

# PASSAGE OF THE TOUR DE FRANCE 2017 IN LUXEMBOURG

3rd + 4th stage

**PRESS KIT** 



# **20 MUNICIPALITIES**

# 127 KM

# **7TH YEAR**

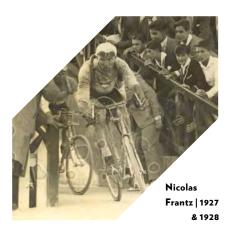
THAT LUXEMBOURG WELCOMES A DEPARTURE AND / OR AN ARRIVAL ON ITS TERRITORY



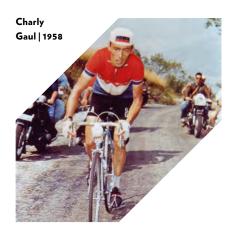


# A NEVER-ENDING LOVE AFFAIR WITH THE BICYCLE

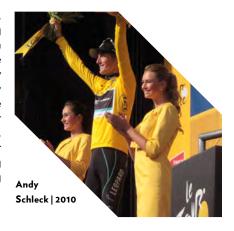
In the 1950s, the bicycle was the Luxembourgers' most popular means of transport; since then it has become one of their favourite leisure activities, and a whole ecosystem has grown around it. The state has invested heavily in a network of cycling routes that is particularly extensive compared with the size of the population. Enthusiasts and casual cyclists can enjoy picturesque sceneries, for instance along the banks of the Moselle river, or more demanding and spectacular routes, such as through the country's former opencast iron ore mines. Luxembourg has also hosted five cyclo-cross world championships, including the 2017 event.



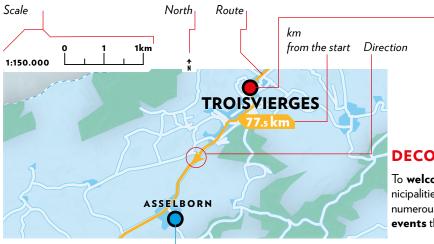
#### 4 TOUR DE FRANCE CHAMPIONS FROM LUXEMBOURG



In winning the Tour de France in 1909, François Faber became the first in a long list of prominent cycling champions from Luxembourg. Nicolas Frantz, who won the Tour in 1927 and who wore the yellow jersey throughout the 1928 event, was followed by the legendary Charly Gaul, nicknamed the Angel of the Mountains, and Tour winner in 1958, and more recently Kim Kirchen, Andy Schleck (winner in 2010), his brother Fränk and Bob Jungels. Today, young cyclist Christine Majerus is demonstrating the passion that knows both genders.







#### **DECORATIONS / EVENTS**

To **welcome** the Tour de France, the municipalities of Luxembourg have organized numerous **site decorations** and other **events** throughout the whole track.

#### **ATTRACTIONS**







Along the Tour de France track in Luxembourg, the English artist James Straffon has created an unique roadside gallery - open and accessible to all. Every artwork presents one 'legend' of the Tour de France, four of which are from Luxembourg (François Faber, Nicolas Frantz, Charly Gaul, Andy Schleck), with their associated nickname. The artist takes the viewer on a journey of discovery - exploring the myths and folklore of the greatest race in sport - the Tour de France - as seen through the eyes of an inquisitive fox.

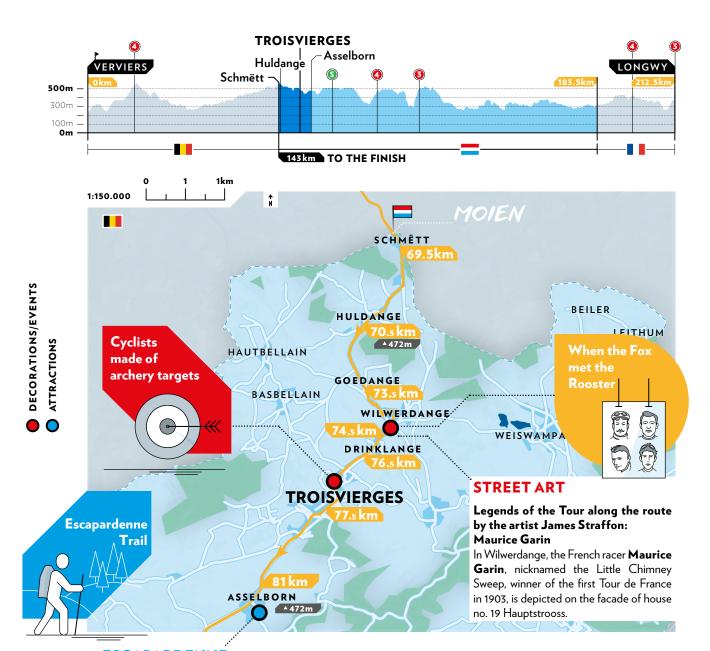
This fable came into being after the artist's research into Luxembourg's rich literary history came upon at Michel Rodange, and his national epic, Renert [Renert oder de Fuuß am Frack an a Maaansgeisst], which was published in 1872. This art project has been carried out in collaboration with the Embassy of the United Kingdom in Luxembourg.

STAGE The municipality of Troisvierges consists of 8 towns. The Tour passes through Huldange, Goedange,

Wilwerdange, Drinklange, Troisvierges.

- **Population**: 3.139 inhabitants (01.01.2017)

- Area: 37,86 km<sup>2</sup>



#### **ESCAPARDENNE**

Along a total length of 157 km, this hiking trail, certificated as a Leading Quality Trail - Best of Europe, takes you from Ettelbruck (LU) to La Roche-en-Ardenne (BE). The Escapardenne trails are of remarkable quality, and provides visitors the opportunity to explore the beautiful landscapes and unmissable national heritage and historical sites along a marked trail. Hiking friendly hotels await you along the trail at regular intervals.

# WINCRANGE

The municipality of Wincrange consists of 27 towns.

The Tour passes through Asselborn, Emeschbaach,

Wincrange, Hamiville and Derenbach.

- **Population**: 4.227 inhabitants (01.01.2017)
- Area: 113,36 km<sup>2</sup>

This is the municipality with the largest surface area in Luxembourg.



PRESS KIT

GOEDANGE TROISVIERGES ASSELBORN WINCRANGE

LUXEMBOURG



#### **CLERVAUX CASTLE**

The feudal castle of Clervaux dates back to the 12th century and overlooks the medival village of Clervaux, in the heart of the Ardennes countryside. In 1944, during the Battle of the Bulge (1944-1945), the castle was seriously damaged by German bombing. The State bought the castle in its ruined state, and restored it to its former glory. Today, the village's municipal offices, the museum of scale models of the Grand Duchy's impressive castles and the Museum of the Battle of the Bulge are housed in the castle. And one wing of the castle is home to Edward Steichen's famous photographic collection entitled "The Family of Man".

