

Discover with
Geilenkirchen's A&FRC



Local Area Attractions & Places of Interest



Last update April 2012 by EC



GEILENKIRCHEN A&FRC

Monday - Thursday

0800-1600

Friday 0800-1400

02451-63-3791

INDEX PAGE

PLACES OF INTEREST IN GERMANY	3- 8
GEILENKIRCHEN LOCAL AREA.....	3-5
WITHIN ONE AND A HALF HOURS OF GEILENKIRCHEN.....	5-6
OTHER AREAS OF GERMANY.....	6-8
PLACES OF INTEREST IN THE NETHERLANDS	8-10
JFC BRUNSSUM LOCAL AREA.....	8-9
OTHER AREAS OF THE NETHERLANDS.....	10
PLACES OF INTEREST IN BELGIUM	10-11
AMUSEMENT PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS	11-18
GERMANY	11-12
NETHERLANDS	12-16
BELGIUM	16-18
FRANCE	18
HOBBIES AND OTHER INTERESTS	18-23
SWIMMING POOLS.....	18-19
TENNIS CLUBS.....	19-20
GOLF COURSES.....	20
HORSEBACK RIDING.....	20
ICE SKATING.....	20-21
LOCAL MARKETS.....	21
FLEA MARKETS.....	22
VIDEO RENTAL.....	23
MOVIE THEATERS.....	23
VIDEO RENTAL.....	23

MOVIE THEATERS

- Below are listed on base and off base local movie theaters that show movies in English

Theaters on Base

Alliance Theater

JFC Brunssum (31)-455-26-2110
Movies are Friday and Saturday at 7:00 pm

Theaters Off Base

Cinema 5

Centrum, Heerlen NL (31)-455-713030

Eurocoop

Route 78, Lanaken, BE (32)-89-731088

www.cinebel.com/nl/movies/html

Eurocoop

Zetellaan 74, 3630 Maasmechelen, BE (32)-89 77 85 90

<http://www.eurocoop.be/nl/maasmechelen/home/>

Royal Theater Echt

Peyerstraat 47, 6101 GA Echt (31)-475-481369

http://www.biosagenda.nl/films-bioscoop_royal-theater-microoyal_98.html

Foroxity

Rijksweg-Noord 330, Geleen-Sittard (31)-88-7444411

<http://www.foroxity.nl>

Maastricht

Maastricht, NL

www.maastrichtnet.nl/week/mdel.html

(On the main street across from the foot bridge)

Maxim Royal Rivoly

Centrum, Heerlen NL

<http://www.royaltheaters.nl/>

- Ongoing flea markets include:

Spa, Belgium Every Sunday from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm
 - On the Promenade behind the tourist information "I" in the center of town

Tongeren, Belgium Every Sunday from 7:00 am to 1:00 pm
 - In the Center of town along the old wall fortifications

Maastricht Exhibition and Congress Centre (MECC)
 Quarterly Saturday and Sunday all day
 - Easy parking and entrance fee

Train Station, Maastricht NL
 Every Saturday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Cuijk NL Every Saturday
 - Totally enclosed market including snack and food booths, antiques, and "junk"
 - Entrance fee and okay for strollers and wheelchairs

Special Markets
 - There are numerous markets to celebrate seasons and holidays
 - Some of these include Christmas Markets, year markets, and The Netherlands' Queen's Birthday
 - These markets almost always include food booths and sometimes music
 - Watch the [Skywatch](#) for local signs for dates.

Video Rental

NATEX Video Rental
 Building 72 (49)-2451-62073
 All Days Mon-Fri 1000 - 1900
 Sat-Sun 1100-1800

AAFES Shoppette
 Schinnen (31)-46-443-1902

PLACES OF INTEREST IN GERMANY

GEILENKIRCHEN LOCAL AREA

Geilenkirchen

- Classical style St. Marien Church
- 17th - 18th centuries Patrician houses
- 17th century Leerodt Castle
- Historical and cultural county museum
- Walking routes on the Wurm River
- Moorlands, marshes and woods of Teverner Heide

Trips Castle

Address: off Martin-Heyden Str. Geilenkirchen, GE

Hours of operation: all day

- 15th - 17th centuries castle with moat
- Excellent location for discovering Geilenkirchen's past. No entrance fee. Wildlife in moat, foot paths, benches and biking trails connect to other villages. Great place for children, relaxation, and exploration.

