

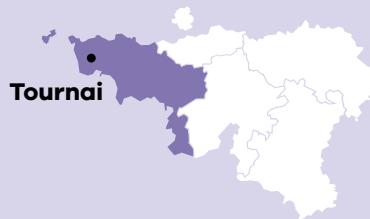
Tournai



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Tournai

Tournai is one of the oldest towns in Belgium. 1000-years of history steeped in its beautifully preserved architecture.

The **oldest Belfry in Belgium** as well as the **Notre-Dame Cathedral**, legacies from its turbulent medieval period, are both on the UNESCO list and particularly impressive.

The quirkily shaped turtle design of the **Museum of Fine Arts** designed by art nouveau architect Victor Horta, is a stunning experience. You will discover the paintings of great names of art, from the Middle Ages to the present day.

Heir to a rich folklore, Tournai is also a festive city with plenty to celebrate. Its **carnival**, its **giants** and its **traditional festivals** are an exhilarating and colorful way to experience the city. This rich heritage is further punctuated at the **Museum of Folklore and Imagination**.

During your visit, a stroll on the banks of the **Scheldt** and a drink on the lively and friendly **Grand'Place** (Town Square) allow you to soak up its heady atmosphere in typical Tournai style.



© WBT - J.P. Remy - Tournai - The Belfry - UNESCO world heritage



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Practical information

Visit Tournai
Place Paul-Emile Janson 1 • 7500 Tournai
+32(0)69 22 20 45 • visittournai.be

Public transport

Tournai station

Where to Stay

Floréal Le Panoramique (Holiday Residence)

At the top of Mont-Saint-Aubert, ten minutes' drive from Tournai and overlooking a superb panorama, this holiday residence sits in an alluring and lustrous green setting. In its brand new brasserie, there is a copious menu offering tasty Belgian-French cuisine in relaxed surroundings. It's the ideal place to spend a family holiday or a weekend exploring the great outdoors with young children.

Place du Mont-Saint-Aubert 2 • 7542 Mont-Saint-Aubert
florealgroup.be

Les Auberges de Jeunesse (Youth hostel)

This atmospheric youth hotel was once an old music academy. Sitting right in the city centre, it has been completely renovated, retaining charming traces of its past like its beautiful 200-year-old tapestries. There's also a welcoming bar and restaurant on site.

Rue Saint-Martin 64 • 7500 Tournai
lesaubergesdejeunesse.be/tournai

Le Fort Rouge Apartments

Situated at the foot of the Grand Place (Town Square) this new construction offers four original and comfortably furnished apartments. They all have a terrace or a balcony.

Rue de l'Yser 25 • 7500 Tournai
lefortrouge.be

Alcantara Hotel

This 3* hotel is located in the heart of old Tournai right in the centre, a stone's throw from the Grand Place (Town Square) in a 17th century house with contemporary rooms in a chic colorful design.

Rue des Bouchers Saint-Jacques 2 • 7500 Tournai
hotelalcantara.be

Le Jardin du Marais (The Marais Garden)

In a magical setting just 5 minutes from Tournai, three charming bedrooms to welcome guests are on offer. They also have a beautiful garden and a shared lounge as well as a private bathroom.

Drève du Marais 8 • 7503 Froyennes (Tournai)
gitesdewallonie.be/fr/jardin-du-marais

Au Natur'Ailes des Collines (Accommodation)

This furnished 3-'Key' accommodation, 10 km from Tournai, is an eco-lodge built in natural materials and accessible to people with reduced mobility. It is a great starting point for many hiking and cycling tours. It offers an exceptional view of the 'Thimougies' mill and the surrounding marshes. It's a veritable 'Little House on the Prairie' Belgian style.

