



An ideal experience for those who love uncovering the mysteries of the past, walking in the footsteps of the first builders and taking the time to discover, in Wallonia, an exceptional archaeological site where history can be read in stone and landscape.



GO THERE

+32 65 84 68 12

VISIT THE WEBSITE

Monday : Closed

Tuesday : 10:00 - 16:00

Wednesday : 10:00 - 16:00

Thursday : 10:00 - 16:00

Friday : 10:00 - 16:00

Saturday : 10:00 - 16:00

Sunday : 10:00 - 16:00

Reviews

4.1/5 (165Google reviews)

Information

Silex's, a fascinating journey to the origins of human activity

Silex's invites visitors on a dizzying journey through time, to where it all began, long before writing and monuments. This exceptional archaeological site, **one of the oldest and largest flint extraction centres in Europe**, tells the story of a millennia-old expertise deeply embedded in the ground and in human memory. Between **preserved nature and cultural heritage**, the visit unfolds like an exploration—slow and captivating—following the traces left by our ancestors.

Recognised by **UNESCO**, Silex's is one of those rare places where archaeology is not only explained: it is felt, observed and experienced, **in the heart of a protected and peaceful landscape**, just a short distance from contemporary life.

Exploring a unique, accessible and living mining site

At Silex's, flint extraction is not an abstract past. It becomes concrete, almost tangible. The site reveals **the fascinating world of the flint mines**, these galleries dug several thousand years ago, impressive testimonies to human ingenuity. Long before machines, generations of men extracted stone with the strength of their arms, with precision and method.

The **surface tours** provide a clear understanding of the archaeological landscape, while the **exceptional descents into the flint mines** leave a lasting impression. Visitors feel the silence, the coolness and the narrowness of the spaces—sensations that help to better understand the working conditions and the technical mastery required to extract flint.

Understanding flint, the essential raw material of prehistory

The visit highlights the fundamental importance of flint in the daily life of prehistoric societies. This stone, shaped with remarkable precision, was used to produce **tools, weapons and symbolic objects**, essential both for survival and for cultural expression.

Through explanations, observations and educational displays, visitors discover how this material shaped gestures, exchanges and the organisation of human communities for thousands of years. A clear and accessible approach that reveals the full dimension of the **technical ingenuity of our ancestors**, without ever losing the emotion of discovery.

Walking between protected nature and buried memory

Silex's also offers immersion in a remarkable natural environment. During the opening season, the site proposes **walks in the heart of the Natura 2000 protected nature reserve**. Trails wind between meadows, reliefs and archaeological remains, offering a welcome breath of fresh air between moments of discovery.

This constant dialogue between **nature and archaeology** creates a distinctive atmosphere, ideal for contemplation. The landscape, shaped both by humans and by time, becomes a full part of the experience.

A playful and family-friendly discovery

The visit is particularly well suited to family exploration. A **free activity booklet**, available at reception, accompanies younger visitors in their discovery. Through challenges, questions and observations, archaeology becomes playful, stimulating and accessible.

Children explore the site at their own pace while adults deepen their understanding. An engaging and convivial way to **pass on memory** while sharing a moment of curiosity and discovery.



Car park

Coach park
2 parking spots

Maestro

Opening times

From 18/04 to 1/11: Tuesday to Sunday, 10.00 - 16.00

Price

adults €7 • students, 60+ €5 • children (3-18) €3 • children (<3) free of charge

Tour length

45 mins. to 1.5 hrs

Group

Price (min. 10 people) adults €5 • children (3-18) €3 • children (<3) free of charge

Guided tour Guided tours EN, FR, NL, DE - Prior booking required +32 65 40 53 46 • Guided surface tours: 45 minutes - max. 20 people - €65/group • Descent into the flint quarry: 1.5 hrs - €95/group of max. 12 people

Weather in Spiennes

Nearby...

Mons Memorial Museum

Mons 6.53 Km 00:09





