



BRUSSELS URBAN DEVELOPMENT

BRUSSELS REGIONAL PUBLIC SERVICE

PRESS RELEASE

Heritage Days in Brussels-Capital Region 19 and 20 September 2015 Workshops, factories and offices

Within the context of "European Industrial and Technical Heritage Year", the Brussels-Capital Region has opted to dedicate its 2015 Heritage Days to the theme of "Workshops, factories and offices". They will take place on 19 and 20 September 2015.

Former printing works; chandelier makers; flourmills; bakeries; breweries or factories; small workshops; warehouses; garages or sites linked to the country's economic development; the 2015 programme is brimming with previously unseen places that illustrate this theme and which are either still fulfilling their original function or have been assigned a new purpose.

With a multitude of activities on offer, which can be experienced on foot, by bus or on a bicycle, the 2015 programme provides an opportunity to discover (or rediscover) the industrial past of the Brussels Region as well as the development of its services sector, through the head offices of major companies and their history; a section of Brussels heritage that is rarely examined.

Many sites are opening their doors for the first time this year:

- City of Brussels Central Urban Planning Workshop (former warehouse of the Cheval Marin brewery)
- The State Archives (Cuvelier warehouse) (former Haseldonckx printing works)
- Dansaert Centre (former warehouse)
- The Vanhaerents Art Collection
- The *Seed Factory* (former seed merchants)
- Emery & Co. (former bakery of the Maison du Peuple)
- The Meininger Hotel (former Belle-Vie brewery)
- Santos Palace
- LaVallée (former laundry)
- La Tricoterie.
- Namahn (former Maison Goemaere printing works)
- Théâtre de la Vie (former warehouse of Peters & Van Drogenbroeck metal fabricators)
- And many others...

A number of sites are re-opening their doors after several years:

- The Citroën garage and its workshops
- Central Gate (Shell building)
- Espace Morphosis (former liquid carbonic acid plant)
- Rosas-PARTS

- The STIB tram depot and workshop on Avenue du Roi/Koningslaan and Rue de Belgrade/Belgradostraat
- Delhaize Belgium
- Former Byrrh buildings
- CBR
- Commission of the French-Speaking Community/M-Village (former offices of the Public Telephone & Telegraph Company)
- And many others...

Other, more regular participants in the Heritage Days programme, will show a side of themselves to the public in keeping with this year's theme, including:

- The Saint-Gilles cold stores and those located under the buildings of the Presidency of the Walloon-Brussels Federation
- The head office of the Port Company
- The Pont de Buda bridge

A rich and varied programme that will delight lovers of the Region's heritage and history, whether architectural or economic.

The bilingual brochure, containing all the details of the programme, will be available from 17 August at Halles Saint-Géry, BIP, at the reception desk of Centre Communication Nord or just by e-mailing jdp-omd@sprbirisnet.be. A trilingual version (FR/NL/EN) will also be available on the website www.journeesdupatrimoinebruxelles.be as from the same date.

As expected, a special edition of Brussels Heritage magazine will be out in September with a series of brand-new articles on this year's theme.

Like every year, the Monuments and Sites Directorate will be on hand at Halles Saint-Géry throughout the weekend to give the public advice on what to see and will also have a variety of regional publications available.

To mark the occasion, Les Halles will also be hosting an exhibition of photographs by young Brussels students drawn from the last ten editions of the International Monuments Photographic Experience. This is an opportunity to see Brussels from a different angle and, while you're at it, why not encourage others to do the same by entering the competition "What about you? How do you see Brussels heritage?" which will be launched on this occasion.

Rudi Vervoort: "This annual event on Brussels heritage will allow the architectural wealth tied to the economic activity of our region to be explored; from the smallest workshops to the largest international companies, there are so many places that have shaped Brussels and enabled its economic development."

Useful info

Heritage Days brochure available from 17 August at Halles Saint-Géry, BIP, at the reception desk of Centre Communication Nord... or just by e-mailing jdp-omd@sprbirisnet.be.

The programme can also be viewed at www.heritagedaysbrussels.be (in French, Dutch and English).

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