

HOI!

... wij zijn Louis en Arthur. Wij zijn de Hooge Boys, en wij wonen in het museum van onze papa en mama. Ga je met ons mee op stap?



HI!

... we are Louis and Arthur. We're the Hooge Boys, and we live in our mom and dad's museum. Are you ready to go on a trip with us?



'ON THE ROAD WITH THE HOOGE BOYS'

Children can visit the Hooge Crater Museum on their own or in groups. With the help of a form to fill in and a map, they halt at several large signs in the museum. There they find short videos of the Hooge Boys, "Did you know?" facts about the First World War and assignments.

The visit is **tailored to primary school children**. In the museum, the signs are placed at eye level and written in simple words. Moreover, this is an interactive and playful tour with fun assignments. In every aspect, the visit is worthwhile and child-friendly. Each pupil also receives a **free return ticket** to return with the whole family. The child gets the chance to follow the footsteps of the Hooge Boys, and to be their own guide through the museum.

This educational package is designed for primary school teachers and is best consulted **before a trip to Ypres**. This booklet contains learning outcomes, practical information for the museum visit, an overview of what happened around and at the Hooge, what the pupils can expect and tips for combining a visit with other attractions.

Learning outcomes

1) Orientation to **society**

I am curious and contribute to the coexistence of people.

I see how societies function.

2) Orientation towards **time**

I am curious about evolution and develop a sense of history.

I can estimate, plan and organise time.

3) Orientation to **space**

I explore and appreciate my surroundings.

I develop geographical awareness.

4) Orientation towards **technology**

I am curious about technical systems and processes and apply them.

I see how technology, science and society influence each other.

Practical information

The Hooze Crater Museum has become the best private WWI museum. From that point of view, we are concerned with the reconstruction and the rich history surrounding Hooze and Bellewaerde. With its life-size reconstructions of World War I scenes, the extensive collection of weapons, equipment and photos, this museum is **a real must-see**. The scenes range from German bunkers to British trenches and life-size horses ridden by soldiers. In addition, the film room offers a unique view of the battlefields around the Hooze and the Ypres Salient.

Many **interactive elements** in the museum allow the youngest visitors to learn about life on and around the battlefields. The children get fascinated by the Great War **while playing**, with the Hooze Boys as their guide in their videos.

As a **non-guided school group**, you can make **free** use of our educational package 'on the road with the Hooze Boys' during a group visit. Each pupil is given a form to fill in at the museum desk, please provide a pencil or a pen. With this they follow a trail and carry out assignments along the way that are both fun and educational. You can prepare your visit with the help of this booklet and the videos of the Hooze Boys on the YouTube channel of the Hooze Crater Museum.



Groups are certainly welcome in the Hooge Crater museum and theme café. It is important to **book in advance** to ensure that the visit and any meals run smoothly. This can always be done online via the reservation form: <https://www.hoogecrater.com/reserveer/>. We have the following group arrangements (min. 20 people).

€ 3.00 / pupil - teachers free of charge

What is included?

- Introduction: Hooge Crater and the Great War
- Visit to Hooge Crater Museum
- Completed course and educational package 'On the road with the Hooge Boys' (available at the desk of the museum)
- Experience box at the disposal of teachers or supervisors
- A free return ticket
- Visit to Hooge Crater Cemetery (6000 graves) with quest
- Facts and questions about the cemetery (supplied in .pdf)

What else can we do?

- Guided visit: € 30.00 per hour per group (fascinating stories adapted to the visiting age group)
- Visit to the trenches: € 1.00 per person (only in combination with a guided tour)
- Museum entrance + 1 drink: € 5.50 per person
- Museum entrance + 1 drink + sandwich (ham and cheese with salad): € 12.00 per person
- Own packed lunch is allowed in the cafeteria.
- Or take our total package 'The very last witnesses' for € 6.50 per pupil + € 90.00 guide

On the day of the visit, we ask you to divide the group into **groups of 5 pupils** and to send one group into the museum every minute. This way we avoid too many students doing the same task at the same time. Children spend about an hour on the visit. We ask that a clipboard and a pencil be provided for each pupil.