Gangelt

- 12th - 15th centuries church
- The Castle tower is from the 14th century and well preserved town gates
- Working windmill near Breberen
- The [narrow-gauge steam train](#) from Schierwaldenrath to Gillrath runs on weekends and operates from Easter to the end of September
- [Gangelt Wildlife](#) park offers strolling through the km's of groomed paths, looking at the animals, playing at the playground, and watching the falconry show.

Hochwild-Freigehege Park

(49)-2454-2459-5027

- Address:** Heinsberger Str. 15 southeast side of Gangelt, Germany
- A widespread open-air park with a variety of wildlife from Europe and elsewhere, over 1000 animals on display, birds of prey demonstrations, playground for kids of all ages, and shaded picnic tables.

Niederbusch City Park

Address: Am Krummelbach Niederbusch, Germany

- A neighborhood park with large climbing apparatuses, large slides, separate toddler playground, sand and grass areas.

Heinsberg

- 14th -16th centuries castle ruins
- 15th-16th centuries remains of the early township
- County museum of local history in the "Arch House"
- 18th century Randerath Castle
- Nature park at Mass-Schwalm-Nette-Tal with surrounding wooded areas.
- Walking and bike riding along the Rur and Wurm Rivers

Huckelhoven

- 18th century Manor house "hall"
- 18th century Ruich Castle
- Woods and moorlands along the Ruhr River

Aachen (Aix-la-Chapelle)

- Heart of the 8th and 9th century Frankish Empire and known as the city of Charlemagne
- Octagonal central structure of the Cathedral (Dom) built around 800 AD and burial place of Charlemagne
 - Charlemagne's marble throne in the gallery
 - One of Germany's richest Church treasures– The Domschatzkammer
- Hot spring of Bad Aachen
- The Eisenbrunnen, an emblem of Aachen's role as a spa with drinking well

Moenchengladbach

- Town of busy shops and many fine parks and gardens
- 18th century baroque town hall

Monschau

- Many half-timbered houses, quaint shops and restaurants
- 18th century Troisdorf House and Rotes Haus (Red House)
- [glass factory](#) with showroom is on the edge of town

Ubach-Palenberg

- 11th century St. Peter's chapel
- Rimburg and Zweibruggen Castle

Tuesday

- Geilenkirchen 0700 - 1200
- Heerlen, NL 0900 - 1500
- Heinsberg 0800 - 1200

Wednesday

- Brunssum, NL 0900 - 1200
- Maastricht, NL 0900 - 1400

Thursday

- Geleen, NL 1400 - 1800
- Heerlen, NL 0900 - 1300
- Schinveld, NL 1300 - 1700
- Sittard, NL 0900 - 1300
- Ubach-Palenburg 1300 - 1800

Friday

- Geilenkirchen 0700 - 1200
- Heinsberg 0800 - 1200
- Hoensbroek, NL 0900 - 1200
- Ubach ober Worms, NL 1400 - 1800

Saturday

- Brunssum, NL 0900-1200
- Geleen, NL 1400 - 1700
- Heerlen, NL 0900 - 1300
- Maastricht, NL 0800 - 1800

Sunday

- Leige, Belgium Sunrise - 1300
- Tongeren, Belgium 0800 - 1200

FLEA MARKETS

<http://www.antiek.com/fleamarkets.cfm> antiques in Belgium & Holland

<http://goeurope.about.com/od/markets/>

[Open_Air_Markets_Street_Markets.htm](#)

Locals flock to flea markets which are often listed as Floh Antik or Trodel markets, with a date and place, on signs posted around towns

- They are frequently held on Sundays in large parking lots or at the city hall or sports hall
- Some flea markets request a small admission fee

