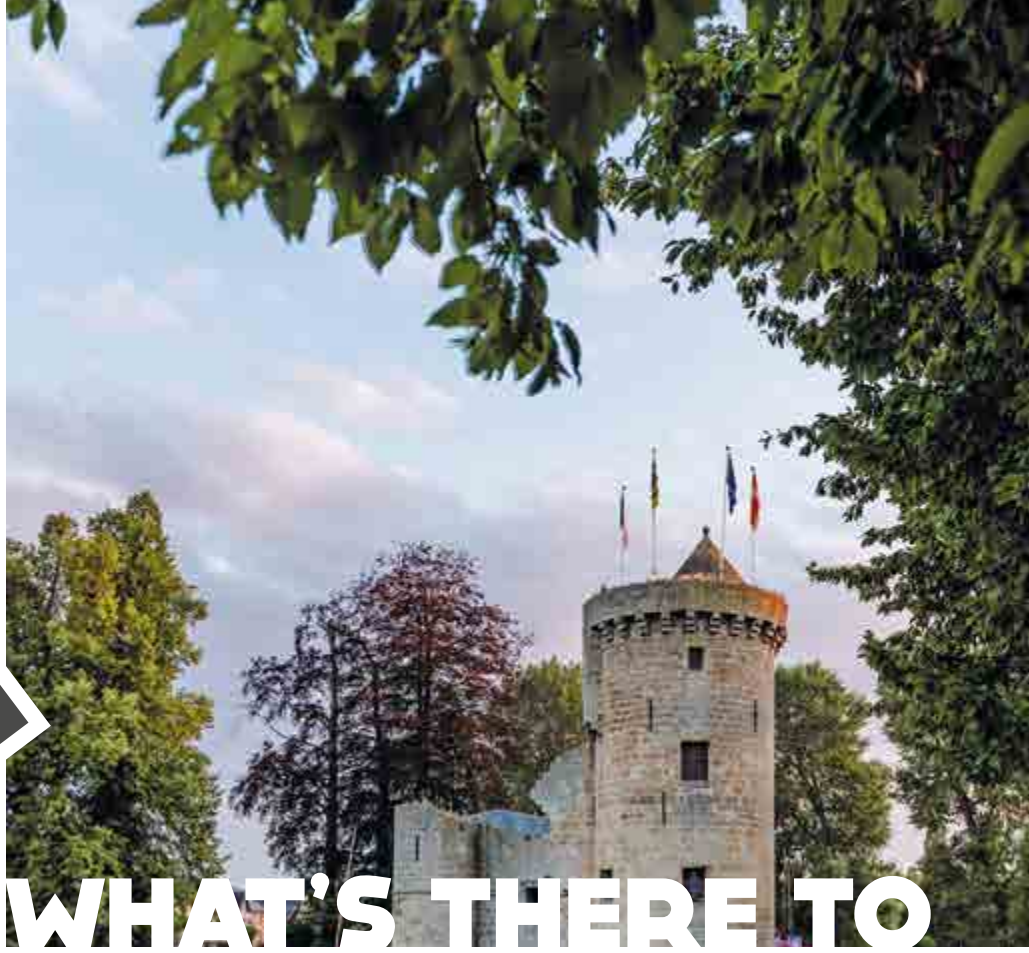


HERN



WHAT'S THERE TO

SEE



DO &



SAMPLE



DEAR VISITOR OF OUR BEAUTIFUL MUNICIPALITY

As Alderman for Tourism, I am honoured to present to you our tourist guide. A guide that is the brainchild of an enthusiastic team. It is a collection of the locals' favourite places, peppered with beautiful photos and set out in a readily-understood format.

'See' Herzele. Herzele offers a lot of surprising places that are worth discovering. During your visit, you can enjoy the many sights of Herzele or the beautiful rolling landscape of one of the boroughs. Come and see Herzele through the lens of an (amateur) photographer, who captured the most beautiful spots for you.

'Do' Herzele. There's never a dull moment in Herzele. There are plenty of activities for young and old. Along the various walking and cycling routes, you can always count on idyllic tracks, beautiful forest roads and surprising stops. Discover the 'Duivenbos' (Pigeon Forest) or the Schaubroeck nature reserve. Take part in the many activities on offer. In short: experience Herzele to the full.

Are you a gourmet? **Sampling** what Herzele has to offer is an absolute must. Have a nice Herzele beer in one of our cafés or accompanied by a delicious meal in one of our restaurants. Or how about a regional product or a speciality from the local trader? A true joy!

Thanks to the combination of numerous activities and the beautiful surroundings, you are bound to return home with your batteries fully charged.

Convinced? Enjoy this magazine and experience Herzele! For more information, you can always contact our Tourist Office in Herzele. Contact details and opening hours can be found below.

Best wishes,

Heidi Knop
Alderman for Tourism

Team Toerisme Herzele

HERZELE

TO SEE4

TO DO16

TO SAMPLE22

HERZELE
THROUGH THE LENS**HERZELE THROUGH THE LENS
OF LOCAL [AMATEUR]
PHOTOGRAPHERS**

Have your cameras or smartphones at the ready, because in Herzele, you won't know where to look first: an old castle ruin, three working mills, castles, religious heritage, to name but a few. Our local (amateur) photographers, who are only too aware of this, will be happy to show you round their own municipality.

CASTLE

The castle symbolises Herzele's former fiefdom, an important area within the Land of Aalst. This fortification, important parts of which are still visible today, was built according to a geometric floor plan and dates from the 13th century. It was initially inhabited by the local lords.

In Ghent's struggle against Louis of Male (Louis II of Flanders), Count of Flanders, Seger van Herzele was one of its allies. In 1381, the count had the castle set on fire as a reprisal and confiscated the estate. The fiefdom was subsequently donated to the lords of Roubaix and the castle was restored. From then on, the estate was run remotely. In 1579, the Catholic Spaniards completely razed the castle to the ground in their battle with Protestant Flanders.

Through marriages, inheritances and sales, the castle and the estate finally came into the hands of the family du Parc Locmaria in the 19th century. In 1969, the town council was given the castle ruins and started the restoration work. Today, part of the moat, a restored residential tower and the consolidated substructure are still intact. The castle site became Herzele's touristic showpiece and the place to be for many events. It is one of the few remaining castle sites in our province.

MORE INFO:

- www.herzele.be/burcht
- Go to the Tourist Office and ask for a guided tour.

