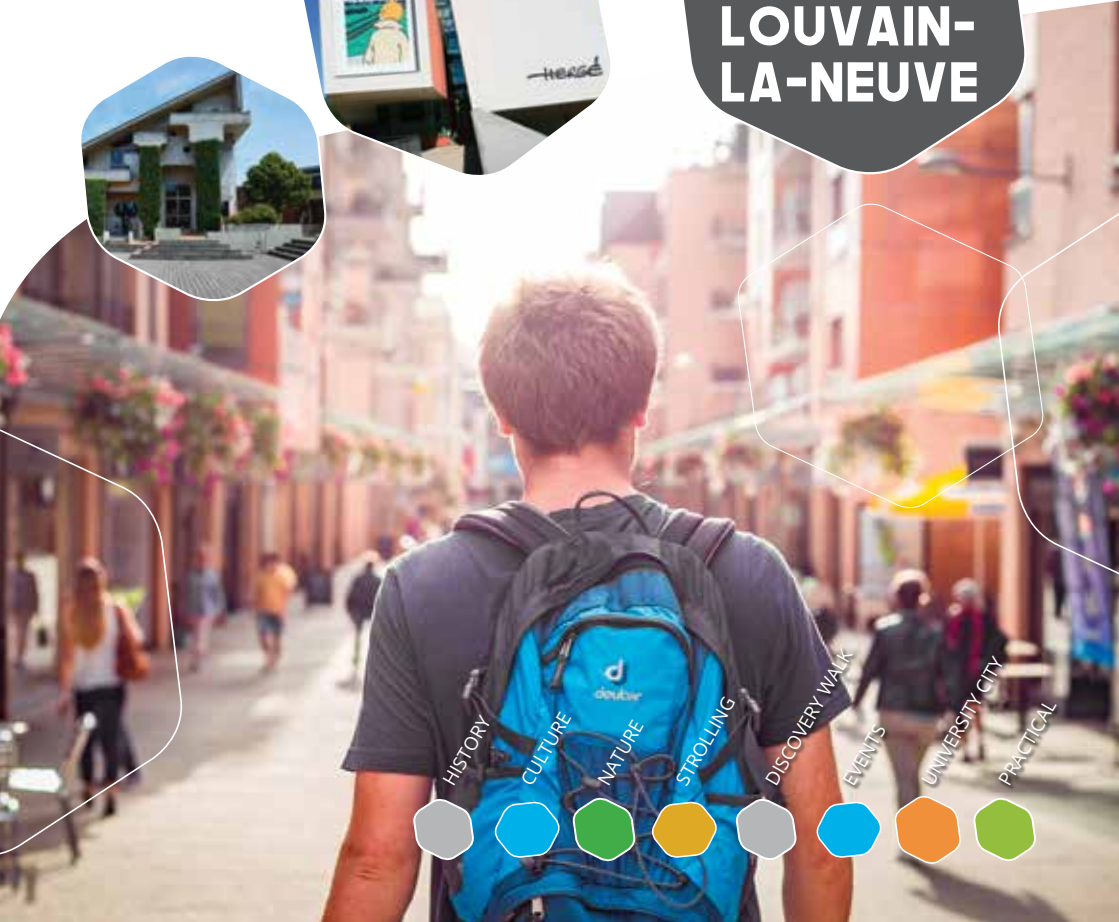










POCKET-SIZED LOUVAIN-LA-NEUVE




- HISTORY
- CULTURE
- NATURE
- STROLLING
- DISCOVERY WALK
- EVENTS
- UNIVERSITY CITY
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-  Adress
-  Opening times

 Find our page [tourismeOttigniesLouvainlaNeuve](https://www.facebook.com/tourismeOttigniesLouvainlaNeuve) on Facebook

 Share your photos of Louvain-la-Neuve on Instagram with #inLLN



A NEW TOWN

Located in the heart of the Walloon Brabant province, 32 kilometres south of Brussels, Ottignies-Louvain-la-Neuve has two town centres. The historical centre of Ottignies nestles in the heart of the beautiful surrounding countryside, which has been enriched in terms of culture and tourism by the construction of the new city, creating a new centre: Louvain-la-Neuve.

A true university city, Louvain-la-Neuve sits harmoniously in the surrounding landscape. From its very beginnings, the city was modelled on Italian medieval towns and with the idea of general accessibility. The town centre is a completely pedestrian area and bubbling with life, with a distinctive, friendly atmosphere. It is a unique example of urban creation which combines country charm with all the advantage of a modern city!

