

* Activities :

Parc d'Olhain

A 400 hectare park with nine-hole golf course, tennis courts, outdoor pool, minigolf and sports trail and tree climbing adventure park as well as a children's play area.
Phone : (0)3.21.27.91.79. www.parcdolhain.com

Paral'Aile 62 :

Paral'Aile 62 is the biggest free-flight club in Pas-de-Calais. Paragliding and hang-gliding can be practised on all the sites of the departement. 36 rue Briquet. - 62740 Fouquières-Lez-Lens. Phone : (0)3 21 49 76 32.
http://ailesdunord.free.fr/Paral'aile_62.html

Jardin Médiéval

The garden of Château de Créminil, designed in the 15th century, is a wonderful garden divided into 5 squares : vegetables, flowers, medicinal plants, condiments and the orchard. Château de Créminil - 62145 Estrée-Blanche.
Phone : (0)3 21 39 31 38. E: chateau.creminil@wanadoo.fr

Jardin du Château d'Hendecourt :

This 20 acre wide landscaped garden is the setting for an "Art Deco" white stone castle.
16 rue du Mont - Hendecourt-les-Cagnicourt.
Phone (0)3 21 24 02 80.
E : paul.topart-de-moriame@wanadoo.fr

Nautical centre - Stade d'Eau Vive

Canoeing, raft, archery, orienteering race.
Rue Laurent Gers 62223 Saint-Laurent-Blangy.
Phone : (0)3 21 73 74 93. E : eauxvivesslb@free.fr

Golf of Arras

Les Aubépines : 9-hole, 1550m - Par 30
La Vallée : 18-hole, 6117m - Par 72
Rue Briquet Rue Briquet Taillandier - 62223 Anzin-Saint-Aubin
Phone : (0)3.21.50.24.24. www.arras-golfclub.com

Walk in Bethune : Le sentier de Catorive

A urban pedestrian path to discover the natural, architectural and historical heritage of Bethune.
Contact the tourist office.

Arras Tourist Office :

Hôtel de Ville - Place des
Héros 62000 Arras.
E : arras.tourisme@wanadoo.fr
www.ville-arras.fr

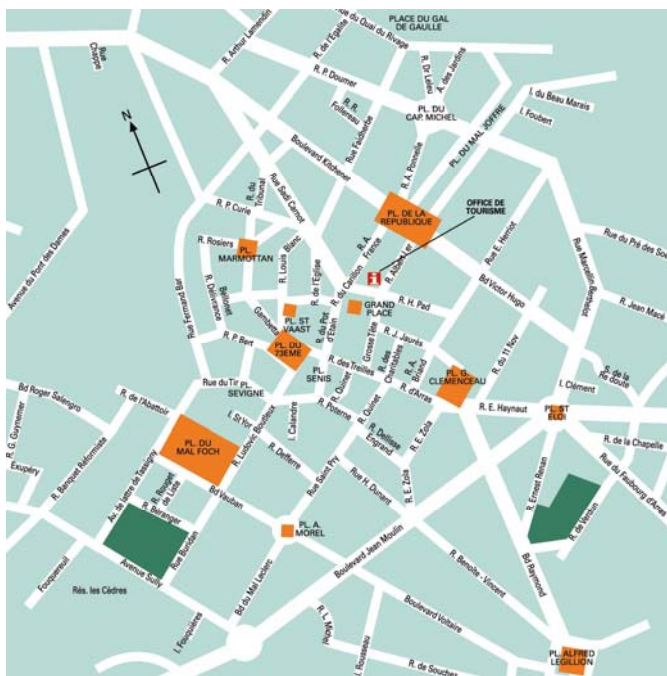
Béthune Tourist Office :

Le Beffoi - Grand Place
62411 Béthune.
E : ot-bethune@wanadoo.fr
www.bethune.ot.com

* Map of Arras :



* Map of Bethune :



Pas de Calais Tourist Board :

La Trésorerie Wimille - BP 79 - 62930 Wimereux.
Phone : (0)3.21.10.34.60. - Fax : (0)3.21.30.04.81.
E : cdt.doc@pas-de-calais.com - www.pas-de-calais.com



IN AND AROUND ARRAS AND BETHUNE

* Arras in a few words :

The beautiful town of Arras is the capital of the Pas-de-Calais with a population of 43,000. The two central squares were built over 800 years ago to house the vast markets that traded here bringing prosperity to the town. These gigantic squares are surrounded with numerous houses and shops built of white stone and brick in the 17th and 18th centuries and replicated after their destruction in the WWI. There are considered today as the jewels in the Arras' crown.

* Bethune in a few words :

Béthune town square is a stunning example of Art Deco architecture, although the central belfry leaves no doubt that you are in the North of France. The massive Town Hall was rebuilt in 1920, the stonework on its façade depicting the town's events and triumphs, such as "Croix de Guerre" and "Legion d'honneur" medals, which were awarded to the town and its citizens for the courage and strength displayed in the Great War.

* What to do ?

Places of interest and attractions :

Le Musée des Beaux-Arts - Arras

A fine Arts museum, housing archeology, fine arts (paintings and sculptures from the middle ages to the 19th century), as well as local artefacts from the town's cathedral. The famous Salle des Mays contains 17th century religious paintings and Arras Porcelain.
22 rue Paul Doumer, 62000 Arras
E: musee.arras@ville-arras.fr - www.musenor.com

La Maison de Robespierre - Arras

Robespierre lived in this house from 1787 until 1789, when he was elected to the Convention at the outbreak of the French Revolution. His sister and younger brother

lived here until 1792. Today, it houses an exhibition by the master craftsmen of Arras. *Rue Maximilien de Robespierre, 62000 Arras Phone : (0)3.21.71.33.94.*

E: arras@compagnons.org - www.compagnons.org

The Town Hall, the Belfry & the squares - Arras

The tourist office is situated in the gothic town hall and is definitely the first place to visit. Visit to the tunnels and belfry start here. The belfry is classified Unesco World Heritage. The two town squares represent an exceptional line-up of 155 frontages of Flemish baroque architecture.