Furthermore, our team is always available to work out an excursion tailored to the needs of the pupils. Questions or comments can always be emailed to info@hoogecrater.com.

4 Years of War at Hooge

Aspects that are focused on in the museum and during the assignments are shown **in bold**.

The museum is located at one of the most feared places during World War I on the Western Front, the Hooge, with its well-known Menin Road. The Hooge, an upper village east of Ypres, became a tactically very important place as part of **the Ypres Salient**, which was fought over fiercely throughout the war. What followed was a four-year battle with hundreds of thousands killed and wounded.

After the German invasion of Belgium on the 4th August 1914, the invaders reached the heights around Ypres after a few months. During the first battle it became clear that the outdated way of waging war had to be changed. Both armies dug in. A **war of movement** was transformed into a **war of trenches**.

New techniques and weapons were introduced. But **animals** were also indispensable in the early years of the war. Horses, mules, carrier pigeons, dogs ... did their service.

Because of trench warfare, **uniforms** and **headgear** underwent an evolution, with camouflage becoming very important. **Women** were also used in large numbers in this war. Especially as a nurse at the front, they had an indispensable function.

The spring of 1915 began with the first **gas attack** in the history of war. The German chlorine gas attack north of Ypres was an unexpected success. However, poor organisation and supplying of the German army caused the attack to come to a standstill after a few kilometres. A mine explosion by British troops created a huge crater at Hooge on 19 July 1915. Hooge Crater. Yet this new form of warfare was not successful either.

Between the end of 1915 and July 1917, the front lines remained almost in the same place and it was relatively quiet in Flanders. In this period, the major battles were mainly fought in France. Here, the German army limited itself to a **defensive war**. They built numerous reinforced lines with trenches, barbed wire and bunkers.

On the 31st of July 1917, a large-scale attack was again launched: the Third Battle of Ypres. Through massive mine explosions and days of **shellfire**, the **British, Scots, Australians** and **New Zealanders** tried to break through the **German** defences.



After more than a hundred days the battle came to a standstill in the rubble of what was once Passchendaele. On the Ypres Salient both sides had to build numerous **underground shelters** due to the enormous destruction.

In late March 1918, the German army, in an ultimate attempt to win the war, launched its Spring Offensive. Great gains in territory were made, but just before the town of Ypres the German offensive ran aground again.

Under the leadership of our King Albert I **the liberation** started on the 28th of September 1918 by Belgian, British, American and French troops. On the 11th of November 1918 **the Armistice** finally came. The soldiers who died here on the Hooge were buried in **Hooge Crater Cemetery** opposite the museum. With 6000 graves, this cemetery is the fourth largest in Europe.

A few months after the Armistice, the mayor of Hooge, Baron de Vinck, returned to rebuild his destroyed village. The impossible task of **reconstruction** could begin. In the spring of 1919, he built a **concrete emergency home** and became the first inhabitant of his village. Because of his presence, the villagers came back and rebuilt Hooge and Zillebeke with full courage. This restored emergency home can be visited within walking distance of the museum.



Museum trail

What can the pupils expect? What assignments do they carry out during the visit? The following pages give an overview of the main attractions and topics during the visit.

→ In order to get your bearings, you can find the map with the accompanying fill-in form at the end of this document. This is the same document the pupils receive at the start of the visit.

The museum visit starts with some **information** on how to proceed. You can find an overview in the legend below.



= Here you can see a **YouTube video of the Hooge Boys** using a QR code. When you take a picture of this code or scan it, you will find an accompanying film of the Hooge Boys. Watching the film is not necessary for making the assignment. For groups that don't have a smartphone at hand, there are also a few tablets available at the reception desk of the museum. To prepare for the visit, the films can also be viewed on the Hooge Boys' YouTube channel.



= Here you can read a **Did you know? fact** about the First World War.



= Here you get **something** to do.



= Here you have to answer a **question** on the form.

On the panel right next to it, you can read how **the Hooge Boys** came into existence, why it is such a success and how it involves young and old.