AN ACCESSIBLE TOWN

OTTIGNIES-LOUVAIN-LA-NEUVE,
EUROPEAN DESTINATION OF EXCELLENCE



The city has been designed for all its visitors, young and not so young, able-bodied and less so. It is for this reason, as well as the efforts made in this respect, that Ottignies-Louvain-la-Neuve was granted the "EDEN" label in 2013 on the theme of accessibility for all. It joins several other Walloon tourist destinations in the European Destination of Excellence network in the field of sustainable development.

www.youredenexperience.com

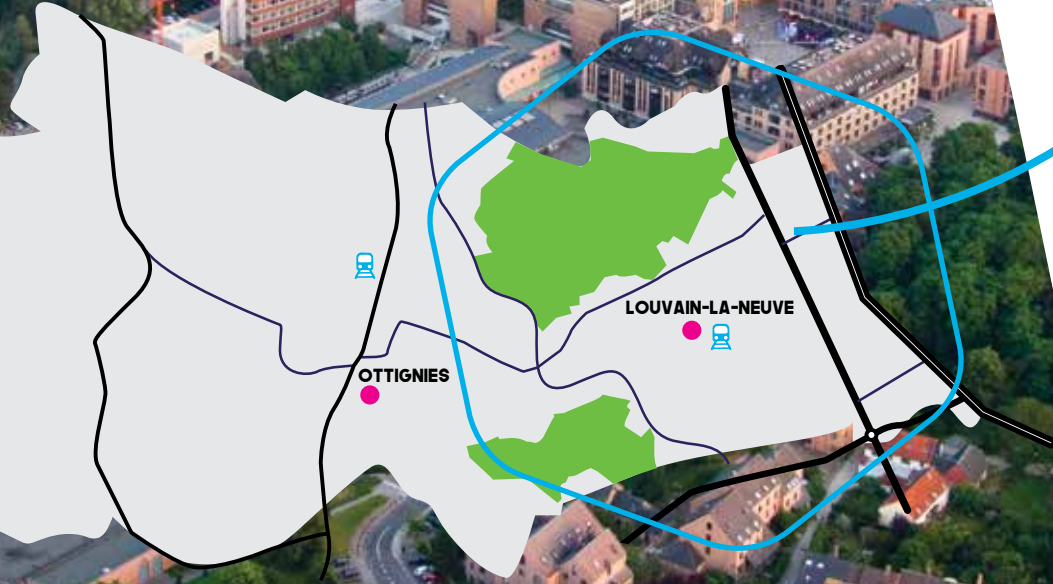
I love my city

For the atmosphere, the energy, the incessant but not overwhelming movement of Louvain-la-Neuve. For its rural landscapes and the beautiful green valley of Ottignies ... the ideal place to have a pleasant walk.