The Belfry of Bethune

The belfry was a gift awarded to the people of Bethune for their loyalty to the crown. It was originally built of wood in 1346 when it housed the town's bells and a prisons cell. It was destroyed by bombing in 1918 leaving only the 16th century part intact. The belfry is classified Unesco World Heritage.

La Maison de la Chaussure - Lillers

A small but informative museum dedicated to the history of the shoe industry in Lillers, one of France's 3 largest shoe producing towns until 1966. *Place du Capitaine Ansart, 62190 Lillers. Phone: (0)3.21.25.26.71. www.tourismelillerois.com*

Wartime Memories :

World War One is a major part of this region's history. There are numerous museums, memorials and cemeteries to remember and to commemorate the battles fought here.

Centre Européen de la Paix - Souchez

Museum dedicated to WWI with a particularly interesting collection of artefacts made by soldiers. *Route Arras - Béthune in Souchez. Phone : (0)3.21.72.66.55.*

Saint Mary's Cemetery - Haisne-La-Bassée

Of the 2000 graves in the cemetery one in particular draws attention; Plot VII, row D, grave N°2. A young man named John Kipling, son of Rudyard, aged 18, a Lieutenant in the Second Battalion of the Irish Gards, died on the 27th of September 1915, just two days after the beginning of the battle of Loos. Visit cwgc.org for the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Musée vivant 1914-1918 - Ablain St Nazaire

Situated on the hill at Lorette, the museum displays over 2,000 exhibits, reconstruction of shelters, over 150 slides and pictures of battlefields, bombs and cemeteries.

Hameau Notre Dame de Lorette - 62153 Ablain Saint Nazaire. Phone : (0)3 21 45 15 80.

The Vimy Memorial - Vimy

The Vimy Memorial stands as a landmark in commemoration of more than 11 000 Canadian soldiers, believed dead in France during the First World War. A forest surrounding the site is of Canadian Pine. The government planted one tree per soldier killed in Europe during the War. *Phone : (0)3 21 50 68 68. www.vac-acc.gc.ca*

The underground tunnels - Le jardin des Boves - Arras

The underground tunnels were headquarters to the British and allied forces during WWI. Nowadays, every spring an amazing garden appears under Arras! It's an original way to discover a part of the History.

***Where to Shop ?**

The markets :

Arras : On Saturday and Wednesday mornings from Grand'Place to Place des Héros is the biggest market in the Nord - Pas de Calais. The Christmas market in December sees sumptuous decoration of the square "La Grand Place" as well as the Town hall and its Belfry.

Bethune : On Monday mornings on and around the main square. In September there is a big flea market. Its Christmas market in December is really nice with Santa Claus village and a living nativity scene.

Shopping :

Arras : The two main squares, Rue Ernestale and Rue Gambetta are the main shopping area.

Beer & Spirits : "Le Cellier de la Bière", *Rue de la Taillerie.*

Sweet Things : "Chocolaterie Trogneux", *Rue Nationale.*

Béthune : Is a good place to shop for clothes and interior decoration.

Local specialities : Try the "Ane de Buridan" chocolates from Pâtisserie Jacques, *Boulevard Raymond Poincaré,* named after a local philosopher's fable about a donkey.

Regional cheeses : "La Prairie", *20, rue Albert 1er,* is top of the list.

Savory dishes : "Lecherbonnier" the delicatessen butcher, *19, rue d'Arras,* offers menus to take home, available to pre-order on www.lecherbonnier.com

*** Where to eat ?**

La Clef des Sens

Up market Brasserie. Menus from : €10 - €32
Place des Héros, 62000 Arras. Phone: (0)3.21.51.00.50.

Le Between

Gastronomic restaurant. Menus from : €19 - €35
12 rue de la Taillerie, 62000 Arras. Phone : (0)3.21.73.57.79.

La Faisanderie

Gastronomic restaurant using market produce and housed in a former cellar from the 15th century.
Menus from : €27 - €68
45 Grand Place, 62000 Arras. Phone : (0)3.21.48.20.76. www.lafaisanderie-arras.com

Aux Grandes Arcades

Traditional restaurant with the atmosphere of a brasserie. Menus from : €13.11 - €30.18
8-10-12 grand Place, 62000 Arras. Phone : (0)3.21.23.30.89. E : aux.grandes.arcades@wanadoo.fr

Le Manoir du Brûle

Gastronomic and regional restaurant in a small manor house with gardens. Menus from : €15 - €48
Château Caboche, 62190 Lillers. Phone : (0)3.21.54.41.41. www.lemanoirdubrule.com

Le Picotin

Traditional cuisine. Menus from : €15 - €32
964 avenue du Pont des Dames, 62400 Béthune Phone : (0)3.21.54.64.24.

Restaurant Marc Meurin

Two Michelin star restaurant with a cosy atmosphere in a 17th century townhouse. Menus from : €55 - €145.
Le Château de Beaulieu - Marc Meurin, Rue de Lillers, 62350 Busnes. Phone : (0)3.21.68.88.88 E : contact@lechateaudebeaulieu.fr - www.le-meurin.fr

La Ripaille

Traditional and gastronomic restaurant in a brasserie setting. Situated on the main square.
Menus from : €12.50 - €17
Grand Place, 62400 Béthune Phone: (0)3.21.56.22.33.