In the next room, the topic of **animals in the war** is discussed. Horses are very important to move around, to pull cannons and carts and to bring materials to the trenches. But other animals, such as mules, pigeons and dogs, also served their purpose. Pigeons and dogs were used as postmen. Here the pupils can do **assignment A** by indicating the correct answer on the reverse side of their plan. The correct answer is a pigeon.

When you walk straight ahead to the next room, you will find the next sign about **trench warfare** immediately on your left. From 1915 onwards, we went from a war of movement to a war of trenches. You can see an example of such a trench map. The trenches were also given names like the streets

today. There were some funny names, like 'Idiot trench'. Here the pupils can solve **assignment B**. The correct answer is Bellewaerde.

Via a corridor, the pupils then go to a room where **tanks**, although in miniature version, are exhibited. The origin of the word 'tank' is explained. In the Netherlands, until the Second World War, the term 'fighting vehicle' was usually used and the British initially referred to a 'land vessel'. Originally, the word 'tank' was used during the First World War to mask the fact that it was a new (and secret) weapon. The workers manufacturing the huge steel shells were led to believe that they were making large mobile water tanks.

Continuing along the corridor, the next stop is on the left. The use of gas and how to protect yourself against it, is discussed here. The use of poison gas causes panic in the trenches. To force a breakthrough in 1915, both camps try out new weapons. On 22 April 1915, the Germans use chlorine gas for the first time, north of Ypres, between Bikschote and Poelkapelle. Different types of **gas masks** are exhibited in the display. Most people have a first type of gas mask in their pocket. In **assignment C**, the pupils have to guess which object this is. The correct answer is a handkerchief, which can also be found in the display.

Next, you enter a cinema. To the left is a large sign that visualises **the Ypres Salient** and the various battles around Ypres with lights. The heights around Ypres, including Hill 60, Hill 62 and Hooze Crater, are the scene of fierce fighting. Because from there the troops can see and control the area completely. The pupils themselves can operate the lights to visualise the development and battles around Ypres. When, for example, they switch on the green lights (1914) and the blue lights (1918), they can see the little ground gained in four years. In **assignment D**, their geographical insight is tested by looking for the correct wind direction. The correct answer is east.

Then a staircase leads down to another room about medical evacuation in the First World War. Would you like to know how many steps a wounded or sick soldier has to take to get to a hospital bed? Via diagrams and unique photos from 1917, we explain this story step by step. As an eye-catcher you can see an original Ford T ambulance from 1916. The most important group of **women in the war zone** were, of course, the nurses. They cared for and comforted the wounded soldiers. On the **home front**, women were used to **replace the many men who went off to war**. They worked in the fields, as tram drivers or as policemen. In the factories, women helped to make bullets, grenades and even tanks ...

In the same hall, children can put on different **helmets**. In the beginning of the war, there were no steel helmets. The soldiers wore leather hats, leather pin helmets, caps or kepis. In 1916, the soldiers received a steel helmet to protect their heads from flying debris.

They are then supposed to return to the chapel. Attentive students may have noticed the red aircraft as they enter. It is a replica of a Fokker Dr.I triplane in which a German fighter pilot of noble rank flew: Manfred Albrecht Freiherr von Richthofen. He was also called **the Red Baron**, after the colour of his plane. In the First World War, the Red Baron shot down eighty enemy planes, making him the best fighter pilot of his time.

At the end of the corridor, one finds a **Scottish soldier**. Of course, they can be easily recognised by their special hat (glengarry) and their kilt (no skirt 😊). After the outbreak of the First World War in 1914, Scots responded en masse to the call to volunteer for service in the army. Scots who lived in England set up their own regiments like the **Liverpool Scottish** or the London Scottish. In the woods behind the museum, there is a monument in honour of the fallen Scottish soldiers of the Liverpool Scottish. This small walk is definitely worth it. On the way you can see an emergency home, and in the woods you can find dozens of craters. After the war, the returning population was forced to live in such barracks, until the reconstruction could start (more info on www.barakdevinck.be).

