

Press file 2013



view the **Louvre** through a



new **Lens**



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www.pas-de-calais.com

<http://wartimehistory.pas-de-calais.com>

Access



From main airports, by car

To Calais

Paris Charles de Gaulle : 2h30

Paris Orly : 2h40

Zaventem-Brussels : 2h00

Brussels Charleroi : 2h20

London Heathrow : 3h00

Paris - Beauvais Tillé : 1h00

Lille Lesquin : 1h30

To Arras

Paris Charles de Gaulle : 1h40

Paris Orly : 2h00

Zaventem-Brussels : 1h40

Brussels Charleroi : 1h40

London Heathrow : 2h50

Paris - Beauvais Tillé : 1h30

Lille Lesquin : 40 min

- **By train**

TGV Nord : Paris – Calais : 1h30 / Paris – Arras : 50 min

Eurostar : Paris – Calais : 1h30 / Calais – London : 1h00

Eurotunnel : Calais – Folkestone (UK) : 35 min

- **By boat**

P&O Ferries : Dover – Calais : 90 min

My Ferry Link : Dover – Calais : 90 min

DFDS Seaways : Dover – Calais : 90 min

Pas-de-Calais Tourism / 2013

CONTENTS

A/ Cultural

- Opening of the **Louvre-Lens Museum** since 4 December 2012
- The **Mining Basin's UNESCO World Heritage** status
- Exhibition "**Roulez Carrosses**" at Arras Museum of Fine Arts from 17 March 2012 to 10 November 2013
- Around Louvre-Lens, "**Béthune entre dans la lumière!**"
- Around Louvre-Lens: **Métaphone** "carillon building" in Oignies at the end of 2012

B/ Wartime history and remembrance

- Wartimehistory.pas-de-calais.com : a new website
- Diaries 14-18 : free mobile app
- Online exhibition

C/ Pas-de-Calais Greeters

A/ Cultural

4 December 2012 : Opening of the Louvre-Lens Museum



© image Cyrille Thomas - SANAA - Imrey - Culbert Catherine Mosbach

It was on the day of Saint Barbara, the Patron Saint of Miners, that the Louvre-Lens opened its doors to this glass and aluminium building designed by SANAA, Japanese architects and winners of the Pritzker prize in 2010.

The Louvre-Lens offers a novel journey into the collections of the Louvre and provides the public with access behind-the-scenes.

The regularly updated displays in the Galerie du Temps breaks down the divisions between civilisations and techniques which are found in the Paris museum and favour a dialogue through time and space. It offers an opportunity to discover the full scale and diversity of the collections of the largest museum in the world, from Mesopotamia in 4BC to 19th century Europe.

Continuing on from the Galerie du Temps, the Pavillon de Verre, with expansive views over the park, offers longer exhibitions, creating links between the Louvre's collections and those from other museums in the Nord-Pas de Calais Region.

At a rhythm of about two a year, the international temporary exhibitions will set the pace of life at the museum.

The opening exhibition is devoted to the treasures of the Renaissance, from Italy to northern Europe. The **second exhibition, from 22d May to 22d September 2013** will be dedicated to **Rubens and Europe**.

Based on a rich resource centre, it also presents the different jobs involved and a **behind-the-scenes** look at the museum. Also, the reserves are visible and open to visitors.

The Scène, a 300-seater auditorium, completes the project and plays host to conferences, screenings and live shows.

Practical information:

Individual visits

FREE ACCESS TO THE PERMANENT COLLECTIONS

Temporary exhibitions: €9

Visit behind-the-scenes: free (limited to 17 people).

Accessibility

Accessible (park and museum) for motor, visual, audio and mental disabilities.

Loan of wheelchairs.

Contact:

Tel: 00333 21 18 62 13 Bruno Cappelle : bruno.cappelle@louvrelens.fr www.louvre-lens.fr

Pas-de-Calais Tourism / 2013

The Mining Basin's UNESCO World Heritage status since July 2012



Initiated in September 2002, the Mining Basin of Nord-Pas de Calais's application to UNESCO aimed to promote the specific features of its landscapes and the wealth of its industrial and human heritage. For almost three centuries, the coal industry shaped this territory, its landscapes and its cities and forged its identity, transforming the way of life for many years to come.

