

# Golfing holidays in **Wallonia**

2023 - 2024



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# Tune In, Tee Off, Take a Break in Wallonia



Royal GC Des Fagnes © Peps Photography

British golfers planning short breaks or longer holidays abroad usually go through a checklist before choosing their destination. Is it easy to reach, meaning less travel-time and more golf-time? Are the courses any good? Are the green fees affordable? What about places to see and things to do for my non-playing partner? Are the hotels and clubhouses COVID-secure?

Wallonia, the French-speaking part of southern Belgium, ticks all these boxes. Travel there by car and the nearest courses are within two hours of the Eurotunnel exit. Unlike France, there are no motorway tolls, and there's a wealth of cultural, historic and gastronomic attractions, even if the local specialities of *frites*, *chocolat* and *bière* will challenge the waistline. Local members are delighted to host players from the island that invented the game, and the green fees are lower than equivalent courses in the UK.

In fact, the connection between British and Walloon golf runs deep. In the 1920s, a flamboyant Englishman came to the region with a brief to design

some new courses. **Tom Simpson** was a qualified barrister who took up golf course design as a hobby and eventually devoted his working life to it. Between the wars he created a number of courses in Wallonia that ranked alongside anything in Continental Europe.

If he were around today, Simpson would be dismissive of the big hitters who are forcing modern golf architects to lengthen their courses. He was more interested in posing the 'touch' player a series of subtle tests: "The vital thing," he said, "is that a hole should be more difficult than it looks, or look more difficult than it is. It must never be what it looks." Simpson's courses reflect that philosophy. Five of them have 'Royal' in their title – an honour bestowed on Belgian golf clubs when they reach their fiftieth anniversary.

But while keen golfers want to play as many rounds as possible, their enthusiasm is not always shared by their partners. Happily, Wallonia has attractions to suit all tastes.

**Liège** has one of the largest pedestrian shopping zones in Europe. Known as 'Le Carré', it's the place to go for luxury brands and fine foods, and off the main drag you'll find unique and/or bizarre boutiques where young creatives show off their wares.

If pampering and relaxation is more your thing, the bubbling waters of **Spa** have been revitalising visitors since the Roman era. Spa also boasts top-notch hotels, Europe's oldest casino and one of motorsport's iconic racetracks.

For those with a keen sense of history, the towns of **Liège**, **Mons** and **Waterloo** offer excellent sport alongside evocative relics from several conflicts. Interested? [visitwallonia.be/en/golf](http://visitwallonia.be/en/golf)

Tour operator specialist '**A Golfing Experience**' has explored them all and here is a selection of the best courses and hotels in the region with some tips for how to enjoy Wallonia from the nineteenth hole and beyond...

## Contents

<b>Golf in Mons and Waterloo</b>	4 - 5	<b>Golf in Liège and Spa</b>	12 - 13
Martin's Dream Hotel (Mons)	6	Congres Hotel Van der Valk (Liège)	14
Congres Hotel Van der Valk (Mons)	7	Selys Hotel Van der Valk (Liège)	15
Utopia Hotel (Mons)	8	Radisson Blu Palace (Spa)	16
Martin's Grand Hotel de Waterloo	9	Manoir de Lebioles (Spa)	17
Nivelles-Sud Van der Valk Hotel	10		
Martin's Chateau du Lac (Genval)	11		

<b>All in golf package</b> Naxhelet Resort	18 - 19
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# Golf in Mons and Waterloo

Get ready for Battle



**Tip:** In Mons, try the local beer “La Montoise” and enjoy the local dish “Côtelette al’berdouille” (Pork chop)... with chips of course.



## THE REGION OF MONS

Is the closest accommodation hub from the Eurotunnel exit, just under 2 hours’ drive (via Lille). It’s ideal for 2-night breaks. Filled with reminders of WW1 history where Britain began and ended their campaign on the Western Front, the town has everything you need for the ‘after’ golf activities.

You have the superb course Royal GC du Hainaut. Designed by renowned golf architect Tom Simpson and inaugurated in 1933, it will challenge your skills with its three courses (27 holes in total) in the middle of lush, soothing nature.

There is also the Mont Garni which covers 6,331m (par 73) and is one of the longest in Belgium, divided by three loops of 6 holes designed by Irish architect Tom McAuley around the fabulous Club House. You are also very close to the golf courses of Hulencourt, Pierpont and Chateau de la Tournette, offering even more golfing options.

## THE REGION OF WATERLOO

Just over 2 hours from Calais moving further east from Mons you will find no less than a dozen courses all handily within the same 15-mile radius close to the historic site where Wellington and Blucher finally defeated Napoleon over 200 years ago. Known in Belgium as the rich playground of the Belgian people, the golf courses have a great strength in depth, with Royal Waterloo and Royal Bercuit (both previous venues of the Belgian Open) and great juxtaposition in styles of courses, parkland, stadium and heathland, big ones, small ones, quirky ones, difficult ones – each a character of its own.

Our most popular golf venues are Chateau de la Tourette and Golf Club de Sept Fontaines which are both 36 hole venues. Hulencourt and Royal Waterloo are the pick of the bunch.