Address: *Kerkstraat (z/n), Herzele*

DU PARC LOCMARIA CASTLE

The castle, owned by the du Parc Locmaria family, was built in 1840 in classical style by Baron Van de Woestyne. At the beginning of the 20th century, the castle was rebuilt in the neoclassical Louis XVI style.

At the entrance, there are three remarkable houses that used to accommodate the castle staff. The beautiful oak and lime-tree-lined avenue offers a view of the unique castle park, laid out in a strict classicist style. In the park, you will also find an English garden, an ice cellar and a pond.

Between the two world wars, the meadows next to the avenue were the scene of famous horse races which drew Belgium's beau monde at the time.

Due to the castle's location, on top of a south-facing slope, the property is visible from afar.

MORE INFO:

- www.herzele.be/kasteel-duparc
- The castle and its park are not open to the public..

Address: *Kasteeldreef (no number), Herzele*



6 WHAT'S THERE TO SEE

STEENHUIZE- WIJNHUIZE CASTLE

The present castle was built in 1628 by Jeanne Richardot and (partly) covers the foundations of an older castle. In 1978, the castle was purchased by the Van Waeyenberge family, well-known industrialists from Steenhuize-Wijnhuize. They completely overhauled the castle between 1982 and 1988. The result of this restoration was awarded the prestigious Europa Nostra Award.

The castle park boasts several outbuildings, including a striking dovecote tower (later used as an orangery), a well-preserved ice cellar and a pillory.

On the western edge of the park is the estate's listed farmhouse, named after the last tenant and later owner Alphonse Van Oudenhove. The current buildings date from 1774. During the late 19th century, it housed a chicory roasting house.

MORE INFO:

- www.herzele.be/kasteel-steenhuize
- The castle and its park are not open to the public.



© Gabriël Redant

Address: *Kloosterberg 32, Steenhuize-Wijnhuize*



© Paul Lievens alias Marc Livinus

RESSEGEM MOTTE

In the centre of Ressegem, there has been an artificial earthen hill for centuries, surrounded by a wide moat. Locally, this site is referred to as 'De Wal' (The Wall). It is a remnant of a medieval fortress, called a motte castle, and one of the best preserved examples in Flanders.

A motte castle is the forerunner of the medieval geometric castle and consists of two parts. First, there is the upper court, which is an artificial hill, surrounded by a deep and

wide moat. On the upper court there was a wooden or stone construction. Each motte castle also had a moated courtyard. This was the residence of the local lord and his family and consisted of a house, a chapel, stables, barns and other utilities. The courtyard is no longer visible, but was located north of the courtyard.

Ressegem castle dates from the 11th-12th century and was the residence of the Lords of Ressegem-Borsbeke. The site was probably destroyed in the 16th century.

When in 1843, the vicarage was built right next to the motte, the hill was connected to the vicarage garden by an iron bridge. Today, the moat is maintained by a fishermen's club that bears the evocative name of 'De Walvisers'.

MORE INFO:

- www.herzele.be/motte-ressegem
- Go to the Tourist Office and ask for a guided tour.

Address: *Sint-Mauritsplein (no number), Ressegem*

DE WATTENFABRIEK [THE COTTON MILL]

The youth, cultural and lending service, the library, the academy of performing arts and visual arts, multi-purpose spaces for socio-cultural activities, the youth centre, the local radio and the Tourist Office. They are all under one roof in De Wattenfabriek on the Solleveld. However, this impressive building is not a new build, but the product of a massive renovation project.

The building was originally a cotton mill, which was built in 1925 by the company Ets. François Saey from Ghent. In 1970, the doors of the mill shut for good. The company L'Ouate from Zaventem purchased the empty property and started producing cotton wool for laboratories, department stores and so on. Twenty years later, L'Ouate was sold to a Dutch company, which in 1994, decided to stop production in Herzele. The administration remained there for a few years and the building was used as a warehouse, but that did not last either. The factory has then stood empty for a couple of years.

The municipal council saw an opportunity and bought the building and the surrounding site. Right from the start, everyone agreed that the building should be multi-purpose. The demolition eventually started in 2005; renovation followed in 2007. De Wattenfabriek officially opened its doors at Easter in 2012.

MORE INFO:

- www.dewattenfabriek.be
- Go to the Tourist Office and ask for a guided tour.

Address: *Solleveld 35, Herzele*



OLD TRAM STATION

The train still passes through our municipality today. For the tram, we have to go back to the year 1955, when the local tram passed through Herzele, Sint-Lievens-Esse and Steenhuize for the last time.

On 23 June 1907, the first local tram ran from Merelbeke to Herzele. Herzele tram station was a temporary end station, because a few years later, the line was extended to Geraardsbergen, with also a tram station in Sint-Lievens-Esse and Steenhuize. The state was the most important financier of the route, but also the municipalities made their contributions. For example, Herzele paid 41,000 Belgian francs.

The route through our boroughs, and, by extension, the entire local railway network, however, was short-lived. Other means of transport were being offered and the running costs were prohibitively high. Herzele tram station now houses the non-profit association 't Uilekot and Eco&Fair; in Sint-Lievens-Esse, there is the restaurant De Tramstatie and in Steenhuize the station was converted into a house. The tram tracks between Sint-Lievens-Houtem and Herzele and Herzele and Sint-Lievens-Esse were transformed into paved cycling and walking paths.

MEER INFO:

- Visit the Tourist Office for more information.

Address: *Groenlaan 39 en 41, Herzele*



© Wouter De Cock

CARILLON

The Carillon sits on top of the Schepenhuis. The first plans for the installation of a carillon date from 1946, when Herzele celebrated three occasions, namely the fiftieth year of office of Mayor Joseph Matthijs, the golden jubilee of pastor-dean Sylvain Symoens and the centenary of the Royal Harmony of St. Cecilia. The Mayor wanted to present a gift to all residents: a carillon. After the renovation of the alderman's house in 1952, the carillon was placed thanks to a contribution from the residents. On Christmas Day, the instrument was solemnly played for the first time.

The carillon boasts 28 bells, bearing the municipality's coat of arms. The lightest bell weighs 11 kilogrammes. The entire carillon weighs 1,660 kilogrammes. The carillon also has a timepiece with percussion and an illuminated frame. The carillon plays every half hour, thanks to its 'Apollon SBSI' computer.



