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1. Geographical location

The city of Bastogne is located in the province of Luxembourg (not to be confused with the country) in the Ardennes. Bastogne is located in southeast Belgium, close to Luxembourg. The city sits at an elevation of 510 metres on a ridge in the Ardennes.



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2. Neighbouring cities/countries

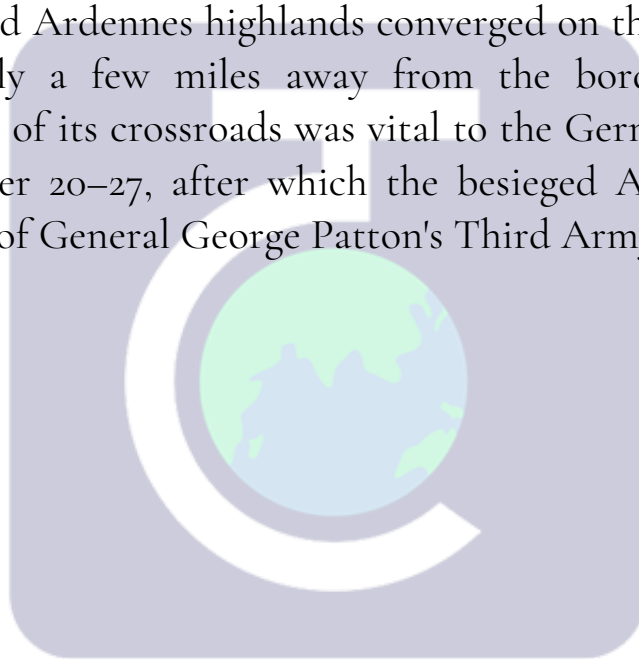
Bastogne Is Close To The Belgian Cities Charleroi (103 Km), Brussels (136 Km) And Antwerp (164 Km). The Major European Cities That Bastogne Is Close To Are Luxembourg City In Luxembourg (84 Km), Aachen In Germany (90 Km), Bonn In Germany (128 Km), Cologne In Germany (136 Km), Dusseldorf In Germany (155 Km) And Eindhoven In Netherlands (162 Km).



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3. Significance

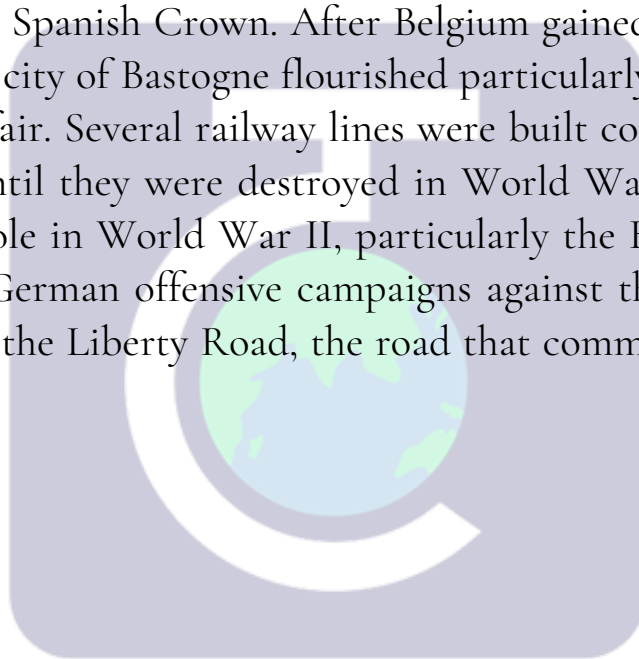
The Siege of Bastogne was an engagement in December 1944 between American and German forces at the Belgian town of Bastogne. The goal of the German offensive was the harbour at Antwerp. In order to reach it before the Allies could regroup and bring their superior air power to bear, German mechanized forces had to seize the roadways through eastern Belgium. Because all seven main roads in the densely wooded Ardennes highlands converged on the small Belgian town of Bastogne are only a few miles away from the border to neighbouring Luxembourg, control of its crossroads was vital to the German attack. The siege lasted from December 20–27, after which the besieged American forces were relieved by elements of General George Patton's Third Army.



