

# BASTOGNE WAR MUSEUM

**SCHOOL GROUPS**





# CONTENTS

- ★ **Presentation of the Bastogne War Museum** P 4 - 5
- ★ **Self-guided tour with audio guides** P 7
- ★ **Animated visit** P 9
  - Ages 6-13** P 10 - 11
  - 13 years +** P 12 - 13
  - 15 years +** P 14 à 17
- ★ **A typical day at the museum** P 19

## ★ Presentation of the Bastogne War Museum

Inaugurated in 2014, the **Bastogne War Museum** has had the pleasure of welcoming more than 1.3 million visitors, making it the centre of reference for the Second World War in Belgium. Over a 10 year period, the museum has expanded from being a singular experience to being a **4 visit experience** across 3 different sites of remembrance. **6 different activities** are available for school children aged 6 and over.

### ★ **BASTOGNE WAR MUSEUM** (2h00)

The Bastogne War Museum is situated just a stones throw away from the Mardasson Memorial. The original museum experience allows you to dive into the heart of the Second World War and the Battle of the Bulge thanks to **3 multi-sensory cinemas and the hundreds of artifacts from the period**. The museum invites you to follow **the stories of 4 characters living in the heart of the conflict via an audioguide** (in English, French, Dutch and German).



### ★ **GENERATIONS45** (30min)

Follow the journey of two veterans, one American and the other German, in **post-war Europe**, from 1945 to 1989, from the ruins of Bastogne to the fall of the Berlin Wall.



## ★ **BOIS JACQUES** (30min)

Visit the remains of the Bois Jacques **battlefield** augmented reality mobile application. Thanks to this technology, share with your students the daily life of the G.I.'s holed up in the original foxholes.



**NEW EXPERIENCE**



## ★ **BASTOGNE WAR ROOMS** (1h00)

Dive into the heart of the American resistance during the Battle for Bastogne, surrounded by the atmosphere of the old **headquarters**. The Bastogne War Rooms provide a complete immersion at the heart of this historic site. It is the place where General McAuliffe pronounced his renowned response, **"NUTS!"**, to the German demand to surrender.





The *Bastogne War Museum* offers a free audioguide tour that immerses the student into the heart of the conflict, from the perspective of 4 characters: Emile, a 13-year-old schoolboy, Mathilde, a young local schoolteacher, Robert, an American paratrooper and Hans, a German officer. They give and explain their point of view along the way, tracing this major conflict in our history, from its causes to its consequences.

Punctuated by 3 immersive films, this visit gives students a complete and interactive discovery of this major conflict in our history.

An educational pack, designed by teachers, is available via the via the QR code below to help you prepare your class for the visit. visit.

Following the tour of the Bastogne War Museum, your pupils will have access to the "*Generations 45*" and "*Bois Jacques*" experiences. The new "*Bastogne War Rooms*" experience is available for a supplement of €2 per person (€10 total).



## In practice

**Audience** : 6 years and up

**Duration** : 2h00 to 2h30

**Price** : €8 per student with audioguide  
(+ €2 to include the "*Bastogne War Rooms*"  
experience).

Free admission for schools in the communes of  
Bastogne and Bertogne

Free adapted parking for school coaches  
(200 parking spaces available)







With this school programme, the museum's education team positions itself between, on the one hand, general citizenship education and, on the other hand, history in order to help the future generation of tomorrow to understand the world around them.

The principal objective is to support the students and the work of schools in the formation of open-minded citizens, capable of adopting a critical and sensitive approach to thought. To achieve this, the museum relies on modern and diverse tools and methodologies (workshops, technological aids, educational resources, debating games et cetera). This type of reflection is fuelled by an active teaching approach based on questioning, discovery, listening, active participation, debate and, above all, interactivity.

Consequently, the Bastogne War Museum's educational programme lends itself History teachers as well as Citizenship, Geography, French or Philosophy teachers.

### **Our Tour Team**

To understand a situation as complex as that of the Second World War, it is necessary to call upon a group with a wide range of skills. Our team consists of guides, historians, educational co-ordinators and retired teachers. From 2024, the educational team has expanded the offer to include tours of the museum's new experiences, "*Generations 45*" and the "*Bastogne War Rooms*."