#### **EXPOSITION**

Area: 85,61 km<sup>2</sup>

Collection of photographs created in 1955 by Edward Steichen for the Museum of Modern Art in New York. The exhibition was added to the Memory of the World Register of the UNESCO in 2003.

# WILTZ

The municipality of Wiltz consists of 7 towns.

The Tour passes through Weidingen, Wiltz and Roullingen.

- **Population**: 6.730 inhabitants (01.01.2017)
- Area: 39,30 km<sup>2</sup>



# DECORATIONS/EVENTS ATTRACTIONS



#### **WILTZ**

Charmingly located on a steep hill, the upper half of town with the castle of the former Counts of Wiltz stands high on a plateau and its slopes. The lower-town extends in a wide valley to both banks of the river Wiltz. A town rich in history, Wiltz is dotted with the remains of times long past, such as the stone crosses which remember the plague and the feudal justice of former times, the churches of the upper town with marvellous baroque furniture, and the decanal church, which is a jewel of Gothic architecture in Luxembourg. The tombstones of the Lords of Wiltz are preserved there.

# CÔTE DE WILTZ CATEGORY 4

3.1 KM CLIMB AT 4.8%

107km TO THE FINISH

# SUCCESSES:

**TOUR DE FRANCE:** 

**WINNER 1909** 



SECOND 1908 SECOND 1910



25
RACE DAYS IN YELLOW JERSEY

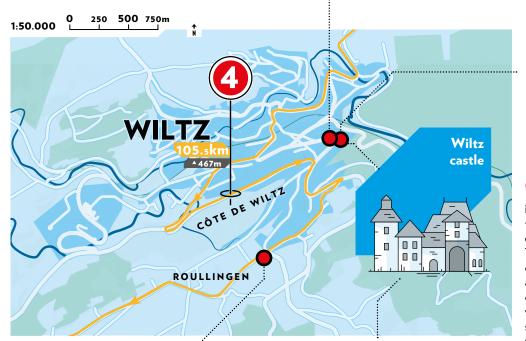
19 STAGE VICTORIES

# When the Fox met the Rooster

#### **STREET ART**

Legends of the Tour along the route by the artist James Straffon: François Faber

In **Wiltz**, the Luxembourgish racer **François Faber**, winner of the Tour de France in 1909, decorates the Grand-Rue in Wiltz.







#### **GIANT BICYCLE**

#### in the castle courtyard, formed by the students of the Lycée du Nord.

The students of the Lycée du Nord de Wiltz will form a giant bicycle in the castle courtyard, which will be visible from the sky. The students will run to give the appearance of rotating bicycle wheels.



#### **GIANT PAINTING**

(biodegradable airbrush), in a field by the artist SAYPE; portrait of the racer François Faber, whose father lived in Wiltz.



#### **WILTZ CASTLE**

The original castle of the **former Lords of Wiltz** was situated in the lower town where the parish church is located nowadays. This fortification could not resist, during **the Norman invasion**, the unceasing enemy attacks. Therefore - in the late **XIIth century** - the Lords of Wiltz built another larger castle at the eastern end of a rocky promontory above the banks of the river Wiltz. During the **XIVth century**, **the fortifications** were demolished and replaced by a new larger rampart.

In 1388, the castle was destroyed by soldiers of the King of France during an expedition against the Duke of Juliers. At the beginning of the XVth century, the town and castle were set on fire by the Count of Nassau. In 1453, scarcely rebuilt from its ruins, Wiltz was again destroyed under Philippe de Bourgogne, by de Croy, Governor of Luxembourg.

On the 23rd of May 1631, Jean VI of Wiltz built a new castle on the same location. Of the preceding fortifications only the old tower of the witches and the square tower remain, integrated among the buildings on the north-western side. This tower used to be the main entrance, reached over a drawbridge.

Count Jean began building the **castle in the renaissance style in 1631,** which still exists. The Thirty Years War, various sieges, famine and epidemics, however, were delaying the works. And so it was that Count Charles-Eugène completed the castle only in 1720. The latter built, within the walls of the castle, a **chapel in the renaissance style** and stairs to the gardens opposite of the manor house. Since the 1950s the magnificent staircase leading up to the castle garden and the facade of the castle have served as the backdrop for the open-air European festival of theatre and music in Wiltz.



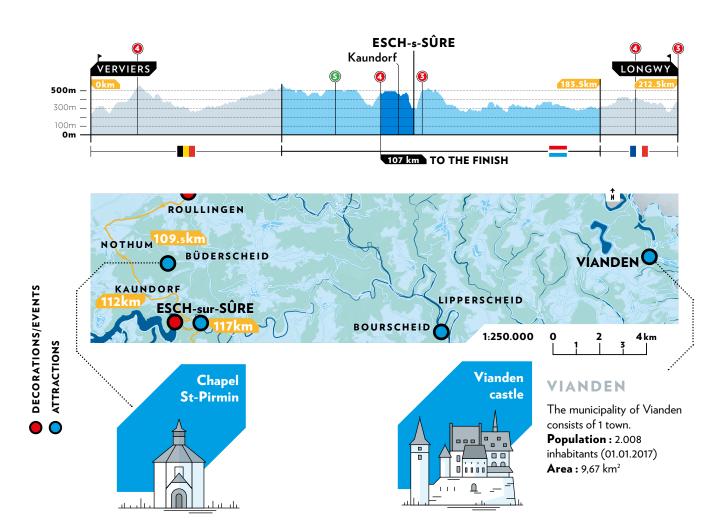
# LAC HAUTE SÛRE

S T A G E

In the direction of Kaundorf, the view on the gently undulating high plateau is breathtaking. Here, the cyclists enter the Upper Sûre National Park, whose dam has shaped one of the most magnificent landscapes in Luxembourg.

The municipality of Lac Haute Sûre consists of 8 towns. The Tour passes through **Kaundorf**.

- **Population**: 1.865 inhabitants (07.03.2017)
- Area: 48,50 km<sup>2</sup>



#### **CHAPEL ST-PIRMIN**

#### National heritage monument

The location was already a **sacred site during the Roman period** and before. The octagonal **chapel** now in place dates from the 18th century. **The water** was used just until the beginning of the 20th century to **cure childhood illnesses**. In 1159, Count Henri IV of Luxembourg ceded the sanctuary on the plateau, and the surrounding grounds, to the Abbey Notre-Dame de Luxembourg.

