



Carnaval des Ours | Andenne

Event planned for the month of March 2025



Office du Tourisme Andenne

Place Des Tilleuls 15

Andenne - 5300

Phone number (main contact): +32
85 84 96 40

<https://www.andennetourisme.be/agenda/>

A Carnival of Bears? Not real ones - no worry there. Bears simply are the town's symbol and the carnival's mascot.

History

Legend has it that Charles Martel, raised in the Walloon town of Andenne by his grandmother, killed a terrifying bear at the age of nine - with only a hammer. Since that feat by a local lad (who would go on to become an all-conquering Frankish King), the bear has been the proud sigil of this town. So it should come as little surprise that its own unique festival, Carnaval des Ours, is very much ursine-themed.

Program

Taking place every March, the celebrations centre on a parade of

dancers in bear costumes – and a bizarre “maiden’s cage” used to imprison various local girls en route. At the end of the parade, to the delight of all children present, the King and Queen of the Carnival throw hundreds of teddy bears into the crowd from the balcony of the Town Hall.

A few numbers

- 500 participants, all wearing a bear outfit
- 3 giant puppets
- Cheerleaders
- 30 carnival floats

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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).

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Namur. Belgium + 32 (0)81 84 41 00 <https://visitwallonia.be>
info@walloniabelgiumtourism.co.uk

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