
WHY MONS
is the
PERFECT
PLACE
for your
EXCHANGE
EXPERIENCE

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Université de Mons



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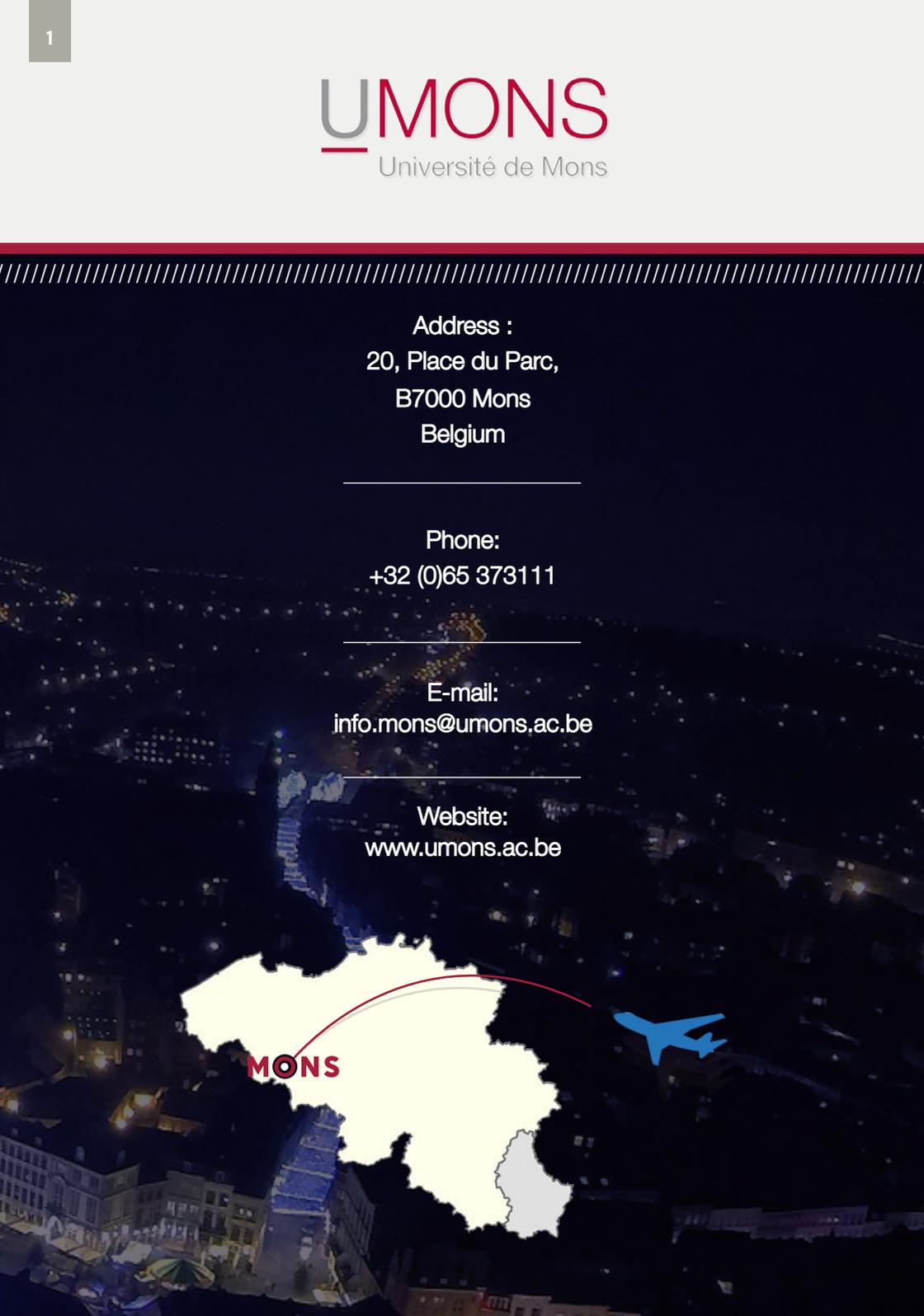
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MONS

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THE WAROCQUÉ FACULTY, A GUARANTEE OF QUALITY

« (found there a good university, great teachers and colleagues and more than that, students from all over the world who are my friends now. »

- Larisa from Romania (2014-2015)



LOOKING FOR AN EXCHANGE DESTINATION?