## GOLF CHATEAU DE LA BAWETTE

GC was originally designed by Tom McAuley in the eighties in a beautiful 65-hectare countryside setting and then upgraded by Alain Prat between 2009 and 2012. Château de la Bawette GC stretches over undulating terrain with centuries-old trees, valleys, ponds and streams. A few back tees have been added to challenge more experienced golfers.

## GOLF LOUVAIN-LA-NEUVE

A simple members club with a friendly feel to it. The course has a modest lay out through gentle parkland and some water – especially on the 18th hole. It’s an ideal course to play on your first day and good for high to mid handicappers. When it comes to relaxation and a bite to eat, the golfer has a choice between the comfortable ‘Le Clocheton’ and the pleasant Italian restaurant situated in a charming wooden chalet next to the practice area.

## ROYAL BERCUIT

Robert Trents Jones’s first course in Europe and the only one in Belgium. A tremendous course with wonderful undulating scenery made of pine wood, heather and rhododendrons that has hosted the Belgian Open. Real class – a touch of Wentworth in mainland Europe. Well worth the green fee and a lot less than Wentworth.

## ROYAL WATERLOO (LA MARACHE & THE LION)

The ‘Marache’ course has hosted the Belgian Open many times. Majestic, noble in essence, this course designed by Fred Hawtree in 1960 is one of the most appreciated by connoisseurs. The greens were renovated by his son Martin Hawtree in 2005 to USGA standards. The ‘Lion’ course built in 1980 on the edge of the famous battlefield has several holes with a view of the famous Lion Mount monument.

## GOLF CHATEAU DES SEPT FONTAINES (LE CHATEAU & LA FORET)

This is an excellent 36-hole design laid out in a beautiful park of dark green pines and deciduous forest. It’s a must play due to its ideal location and great reputation as well as one of the busiest in the region. Top course.

## GOLF DE RIGENEE

A very popular members club, which is always a good sign. Don’t be fooled by the tame appearance of the first and eighteenth holes in front of the pretty clubhouse with its large terrace. The course requires great consistency of play and a solid swing when the wind is blowing.

## GOLF LA BRUYERE

A rural setting with an old farm Clubhouse and a family feel to it. The set-up is a modest one and ideal for the higher handicap player – a rustic and pretty location for a golf course.

## GOLF L’EMPEREUR

One of our favourites. A magnificent Chateau Clubhouse and a classy course. An excellent choice of venue for all categories of golfer. Stadium style except for the first and last two holes which in our view are the toughest with water hazards in play. It also has an impressive practice area, several pitching/chipping greens and bunkers.

## GOLF D’ HULENCOURT

Built on a historical 17<sup>th</sup> century estate, it is one of the top courses in the area. Laid out over gently undulating hills, there are several major water hazards and an impressive Clubhouse. The atmosphere is exclusive but very hospitable. When you play at this club you really are treated like a member for the day.

## GOLF CHATEAU DE LA TOURNETTE (THE ENGLISH AND THE AMERICAN)

The late Peter Alliss and Clive Clark designed these two courses and as a pair, they created the most impressive and exciting 36 holes. The English is similar to Chart Hills in Kent, whilst the American is shades of Woburn in Bucks. Stadium style and heathland style through mature pine trees. Members only at weekends but it’s ideal to add to an extended midweek break.

## GOLF DE PIERPONT

Pierpont is an American style lay out with roller coaster fairways and some good water features. This par 72 Championship Course (Le Grand Pierpont) beautifully integrated in 67 hectares of mildly sloping, landscaped countryside is open to the elements making the playing experience different from day to day. Another lovely clubhouse situated in a beautiful 17<sup>th</sup> century courtyard farmhouse, with a magnificent terrace in the midst of the golf course. Some people would call this links style with raised greens.

## MONT GARNI

This 18-hole championship golf course was built in 1987 on a 300-acre estate and is the creation of Irish architect Tom McAuley. Mont Garni has 12 classic woodland holes through mature oaks and six open stadium style holes which create a nice contrast. The Clubhouse, vast English-Norman house, which has its hall decorated in ceruse finished oak woodwork, offers the players a warm welcome at “19<sup>th</sup> hole.”

## ROYAL GOLF CLUB DU HAINAUT

The forest of the Erbisoeul plateau forms a magnificent backdrop to the 18-hole ‘Les Bruyeres’ and the ‘Le Quesnoy’ courses, created in 1933 by Simpson, as well as to the 9-hole ‘Les Etangs’ designed by Hawtree in 1990. Although their surroundings are identical, their designs are quite different with the whole terrain coming together to form a veritable paradise that is suitable for players of all levels. Undoubtedly one of the best courses in Belgium.







© Martin's Dream Hotel Mons



© Martin's Dream Hotel Mons



© Martin's Dream Hotel Mons

## Martin's Dream Hotel Mons

*Closer to Heaven*

Situated in the middle of the historic centre of Mons, this unique property artistically combines its past heritage with modern comfort. There aren't many hotels built in an authentic neo-gothic style chapel erected in the 19th century and lived in by Nuns no less. Originally a refuge for the Sisters of Bélian, it was magnificently restored two centuries later to become the Dream Hotel. Now it combines gastronomy, relaxation, hotel service and ultimate well-being. If those sisters could just see that chapel now with its pop rock cocktail bar. Private parking and 5 min walk from the centre.

