





interpret europe

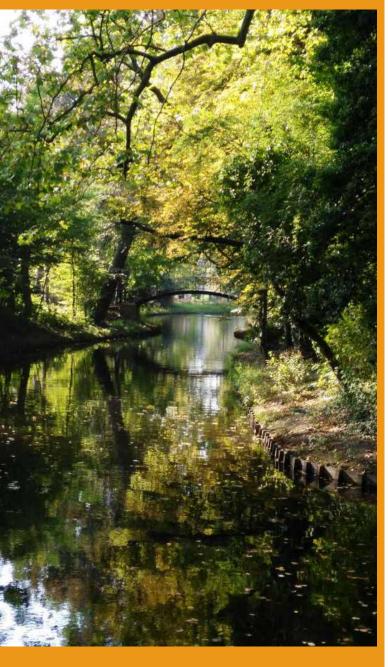












# **PROGRAMME**

(Version January 2016)

## **Overview**

20 May	21 May	22 May	23 May	24 May	25 May
Pre conference 'In Flanders Fields'	Registration	Keynote lecture	Parallel Sessions	Keynote lecture	Post conference 'Bruges and its hinterland'
	Explore Mechelen	Parallel Sessions	Parallel Sessions	Parallel Sessions	
	General Assembly Interpret Europe	Study visits	Study visits	Market of Ideas	
	Conference opening with keynote lecture				
	Evening programme	Evening programme	Evening programme	Evening programme	

## Day by day

#### Pre-Conference | 20 May 2016

In Flanders Fields

Tour to West Flanders: experiencing the traces of World War I

8.00 Departure in Mechelen

23.00 Back in Mechelen

## Conference | 21-24 May 2016

#### Day 1: Saturday 21 May 2016

10.00 Registration open

13.00 Explore the city of Mechelen

- Historic city walk
- Climbing the Cathedral and Carillon concert
- 8 historic Churches (Rubens/Van Dyck)
- Cycling tour in and around Mechelen
- Historic woman's walk
- Boat trip on the inner Dyle
- Visit brewery Het Anker

15.00 General Assembly Interpret Europe

17.30 Conference opening

19.30 Welcome reception

20.00 Dinner

#### Day 2: Sunday 22 May 2016

9.00 Keynote lecture

10.00 Parallel Sessions 1

11.00 Coffee break

11.30 Parallel Sessions 2

13.30 Lunch

14.15 Study Visits in Mechelen

- Refugees! How does Kazerne Dossin deal with human rights issues
- The European heritage label: giving your heritage site meaning in the European context
- An innovative approach to active citizenship & participation at the Burgundian Palace. A participatory city museum of Mechelen
- Cultivating humanity or simply towing the line: the future of lifelong learning in the European context at the Ursuline School and Winter Garden

17.15 Time to go to hotel

18.30 Bus leaves for dinner place

19.30 Dinner

#### Day 3: Monday 23 May 2016

9.00 Parallel Sessions 1

11.00 Coffee break

11.30 Parallel Sessions 2

12.30 Lunch

13.30 Bus leaves for study visits

15.00 Study Visits

- Rethinking the basis of sustainability at the Hoge Kempen National Park
- Community building and co-creation at Horst Castle
- Evaluating interpretive guiding at the Grand Commandery Alden Biesen
- The museum of the future' at Gallo-Roman Museum Tongeren
- Interpreting Flemish masters for a European audience: Designing the new Bruegel House in Brussels

19.00 Auction in Alden Biesen

20.00 Dinner

#### Day 4: Tuesday 24 May 2016

9.00 Keynote lecture

10.00 Parallel Sessions 1

11.00 Coffee break

11.30 Parallel Sessions 2

13.30 Lunch

14.30 Market of ideas

Let's turn the Lamot Conference

and Heritage Centre into a lively

marketplace where your thoughts and
impressions are exchanged and where

supplies are offered by providers from different countries. Join to make sure you return back home with new ideas and contacts worldwide.