Ouverbergstraat 2, Brunssum NL (31)-455-27-3714
- Adult and children's lessons

Ruitercentrum Daalderhof

Doubenderweg 27, Oirsbeek NL (31)-46-442-4679
- Adult and children's lessons

Reitschule A. Breuer (49)-241-81872
Gemmenicherweg 109, Aachen, Germany

Tchuster (49)-241-9129312
Puetzgasse 58, Aachen, Germany

Gestuet Birkenhof (49)-2434-993571
Warmesweg 27, Wegberg, Germany

RAILWAYS

European Tourist Railways and Museums

Steam Railways and Trains in Germany

Steam Railways and Trains in The Netherlands

Steam Railways in Belgium

ICE SKATING

Sports Complex Glanerbrook

Sittard NL (31)-464-746988
- Rental skates available

LOCAL MARKETS

- Local markets are usually at the Centrum or Markt Platz in most towns
- Weekly markets focus on fresh fruit, vegetables, flowers, cheese, meat, and baked goods with the larger markets offering more variety

Monday
- Valenkenburg, NL 0900 - 1300

- Wurmtal and Tevereener Heide Nature reserve

Waldfeucht

- Town of working windmills and the last mill grinding corn in the Rhine area

Wassenberg

- 1420 Castle
- Walled town with fortified towers
- walking and biking trails in the densely wooded surroundings
- Walking and biking trails in the densely wooded surroundings

Wegberg

- Wegberg Castle and thatched half-timbered houses
- "[Haus Wildenrath](#)" nature trail

WITHIN ONE AND A HALF HOURS OF GEILENKIRCHEN

Bonn

- Former capital of Germany, on the banks of the Rhine River
- Earliest Roman forts on the Rhine
- Old town Marktplatz from 1737-1738
- Birthplace of the composer, Beethoven
- Guided tours of The Bundeshaus, home of the Parliament and the Federal Council (passports are required)
- Nearby Bruhl Schloss Augustusburg built in 17th century Rococo architecture

KoIn (Cologne)

- Capital of the Rhineland and one of largest cities in Germany
- Founded by Romans in 38 BC and located on the left bank of Rhine River
- Many of the Roman ruins still stand
- The Dom (Cathedral) full Gothic style cathedral
- The Roman-Germanic Museum houses many invaluable archaeological treasures from the Roman period
- Zoo and Botanical Garden
- Departure point for many Rhine River cruises
- Great shopping and pedestrian area

Dusseldorf

- Capital of North Rhineland-Westphalia
- Home of university, fashion center, trade fairs

- The Koenigsallee hosts elegant shopping street and promenade lined with shops, restaurants, and cafes
- Jagerhof Castle, former hunting lodge of the Electors
- The Hetjens Museum (Deutsches Keramikmuseum) houses a collection of 10,000 ceramic objects from all over the world

OTHER AREAS OF GERMANY

Alpine Road

- Beautiful road runs from Lindau to Berchtesgaden through the German Alps

Berchtesgaden

- Old Alpine village with ancient winding streets
- Location of Hitler's Eagle's Nest is nearby at Obersaltzberg
- The Koenigsee, the clearest and deepest lake in Germany
- Salt mines

Berlin

- ICapital of Germany
- Historic, formerly divided city is known for its lively cosmopolitan atmosphere and cultural life
- Great place to shop

Black Forest (Triberg, Germany)

- Beautiful little villages throughout the area rich in cultural traditions
- Good place for cross country skiing and hiking
- Place to buy German clocks

Burg Satzvey

- Location of a medieval festival held in spring with medieval vendors and jousting matches.

Fairy-Tale Road

- Route from Hanau to Bremen, birthplace of the Brothers Grimm
- Hameln the town of the Pied Piper
- Sababurg castle famous "Sleeping Beauty's" castle

Frankfurt

- Largest airport in Europe
- Modern, sophisticated city on the Main river
- The Freegasse (Food Street) has a vast selection of cafes, restaurants,

young people and adults
Tenniscentrum Ten Eeshen
Esschenderweg 100, Heerlen (31)-455-753192

Tenniscentrum Kaldebron
Stadionbaan 50, Heerlen (31)-455-421325
Tenniscentrum Hoensbroek
Heerlenweg 145, Hoensbroek-Heerlen

[Geilenkirchen](#)
Max Planck Strasse 14 (49)-2451-8228

GOLF COURSES

- There is a golf club on base however no course on base
- Contact Morale Welfare Activities (MWA) for current information
Building 80 (49)-2451-63-4940