LAETITIA, 34 YEARS OLD

OTTIGNIES-LOUVAIN-LA-NEUVE

- Surface area : 3.339 hectares
- Population : 31.551 inhab
- 2 main stations

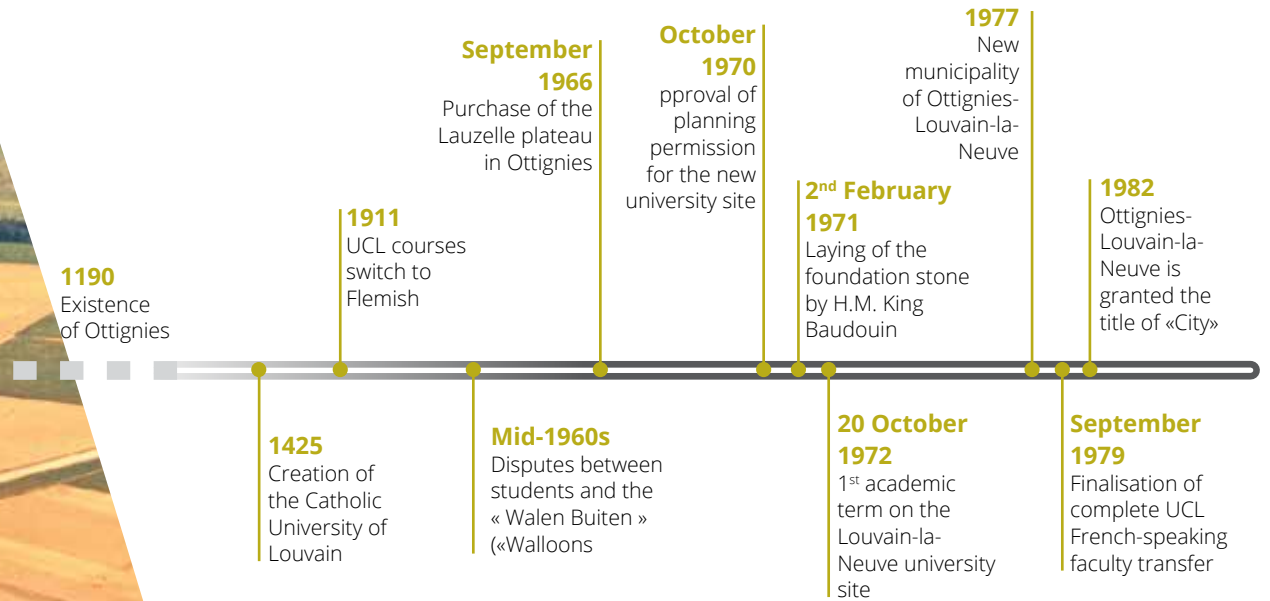


- Surface area = +/- 1.000 hectares
- 198 ha Lauzelle woods + 168 ha green zones and parks
- 14,5 ha Pedestrian concrete slab
- 53% pedestrian streets (43 km)
- 13 bus lines travelling from LLN
- Daytime population 45.000 persons
- Resident population 21.000 persons



LOUVAIN-LA-NEUVE

A BIT OF BACKGROUND HISTORY...



It was the tensions between the Flemish and Walloon communities at the end of the 1960s that prompted the French-speakers at the Catholic University of Louvain (UCL) to leave Leuven, settle in Wallonia and build a new university there. The French-speaking section bought a vast piece of agricultural land measuring 920 hectares on the Lauzelle plateau in Ottignies. At that time

there were only a few farms and hamlets on the land.

The planners' idea for Louvain-la-Neuve was to build a university within the city, rather than a university campus cut off from society. The city is therefore built on a reasonable scale and the academic buildings blend in with the surroundings and other urban functions.

The first academic term began on 20th October 1972 on what was basically still a building site, a year and a half after the first foundation stone was laid on 2nd February 1971 in the presence of King Baudouin I. 800 students from the Science Faculties came to do their graduate and post-graduate studies in the Biéreau area.



It took 10 years for the university to complete the transfer of all its different faculties. Nowadays, more than 50,000 people walk up and down the streets of Louvain-la-Neuve.



Louvain-la-Neuve also has two museums: the **Hergé Museum** and the **L Museum**. We recommend that you take at least 2 hours out of your day for each museum to see everything.

Hergé Museum

takes you on a voyage of discovery of the many facets of the creator of Tintin. Eight rooms with different decors breathe new life into the universe and characters of the master of the Clean Line.



 Rue du Labrador 26
 Open from Tuesday to Friday from 10:30 to 17:30 and at weekends from 10:00 to 18:00.
9,50€/adult – 5€/child aged 7 to 14
Information: 010/48 84 21

www.museeherge.com



L Museum

is a university museum dedicated to art and science. What does it offer? The link between the works of art, the unique scientific collections from the UCL and 3 labs where the public can even touch the works of art.

 Place des Sciences
 Open from Tuesday to Friday from 09:30 to 17:00 and at weekends from 11:00 to 17:00. 6€/adult – 2€/13-25
– free for children aged 12 and below – 2€/visioguide
Information: 010/47 48 41

www.museel.be



GOOD TIP Every 1st Sunday of the month, entry is free for everyone in both museums (audioguide et visioguide included).

Pick up the « Boussole » event diary or check our on-line diary www.tourisme-olln.be or the one of our partners.

www.atjv.be
www.fermedubiereau.be
www.poleculturel.be
www.cinescope.be

ONE DAY TO...

DISCOVER THE CULTURE

Like an open-air museum, the city offers visitors more than a hundred sculptures, fountains and wall paintings. A booklet is available in the Office du Tourisme-Inforville shop. It will help you to choose one of the approximately one and a half hour art discovery walks around the city.



I love my city

Louvain-la-Neuve's pedestrianisation makes it easy to get around but also to meet people. It's like living in a small village. Small, but dynamic! There is always something to do, a good restaurant to go to or a new exhibition to see in the city's many cultural centres.

ALICE, 28 YEARS OLD

Are you staying in the area?

Then you should enjoy an evening of entertainment, go and see a play at the great hall of the Jean Vilar theatre or a movie at the "Cinéscope", discover different types of music at concerts at the Biéreau Farm or take part in local events ... Louvain-la-Neuve town centre shares the cultural mix that defines the city with you!