17.15 Closing of the conference

17.30 Time to go to hotel

18.30 Closing dinner

#### Post Conference | 25 May 2016

Belgian food experience in Bruges and its rural countryside

8.00 Departure in Mechelen

21.30 Back in Mechelen



# **Programme in detail**

# In Flanders Fields: Experiencing the traces of World War I

**Friday 20 May 2016** 

The 1914-1918 War is a significant landmark in the history of Europe. The constellation of power on the European continent at the turn of the 20th century and the roads taken ended in disaster.

Over the entire region of 'Westhoek' (the western part of Flanders, near the French border) lie strongly visible traces of battle in hundreds of war-related sites, monuments and cemeteries, showing what Europe was capable of in its

darkest form. Today, we reflect on this war as a universal and contemporary message of peace from which the idea of a united Europe emerged and took shape. Join us for an impressive tour through Flanders Fields and see the relics of war with your own eyes.

You will visit Tyne Cot Cemetery, the largest Commonwealth War Graves cemetery in the world. It is also the most important reminder of the Battle of Passchendaele from 1917. During the British offensive from July to November 1917, almost 500,000 soldiers were killed or wounded in the immediate area over a period of just one hundred days, while the frontline moved barely eight kilometres.

At the Passchendaele Memorial Museum, housed in the historic castle grounds of Zonnebeke, you will discover the material aspects of World War I and you can take a walk in the surrounding Passchendaele Memorial Gardens. Seven small gardens in the shape of a poppy commemorate the nations that fought during World War I.

We will close the day by attending the 'Last Post' ceremony. Every evening since 1928 the Last Post has been played under the Menin Gate Memorial in Ypres at 8 o'clock sharp. Every evening at exactly 8 o'clock, the police halt the traffic passing under the Menin Gate to allow the buglers to play their simple but moving tribute to the memory of the soldiers who fought and died here so many years ago. It was first built by the British to commemorate their soldiers whose bodies were lost or could not be identified, but it soon took on a bigger meaning and became a universal memorial for all those who fought and lost their life in the trenches of Flanders Fields.

Join this pre-conference tour and reflect with us on European identity, common history and what role heritage interpretation could play in it.





## Explore Mechelen Saturday 21 May 2016

## **Historic City Walk**

Did you know that Mechelen played an important political and economic role in the Burgundian period? Many historical buildings bear witness to this and the list is very long. There's Saint Rumbold's Cathedral, the former palaces of Margaret of Austria and Margaret of York, the Palace of the Great Council and that's just for starters. So, don't hesitate and follow the guide through 16th-century Mechelen.

#### **Climbing the Cathedral and Carillon concert**

Discover Mechelen with your head in the clouds. St. Rumbold's Tower is the place to go if you're looking for a full-on experience, whether on the skywalk or on the way to it. What is the crane doing in the Crane Room? Why is there a stack of roof tiles in the Smithy? And how come there are two carillons in the tower? Climb St. Rumbold's Tower, explore over 500 years of city history in the heart of Mechelen and enjoy a live carillon bell concert. NB: You have to be able to climb the 514 steps of the tower, so wear comfortable shoes.



#### Boat trip on the Inner Dyle

Leave by boat from Haverwerf, sail through the marina and the 'turning dock' and on through the historic centre, experiencing Mechelen from a different perspective. Along the way, you'll pass (among other things) the Fish Market, the Large Bridge, the Botanical Garden and Fullers' Mill and you'll see how the people of Mechelen live in historic and modern waterside buildings.

#### Cycling tour in and around Mechelen

Tourists always admire the magnificent heritage of Mechelen. But this art city has many more assets to offer, including its central location and the beautiful river landscape around the city centre. Mechelen constitutes a crossroads of rivers. Follow the car-free towpaths and you will soon find yourself in greener and more peaceful surroundings. Outside the city, the wetlands in the river valley are a haven to rare animals and plants. A fascinating city along the river with nature and tranquillity. What's not to love?



#### 8 Historic churches

Mechelen has eight wonderful historic churches. During this walk, you will visit St Rumbold's Cathedral, the Church of St Peter and St Paul and St John's Church. Built in above the altar in St John's Church is Peter Paul Rubens' famous baroque triptych. The beautifully executed panel in the middle depicts 'The adoration of the three wise men'. You can admire Anthony van Dyck's painting 'Christ on the Cross' in St Rumbold's Cathedral, along with works by (among others) Michel Coxcie, Gaspard de Crayer and Abraham Janssens.