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4. History

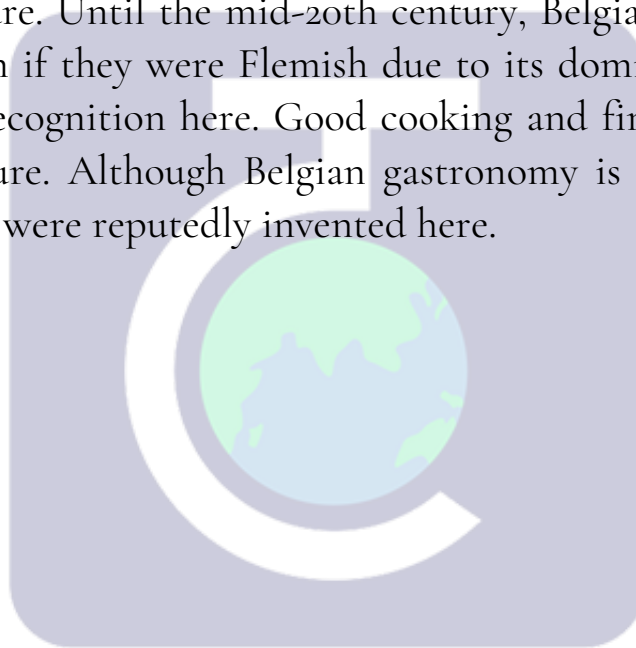
During the Roman era, Bastogne was inhabited by the Trevari which were a tribe of the Gauls. In the 8th century the region was ceded to St Maximin Abbey near Trier. In the 14th century the city was granted its charter by John the Blind, son of Henry VII who encircled the city in defensive walls. In the 15th century the county of Luxemburg became a part of Duchy of Burgundy and Bastogne came under the rule of the Spanish Crown. After Belgium gained its independence in the 19th century, the city of Bastogne flourished particularly because of its forest products and cattle fair. Several railway lines were built connecting Bastogne to neighboring cities until they were destroyed in World War I. Bastogne is most well-known for its role in World War II, particularly the Battle of Bulge which was one of the last German offensive campaigns against the Allies. Bastogne is now the terminus of the Liberty Road, the road that commemorates the path of the Allied forces.



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5. Cultural identity

Most Belgians view their culture as an integral part of European culture. Belgium is home to some of the most important European comic magazines and publishers. It has end number of impressive museum with Namur not being an exception. The Belgian architecture is very well renowned all over the world. Belgian literature is now divided between a Flemish literature and Belgian Francophone literature. Until the mid-20th century, Belgian writers more often wrote in French even if they were Flemish due to its dominant position. Music also received great recognition here. Good cooking and fine beers are seen as a part of Belgian culture. Although Belgian gastronomy is connected to French cuisine, some recipes were reputedly invented here.



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6. Natural resources

Bastogne is surrounded by natural beauty, from lakes and rivers to the magnificent Ardennes forests. Lying on the crossing of rivers Rhine and Meuse, Bastogne is part of a lush, green valley that gives plenty of opportunities for hiking or just enjoying the sun on the banks of the rivers. There are many hiking paths through the Ardennes forests including the 'Battle of the Bulge' which goes through important locations of the war. There is also the beautiful lake 'La Strange' which is ideal for fishing and strolling around it.



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7. Key site seeing places (paid and free)

7.1. Paid

7.1.1. Castle of Bouillon

Overlooking the Semois river and located on a stony spur of land, the Bouillon Castle was constructed between 1050 and 1067 by Duke Godfrey III. The Prince-bishops of Liège subsequently owned the castle for 600 years, until it passed the powerful La Tour d'Auvergne - La Marck family in 1678. Louis XIV of France took the castle after a 20-day siege, and parts of the fortifications were altered by Louis XIV's famous architect Vauban.

Address : Esplanade Godefroid, 1, 6830 Bouillon, Belgium

Zipcode : 6830

Location : 49.7925169, 5.065043500000002

Contact : +3261464202

Website : <http://bouillon-initiative.be/>

Nearest Public Transport : BOUILLON Tunnel Bus Station

Entry Fee : Adults €4 and children €2.50

Open & Close Timing : January: Saturday and Sunday 10:00hrs-17:00hrs February and December: Monday to Friday: 13:00hrs-17:00hrs Saturday and Sunday: 10:00hrs-17:00hrs March, October, and November: Daily 10:00hrs-17:00hrs April to June + September: Daily 10:00hrs-18:00hrs July to August: Daily 09:30hrs-19:30hrs

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.2. Ciatdelle

Dating all the way back to the Roman era, Citadelle (Citadel), also known as "Castle of Namur," serves as one of the largest fortresses in Europe. The castle today is a tourist attraction and is occasionally rented out for events. Stride through the castle and explore the original uneven shape of the fortress walls and also traverse the underground passageways, or "The Termite Nest of Europe," below the castle's grounds.