© Evelien De Cock

SCHEPENHUIS [ALDERMAN'S HOUSE]

The strategically located building was important to the municipality of Herzele at a very early stage. Probably as early as the twelfth century, in this building judges tried criminals and arguments were settled. From the tower, a proclaimer declaimed important messages to the people.

In 1778, the Schepenhuis urgently needed restoring. It was sold to the then Lord of Herzele, who, among others, had a new tower built. After that, the building was alternately used as a dwelling, a shop and an inn for various residents and owners. With the exception of a few years, the municipal services were always accommodated there.

In 1947, the municipal council bought the then dilapidated Schepenhuis for 350,000 Belgian francs and carried out extensive renovation works. The two outbuildings were demolished, the roof was renewed, the façade was decorated with Herzele's coat of arms and the tower was replaced by a carillon with 28 bells that played a tune every 15 minutes.

After the amalgamation of boroughs in 1977, the Schepenhuis was bursting at the seams. The municipal services became unwieldy and most of the staff had to be moved elsewhere. At the moment, the municipality is looking at various possibilities to repurpose the building.

MEER INFO:

- www.herzele.be/schepenhuis
- Go to the Tourist Office and ask for a guided tour in combination with the Schepenhuis and the pillory.

Address: Markt 1, Herzele

PILLORY

Next to the Schepenhuis, you will find a pillory. This octagonal pole made of blue stone is a symbol of jurisdiction at the time of the ancien régime. Judges would chain the convicts of minor offences to it. During market day or whenever large crowds got together, they were denounced or openly disgraced. This punishment, which was practised in Flanders until the late 18th century, has only been officially prohibited by law since 1867.

In 1952, the municipality decided to restore the pillory. The two-metre high pole now stands on an octagonal base. The original iron rings, to which the criminals would be chained with neck and arms, were preserved.



ORIENTATION TABLE

From this spot, behind the church of Sint-Antelinks, you can enjoy a phenomenal panoramic view of the rolling countryside: the Beverbeek valley and the hilly region of Geraardsbergen punctuated by the hills Oudenberg and Bosberg. The orientation table helps you find your bearings regarding the various surrounding towns and villages.

Address: Ransbeekstraat (no number), 9550 Sint-Antelinks



© An Deneve

HOUSE ON BASEMENT

In 2016, Herzele won the competition 'Een Thuis voor een Beeld' (A Home for a Statue), organised by Radio 2 East Flanders and the provincial government. The competition's prize: 'House on Basement' by John Van Oers.

The work of art (stainless steel, concrete, grass) reduces a house to a steel frame. A house that we can come across anywhere in Flanders: one floor, a roof on top and a cellar underneath. In this way, the artist shows that the concrete environment and the physical buildings in which we live and work also tell our own story. And vice versa, that a piece of all these buildings is engraved in our minds.

The victory also proved to be a good reason to finalise plans and ideas that have been in the making for more than 10 years: a passageway between Groenlaan and Solveld, intended for walkers and cyclists, that enables them to easily cross over between both streets and the surrounding area. The new passage was renamed 'Straatje van de Vrede' (Street of Peace).



GASPAR PAGANI BURIAL COLUMN

In the village square of Woubrechtgem, a burial column reminds us of one of the most famous locals: Gaspar Pagani de la Torre. This mathematician, originating from Sardinia, became world-famous as a professor of geometry and mechanics. He lived and taught in Leuven, but ended up in Woubrechtgem through his marriage to the local castle daughter Coleta de Waepenaert. Pagani died here in 1855.

The castle of the de Waepenaert family was built in the last quarter of the 18th century and was inhabited by noblemen for a long time. Pagani also lived here. The castle is still intact. Nowadays, it is a dairy farm where farm produce is sold.

Adres: Heilig Hartplein (no number), Woubrechtgem



© Tieses Coppens

MORE INFO:

- www.herzele.be/house-on-basement

Adres: Straatje van de Vrede / Groenlaan, 9550 Herzele

10 WHAT'S THERE TO SEE

13



BUYSE WINDMILL [BUYSEMOLEN]

The Buyse windmill is named after the last owners of the mill, the Buyse family. For the first proof of the mill's existence, we have to go back to 1428. At that time, the mill was owned by the abbey of Ninove. In 1796 it came into the hands of the Ghent 'Odeyn', after Napoleon had confiscated the monasteries and their properties.

It was not until 1817 that the mill ended up with the Buyse family. It remained a working mill until 1950, but after the death of the last miller, it ground to a final halt. In 1976, the mill collapsed due to wood rot. On the initiative of the municipality of Herzele, a restoration file was started. In August 2009, the locals celebrated the official opening of the renovated Buysemolen during the mill festival. This makes the wooden post mill one of the three working mills in Herzele.

MORE INFO:

- www.herzele.be/buysemolen
- Go to the Tourist Office and ask for a guided tour.

Address: *Kamstraat 18, Sint-Antelinks*

TER RIJST WINDMILL [MOLEN TER RIJST]

The Ter Rijst windmill is a corn mill that was built over a four-year period. Bernard Van Daelem, who started in 1794, ran out of money and so it was with regret that sold the unfinished mill to the new owner Armand De Graeve.

The mill stands 14 metres tall and the sails have a total length of 24 metres. The mill also has a remarkable weather vane on the hood, namely in the shape of a mule. This is a symbol of infertility and indicates that the miller-ship never passed from father to son.

The non-profit association Vrienden Molen ter Rijst Herzele received the mill in 1975 as a gift from the last owner's widow and ensured until 2019 that the mill remained in good working order. After that, the mill's ownership was transferred to the municipal council.

MEER INFO:

- www.herzele.be/molen-ter-rijst
- Go to the Tourist Office and ask for a guided tour.

Address: *Hoogstraat 171, Herzele*



© Els De Brucker

TE RULLEGEM WINDMILL AND HORSE MILL [MOLEN TE RULLEGEM EN ROSMOLEN]

The Te Rullegem windmill is the oldest mill in our municipality. Although it was set on fire in 1380, it was fully restored in 1393. The notes of 1626 mention how the mill was a ban mill. The residents of Herzele were obliged to have their grain ground on the Lord's mill. Failure to do so resulted in a fine or confiscation. After the Second World War, the mill was rendered unused.

In 1962, the mill was officially protected as a monument. In 1991, the wooden sails were definitively replaced by 23-metre-long steel ones. Alain Goublomme and Johny De Pelseeneer regularly turn the sails and millstones, which means that this mill is still in working order. In 2010, the American ambassador Howard W. Gutman came to visit the mill.

