



La Roche-en-Ardenne castle ruins



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Overlooking La Roche-en-Ardenne and the Ourthe river, the ruins of the feudal castle offer an unprecedented journey to the 9th century. This historic visit, nestled in the province of Luxembourg, can also be enjoyed through the many events organised year round.

History

Built on the ruins of a Roman fortified camp, the first chateau was constructed here in the 9th century and for the next five hundred years, curtain walls, towers and bastions were added by successive local rulers as the strategic location on the River Ourthe became more vital for defence against invading armies.

Louis XIV employed a student of Vauban to add the finishing touches in the early 18th century but the chateau was largely demolished in the late 18th century on the orders of the Hapsburgs.

Massive allied bombing raids in 1944 added to its destruction, but

today, the ruins with sweeping views over the wooded valley of the Ourthe and the pretty little town of La Roche-en-Ardenne are still a fine example of the changing styles of military architecture spanning more than 600 years.

Lords and knights

Despite the profound changes undergone by the castle over the centuries, the current ruins with their towers, loopholes and dungeons, have retained the imprint of the medieval times.

Activities changing with the seasons

The castle organises a wide range of **events and activities**, such as:

- falconry demonstrations, recognised as intangible cultural heritage by [UNESCO](#)
- archery
- medieval craft
- Fireworks on July 20th
- Themed weekends
- Halloween, Easter fun

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The information contained herein is provided as a guide only.

We recommend that you check with the local supplier before you leave.

Website editor

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