Address : Route Merveilleuse 64, 5000 Namur, Belgium

Zipcode : 5000

Location : 50.4597979, 4.8611220000000023
Contact : +3281654500
Website : <http://citadelle.namur.be/page.asp?id=4987>
Nearest Public Transport : NAMUR Casino Bus Station
Entry Fee : €8 for Citadel pass (covers 4 activities)
Open & Close Timing : Daily 10:00hrs-18:00hrs
Time Required : 2
Buy Ticket : No

7.1.3. Abbaye d'Orval

A visit to Abbaye d'Orval includes an audiovisual introduction to the history of the monastery and of the present-day life of the community, an access to the remnants of the medieval abbey, the museum housed in the foundations of the 18th-century buildings, the pharmaceutical museum and the medicinal herb garden. Exhibitions are regularly conducted in the principal hall of the medieval guest lodge and the Trappist Cistercian monks are pleased to welcome you there.

Address : Orval 1, 6823 Florenville, Belgium

Zipcode : 6823

Location : 49.6397231, 5.3494653999999855

Contact : +3261311060

Website : <http://orval.be/>

Nearest Public Transport : ORVAL Carrefour Bus Station

Entry Fee : €6 for adults and €3 for children

Open & Close Timing : Winter (November to February): Daily 10.30hrs-17:30hrs

Mid-season (March-May, October): Daily 09.30hrs-18:00hrs Summer (June to September): Daily 09.30hrs-18:30hrs

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.4. Château de Jehay

An important heritage of the Wallonia region, the history of the Jehay castle preserves eminent shadow shares, due to the destruction during the Von Rundstedt offensive archives stored at Bastogne. The origins of the castle are archival since the Celts erected a building in the same location, whose ruins are

embraced within the foundations of a castrum Roman, integrated into a strong Carolingian protected by moats.

Address : Rue du Parc 1, 4540 Amay, Belgium

Zipcode : 4540

Location : 50.5772959, 5.3232408000000008

Contact : +3285824400

Website : <http://www.provincedeliege.be/chateaujehay>

Nearest Public Transport : JEHAY Château Bus Station

Entry Fee : Adults - €7 Children - €4 It depends upon the tour that you take, some tours range upto €45

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.5. Auberge de la Ferme

Located in the village of Rochehaut, Auberge de la Ferme is an educational museum on the work of the farmers of the past. It houses 2 famous attractions namely Parc Animalier and Agri-Musée. The zoo has 40 Ardennes wildlife species, few farm animals and other exotic species. The Agri-Musée provides an insight into the history of agriculture in the region and life of our ancestors over a period of 100 years by means of 20 scenes.

Address : Chemin des Falloises, 6830 Rochehaut, Belgium

Zipcode : 6830

Location : 49.843514, 5.01667399999999966

Contact : +3261461000

Website : <http://agrimusee.be/>

Nearest Public Transport : ROCHEHAUT Eglise Bus Station

Entry Fee : For Wildlife Park: €10 for adults and €6.50 for children For Agri Museum: €9 for adults and €5 for children

Open & Close Timing : Daily 10:00hrs-18:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.6. Bastogne War Museum

Offering a new way of representing the past, specifically World War II, the

Bastogne War Museum has a wealth of information about the war and is a must-see for anybody interested in history and war tourism. Housed in a building displaying phenomenal architectural concepts, the museum is a portrayal of how civilians lived during the battle and afterwards. A tour through the entire museum is dotted with flashbacks and three-dimensional scenes in an innovative format.

Address : Colline du Mardasson 5, 6600 Bastogne, Belgium

Zipcode : 6600

Location : 50.0106065, 5.739197699999977

Contact : +3261210220

Website : <http://bastognewarmuseum.be/>

Nearest Public Transport : BASTOGNE Route du Mardasson Bus Station

Entry Fee : Adults: €14 Senior citizens (65+): €12 Groups (above 20 people), disabled people and students: €10 Children (6-18 years): €8 Family package (2 adults + 2 children): €36 (€7 for extra child) Youth groups from 6-18 years (above 20 people): €7 Children below 6 years: Free admission

Open & Close Timing : 15th March to 15th November: Daily 09:30hrs-18:00hrs July and August: Daily 09:30hrs-19:00hrs Apart from the above periods: Tuesday to Sunday 09:30hrs-18:00hrs 9th January to 3rd February - Closed Closed on 25th December and 1st January

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.7. Château Féodal

Dating back to the 9th century, this is an old feudal castle mostly in ruins that gives a feel of the medieval times. The castle is made more famous by the ghost of Countess Berthe de la Roche, who it is said can be seen wandering the castle ruins at 22:00hrs at the very spot she died. The ghost-walking and light show is performed in the castle during July and August.