#### Historic Woman's Walk

This walk looks at the power of women and their influence on the city. It pays tribute to some of Mechelen's foremost women, from the highest ranks to the lowest, from the distant past through to the present day. Among other things, you will visit Margaret of Austria's palace and what are now the law courts, and you will have an outside view of Margaret of York's palace, which now houses the municipal theatre.

#### **Visit Brewery Het Anker**

Founded in 1471, Het Anker brewery is one of Belgium's oldest breweries and a Mechelen success story. It is where local beers like the Gouden Carolus (Golden Charles) and the Cuvée van de Keizer (Emperor's Cuvée) are made which brought this small, artisanal family brewery world fame when they won a number of awards. Mechelen means Gouden Carolus. The 'Mechelschen Bruynen', the favourite beer of Charles the Fifth, is a barley beer that has been brewed since 1433. 'Gouden Carolus' is Mechelen's pride and joy and takes its name from the coin that was minted during Charles the Fifth's regency. Are you ready for a taste?



## **Study Visits**

## **Sunday 22 May 2016**

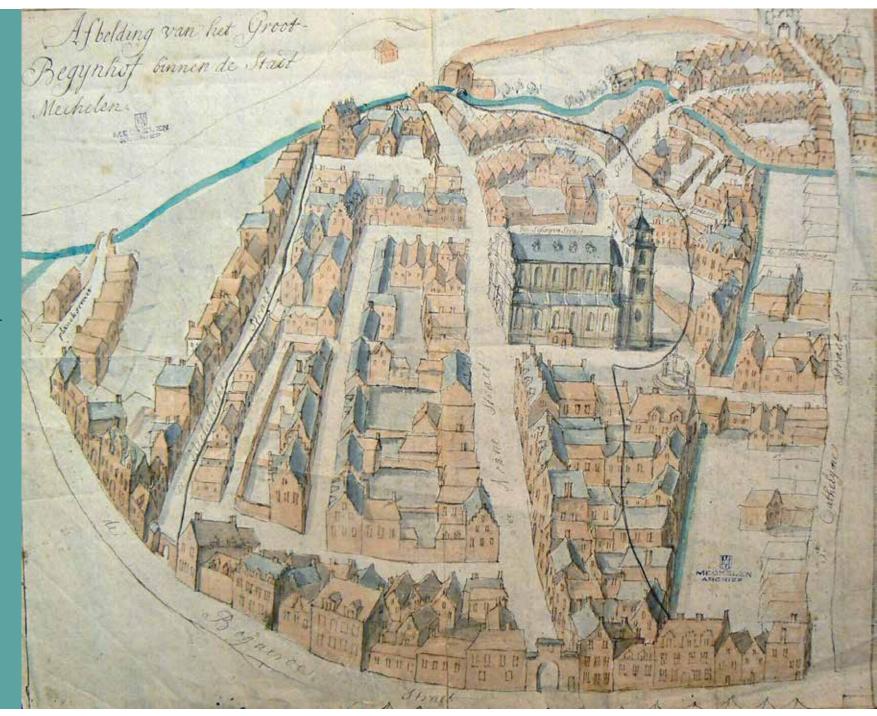
# Refugees! How does Kazerne Dossin deal with human rights issues

During the war, Kazerne Dossin was where 25,000 Jews and Gypsies were imprisoned, put onto trains and deported to Auschwitz-Birkenau. A visit will move, dismay and invite you to contemplate. However, this modern museum is not limited to what happened in the past, it encourages you to ask questions about the role and power of the masses and to reflect on mass violence which is omnipresent in the news today. In this study visit we reflect together on the potentials and pitfalls of museums in dealing with sensitive heritage. Just how far can we go with the confrontation? How and when can you incorporate contemporary news items in your heritage exhibition? What is the role of heritage interpretation in bridging sensitive themes like human rights from a past context in today's reality?