Further into the museum, beyond the showcases, is a grenade that the pupils can lift. There is a big difference between **bombs, grenades, hand grenades and rifle grenades**. Bombs were dropped from planes. Grenades were shot by the cannons (artillery). They were also called 'obus', the French word for grenade. Hand grenades, as the word suggests, are grenades thrown by hand. Rifle grenades were shot with a rifle. There were even famous grenade catapults.

If you follow the corridor further, you will find a scene of the German front on the left. A **German trench** can be recognised by the frequent use of wood and wickerwork. Compared to the British trenches, German trenches were of better quality. Indispensable were the shelters, 'the dugouts', in which to shelter from the weather and enemy bombardment. As you can see here is an entrance to such a dugout.

Next you can see two Australian soldiers in a 'dugout'. But New Zealand soldiers also fought at the front. **Anzac Day** is Australia's and New Zealand's annual, official day of remembrance for all inhabitants who took part in the war. It takes place on 25 April each year, because the Anzacs

(Australian New Zealand Army Corps) started the war on 25 April 1915, when they landed with small boats at Gallipoli to attack Turkey. On the fill-in sheet at **assignment E**, the idea is to connect the right flags with the different countries (Australia, New Zealand & Great Britain). If it is too difficult, they can find the flags in the video of the Hooge Boys about Anzac Day.

After the visit, the pupils can look for Patrick Bugden's grave in the military cemetery opposite the museum. This Australian soldier received the greatest military decoration, a Victoria Cross. Tip: use the register in the small building on the left of the cemetery to easily find a grave.

At the end of the corridor you can see Christmas decorations and postcards, because soldiers also celebrate **Christmas in the trenches**. During Christmas 1914, some soldiers laid down their arms. At certain places, soldiers climb out of the trenches. In the middle of nowhere, Germans, Belgians, French or British anxiously start a conversation, exchange chocolate and cigarettes and wish each other a Merry Christmas.

Through the door, you will find a **British trench** on the left. You can immediately recognise it by the corrugated metal plates and the gangways, which look like ladders. The gangways, 'duckboards', are attached to A-frames. An A-frame is a wooden letter A that is put into the ground upside down. By placing the duckboards on the intermediate piece, the water can flow away under the duckboards. It ensures that the soldiers don't get wet feet. Here the pupils can solve **assignment F** by connecting the right parts with the drawing of a British trench.

Thanks to **archaeologists** we can literally get history out of the ground. In the same hall, many archaeological finds can be seen. The careful excavation of remains is done carefully. All found objects are cleaned, measured, described and photographed.

At the end of the hall, one walks straight into the interior of an emergency home. There, the pupils can read the poem by the surgeon John McCrae: "In Flanders Fields". Poppies are the symbol of the First World War. But other countries also have **commemorative flowers**. Belgium has the daisy, France the cornflower and Germany the forget-me-not. These are therefore the correct answers to **assignment G** on the fill-in sheet. When we return, before the end of the visit, we pause to **remember** the many people who died in WWI. One can take a rest there and reflect on the many sufferings of war.

Once outside, a picture can be taken with **the Hooge Boys**. At the panel, you are free to take photos of the pupils depending on the class visit.



In the area

A visit to the museum can easily be combined with sites in the area. The following sites and attractions are within walking distance or less than ten minutes' drive.

Hooge Crater Cemetery



Directly opposite the museum you will find the fourth largest military cemetery in Europe. The Stone of Remembrance stands in a circular depth that refers to the mine craters. In the 1920s, the crater was filled to build the Menin Road.

On the initiative of the Burial Officer of the 7th Division, the British began to make the cemetery in October, 1917. There were originally 76 graves. In April, 1918, however, the Hooge went back to the Germans in the German Spring Offensive. The site was finally liberated by the Allied Final Offensive on 28 September 1918. After the Armistice, the cemetery was enlarged with graves from the battlefields and from various smaller cemeteries which had been emptied. Graves were brought from Bass Wood Cemeteries No. 1 and No. 2, La Chapelle Farm, Menin Road Pillbox Cemetery and Sanctuary Wood Old British Cemetery at Zillebeke, Koelenberg German Cemeteries and K.O.S.B Cemetery at Geluwe, Nieuwe Kruiseecke Cabaret Cemetery and Tower Hamlets Cemetery at Geluveld, and Pillbox Cemetery and Westhoek Ridge Small Cemetery at Zonnebeke.