Université de Mons

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Cité
Jacques Franeau

You are looking for an exchange destination
and you don't know where to go?

Warocqué School of Business and Economics (1889)
is one of the seven faculties of the University of Mons.
Commonly called “Warocqué” or “Wawa”, the Faculty is strongly
established in the landscape of Mons.

HERE ARE FIVE REASONS WHY YOU MUST CHOOSE WAROCQUÉ FOR YOUR EXCHANGE PROGRAM

● 1. Good personal approach:

The main strength of the Faculty lies in its personal approach. It offers plenty of opportunities to work closely with its teachers and assistants. They are very available and always there to help you. One thing is sure, in Warocqué, you'll never walk alone! Classes are generally held with a small number of students, ensuring a high quality teaching. The diversity of the program provides students with a prime understanding of Economics and Management.

● 2. Many languages possibilities:

At Warocqué, you can follow classes either in English and/or in French. Therefore, it is a great opportunity for you to improve your skills in those two languages! If you want more, the University also organises language classes. You can learn, German, Dutch, French, Spanish and English!

● 3. High quality teaching:

At Warocqué, every effort is made in order to provide you with a top quality education in a good environment. The Faculty is the only one in the French Community of Belgium that is certified ISO 9001 aiming to maintain a high quality teaching.

● 4. Campus:

The university campus, which is split all around the town, offers you different facilities such as a sports centre, two University cafeterias, libraries, etc.

● 5. Good exchange student services:

If you come to Warocqué, there will be no need to worry about housing. The University has different dorms that are all furnished rooms with shared facilities. Most student rooms are located near the Faculty. If you prefer a flat, no problem! The University's International Office will give you a leaflet with a list of several landlords to contact.

Did you know it?

Flat rents in Mons are among the lowest in Belgium? Think about it!

Also,

you can expect a warm welcome as soon as you arrive. The University has set up TANDEMONS to make exchange students part of Mons and Faculty life.

The University takes care of its exchange students: throughout the year, a number of excursions to different cities and landmarks all around Belgium is organised. Belgium will have no more secret for you after your exchange stay in Warocqué!

Did you know it?

The Faculty is a co-founder of
the CERMi
(Centre for European Research in
Microfinance)



Warocqué Guided Tour



At the top of Warocqué Building stands a Statue of Mercury, the god of commerce in Roman mythology!



Many student parties and activities are held all over the year such as Saint Nicolas and «Coupe du Mons». «Coupe du Mons» is organised by Warocqué and is the biggest student football tournament in Mons. It lasts four days during which football games, student parties and cheerfulness punctuate the University's life. At the end of the tournament, one of the biggest student parties of the year is held in the massive hall of Lotto Mons Expo. You really don't want to miss that party!

Compared to many cities in Belgium and big cities in Western Europe, life in Mons is relatively affordable. With the quality of education provided by the Faculty and the comparatively low cost of living in Mons, studying at Warocqué School of Business and Economics is a winning deal for the students.

MONS, THE WONDERFUL

«I love everything in Mons! The culture, the view, the lifestyle and the people here are fantastic.»

- Sabrina from Taiwan (2015-2016)



MONS IS SURELY A SMALL CITY BUT OFFERS LOTS OF LOVELY PLACES TO VISIT AND DISCOVER

HERE, WE WILL PRESENT YOU FIVE OF THE BEST:



1. Grand-Place and Town hall:

Located in the very centre, the Grand-Place is a very animated place surrounded by terraces, restaurants and cafés. The architecture of the colourful nearby facades has been influenced by Gothic, Neo-Classical and Spanish styles since the 15th century. In the middle, you will also notice a blue stone ring that symbolizes the 19 municipalities of Mons. The Town Hall, whose oldest part was built between 1458 and 1477, contains beautiful reception Chambers. Inside, you can admire some masterpieces of Mons silversmith and tapestries. The Mayor's Garden, located behind the main building, is also of interest if you are looking for a peaceful place to relax.