The 'rossekot' or horse mill is located to the east of the mill. A horse mill is a mill that is powered by a horse or a donkey. In 2014, a working horse mill was built near the windmill. In this way, the historical landscape was restored.

MORE INFO:

- www.herzele.be/molen-te-rullegem
- Go to the Tourist Office and ask for a guided tour. Alternatively, you can contact miller Alain Goublomme directly (alain@goublomme.telenet.be or 0476 35 29 29).

Address: *Molenstraat 26, Herzele*



© Damien De Leeuw

MEER INFO:

- www.herzele.be/kerken-kapellen

Address: *Korrestraat (no number),
Steenhuize-Wijnhuize*

16



OUR LADY OF THE SEVEN SORROWS CHAPEL [KAPEL ONZE-LIEVE-VROUW DER ZEVEN WEEËN]

© Selina Holderbeke

This chapel is locally also referred to as the Forest Chapel (Boskapel) or the Terschreien Chapel. The earliest mention dates from 1576. The year 1781, inscribed under a niche in the façade, refers to a late 18th-century renovation.

Together with the surrounding trained lime trees, this chapel is nowadays a protected monument. Its location on a hill, on a country road and in an open landscape contributes to its appeal. The owners, the De Winter family, are the current 'curators' of this modest monument. They maintain it for the future.

12 WHAT'S THERE TO SEE

ST ANTHONY'S CHAPEL [HEILIGE ANTONIUSKAPEL]

St Anthony's Chapel, a rectangular chapel with a rectangular choir under saddle roofs, was erected near a spring at the end of Sint-Antoniustreef. On the chronogram above the door, with the text " VernleUWt en herMaeCkt ten koste Van De kerCk Van borsbeke" (renovated and re-built at the expense of the Van Borstbeke Church), you can make out the year 1731. The chapel, which was in need of restoration at that time, goes back a long way in time and was a popular place of pilgrimage. The water from the spring behind the chapel was attributed a healing power and was used against ailments in humans and animals.

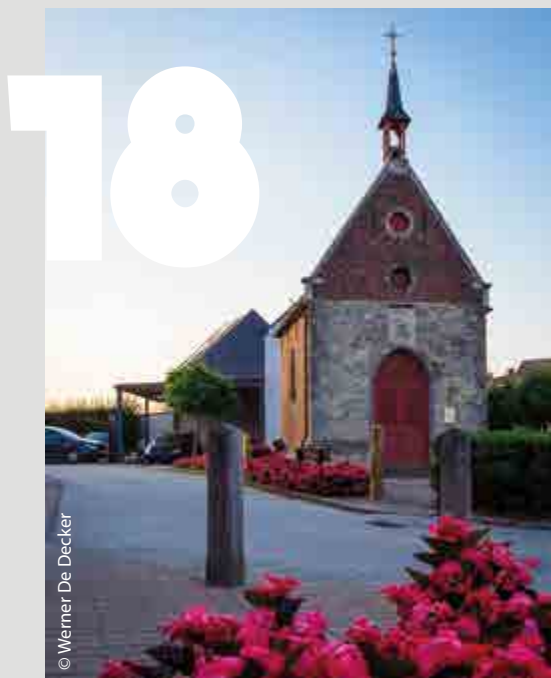
MORE INFO:

- www.herzele.be/kerken-kapellen

Address: *Sint-Antoniustreef*
(off Provincieweg), Borsbeke



17



© Werner De Deckler

ST ROCH'S CHAPEL [SINT-ROCHUSKAPEL]

St. Roch Chapel is one of the most famous chapels of Herzele and is located at the intersection of Stationsstraat with Sint-Rochusstraat / Kruisveldstraat. This chapel even inspired Brewery De Ryck to brew their Rochus beer.

St. Roch was of rich descent and after the death of his parents, he gave all his material possessions to the poor to go to Rome. On his way to Rome, he is reported to have nursed sick people, especially plague sufferers. Later, he contracted the plague himself, but was healed by an angel. This is the reason why he is often depicted with an open leg. St. Roch spent five years in prison on suspicion of espionage, but eventually died of torture.

MORE INFO:

- www.herzele.be/kerken-kapellen

Address: *Stationsstraat 107, Herzele*

ST LIVINUS CHAPEL AND LIVINUS SPRING [HEILIGE LIVINUSKAPEL EN LIVINUSBRON]

The St Livinus Chapel is located on a small slope outside the centre of Sint-Lievens-Esse. The present chapel dates from 1907 and was designed by Henri Geirnaert from Ghent. The history of the chapel, however, goes back to 1576, but the chapel was demolished because it had fallen too much into disrepair.

The legend of Saint Livinus goes as follows: in 657, he was beheaded in Sint-Lievens-Esse, but miraculously, he walked with his head under his arm to Sint-Lievens-Houtem, where his grave was, dug by angels. Sint-Lievens-Esse and Sint-Lievens-Houtem celebrate every 50 years to mark this patron saint. The last edition took place in 2007. The 'Pater Lieven' and the 'Livinus' of the Van Den Bossche brewery are named after him.

The Livinus Spring is located a little further on and is marked by a bluestone plinth with a brick chapel. On the occasion of the Livinus year in 2007, the old source was restored for the church administration and the municipal council. The spring, which used to be a place of popular devotion, was restored, as was the masonry.

MORE INFO:

- www.herzele.be/kerken-kapellen

Address: *Kauwstraat, Sint-Lievens-Esse*
Bronstraat, Sint-Lievens-Esse



© Lies Boelaert



© Lies Boelaert

ST ANTHONY ABBOT'S CHURCH [SINT-ANTONIUS-ABTKERK]

St Anthony Abbot's Church in Borsbeke is not only one of the most beautiful churches in South-East Flanders, but has also been a popular place of pilgrimage for centuries.

The history of the church goes back to the 12th century. Over the centuries, the church has undergone various repairs and renovations. A remnant of the oldest Romanesque period is still recognisable in the tower: a remarkable square quad tower that turns into an octagon. During the Eighty Years' War, between 1579 and 1582, the church burned down completely. Reconstruction began at the end of the 16th century. The church has had an eventful history. Its current form dates from 1902. The church was then radically restored and the western part was even completely rebuilt.