For these golf courses, please call for fees, details, and course information

[Openbare Golf Brunssumerheide](#)
Rimburgerweg 50, Brunssum NL (31)-455-27-0968

- 27 holes
[RAF Bruggen](#)
Elmpt-Bruggen, Germany (49)-2163-97-4463
- 18 holes

[Spangdahlem Golf Course](#)
Spangdahlem AB, Germany (49)-6565-61-6821
- 9 holes

[Ramstein Golf Course](#)
Ramstein AB, Germany (49)-6371-47-7856
- 18 holes

[AFRC Garmisch](#)
- 9 holes (49)-8821-2473

HORSEBACK RIDING

Brunssumerheide Manege

HOBBIES AND OTHER INTERESTS

SWIMMING POOLS

On Base

Outdoor Swimming Pool
Building 101 (49)-2451-63-4948

Indoor Swimming Pool
[JFC Brunssum](#) (31)-455-26-3187

Off Base

- Village and town swimming pools called Hallenbad or Schwimmbads have printed schedules that can be pick up at the cashier window upon entering
- Some Hallenbads have definite times established for open swim, adult swim, etc.
- The costs to swim are nominal, in the area of 1 euro
- Swim caps are required at all pools and may be rented
- Changing and shower rooms are available with lockers and a key
- Life guards are always on duty
- Most all Hallenbads and Schwimmbads have a cafeteria for drinks and small snacks
- The following towns in the Heinsberg County have Hallenbads (H) or Schwimmbads (S):

[Heinsberg](#) (H) (S)

[Geilenkirchen](#) (H)

[Gangelt](#) (S)

[Ubach-Palenberg](#) (H) (S)

[Waldfeucht-Haaren](#) (H)

[Hückelhoven](#) (H) (S)

TENNIS CLUBS

- Contact Morale Welfare Activities (MWA) for current information for on-base tennis courts Building 80 02451-63-4940
- Tennishallen in Germany and The Netherlands may require club membership
- Courts must be reserved in advance
- Open times and costs vary
- Many tennis halls offer special priced cards for a certain amount of court time to young people under 18 to encourage the sport
- Most also have their own tennis pro available for instruction for

and food shops

Garmisch-Partenkirchen

- Top Alpine resort town near the Austrian border
- Linderhof and Neuschwanstein castles nearby
- Location of an Armed Forces Recreation Center ([AFRC](#))
- The Zugspitz, the highest mountain in Germany, accessible by cable-car

Harz Mountains

- Popular winter resort area is in northern Germany known for cross country skiing

Heidelberg

- Ancient university town
- 15th to 17th century old castle ruins with a graceful courtyard

Munchen (Munich)

- Heart of Bavaria
- Famous for [Octoberfest](#) and the BMW museum

Nurnberg/(Nuremberg)

- Famous Christmas market
- Site of grand Nazi rallies and Allied war trials

Oberammergau

- Home of the Passion Play
- Quaint painted houses and wood carving shops

Romantic Road

- Scenic 180 mile stretch of road between Weinzberg and Fussen in the foothills of the Alps

Rothenberg ob de Tauber

- Best-preserved medieval city in Germany
- Shops, restaurants and year-round stores
- Holy Blood alterpiece of St Jakob's Church includes a rock crystal reliquary cross (ca. 1270).

Trier

- Germany's oldest city and located on the Mosel River
- Famous for its Roman ruins

Xanten

- Archaeological park located about 70 km north-northeast of Geilenkirchen
- Only large Roman town north of the Alps not to have been later built upon
- Original walls and carved blocks on display

PLACES OF INTEREST IN THE NETHERLANDS

JFC BRUNSSUM LOCAL AREA

Brunssum

- Location of JFC Brunssum
- Home of the Schutterspark

Heerlen

- City with rich Roman past and close to Geilenkirchen
- Thermae Museum of Roman ruins and a public bath house

Hoensbroek

- Near Heerlen and Brunssum and has many good restaurants

Hoensbroek Castle

(31)-45-522-7272

Address: Klinkerstraat 118 Hoensbroek, NL

- 14th century castle with a rich history of family ownership, secret rooms, privys (unique toilets), a real dungeon, and furnished rooms.
- Middle Ages festival with a knight's tournament and market square on Easter Sunday and Monday.

