



## Bois-du-Luc: a UNESCO mining site, witness of the Industrial Revolution



Bernard Vanroy

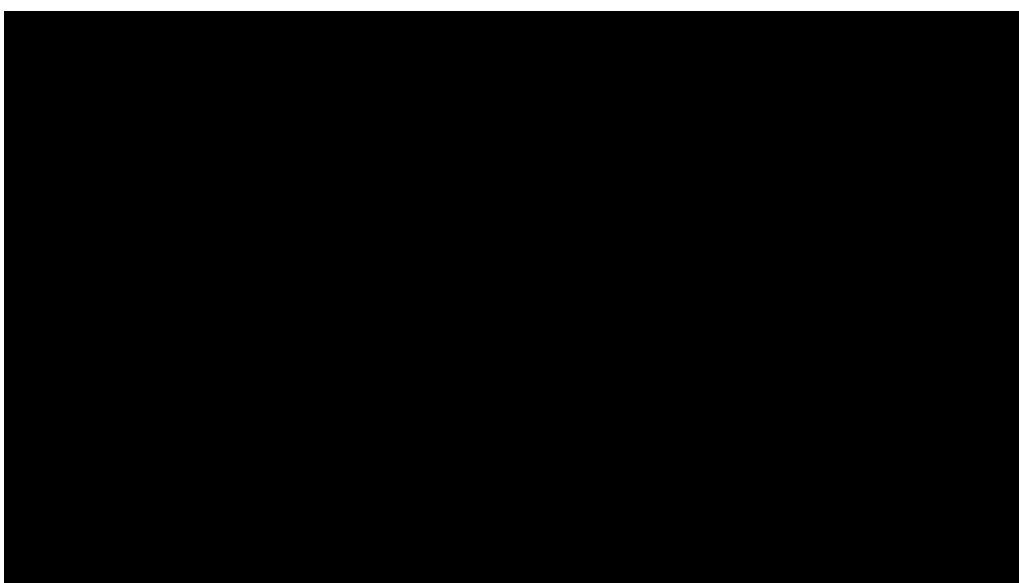
Rue Saint-patrice 2b

Houdeng-aimeries - 7110

Phone number (main contact): +32  
64 28 20 00

<http://www.boisdulucmdd.be/>

**The Bois-du-Luc mining site was one of the main witnesses of the industrial revolution in Wallonia. This extraordinary historical heritage, wonderfully well preserved, is protected by UNESCO.**



The mine, which opened in 1685 and closed in 1973, had a particularly long life. One of its characteristics is the workers' village, right by it, where the offices, workshops and communal spaces (typical house, 19th-century classroom) can still be visited.

Bois-du-Luc offers exceptional insight into the daily life of miners and their family.

## **The history of Bois-du-Luc**

The *Société des Charbonnages de Bois-du-Luc* (created in 1685) decided at the beginning of the 19th century to make use of the Saint Emmanuel pit – the oldest mine in Belgium. Men would go as deep as 558 m underground to work.

## **A mining village unique in Europe**

A mining village was built nearby by the company to make the miners' lives easier. There, they could buy food (grocery store, butcher, mill/brewery), get treated (hospital, hospice), relax (party hall, park, music kiosk, leisure activities), get an education (schools, library) or go to church. The village was managed by the company's director.

Bois-du-Luc, one of the four authentic coal mines left in Europe, is on the European Route of Industrial Heritage (ERIH).

## **A UNESCO site**

Bois-du-Luc, together with The Grand-Hornu, Bois du Cazier and Blegny-Mine, were added to the UNESCO list in 2012.

## **An orienteering game**

« *Mystère au Carré* » challenges visitors to find their way in the mining village: a fantastic way to learn more about the history of Bois-du-Luc while having fun.

Bike rides and stroll

Go green! There are many paths along the site to ring together culture and nature.

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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

Etienne CLAUDE, Wallonia Belgium Tourism Chief Executive Officer (WBT NPO).

© Wallonia Belgium Tourism (WBT asbl). Avenue Comte de Smet de Nayer 14 . 5000  
Namur. Belgium + 32 (0)81 84 41 00 <https://visitwallonia.be>  
[info@walloniabelgiumtourism.co.uk](mailto:info@walloniabelgiumtourism.co.uk)

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