#### **VIANDEN CASTLE**

Built on the foundations of a Roman fort and a Carolingian refuge, this fortification is considered one of the largest and most majestic feudal manors dating from Romanesque and Gothic periods in Europe.

The origins of the castle date back to the **third century**, when the **Romans** erected a **fortress** at this location. After the decline of the Roman Empire, the Carolingians settled there (ninth century). In the **eleventh century**, the **chapel** and the **small palace** were built, the most notable parts of the castle. The **twelfth** century saw the construction of the **grand palace**, the thirteenth that of the knights' hall.

From the **eleventh to the fifteenth century**, the castle was the residence of the **powerful Counts of Vianden**. In **1417**, it was bequeathed by inheritance to the younger branch of the **German House of Nassau**. In **1890**, it eventually fell to **Grand Duke Adolphe** of the elder branch of Nassau. Vianden is often considered to be the **symbolic birthplace of the Orange-Nassau dynasty** to which the **Grand Ducal** family belongs.

**Since 1977**, when the castle became the **property of the state**, it has experienced a series of **restorations** and is now an important element of the cultural heritage of Europe.

# **ESCH-SUR-SÛRE**

The municipality of Esch-sur-Sûre consists of 12 towns. The Tour passes through Esch-sur-Sûre and Eschdorf.

- Population: 2.640 inhabitants (01.01.2017)
- Area: 50,59 km<sup>2</sup>

#### **UPPER SÛRE LAKE**

The lake dates from 1961 and lies 1 km west of Esch-sur-Sûre, in the middle of the Upper Sûre National Park. The lake has a surface area of 380 ha and secures not only a steady supply of drinkable water and electricity, but also presents a beautiful recreational area. Beyond the 5km protective perimeter at the main dam, a wide range of water sports can be enjoyed, including swimming, rowing, diving, windsurfing and sailing.

250 500 750m

1:50.000

#### **ESCH-SUR-SÛRE CASTLE**

The centre of Esch-sur-Sûre is dominated by the remains of a castle the origins of which date back to 927 and which saw a great deal of activity right up to the French Revolution. The first famous knights from the House of Esch were Henri I and Godefroy I, who served at the side of Godfrey of Bouillon in the First Crusade. Over the course of history, several Lords of Esch were among the most influential advisers to the Counts of Luxembourg. During the Night of Legends (1 July) the castle Esch-sur-Sûre is transformed into a magical and wonderous place by dancers, storytellers, musicians, jugglers and fire-eat-





#### DECORATION

on the tower of Eschsur-Sûre castle. Decoration of the tower



#### **NATURE AND FOREST CENTRE**

The nature and forest centre Burfelt lies on a peninsula away from the main roads on the shore of the upper Sûre lake, in a pictoresque set of farm buildings dating from the 18th century. Managed by the national forest and nature agency, the centre is open to the public throughout the year, offering an exhibition and activities on the multifunctionality of forests.

#### **UPPER SÛRE DAM**

The dam was constructed during the 1950s. It is 47 m high, and 1.5-4.50 m thick. It was filled for the first time in 1959. At the treatment facility of Esch-sur-Sûre, the reservoir waters are treated in five phases: namely ozonation, flocculation, sand bed filtration, deacidification and disinfection. At the end of this treatment, the water fulfills the strict criteria for drinking water. The water treatment facilities can be visited.

#### **DECORATIONS**

#### on the Upper Sûre dam.

Giant tarpaulin to pay tribute to the four Luxembourgish winners in the history of the Tour de France:

- 1. François Faber (1909)
- 2. Nicolas Frantz (1927, 1928)
- 3. Charly Gaul (1958)
- 4. Andy Schleck (2010)

STAGE

The municipality of Grosbous consists of 4 towns.

The Tour passes through Grosbous.

- **Population**: 1.026 inhabitants (01.01.2017)

- Area: 20,11 km<sup>2</sup>



Giant

GROSBOUS

yellow jersey

# STREET ART Legends of the Tour along the

Legends of the Tour along the route by the artist James Straffon: Jacques Anquetil

In Grosbous, the French racer **Jacques Anquetil**, nicknamed 'Monsieur Chrono', winner of the Tour de France in 1961, is depicted on the facade of house no. 1 rue de Bastogne.

1:100.000 0 1/2 1km

# The bell tower, constructed in 1719, salutes

The bell tower, constructed in 1719, salutes for the first time in its history the Tour.



Bicycles do the "Tour" in the air.

#### **BOURSCHEID**

#### **BOURSCHEID CASTLE**

Bourscheid Castle is not only the **largest** in the country but also one of the **largest** between the Rhine and the Meuse. It was enlarged in four stages, the last of which ended in 1430 with the construction of the large enclosure and its many towers.

Its story begins with the first Lord of the castle, **Bertram of Bourscheid**, whose name was mentioned in **1095** for the first time in the castle history. The construction of the castle began **around the year 1000** by the replacement of older fortified constructions.

The **Lords of Bourscheid**, who lived in the castle at the time, belonged to the **most respected chivalric families** in

the region. Loyal vassals of the Duke of Luxembourg, they also were his counselors and fought at his side during armed conflicts. The House of Bourscheid was replaced by that of Metternich in 1626, before the French Revolution put an end to feudal power. Abandoned in the 19th century, the imposing castle finally fell into ruins.

It is on these ruins that **Victor Hugo**, the famous **French writer** of the **Romantic movement**, wrote two **texts in his "Carnets"**. He also immortalised the castle's appearance at the time in numerous sketches.

In **1972**, the Luxembourg government acquired the property and had significant



**restoration** work done. That same year the Association of Friends of Bourscheid Castle was founded, to manage the castle. The association organises cultural events, among others.



#### ELL

#### **COLPACH CASTLE**

Luxembourgish industrialist **Émile Mayrisch** was more than just the general manager of the Steel works in Burbach-Eich-Dudelange (Arbed). He also was a philanthropist and a proponent of understanding between peoples, in particular the reconciliation between the French and the Germans after the Second World War. Together with his wife Aline de Saint-Hubert he welcomed a great number of illustrious guests at Colpach castle, from literary grandees to scientist, economists, or politicians: André Gide, Annette Kolb, Karl Jaspers, Jacques Rivière, Jean Schlumberger, Ernst Robert Curtius and Marie Delcourt, Richard Coudenhove-Kalergi or Walter Rathenau. The castle grounds contain magnificient scultures by Maillol, Despiau, Bourdelle and Kolbe.

