



maarkedal
moet je beleven

ENGLISH



MAARKEDAL, THE FLEMISH ARDENNES AT THEIR BEST

Maarkedal means: slopes and cobbles, rolling hills, sunken roads, rows of willows, groves, brooks and streams and magnificent scenery. It is a patchwork of beautiful spots hidden behind every bend of the many winding roads. Maarkedal is the Flemish Ardennes at their best. Former famous Maarkedal inhabitants like Valerius De Saedeleer (landscape painter) and Hugo Claus (author) knew this all too well.

The unique landscape and authentic atmosphere can be experienced in the villages of Etikove, Kerkem, Maarke, Nukerke, Schorisse and Louise-Marie, situated between Oudenaarde and Ronse, close to the linguistic border.

The Taaienbergh, Eikenbergh, Steenbeekdries and Kortekeer are only a few of the legendary hills, which are a challenge for thousands of cyclists who attempt to defy these steep climbs

every year in the springtime. Maarkedal is the pre-eminent setting of the Flemish cycling classics; the Tour of Flanders is a real festive day here. One must admit that some training is required to climb the tough hills in our region on a bike...

However, Maarkedal is also a paradise for hikers. The many rural roads and breathtaking views guarantee hours of hiking pleasure. Or what would you think of a ride by vespa or in a covered wagon? Take the time to explore Maarkedal. There is so much to be seen that you need more than just one day. Simply plan a weekend or even better: spend a week. And of course you can always come back, as each time you will discover new and beautiful places...

Welcome to Maarkedal!



INTO NATURE

Walk through fields and farmlands, breathe the fresh air in the woods, enjoy the silence in the natural resort of "Burreken", sit back and relax, surrounded by the most stunning views. Maarkedal is full of beautiful spots and surprising landscapes. Nature is always your travel companion here.



"My favourite place in Maarkedal is in a hidden corner of my home village Schorisse. "Bos ter Rijst" is a remnant of a much larger wood long time ago. It is located near the panoramic lookout point "Bosgat". Every season has its charms, however spring remains the ideal time to discover this wood. By the end of April, beginning of May, the wild hyacinth are blooming and cover a large part of the wood with a carpet of tiny blue flowers. An absolute delight to the eye! Did you know that Omer Watzet (Flemish author & poet) dedicated one of his poems to this wood?"

*Matthias Gyselinck,
blogger and fan of
the Flemish Ardennes*

Enjoy the silence in "**Burreken**", a natural park situated on the border of the villages Brakel, Horebeke and Maarkedal. You will find a unique combination of woods, valleys, hills, grassland, fauna and flora. "Burreken" is managed by the organisation "Natuurpunt". There are two marked hiking trails.

www.burreken.be - access via Ganzenberg and Korteberg - itinerary starts at the church of Schorisse

"**Bos ter Rijst**" is a natural preserve of 26 hectares with a central walking trail of 2 km, with wooden benches and picnic tables, allowing some rest. The walking trails winding through the woods are called "Getuigenheuvels Vlaamse Ardennen" and the route "Omer Watzet".

www.natuurenbos.be/bosterrijst - access via Bosterijstraat in Schorisse



HIKING

Put on your walking shoes, hiking is fantastic here! Through the woods, along the many rural roads, through the fields... Enjoy the peace, simplicity and silence and get a feel for the beautiful scenery.

Marked hiking trails:

- Walking in Maarkedal, 5 routes, 4-13 km
- Eikelmuisroute, Burreken, 7,5 km
- Vuursalamanderoute, Burreken, 7 km
- Bierbrouwerswandelroute, 2 routes, 11-12 km
- Muziekbos trail, 11 km
- Omer Wattez trail, 2 routes, 9-12 km
- Walking network "Getuigenheuvels Vlaamse Ardennen", create your own itinerary by means of the section points
- Hiking map - map with local roads and walking paths
→ www.maarkedalmoetjebeleven.be

Guided hiking tours:

- Association of licensed guides "Vlaamse Ardennen Extra"; organised walking tours through Maarkedal "across the landscape of Valerius De Saedeleer"
www.gidsenvlaamseardennen.be, tel 0476 56 78 40
- Natuurpunt Vlaamse Ardennen:
www.natuurpunt.be/afdelingen/natuurpunt-vlaamse-ardennen, tel 055 30 98 10