**Amenities:** The 'Alter Ego' Spa with Sauna, Hamman and Jacuzzi are just some of the highlights, as is the stylish Mezzo restaurant. The modern take on the Baroque architecture is also a real draw making a great atmospheric place for a perfect golf break in style with your friends or for couples.

**Rooms:** 62 super comfortable perfect for a stylish chill out in designer surroundings. Some of these are in the chapel itself and others in a new wing. Their size varies from 25 to 80 m2 but all offer room service, smart TV, minibar, free WIFI.



© Visitmons - Gregory Mathelot



Saint-Lazare Brewery © Visitmons.co.uk



MMM © François Brix

### Mons Memorial Museum

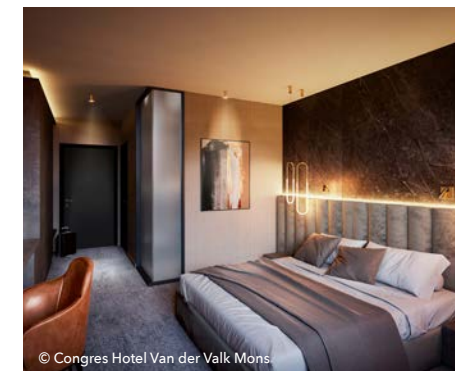
In 'Mons' you can mention the war. The museum displays over 5,000 WW1/WW2 artefacts and highlights the history of the town, which lived through various conflicts. Mons saw the BEF' first and last casualties on the Western Front but also the First VC's of the Great War.



© Congres Hotel Van der Valk Mons



© Congres Hotel Van der Valk Mons



© Congres Hotel Van der Valk Mons

## Congres Hotel Van der Valk Mons

*Whet your appetite*

Congres Hotel is a stylish and well-equipped hotel with large clean rooms, spa facilities, two restaurants and a large (free) car park. Easy access from the motorway. 20 min drive to the golf courses. 15 min walk to the centre of town.

**Amenities:** Congres is all about 'good-taste'. The renowned hotel restaurant 'Quai Five' is one of 'the' desirable places to go in town but its second restaurant 'The Brasserie', a more laid-back dining experience is also pretty reputable with homemade burgers, quirky cocktails etc. Even better, every month, a range of different themed events are organized such as the Italian night, Greek night, Jazz night, Flamenco night always combined with a delicious buffet. A live jazz band also plays in the restaurant every other Friday.

**Rooms:** Each of the 126 rooms have a flat screen TV, hairdryer with all the classic welcoming products. It has a corner desk and bathroom separated from the toilet, to keep the romance alive.



Royal GC du Hainaut © Visitmons G. Mathelot



© WBT Anibal Trejo



© WBT Chippy

### Mahymobiles Museum - Petrolhead Paradise

This incredible collection of all things automobile is petrolhead paradise. Vintage and classic cars, buses, motorcycles, bicycles, and pretty much everything else on wheels since 1895. All thanks to the passion of its owner Ghislain Mahy.

### A GOLFING EXPERIENCE OFFER

- 2 nights B & B ( twin room ) ● 2 rounds per person: Royal Hainaut & Mont Garni
- Eurotunnel crossing (based on 4 people per car)

**Cost per person from £285**

To book call 01494 875 164 • admin@agolfingexperience.com • www.agolfingexperience.co.uk

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© Utopia Hotel



© Utopia Hotel



© Utopia Hotel

## Utopia Hotel Mons (Outside Town)

*"Utopia is a representation of an ideal and flawless reality."*

Designed to promote a sense of peace and tranquillity, this cool contemporary and atmospheric hotel offers another super modern accommodation option surrounded by lush green gardens and lakes. Located outside town in the heart of the 'Bois des Dames' (forest), it is ideal for total disconnection after a day out on the golf course. A healthy seasonal menu in the restaurant, the sunny terrace, the swimming pool and the wellbeing centre will help you recover. Free parking. About 15-20 min drive from town square. Only a few minutes from The Royal Hainaut Golf Club.

**Amenities:** Wellbeing centre: the harmonious decor, scents, colours and music create a calm, cosy atmosphere where you can quieten your mind and escape the world for a while.

**Rooms:** The hotel has 61 rooms. The classic room has all modern comfort like mini-bar, hairdryer, satellite television, safe, free Wi-Fi, coffee and tea.



© Dubuisson Brewery



Royal Bercuit GC © Peps Photography



Dubuisson Brewery © WBT G.Croppi

### Dubuisson Brewery - Stop off & Stock Up

Founded in 1769, this is a good stop for golfers who don't mind a beer or two. After visiting their 'Beerstorium' you might want to stock up with their star beer 'Bush' (which ranks amongst the strongest brew in Belgium at 12%). Best sampled post game...