Address : Rue du Vieux Château 4, 6980 La Roche-en-Ardenne, Belgium

Zipcode : 6980

Location : 50.18204249999999, 5.576547699999992

Contact : +3284411342

Website : <http://chateaudelaroche.be/>

Nearest Public Transport : LA ROCHE Quai de l'Ourthe Bus Station

Entry Fee : Adults: €5.50 Groups of adults (minimum 15 people): €5 Children (3-12 years): €3.50 Groups of children (minimum 15 people): €3

Open & Close Timing : July and August: Monday to Friday 10:00hrs-18:00hrs

April, May, June, September and October: Monday to Friday 11:00hrs-17:00hrs

November to March: Monday to Friday 13:00hrs-16:00hrs Weekends and

Christmas Carnival: 11:00hrs-16:30hrs

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No



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7.2. Free

7.2.1. Mardasson Memorial

Mardasson Memorial is a monument dedicated to the memory of American soldiers injured or killed during the Battle of the Bulge. It is a 12-meter-tall monument shaped like a five-pointed American star, where the inner walls are covered with 10 passages commemorating the battle designed by Georges Dedoyard. Also on display are insignias of the most participating battalions and represent the 76,890 soldiers killed or injured in the battle.

Address : Colline du Mardasson 5, 6600 Bastogne, Belgium

Zipcode : 6600

Location : 50.01042, 5.737910000000056

Nearest Public Transport : BASTOGNE Route du Mardasson Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Daily 09:30hrs–18:00hrs

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.2. St. Pierre Church

This Gothic style church dates back to the 15th century, fronted by a Romanesque square tower built during the 11th and 12th centuries. The interior was painted in 1536 with scenes from the Old and New testament. Also worth noting are the Baroque pulpit by Scholtus and a 16th-century beat-iron chandelier also known as the ‘Crown of Light’.

Address : Place Saint-Pierre 19, 6600 Bastogne, Belgium

Zipcode : 6600

Location : 50.005179899999999, 5.7216218999999455

Nearest Public Transport : BASTOGNE Porte de Trèves Bus Station

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.3. Bison Farm

Home to an enormous Bison herd, the animals are domesticated and friendly to humans. There is also a restaurant on the farm, where you can enjoy Bison steak. During the summer an Indian festival is held with people playing cowboys and

Indians.

Address : Recogne 81, 6600 Bastogne, Belgium

Zipcode : 6600

Location : 50.05033, 5.735850000000028

Contact : +3261212115

Website : <http://fermedesbisons.be/>

Nearest Public Transport : RECOGNE Eglise (Bastogne) Bus Station

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.4. Bastogne Barracks

The museum's goal is to provide its visitors with an understanding of how the defence of Bastogne was organized during the Battle of Bulge. Bastogne Barracks is operated by the Belgian Army and is located in the barracks used by the US 101st Airborne. On display are many restored tanks and military vehicles, artillery, small arms, radio and medical equipment. You can also take a guided tour of the underground barracks and view many German and American artefacts.

Address : Route de la Roche 40, 6600 Bastogne, Belgium

Zipcode : 6600

Location : 50.008384, 5.718460100000016

Contact : +3261242124

Website : <http://www.klm-mra.be/D7t/>

Nearest Public Transport : Bastogne-Nord Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Wednesday to Sunday: 09:00hrs-14:00hrs Monday and Tuesday closed

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.5. German War Cemetery

Situated to the north of Bastogne, the German War Cemetery is the place where 6,807 German soldiers are laid to rest, out of which many of them lost their lives in the Ardennes Offensive and others in the Luxembourg battle. Shortly before the end of the war, the cemetery possessed the corpses of both U.S. and German

soldiers, but the dead soldiers from the American War were relocated to Henri-Chapelle in early 1946.

Address : 5239 Sandweiler, Luxembourg

Zipcode : 5239

Location : 49.60957, 6.20470000000000025

Contact : +352355007

Nearest Public Transport : Sandweiler-Contern Train Station

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.6. Church of St. Jacques

Inspired by the Romanesque style of the ancient temple, the Church of Harzé is dedicated to Saint-Jacques. Inaugurated in 1878, the church is built of local stone and is said to dominate the "Background of the City". With an alluring architecture, that time travels into the past, visitors are spotted here all throughout the year.

Address : Place St Jacques 8, 4000 Liège, Belgium

Zipcode : 4000

Location : 50.63697149999999, 5.570208500000035

Contact : +3242221441

Website : <http://www.upsl.be/>

Nearest Public Transport : LIEGE Rue Darchis Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Monday to Friday: Closed Saturday: 16:30hrs-17:30hrs

Sunday: 11:00hrs-12:00hrs

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

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8. Adventure sports, Local sports, stadiums

Bastogne is famous for one of the most popular bicycle races in the world: Liège–Bastogne–Liège. This is a very old race that has been held since 1892 and it attracts some of the best cyclists in the world. The area in Bastogne is perfectly suited for competitive cycling and hiking.



9. Events calendar

Month

Events

Liège–Bastogne–Liège

This is one of the most famous cycling races in the world with Bastogne as its mid-point. It is also referred to as 'La Doyenne'. It started in 1892 and is considered to be the most arduous one-day cycling events.