"I live close to the Taaienbergh, one of the steep hills in the Flemish Ardennes. Maarkedal is a village where people still know each other, a place where you imagine yourself to be in the decor of a Valerius de Saedeleer painting. Maarkedal is a village I cannot and will not let go. Perhaps it has to do with age, but the older I get, the more I realize the beauty of this place. The landscapes are breathtaking, walking around here is heavenly, the people are warmhearted and honest. I live a busy life, but Maarkedal is a real haven of peace. It feels so good to return here after a hectic day. I cherish this feeling forever."

*Donaat Deriemaeker
Presenter*



BIKING AND MORE

The area in and around Maarkedal is the setting of the Tour of Flanders! The steep hills and the many rural roads make Maarkedal a paradise for biking lovers and mountainbike fans. Do you venture the challenge?

Signposted cycling trails in Maarkedal and the Flemish Ardennes:

- Live your own Tour of Flanders, 5 routes, 29-54 km
- Biking trail Tour of Flanders, 3 routes, 78-114 km
- The most beautiful cycling circuits, 4 routes, 42-181 km
- Cycling network Flemish Ardennes, create your own loop by means of junction points.
- Mountainbike route Maarkedal - Ronse, 2 routes, 25-27 km

→ www.maarkedalmoetjebelven.be

Bike renting:

- AA fietsen: www.fietsenverhuur.com, tel 0476 42 08 41
- Koen Descamps: www.descampskoen.be, tel 055 20 70 25

On a vespa scooter or with horse and carriage?

Tired after all that biking and hiking? In that case you can choose for an exciting, yet relaxing tour on a Vespa scooter. Or how would you fancy to discover the area in a carriage or a covered wagon? Definitely worth trying!

- Refugetrips: trips on vespa scooters, www.refugetrips.be, tel 0495 59 94 33
- Hof ter T'hont: trips by carriage or wagon, tel 0496 60 91 33
- 't Perdegedoe: trips by carriage or wagon, www.tperdegedoe.be, tel 055 45 50 83
- Hof te Ruitegem: farm with small horses, walks and carriage rides for wheelchair users www.ehruitegem.be, tel 0475 74 16 36
- Verdonckt: carriage museum, www.koetsen-verdonckt.be, tel 0484 40 43 21



"The Flemish Ardennes are often called the Tuscany of the low lands, which is so very true. It is a well-kept secret that Maarkedal and its idyllic villages are wonderful places to wander around. The cycling tourists crossing the green valleys and defying the steep slopes have discovered this secret already. Apart from them, not too many people should know how enjoyable this place is, or they all would come and live here..."

Nic Balthazar
Film Director



MAARKEDAL MILL TOWN

The typical landscape of the Flemish Ardennes makes Maarkedal a true mill town, with windmills on the hilltops and water mills in the course of the brook.

Grinding mills

The Kasteelmolen (Castle mill) in Schorisse, owned by the Lord of Schorisse from the 15th to the end of the 18th century, still grinds very regularly! The current Miller Rufin Vanderdonckt is the fifth generation of the family who uses this watermill on a professional basis. The windmill on the Bossenaereheuveld runs rather sporadically. Both mills can be visited on request.

From grain to Rondelle bread, a local according speciality

At the base of the "Taaienberg", the 16th-century watermill "De Cleye" or "Ten Elzas" was used until the 50s of last century. On the site of the mill the firm "Molens Van Malleghem" (Mills Van Malleghem) is housed now, a modern milling company with attention to craft and tradition.

Proof of this is the Rondelle Bread, a sourdough bread to a traditional recipe of "Molens Van Malleghem", baked by the traditional baker. Only natural basic ingredients are used in the Rondelle bread. The flour consists of locally grown wheat and rye. Previously, there was more rye grown in our region. The Rondelle goes back to this tradition.



