +32 (0) 495 53 54 34

www.lindenhof-weywertz.com

Bütgenbacher Hof (5)
Marktplatz 8, 4750 Bütgenbach
Phone no.: +32 (0) 80 444 212

info@hbh.be
www.hotelbutgenbacherhof.com

Hôtel Eftelland (5)

Seestrasse 5, 4750 Bütgenbach
Phone no.: +32 (0) 80 44 66 70

info@hoteleifelland.be
www.hoteleifelland.be

Sporthouse Worriken (5)
Worriken 9, 4750 Bütgenbach
Tel. :+32 (0) 80 44 69 61

info@worriken.be
www.worriken.be/fr/se-loger-a-buetgenbach/sporthouse

Gîte-Auberge Kaleo Eupen (6)
Judenstraße 79, 4700 Eupen
Phone no.: +32 (0) 55 31 26

eupen@kaleo-asbl.be
www.kaleo-asbl.be

Hôtel Ambassador Bosten (6)
Haasstraße 81, 4700 Eupen
Phone no.: +32 (0) 87 74 08 00

info@ambassador-bosten.be
www.ambassador-bosten.com

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Sleepwood Hôtel (6)
Neustraße 61, 4700 Eupen
Phone no.: +32 (0) 55 50 88

kontakt@sleepwood.eu
www.sleepwood.eu

CAMPING AND BIVOUAC

Soor bivouac area (1)
info@botrange.be
botrange.be/bivouacs/zone-c-la-soor/

Gileppe bivouac (2)
info@botrange.be
https://botrange.be/bivouacs/zone-a/

Camping des Charmilles (3)
Rue des Charmilles 66, 4950 Ovifat
Tel.: +32 (0) 80 21 41 75

hello@domaine-charmilles.be
www.domaine-charmilles.be

Camping Worriken (4)
Worriken 9, 4750 Bütgenbach
Tel. :+32 (0) 80 44 69 61

info@worriken.be
www.worriken.be

Welcome To My Garden

Welcome To My Garden is a network of citizens who offer their garden as a free camping space for travelers who love slow travel. Want to try the experience? Visit the website: welcometomygarden.org

© Audrey Köttgen

BÜTGENBACH TO MONSCHAU VARIATION

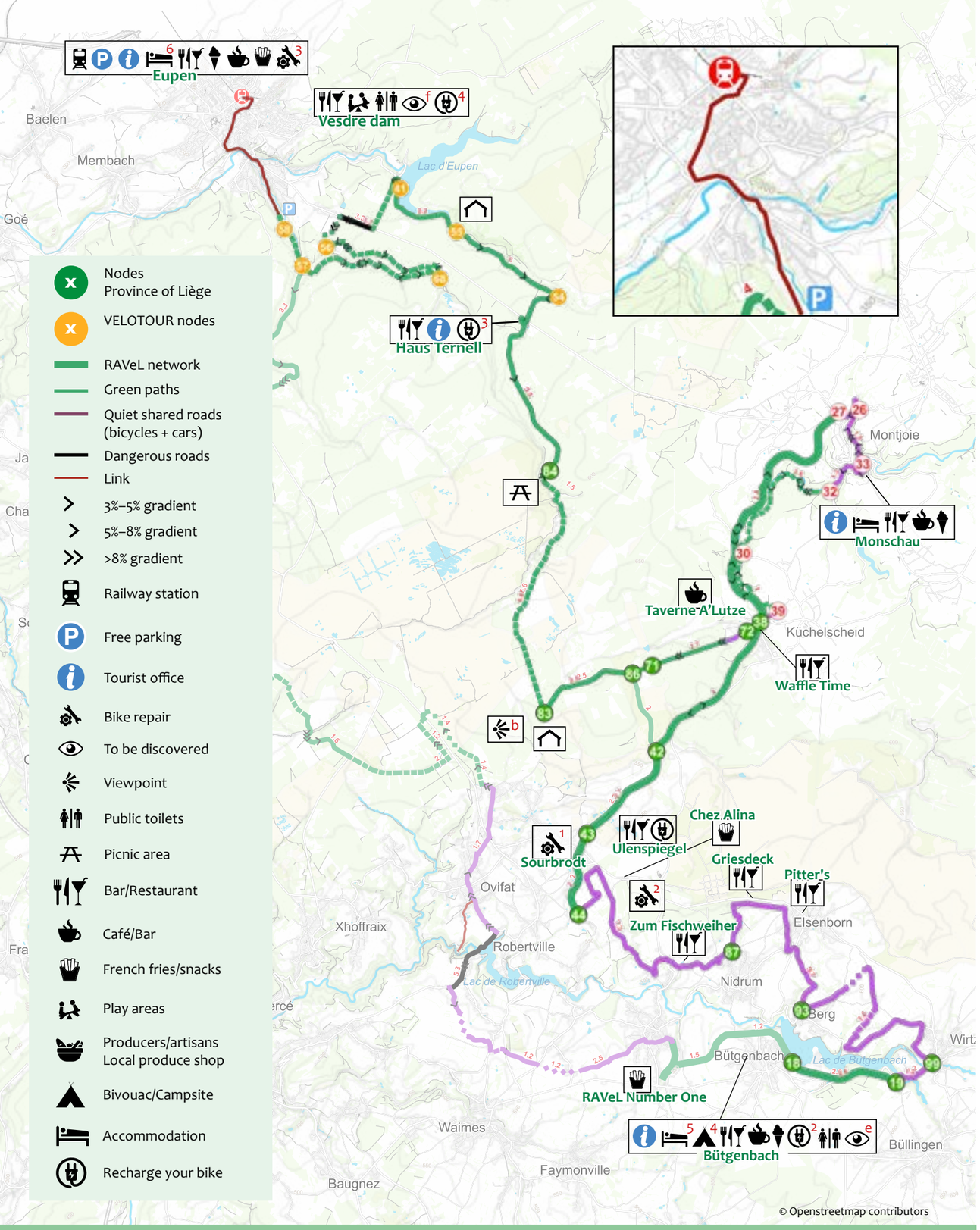
If you'd like, you can extend your adventure thanks to a cross-border variation that passes through the charming town of Monschau in Germany. This small town boasts a Medieval vibe and will charm you with its castle, which overlooks the old town, its half-timbered houses, narrow alleyways and the chance to swim in the Rur river in summer. The next day, follow a section of the famous Vennbahn, a former railway line that has been converted into a bike path, to reach Point-noeuds 83 and continue your journey to Baelen.