# The European heritage label: giving your heritage site meaning in the European context

Walk around in one of the UNESCO world heritage sites of Mechelen and discover how the Flemish beguines, independent and self-conscious women, organised themselves to create a way of life for their own based on a search for meaning and on social involvement. Because of their outstanding universal values, the Beguinages of Flanders were recognised as UNESCO World Heritage. Alongside this, the EU is developing its own unique approach to what makes heritage sites count with its own European Heritage Label. It recognises the role and significance of heritage sites in the history of Europe, the encouragement of citizen participation and youth involvement, in particular. The significance of the label in addressing heritage on a European level, the role of heritage interpretation and much more will be explored by an expert panel. Sign up for this site visit and take part in the discussion on the importance of sites, their stories and how interpretation can help to reinforce them.





# An innovative approach to active citizenship & participation at the Burgundian Palace. A participatory city museum of Mechelen

Be inspired by the methodology of the international 'participative models in museums' think tank. The Burgundian Palace features the new city museum of Mechelen (opens in 2018) and has developed an innovative pilot project which has the potential to fundamentally change our ideas and ways of involving local citizens, visitors, heritage experts as well as political stakeholders. It therefore addresses a key aspect of heritage interpretation of how to transform a participative approach into the foundation of a long term museum project. Learn more about this project, debate with the key players and discover how you can use different forms of participation in your own museum.

Cultivating humanity or simply towing the line: the future of lifelong learning in the European context at the Ursuline School and Winter Garden

Discover this hidden pearl of art-nouveau design in Mechelen and see how special it was that the Ursuline nuns founded an international school for girls there in the early 19th century to share their own ideas of education.

What are your progressive ideas on learning? How do they contribute to cultivating humanity?





#### Community building and co-creation at Horst Castle

Drag your eyes away from the beautiful tower and the architecture of this medieval moated fort and you'll see that the nature park around the castle is just as interesting as the castle itself. Be inspired by the interpretive approach of guiding and how guides, volunteers and visitors were involved in creating a visitor programme for families and children. Join the discussion on co-creation and interpretive planning. Are you prepared to put your community in the driver's seat? Discover how you could bring the rich stories of an empty castle alive and make them appeal to children.



## Study Visits

**Monday 23 May 2016** 

#### Rethinking the basis of sustainability at the Hoge Kempen National Park

You will be surprised to realise that the most beautiful panoramic view of Flanders has been transformed from a former coal mining area into a nature paradise. On this study visit, we will discuss the relationship between human wellbeing, culture and nature; where they meet, how nature and culture could support each other, how we could better cooperate and how heritage interpretation could support

people to develop ideas and shaping their own environment. At 'connecterra', (the main gate), nature, people, culture and tourism takes on a whole new meaning. Explore this unique 'mixed continuous landscape' of Europe (candidate for UNESCO World Heritage) and get inspired.

## Evaluating interpretive guiding at the Grand Commandery Alden Biesen

What distinguishes interpretive guiding from other types of guiding? What are its advantages and pitfalls? Where do interpretive guides make a difference? Based on the experience of the InHerit project pilot course, we will have a hands-on visit of what it means to interpret the Grand Commandery Alden Biesen. This fabulous place was established and developed by the legendary Teutonic Order and provides the stage to explore tips and tricks of interpretive guiding. Get involved, participate and join the discussion at this extraordinary site.





# Interpreting Flemish masters for a European Audience: Designing the new Bruegel House in Brussels

Get an exclusive preview of the house of one of the most genius Flemish Masters, Jan Pieter Bruegel exclusively and in preview (planned opening date 2019). Meet the curator and discover the plans how to interpret the Bruegel House, how it will fit into the Bruegel trail in Brussels and have the opportunity to discuss these plans with the team and to provide input. In this study visit we debate how different approaches of interpretation effect the visitor experience and the way the legacy of Bruegel is visualised in a European context. Participate at this exercise and be part of the debate which will affect future decisions.