Indian Festival

The festival takes place at the Bison Farm (La Ferme des Bisons) where people with interest in Native American culture and Western American culture come together and enact various roles.

La Roche-en-Ardenne Festival

Lots of events are organized on Le Château Féodal such as medieval weekend, falconry, ghost show with Berthe and a fireworks show.

La Roche-en-Ardenne Festival

Lots of events are organized on Le Château Féodal such as medieval weekend, falconry,

**ghost show with Berthe and a
fireworks show.**



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10. Key local guides and tours

Having a local guide by your side makes traveling hassle free. Reg Jans is an experienced guide who leads tours through Bastogne. He provides tours in Dutch and English.



Index**11. Transportation hubs**

The Airport closest to Bastogne is Liège which is a 100 kms away. The Taxi Fare is around €100. You can also reach Bastogne with a direct bus from Brussels Airport, the fare is €22. There are two bus stops in Bastogne, Bastogne Nord and Bastogne Sud from where you can find buses to other parts of Belgium.



12. Transportation cost

You can travel through Bastogne on foot as it is a small town. There are two bus stops in Bastogne, Bastogne Nord and Bastogne Sud. There is shuttle service that runs between the two stations. To visit attractions near Bastogne, you may book a Taxi.



13. Baggage allowance

There is no baggage restriction on the limited transport options.



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14. Must try food and local savouries

The cuisine in Bastogne is influenced by the mountains and the wilderness. The food is rich in local game of hare, venison and boar along with the fruits of the forest that compliment them. One of the specialities here is the wild Boar stew. The town has a lot of Italian restaurants and Belgian cafes, a little outside the town you can find places offering local specialties.



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15. Restaurant & Nightlife

This small and charming town has a wonderful selection of restaurants to please your taste buds. You will find a wide variety of cuisine as well as restaurants. Many famous restaurants are located at Rue de Sablon, however, Mac Square also has quite good number of restaurants. Bastogne is a sleepy little town where you may not find the happening nightlife of big cities. There are a few bars and taverns where you may stop for a drink.

Food -

This small and charming town has a wonderful selection of restaurants to please your taste buds. You will find a wide variety of cuisine as well as restaurants. Many famous restaurants are located at Rue de Sablon, however, Mac Square also has quite good number of restaurants. Bastogne is a sleepy little town where you may not find the happening nightlife of big cities. There are a few bars and taverns where you may stop for a drink.

- **Restaurant Wagon Leo:**

Address : Rue du Sablon 6/8, 6600 Bastogne, Belgium

Location : 50.0011206,5.7163144999

Contact No : +3261211441

Website : <http://wagon-leo.com/>

- **Chateau De Strainchamps:**

Address : Rue des Vennes, 6637 Fauvillers, Belgium

Location : 49.878703599,5.6826974000

Contact No : +3263600812

Website : <http://chateaudestrainchamps.com/>

- **Alla Dolce Vita:**

Address : Rue du Sablon 186, 6600 Bastogne, Belgium

Location : 50.0043029,5.7201526999

Contact No : +3261464515

Website : <http://alladolcevita.be/>

Open / Close Time : Tuesday to Sunday 12:00hrs-14:00hrs and 18:00hrs-21:30hrs

- **Jan Thai:**

Address : Rue Joseph-Renquin 45, 6600 Bastogne, Belgium

Location : 49.9994975,5.7158601999

Contact No : +3261314626

Website : <http://janthai.be/>

Open / Close Time : Monday and Saturday 18:00hrs-00:00hrs
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday 12:00hrs-00:00hrs Tuesday closed

- **Il Vinci:**

Address : Rue de Neufchâteau 11, 6600 Bastogne, Belgium

Location : 50.0000375,5.7146322999

Contact No : +3261314138

Website : <http://ilvinci.be/>

Open / Close Time : Tuesday to Saturday 17:30hrs-22:00hrs Sunday 11:30hrs-14:00hrs and 17:30hrs-22:00hrs Monday closed

Index**16. Average meal cost**

Meal, Inexpensive Restaurant 15.00 € Meal for 2 People, Mid-range Restaurant, Three-course 60.00 € McMeal at McDonalds (or Equivalent Combo Meal) 8.00 € Domestic Beer (0.5 liter draught) 3.50 € Cappuccino (regular) 2.61 € Coke/Pepsi (0.33 liter bottle) 2.07 € Water (0.33 liter bottle) 1.80 €



17. Shopping

There are no speciality shops or large supermarkets in Bastogne but there are plenty of shops around town where you buy common items.



18. Tourist benefits

Bastogne does not have tax free shops or any Airports, to do tax free shopping, you can head to one of the larger cities.