There are now 5183 British (of whom 3321 unidentified), 513 Australians (of whom 178 unidentified), 105 Canadians (of whom 36 unidentified) and 121 New Zealanders (of whom 43 unidentified). Special Memorials have been erected for 31 dead from the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. They are believed to be among the unidentified dead. With 14 Special Memorials and a Duhallow Block, 12 Britons are commemorated who were buried at La Chappelle Farm, but whose graves were not found, and two Britons whose graves were lost at Kruiseecke German Cemetery.

Chateau 't Hooge

On this spot some heavy fighting took place within the domain of 'Hooghe Château', now a hotel. On the domain you can visit two bunkers and some craters.



Liverpool Scottish Memorial - Railway Wood

A little further behind the museum is a forest, Railway Wood, with 16 craters. It is about five minutes' walk from the museum and can be reached by a low-traffic path. The Liverpool Scottish, unit of the British Army, fought hard on and around the Hooge. This action, in defence of the Ypres Salient, was not entirely successful and resulted in the unit's exhaustion. The memorial consists of three parts: a carved stone, the inscription tablet of black marble and the paving stones around the memorial.

The carved stone, bearing the emblem of the 10th (Scottish) Battalion, The King's (Liverpool Regiment), was originally the keystone of the unit's Fraser Street Barracks. When the barracks were demolished in 1967, the stone was salvaged and stored. In 1978 it was placed on a brick plinth in front of the new Score Lane headquarters. When this headquarters was closed in 1999, the unit decided to move the stone to the Ypres region.



A black marble inscription describing the actions at Bellewaerde was placed at the base of the stone. The paving stones surrounding the memorial were donated by Liverpool City Council and represent 2 tonnes of cobblestones from the streets of the city.

Menin Gate

The Menin Gate is a memorial in the town of Ypres and is a five-minute drive from the Museum. The town gate was built by the British in 1927 on the eastern side of the town to commemorate the 54,896 British soldiers who died in the First World War and were neither identified nor found. The name refers to the town of Menin, which can be reached from the centre of Ypres via the Menin Gate and the Menin Road. Every evening, on the stroke of eight, the Last Post is sounded by a group of clarion players.



Tyne Cot Cemetery

With its 11956 graves, this is the largest Commonwealth cemetery in the world and is a ten-minute drive from the museum. A silent witness to the Battle of Passchendaele. A visitor centre in the Vijfwegenstraat, near the car park, gives more information about the cemetery itself and offers a panoramic view of the 1917 battlefields.



Bellewaerde Park or Bellewaerde Aquapark



A visit to our museum can be combined with the amusement park or aqua park. Both parks are ten minutes' walk from the museum. Prices and practical information can be found on their website (<https://www.bellewaerde.be/nl>).

Be sure to check out the sites of our other tourist enterprises as well:

