



## CHASSEURS A PIED

The Museum of the « Chasseurs à Pied » is located in the Trésignies barracks in Charleroi. This barracks, now occupied by civilian organizations, was until 1974, the garrison home of various Regiments of Light Infantry. The name of "Trésignies" was given to it in memory of Corporal Trésignies, a hero of the 14-18 war, a national serviceman to the 2nd Chasseurs à Pied. Organized under the name "Freedom's Price", the museum presents in a didactic way how the « Chasseurs à Pied », from the Revolution of 1830 to the operations in the former Yugoslavia, helped to regain or maintain freedom. They did it with simplicity, often paying with their blood, the Price of Freedom.



## GENDARMERIE

It was in 1796 that the French Committee of Public Safety extended the mandate of the French Gendarmerie to the nine departments that became our "current" territory. This constitutes the birth year of what was to become the future BELGIAN NATIONAL GENDARMERIE. This venerable institution could have celebrated its 220th anniversary in 2016. Through various documents, objects and costumes, we will evoke this Elite Unit which has served the Kingdom and its people. Particular emphasis will be placed on its presence in the city of Charleroi and its area. This exhibition exists thanks to volunteers and loans from private individuals, it does claim to cover all of the various events that have marked its presence (1797 - 2001).





## CHARLEROI MILITAIRE

The new military town of Charleroi was founded on 3 September 1666, by the Marquis de Castel-Rodrigo, Governor General of the Spanish Netherlands. Previously, only a medieval one street village, the Charnoy, occupied the site of Charleroi. The fortified city consisted of a perfect hexagon, with six bastions, five half-moons, and a horn-work. Taken by the French before its completion, the fortress was enlarged, thanks in part to Vauban, until 1713. The Lower Town and the Entre-Villes were added to increase the habitable area. The city changed several times by sovereigns, and the city was ceded to Austria, which demilitarized it and demolished the fortifications progressively, to the point that nothing remained by 1808. A new fortress was rebuilt under the Dutch from 1816 to 1821, a triple area with a plan modified to a decagon. Slightly modified under the Belgians, the second fortress of Charleroi disappeared in 1868-1875, to make room for a bourgeois city, still perceptible today in the layout of the streets, with the ring as a new enclosure.

Musée Mémorial des Chasseurs à Pied  
Avenue Général Michel, 1B  
6000 Charleroi



Memorial Museum of Light Infantry  
Avenue General Michel, 1B  
6000 Charleroi

Tel – Fax : 071/30.07.48

<http://www.chasseurs-a-pied-belges.be/>

<https://www.facebook.com/MuseeDesChasseursAPied>

### Opening hours

Monday (by appointment) and Thursday from  
14:00 to 17:00

Saturday from 10:00 to 13:00

### Entrance fee

Adults	4 €
Groups (min. 10 paying persons)	3 €
Reservation compulsory !	
Students (aged 12 to 18 years)	2 €
Children (up to 12 years)	1 €

## Memorial Museum Charleroi

Historical Center

### THE PRICE OF FREEDOM



The Belgo-Dutch Fortress of Charleroi

The « Chasseurs à Pied » since 1830

The Belgian Gendarmerie since 1830

The Civic Guard

The First World War

The 18 Days' Campaign

The Prisoners of War

The Resistance

The Allies and the Belgian Fusiliers  
Battalions

The Belgian Forces in Germany (FBA)

The 7th Marche-en-Famenne Brigade

The UN-NATO opérations