MORE INFO:

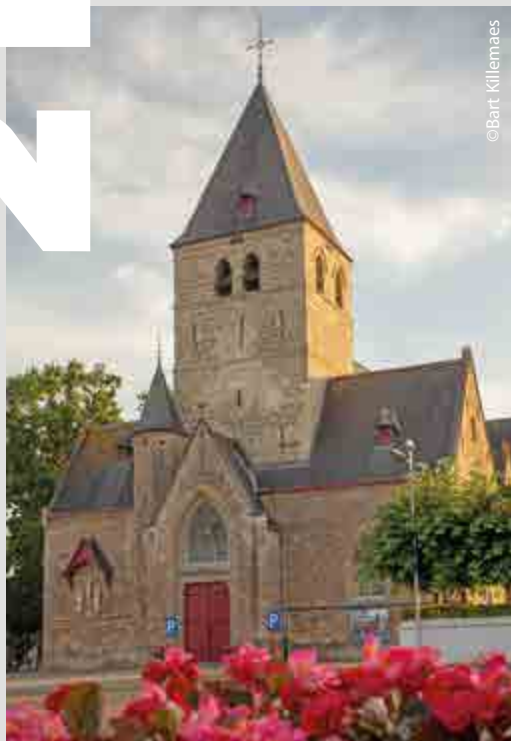
- www.herzele.be/kerken-kapellen

Address: *Provincieweg 82, Borsbeke*



© Celine Aerts

14 WHAT'S THERE TO SEE



ST MARTIN'S CHURCH [SINT-MARTINUSKERK]

The earliest references to St Martin's Church date from the 10th century. Until the beginning of the 20th century, St Martin's Church kept its medieval size. Between 1912 and 1914, a neo-Gothic building was added to the west. Today, it is the main church of the parish of Herzele-Houtem.

St Martin's Church is a cross plan church with a partly walled cemetery. Upon entering the church, you can admire five beautiful stained-glass windows that were painted between 1934 and 1955. The tower body is unusual in that each side has been perforated in a different way with pointed arch-shaped reverberation holes.

Saint Martin, also known as Martin of Tours, was the bishop of Tours. Legend has it that at the age of 15, he gave half of his cloak to a beggar, who turned out to be an apparition of Jesus. Martin could only give half of his cloak because the other half was owned by Rome. Thus, Saint Martin became the symbol of charity.

Adres: *Kerkstraat 37, Herzele*

ST GERTRUDIS CHURCH [SINT-GETRUDISKERK]

The old church dates from the 12th century. A new tower was built in 1635. Between 1846 and 1848, the present church, which is west-facing, was built. The church is surrounded by the cemetery.

In the church is the famous St Gertrudis organ, also known as the Van Peteghem organ. This is a baroque instrument, built in 1835 by Pierre II Van Peteghem, a late descendant of the famous southern Dutch organ builders of the same name. On 1 May 2019, this organ was played again for the first time by the Oelbrandt family after it had remained idle for a long time.

Gertrude, or Geertrui, van Nijvel was a female abbot of the abbey of Nivelles. She enjoyed a very godly upbringing and, according to sources, was admired by the local sisters.

MORE INFO:

- www.herzele.be/kerken-kapellen

Address: *Huigeveldstraat 1, Sint-Antelinks*



23

**SINT-LIEVENS-ESSE
WATER TOWER**

This vase-shaped water tower stands 42.5 meters tall and has a diameter of 26 meters at the top. Inside, a mass of water of 800,000 litres is pumped up to 36 meters above the ground floor from an underground reservoir. This maintains a constant pressure in the water pipes of the boroughs of Sint-Lievens-Esse, Sint-Antelinks and Woubrechtgem. Don't worry, you can't miss this imposing tower.

Tip: to see the lion of Waterloo, you don't have to drive to Walloon Brabant. In Sint-Lievens-Esse there is also one, albeit a small one, behind the water tower. However, this lion does not look at France in a threatening way, but at the Netherlands.

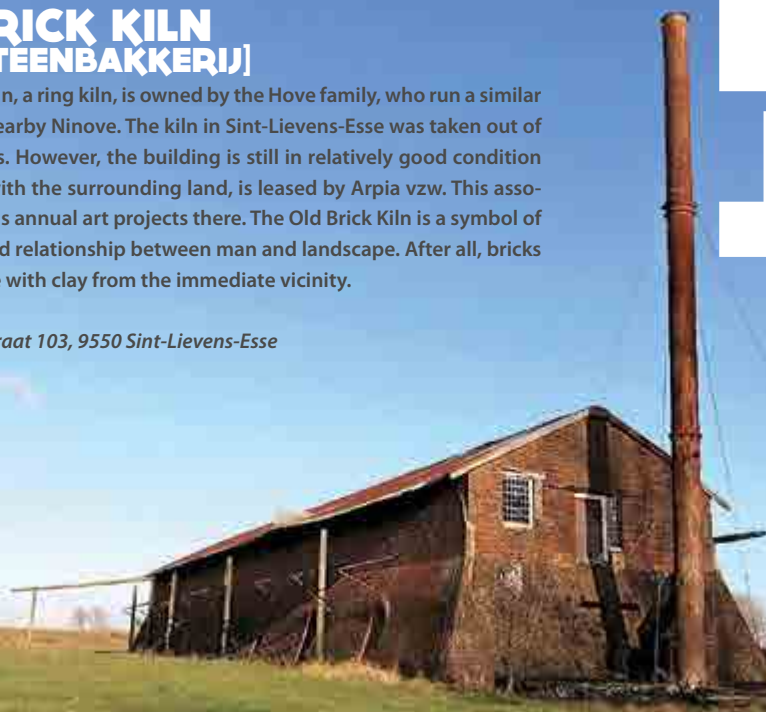
Address: Zavelstraat (no number), Sint-Lievens-Esse

**OLD BRICK KILN
[OUDE STEENBAKKERIJ]**

The Old Brick Kiln, a ring kiln, is owned by the Hove family, who run a similar brickworks in nearby Ninove. The kiln in Sint-Lievens-Esse was taken out of use in the 1980s. However, the building is still in relatively good condition and, together with the surrounding land, is leased by Arpia vzw. This association organises annual art projects there. The Old Brick Kiln is a symbol of the centuries-old relationship between man and landscape. After all, bricks were made here with clay from the immediate vicinity.