A Christmas Market takes place on the Grand-Place every year in December. In this lively and colourful place, you will find more than 40 wooden stalls, an ice-riding and a giant Christmas tree! So take your friends ice-skating and don't forget to warm yourselves up with a glass of hot wine.



Tip:
 Start your exchange experience by stroking the head of the little monkey (located in front of the Town hall) with your left hand; it is supposed to bring you a year of happiness!



● 2. Belfry:

The Belfry of Mons is the only remaining baroque style belfry in Belgium. At 87-meters, it dominates the city of Mons and offers a unique sight over the city and its surroundings (in clear weather, you can even see Brussels or the French borders!). Inside, you can find a museum which traces its history and role from its construction to nowadays.

Let's not forget about the beautiful garden that surrounds it which also offers a great panoramic view.





3. Saint-Waltrude Collegiate Church:

Erected in honour of Saint-Waltrude, considered as the founder of Mons, the construction of this Collegiate lasted 139 years (1450 – 1589)! This religious edifice gathers the “Car d’Or” which is a procession chariot built in the 18th century and that is still used nowadays for the shrine of Saint-Waltrude during Doudou (see box). Inside, you can admire the impressive verticality of the structure, take a look at the treasure full of silversmiths and contemplate stained glass windows dating from the 16th century.

4. The Waux-Hall Park:

This 5-hectare park is perfect to have a nice walk or do some sports such as running, tennis or canoeing (during the summer only). Its alleys are punctuated with stone statues, some rare species of flowers and trees can be found. Don't forget to take some bread with you to feed the geese and swans!





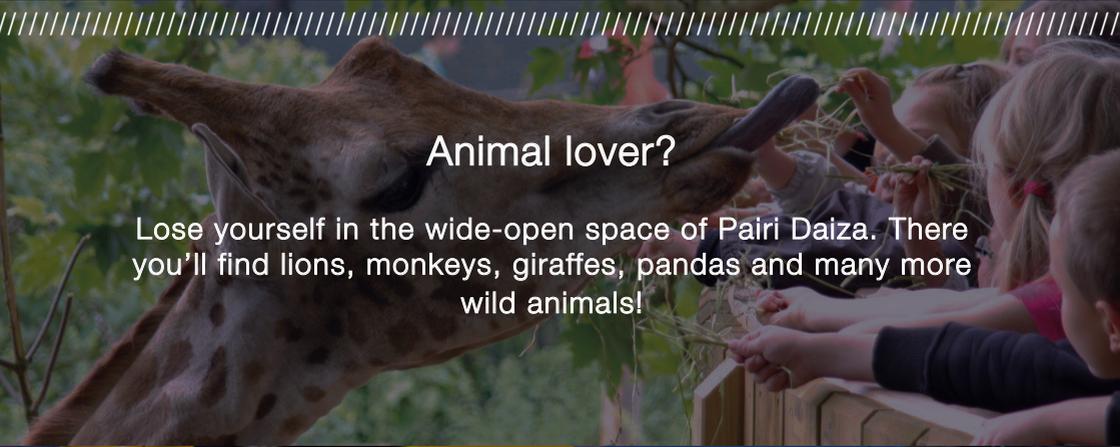
● 5. Doudou Mons Fair:

It is a UNESCO “masterpiece of the oral and intangible heritage of humanity”. This traditional event dating from the 14th century takes place on the Grand-Place every year over Trinity weekend (40 days after Easter) and reenacts the battle between Saint-Georges and the dragon. If you are not afraid of the crowds, try to grab horsehair from the dragon’s tail; it will bring you luck! You want to know more about this celebration? Visit the Doudou museum!





A walk around Mons

A close-up photograph of a giraffe's head and neck. The giraffe is brown with white spots and is reaching out with its mouth open, eating green grass. Several children's hands are visible on the right side of the frame, holding the grass for the giraffe. The background is slightly blurred, showing more children and greenery.

Animal lover?

Lose yourself in the wide-open space of Pairi Daiza. There you'll find lions, monkeys, giraffes, pandas and many more wild animals!

A photograph of a yellow and white bus parked on a city street. The bus has a large white circular logo on its side with the text "2015" and "MONS" in red. The bus is facing right, and its front door is open. Buildings and other street elements are visible in the background.

Tired of walking?