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19. Essential local apps

The use of apps makes travel hassle free. Some of the important apps to be used while travelling Belgium are Belgium travel guide, Map of Belgium, SityTrail Belgium and Belgium.



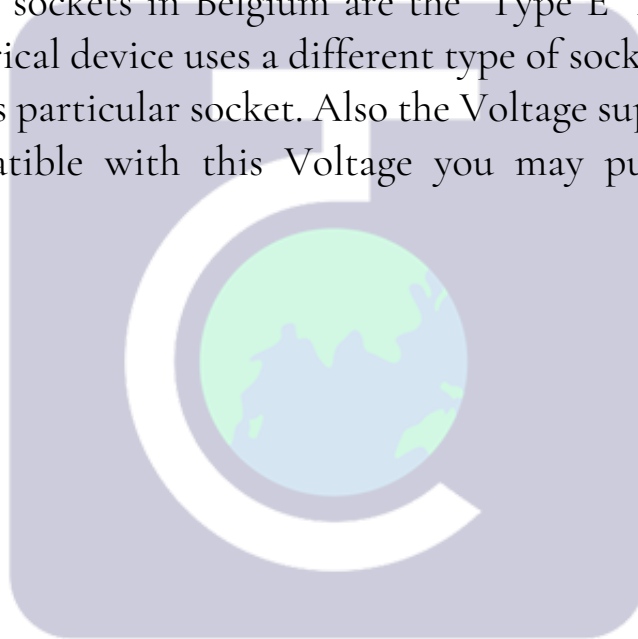
20. Driving

If you wish to drive in Belgium, the following items are required: • Valid UK driving license • Insurance documents • Vehicle documents If you are driving a vehicle that does not belong to you then written permission from the registered owner may also be requested. Do not drink and drive, frequent alcohol checks are made, in daytime as well as at night. A maximum of 0.22 mg/l is allowed. A blood sample will be taken if you refuse to be breathalysed. Fines are heavy depending on the degree of intoxication and range from € 1,100 to € 11,000. In certain cases driving licences have been confiscated immediately. In Belgium, EU members can drive with their license, however, non-EU drivers can use their driver's license along with International Driving Permit which may be requested in some cases.



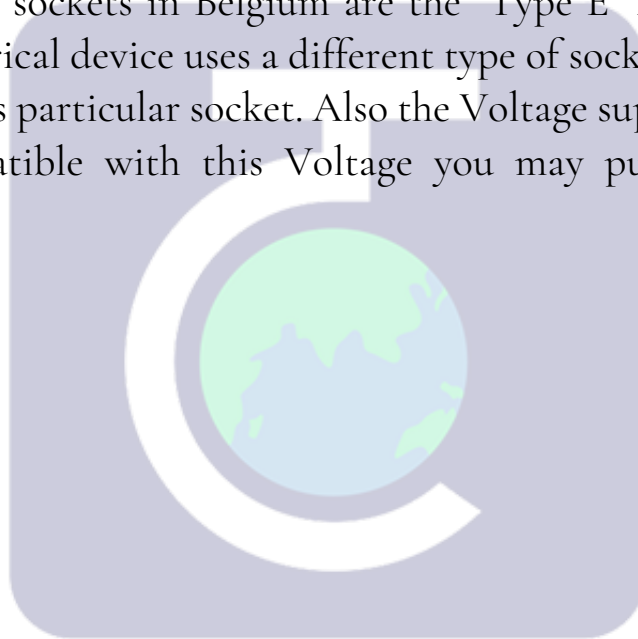
Index**21. Travel essentials**

It rains throughout the year in Bastogne and there isn't any dry month so always carry an umbrella/ raincoat. Also due to the cold climate, wear extra layers. The evenings are cold even in summer. There are several pharmacies in Bastogne but if you are on some special medication or are allergic to certain medicines, it is advisable to carry your own medicines with prescriptions as OTCs are not allowed. The electric sockets in Belgium are the "Type E" French style CEE 7/5 Schuko. If your electrical device uses a different type of socket then you can buy a travel adapter for this particular socket. Also the Voltage supplied is 230V, if your device is not compatible with this Voltage you may purchase a step down transformer.



22. Essential clothes

It rains throughout the year in Bastogne and there isn't any dry month so always carry an umbrella/ raincoat. Also due to the cold climate, wear extra layers. The evenings are cold even in summer. There are several pharmacies in Bastogne but if you are on some special medication or are allergic to certain medicines, it is advisable to carry your own medicines with prescriptions as OTCs are not allowed. The electric sockets in Belgium are the "Type E" French style CEE 7/5 Schuko. If your electrical device uses a different type of socket then you can buy a travel adapter for this particular socket. Also the Voltage supplied is 230V, if your device is not compatible with this Voltage you may purchase a step down transformer.