© Van Der Valk Hotel Waterloo



© Van Der Valk Hotel Waterloo



© Van Der Valk Hotel Waterloo

## Van der Valk Hotel Waterloo

*Historically Sweet*

Life is a battle but when it comes to choosing a place to stay you'll be won over by this little beauty of a building. Originally, a sugar refinery built in neoclassical style, the Van Der Valk Hotel Waterloo is a modern and comfortable hotel sitting close to the historic battlefield of Waterloo and within easy reach of the centre of town and the Wellington Museum. It's ideal access to 12 excellent golf courses within 15 miles radius is a huge draw, plus a vast free car park is a bonus.

**Amenities:** Known for its beautiful decor, La Sucrerie is an elegant brasserie restaurant located in the atmospheric cellar vaults of the hotel's historic building, dating back to 1836. The Lounge bar 'Le Club' welcome is another great option for welcoming guests into a neo-colonial atmosphere.

For fitness fiends who are still game for a work out after the game, there is a well-equipped fitness centre, ideally suited for muscle workouts and cardio training.

**Rooms:** Seamlessly blending aestheticism with functionality, 79 luxurious rooms benefits from elegant contemporary décor with all the facilities you can wish for.



Lion Mound © Antoine Charpagne



© WBT P.Maree



Waterloo Memorial Museum © WBT JP Remy

### Waterloo Memorial Museum - 1815 historical battle

The battle that changed the course of European history forever. Immortalised in this multi-sensory museum, coupled with the formidable 141ft Lion's Mound with a view over the battlefield.

### A GOLFING EXPERIENCE OFFER

- 2 nights B & B ( twin room ) ● 2 rounds per person: Royal Hainaut & Mont Garni
- Eurotunnel crossing (based on 4 people per car)

**Cost per person from £260**

To book call 01494 875 164 • admin@agolfingexperience.com • www.agolfingexperience.co.uk

### A GOLFING EXPERIENCE OFFER

- 2 nights B & B ( twin room ) ● 2 rounds per person: Sept Fontaines & Chateau de la Tournette
- Eurotunnel crossing (based on 4 people per car)

**Cost per person from £310**

To book call 01494 875 164 • admin@agolfingexperience.com • www.agolfingexperience.co.uk

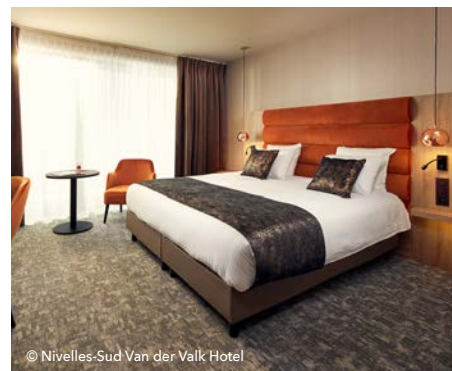




© Nivelles-Sud Van der Valk Hotel



© Nivelles-Sud Van der Valk Hotel



© Nivelles-Sud Van der Valk Hotel

## Nivelles-Sud Van der Valk Hotel

*Going swimmingly*

Less than 2 hours from the Eurotunnel terminal and close to Waterloo, the 4\* property base gives you quick access to more than a dozen golf courses in the area. With its chic rooms, its two restaurants, its well-being centre and its swimming pools (indoors and outdoors), the hotel is ideal for golf with comfort.

**Amenities:** A brasserie restaurant offering Belgian specialties and seasonal products with a rich and varied wine list to match. The "Petrus" bar is open daily and, when the weather allows, the open-air terrace is ideal for chilling out with a drink or snacks. The wellbeing and fitness centre has an indoor swimming pool, Sauna, Hamman, Jacuzzi, fitness room and a beauty centre offering pampering spa treatments. Free parking.

**Rooms:** 155 stylish and modern rooms, all equipped with flat screens, minibar, tea, coffee and free WIFI.



'Tarte Al Djote' is a local savoury tart made of soft cheese and chard © WBT D. Erroyaux



© Nivelles-Sud Van der Valk Hotel



Battle of Ligny 1815 © WBT D.Vasilov

**Ligny 1815 Museum - Napoleon's Last Victory.** Following in the footsteps of Napoleon and his last victory before he met his 'Waterloo' a few days later...



© Martin's Chateau Du Lac



© Martin's Chateau Du Lac



© Martin's Chateau Du Lac

## Martin's Chateau Du Lac Hotel

*An enchanting turn of the century chateau on the banks of Lake Genval*

The hotel is located in the heart of the serene countryside close to Waterloo and offers guests the charm of a castle and the comfort of a luxury hotel featuring fine dining in its restaurant with uplifting views over Lake Genval and surrounding woodland.

**Amenities:** For maximum fitness pre and post-golf, check out the fitness centre before topping off with a revitalising massage. With its sophisticated décor of mosaic tiles reminiscent of ancient Roman baths, it offers a fully equipped cardio-fitness room, a range of massage treatments, swimming pool, solarium terrace, Jacuzzi, sauna, plunge pool and Turkish bath. The trendy lounge bar and chic tearoom are the perfect post golf chill out space for the summer months.