Get in an "intra muros". Those free busses circulate from 7am to 9pm (every day except on Sundays) and take you all around Mons.

A photograph of a bar at night. A neon sign above the entrance reads "LA VIE EST BELGE" in blue and purple. The bar has a dark interior with some lights visible. The building is made of brick and has a classic architectural style.

LA VIE EST BELGE

Nightlife

There are numerous bars to explore in Mons, check out some of those places: O'Pub, Marché aux Herbes, Choucas, La Vie est Belge and La Lorgnette.

« HORUM OMNIUM FORTISSIMI SUNT BELGAE »

(From all people of Gaules, Belgians are the bravest)



« Absolutely worth it. »

- Franziska from Germany (2014-2015)

HAS BELGIUM CHANGED SINCE ROMAN TIMES?

Well... The landscape has evolved quite a lot... But we are still the bravest!

More than 11 million people are currently living in this small country of 30 528 km² (one of the smallest in Europe!). Its capital, Brussels, is also the European Union's capital and is probably the most famous Belgian city.

Located in the centre of the country, Brussels is bordered by the Flemish Region in the North and the Walloon Region in the South. What makes Belgium unique is that three different languages are spoken: Dutch, French and German. Furthermore, the country has known different immigration waves (Italian, Spanish, Arab, Turkish, Polish...) transforming it into a very multicultural land. So, don't be worried, you'll feel at home here!



BRUSSELS



Paris has its “Tour Eiffel”...

New York has its “Statue of Liberty”...

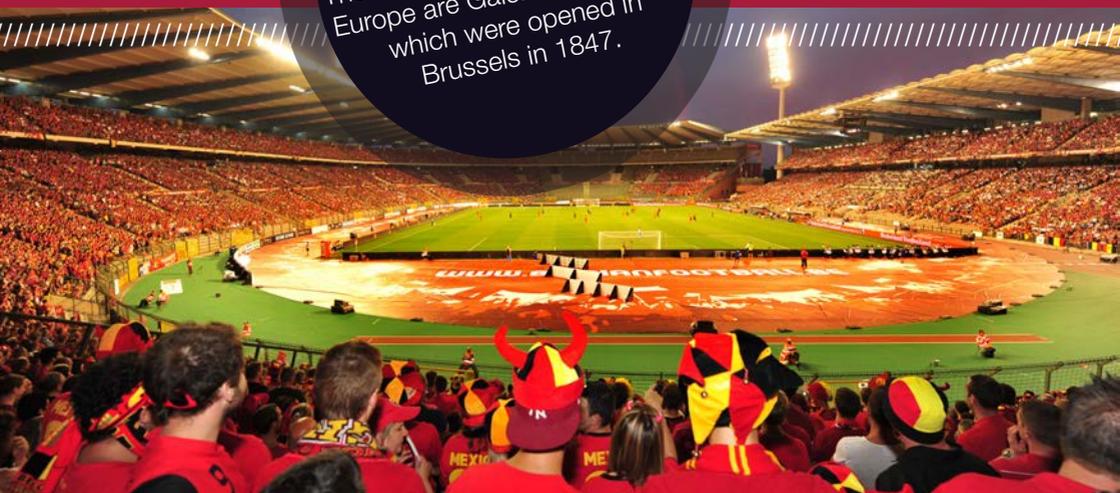
Rome has its “Colosseo”...

But Brussels has its “Atomium”! This historical edifice was originally built for the 1958 Universal Exhibition, and became a heritage site of the capital. More than 100 meter tall, you may visit the structure and climb to the top where a wonderful view and restaurant will welcome you!



Did you know it?

The oldest shopping arcades in Europe are Galeries St. Hubert which were opened in Brussels in 1847.



The “Grand Place” is, without any doubt, another place you must see. Thanks to its architectural splendour, this square is the most important tourist destination and most memorable landmark in Brussels.

Nearby, you can also find the well-known “Manneken Pis” which is the symbol of freedom spirit for Brussels’ citizens.

Don’t worry ladies... If you love shopping, the “Avenue Louise” and “Rue Neuve” are for you! In the meantime boys... you can come to our National Stadium and support the Red Devils!