23. Local currency

The currency in Belgium is Euro (€). 1USD = €0.89.



Index**24. Change vendor's commission, ATM charges**

There are several ATMs located in the city. When withdrawing cash a small percentage of the money or a fixed amount from €1 to €5 may be deducted. Although bigger establishments accept credit/debit cards, you should keep cash handy.



25. Staying connected

Free Wi-Fi zones are rare in Bastogne. Most hotels provide WiFi for guests. You may also find some internet cafes in town. There are three mobile network operators in Belgium: • Proximus • Base, and • Mobistar For best coverage, you can opt for Proximus. You can buy a prepaid card for €10- €15, that amount is credited to you. You can also find internet packs that cost around €10 for every GB of data consumed. The SIM can be recharged online or you can buy vouchers at utility shops.



26. Time Zone

Bastogne follows CEST (Central European Summer Time). UTC +02 hrs.



Index**27. Languages**

Bastogne is located in the French speaking part of Belgium. Some people speak Dutch and also English but if you visit places not frequented by tourists, it is beneficial to speak French. The Dutch name for the city is Bastenaken.



28. Political Scenario

Bastogne is located in the Luxembourg province of the Wallonia region. Bastogne is an Arrondissement which includes the communes of Longvilly, Noville, Villers-la-Bonne and Wardin.



29. Economic Scenario

Throughout history, Bastogne has been known for its farming and forest products which are still important in the region. Some Belgians also work on the other side of the border in Luxembourg. They are known as frontaliers.



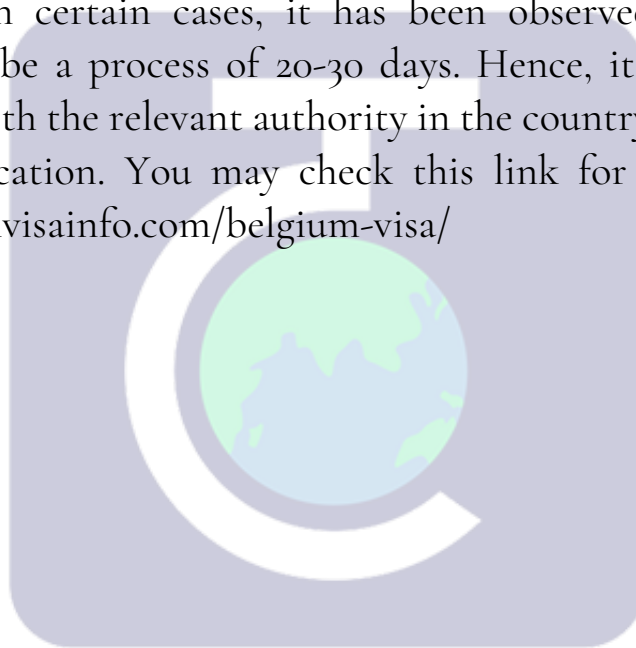
Index**30. Religious belief**

Christianity is the most popular religion in Bastogne with about 75% of the population being Christian. Around 20% of the population do not identify with any religion.



31. Visa requirements

Visa is not required in Belgium separately (for a period of up to 30 days if one holds a Schengen visa). EU nationals with residence permit do not require any visa for staying in Belgium. Nationals of Australia, Canada and the USA can enter Belgium without Visa. Nationals of other countries need a Visa to enter Belgium. It is advisable to keep 2 pages free in your passport for arrival and departure stamps. In certain cases, it has been observed that applying and receiving a visa can be a process of 20-30 days. Hence, it is essential that you check the timeline with the relevant authority in the country where you intend to make the visa application. You may check this link for further information: <http://www.schengenvisainfo.com/belgium-visa/>



32. Essential vaccination

In general, no special immunizations or medications are necessary for travel to Belgium. Vaccinations: Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR): Two doses recommended for all travelers born after 1956, if not previously given Tetanus-diphtheria : Revaccination recommended every 10 years Influenza: Recommended for all travelers from November through April



Index**33. Theft and Safety**

Belgium is a very safe country and Bastogne is considered especially safe. There is very little crime reported. You should exercise a little caution to protect yourself against petty theft even though it's not common.



Index**34. Embassy/Consulate**

Bastogne does not have Embassies or Consulates of other countries. Should you require assistance from your country, you should go to Brussels which is around 150 kms away from the city.