ONE DAY TO...

CONNECT WITH NATURE

Louvain-la-Neuve also has unspoilt nature, in particular the **Lauzelle Forest**, a listed site of remarkable biological diversity. The proposed walks, lined with information signs, enable you to discover all aspects of the forest, from its flora and fauna to its scientific utility.



I love my city

A pedestrian town where pace and peace are never far apart
PATRICK, 55 YEARS OLD



Are you looking for something original to do?

Then head straight to the green spaces of the Bruyères area and try a round of frisbee-golf, which is played with frisbees that can be rented from the Office du Tourisme-Inforville (deposit of 15€/frisbee).



GOOD TIP



RENT A BIKE AT OTTIGNIES STATION!

To see the different neighbourhoods of Louvain-la-Neuve and to easily interlink the green spaces and city centres, there is nothing better than renting a bike from Pro Velo next to Ottignies station. Try out one of their bike or mountain bike trails. The forest and the various listed are just a bike ride away!



Open from Monday to Thursday from 09:00 to 19:00 and on Friday from 11:00 to 19:00. Closed at weekends.

Information: 010/40 15 13

www.provelo.org

If you're in a sporty mood, the **bois des Rêves** ("Forest of Dreams" of 80 ha) is the place for you, with its walking paths, exercise track, fishing lake, swimming pool-solarium and the Water and Fountain Museum.

 Allée du Bois des Rêves, 1 à Ottignies
www.boisdesreves.be
www.lemuseedeleauetdelafontaine.be



Open from 08:30 to 19:30 in April, May and September; from 08:30 to 21:00 from June to August; and from 08:30 to 18:00 from October to March.

Free playground for children aged 2 to 13. Open from 09:30 to 19:00 from April to September; and from 09:30 to 17:00 from October to March.

Swimming pool open from 10:00 to 18:30 from 15th June to 31st August.
Information: 010/41 60 72

ONE DAY TO...

STROLL AROUND

With its pedestrianised area dotted with green spaces and shops, the city is a great place for simply strolling and encourages exchanges between students, teachers, locals and visitors.



Take the time to walk around the different areas of the university city to locate the different sights and impressive buildings. Our 1,5 hour tour will take you there on the following page.

Continue your walk in the city centre and enjoy the shops, the shopping centre, the many bustling cafés and its large selection of restaurants. What could be nicer than getting together on a terrace after a day's walking?

I love my city
It's a pleasant and unique place in the world from many points of view. A place where you can meet a wide range of people. It's a utopian success story. And it's where I live!
PHILIPPE, 50 YEARS OLD



LEARN MORE ABOUT THE TOURIST SIGHTS IN THE TOWN BY SCANNING THE QR CODES!

Small blue signs scattered all over Louvain-la-Neuve and Ottignies will give you information on interesting buildings, squares or green spaces. Find the list of places on the map available at the Office du Tourisme-Infoville.



1 PLACE DE L'UNIVERSITÉ

A favourite meeting point, the square also has a market on Tuesdays and Saturdays. The fountain, which represents two students, was created by the sculptress Geneviève Warry. It has been christened « Léon and Valérie » by the local students as a reference to an old student song.

2 HALLES UNIVERSITAIRES

The main administrative building of the University, the halls take their name from the former «Cloth Halls» of Louvain. Several works of art decorate the building: a sculpture called «la main au diplôme» ("the hand on the diploma"), a wall painting by Roger Somville and a Chinese engraving, a symbol of the close relationship between the UCL and the University of Peking.

3 PLACE DES WALLONS

Hexagonal in shape and following the natural downward gradient of the site, this square is inspired by medieval town models. One of the walls sports a colourful decoration with exotic touches; it is a fresco from the Kosmopolite Art Tour, an international street art festival.



