

Travel the Benelux

Château of Beloeil, a pleasure for the eyes

There are more than 3,000 castles in Belgium, many are open to the public. The Château de Beloeil located in Beloeil is a magnificent example. Since 1394 it has been the residence of the Princes de Ligne, one of Belgium's highest-ranking noble families.

Beloeil, literally beautiful eye in English, is a pleasure for the eyes. As you head in the front gate, the symmetrical imposing building surrounded by a moat is an impressive sight but it's not the best view of the castle. Behind the château is a long man-made pond. When you take a walk around the pond on calm days it offers an enchanting reflection of the castle.

Inside is a collection of art from the 15th to the 19th century. The impressive library holds more than 20,000 books. All the rooms are filled with period furniture and worth a look.

Every fall, the Château de Beloeil hosts Les Musicales de Beloeil. Set for Sept. 5 this year, it is the largest classical music festival in Belgium.

The castle is open 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. weekends and holidays in April, May, June and September and every day in July and August.

GPS address:

Rue du Château 11, 7970 Beloeil, Belgium
 From Mons: 24 km
 From Brussels: 73 km
 From Schinnen: 200 km



Upcoming organized trips

SHAPE Trips and Tours

Serving Brussels, Chièvres and SHAPE. Discounted tickets to theme parks, castles and more are also available. Call DSN 423-3884 or civilian 065-443884.

- **Thermes de Spa, Belgium, May 9**
- **Amsterdam, May 23**
- **Normandy Beaches, May 29 to 31**
- **London, June 6**
- **Stonehenge with Salisbury & Oxford, June 13 to 14**
- **Somme Battlefield and Peronne Museum, June 20**
- **Phantasia Land, Bruehl, Germany, June 27**
- **Pamplona Running of the Bulls, July 6 to 9**
- **Disney Paris, July 15**
- **Dolfinarium in Harderwijk, the Netherlands, July 23**
- **Prague with Heidelberg and Nuremberg, July 26 to 29 (Register by June 26.)**
- **Bluewater Mall, July 31**
- **Rhine River Cruise, Aug. 4**
- **Atlantic Wall Museum and Oostende, Belgium, Aug. 8**
- **London, Aug. 15 to 17**
- **Medieval Dinner in Bruges, Aug. 22**
- **Wurstmarkt in Bad Durkheim, Sept. 19**
- **Thailand, Dec. 20 to Jan. 2, 2016 (Register by June 20)**

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For more information, call civilian 0470-876369.

- **London and Chelsea Flower Show, May 21**
- **Amiens, France, and Les Hortillonages (Floating Gardens), June 2**
- **Provins, France: Medieval Festival, June 13**
- **Paris, June 18**
- **Hampton Court Palace and Gardens, June 30**

Schinnen Trips & Tours

Call DSN 360-7560 or civilian +31 (0) 46-4437560.

- **Day Trip to Delft, May 9**
- **Luxembourg and American Cemetery, May 30**
- **Disney Paris, June 6**
- **Berlin Express, June 13**
- **Canoeing & Biking, June 27**
- **D-Day landing beaches in Normandy, France, July 17 to 20 (Register by May 15)**
- **Dutch Day, July 31**
- **Bernkastel-Kues, Germany: Wine Festival, Sept. 5**
- **National Liberation Museum 44-45, Sept. 26**
- **Book your season NFL Games now for games October 3-5, October 24-26 and October 31-November 2.**