



Freÿr-sur-Meuse castle and its gardens (Hastière)

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WBT - Dominik Ketz

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Freÿr sur Meuse, a Renaissance castle with stunning gardens, is part of Wallonia's protected architectural heritage.

The site, nestled by the Meuse, enjoys the breathtaking setting of a valley.

The Castle

In the same family for twenty generations, the Domaine de Freÿr dates back to the 14th century when a keep was built on a strategic band of the Meuse River. In the 17th century, the house was enlarged to enclose an imposing Renaissance courtyard surrounded by two gardens which curve along the river bank. Today it is one of the finest examples of an 18th-century nobleman's summer residence with many of the interior features intact, from an impressive hallway hung with paintings beneath a beautiful Louis XV fresco covered ceiling to a series of panelled rooms of period furniture owned by generations of the Dukes of Beaufort- Spontin.

The gardens

The formal gardens beside the Meuse were designed by Canon Beaufort de Spontin in 1760 and are set on walled terraces with wide views to the high rocky cliffs on the other side of the river. Lined

with fountains and channels, on the lower level an alleyway of orange trees spread their delicate perfume in spring. The trees were brought here in the first part of the 18th century and are amongst the oldest in Europe. Surmounted by a Rococo pavilion delicately decorated with stucco angels and Tritons the upper part of the gardens has stunning views over the river.

Visitors with specific needs

The ground floor and gardens are accessible to wheelchairs.

Freÿr sur Meuse has a certain air of Versailles about it.

The information contained herein is provided as a guide only.

We recommend that you check with the local supplier before you leave.

Website editor

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