

Halle Gate (RMAH)



The Halle Gate is an ideal visit for those who enjoy walking through history, feeling a place and understanding a city through its foundations. An experience to enjoy solo, as a couple or with family, to discover Brussels differently, from its medieval ramparts, and gain a little perspective on both past and present.



GO THERE

+32 2 534 15 18

VISIT THE WEBSITE

Monday : 09:30 - 17:00

Tuesday : 09:30 - 17:00

Wednesday : 09:30 - 17:00

Thursday : 09:30 - 17:00

Friday : Closed

Saturday : 10:00 - 17:00

Sunday : 10:00 - 17:00

Reviews

4.3/5 (3740 Google reviews)

Information

Porte de Hal – Climb the ramparts of time and see Brussels differently

The **Porte de Hal** is one of those monuments you notice without always daring to enter. And yet Behind its almost fairytale-like appearance lies the **most spectacular witness to Brussels' medieval past**. More than 600 years old, this former gate of the fortified city is now a fascinating museum where visitors literally climb **through the centuries**, step by step, until reaching a striking panorama over the capital.

The only medieval gate still standing in Brussels, the Porte de Hal intrigues, impresses and surprises. Just a few minutes from the city centre, it offers a vivid and tangible immersion into the city's history, among stone, wood, weapons and ramparts.

A medieval gate, the last witness of Brussels' fortifications

Built in the 14th century, the Porte de Hal was part of the defensive system that protected Brussels. Today it stands as a **major landmark**, reminding visitors that the city was once surrounded by walls. From the moment you enter, this defensive dimension becomes clear: thick walls, imposing volumes and an atmosphere that is almost austere yet deeply evocative.

The visit helps visitors understand **how the city protected itself**, how the fortifications were organised and what role the guilds played in urban defence. The **models of Brussels' fortifications** help visitors imagine the medieval city, very different from the one we know today.

Thanks to the audio guide, the route remains clear and accessible while preserving the powerful atmosphere of the place.

Vaulted rooms, spiral staircase and an impressive roof structure

The experience is also highly physical, almost sensory. Visitors climb the **169 steps** of the main interior staircase, a spiral that winds through the building. At each level, the atmosphere changes. The **14th-century vaulted rooms**, massive and sober, contrast with the **spectacular roof structure** visible higher up, revealing the remarkable technical mastery of the time.

Visitors take time to observe the details: the stone, the wood, the light filtering differently on each floor. The building reveals itself gradually, like a fortress slowly agreeing to unveil its secrets.

This ascent is an essential part of the visit. It gives the feeling of **conquering the monument**, step by step, just as in the past.

Weapons, armour and stories of defence

Throughout the visit, the **collections of weapons and armour** recall the site's original purpose. These objects, both impressive

and rich in history, illustrate the very concrete reality of defending the city: battles, surveillance and military organisation.

Far from an abstract narrative, the Porte de Hal reveals **history as it was lived**, that of the men who kept watch, the guilds mobilised and the strategies devised to protect Brussels. It is a story of vigilance, power and urban survival, told on a human scale.

A spectacular panorama over Brussels

The reward awaits at the top. From the ramparts, the view opens onto an **exceptional outdoor panorama**. Brussels reveals itself from an unexpected perspective, blending historic rooftops with contemporary lines. This contrast between the medieval city embedded in stone and today's capital is one of the most memorable moments of the visit.

Visitors take time to look around, identify the different districts and reflect on the distance travelled both in space and in time.

Calculate your route

Station at 1000 m : Bruxelles-Midi

Maestro

2, 3, 4, 6 Porte de Hal / Hallepoort

Opening times

Monday to Thursday: 9.30 - 17.00 • Saturdays and Sundays: 10.00 - 17.00 • Closed on Fridays, 1/01, 1/05, 1/11, 11/11 and 25/12

Price

(includes exhibition, permanent collections, panorama and audio guide): adults €7 • 65+ €5 • children and students (0-18 years) free of charge

Tour length

1.5 hrs • Audio guide available in EN, FR, NL, DE, ES, RU

Group

Price (min. 15 people) adults €5 • children and students (0-18 years) free of charge

Guided tour FR / NL (on request +32 2 741 73 02).

Weather in Brussels

Nearby...

Royal Museums of Fine Arts of Belgium

Brussels 1.72 Km 00:06