**Rooms:** 121 comfortable rooms full of modern comforts and tastefully embedded in the history of the castle.



Pierpont GC © Peps Photography



© Mont-Saint-Jean-Microdistillerie



© WBT B. Dalimonte

**Wellington Museum or The Duke's HQ before the Battle**

The old coaching inn which served as the Battle HQ for the Duke and his senior officers. A collection of weapons used in the battle, including swords, pistols and muskets. Artefacts include Sir Alexander Gordon's despatch box and the wooden leg belonging to Lord Uxbridge.

**Mont St Jean Farm Microbrewery and Museum**

Once a field hospital treating over 6,000 soldiers during the battle, it's now a micro-brewery (making beer, gin and whisky) and a museum depicting the role of women in wars and the history of hospitals in battlefields. Nice spot for lunch.

### A GOLFING EXPERIENCE OFFER

- 2 nights B & B ( twin room ) ● 2 rounds per person: Sept Fontaines & Chateau de la Tournette
- Eurotunnel crossing (based on 4 people per car)

**Cost per person from £295**

To book call 01494 875 164 • admin@agolfingexperience.com • www.agolfingexperience.co.uk

### A GOLFING EXPERIENCE OFFER

- 2 nights B & B ( twin room ) ● 2 rounds per person: Louvain-la-Neuve & Chateau de la Bawette
- Eurotunnel crossing (based on 4 people per car)

**Cost per person from £340**

To book call 01494 875 164 • admin@agolfingexperience.com • www.agolfingexperience.co.uk



# Golf in Liège & Spa

## Retail therapy to Spa Chill-Out



© Liege Henri-Chapelle GC

**Tip:** In Liège, head for pedestrian area called “Le Carré” for all the shops, bars and restaurants



Royal Golf Club Des Fagnes © Peps Photography

### LIÈGE

The city of Liège has without doubt the most southerly temperament in Wallonia. 3 hours’ drive from Calais, the people of Liège (Liègeois) are known for their ‘joie de vivre’ and like to party through the night. Around the city, half a dozen golf courses to choose from offering varying difficulty levels, you will find plenty of challenges and lots of fun in the midst of superb landscapes. The city will also delight lovers of good food with its celebrated Liège waffles (with flavours of cinnamon, caramel and vanilla), or its meatballs with ‘Sauce Liègeoise’ accompanied by homemade fries. Not forgetting great places to sample the local beers of which there are many in town. So, grab your clubs and head off to explore those greens during the day and the buzzing town centre at night.

### SPA

In contrast, the genteel town of Spa in the heart of the Ardennes which dates back before the Roman times has a complete different reputation for heaven of calm and relaxation. Its mineral springs and healing waters has given its name to health resorts worldwide. The beautiful modern spa facilities are still the main attraction of the area to this day rivalled only by motor sports, with the home of the Belgian F1GP nearby at the Spa track.

The town achieved widespread fame as a health resort after Henry VIII paid a visit in the early 16th century. Royalty and statesmen from all over Europe followed, including Peter the Great, the Duke of Wellington and Disraeli.

Street names like Avenue de Lawn Tennis and Route de Balmoral offer clues to the presence of the many 19th century visitors including British gamblers who had their own casinos like The Vauxhall, as well as one of the main hotel of the day ‘Hotel Britannique.’

The golfing angle at Spa is also very special with the Royal Golf Club des Fagnes ranked and designed by Tom Simpson. It is a short drive (5-10 min) from our selected hotels (Radisson Blu Palace and Manoir de Lebioles).



Naxhelet GC - Lynn Grant winner 2022 Belgian Ladies Open © Philippe Buissin



Liège-Gomzé GC © Peps Photography

### GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB HENRI-CHAPELLE

Set on high ground in the Ardennes, this scenic course is about 30 minutes’ drive from Liège or Spa. Its hilly layout offers great views across the rolling countryside close to the Dutch and German border (Eifel Region). The first 18 hole course ‘Les Viviers’ Par 72 is the popular one, named after its numerous ponds and wells. The second 18 holes ‘Le Charlemagne’ Par 70 is shorter but more technical. The third ‘La Chapelle’ Par 34 has 9 holes and is an ideal for the novice golfer.

### GOLF DE FALNUEE

The course is tucked away between two little rivers: the ‘Orneau’ and the ‘Ligne’, which combines the pleasures of golf with the sight of natural beauty. The buildings of the castle-farmhouse date from the 17th century and are now sheltering the club house.

The 18 holes course consists of three loops around the clubhouse and offers a variety of obstacles to players of all levels. It winds itself through the valleys and displays an array of different landscapes: fields, woodland, slopes and parkland. Since 1993 the Falnuée Golf Club is hosting the ‘Belgian masters’, where all Belgium’s club champions battle for victory.

### LIÈGE-GOMZÉ

Designed by Belgian architect Paul Rollin, it has a fine reputation across Belgium. The course would be one of the five we would recommend you play whilst in Spa. The course comprises of ancient woods, rolling meadows and orchards, with a very varied landscape and plenty of changes in terms of elevation. The modern clubhouse adds a great ambiance and welcomes visitors with a fine standard of cuisine. Some golfers might prefer to use a buggy on this course.