Maastricht

- Capital of the province of Limburg and oldest fortified city in Holland
- Many gates and ramparts still stand and many streets have changed little since the 16th and 17th centuries
- [Bonnefanten Museum](#) with exhibits in archeology, sculptures, paintings, silver and glass, and the history of Maastricht
- Great shopping in the pedestrian area, including many bistros, snack bars, restaurants, cozy cafes, and pubs.

Bokrijk

(32)-11-26-5300

Address: Het Domein, 3600 Genk (Bokrijk), Belgium

<http://www.limburg.be/bokrijk>

- Open air museum, including a nature reserve, playground with pony rides, and restored farm houses with traditional crafts and furniture
- Historic buildings with demonstrations of the way of life in the 1850's.

- Walking paths, gardens, a huge playground, separate toddler playground, children's animal park including miniature pigs, mini golf and sports fields, pony rides, mini-cars, a greenhouse, and a shuttle service.

Mini-Europe

(32)-2-474-1313

Address: Avenue du Football 1, B-1020, Brussels, Belgium

Hours of operation: Depends on time of year

<http://www.minieurope.com/>

- Scale models of 300 famous European buildings, along with high-tech achievements

Walibi

(32) 1042-1500

Address: Rue J Deschamps 9, 1300 Wavre, Belgium

Spijkweg 30, 8256 RJ, Biddinghuizen, Netherlands

<http://www.starparks.com/>

Attractions include 40 rides and shows, and a covered aquatic park

FRANCE

Disneyland Paris

(33)-6030-6053

Address: Marne la Vallee Chessy, France

Hours of operation: Depends on time of year

<http://www.disneylandparis.com>

- Disneyland with Mainstreet USA, Frontierland, Adventureland, Fantasyland, and Discoveryland
- Numerous shops and restaurants and 7 Disneyland hotels

- Small entrance fee includes numerous rides
- Attractions include ferris wheel, pedal boats, 3 sandpit playgrounds, ball tent, bumper cars, video game hall, roller coaster, haunted house, and pony rides.
- Appropriate for children age 3-10

BELGIUM

Alles Kids Indoor Playground

(32)-89-57-2280

Address: Venlosesteenweg 330, Kessenich, Belgium

- 3-4 story climbing apparatus enclosed in sturdy netting including a multitude of activities.

- 3 slides, a large ball pit, and a separate little-tikes play zone.

Aqua Mundo Water Park

(32)-221-9730-3030

Address: Erperheide, Belgium

Hours of operation: Open year-round from 1030 - 1800

www.centerparcs.com

- Indoor water park with wildcatters, Jacuzzis, slides, and a wave pool

Aquarium-University Zoology Museum

(32)-04-366-5021

Address: Quai Van Beneden 22 Liege, BE

<http://www.ulg.ac.be/aquarium>

- Aquarium with 42 tanks displaying 250 varieties of salt and fresh water fish.

- The zoology museum houses 18,000 specimens of animals.

- Science museum in the same building for an additional fee of about 100 BF per person.

Bobbejaanland

(32)-14-557811

Address: Olensteeweg 45, 2460 Kasterlee (Lichtaart), Belgium

<http://www.bobbejaanland.be>

- Family amusement park with rides, slides, swings, and shows

- Mt. St. Peter houses great blocks of stone carved out creating vast caves and 200 miles of tunnels. During World War II, used as a refuge and art treasures
- Guided tours available

Landgraaf

Home to The Netherlands' most famous open-air festival, [PINKPOP](#).

Margraten

- Small town is in a nice countryside setting

- Home to an [American War Cemetery](#) and site of annual Memorial Day services

Sittard

- Close to the German border still has an old city wall

- The center of town contains a number of half-timbered houses

- Thursday morning market on the square known for fresh fish and cloth vendors

Thorn

- Called "[White Village](#)" due to its picturesque all-white homes

- Many streets paved with boulders from the Maas River

- Town reflects the Middle Ages

Valkenburg

- Popular holiday resort area in an area of gently rolling hillsides

- Home to many parks, cafes, and fine restaurants

- Grotto chapels, lakes, Roman galleries and murals

- [Valkenburg Coal Mine](#) and National Mine Museum with English-speaking guides