**6 - 13 years**

★ **A visit with Émile (2h00)**

Accompanied by an animator, students discover the realities of the life of Émile, the Bastogne War Museum's courageous child, as well as that of civilians and soldiers caught up in a deadly conflict.

The animation begins with a brief introduction that puts the Second World War into context, and then leads the children to discover real period testimonies, sensory workshops and multimedia rooms. They discover the daily life of our elders by handling objects, exchanging points of view and drawing parallels between specific situations and the way we live today.



## In practice

**Public** : 6-13 years

Accessible to primary and specialized secondary schools

**Duration** : 2h00

**Price** : €8 per pupil + €75 per instructor  
(maximum 20 students per instructor)

**Benefit** : 1 accompanying adult free for every 15 students



## Extend your experience with the Allies Game (+2h00)

6 - 13 years

The visit with Émile can be extended in the afternoon with a teamwork-based game, the Allies Game. This treasure hunt is a fun way of integrating the concepts learned during the visit and allows the students to discover the Mardasson Memorial.



### In practice

**Public** : 6-13 years

Accessible to primary and specialized secondary schools

**Duration** : 2h00

**Price** : €75 additional for the game  
(maximum 20 students per animator)

**Benefit** : 1 accompanying adult free for every 15 students

**Tip** : bring weather-appropriate clothing and a water bottle

13 years +



Roads of exile (2h30)

Through the history of the Second World War, the harsh reality of exile is explained in concrete terms, using testimonies and artifacts from the period. The animation is based on the migration of a large proportion of the population persecuted by the totalitarian Nazi regime from 1933 onwards, and on the mass exoduses caused by the fighting. Its journey through the Bastogne War Museum naturally leads to questions about contemporary migration. The natural right to security of every individual, enshrined in the third article of the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, serves as a common thread throughout the visit.



### In practice

**Public** : 13 years +

**Duration** : 2h30

**Price** : €8 per student + €90 per instructor  
(maximum 20 students per instructor)

**Benefit** : 1 accompanying adult free for every 15 students

**Tip** : bring a notepad and pen

★ **Extend your experience with  
a visit to the battlefields (+2h00)**

**13 years +**

Continue your day at the Bastogne War Museum with the discovery of emblematic battle sites around Bastogne.

You start by discovering the Bois de la Paix, where 4,000 trees have been planted to pay tribute to the veterans of the conflict. Next, you'll explore the remnants of the Bois Jacques battlefield via an augmented reality mobile application. Thanks to technology, you can experience the lives of the Easy Company soldiers entrenched in their foxholes. Finally, you finish with a stop at the German military cemetery in Recogne



**In practice :**

**Public :** 13 years +

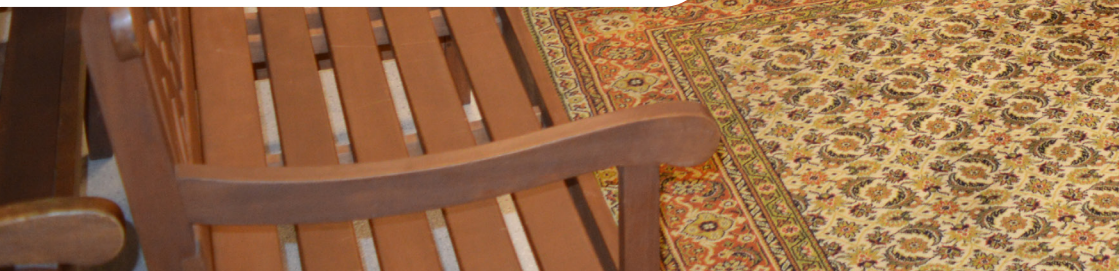
**Duration :** 2h00

**Price :** €90 additional for visit to the battlefields

**Benefit :** 1 accompanying adult free for every 15 students

Visit possible with or without guide

(€90 per guide - maximum 20 students per guide)





### *War Tribunal - When justice takes over*

This activity takes place in the form of a role play, permitting your students to discover the social and judicial issues of the period.

During the morning, each student is assisted by a co-ordinator with the aim of helping the student to best embody their character during the role play in the afternoon. Using first hand accounts, content and artifacts displayed inside the museum, your students will discover each complexity and variety of human reactions when faced with extreme situations.