ANTWERP



You thought that Belgium wasn't a wild country... Wrong! Antwerp Zoo is the oldest Belgian animal park. Its location near the station makes it easy to access. More than 5000 animals and 950 different species live inside the park.

The city is also famous for its harbour which is one of the largest in Europe. It plays an important role in the economic development of Antwerp. If you love boats and/or breath-taking landscapes, take a walk alongside the sea.

There is only one risk if you visit Antwerp... going home with an empty wallet! Indeed, the city is full of shopping centres and commercial roads. Among those, "Le Meir" is probably the most attractive one.

Did you know it?

The first skyscraper in Europe was built in Antwerp in 1928.

BRUGES

Did you know it?

Bruges is called the «Venice of the North» due to the large number of canals in the city.



In Italy, Venice is considered the ultimate romantic city. But Belgians must not feel jealous... Bruges has nothing to envy the Italian town!

With its wonderful medieval architecture, its mythical convent ("*Béguinage*"), and its pleasure boats, Bruges is one of the most splendid cities of Belgium. The so-called "Venice of the North" is the perfect place for lovers to enjoy a romantic weekend.

The gourmets will find their way to happiness here! The Chocolate museum will arouse your taste buds. And tradition demands it... the Beer museum and the French fries museum are mandatory stages for a successful escape in Bruges. In order to combine business with pleasure, the different taverns will complement your visit!

It is impossible during your walk to miss the "Grand-Place" and its majestic belfry, located in the heart of the city. In order to combine business with pleasure, the different taverns will complement your visit!

GHENT



“Ghent is a rebel. Ghent is a party.
Ghent is an architectural masterpiece.”

Ghent is full of castles, cathedrals, churches and old merchant houses. By climbing to the top of the belfry, you will be astonished by the amazing panorama. In St. Bavo’s Cathedral, you can admire the unique altarpiece “The Adoration of the Mystic Lamb” painted by the Van Eyck brothers in 1432.

Above all, you must visit the “Castle of the Counts” located in the heart of the city.

Pay attention to its torture museum and don’t be afraid of the knights staring at you!

Did you know it?
The famous Belgian waffles were invented in Ghent in 1839.



Another special feature of the city is that around every corner you can find an interesting shop! From old and vintage things to more modern ones, there is no doubt you will feel like Alice in Wonderland! Food and delicacies are also showcased, especially Ghent noses (“Cuberdon”), so you’d better be hungry!

Last but not least, Ghent is THE perfect place to party thanks to its large student community, its bars and its numerous festivals in summer such as the “Gentse Feesten” which is a very popular event.



BELGIAN TREASURES



*«I really enjoyed the food and drinks especially
fries, beers and Belgian waffles.»*

- Çisel from Turkey (2014-2015)

FIVE TASTY REASONS TO COME TO BELGIUM

BELGIUM HAS SOME DELICIOUS FOOD THAT YOU MUST AT LEAST TRY ONCE IN YOUR LIFE:



1. Chocolate:

- ◀ Belgian chocolate is considered the gourmet standard by which all other chocolates are measured... It speaks for itself!



2. Waffles:

- ◀ There are two different types of waffles: Liège waffle (thick with pearls of sugar) and Brussels waffle (rectangular and lighter). They are served warm and can be covered with syrup, slices of fruit, chocolate, whipped cream or a scoop of ice cream. A real delight for the palate!



3. Cuberdons:

- ◀ Cone-shaped Belgian candies with a hard outside and a gelatinous inside, the traditional ones are raspberry-flavoured and purple.

Did you know it?

Brussels Airport is where people buy the most chocolate in the world!



4. Speculoos:

- ◀ Typical Belgian biscuit made from flour, butter, brown sugar and a mix of spices, especially baked around Saint-Nicholas' day. They are even better accompanied with a hot chocolate!



5. Belgian fries:

- ◀ It's high time to set the record! What makes Belgian fries so special? They are freshly cut, irregularly shaped, fried twice, fluffy on the inside and crispy on the outside, with a distinct potato taste, at least 1 cm thick and preferably served in a paper cone.



**WATCH OUT:
YOU MAY BECOME ADDICTED!**



Small scare in Belgium

BELGIAN BEERS



Belgium is internationally known for its incredibly high number of beers: we are talking about more than 1500 varieties! Belgian beers can be white, blonde, dark, amber... Strong for boys, fruity for girls, Belgian beers are definitely something you cannot miss during your stay!