OTHER AREAS IN THE NETHERLANDS

Amsterdam

- Cosmopolitan, offbeat, fun city in Holland famous for its canals

- Canal rides, biking and crepes

- The Anne Frank House one of the most visited places in the world

- The Van Gogh Museum and Rembrandt's House

Delft

- Famous blue and white porcelain

- Many small canals

Keukenhof

- Large flower park open in April and May

Leiden

- Home to the Mayflower Pilgrims before sailing to Plymouth
- A Dutch Renaissance city and birth place of Rembrandt
- The National Museum of Antiquities “Rijksmuseum van Oudheden” with Egyptian, Greek, Roman, and Dutch displays

Scheveningen

- Beach resort area with a beach promenade and wave pool
- Casino, restaurants, and Sunday shopping

PLACES OF INTEREST IN BELGIUM

Antwerp

- World famous port and industrial city and the center of the diamond cutting industry
- The Cathedral of Our Lady a Gothic masterpiece begun in 1352 and recently restored
- Diamondland demonstrates diamond cutters at their trade
- Provincial Diamond Museum houses many jewelry displays
- Antwerp Zoo the residence for animals roaming free in their natural habitat

Bastogne

- Location of Battle of the Bulge fought Christmas of 1944
- Coline du Mardasson a memorial to American soldiers who died in the battle

Bruges

- This is one of Europe's loveliest cities, often called the lace capital of the world. Take a canal boat trip.
- See Michaelangelo's marble statue, "Virgin and Child", at the Church of Our Lady or the “Blood of Christ” at the Basilica of the Holy Blood.

Brussels

- The largest city in Belgium
- Grand Place, Europe's most ornate market square
- The Grand Sablon an elegant square surrounded by restaurants, cafes and antique shops

- Other attractions include an amusement park, a zoo, and a dinosaur land.

Ouwehands Dierenpark

31)-4648-51950

Address: Grebbeweg 111, 3911 AV Rhenen (Born), Netherlands

<http://www.ouwehand.nl>

- Animal park and shows

-

Schutters Kinderboerderij Park

(31)-45-527-4665

Address: Heidestraat 2 Brunssum, NL

- An outdoor park and petting zoo, pony rides, and friendly staff.

Schutters Speeltuin Park

(31)-455-295-902

Address: Heidestraat 10, Brunssum, NL

- Open April until the end of September
- Large outdoor playground for toddlers and younger children.
- Separate toddler playground
- Slides, swings, and many climbing apparatuses available.

SnowWorld Landgraaf

(31)-45-54-70700

Address: Witte Wereld 1, 6372 VG Landgraaf, Netherlands

www.snowworld.nl

- Large indoor ski and snowboard park open 365 days a year

Steinboros Park

(31)-46-426-8000

Address: Dieterenstraat Stein, NL

- This extensive outdoor park includes playground, outdoor pool with slide and kiddy pool, boating, mini-golf, petting zoo, pony rides, restaurant, big playground, kid castle, and go-carts. Indoor pool is included in entrance fee on Saturdays and Sundays. Very easy to get to and variety of activities available.

Valkenier Park

(31)-43-6012289

Address: Koningswinkelstraat 53, Valkenburg, NL

www.pretpark-de-valkenier.nl

(31)-43-601-2336 or (31)-43-604-2929

Address: off Cauberg Str., Valkenburg, NL

- The illuminated tunnels of the cave show aquariums with many varieties of water life - Piranhas, crocodiles, and reptiles

Kasteel Park

(31)-46-4851950

Address: Kasteelpark 38 Born, NL

- Animals both domestic or wild.
- Groomed walking paths and castle ruins.
- Petting zoo has goats, cows, pigs, llamas, and chickens to name a few. Small playground near cafe.

Kinderstaad

(31)-45-571-7252

Address: Parallelweg R 4, 6411 ND Heerlen

www.kinderstad.nl

- Largest indoor attraction park in the area. A diversity of attractions including a wild water rapids, bumper boats, trampolines, merry-go-rounds, slides, adventure maze, bouncy cushions, and mini bumper cars.

- Cafeteria, where birthday parties and other parties can be held

Labyrint Maze(31)-43-306-5200

Address: Viergrenzenweg 97, Vaals, NL

www.drielandenpunt.nl

- Large labyrinth maze of bushes and electronic waterways located near the Three-land Point (German, Holland, and Belgium) in Vaals.