For that reason, the Mining Basin is of exceptional universal value and has applied to join the prestigious World Heritage list.

The Mining Basin's application was studied by the service of the Ministry for Culture, who submitted the project to the World Heritage Committee in January 2010.

Appearing on the World Heritage list in summer 2012, alongside Mont Saint-Michel, the Great Wall of China, and the Egyptian Pyramids, is a just reward for the men and women who shaped these landscapes.

Contact :

Association Bassin Minier Unesco

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www.bmu.fr

Palace of Versailles at Arras Museum of Fine Arts

Exhibition “Roulez Carrosses!” from 17 March 2012 to 10 November 2013



© RMN (Château de Versailles), Gérard Blot



© RMN (Château de Versailles), Daniel Arnaudet - Hervé Lewandowski

Enjoy an exceptional experience by discovering the first “Château de Versailles hors les Murs” (Palace of Versailles outside its walls) at Arras Museum of Fine Arts: this is the first exhibition in France devoted to coaches.

Laid out in the ancient Saint-Vaast Abbey, an exceptional 18th century monastic complex, the museums are preparing to play host to the first exhibition in France devoted to coaches, sleds and sedan chairs, with paintings and sculptures, exhibited with an original museography which combines period furnishings and new technologies, for an exceptional period of eighteen months.

It will be the opportunity to understand how people used to travel: traction, steering, suspensions have been continuously updated.

This project, an initiative determined by cultural decentralisation, is an integral part of the mission to open the French historic heritage to the widest possible audience.

During your visit, discover some of the most prestigious royal and imperial coaches, such as Napoleon I’s wedding coach, the coach used for the coronation of Charles X, and Louis XVIII’s funeral coach. Paintings illustrating the use of transport methods at the court in France, sleds, sculptures and sedan chairs will complete this unique collection, which will be leaving the Palace of Versailles for the very first time.

Over a period of 10 years, with five 18-month exhibitions, a large number of works from the collections of Palace of Versailles National Museum and the Trianon will be presented at Saint-Vaast Abbey Arras Museum of Fine Arts.

Contact :

Arras tourist office

00333 21 51 26 95

Musée des Beaux-Arts d’Arras

www.musenor.com - www.versaillesarras.com

Around Louvre-Lens: Bethune entre dans la lumière! (Bethune all aglow!)

THE GRAND'PLACE IN BETHUNE

Bethune Belfry, situated in the middle of the Grand'Place, was given special lighting by the artist **Krijn de Koning** for Lille 2004. For the operation "Bethune, regional capital of culture" in 2011, the artist intervened again, this time on the Grand'Place itself.



© Jean-Marc HECQUET

At the foot of the Belfry, he set up a fountain with several basins, the colour and height of which varied throughout the day. The effect is at its best when it is completely dark and the lights from the basins and the belfry complement each other. The installation is a permanent feature.

DIGITAL BELFRY

In the frame of "Bethune, regional capital of culture", a new tool has been created for visitors to the town and was set up at the foot of the Belfry: a digital belfry. A tactile screen offers visitors the chance to enjoy a rapid overview of the town, with the Belfry lying at the centre of the panoramic view. Visitors are invited to click on the town's heritage sites in order to access historical accounts and presentations.

THE BRUAY-LA-BUISSIERE ART DECO SWIMMING POOL

The Stade Parc was built in 1936 in order to offer miners a place where they could relax, enjoy leisure activities and meet. The site comprises a wooded park, home to ten rare species of trees, a completely renovated athletics stadium, and an Art Deco open-air swimming pool, still operational today in the summer months (the only one of its kind in France!).



