Ypres Salient cycling route

Keen to discover the three entry points and the surrounding area on your bike? Then try the new 36 km Ypres Salient cycling route, which starts and ends at Grote Markt in Ypres.

- You can buy this cycling map at Westtoer or at the Ypres Tourist Office.
- For an overview of bicycle rental companies go to www.visit-ypres.com

Ypres Salient app

The Northern Ypres Salient has its own app! Compare the destroyed landscape of 1914-1918 with the way it looks today through aerial photos and maps of the trenches. This app follows the hiking path from the North entry point at Haven Klei Zwarteleen.

- You can download the app for free from any app store.
- Wi-Fi is available at the North entry point.

Memorial trees

140 tall elms mark the former front lines of both camps. You’ll recognise these memorial trees from the metal tree baskets. The blue marked baskets mark the British front line, while the red ones mark the German front line. Information boards hang from these baskets showing historical photos of the spot where they stand, as well as details on the exact location of the front lines, which were, at times, divided by a mere 25 metres. These trees will continue to play a unique role at the Ypres Salient even after the 1914-1918 commemoration activities, creating a remarkable landscape on this former battlefield.

Hiking path

From the entry point The Bluff at the De Palingbeek provincial park you can walk all the way to Hill 60 and the Caterpillar crater, and back.

Practical information

De Palingbeek provincial park/The Bluff: Palingbeekstraat, 8902 Zillebeke

Hill 60/Caterpillar: Zwarteleenstraat, 8902 Zillebeke

Open every day

Tourism Ypres

Lakenhalle - Grote Markt 34 - B-8900 Ypres - T. +32 (0)57 239 220

www.visit-ypres.com

NEW IN
2015

SOUTH

The South entry point comprises two important locations, the entry point The Bluff at the De Palingbeek provincial park and the Hill 60 site. At the former, a fascinating video shows you how the Southern Ypres Salient was formed, from Hill 60 to Sint-Elooi. The site still bears signs of the mine battles and the underground war fought from 1915 to 1917, through countless large and small craters and typical small cemeteries.

The renovated platform and wooden hiking paths at the famous Hill 60 site, with the nearby enormous Caterpillar crater, provide a clear view of this strategic spot.

Hiking path

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Practical information

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Hill 60/Caterpillar: Zwarteleenstraat, 8902 Zillebeke

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Special thanks go to West-Vlaanderen
During the Great War, the Ypres Salient was the longest unchanged front line in Flanders. It was therefore one of the most feared battlefields of the entire Western Front. One hundred years on, the war landscape at the Ypres Salient stands as the last witness of this brutal conflict. The In Flanders Fields Museum takes visitors on a journey back in time and invites them to discover the surrounding area. From 2015, they can use three new entry points to do so: North, East and South.

The North entry point is located at Hoeve Klein Zwaanhof and provides access to the Ypres Salient from the Ypres-Yser canal (Boezinge) to Wieltje. During the Second Battle of Ypres, which started on 22 April 1915, the Northern Ypres Salient was one of the most brutal battlefields. At and around the entry point, you can discover three main themes. A video shows you historical images of how the front was formed, the reconstructed Yorkshire Trench & Dug-out shows you the local archaeological findings, and last but not least, you will discover a German bunker and the stories of a few famous war poets - Ernst Jünger (D), Francis Ledwidge (IRE), Edmund Blunden (GB), John McCrae (CAN), Robert d’Humières (F), Hedd Wyn and David Jones (Wales).

Hiking path
From the entry point, you can go on a 2.5 km walk to and through the notorious Caesar’s Nose front area. Along the way, you will pass by several small and remarkable cemeteries and the Yorkshire Trench & Dug-Out.

Information boards and a digital app illustrate how this front zone came into being.

Practical information
Hoeve Klein Zwaanhof, Kleine Poezelstraat, 8904 Boezinge
Open daily from 10 am to 5 pm

The East entry point is located next to the Hooge Crater Museum and shows you the Ypres Salient from Zonnebeekseweg to Hill 62. The entry point is located in the small toilet building of the former school. A video with exceptional historical images shows you the intact relics that still stand on Bellewaerde Ridge. Moreover, you get to view information on the many castles and mansions around Ypres, which leave their mark to this day.

Hiking path
Right next to the entry point you will find the Hooge Crater Museum and across the street there is the impressive Hooge Crater Cemetery. This is the departure point of a 3 km loop walk to Bellewaerde Ridge via countless craters and to Sanctuary Wood Cemetery via a 6 or 8 km walk.

Practical information
Hooge Crater Museum, Meenseweg 467, 8902 Zillebeke
Open every day from 10 am to 6 pm; closed on Mondays, during the Christmas holidays and in January
Entry point always accessible

The South entry point is located in the small toilet building of the former school. A video with exceptional historical images shows you the intact relics that still stand on Bellewaerde Ridge. Moreover, you get to view information on the many castles and mansions around Ypres, which leave their mark to this day.

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