# 'The museum of the future' at the Tongeren Gallo-Roman Museum

Tongeren (Actuatuca Tungrorum) is Belgium's oldest town, and just the place to explore the stories of the Celts, the Eburons, the Romans and the Germans in this European Museum Award winning museum of 2011. Be inspired by the interpretive learning environment and learn which choices were made in the exhibition. In this study visit we reflect on kinds of museums in relation to their visitors and how a museum like this can link with modern day, socially relevant issues, so that future generations engage with its topic. Be part of a discussion group on the 'museum of the future.'







# Belgian Food experience in Bruges and its rural countryside

Tuesday 24 May 2016

There are places that somehow manage to get under your skin, even though you don't really know them all that well. The countryside around Bruges is just that kind of place. A warm and friendly place in a rustic landscape environment. Join us for a bike tour along local farms and taste some of the best local products this countryside has to offer while strolling to Bruges (of course the beers and chocolates are never far away). Those who really want to relax, can cover the same distance by boat.

Along the way you pass the romantic fishing town of Damme (founded in 1134) where medieval windmills add a splash of colour to the unique polder landscape. This quiet village has a lofty reputation for gastronomy and is one of the most picturesque places to visit in the countryside surrounding Bruges.

Arrive in Bruges in the afternoon on the boat or on your bike and explore by yourself a city whose history made it great, resulting in a highly-deserved classification as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

### **Our tips for Bruges:**

- Historium: The history of Bruges in a 3D-animation video
- Groeningen Museum: The museum offers a varied overview of the history of Belgian visual arts. Although the "Flemish Primitives" are a high point, you can also marvel at top 18th and 19th-century neoclassical pieces, masterpieces from Flemish Expressionism and post-war modern art. The focal point of the collection is without a doubt the world famous collection of Flemish Primitive paintings, with masterpieces by Jan van Eyck, Hans Memling, Hugo van der Goes, and Gerard David.
- Belfry and market of Bruges: The most important of Bruges' towers stands 83 metres tall. It houses, amongst other things, a carillon with 47 melodious bells. In the reception area, waiting visitors can discover all kinds of interesting information about the history and working of



this unique world-heritage protected belfry. Those who take on the challenge of climbing the tower can pause for a breather on the way up in the old treasury, where the city's charters, seal and public funds were kept during the Middle Ages, and also at the level of the impressive clock or in the bell-ringer's chamber. Finally, after a tiring 366 steps, your efforts will be rewarded with breathtaking and unforgettable panoramic views of Bruges and the surrounding area.

 Beguinage: The 'Princely Beguinage Ten Wijngaarde' with its white-coloured house fronts, tranquil convent garden and beguinage museum was founded in 1245. Nowadays, this item of World Heritage is inhabited by the sisters of the Order of Saint Benedict



## **Practical**

Conference & Heritage Centre Lamot Van Beethovenstraat 8-10 2800 Mechelen Belgium

Please make sure to book your hotel in time. At our website (see 'practical') you will find a list of hotels in Mechelen where we fixed discount prices for Interpret Europe Conference participants.

## **Contact**

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Design: Erik Desombere Pictures: Toerisme Mechelen, Passendaele museum, Layla Aerts, Het Anker, Christophe Ketels, Anneleen Mengels, Jan Crab. Alden Biesen, GRM,

## Fees

Registration in	Participation	You are member of Interpret Europe*	You are not a member of Interpret Europe	You are a network partner of Herita**	You are a master student
January-February	Full conference: 21-24 May 2016	€360	€495	€495	€280
March-April	Full conference: 21-24 May 2016	€495	€535	€535	€280
Day pass fee (fixed)		€185	€185	€150	€280
Pre conference fee (fixed)	20 May 2016	€70	€70	€70	€70
Post conference fee (fixed)	25 May 2016	€60**	€60***	€60***	€60***

Included: all lunches, all dinners, all breaks, all study visits, conference material, transport from and to the study visits.

Not included: hotel, transport to Belgium/Mechelen

- \* Becoming an individual member of Interpret Europe is €30.

  Read more: (http://www.interpret-europe.net/top/join/individual-membership/form-individual-associate-membership.html)
- \*\* Read more about how to become a Herita partner. http://herita.be/netwerk/bouwen-aan-het-netwerk-open-monumenten
- \*\*\* Dinner is not included