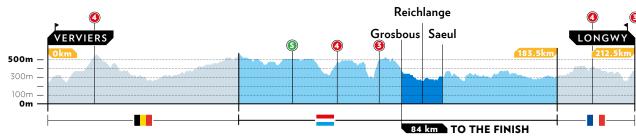
REDANGE The municipality of Redange consists of 6 towns.

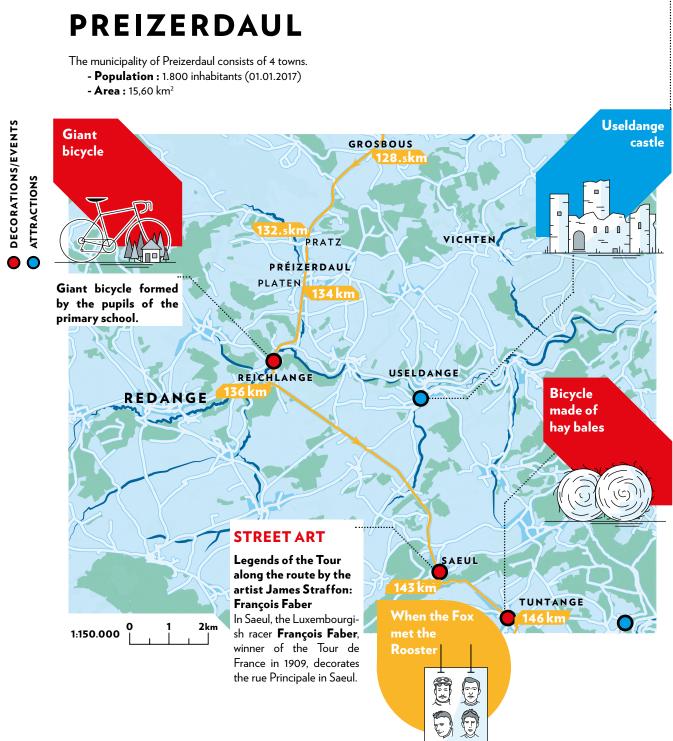
STAGE

The Tour passes through Reichlange.

- **Population**: 2.795 inhabitants (01.01.2017)

- Area: 31,95 km<sup>2</sup>





# **USELDANGE**

The municipality of Useldange consists of 4 towns.

- **Population**: 1.705 inhabitants (01.01.2017)

- Area: 23,92 km<sup>2</sup>

#### **USELDANGE CASTLE**

The division of estates created the Lordship of Useldange around the year 1100. Inside the castle there is a square donjon 25 meters high, as well as an archeological crypt. There are also remains of a rectangular building in the north-eastern corner of the castle. Nowadays, the castle ruins are integrated in an educational trail specifically designed for people with sight impairments.



# **SAEUL**

The municipality of Saeul consists of 5 towns.

- **Population**: 780 inhabitants (01.01.2017)
- Area: 14,86 km<sup>2</sup>

# **TUNTANGE**

The municipality of Tuntange consists of 4 towns.

- **Population**: 1.720 inhabitants (01.01.2017)
- Area: 18,74 km<sup>2</sup>

# SUCCESSES:

#### **TOUR DE FRANCE:**

**WINNER 1958** 

**THIRD 1955** 

THIRD 1961

**RACE DAYS IN** 

YELLOW JERSEY

**BEST CLIMBER IN** 1955 1956



#### **PLACE OF CHARLY GAUL'S CHILDHOOD**

Charly Gaul, winner of the Tour de France in 1958, spent his childhood in Tuntange.



**MERSCH** 

#### **SCHOENFELS CASTLE**

(under renovation, 13th century)

The hamlet of Schoenfels is first mentioned by the name of Scindalasheim in a deed of **846** as a gift by Bishop Hetto of Trier to Dean Marcuardus. The name probably derives from scindula (roof tile, shingles, shingle roofing), Schindel or from Schinder (hewer). In the 12th Century a person by the name of Theodorius of Schonevels is known. In 1292, before the invention of artillery, a primitive castle was erected by a certain Ferri, also known as Frederic of Schoenfels. It passed through marriage to the Lords of Ansembourg, and later to the Sassenheims.

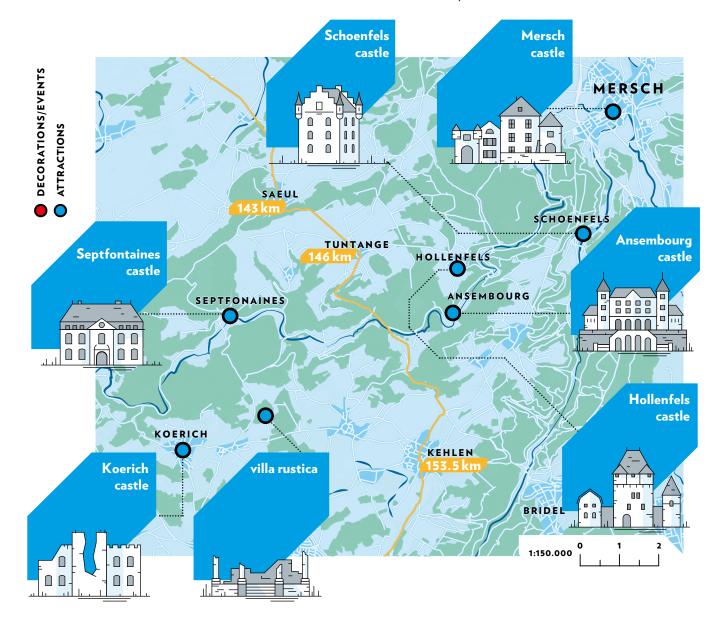
In the early 16th century, Henry Schloeder von Lachen, Lord of Schoenfels and Busbach, acquired the estate. The Schloeder von Lachen coat of arms decorates the entrance to the tower. The feudal castle of Schoenfels -of no great strategic value- was stripped of its fortifications by the French Army in 1683...

#### **MERSCH CASTLE**

(administrative centre, 13th century)

The **first Lord of Mersch**, Theodoric, appears in a **1232** text as: "miles, dictus de Maresch, dapifer comitissae de Lucenburch". He was one of the knights of Countess Ermesinde. In this document a "turris" (tower) is mentioned. Theodoric was to build a new, **fortified castle**. Burgundian troops stormed this castle and **burned it down**. A plan of the fortified castle was commissioned by **Paul von der Veltz** in **1574**. The castle measured 61 x 71m, the moat was 11 m wide, the enclosure wall was 1.35 metres thick and was flanked by seven towers. When Paul von der Veltz became sole owner, large windows were fitted in the keep, transforming the medieval building into comfortable living accommodation...