In the afternoon, your group will take their place in a mock court room, participating in an extraordinary immersive experience, in which they will impersonate the role that they were given in the morning. Accompanied by a detailed character sheet, and armed with the elements discussed during the visit, the different court actors will have to build a case for or against the accused, then deliberate and give reasons for their decisions.

Based on real historical events, the outcome of this trial ends with a verdict determined by the quality of the debates and the choices made by the participants, whether they are magistrates, witnesses or even the accused.

#### **In practice :**

**Public :** 15 years +

**Duration :** 2 x 2h00 (spread over one day)

**Price :** €8 per student + €150 per instructor  
(maximum 20 students per group)

**Benefit :** 1 accompanying adult free for every 15 students

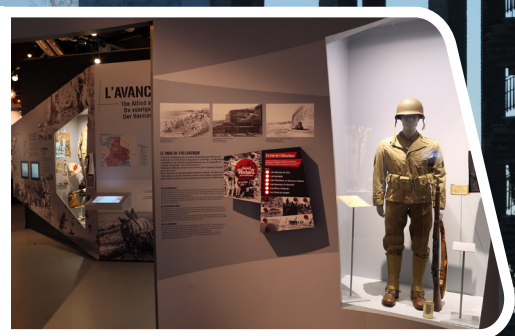
15 years +



Discovering Human Rights (2h30)

After a brief introduction to the history of human rights, your class, divided into groups, begins its tour of the Bastogne War Museum.

During the visit, your students will be given a roadmap showing the main articles of the Declaration of Human Rights, and questioning the influence of the Second World War on its creation. This document will help them identify the ways in which fundamental rights were flouted at different times during the conflict. This activity enables your group to understand the extent to which human beings have shown resilience and adaptation or, on the contrary, how they have reproduced the mistakes of the past.