Rue Saucelle 1B • 7533 Thimougies (Tournai)
aunaturaillesdescollines.be/home



What to See and Do



1 Musée des Beaux-Arts (Museum of Fine Arts)

The Museum of Fine Arts building was the brainchild of the genius of Art Nouveau architect Victor Horta. It was designed to house the very rich collections bequeathed by its Belgian patron Henri Van Cutsem. The building itself is well worth a visit. The light-filled radiant rooms arranged around a central polygonal hall are joyous. The collections, for their part, offer visitors a comprehensive approach to the history of pictorial production from the 15th century to the present day. They include in particular treasures signed Roger van der Weyden, Manet, Monet, Seurat, Ensor and Van Gogh.

Rue de l'Enclos Saint-Martin 3 • 7500 Tournai
mba.tournai.be

2 Cathédrale Notre-Dame (Notre-Dame Cathedral)

The cathedral with five bell towers is a true jewel of medieval architecture recognized by UNESCO. Its dimensions are impressive: 134 m long and 67 m wide at the level of the transept. The tallest towers are 83 m. The nave and the transept were built in the 12th century in a Romanesque style, while the choir area, completed in 1254, is in Gothic style. It has been the subject of an in-depth restoration for several years but remains open. The Treasure Room (there is an entrance fee) reveals magnificent pieces of goldsmith's work.

Place de l'Evêché 1 • 7500 Tournai
cathedrale-tournai.be

3 Le Belfroy (Belfry of Tournai)

This Belfry, recognized by UNESCO, is 'the' oldest in Belgium. Tournai became an independent power early on which was a rare occurrence in the region. This explains the early construction of this symbol of urban freedom, at around the end of the 12th century. It has had many guises and lives serving as a watchtower, prison, bell tower, town hall. At the top of its 257 steps, you'll discover a breathtaking panorama of the town and its surroundings. Information panels explain its interesting history.

Vieux Marché aux Poteries • 7500 Tournai
visittournai.be

4 Musée de Folklore et des Imaginaires

All aspects of Tournai's life from 1800 to the present day are illustrated in this museum: ancient crafts, hobbies, religion, folklore, fashion... It presents a large collection of objects and reconstructions of the way people lived and worked. Plunge into Tournai's past and meander between a pharmacy, a school, a travelling chip shop and a cabaret. Don't miss the large relief map of the city dating from 1701.

Réduit des Sions 36 • 7500 Tournai
mufim.tournai.be



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5 Natural History Museum and Vivarium

Founded in 1828, the Museum of Natural Sciences offers a modern and educational journey while retaining the atmosphere of an oldy worldly cabinet of curiosities from the 19th century. There are many naturalized animals here that are as rare as they are extraordinary, but there are also animals living in reconstituted habitats within the vivarium. The most impressive is undoubtedly the butterfly house, flying in direct contact with visitors, making great selfies and colorful mementos. The museum also raises awareness of the crucial importance of nature conservation.

Cour d'Honneur de l'Hôtel de ville
Rue Saint-Martin 52 • 7500 Tournai
mhn.tournai.be

7 Bike ride around Tournai

Tournai is often described as a town in the countryside. This walk proves it. Follow the signposting and travel around the city. To discover a surprising variety of landscapes: the historic heart of the city, RAVeL trails and the Scheldt valley, old industrial heritage, castles, and charming old farms. You'll find free maps of the different routes at the Tourist Office as well as classic or electric bicycles for rent at a local shop called 'Epices et Vous', just beside the tourist office.

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visittournai.be

6 Historic Walking Route around the heart of Tournai

This route invites you to discover the city in the best way possible: on foot. Before you walk your 2 km circuit, start at the Tourist Office by watching a 20 minute film retracing 2000 years of history. The rest of the walk is signposted and decorated with information panels. The route passes through the Belfry, the Grand-Place (Town Square), the Tour Saint-Georges, the Red Fort, the Cathedral, the Scheldt and the Place Saint-Pierre (Square).

Visit Tournai • Place Paul-Emile Janson 1 • 7500 Tournai
visittournai.be

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