### MERGELHOF GOLF CLUB

Without a doubt the most international club as it is situated on the borders of three countries : Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany. In fact, to recover a ball that has gone out of bounds at the 6th, the golfer must cross over into the Netherlands. In addition to its unique setting, the course offer remarkable views over the wooded hills, fields and meadows surrounding the club.

### NAXHELET GOLF RESORT

Located halfway between Namur and Liège on a plateau overlooking the “Meuse” and “Mehaigne” valleys, it was designed by the renowned architect Martin Hawtree. It features no less than 30 holes. The clubhouse found home in a 19th century fortified farm and it includes a restaurant serving creative dishes and paying tribute to terroir produces but also welcomes guests in its charming hotel. The Mithra Ladies Open is taking place again in May 2023. It hosts the Belgian Ladies Open (BLO), a stage of the Ladies European Tour.

### ROUEMONT GOLF DE NAMUR

This spectacular course was designed in 1986 by its own members and so has a natural and less professional feel. It is an ideal course to play if you stay at Naxhelet Resort. The course is markedly hilly with some big changes of elevation and several downhill roller coaster tee shots. There are some stunning views across the Meuse Valley and buggies are recommended here.

### ROYAL GOLF CLUB DES FAGNES

This royal course, better known as Spa, is one of the best in Belgium. It is a classic Tom Simpson design in the mould of Chantilly Vineuil in France, located just 1 km from the centre of town. The course is a famous old layout built in the 1930’s with traditional values and a classic old clubhouse. Yet another impressive golf course with Royal Patronage designed through beautiful oak forest on the highest point in Belgium. Picturesque and scenic with subtle changes of elevation with many leisurely dog legs; buggies are not required in our opinion.

### ROYAL GOLF CLUB DU SART-TILMAN

Sart-Tilman is a superb woodland course, designed through ancient mixed forest with all 18 holes running through avenues of tall trees. There are subtle changes of elevation and a lovely natural mature feel to the entire course. The lovely old clubhouse has bags of warm ambience and a great restaurant, which seems to be the norm in Belgium. The course is very close to the city of Liège and is consequently one of the busiest but nevertheless welcomes British golfers. Buggies available but not recommended.



Rougemont GC © Peps photography



Rougemont GC © J-L.Rousseau Peps photography





© Congres Hotel Van der Valk Liège



© Congres Hotel Van der Valk Liège



© Congres Hotel Van der Valk Liège

## Congres Hotel Van der Valk Liège

*Artistic Licence*

Situated in the beautifully landscaped 'Park de la Boverie' right next to the Congres Centre, the hotel is a short 10-minute walk from the historical city centre and close to the motorway for easy access. Golfers with an artistic spirit can pop into "La Boverie" museum next door. This Fine Arts Museum, twinned with the Louvres, regularly houses highly acclaimed international art exhibitions.

**Amenities:** The bars and restaurants have to be one of the highlights. Get dressed up and head up to the sky bar for custom made cocktails and aperitifs with stunning views over the city by night. Take a dip in the indoor pool (10 by 5 metres). Inside secured parking is 1.50€/h - outside parking is free.

**Rooms:** All rooms are fitted with air conditioning, a work desk and a flat-screen TV. Each room also has a private bathroom with free toiletries and a hair dryer.



Boverie Museum © Ville de Liège Marc Verpoorten



© Congres Hotel Van der Valk Liège



Liège © WBT D. Erroyaux

### Shopping and Golf in Liège - A winning combination

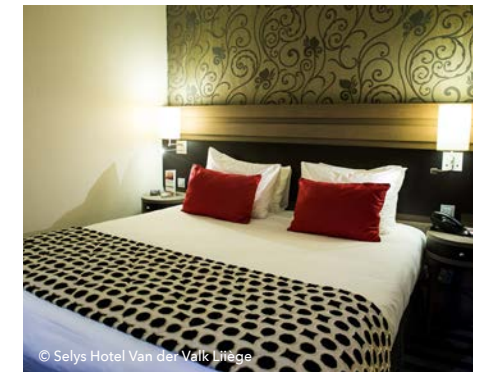
Liège is perfect for a little retail therapy after the game. Head to the bustling pedestrian shopping area called "Le Carré" in the town centre - 14 criss crossed streets filled with independent shops and restaurants. Be sure to save Sunday morning for "La Batte" market. It's the largest and oldest market in the country with over 3.6 km stands running along the river Meuse quay.



© Selys Hotel Van der Valk Liège



© Selys Hotel Van der Valk Liège



© Selys Hotel Van der Valk Liège

## Selys Hotel Van der Valk Liège

*Good game, Great gastronomy*

Hotel Sélys Liège is a luxe hotel in a grand medieval mansion 5 minutes' walk from the old town in the historic, cultural and commercial heart of the "Cite Ardente" or "Fiery City".

**Amenities:** Check out the chic L'Atelier Sélys restaurant with magnificent city views and a terrace as well as a sleek lobby bar. It's a 'bistronomic' experience all about exciting flavour fusions based on regional recipes and fresh local ingredients. The Sunday Brunch is a massive plus too just like its sister hotel in Liège for hearty pre-course nourishment. Other amenities include a serene spa, an indoor pool and a gym.