BÜTGENBACH – MONSCHAU: DETAILS

Distance:	**41 km**
Approximate duration (without a break):	**3 hours**
Positive elevation:	**345 m**
Negative elevation:	**505 m**

MONSCHAU – BAELEN: DETAILS

Distance:	**44 km**
Approximate duration (without a break):	**3 hours**
Positive elevation:	**452 m**
Negative elevation:	**561 m**



PREPARING YOUR STAY IN MONSCHAU

Monschau Tourist Information
Stadtstraße 16 D-52156 Monschau - Tel.: +49 247 280 480
touristik@monschau.de - www.monschau.de

NODES TO FOLLOW

Bütgenbach Lake 18 — 2.6 km → 19 — 1.2 km → 99 — 7.6 km → 93 — 5.6 km → 87 — 7.2 km → 44 — 2.1 km → 43 — 2.7 km ↓

26 — 1.5 km ← Monschau 33 — 1.5 km ← 32 — 3.7 km ← 30 — 2.0 km ← 39 — 0.4 km ← 38 — 4.1 km ← 42 — 1.0 km ↓

27 — 6.9 km → 38 — 0.1 km → 72 — 2.7 km → 71 — 0.5 km → 86 — 2.5 km → 83 — 6.6 km → 84 — 5.5 km → 54 — 2.9 km ↓

58 — 1.0 km ← 57 — 3.5 km ← 68 — 3.4 km ← 56 — 3.2 km ← 41 — 0.2 km ← 42 — 0.2 km ← 41 — 2.2 km ← 55 — 0.5 km ↓

40 — End point: Hütte car park

TYPES OF PANELS ENCOUNTERED

Panels and markers for the Province of Liège nodes network.

Panels and signposts on the VELOTOUR network. These will be replaced with nodes signposts soon.

These signposts are not found at every crossroads, but only when you need to turn.

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The nodes in Germany are slightly different from those in the Province of Liège. Indeed, the number of the points-nœud is red and is at the top of a post with several direction markers. Below each direction marker, you will find the points-nœud numbers to follow.

At each point where two nodes intersect, you will find an unnumbered sign with a bicycle and a red arrow indicating the direction to follow.

TRAVEL BY TRAIN

Traveling by train and, in particular, with a bicycle are not things everyone does every day. Find step-by-step advice below, so that your getaway runs as smoothly as possible.

Check the details of your journey before you leave on the SNCB website or app. A change caused by works or delays may affect your plans.

1 Depending on the estimated duration of your journey, plan your return by train using the mobile application or via the SNCB website (www.belgianrail.be). Remember to plan enough time for any breaks, drinks, or to discover local curiosities. Don't rely on the last train, as there may be an incident on the route. Tickets purchased are valid for the whole day and do not have a specific time.

