

# A selection of Events and Festivals in Ardenne



Festival Mondial des Marionnettes 2009 - Philippe Mangen

2019

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# L'ARDENNE





# MUSIC FESTIVALS AND CONCERTS

## AYMON FOLK FESTIVAL

BOGNY-SUR-MEUSE

26 & 27 July

[www.aymonfolkfestival.fr](http://www.aymonfolkfestival.fr)

Annual folk and world music festival taking place on the 'Four Sons of Aymon' plateau, a natural setting overlooking the magnificent panoramic view of the Meuse Valley.



## GREEN MUSIC FESTIVAL - Festival du Cabaret Vert

CHARLEVILLE-MEZIERES

22 - 25 August

[www.cabaretvert.com](http://www.cabaretvert.com)

Attracting an audience of nearly 100,000, this eco-friendly, alternative electric rock festival takes place during the last weekend of August in the Bayard stadium in the centre of Charleville-Mézières. With the accent on respect for the environment, local food, craft beer and great names in music. The atmosphere of this festival is one of conviviality, blending natural heritage with a slightly militant touch.

The line-up in 2019 includes Twenty One Pilots (pop rock), Prophets of Rage (metal rap), Patti Smith (folk/rock), Nina Kraviz (electro), Airbourne (hard rock), Ziggy Marley (reggae), Maya Jane Coles (electro) and Birds in Row (hardcore punk).

Passes to the festival can be purchased from the Cabaret Vert web site: 4-day (122€), 3-day (81€), 1-day (51€/41€/16 €, depending on day). Camping on-site is available for 15€ (choice of festive or peaceful campsites).



# SHOWS AND STREET FESTIVALS

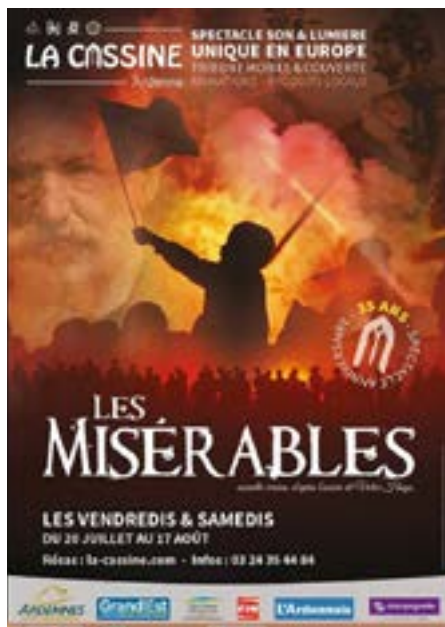
## MEDIEVAL FESTIVAL

### SEDAN

18 & 19 May

[www.chateau-fort-sedan.fr](http://www.chateau-fort-sedan.fr)

Around 40.000 visitors come to enjoy this colourful festival in the exceptional setting of Europe's biggest medieval fortress. The castle's medieval past is brought to life with cavalry tournaments, crossbow demonstrations, jousting, jesters, troubadours, feasts, markets, traditional crafts and much more. The festival is organised with the help of over 400 volunteers.



## LA CASSINE SOUND AND LIGHT EXTRAVAGANZA

### VENDRESSE

20 July - 17 August

[www.la-cassine.com](http://www.la-cassine.com)

The little village of La Cassine near Vendresse is the setting for a magnificent sound and light show, based each year on a well loved classic. Hundreds of voluntary actors, exceptional lighting effects, pyrotechnics, vivid costumes and decors make for a deeply emotional experience.

In 2019, celebrating the 35th anniversary of La Cassine, the adaptation is of Victor Hugo's 'Les Misérables', featuring Jean Valjean, Fantine, Cosette and all the other characters recently brought to British TV screens by the BBC. Seats can be reserved via the La Cassine web site.

Informal dining is also available at the site, with a choice of a 4-course set dinner menu (17€) in the chapel, home-made quiches in the tavern, or brasserie-style dining featuring local produce in the marquee.

## WORLD FESTIVAL OF PUPPET THEATRE - Festival Mondial des Théâtres de Marionnettes

### CHARLEVILLE-MEZIERES

20 - 29 September

[www.festival-marionnettes.com/en](http://www.festival-marionnettes.com/en)

Since its foundation in 1961, this festival has become the biggest gathering of puppeteers in the world. Taking place every two years, 98 puppet companies coming from over two dozen different countries attracted 150.000 visitors in 2013. For the 10 days of the festival the whole of Charleville-Mézières is transformed into a colourful and lively showcase with performances taking place in all kinds of venues: halls, gymnasiums, streets and courtyards. The festival embraces all forms of puppet art, from the traditional to the post-modern, from shadows to the Japanese bunraku, from the miniature creation to the giant.





# GASTRONOMY FESTIVALS



## CROSS BORDER CHOCOLATE FESTIVAL

SEDAN

16 & 17 March

[www.ardennes.com](http://www.ardennes.com)

Around 20 chocolate makers from France & Belgium gather in the Marcillet Hall to treat visitors to chocolate making demonstrations, and tastings. A special exhibition retraces the history of chocolate at Sedan, notably the famous «Turenne» chocolate.

## ARDEN BREW FEST (BEER FESTIVAL)

HAYBES

26 - 28 April

[www.fetedelabiere.com](http://www.fetedelabiere.com)

This event has grown from humble beginnings in 2013, to celebrate the reopening of a micro brewery at the Clos Belle Rose guest house in Haybes, to a veritable beer festival featuring over 100 beers from 16 different breweries and attracting nearly 5,000 visitors (2018). In 2019, the festival will again take place in the grounds of the Clos Belle Rose on the banks of the River Meuse, in the heart of the Ardenne massif. Festival-goers will also be able to enjoy Ardennais cuisine prepared by local chefs, and live music will ensure a festive atmosphere.

Entry is free, and the local campsite will be open for the occasion:

[www.haybes.fr/vivre-haybes/saison-estivale/camping](http://www.haybes.fr/vivre-haybes/saison-estivale/camping)



## BROTHERHOOD FESTIVAL OF GASTRONOMY

CHARLEVILLE-MEZIERES

4 & 5 May

[www.festivaldesconfreries.com](http://www.festivaldesconfreries.com)

Brotherhoods of regional produce from France and Belgium meet up at the Place Ducal to share their passion for good food and good humour. Traditional parade, demonstrations, regional specialities and local crafts make for a unique, good-natured get-together.

## BEER FESTIVAL

CHARLEVILLE-MEZIERES

8 - 10 June

[www.charleville-mezieres.fr](http://www.charleville-mezieres.fr)

Renowned for its characterful beers, the Ardennes organises an annual Beer Festival taking place in the Place Ducale to showcase local microbreweries, such as Ardwen (whose red 'Wonic' brew is named after the emblematic wild boar statue), and specialist beers from further afield in France and neighbouring Belgium.



## ONION FAIR

GIVET

11 November

[www.valderdennetourisme.com](http://www.valderdennetourisme.com)

With the presence of over 500 onion sellers from throughout France and Belgium, this cross-border fair allows the 20,000 visitors to discover the rich diversity of dishes prepared with onion. Other local specialities are also available, such as the cured Ardennes ham, the white sausage from Rethel (boudin blanc) and the 'blue stone' chocolats from Givet.





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