In 1930 the castle was restored by its owner Mr Uhres. In 1938, a youth hostel was added in a new building right next to the castle. The municipality acquired the castle in 1957; three years later it was ceded to the state.



#### **KOERICH**

#### **KOERICH CASTLE**

(ruins, 12th and 13th century)

Koerich Castle, situated in the Goebelange brook valley, is a typical example of the lowland castles. With its impressive donjon and its exterior walls arranged in an almost perfect square, it forms a remarkable unit with Koerich's baroque church and old houses. Wirich I, Lord of Koerich, Seneschal of the court of Luxembourg, started building the castle in the late 12th and early 13th century. The donjon (also known as the tower of witches) and the exterior walls are of late Romanesque style.

With a base of 12 x 11.6m and a thickness of 3 à 3.5m, the donjon, and -though currently only 11 metres high- its estimated original height of 25 to 30 metres made this one of the most imposing towers in our region. A reconstruction in the Gothic style took place in 1300. Between 1380 and 1385, Gilles d'Autel-Koerich made some important modifications: gothic living quarters, and two rectangular towers in the southern wall.

In 1728, the southern wing was rebuilt in the Baroque style. After the 2nd half of the 18th century the castle was no longer used by the Lords of Koerich, and hence -due to lack of maintenance- it eventually became uninhabitable. In the early 1950s the last owner, Mr P. Flammang, undertook building works to safeguard the crumbling structures. Currently, the castle is owned by the Luxembourg State.

### TUNTANGE

The municipality of Tuntange consists of 4 towns. - **Population**: 1.720 inhabitants (01.01.2017)

- Area: 18,74 km<sup>2</sup>

#### ANSEMBOURG CASTLE

(hotel, 14th century)

The "grand castle" - Build in the first half of the 17th century as "House of the Ironworks" by pioneer iron industrialist Thomas Bidart, the new castle of Ansembourg underwent a large transformation in the 18th century, when the heirs of Thomas Bidart elevated themselves to the rank of Baron (1728), then Count de Marchant and Ansembourg and the countship of Saint-Empire (1749-1750). The gardens hark back to 1750 and are decorated with statues, ornate stairs and fountains in the usual style of the age.

#### THE VILLA RUSTICA

of Goeblange-Miecher

The villa rustica, built around the first half of the first century A.D. consisted of at least seven stone buildings spread over an area of 5 hectares, and was enclosed by an earthern wall. Display panels guide the visitor through the stone and bronze ages, from the Celts right through to the stone buildings of the Romans. The six

buillings with reconstructed foundations, the partial reconstruction of the mausoleum and the defensive bulwark from late antiquity can be visited free of charge all year round. Visitors wanting to visit the five burial mounds of the Celtic landowners follow the forest path for about 500 meters and reach a path marked with an amphora symbol. These panels lead to the necropolis of Goebange-Nospelt counting some 13 Celtic graves.

#### **SEPTFONTAINES**

#### SEPTFONTAINES CASTLE

It is unknown when the first castle at Septfonaines was built. All that is known to historians today is that the castle is first mentioned in 1192, when a certain Tidier was Lord of Septfontaines.

In 1233 Jean de Septfontaines placed his property under the rule of Princess Ermesinde.

At the beginning of the 14th century, Thomas de Siebenborn, the friend and companion of the Emperor Henry VII, was the Lord of the manor of Septfontaines.

In 1600 Christophe de Criechingen built a massive Renaissance tower at the northern entrance.



(Youth hostel, 11th century)

Perched high at an altitude of 315 metres, the castle of Hollenfels - which is part of the "Valley of the Seven Castles" - watches over the narrow valley of the Eisch, thus offering a sight of impressive beauty.

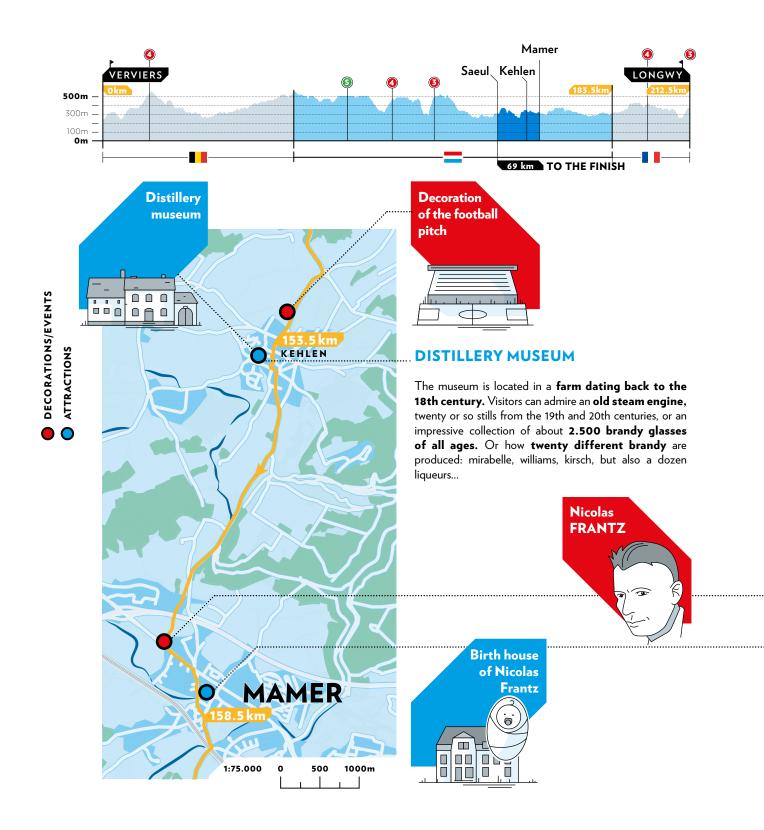
Hollenfels Castle consists of a donjon of almost 40 m high, an angular tower and a curtain wall as well as living quarters. The castle is accessed over a brick bridge. The old manor house with the donjon has been converted into a youth hostel and an ecological centre.



**S T A G E** The municipality of Kehlen consists of 6 town.

- **Population**: 5.903 inhabitants (01.01.2017)

- Area: 28,18 km<sup>2</sup>



### **MAMER**

The municipality of Mamer consists of 3 towns.