4 PLACE DES SCIENCES

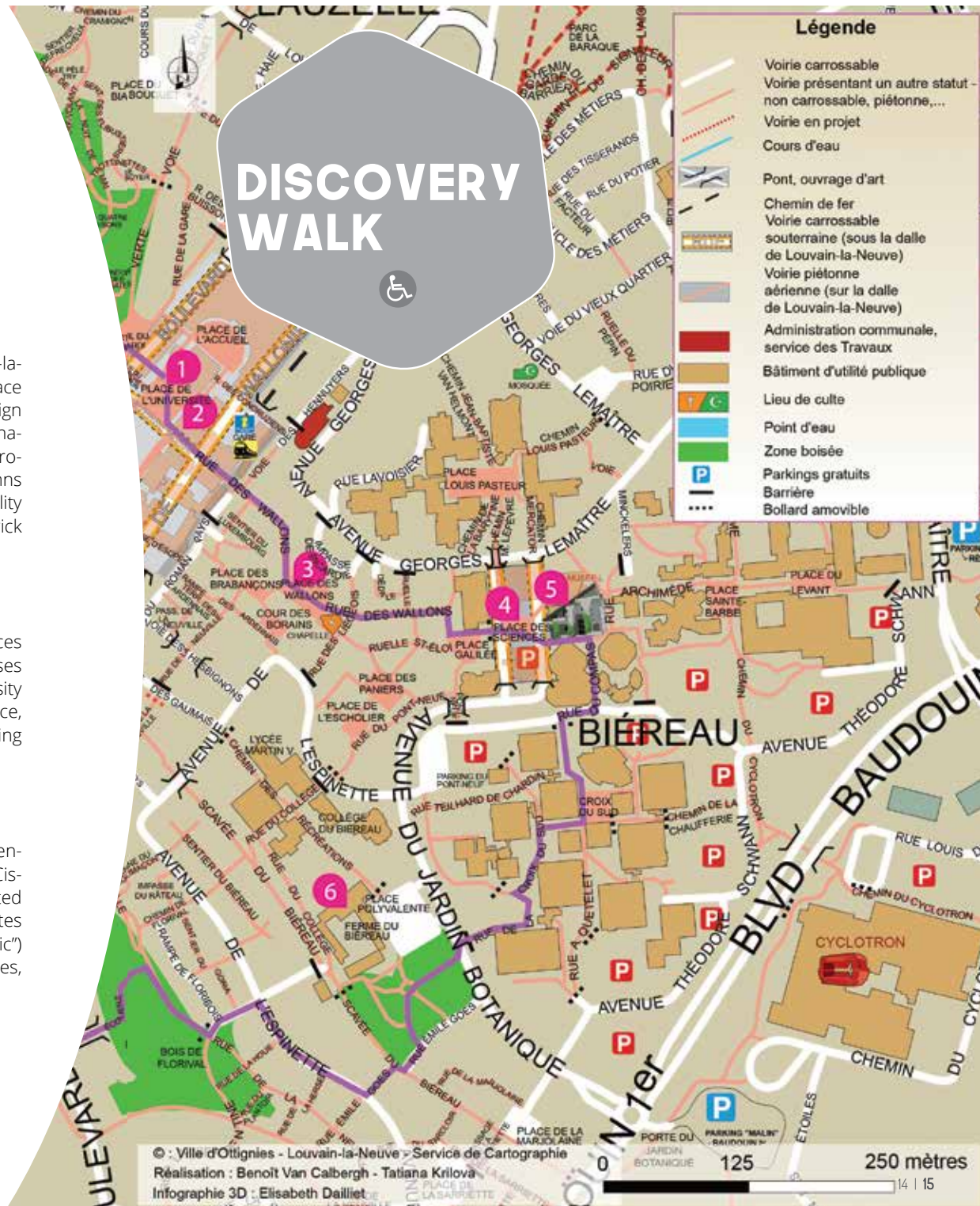
The first square to be built in Louvain-la-Neuve, this is a symbolic meeting place for the townspeople. The whole design is inspired by the Gothic style, to emphasise the architectural details and the proportions. The choice of concrete columns gives the buildings a certain individuality and differs radically from the usual brick used in Louvain-la-Neuve.