Our mills:

Kasteelmolen (Castle mill): Parkstraat 4 in Schorisse, tel 055 45 51 94, **Ladeuzemolen:** Ladeuze in Etikhove, **Romansmolen:** Kokerellestraat 10 in Maarke-Kerkem, **Ter Borgtmolen:** Borgtstraat in Maarke-Kerkem, **Bossenaarmolen:** Langekouder - Aatse Heerweg in Etikhove, **Molen ter Hengst:** Ommegangstraat 52 in Nukerke, **Molen ter Kruisens:** Ommegangstraat 2 in Nukerke, **Molen ter Sleepe:** Weitstraat 4A in Nukerke.



Tip: stay for a night at Molen ter Sleepe, a former corn windmill

ALONG FLEMISH ROADS

Every village of Maarkedal has its own church tower, but you will also see quite a few chapels: in the fields, beside an old lime tree, at a crossroad or next to a farm. Every little chapel is unique, and has a different story to tell.



The chapel of Saint Vincent (Sint-Vincen-tiuskapel) on the top of the Kapelleberg is certainly worth visiting. This small chapel dates back from the 12th century. At that time it attracted a lot of pilgrims who worshipped Saint Vincent to protect them against tooth pain and other kinds of diseases. The wax “ex-votos” are a testimony of this former devotion; they were votive offerings given by the worshipers and placed in the chapel. During the novena prayers (i.e. prayers repeated for 9 consecutive days) for Saint Vincent in the last week of January, it is a tradition to make “geutelingen”, a kind of thick pancakes which are baked in Maarkedal during this period in wood ovens.

The chapel of Saint Vincent is open every day from 9 to 20h, in winter until 17h.

Saying that **the Chapels of Seven Sorrows** in the Annoven quarter in Schorisse are special, is an understatement. In the middle of a beautiful garden you will find seven small chapels built around one larger chapel, dedicated to Saint Mary of Seven Sorrows. The chapels are a remarkable religious marvel in neo-gothic style, built in 1901 in gratitude for a miraculous healing. The site is protected because of its cultural and folklore value.

Eight chapels of seven sorrows - corner Kapelstraat - Annovenstraat

The traditional festivities held every year in this area, still attract lots of visitors. A nice example is the **horsemen procession**. To ancient tradition, horses and riders are blessed, followed by a procession through the village. Certainly worth the experience.





Authentic bars, nice restaurants, a tavern with an artistic touch, an ice cream bar – Maarkedal offers plenty of interesting places to eat and drink. The beautiful scenery is included.

All addresses can be found on next page and on the website www.maarkedalmoetjebeleven.be/eten-en-drinken. It is recommended to ask in advance for more information about opening hours and different possibilities



Why not book a weekend or a midweek right away? Accommodation facilities in Maarkedal are extensive: trendy B&B's, an exclusive windmill, rural holiday cottages, authentic farms for large groups, child-friendly guesthouses, accommodation with bike rental facilities, a youth hostel and a camping site.

All addresses can be found on next page and on the website www.maarkedalmoetjebeleven.be/logeren.



Did you take a nice picture?

Share your photos on social media using the hashtags

#maarkedalmoetjebeleven, **#maarkedal** and **#vlaamseardennen**.



www.maarkedalmoetjebeleven.be

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www.uitinmaarkedal.be

vrijetijd@maarkedal.be

tel 055 33 46 52

RESTAURANTS AND BARS

Amberhoeve Orangerie: bar, Stokstraat 6, tel 0495 50 95 12, www.amberhoeve.be

Amuzeke: bar-restaurant, Poesthem 10, tel 0486 54 04 81, www.amuzeke.be

De Lustige Boer: bar, Maarkeweg 72, tel 0479 53 59 08

De Schorre: restaurant, Hofveldstraat 63, tel 0477 79 85 70, www.restaurantdeschorre.be

De Zwartengengel: bar-restaurant, Onderbossenaarstraat 7, tel 0479 73 27 46, www.facebook.com/De-Zwartengengel

Het Genot op den Berg: restaurant, Bovenstraat 4, tel 055 30 35 56, www.genotopdenberg.be

Hofke ter Musse Vintage Café: bar, Mussestraat 4, tel 0476 75 69 26, www.hofketermusse.be