Address: Kauwstraat 103, 9550 Sint-Lievens-Esse

24



When you come to Herzele, what do you need to pack? Your hiking boots, your cycling outfit, your party legs and your appetite for culture. In other words, in Herzele you won't have to sit still. Our municipality, on the edge of the Flemish Ardennes, is best known for its walking and cycling routes along many sights. But also those who are looking for culture and fun, have come to the right place. In other words, a trip to Herzele is always worthwhile!



WHAT'S THERE



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HIKING

If you're coming to Herzele, you'd better put on your hiking boots, because the numerous hiking trails through the different boroughs are worth discovering! The many hiking trails lead you through the picturesque village centres, past vast fields and through unspoilt nature. You don't have to be afraid to get lost, because all the walking routes have been meticulously mapped out. The paper version is available from the Tourist Office and the digital one (GPX or PDF) can be found at www.herzele.be/wandelroutes.

CYCLING

As a municipality on the edge of the Flemish Ardennes, Herzele is also an ideal starting point for numerous cycling routes. Can you handle the hilly landscape? Then hop on your bike and discover the nicest spots in our municipality. At the Tourist Office, you will find maps with the different cycling routes. If you can't bring your own bike, you can rent one in De Steenoven sports park (Kerkkouter 40, 9550 Herzele). More information about this can be found on www.herzele.be/fiets-huren.

OUT IN HERZELE

In Herzele, there is always a lot on the go. Street fairs, courses you can attend or afternoons playing cards. If you're looking for a suitable leisure activity, take a look at www.herzele.be/events. Here, you will find an overview of all the fun that Herzele has to offer. It quickly becomes clear that you don't have to get bored for a second here.

HERZELE



De Steenoven Sports Park

De Steenoven Sports Park is the beating heart of Herzele's sport scene. In the sports centre, there are numerous sports practised throughout the year by the local sports clubs. During the summer, the area around the sports centre is particularly popular. There are four tennis courts (grass and gravel), a beach volleyball court, a petanque court and an multi-purpose court. De Steenoven is also adjacent to the Educational Nature Park Kerkkouter where you can have fun on the outdoor workout equipment or run a few laps on the Finnish Piste. This is 830 meters long and was recently expanded with a running track of another 980 meters. There is a play forest for the children. Skaters and BMX riders can also enjoy themselves in Herzele. Next to De Steenoven is the fully renovated skate park. For this renovation, the help of the skaters themselves was drafted in. They gave their views on the design and rolled up their sleeves in the construction of the park. This is a skatepark by, and for, the youth.

Address: Kerkkouter 40, Herzele



CC de Steenoven

The Steenoven Cultural Centre is the cultural heart of Herzele. Music, theatre, comedy, ... Not only big names, but also local talent grace our stage. Tickets can be bought quickly and easily via the webshop.

Address: Kerkkouter 40, Herzele

More info: www.steenoven.herzele.be



De Burcht Playground

The playground on the Burcht is a true paradise for children. They can enjoy themselves to their heart's content on numerous play items and run around on the vast lawn. The castle meadow is also perfect for a cosy picnic with views of the castle site.

Address: Burchtlaan, Herzele



18 WHAT'S THERE TO DO



The weekly market

Traditions are there to be honoured. That also applies to the weekly market on a Wednesday morning from 08.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. On that day, you can pick up your groceries from Groenlaan. Every first Friday of July, there is an evening market from 5.00 p.m. to 10.00 p.m. The annual fairs are held the Wednesday after the Easter Fair and on the Wednesday after the October Fair.

Address: Markt 1, Herzele

More info: www.herzele.be/markten-en-kermissen-in-Herzele



Covered wagon ride

If you would like to discover Herzele by horse and cart, no problem. Book your ride in advance.

More info: Armand Coppens - 053 62 39 64

Theofiel De Neyer - 053 63 09 80

HILLEGEM



Doormans woods (Doormansbos)

The Doormansbos has been owned by the municipality of Herzele since 2016 and is in full development. Natuurpunt Herzele will be the municipality's partner to upgrade this area between Bergafstraat and Ternatstraat. The intention is to create a second nature reserve, a green lung for the north of the municipality. Natuurpunt has already mapped out three signposted walks.

Address: Ternatstraat / Bergafstraat, Hillegem

More info: www.herzele.be/doormansbos



'De Jabbedoe' Indoor Playground

In Belgium, there's always a chance of rain, but a rainy day doesn't have to spoil the fun. You can take the children to the indoor playground 'De Jabbedoe'. Here, you will find a play area where children up to the age of 12 can spend a whole day in the ball pool and in the discovery playground.

Address: Perrestraat 15a, Hillegem

More info: www.jabbedoe.be

RESSEGEM



Ressegem Pastorie

The municipality of Herzele makes the Oude Pastorie (Old Vicarage) of Ressegem available to associations that wish to organise socio-cultural activities there. In this way, you can enjoy a lot of culture in this beautiful building. Just think of the daily art exhibition programme 'WALS' or the unique Arture exhibitions. You can find out when there are exhibitions in Herzele's OUT calendar or on the facebook page of the Oude Pastorie.

Address: Sint-Mauritsplein 9, Ressegem

More info: www.facebook.com/kunst.pastorie/



BORSBEKE



De Vrede Sports Park

In 2018, the old cycling track in Borsbeke was transformed into a multi-functional outdoor sports park. It has an A-ground for football, an artificial turf pitch for ball sports, grass pitches for omnisport and a freely accessible multi-purpose track for cycling, inline skating and jogging. As you can see, the sports park is the place to be for all sports fans.

Address: Pastorijstraat 12, Borsbeke

More info: www.herzele.be/sportpark-de-vrede



The Vicarage Heritage House (Erfgoedhuis De Pastorie)

The renovated vicarage of Borsbeke is managed by Heemkundige Kring De Hellebaard. This study and documentation centre, with its archives, library and exhibition rooms, can be visited freely at set times.

Address: Pastorijstraat 3, Borsbeke

More info: www.dehellebaard.be



STEENHUIZE- WIJNHUIZE



Schaubroeck Nature Park

In 2007, the municipality of Herzele purchased an area of about 7 hectares in the valley of the Schaubroeckbeek, between Bergestraat and Eikestraat in Steenhuize. More than 2.5 hectares were converted into a play forest. During a tree-planting campaign at the end of 2010, the area was enriched with hundreds of native trees and shrubs. There are also 2 ponds, some insect houses and an alder bush on the site. This natural park, with unpaved paths, is freely accessible. There is an access road via Bergestraat and via Eikestraat.