Here are the five most famous ones:

- Kwak
- Chimay Bleue
- Orval
- Westmalle triple
- Tripel Karmeliet

Did you know it?

On average, a Belgian drinks
1000 liters of beer a year!

EUROPE WITHIN REACH



Beer lover?

Plan your “Belgian beer routes” on: www.belgianbeerroutes.com

According to former exchange students, it was easy to go discover European cities such as Paris, London or Barcelona since Belgium is located in the heart of Europe! They principally travelled by:

- Plane (Ryanair, EasyJet...)
- Train (Eurostar, Thalys, SNCB...)
- Coach (Ouibus, Eurolines...)

Tip:

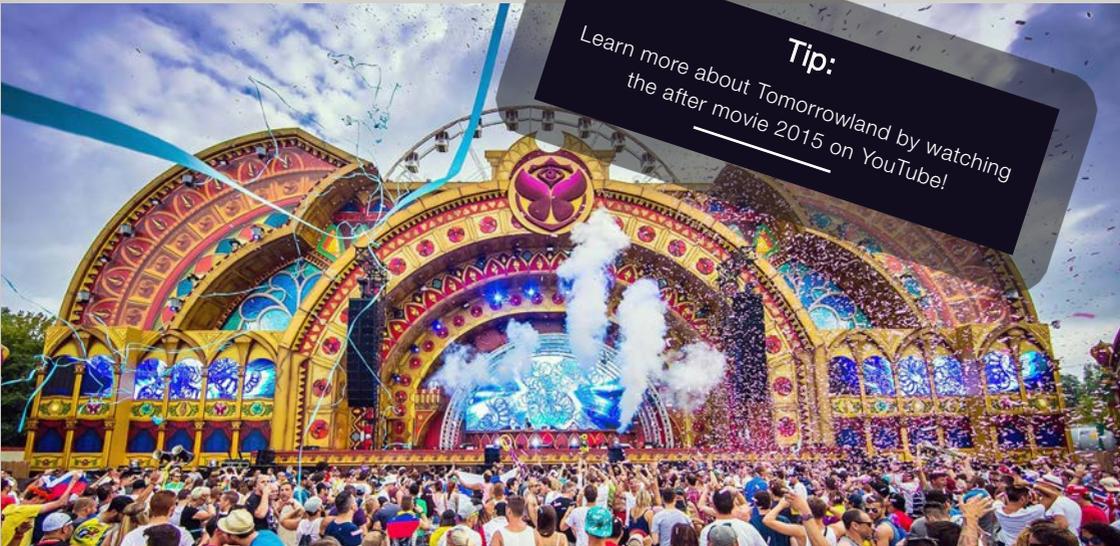
Most means of transports offer to students discounts; do not forget to ask for them! And on your way back to Mons, keep in mind that «Bergen» is the Dutch translation of «Mons».

IN BELGIUM, WE KNOW HOW TO HAVE FUN!

Even though Belgium is a small country, it offers a wide range of music festivals. In 2013, three of them received an award at the European Festival Awards! Those were:

- Tomorrowland: biggest electronic music festival in the world, it takes place in August in Boom, close to Antwerp.
- Pukkelpop: biggest alternative open-air festival in Belgium, it takes place in August, near Hasselt.
- Rock Werchter: medium sized annual rock music festival, it takes place in Werchter near Leuven, generally in early July.

These events are good ways to relax and to make new friends. Do not miss them!



Tip:
Learn more about Tomorrowland by watching
the after movie 2015 on YouTube!