2 Select the best fare.

Children?

Children under 12 years of age travel by train for free when accompanied by an adult. However, a ticket is required for their bicycle.

Teenagers and those aged under 26?

If the cost of the one-way trip is over €6.60, choose the YOUTH TICKET (one-way ticket for €6.60) or the YOUTH MULTI ticket (€55 for 10 journeys, or €53 on the app) if there are several of you travelling under 26 years of age.

Adults traveling by train occasionally

A RAIL PASS costs €87 for 10 journeys (€84 on the app). It is not attributed to a single person and can be used for other journeys. If you are traveling in a pair, check that buying two return tickets is not more expensive than a RAIL PASS on the machine.

Over 65?

For one-day or even two-day cycling trips, if you are using a long-distance train, select the Senior ticket (return on the same day for just €7.20; note that, during the week, this is only valid after 9 am).

A folding bike?

This can be loaded onto the train for free.

A bike ticket?

A bike ticket for one journey costs €4, including departures from, or arrivals to, the border stations of Maastricht and Aachen.

You no longer need to get two tickets and attach one to your bike. You just need to indicate the departure and arrival train stations when buying from the machine or via the SNCB app. At the machine, select "Other products" – "Add-on" – "Bike ticket". On the SNCB app or website, select the "Bike add-on" product or ticket.

You only need one ticket to transport a bike and its child trailer.

3 Where can I buy one?

Buy your tickets and bike add-on at the machine, at the ticket counters, at sncb.be, on the SNCB app or from approved vendors. The bike ticket is found under "Add-on". If you buy your tickets on the train, the price will be increased by the "on-board fare" add-on.

4 Loading your bike on the train

Discover the trip planner for bikes.

BikeOnTrain helps you choose the best route to travel by train with your bike.

In just a few clicks, you can check:

- the number of spaces for bikes on board your train
- if boarding requires assistance from the train attendant
- the height of the train floor

Plan your trip with bikeontrain.belgiantrain.be/

Reminder:

- the bike must be loaded and unloaded by the passenger and remains their sole responsibility from entry to the train station to departure;
- the number of spaces is limited and the passenger may be asked to board the next train;
- it is not possible to make a reservation for groups traveling with bikes. If you wish to travel in a group of more than five people, consider using more than one train. Some routes offer 2–4 trains per hour during the week.

However, loading conditions for bikes have improved in recent years. Some trains have a bike compartment (the logo is displayed on the window), which is freely accessible and where you can sit near your bike.

Train types and their different bike compartments

DESIRO

Bike compartment located in the centre of the train

IC trains: Ostend – Eupen

Carriage with freely accessible bike spaces, located in the centre of the train

Liège-Namur-Brussels train

Bike compartment located in the first-class carriage and can be accessed by contacting the attendant

IC trains: Liège – Quiévrain and S trains: Hasselt – Maastricht

Bike compartment located in the centre of the train and is freely accessible

Old carriages: S, L, and P trains

Bike compartment located at one end of the train, if it is not coupled, and can be accessed by contacting the attendant

Welkenraedt – Courtrai train

Lower floor for bikes and passengers; it is located in the centre of the train and can be accessed by contacting the attendant

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ARRIVING BY CAR

A free car park is available to you at the entrance to Hütte woods, Baelen – Eupen(50.609324, 6.048634). Then head to Nodes 58.

CHECKLIST BEFORE DEPARTURE

- ☐ Adjust the size of the seat and handlebars and check the condition of the tires, brakes, lights, and gears.
- ☐ Choose saddlebags over a backpack (sweating, discomfort, etc.) for carrying your clothes, picnic, etc. A handlebar bag is useful for important items.
- ☐ A comfortable seat if you are traveling for more than a day.
- ☐ A repair kit: CO_2 cartridges to inflate your tyre quickly, or a suitable pump, a spair inner tube, a tyre lever, patches, glue and keys, including an Allen key.
- ☐ Fill your tyres with anti-puncture sealant.
- ☐ A good lock (always attach your lock to the frame of the bike, passing it through a wheel).

  Clothes suited to the weather:

  in summer: sunglasses, hat, sunscreen;

  in winter: gloves and hats.
- ☐ For electric bikes: charge your battery fully the day before. Pack your charger.

ESSENTIAL ADVICE

- On the RAVeL network, speed is restricted to 30 km/h and pedestrians have right of way. Be polite!
- Always keep to the right (even on the RAVeL network, in case of an intersection or if you are being passed).
- Keep a safe distance from others to avoid an accident.
- Beware of any curbs or rails approached at an angle (risk of falling!)

Province de Liège

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