Address: Bergestraat/Eikestraat,
Steenhuize-Wijnhuize

More info: www.herzele.be/schaubroeck



SINT-ANTELINKS



Pigeon Woods (Duivenbos)

Walk through this 11-hectare nature reserve and discover the beauty of the fauna and flora. A walk through the Duivenbos shows swamp woods, dry woods, grasslands and meadows. Rare acorn mice live in the rough. Natuurpunt manages this area and has mapped out two walks. For children, there is a special walking map on which 'Herman the acorn mouse' takes them along and gets them to solve fun riddles.

Address: Huigeveldstraat 1, Sint-Antelinks
Meer info: www.natuurpunt.be/natuurgebied/duivenbos



SINT-LIEVENS-ESSE



The old tram track

Until 1957, the Ghent-Geraardsbergen tram line ran straight through Herzele, Sint-Lievens-Esse and Steenhuize. From the old tram depot in Herzele, now a thrift shop, to the old tram station in Sint-Lievens-Esse, now a restaurant, the old tram track was repurposed into a cycling and walking path. Take this slow connection and cycle or walk in the footsteps of the former neighbourhood tram.

Address: *Kauwstraat 30, Sint-Lievens-Esse*



Kiosk

Today, the village square of Sint-Lievens-Esse is characterised by an octagonal music kiosk. Three centuries ago, things were different. At that time, there was a well on that spot. The well served as a watering hole for animals and provided the neighbourhood with water for everyday use and extinguishing water in the event of a fire. In 1835, the municipality of Sint-Lievens-Esse decided to build a new well in the village centre. Decades later, in 1901, the well was filled to make way for a music kiosk. At the time, such a kiosk served as a stage for the local music association or brass band, but also as a status symbol. The design by Ixelles architect Jules Piermont was not completed until 1905. The work was carried out in 1906. At that time, there was not enough money for a permanent roof. It was not until 2007 that the music kiosk was given its permanent roof on the occasion of a thorough renovation.

Adres: *Sint-Lievensplein, Sint-Lievens-Esse*



SAMP

The way to a tourist's heart is through their stomach, or how does that saying go!? Whichever way, it's impossible to stay hungry (or thirsty) in Herzele for long. A visit to a local café after a long walk or bike ride, culinary dining in a Herzele restaurant or regional produce to take home, it's all possible.

BREWERY VAN DEN BOSSCHE

In Herzele, you must try the beers of Brewery Van Den Bossche in Sint-Lievens-Esse. As the names of many of their beers each refer to their own historical stories, they take you back in time. You can discover their historical background during a guided tour of the brewery. During this visit, you can learn everything about the brewing process and end the day with a tasting session in the intimate bar at the brewery.

TIP: Pater Lieven Blond

This clear golden blond beer (6.5% vol.) with a fine sparkle and firm white head is named after St Livinus, who has a special relationship with Sint-Lievens-Esse. Fruity, hints of malt, and pleasant bitterness in the dry aftertaste. Sample it in the brewery or in one of the many cafés and restaurants in Herzele.



More info:

Brouwerij Van Den Bossche
(Sint-Lievensplein 16, Sint-Lievens-Esse)
+32 (0)54 50 04 11 - www.paterlieven.be

BREWERY DE RYCK

With five generations of experience, the De Ryck brewery is a fixture in Herzele. As such, their beers are available from various local merchants. It is a must to taste their specialities during your stay in Herzele. If you like to take a look behind the scenes of this traditional brewery, you can book a guided tour.

TIP: Steenuilke (Little Owl)

A unique and spicy blond beer (6.5% vol.) with a slight malty taste, a subtle fruitiness and a fine spicy, slightly grassy taste. This blond tasting beer was created by Brewery De Ryck in collaboration with the Regional Landscape of the Flemish Ardennes to support the Little Owl project in the region. To underline the specificity of the region and this bird, three herbs were carefully selected that grow in the region. These herbs give the beer its own full-bodied aroma and taste, so that one soon tastes like... more. Sample it in the brewery or in one of the many cafés and restaurants in Herzele.



More info:

Brouwerij De Ryck
(Kerkstraat 24, Herzele)
+32 (0)53 62 23 02 - www.brouwerijde ryck.be

LE



GIN FROM HERZELE

Gin and tonic go hand in hand, as do gin and herbs and flowers. Two florists from Herzele each created their own unique floral gin. Albeit limited edition, so hopefully on a visit, the odds will be in your favour.

More info:

Puur (Markt 2, Herzele)
+32 (0)479 70 83 99
www.puurgin.be

Medinilla – Doctor Bloom
(Provincieweg 59, Borsbeke)
+32 (0)53 63 13 60
www.medinilla.be



DIFFERENT-FLAVOURED LEMONADES

Made with love, full of flavour and without preservatives, colourings or flavours. Tillies lemonades are made with seasonal fruit and herbs, which are grown in the Flemish Ardennes as much as possible. You will be spoiled with flavours, including grapefruit and thyme, watermelon and basil, as well as pear and ginger. The ice lollies and mocktails also come highly recommended. Only available from some hotspots or online via the website.

More info: *Tillies* - +32 (0)467 00 30 99 - www.tillies.be



CHOOSE FROM 100 VARIETIES OF ORGANIC TEA

Soshun is a concept store with a bar, but, above all, a tea specialist. You'll find an exquisite selection of special teas - to sample immediately or to take home - and a lot of matching accessories. Soshun sounds Oriental and it is. In Japan, it means 'early spring' and it's also a special green tea.

More info:

Soshun – concept store (Groenlaan 11, Herzele)
+32 (0)53 42 65 05 - www.soshun.be



LOCAL **GRAPES**

With three wine estates on its territory, the grape is seriously competing with barley juice in Herzele. A bottle of Piro is not long in coming, but two of the three vineyards - Driesse in Sint-Lievens-Esse and Près De Gand in Borsbeke - offer you the chance to sample delicious wines of different varieties. Order in the webshop or visit us.

More info:

Wine estate Près De Gand - +32 (0)477 62 85 22
www.wijndomein-pres-de-gand.be

Wijndomein Piro
<http://wijndomeinpiro.weebly.com>

Driesse mousserende wijnen - +32 (0)495 32 68 16
www.driesse.be



VEGETABLES **GROWN WITH LOVE**

Delicious organic vegetables, straight from the field to your fork. Every week, you can order a vegetable parcel from the biodynamic farm De Kollebloem in Sint-Lievens-Esse. Each kit comes with a nice field trivia and recipes for lesser known vegetables.