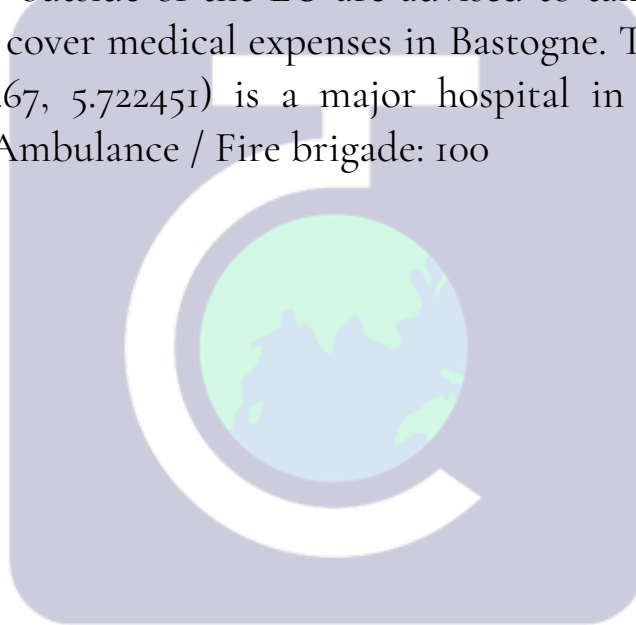
35. Accessibility

Bastogne is not very suited to people with disabilities as it does not have facilities that make it easily accessible. Some of the hotels have good accessibility but that may not be the case at the local attractions.



36. Emergencies

Having a valid European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) will provide you access to Bastogne's public healthcare system at highly reduced cost. Since the EHIC won't cover medical repatriation, ongoing medical treatment or non-urgent treatment, it is advised that you have adequate travel insurance and accessible funds to cover the cost of any medical treatment and repatriation. Visitors who come from a country outside of the EU are advised to take out a valid, private medical insurance to cover medical expenses in Bastogne. The Vivalia - Hospital Ste Therese (50.012467, 5.722451) is a major hospital in the city. Emergency numbers: Police: 101 Ambulance / Fire brigade: 100



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37. Do's and Don'ts

Do's • Do learn a little French. • Do explore the forests around Bastogne. • It is advisable to carry a certified doctor's prescription along with the medicines to ensure hassle free import clearance. • It is advisable that do not carry unsealed/unbranded food articles as the same may be banned for import. Don'ts • Do not visit dark/ unlit places, especially if you are alone. • Do not leave your bags on the bikes or inside the taxis.



38.Tipping basics

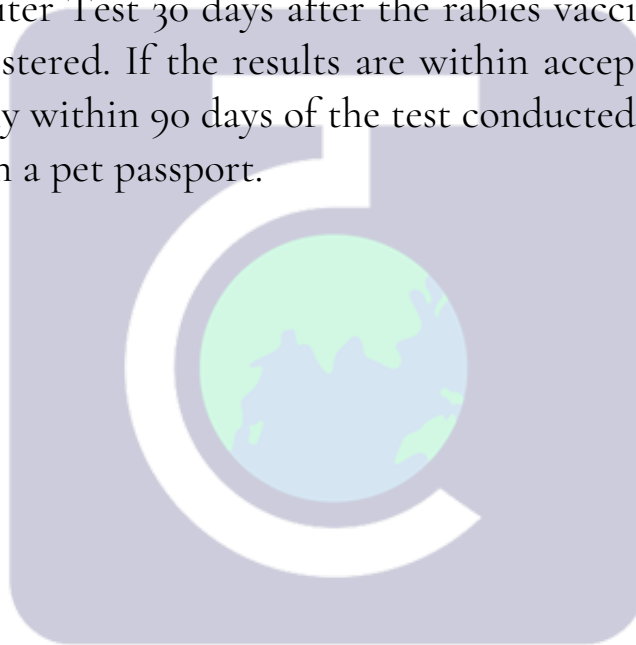
Like most European cities tipping is not required in Bastogne as a service charge is added to the bill, however if you are pleased with the service you may leave a small tip of 5 -10% of the amount.



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39. Pet info

Belgium is a pet-friendly country. There are, however, certain rules and regulations that you must adhere to before bringing pets into the country. i) Pet Microchip Your pet should be microchipped with an ISO 11784 pet microchip ii) Proper Vaccination After the microchip, your pet will need a rabies vaccination, especially if you're traveling with them from a rabies-free or rabies-controlled country. iii) Blood Titer Test 30 days after the rabies vaccination, a Blood Titer Test must be administered. If the results are within acceptable limits, your pet can travel to Germany within 90 days of the test conducted. Pet owners from EU are required to obtain a pet passport.



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Conclusion – Why to select this destination

Bastogne is a sleepy little town that would have been unnoticed if it wasn't for the events that unfolded during the World War II. Bastogne is now synonymous with the Battle of Bulge where American forces heroically battled against Hitler's last attempt to regain control of the region. Today you will find many Museums, Monuments and Memorials dedicated to the war that attract tourists to this small town. But that is not all that the city offers, you can explore the wilderness of Ardennes and view wildlife of the region. You'll also come across beautiful rivers, lakes and springs.



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