© Yann KERSALÉ

For the operation "Bethune, regional capital of culture" in 2011, the artist **Yann Kersalé** created a geo-political itinerary around the site. Special lighting was set up around the park stadium, at the athletics stadium, and a concept based on "Light and Matter" was created especially for the Art Deco swimming pool. The installation is a permanent feature.

Contact :

Béthune Bruay tourist office

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Around Louvre-Lens:

The Métaphone, Carillon building in Oignies



© André MORIN

In this land famous for its tradition of brass bands, and within the context of the reconversion of mining sites, the Metaphone will open its doors at the end of 2012.

The spearhead of the reconversion of the 9/9bis site in Oignies, the Metaphone is an experience which is unique in the world. It is both a theatre and a contemporary musical instrument, with facades that will produce and broadcast sounds outside the building. Various musical instruments (xylophone, percussions, organs, etc.) will be attached to the facade, enabling the public to play with sound, as if the building was a carillon. The construction work should be completed by the end of 2012 and will cost €7 million.

The Communauté d'Agglomération Hénin-Carvin is the project manager. The site's design is being handled by the architects from Grenoble, Hérault et Arnod, and the works started in 2011.

The main originality of this project is the chance it offers to discover sounds and music by means of a fun and educational sound gallery, itineraries and sound experiments. The different-sized rooms will host concerts for audiences of various sizes.

By 2014: a music factory designed for classes, rehearsals and creation, and a music cafe will take over the shower room and the machinery building.

Contact :

Lens Liévin tourist office

www.tourisme-lenslievin.fr

00333 21 67 66 66

www.missionbassinminier.org

B/ Wartime history and remembrance :

A new website :

www.memoire.pas-de-calais.com / www.wartime-history.pas-de-calais.com

Due to its strategic geographical situation, Pas-de-Calais has always been a major stake in the conflicts which have shaped the European and World History.

Traces of these battles remain numerous.



Agincourt witnessed one of the most important battles in 1415: the Hundred Years War.

In 1520, King Francis the first of France and **King Henry VIII** of England decided to meet between Andres and Guînes at a place best known as '**The Field of the Cloth of Gold**'.

During the twentieth century, Pas-de-Calais was a place of bitter confrontation throughout the two World Wars.

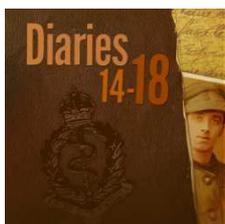
Many people still come to this place of history to follow the path of their ancestors, to discover the architectural heritage of these bloody wars such as that to be found in the Commonwealth War grave Cemeteries or the terrifying German bunkers. Visitors pay tribute to the courageous soldiers at the **Canadian Memorial in Vimy**, at the national necropolis of Notre Dame de Lorette or at the German cemetery in Neuville-Saint-Vaast which was the main German construction on the French territory during **World War I**.

The Wellington Quarry in Arras was a strategic place where thousands of soldiers were stationed in a network of underground passages, waiting to emerge and push back the German frontline on the 9th of April 1917.



La Coupole, an impressive underground German Bunker dedicated to **World War II** and the Space Conquest, is today the home of The History and Remembrance centre.

NEW! Diaries 14-18 free Mobile app



In the attic Guillaume Naylor discovers an old leather diary. Along the yellowed pages, he discovers the touching testimonial of his great-grandfather Andrew. The young British stretch-bearer experiences the great offensives from 1914 to 1918 and narrates us his story of the Great War.

Follow Andrew's adventures with Smartphone from the Flanders Fields region to the Chemin des Dames, via the battlefields of the Artois and the Somme.

The application 'Diaries 14-18' consists of 5 stories that links five war sites. Free download from the Appstore and Google Play.