- **Population**: 9.185 inhabitants (01.01.2017)
- Area: 27,54 km<sup>2</sup>





# SUCCESSES:

#### **TOUR DE FRANCE:**

**WINNER 1927** 5340 km in 198h 16'42" Ø 26.931 km/h

**WINNER 1928** 5476 km in 192h 48′ 58″

Ø 28.400 km/h

**SECOND 1926** 

WEARING THE YELLOW JERSEY

STAGE **VICTORIES** 

**SECOND 1924** 

#### **OTHER GREAT SUCCESSES:**

**TOUR OF THE** NETHERLANDS 1928

PARIS-BRUSSELS 1927

**PARIS-TOURS 1927** 

LUXEMBOURGISH NATIONAL ROAD RACE CHAMPION 1923 - 1934

 $2^{ND}$  RESP.  $3^{RD}$  AT THE ROAD RACE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN 1929-1932

#### **BIRTH HOUSE**

#### Mamer, birthplace of Nicolas Frantz.

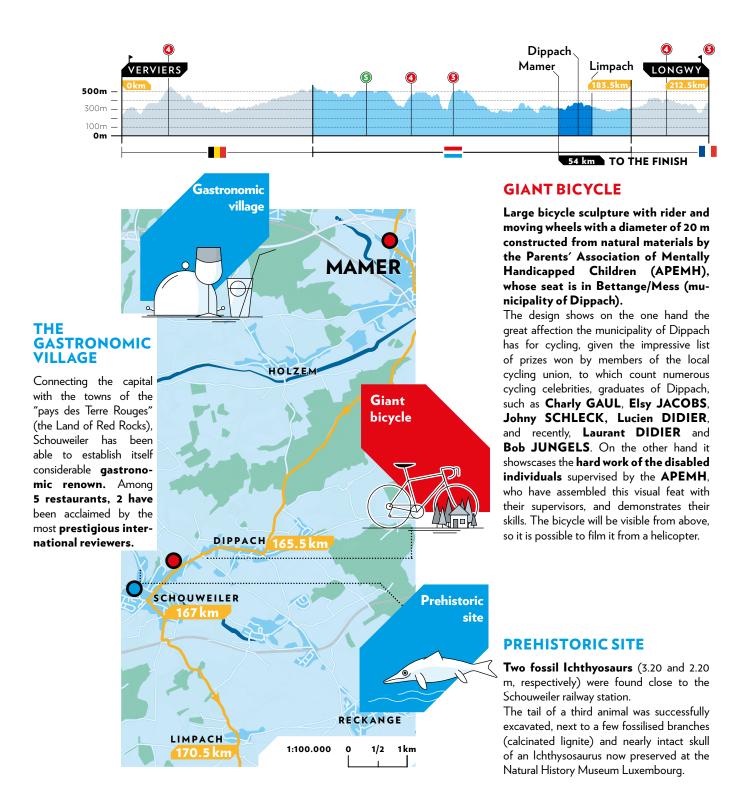
Nicolas FRANTZ, born in 1899 in Mamer, deceased in Luxembourg in 1985. He wore the yellow jersey from the first (following his victory in 1927) to the last stage in 1928.

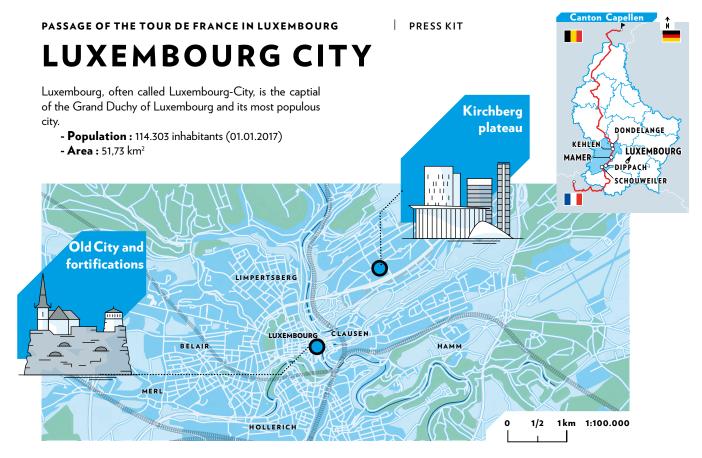
#### **PORTRAIT OF NICOLAS FRANTZ**

A portrait of Nicolas Frantz by Alain Welter, will be placed at the point of entry into the town from the direction of Kehlen. **STAGE** The municipality of Dippach consists of 4 towns.

- **Population**: 4.178 inhabitants (01.01.2017)

- Area: 17,42 km<sup>2</sup>





#### KIRCHBERG PLATEAU

#### **European quarter**

Luxembourg has always held a privileged position in the process of European integration. Since the creation of the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) in 1952, several European institutions have set up in the capital. The birthplace of one of the fathers of Europe, Robert Schuman, Luxembourg has the vocation of playing the role of one of the European capitals not only due to its geographical situation right in the heart of Europe, but also due to its multilingualism. Cosmopolitan and welcoming, with a population made up of almost 170 different nationalities, the city is a real economic, social and cultural melting-pot.

Besides Brussels and Strasbourg, the capital city of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg is one of the **three European cities** hosting the **most important European institutions.** Luxembourg houses the General Secretariat of the European Parliament, the **European Investment Bank**, as well as the **Court of Justice and the European Court of Auditors.** 

Moreover, on the Kirchberg plateau stands the **The Museum of Modern Art** Grand-Duc Jean MUDAM, one of the most ambitious architectural and cultural projects ever undertaken in the Grand Duchy. The Chinese American **architect leoh Ming Pei** came up with, designed then transformed the Thüngen fort, a **highly strategic military location** at the time in a strategic location for artistic creation. Close to the MUDAM is the **Philharmonie**, another architectural gem on the Kirchberg plateau which hosts some of the most **prestigious musical groups**.

# THE OLD CITY AND ITS FORTIFICATIONS

#### **UNESCO** World Heritage Site

Founded in the year 963, the Old City of Luxembourg turned a rock into a legendary fortress among the most powerful in Europe of the 16th century. The 17th century saw the creation of the famous casemates, subterranean vaulted spaces for refuge during military attacks. Despite the dismantling of this spectacular defence complex in the 19th century, the most visually arresting parts of the fortress have survived and can be visited during your travel to Luxembourg City. The fortress and the Old City are listed as World Heritage by UNESCO since 1994.