More info and order via:

De Kollebloem

(Doornstraat 30, Sint-Lievens-Esse)

+32 (0)54 34 36 82

www.kollebloem.be/groentepakketten



TRADITIONAL **GELATO**

Based on the original recipes of the Italian gelato, Studio Gelato from Sint-Lievens-Esse makes delicious ice cream. They use fresh and locally grown ingredients as much as possible in the process. What did you think about the flavours Pruneaux Armagnac and apple with cinnamon, or would you prefer a traditional vanilla ice cream? If you want to secure your favourite flavour, then it's best to order either by phone or online. A visit to the shop is also possible.

Meer info:

Studio Gelato (Zavelstraat 20, Sint-Lievens-Esse)
+32 (0)499 86 58 25 - www.studiogelato.be

HERZELE MATTENTAART

Geraardsbergen likes to shine the spotlight on its 'mattentaarten', but those from Herzele are at least as good. The pastry has a puff-pastry casing with a mixture of 'mat' in the middle, made with whole milk and buttermilk, eggs and almonds. You can buy mattentaart at any baker in Herzele, but Bakery De Vuyst has made it its speciality.

More info:

Bakkerij De Vuyst

(Groenlaan 74, Herzele)

+32 (0)53 62 24 59

www.bakkerijdevuyst.be



CHUTNEY: FINGER-LICKING GOOD

Kattekwaad stands for artisanal delicacies, small-scale, handmade and with home-grown produce. Their tomato or mango chutney is ideal to combine with tortilla chips or to use with tapas, but the avocad that comes in several flavours is mouth-watering. You can order by phone or by mail. Pick up only.

More info:

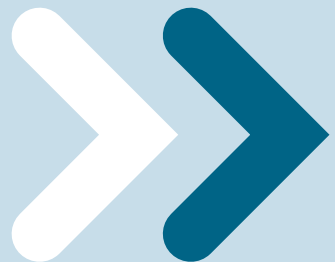
Kattekwaad – traditional delicacies

(Lavenderstraat 46, Hillegem)

+32 (0)497 74 34 14

info@kattakwaad.net

**FOOD
AND
DRINK
LISTED**



FOOD AND DRINK LISTED

AT THE BAR

De Mergelhoek

Stationsstraat 237, Herzele

Torengalm

Stationsstraat 7, Herzele

Schepenhuis

Markt 6, Herzele

Hof Te Roellegem

Groenlaan 92a, Herzele

Falstaff

Groenlaan 77, Herzele

't Eiland

Ressegemstraat 64, Ressegem

De Reisduif

Woubrechtstraat 8, Woubrechtgem

In Den Draai

Terbiest 8, Sint-Lievens-Esse

Molenhof

Huigeveldstraat 21, Sint-Antelinks

't Flesken

Huigeveldstraat 24, Sint-Antelinks

Den Berg

Provincieweg 506, Hillegem

Oud Gemeentehuis

Provincieweg 499, Hillegem

Sportwereld

Provincieweg 250, Herzele

Sport

Merehoekstraat 16, Hillegem

GASTRONOMY

Den Entrecôte

Provincieweg 476, Hillegem

www.denentrecote.be

't Schitterend Ongeluk

Evendael 18, Herzele

www.schitterendongeluk.be

Alexandre

Kloosterberg 31, Steenhuize-Wijnhuize

www.restaurantalexandre.be

TRADITIONAL KITCHEN

Bij Molly

Provincieweg 177, Borsbeke

't Fonteintje

Gentweg 45, Sint-Lievens-Esse

www.tfonteintjeherzele.be

De Tramstatie

Kauwstraat 30, Sint-Lievens-Esse

www.detramstatie.be

't Wijnantshof

Kasteelstraat 26, Woubrechtgem

De Wijngaard

Provincieweg 82, Borsbeke

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

Kokon

Solleveld 30, Herzele

www.kokonenko.be

Elly's in Broodjesland

Groenlaan 28, Herzele

Tartelien

Brusselbaan 9,

Steenhuize-Wijnhuize

www.tartelien.be

Broodnodig

Kauwstraat 42, Sint-Lievens-Esse

Hoeveslagerij Daem-Lambert

Gentweg 51, Steenhuize-Wijnhuize

CHIPS, PITA AND PIZZA

Frituur De Groenlaan

Groenlaan 25, Herzele

Frituur Frit-Esse

Terbiest 6, Herzele

Frituur Evelien

Provincieweg 69, Herzele

Frituur Station

Stationsstraat 237, Herzele

De Frietbeirg

Kloosterberg 22, Steenhuize-Wijnhuize

De Frietman

Provincieweg 246, Herzele

Frituur 't Ploj

Heilig-Hartplein 3b, Woubrechtgem

Casa Follia

Groenlaan 92, Herzele

Pizza Heat

Provincieweg 80, Borsbeke

Pitta Shop 2

Stationsstraat 5, Herzele

Ozgur

Stationsstraat 163, Herzele

OUT ON THE TERRACE

Torenhof

Kerkstraat 39, Herzele

't Uilekot

Groenlaan 39, Herzele

De Paling

Schonenberg 7, Sint-Lievens-Esse

Berghof

Bergestraat 1, Steenhuize-Wijnhuize

SP&C Café De Steenoven

Kerkkouter 40, Herzele

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Haven't found what you're looking for? No problem. Herzele's online business directory will be happy to help you. On www.herzele.be/bedrijven you can search by category for the retail or catering establishment that meets your requirements.

Dienst Toerisme

De Wattenfabriek

Solleveld 35

9550 Herzele

+32 (0)53 73 74 38

toerisme@herzele.be

www.herzele.be/toerisme

Monday:	closed
Tuesday:	9.00 a.m. – 12.00 p.m. 4.00 p.m. – 7.00 p.m.
Wednesday:	9.00 a.m. – 12.00 p.m. 1.00 p.m. – 7.00 p.m.
Thursday:	9.00 a.m. – 12.00 p.m. 4.00 p.m. – 7.00 p.m.
Friday:	9.00 a.m. – 12.00 p.m. 4.00 p.m. – 7.00 p.m.
Saturday:	9.00 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.

Also open by appointment.



Colofon



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www.herzele.be

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communicatie@herzele.be

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