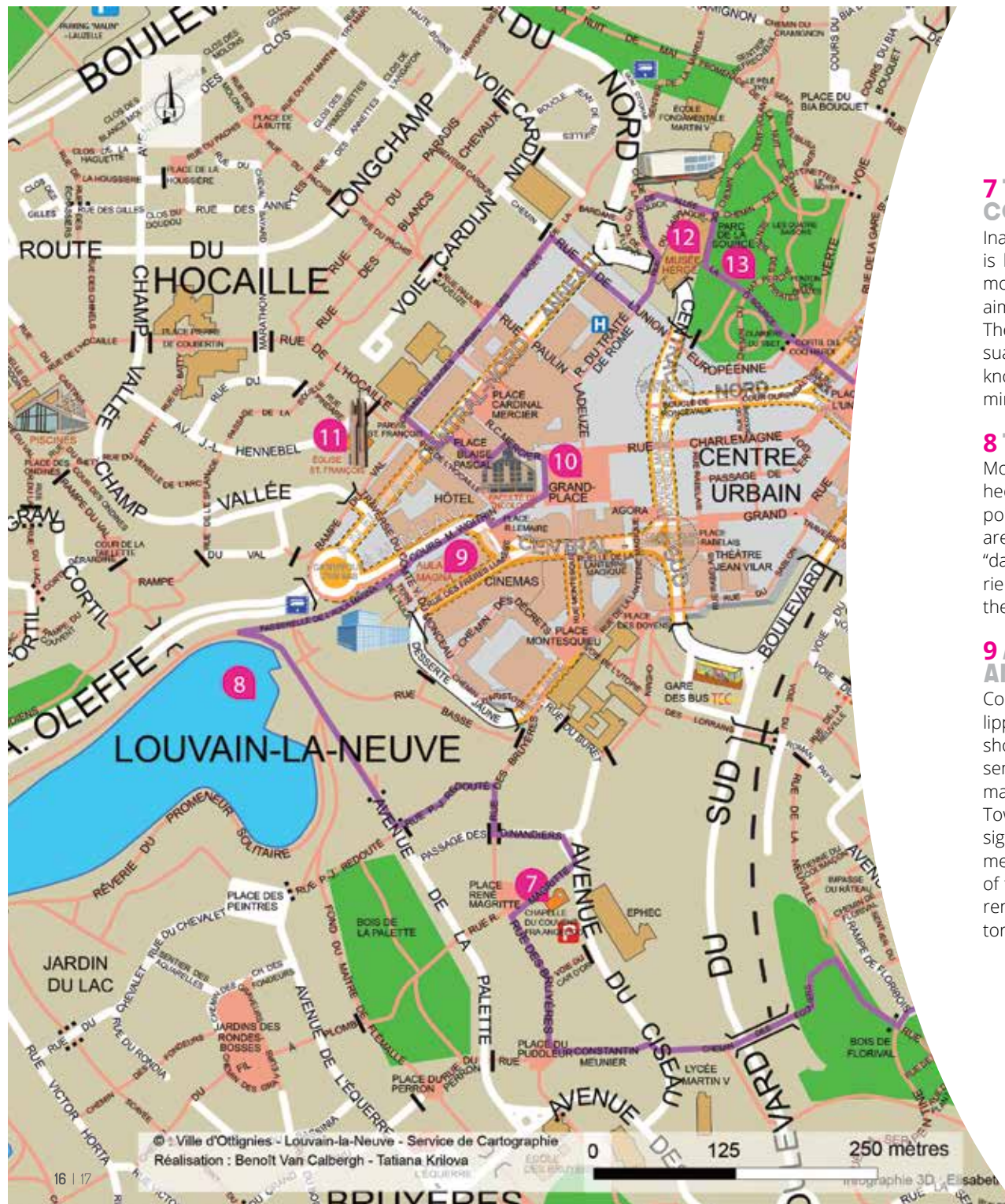
5 L MUSEUM

Formerly the Library of Exact Sciences and Technology, this building houses since 2017 the L Museum, the university museum of art, civilisation and science, with more than 30.000 pieces dating from prehistory to the current day.

6 FERME DU BIÉREAU

The building dates back to the 12th century and belonged to the Abbey of the Cistercian nuns of Florival. A farm converted into a concert hall, « la maison de toutes les musiques » ("the house of all music") also hosts literary events, conferences, workshops and exhibitions.





7 THE DOMINICAN CONVENT

Inaugurated in March 2010, this convent is located in a low-energy building with modern architecture. The community aims to be a lively, welcoming place. The most original features are an unusual egg-shaped chapel, but also a pub, known as The Blackfriars, run by the Dominican monks.

8 THE LAKE

More than a storm water tank, the 7 hectare artificial lake is also a migration point for many species of bird and an area of varied flora. A path known as the "daydream of the solitary walker" (« Rêverie du promeneur solitaire ») takes you the whole way round.

9 AULA MAGNA AND THE TOUR INFINIE

Completed in 2001 and designed by Philippe Samyn, this glass cube can host shows, congresses, meetings, concerts, seminars, etc., and serves as a landmark in the urban landscape. The Infinite Tower draws the eye on the avenue. Designed by François Schuiten, this monumental painting is inspired by the myth of the Tower of Babel. It is a playful reference to the city's complexity and its history which began with a linguistic conflict.

10 GRAND-PLACE

A good example of urban diversity, the Market Square has become the centre of Louvain-la-Neuve. It was the dream of Michel Woitrin, the then deputy head of the UCL, to have a « Plaza Mayor » like the ones in Paris, Barcelona and other large cities.