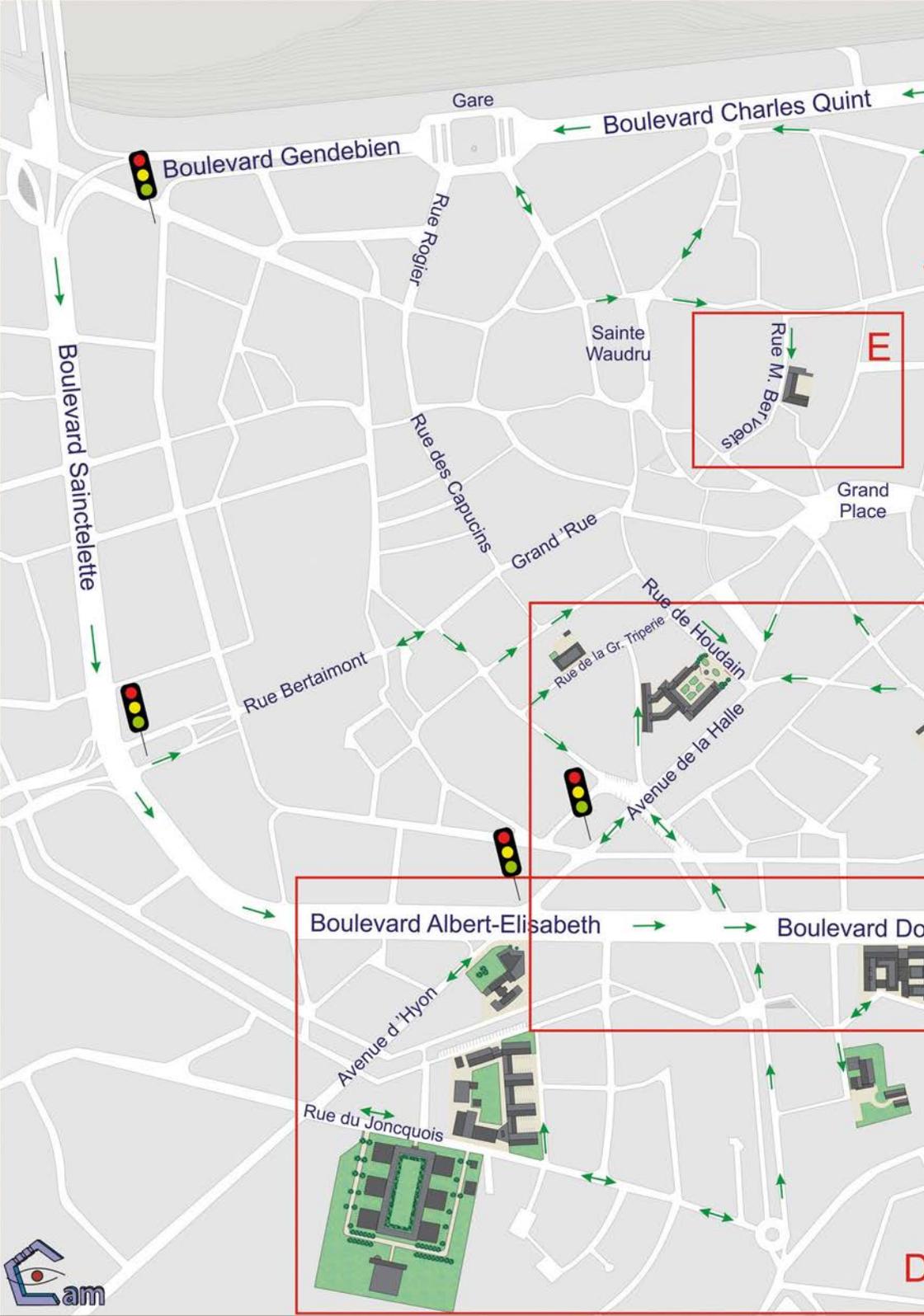


« Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened. »

- Larisa from Romania (2014-2015)

« The five most amazing months of my life! »

- Dominic from Canada (2013-2014)