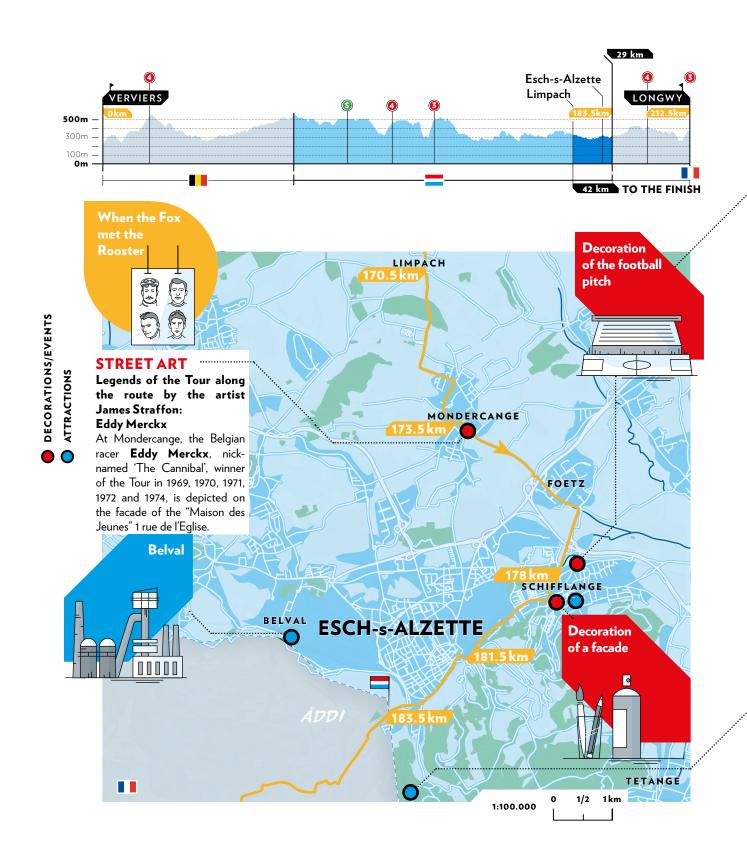
Whilst the Luxembourg fortress was a true textbook example of European military architecture, it has changed hands many times over its existence. Italian, Spanish, Belgian, French, Austrian, Dutch and Prussian engineers have been involved in progressively extending the fortifications of this stronghold. Traces of their work remain, and what traces! An extraordinary network of 23km of underground galleries, the famous casemates, which were carved from the city's rocks constitute the city's main attraction.

The Grand-Duke's residence, the **Grand-Ducal palace**, has an exceptionally beautiful **facade** in **Flemish Renaissance style** (16th century), and a majestic interior and ceremonial rooms open to the public during the summer only. In the **Notre-Dame Cathedral**, 17th century rood screen contrasts with the 20th century windows.

The **medieval houses in the outlying** areas harmoniously blend with the avant-garde architecture of the Kirchberg plateau, the European institution area.

**STAGE** The municipality of Mondercange consists of 4 towns.

- **Population**: 6.708 inhabitants (01.01.2017)
- Area: 21,40 km<sup>2</sup>



### SCHIFFLANGE

The municipality of Schifflange consists of one town. City of origin of **Ben Gastauer (AG2R – La Mondiale)**, 21st at the Tour de France 2014 and winner of the team classification that same year. Stage winner and overall winner of the Tour of the Haut Var 2015.

Currently, **Jempy Drucker** (BMC), stage winner at the Tour of Spain and the Tour of Luxembourg and winner of the Ride London-Surrey Classic in 2015, lives at Schifflange.

- **Population:** 10.379 inhabitants (01.01.2017)
- Area: 7,71 km2



#### DECORATION OF THE FOOTBALL PITCH

**Decoration of the football pitch** (rue Denis Netgen): giant logo of the municipality formed by flowers and a **yellow jersey** made of **about 100 people.** 

#### **DECORATION OF A FACADE**

Decoration of the facade of the "Schou" house, the art gallery of the municipality of Schifflange and seat of the "Syndicat d'initiative" (47, avenue de la Libération) by the artist Raphael Gindt. The artwork will depict the face of the Schifflange cyclist Ben Gastauer.

### **ESCH-SUR-ALZETTE**

The second largest city in Luxembourg (according to the number of inhabitants) and seat of the University of Luxembourg, Esch-sur-Alzette looks back on a century of steel and iron production and is a cosmopolitan and multicultural city, with important architectural and industrial heritage and with a city centre to make shopping a real pleasure, as it has the longest pedestrian

zone in the country. The city is also crowned with a rich array of natural areas thanks to its location in the valley. The city of Esch-sur-Alzette already hosted the Tour de France in 1968 and 2006.

The municipality of Esch-sur-Alzette consists of one town.

- **Population**: 34.378 inhabitants (01.01.2017)
- **Area**: 14,35 km<sup>2</sup>

# VISITOR CENTRE ELLERGRONN

with its Nature Reserve

The visitor centre is aimed at all sections of the public, and contains the following spaces: - permanent and temporary exhibitions on natural heritage, the work in the mines, and the ecology of the nature reserve Ellergronn. The nature reserve Ellergronn extends over 110 ha in what once was an open mine, and contains calcareous beech forests, several ponds, an aulder-ash forest, dry lawns and beautiful mountain bike trails.

#### BELVAL BLAST FURNANCES

Classified national heritage monument

Since 2000, a modern urban district with a university campus (University of Luxembourg) is developing on the site of the former iron and steel works in the South of Luxembourg. One of the most ambitious urban development programs in Europe is unfolding here on an area of 120 hectares. The site is an open air museum of nationally and internationally renowned architects.

In Belval, one can also find a **concert hall:** the **Rockhall**, which can accomodate an **audience** of up to **6.500 people.** 





Birthplace of the "Schleck" tribe

**Johny Schleck**, team mate of Jan Janssen at Pelforth and of Luis Ocana and Jean-Marie Leblanc at BIC; 19th at the Tour de France 1970, 20th in 1967, 32nd in 1973, the year in which his team mate Luis Ocana won; stage winner at the Tour of Spain in Madrid in 1970.

**Fränk Schleck**, twice stage winner at the Tour de France (Alpe d'Huez in 2006 and Grand Bornand in 2009), 3rd place at the Tour de France in 2011, winner of the Amstel Gold Race 2006, of the Tour de Luxembourg 2009, the Tour de Suisse 2010, the Critérium International 2011, stage winner at the Tour of Spain in 2015.

**Andy Schleck**, winner of the Tour de France 2010, 2nd in 2009 and 2011, three-time stage winner in the Tour de France (Morzine Avoriaz in 2010, Tourmalet 2010, Galibier 2011), winner of the white jersey in 2008, 2009 and 2010, winner of the Liège-Bastogne-Liège in 2009, winner of the white jersey at the Giro 2007.



SCHENGEN, A SYMBOLIC PLACE:

In 1985, the so-called "Schengen Agreements" are signed on board of the boat MS Princess Marie-Astrid in Schengen. These agreements launched the process that led to the disappearance of the borders in 26 European countries, an essential step in the European construction process.