La Bonnotte: restaurant, Nukerkestraat 15, tel 0472 95 52 60, www.labonnotte.be

Ladeuze: restaurant, Ladeuze 3, tel 0478 25 46 56, www.la-deuze.be

Les Soeurs Louise: bar-restaurant, Louise-Mariestraat 17, tel 0495 23 73 06, www.tavernelouise.be

Moeder Stiene: bar, Langestraat 31, tel 055 45 54 64, www.facebook.com/moeder-stiene

Paul de Pierre: restaurant, Nederholbeekstraat 135, tel 055 31 94 31, www.pauldepierre.com

Plan B - bij de meisjes: bar, Etikhoveplein 1, tel 0497 22 23 04, www.facebook.com/planbijde meisjes

Pura: bar, Arthur Odevaertstraat 5, tel 0468 34 86 38, www.zorgresidentiepura.be

't Hof Vanys: ice cream bar, Nederholbeekstraat 53, tel 055 30 00 94, www.thofvanys.be

't Hof Wijmenier: bar, Wijmierstraat 20, tel 0476 34 47 96

't Schuitje: restaurant, Hofveldstraat 32, tel 055 30 58 10, www.tschuitje.be

't Stoofke: bar, Rijksweg 34, tel 055 31 31 39

't Vijfde Wiel: bar, Hofveldstraat 71, tel 0474 52 47 12

Visvijvers Nukerke: bar, Terbeke 27, tel 055 21 46 17, www.visvijvers-nukerke.be

Volksspelencafé 't SprAnkelend ToevAl: bar, Maarkeweg 43, tel 0476 42 08 41, www.volksspelencafe.be

ACCOMMODATION

Amberhoeve: b&b, Stokstraat 6, tel 0495 50 95 12, www.amberhoeve.be

Au Charme Pur: b&b, Beukelweg 7, tel 0485 36 95 14, www.aucharmepur.be

Bakkerbos: holiday home, Bakkerbos 1, tel 0478 21 11 51, www.bakkerbos.be

Beekrust: b&b, Steenbeek 2, tel 0476 98 11 80, www.everyoneweb.com/beekrustbedandbreakfastMaarkedal

Bellovisto: holiday home, Cabernhol 1, tel 0476 55 14 08, www.bellovisto.be

Cleye 10: holiday home, Kleistraat 10, tel 0478 33 65 88, www.cleye10.be

De Bosterij: holiday home, Bosterijstraat 3, tel 0496 41 02 60, www.de-bosterij.be

De Kafhoek: group accommodation, Kafhoek 7, tel 0498 76 97 51, www.kafhoek.be

De Oude Pastorij: holiday home, Etikhovestraat 4, tel 0479 26 55 36, www.oudepastorij.be

Het Natuurlijk Genot: b&b - holiday home, Maalzaakstraat 20, tel 0479 39 61 78, www.hetnatuurlijkgenot.be

Huis Minne Greenhouse: holiday home, Kafhoek 2, tel 0478 47 76 33, www.huisminne.be

Kokerelle: b&b, Kokerellestraat 14, tel 0478 92 76 02, www.kokerelle.be

Molen ter Sleepe: holiday home, Weitstraat 4, tel 0494 53 22 57 www.molentersleepe.be

Refuge Kapelleberg: b&b, Kapelleberg 16, tel 0495 59 94 33, www.refugekapelleberg.be

Sintjansberghof: holiday home, Bovenstraat 6, tel 0476 44 50 61, www.sintjansberghof.be

't Bosgat: holiday home, Bosgatstraat 25, tel 051 20 23 96, www.bosgat.be

't Burreken: b&b, Breeweg 4, tel 0494 51 31 18, www.tburreken.be

't Hollandhuizeke: holiday home, Korteberg 4, tel 0472 38 86 91, www.thollandhuizeke.net

't SprAnkelend ToevAl: b&b, Maarkeweg 43, tel 0476 42 08 41, www.hetsprankelendtoeval.be

't Verderf: holiday home, Herpelstraat 2, tel 0475 69 42 02, www.verderf.be

Val'Omerius: holiday home, Drappendries 8, tel 0472 57 59 92, www.valomerius.be

Visvijvers Nukerke: camp site, Terbeke 27, tel 055 21 46 17, www.visvijvers-nukerke.be

PHOTOS:

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