**Rooms:** 125 modern luxurious rooms with flat-screen TVs, minibars, and tea and coffeemakers. Suites offer living areas and access to a private lounge; some feature hot tubs, kitchenettes and/or wood beams. Wi-Fi is available



© WBT Philippe Lermusiaux



© Ardennes 44 Museum La Gleize Tank

### December 44 Museum - for the love of brandy

Have you ever seen a 69 tonne Royal King Tiger? This roaring machine definitely was not firing golf balls during the WW2 Ardennes offensive. The museum depicts a chronological journey into the history of the Peiper's 1st SS Panzer during the December 44 offensive.

### A GOLFING EXPERIENCE OFFER

- 2 nights B & B ( twin room ) ● 2 rounds per person: Sart-Tilman & Liège-Gomzé
- Eurotunnel crossing (based on 4 people per car)

**Cost per person from £350**

To book call 01494 875 164 • admin@agolfingexperience.com • www.agolfingexperience.co.uk

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© Radisson Blu Palace Hotel Spa



© Radisson Blu Palace Hotel Spa



Les Thermes de Spa © WBT Jeanmart

## Radisson Blu Palace Hotel, Spa

*Fast Track to Spa Heaven*

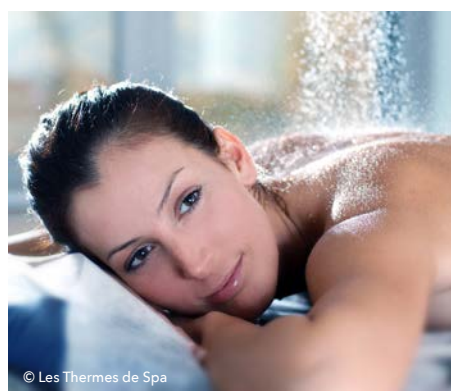
If Spa is known as the Pearl of the Ardennes then this hotel embodies the wellbeing centre point. Direct access to the ultra-modern 'Thermes de Spa' via an adjacent funicular lift enables you to stay in permanent bathrobe mode, enjoying an endless list of fantastic feel-good spa treatments. Venture out and you'll find the oldest casino in the world, whilst the high-octane excitement of the world class Spa Francorchamps racetrack is also close by. Added magic comes from the misty moorlands and forests where you'll find stunning hiking trails for post-game activity.

**Amenities:** For pre golf fuel and post golf entertainment, you'll love the 'Saisons de Spa' restaurant. Enjoy the generous breakfast buffet and convivial bar with delicious Nespresso cocktails. Of course, you can't go to the capital of wellbeing without pampering to the max. The exclusives - from peat bog baths from the rich soils of the surrounding haut fens moors to the bubbling mineral springs of Spa are non-negotiable treats in the town where it all began.

**Rooms:** 120 designer rooms and luxury suites, super-fast Wi-Fi with scenic views over the town or the region's rolling hills add that little touch of elegance to the weekend



Naxhelet GC © WBT P. Coenegrachts



© Les Thermes de Spa



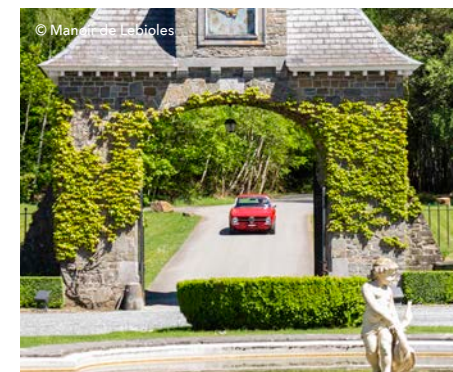
Les Thermes de Spa © Fabrice Debatty

### 'Les Thermes de Spa' - Good Game - Winning Wellbeing

Post golf, take time out for well-deserved pampering at "Les Thermes". Overlooking the town whose name is synonymous with wellbeing, this spa centre will help you recover from a hard game. Relax in the healing bubbling waters, wallow in rich peat baths from the surrounding High-Fens moorland or enjoy rejuvenating skin treatments to boost a youthful glow... 'the choice is yours.'



© Manoir de Lebioles



© Manoir de Lebioles



© Manoir de Lebioles

## The Manoir de Lebioles

*"Plus Valet Quam Lucet"*

The motto "There is more to it than meets the eye" on the Manoir crest says it all. It perfectly reflects the philosophy of the house that was built between 1905 and 1910. Once a family home; it was once used as a backdrop for super glam events through much of the 20th century. After more than a year of renovation in the noughties, the "little Versailles of the Ardennes" has regained its former splendour. Using a team of international architects, the original spirit of this beautiful manor has been retained. Nestling majestically amid the woods of the Ardennes, it's a veritable haven of peace and isolation for maximum down time.