- Two playgrounds, restaurants, picnic areas and groomed paths for hiking.

Mondo Verde

(32) 045-5350161

Address: Groene Wereld 10, 6372 PW Landgraaf

- Large garden with botanical displays from around the world.

- The Grand Sablon an elegant square surrounded by restaurants, cafes and antique shops

Ghent

- One of Belgium's "art cities";
- Home to six castles and three abbeys

Liege

- Site of the largest market of its kind in Europe where just about anything can be bought – including animals
- St Paul's Cathedral and its Treasury

Tongeren

Ancient town founded in 1 AD with many preserved relics from its Roman past

- The Basilica of Our Lady, the Roman Towers, and the large antique market on Sunday mornings

Willebroek

- Breendonk Concentration Camp, one of the most well-preserved concentration camps in Europe

AMUSEMENT PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS

The following are a few suggestions of fun places to visit with children. Although there are many more places to seek out on your own. Good resources include guide books, local newsletters, and word-of-mouth recommendations. It is best to call for the latest information on hours, admission prices and directions.

GERMANY

Aqua Land wurselen

(49)-0221-70280

Address: Merianstraße 1, 50765 Köln

<http://www.aqualand.de/>

Large indoor water park great for children of all ages as well as teenagers. Families can relax in the excellent spa facilities.

Aqua Zoo

(49)-211-899-6150

Address: Kaiserswerther Str. 380, Dusseldorf, Germany

www.duesseldorf.de/aquazoo

Large aquarium with viewing tanks for penguins, seals, sharks, stingrays, alligators, and other large reptiles. The multi-level floor plan separates the different interests. A good rainy day activity for the whole family.

Koln Zoo

(49)-1805. 28 01 01

Address: Riehler Straße 173, 50735 Köln

www.koelnerzoo.de/

-Largest zoo in the area

Michael Schumacher Kart and Event Center

(49)2273-6019-0

Address: Michael-Schumacher-Str. 5, 50170 Kerpen - Sindorf

The kart center has both indoor and outdoor go-carting with carts that can reach up to 50km/h.

Phantasialand

(49)-2232-36206

Address: Berggeiststrasse 31, 50321 Bruhl, Germany

<http://www.phantasialand.de>

- Biggest "Wonderland in Germany", 20 rides, shows, and restaurants

Tier Park

Address: Obere Drimbornstrasse 44, 52066, Aachen Germany

<http://www.euregiozoo.de>

- Wildlife park and zoo with more than 1700 animals with special events and projects for children such as a children's zoo. Guided tours and educational courses are also available.

Warner Brothers Movie World

(49)-2045-899899

Address: Warner Allee 1, Bottrop-Kirchhellen, Germany

<http://www.moviepark.de>

- The main attractions are water rafting, a roller coaster, film shootings, stunt shows, Warner Brothers characters, and restaurants

NETHERLANDS

Brunssumer Heide Nature Park/Observatory

(31)-45-5225543

Address: Schaapskooiweg Brunssum, NL

-Large ecology-focused park with two playgrounds, groomed walking,, biking, and horse paths. Site observatory with a small fee.

Burger's Safari Park and Zoo

(31)-26-442-4534

Address: Antoon van Hooffplein 1, 6816 SH Arnhem, Netherlands

<http://burgerszoo.nl>

- 400 free running animals and a tropical rain forest

Daalhof Petteing Zoo(31)-43-3474786

Address: Romeinsebaan 200 Maastricht, NL

- Petting zoo with baby animals, pigs, chickens, a cows, rabbits, and sheep.

De Efteling

(32)-416-288-111

Address: Europalaan 1, 5171 KW, Kaatsheuvel, Netherlands

<http://www.efteling.com>

- Enchanted forest, haunted house, and puppet show.

Evoluon

(31)-40-2773612

Address: Eindhoven, Netherlands

- It is open all year except Christmas and New Years
- Futuristic exhibits, a "hands on" museum, and a journey through the world of science and technology

Fairy Tale Park

(31)-6012985

Address: Sibbergrubbe 2a, Valkenburg an de Geul, NL

- Outdoor recreational area with various activities including a water slide, Western Saloon, water organ, walking path with folk story theme houses, a variety of rides and slides.

- Small toddler area with free mini roller coaster ride.

Grotten Aquarium