The municipality of Schengen launches several activities to demonstrate that the spirit of the 'Schengen agreements' and of an 'Europe without borders' is still alive and that Luxembourg is living this reality on a daily basis.





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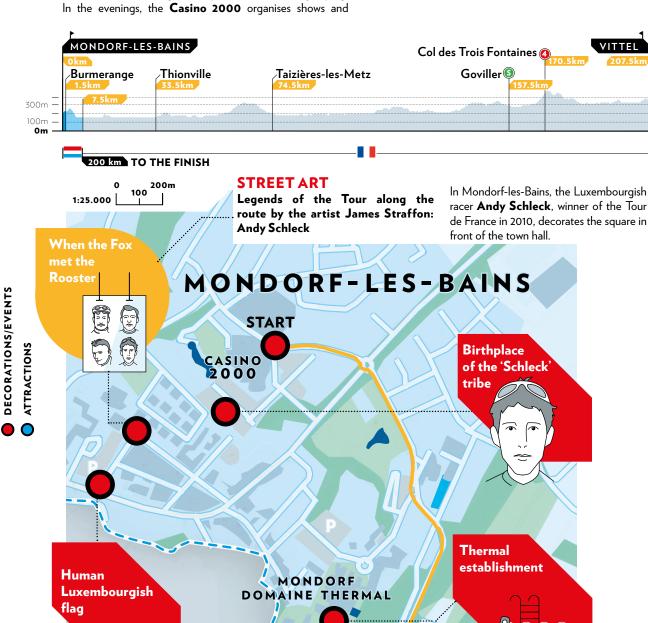
# **MONDORF-LES-BAINS**

The **only spa town** in the Grand Duchy. Well protected from the wind, Mondorf Le Domaine Thermal is situated in a magnificent **flower park** dotted with open air exhibitions. Mondorf-les-Bains offers high-profile cultural and sporting events: tennis, fencing, archery and horse show jumping. In the evenings the **Casino 2000** organises shows and

concerts with famous international artists. The municipality of Mondorf-les-Bains consists of three towns.

**Population:** 5.000 inhabitants (01.01.2017)

Area: 13,66 km<sup>2</sup>



#### HUMAN LUXEMBOURGISH FLAG

**Luxembourgish flag** formed by the **students** of the school of Mondorf-les-Bains.

# THERMAL ESTABLISHMENT

**Spa facilities fed by a thermal source** rich in minerals, heated at 36°, massages, wraps, fitness pavillon, sauna pavillon and the Mondorf Parc Hotel Conference and Spa.





# SUCCESSES:

TOUR DE FRANCE:			
WINNER <b>2010</b>		8	T
SECOND <b>2009</b>		RACE DA IN YELLO JERSEY	-
SECOND <b>2011</b>	-8-		
		3 STAC	GE FORIES





# SUCCESSES:

THIRD 2011

RACE DAYS IN YELLOW JERSEY

2 STAGE VICTORIES

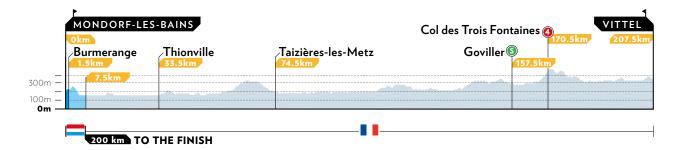
# **SCHENGEN**

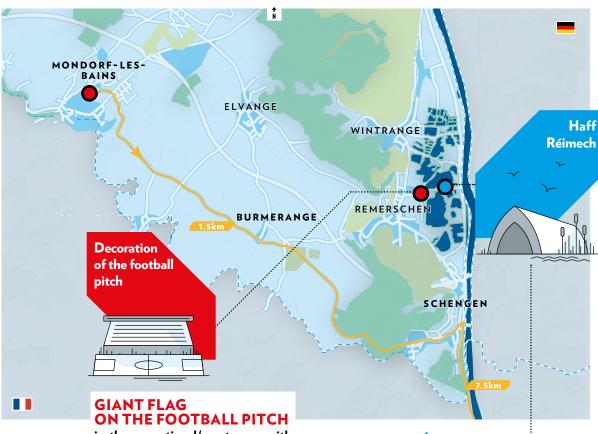
The municipality of Schengen consists of 9 towns.
The route of the Tour goes through Burmerange, Remerschen and Schengen.

- Population: 4.805 inhabitants (01.01.2017)

- Area: 31,42 km<sup>2</sup>

In 1985 the Schengen Agreement was signed on board of the passenger vessel MS Princesse Marie-Astrid. This initiated the process leading to the disappearance of borders between 26 European nations.





DECORATIONS/EVENTS
ATTRACTIONS

in the recreational/sports area with the slogan "Schengen is alive".

Schengen: Europe, Wine and Nature. Schengen, the cradle of a Europe without borders is also the municipality where wine culture meets modernity, in close proximity to nature, with its natural reserves, its recreational centre and the visitor's centre "Biodiversum", with its remarkable architecture surrounded by ponds.

#### HAFF RÉIMECH

The nature reserve Haff Réimech, with an area of 80ha, lies on the site of old gravel pits in the Moselle valley between Remich and Schengen. It is one of the most important and bird species-rich wetland in the Grand Duchy. After the gravel pits were abandoned, the land was left to itself and transformed slowely into a species-rich habitat. Over thirty ponds, often bordered by reed fields and marshes, form the heart of this reserve.

#### **ROOF COVER**

Schengen.

of the "Centre Européen" in Schengen with the slogan "Schengen is Alive" and the logo of the Greater-Region.

Schengen is where the Schengen Agreements were signed that guarantee free movement in Europe. The summit of the Greater-Region will take place in the building before the tour passes through Schengen.



#### "SCHENGEN IS ALIVE":

Rally of about 500 students of the schools of the "Pays des 3 Frontières", wearing yellow jerseys on the Place des Etoiles close to the European Museum Schengen.

Symbolic action to prove that the the spirit of the 'Schengen agreements' and of an 'Europe without borders' is still alive and that Luxembourg is living this reality on a daily basis.

# A LOCK FOR

Symbolising the 26 countries that form the Schengen Area, the Columns of Nations in front of the European Centre allow visitors to identify all member states and their respective symbols. In the vein of the idea of "love locks", visitors are invited to express their attachment to



the idea of open borders and the spirit of the Schengen Agreements by adding their personalised "love" padlock to a specially designed sculpture. This symbol confirms the endurance of a **space without borders**.