**Amenities:** Lovers of haute cuisine will adore the gastronomic restaurant. The wellbeing area offers countless pampering opportunities: sauna, steam bath, ice fountain, aromatherapy and massage showers, vitality pool, hydro massage, spa lounge with open fireplace and fitness area. 4 hours' drive from Calais, it is also close to the historic town of Spa with the world's oldest casino and of course its excellent golf course.

**Rooms:** The Manoir offers 16 luxurious, state-of-the-art luxury rooms and suites, each with individual décor and all with modern comforts.



© Manoir de Lebioles



© Manoir de Lebioles



© WBT JP Remy

### Stavelot Abbey & its Spa Track Museum - high-octane action in a peaceful setting

The vaulted cellar of the abbey (one of the oldest monastic foundations in Belgium) is home to memorabilia from Spa-Francorchamps track : one of the world's great motor racing circuits.

### A GOLFING EXPERIENCE OFFER

- 2 nights B & B ( twin room ) ● 2 rounds per person: Royal Golf Club des Fagnes
- Eurotunnel crossing (based on 4 people per car)

**Cost per person from £355**

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### A GOLFING EXPERIENCE OFFER

- 2 nights B & B ( twin room ) ● 2 rounds per person: Royal Golf Club des Fagnes & Liège-Gomzé
- Eurotunnel crossing (based on 4 people per car)

**Cost per person from £535**

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# Naxhelet Golf Hotel Resort (All in package)

## LOCATION

Less than 3 hours' drive from Calais, the golf course is built on a 19th century fortified farmhouse estate. Situated between Namur and Liège on a plateau overlooking the "Meuse" and "Mehaigne" valleys, the course can be played on the way (back) to (from) Liège and Spa. We would also recommend staying one or two nights to enjoy its full potential.

## GOLF COURSE

Designed by renowned English architect Martin Hawtree, it includes an 18-hole course with a length of 6344 meters, a pitch and putt 9 holes, and 3 holes dedicated to its academy. Watch out for the four particular challenging holes (Number 3, 4, 11 and 18).



Naxhelet GC - Lynn Grant winner 2022 Belgian Ladies Open © Philippe Buissin

All other images: Naxhelet GC © Peps Photography



Naxhelet GC, Manon De Roey at the Belgian Ladies Open 2022 © Laurie Dieffembacq



## HOTEL

Simplicity, authenticity, history and design are key to the atmosphere of this fantastic golf complex. 33 modern rooms lovingly decorated using local marble rich oak from the Ardennes forest, warm fabrics and contemporary furniture all add to the cosy comfort at Naxhelet Golf Hotel. Rooms overlooking the countryside or driving range as well as free wellbeing facilities promise the perfect golf escape.

The clubhouse has made its home inside the old farm. Its restaurant pays tribute to local producers using local ingredients with a creative flourish. The Belgian cocktails and gins are pretty wonderful too. On summer

days take a nice cold beer and enjoy the sunny terrace overlooking the golf course.

The clubrooms are either equipped with a terrace or balcony with a view of the hotel's courtyard or of the driving range and the Mehaigne valley. These air-conditioned rooms have a smart TV, a private bathroom, king size or twin beds, Nespresso coffee machine, kettle, electronic safe and free Wi-Fi, minibar, bathtub and/or a walk-in shower, 100% organic welcome products, hairdryer, bathrobes and slippers, separate WC.

The Superior rooms are larger and offer a view either of the green course, the driving range or the charming village of Moha.

## RESTAURANT

The menu varies according to the seasons. At noon, it offers a different lunch formula every day. Most of their products come from local suppliers and its gardens. If you want to celebrate a particular occasion (up to 25pax), a special meal, a private tasting, enjoy diner with a group of friends, you can do that in an authentic room, located in the cellar of the former farm-castle.

Throughout its design, construction and maintenance, the resort paid particular attention to social and environmental aspects, which earned him "Geo" label golf course (the only one in Wallonia). The domain is 100% eco-responsible (see below if you are also a environmental friendly golfer)



**Here are a few policies:** collecting rainwater from roofs and drainage to irrigate greens and tees, autonomous wastewater treatment plant, use of thermal solar panels, photovoltaics and heat pumps, no fossil fuels on the site, electronic taps, showers and low flow flushes, use of cleaning products without bleach and labelled 'Eco', selection of organic and natural products for wellness treatments, lighting managed by home automation and LEDs with low energy consumption in all rooms, use of ecological cleaning products, choice of short circuits and local suppliers for the restaurant and the creation of a 100% organic vegetable garden on site.

## A GOLFING EXPERIENCE OFFER

- 2 nights B & B ( twin room ) ● 2 rounds per person: Naxhelet Golf Hotel Resort
- Eurotunnel crossing (based on 4 people per car)

**Cost per person from £435**

**To book call 01494 875 164 • admin@agolfingexperience.com • www.agolfingexperience.co.uk**



*There is just something about Belgium. It could be the friendly and welcoming people. Or the stunning architecture decorating the quaint cobblestone squares. Or the legendary cuisine where each meal seems better than the last. From the Channel to the first stop at Mons, on to the historical region of Waterloo and further east towards the Ardennes in Liege or Spa, an unforgettable golfing experience awaits you.*

In Association with



A GOLFING  
EXPERIENCE



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