11 THE CHURCH OF SAINT FRANCIS

The structured architecture of this modern church differs from the traditional cross shape. Here, the shape is square and the congregation sits in the middle of the church, opposite the priest. The bell tower is inspired by Italian-style steeples and was added when the church was built. The hooded figure located at the lower end of the forecourt is a sculpture by father Kolbe, a Franciscan monk who died in Auschwitz in 1941.

12 THE HERGÉ MUSEUM

A real homage to the creator of Tintin and his work, the museum was designed by the French architect Christian de Portzamparc, who was inspired by the clean line school. This project is a dream-come-true for Fanny Rodwell, second Hergé's wife, who wanted to showcase his life and work.

13 PARC DE LA SOURCE

Located in the heart of the city and showcasing the Hergé Museum, the park brings a pleasant tranquillity to the new town. Several signs give more information about Louvain-la-Neuve.



THE BIG ANNUAL EVENTS

FEBRUARY

- Louvain-la-Neuve Carnival
- The Universatil theatre festival

MARCH

- The Open Jazz Festival
- Science Spring ("Le Printemps des Sciences")

APRIL

- The Welcome Spring Festival

MAY

- The "Diagonale" Comic Book Festival

JUNE

- «La Fête de la musique»
(The Summer Music Festival)

JULY

- «Louvain-la-Plage» (The Summer Beach of Louvain-la-Neuve)

AUGUST

- The Kidzik Festival

SEPTEMBER

- The modern art Biennial
(September – November)

OCTOBER

- «Les 24h vélo» - The 24 hour bike festival
(third or fourth Wednesday and Thursday of October)

DECEMBER

- «Louvain-la-Neige» (The Christmas Market)

A UNIVERSITY CITY

A cultural and scientific hub, Louvain-la-Neuve is the prime example of a French-speaking university city!



You will meet students on every corner as the UCL faculties are everywhere, mingling with the houses and the shops. So Louvain-la-Neuve is not a campus, but a real university city. The university buildings blend in with the urban fabric and the locals mingle on a daily basis with the students, the members of the university community and other employees.

The student population currently makes up almost 50% of the total population of the university city, which gives it a young yet studious and every friendly atmosphere, sometimes festive but always good-natured!

So no need to ask where the university is in Louvain-la-Neuve, because it's all around you.

All of the academic disciplines are represented at the UCL, but not only in Louvain-la-Neuve. In fact, the UCL is a multi-site university shared between Louvain-la-Neuve, Brussels, Mons, Tournai Charleroi and Namur.

It is the first Belgian, French-speaking university to have an international ranking and encompasses a large national and international community.

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF LOUVAIN ('UNIVERSITÉ CATHOLIQUE DE LOUVAIN'): A COMPLETE UNIVERSITY

Founded in 1425 in Louvain, the UCL is one of the oldest universities in the world, together with Oxford, Paris, Salamanca or Bologna. Its major goals are education and research, hence the close connection between the science faculties and the nearby scientific park.



A SMALL STUDENT DICTIONARY

GENUINE UNIVERSITY FOLKLORE!

The student circles, regionals and groups are the key players in the folklore and festivities. The origin of the regionals dates back to the end of the 19th century! The ceremonies which accompany the awarding of the cap ("calotte") are very structured and certain of the songs are shared traditions between all the Belgian universities and sometimes even beyond our borders.

It is during these activities, which are the backbone of student folklore, that ideas for projects and friendships are born. More than 2000 official student volunteers are in charge of hundreds of activities open to all in Louvain-la-Neuve.

KOT (STUDENT LODGING):

Student accommodation, often shared.

KOT-À-PROJETS (KAP'S)

Shared flat where students work together on a project (social, cultural, humanitarian or artistic) and lead a particularly intense life together.

"RÉGIONALE"

An association which brings students from the same region together.

CIRCLE

An association for students from the same faculty.

"CALOTTE" (CAP)

Headgear worn by the new Louvain students who have successfully passed the « coronae » initiation ceremony, which proves that they know all the aspects of student folklore. This is a real student identity card: it shows the university, the faculty, information on studies and the personality of the cap-wearer.

"GUINDAILLE" (PARTY)

A festive student activity, often involving alcohol and bawdy, popular songs. The original meaning of the word « guindaille » was the composition of a satirical text (song or other) mocking the shortcomings of a fellow student, but has now come to describe parties in general.

lejouretlanuit.asbo.com

GOOD CONNECTIVITY TIPS



WIFI ZONES

Most of the buildings in Louvain-la-Neuve have a wifi network accessible to UCL members.