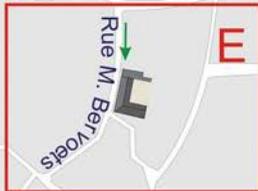
Boulevard Gendebien

Boulevard Charles Quint

Gare

Rue Rogier

Sainte Waudru



E

Grand Place

Boulevard Sainctelette

Rue des Capucins

Grand'Rue

Rue de Houdain

Rue Bertaimont



Rue de la Gr. Triperie

Avenue de la Halle

Boulevard Albert-Elisabeth

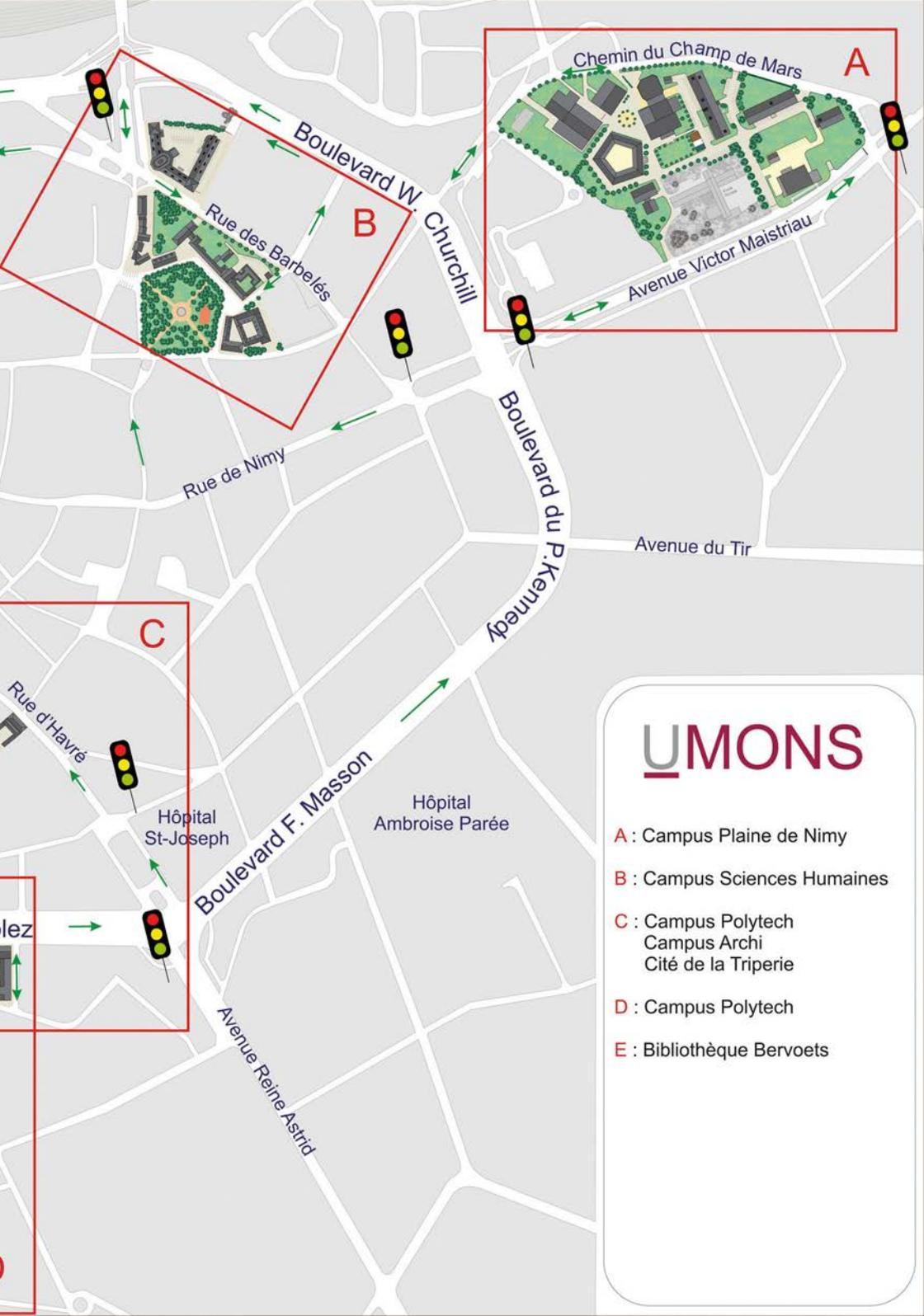
Boulevard Do

Avenue d'Hyon

Rue du Jonquois



D



Chemin du Champ de Mars

A

Boulevard W. Churchill

B

Rue des Barbelés

Avenue Victor Maistriau

Rue de Nimy

Boulevard du P. Kennedy

Avenue du Tir

C

Rue d'Avrillé

Hôpital St-Joseph

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PRO-MOBILITY PROJECT

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