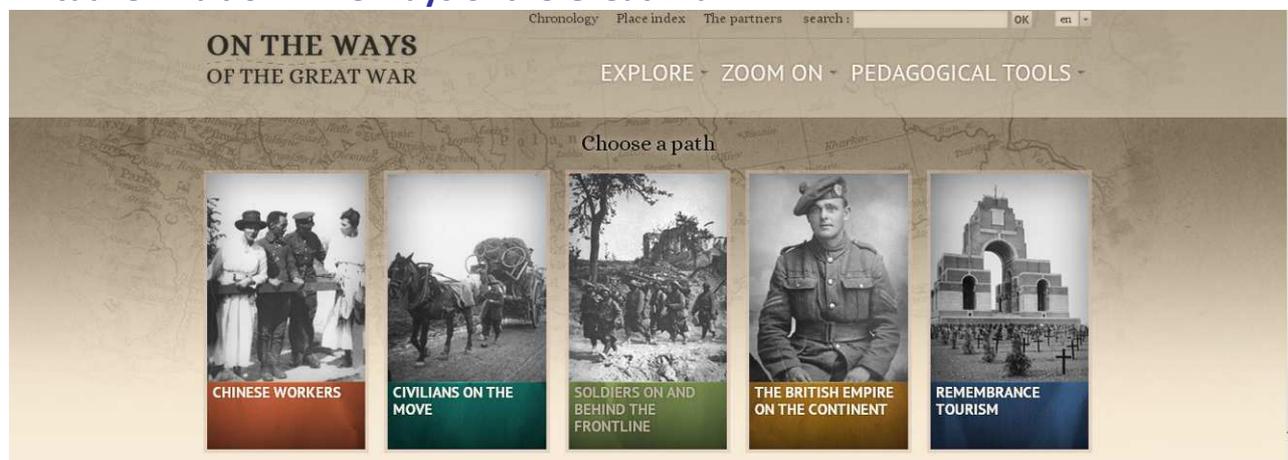
- The Battles of Artois at Mont-Saint-Eloi (Pas-de-Calais)
- Mateship and Cobbers in Fromelles (Nord)
- From all around the world...to Beaumont Hamel (Somme)
- Between Sky and Earth on the Chemin des Dames (Aisne)
- Lijssenthoek: daily reflections of the Great War (Flanders Fields)



QR Code for Iphone and Android :

url to Iphone and Android apps : <http://bit.ly/diaries1418?r=qr>

Virtual exhibition - The ways of the Great War



The First World War is widely remembered as a war of position and trench warfare. At the same time this conflict also involved a lot of movement. Soldiers travelled to and from the frontlines, and as a result civilians were also displaced. Soldiers from all over the British Empire arrived in Europe to fight, while Chinese workers left Asia for Europe. Finally, after the war, there was even more movement as families or veterans travelled to the former battlefields, cemeteries and memorials to mourn their lost ones.

This virtual exhibition follows the cycle of exhibitions "Four ways to the Great War". The In Flanders Fields Museum, the Muséedépartemental de Flandre, the Historial de la Grande Guerre, the Caverne du Dragon-Musée du Chemin des Dames and the Departments of Pas-de-Calais and Nord joined forces for this exhibition.

www.thewayofthegreatwar.co.uk

C/ Pas-de-Calais Greeters network

«Greeters made in Pas-de-Calais» is an initiative of the Pas-de-Calais Tourist Board which offers tourists the opportunity to meet with a local inhabitant who shows him around and speaks to him about “his” neighbourhood, “his” town, of which he is enthusiastic and proud.

For the visitor, the meeting with this “friend” is an enriching experience.

Whether with family, friends or individuals, the Greeter made in Pas-de-Calais welcomes you and guides you during 2 to 4 hours to talk about the area where he lives and in particular about themes close to his heart : nature, local history, particular professions, traditions, expertise....

He does not in any way replace professional tourist guides and, for that reason, does not receive any income or tips.

An application for a meeting with a Greeter must be made at least 3 days before the desired date

For practical reasons, and in order to preserve the special and authentic character of this encounter, the Greeter is unable to receive more than 6 people at a time.

Meeting applications are subject to our Greeters' availability. The meeting between the visitor and the Greeter is only possible in a public area.

The Pas-de-Calais Greeters is the first regional Greeters network in the world, and has more than 40 volunteers all over the department.

www.greeters62.com