If you are not a member, you can get free wifi in the Esplanade shopping centre and in the various cafes and restaurants. You can find a list on our website.



QR CODES

Organise your own guided tour with your smartphone or tablet thanks to our QR Codes which are distributed all over the city. You don't have one? Don't worry! We rent tablets at the Office du Tourisme-Inforville for €4 a half-day.



LLN MAPS

It's not always easy to find your way in the labyrinth of streets in Louvain-la-Neuve. Even satnavs get lost. Fortunately, the free LLN Maps app, once downloaded, will enable you to find your way or your landmark even without a connection.



FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM

Latest shopping trends, unmissable events, photos, etc. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram so you don't miss anything and share your best photos, your reactions and your questions with us.

www.facebook.com/tourismeOttigniesLouvainlaneuve

Instagram [officedu_tourismeinforville](https://www.instagram.com/officedu_tourismeinforville)
#inlln

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

GETTING TO LLN

By train

Louvain-la-Neuve station is located right in the town centre. It is accessible via Ottignies station, located at the junction of several lines, either directly or via a connection to the terminus « Louvain-la-Neuve ».

For timetable and prices, see www.b-rail.be.

By bus

13 bus lines operate between Louvain-la-Neuve and the principal cities of the Walloon Brabant province as well as Brussels. The bus station is located next to the Leclercq car park, boulevard du Sud, close to the Market Square.

For timetable and prices, see www.infotec.be.

By car

Louvain-la-Neuve is accessed via the E411 Brussels-Namur motorway. The exit 8a Louvain-la-Neuve Centre takes you directly to the underground (paying) car parks in the town centre, close to the restaurants and museums.



GETTING AROUND AND PARKING

The best way of getting around Louvain-la-Neuve is on foot or by bike, as the distances are not more than one kilometre.

The residential areas are generally in a blue parking zone indicated with a sign. Parking is allowed for a period of 2 hours (if not mentioned otherwise) with the disc in place.

Warning: certain parking places are reserved for UCL members.

There are *tree free 24 hour park-and-ride facilities* available on the outskirts of the city, between 10 and 15 minutes on foot from the centre of Louvain-la-Neuve:

- The Lauzelle car park, Boulevard de Lauzelle
- The Rédimé car park, Avenue Georges Lemaître
- The Baudouin car park, Avenue Baudouin 1^{er}

See the «smart parking» on our website

www.tourisme-olln.be.

You have to pay for *the underground (or private) car parks*. The first quarter of an hour is free. There is a discount on Sundays and in the evenings.

www.mypark.be

The GPS in Louvain-la-Neuve

The two level design of the city tends to be misleading for the satnav, which does always distinguish the pedestrian streets from the non-pedestrian. It is therefore a good idea to input the details of the closest non-pedestrian road to your destination or the address of a car park and continue your journey on foot.

5 GOOD REASONS...

... to visit us at the Office du Tourisme-Inforville



1

The Office du Tourisme-Inforville is happy to provide you with all the **information** necessary for your stay/visit, whether it be for a map of the city or a recommendation.

2

It is also an opportunity to visit the "Forum des Halles" temporary **exhibition** and the scale model, and have a look around our **souvenir shop**.

3

You can also rent a digital tablet which will enable you to follow the **QR codes** trail and discover the university city and its sights.

5

The staff are really nice



4

The Office du Tourisme-Inforville has undertaken a process of continual improvement of its services. We guarantee that you will enjoy yourself.



GOOD TIP

COME ON THE TRAIN!



It brings you directly to the town centre and our offices are located at the exit of the station platform. .




OFFICE DU TOURISME-INFORVILLE

Place de l'Université 1
Galerie des Halles
1348 Louvain-la-Neuve
010/47 47 47
www.tourisme-olln.be
info@tourisme-olln.be

Opening times:

Monday to Friday from 09:00 to 17:00
Saturdays from 11:00 to 17:00
Sundays on Easter holidays (except
Easter weekend) and from July to the
first week of September: from 11:00 to
15:00.

 [tourismeOttigniesLouvainlaneuve](https://www.facebook.com/tourismeOttigniesLouvainlaneuve)

 [officedutourismeinforville](https://www.instagram.com/officedutourismeinforville)



Other brochures available:

- QR Codes Discovery Tour
- Louvain-la-Neuve, the city and its museums - Guided tours
- Facts and Figures