### In practice :

**Public :** 15 years +

**Duration :** 2h30

**Price :** €8 per student + €90 per instructor  
(maximum 20 students per instructor)

**Benefit :** 1 free supervisor per 15 students



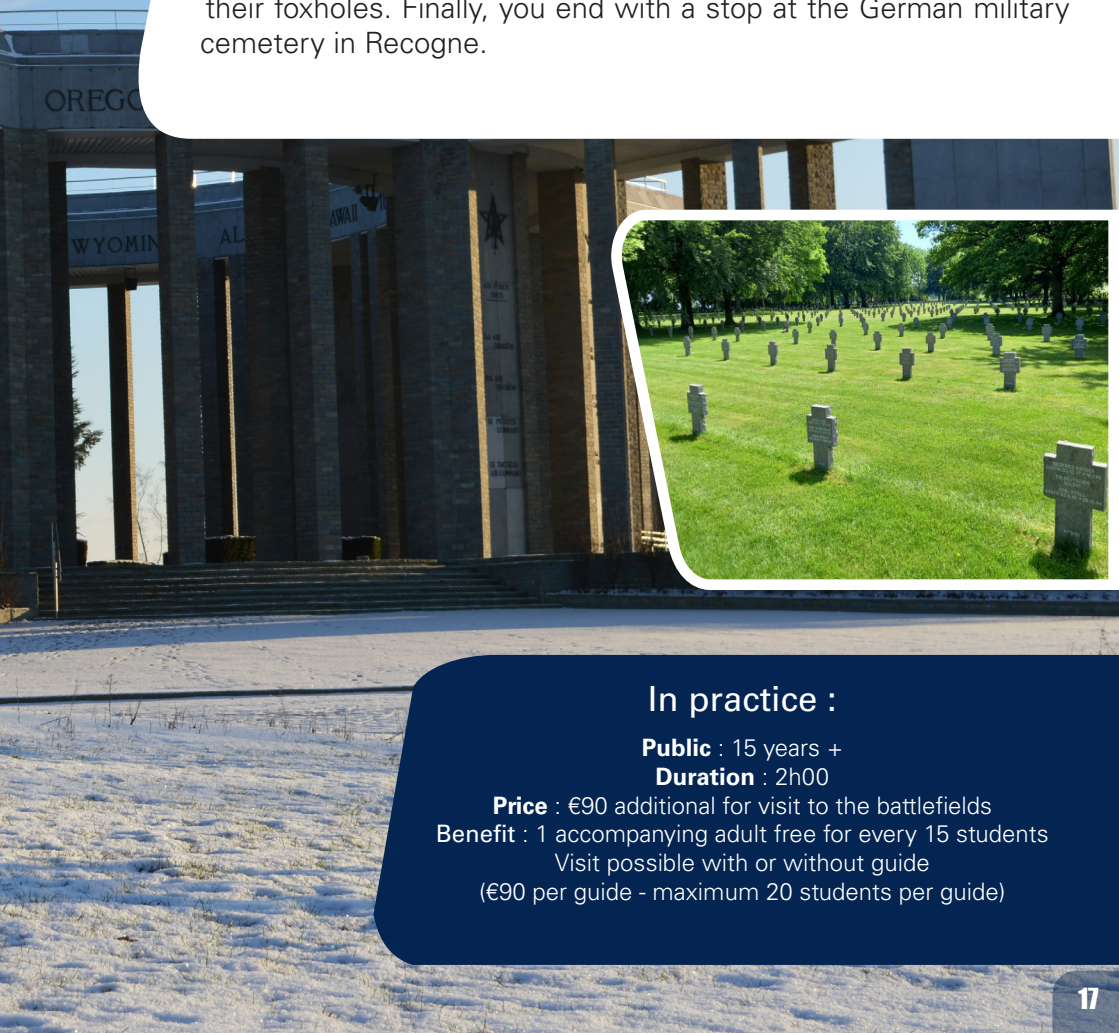


**Extend your experience with  
a visit to the battlefields (+2h00)**

**15 years +**

Continue your day at the Bastogne War Museum with the emblematic battle sites around Bastogne.

You will start by discovering the Bois de la Paix, where 4,000 trees have been planted to pay tribute to the veterans of the conflict. Next, you'll explore the remnants of the Bois Jacques battlefield via an augmented reality mobile application. Thanks to technology, you can share in the lives of Easy Company soldiers entrenched in their foxholes. Finally, you end with a stop at the German military cemetery in Recogne.



### **In practice :**

**Public :** 15 years +

**Duration :** 2h00

**Price :** €90 additional for visit to the battlefields

**Benefit :** 1 accompanying adult free for every 15 students

Visit possible with or without guide

(€90 per guide - maximum 20 students per guide)



**MORNING**

Audio-guided tour of the Bastogne War Museum

OR

Visit with guide

6 to 13 years  
A visit with Émile

13 years +  
Roads of exile

15 years +  
Discovering  
Human Rights

OR

War Tribunal (part 1) 15 years +

**NOON**

Picnic  
(with purchase of a drink)  
or

Lunch Box  
(1 sandwich + 1 piece of fruit + 1 bottle of water)

OR

**AFTERNOON**

**NEW**

Audio-guided of the Bastogne War Rooms *(optional)*

Guided tour *(optional)*

6 to 13 years  
Allied game

13 years +  
A visit to  
the battlefields

15 years +  
A visit to  
the battlefields

OR

War Tribunal (2nd *compulsory* part) 15 years +

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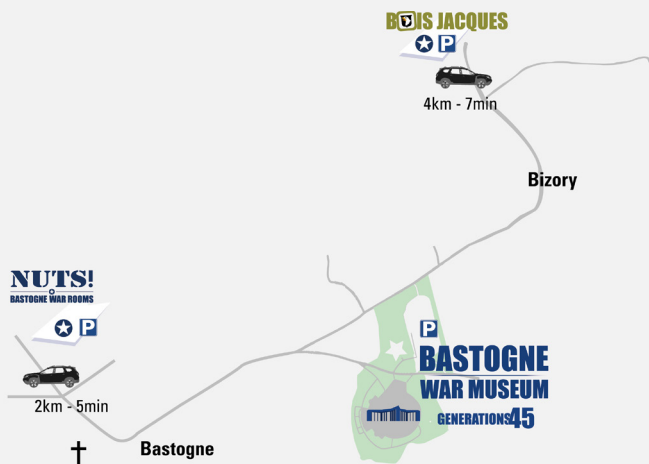
Are you a teacher or a headteacher  
and would like to organize  
the perfect day out for your students  
at the Bastogne War Museum?  
Ask for your tailor-made program.

**Contact us at :**

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Open daily from 9:30 am to 6:00 pm  
(Or until 7:00 pm in July and August)



Parking accessible to coaches and PRM cars.



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