

Charleroi



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Charleroi

Charleroi has not always been perceived positively but more recently, it has **enjoyed a bit of a renaissance**. Boasting a rich industrial past, it is now a trendy urban destination.

On the one hand, there is the **heritage of heavy industry**, the cradle of the **Black Country** with its chimneys and factories juxtaposed with workers' houses and **slag heaps** in a joyous anarchy.

On the other hand, there are **comic strips** and the culture that comes with it, bright and bold **street art** featuring international graffiti artists and **alternative underground culture**. Add to this creative mix an amazing **Photography Museum** and the **Bois du Cazier** (UNESCO World Heritage Site) and you have a potent mix of fascinating things to see and do. Major urban renovation works as well as a rich cultural life has given the city a new lease of life and colour, attracting visitors from all over the world.



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Practical information

Tourist Office 'Pays de Charleroi'
Place Charles II 20 • 6000 Charleroi
+32(0)71 86 14 14 • cm-tourisme.be

Public transport

Charleroi-sud station

Where to Stay

Les Auberges de Jeunesse (Youth Hostel)

This youth hostel at the heart of a regenerated area of town is named after Arthur Rimbaud, an illustrious French poet who stayed there 148 years ago. It is well established and situated in the heart of the lower town on the banks of the Sambre River, and handily just 5 minutes' walk from the station.

Rue du Bastion d'Egmont 3 • 6000 Charleroi
lesaubergesdejeunesse.be/charleroi

76 Tour

This large and bright 3 'Epis' guest room with its small suite and a pretty view on the garden can accommodate three people comfortably. The house has retained its Art Deco charm and owes its name to its location opposite the local Police tower.

Boulevard Pierre Mayence 76 • 6000 Charleroi
76tour.be

Novotel Charleroi

The refined 4* establishment enjoys an ideal location in the heart of the renovated district of the town. The train station is located on the opposite bank of the Sambre river, only a 5-minute walk from the hotel. It also has a fitness centre to counteract the effects of great regional cuisine.

Place Verte 17 • 6000 Charleroi
all.accor.com

Les Gîtes du Pays de Charleroi (Gites)

This group of 3 'Epis' apartments is housed in an early 20th century house located in the centre, five minutes from the train station and metro and close to historic sites and shops.

Rue de Montigny 93 • 6000 Charleroi
gitesdupaysdecharleroi.com

Ibis Charleroi Centre Hotel

Make the most of your stay in Charleroi in this friendly and affordable 2* superior hotel. The train station is just 200 m across the Sambre River. A fulfilling choice of museums and shopping centres are also within walking distance.

Quai Paul Verlaine 12 • 6000 Charleroi
all.accor.com

Van der Valk Charleroi Airport

Located in Gosselies, 8 km from Charleroi airport, you can use the paid shuttle to get to this modern hotel offering different types of accommodation such as family rooms, suites and duplexes.

Chaussée de Courcelles 115 • 6041 Gosselies (Charleroi)
hotelcharleroiairport.be



What to See and Do

1 Le Musée de la Photographie (Photography Museum)

The Charleroi Photography Museum is the largest in Europe. Housed in a former Carmelite monastery, it has an immense collection of 80,000 photographs and regularly organizes temporary exhibitions. This allows unlimited pleasure and the chance to come back and enjoy something new with each visit.

Avenue Paul Pastur 11 • 6032 Mont-sur-Marchienne (Charleroi)
musephoto.be

2 Carolo Street Art Tour # 1

Departing from Charleroi-Sud station, this new route takes the curious and urban art enthusiasts, from the lower town to the upper town, from work to work to see: murals, sculpture and urban furniture, customized electric cabins, free wall expression and more...

6000 Charleroi
cm-tourisme.be

3 BPS22 (Art Museum)

This impressive glass and iron edifice built for the industrial exhibition of 1911 is now home to the Art Museum of the Province of Hainaut regularly presenting exhibitions which favours, among other things, art forms centered around topics important to society as a whole.

Boulevard Solvay 22 • 6000 Charleroi
bps22.be

4 'Art Nouveau' and 'Art Deco - Modernism' route

These urban routes (all less than 5 km) offer the opportunity to discover the most beautiful Art Nouveau, Art Deco or Modernist facades of Charleroi. Call in at the Tourist Office for a free guide for these architectural discoveries.

Place Charles II 20 • 6000 Charleroi
cm-tourisme.be



5 Walk – ‘Between Iron, Coal and Water’

Strange but true, Slag Heaps have much to offer. This 5 km walk to explore a row of four slag heaps are vestiges of the industrial past, which shape the local ‘Carolingian’ landscape. From up there, you can enjoy a unique panorama of the town and its steel plants. The marked route is accessible to families, even if the climb to the Saint-Théodore slag heap is a little more demanding on the calves muscles.

Place Charles II 20 • 6000 Charleroi
cm-tourisme.be

7 Le Bois du Cazier (Mining Site)

This mining site, recognized by UNESCO, was founded in 1822 and it quickly grew, thanks to the quality of its coal. On August 8, 1956, a fire broke out in the bottom of the mine, causing the tragic death of 262 miners of various nationalities. The site closed a good eleven years later. Le Bois du Cazier is a unique site illustrating the harsh reality of coal mining. In addition to exploring the coal infrastructure, you can visit the Museum of Industry, a space dedicated to the disaster of 8 August 1956, the Glass Museum, as well as three slag heaps, suitable for quirky walks.

Rue du Cazier 80 • 6001 Marcinelle (Charleroi)
leboisducazier.be

6 Adventure City Safari

This urban safari, created by a lover of his city, seeks to counter the bad reputation of Charleroi. You will discover landscapes and characters that made the heyday of this very rich post-industrial region.

6000 Charleroi
charleroiadventure.com

Find out more at:
visitwallonia.be/en/charleroi