www.cottagedevinck.be

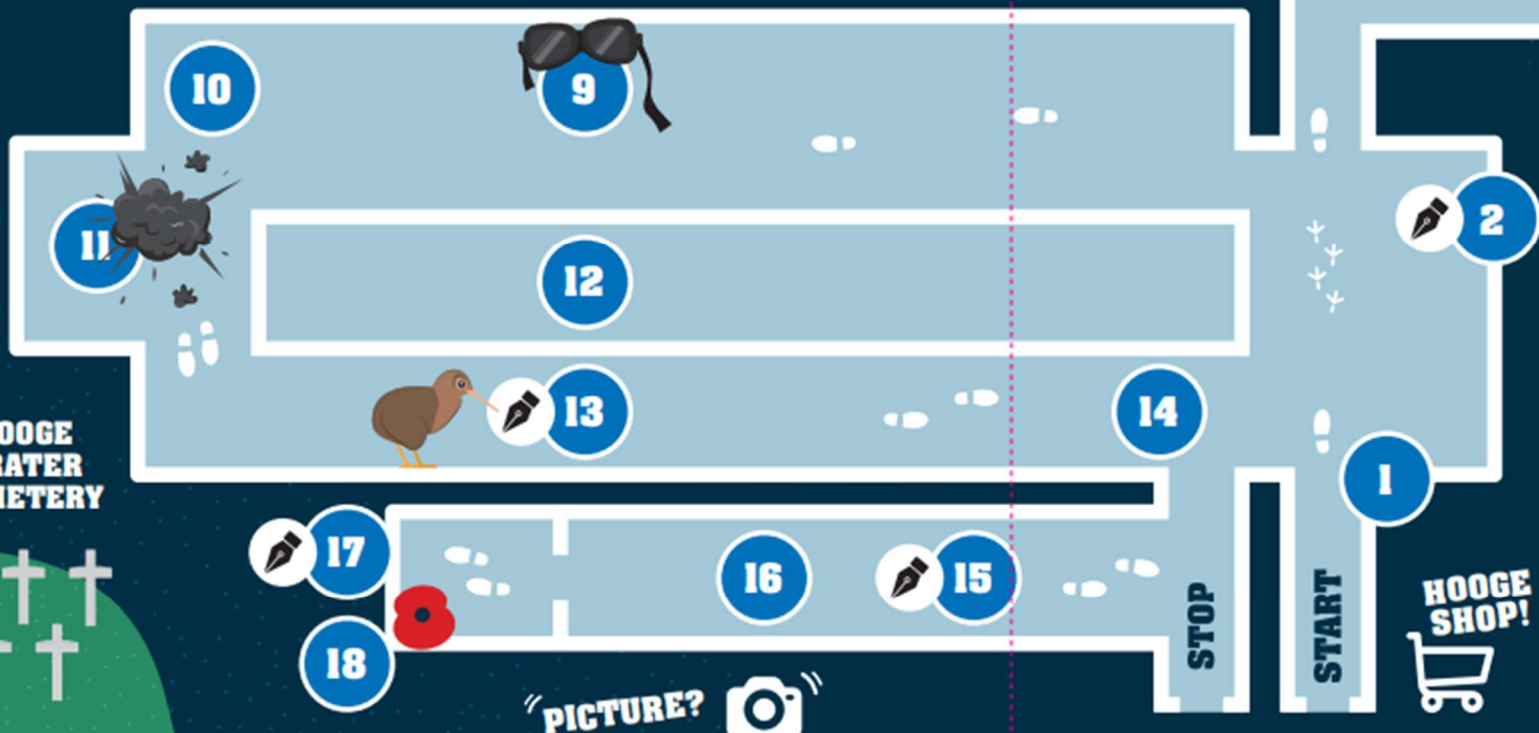
www.barakdevinck.be

www.camperpunthoogecrater.be

There is something for everyone, and everyone is welcome at Het Hooge!



KRATERBOSJE
CRATER FOREST



1. Origin of Hooge Boys
2. Animals at war
3. A trench war
4. Tank
5. Gasmasks
6. Ypres Salient
7. Women in war
8. Helmets
9. The Red Baron
10. Scots at war
11. Bomb and grenade
12. German trenches
13. Anzac Day
14. Christmas
15. British trenches
16. Archeology
17. Remembrance flowers
18. Poppies



JOIN THE TOUR BY OUR MUSEUM!



A

What bird was awarded a medal? Indicate the correct answer.

- A PIGEON
- A CANARY
- AN EAGLE



C

Most people carry a first type of gas mask. What was the very first gas mask? You can also find it in the closet.

.....

E

Connect the correct flags to the different countries.



- AUSTRALIA
- GREAT-BRITAIN
- NEW-ZEALAND

G

Do you know which flower belongs to which country?



- | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| POPPY | <input type="checkbox"/> | BELGIUM |
| DAISY | <input type="checkbox"/> | GERMANY |
| CORNFLOWER | <input type="checkbox"/> | GREAT-BRITAIN |
| FORGET-ME-NOT | <input type="checkbox"/> | FRANCE |

Hello, we are Arthur and Louis. We are the Hooge Boys, and we live in our mom and dad's museum. Will you join us?



B

Which name of a popular amusement park can be found on the map?

.....

D

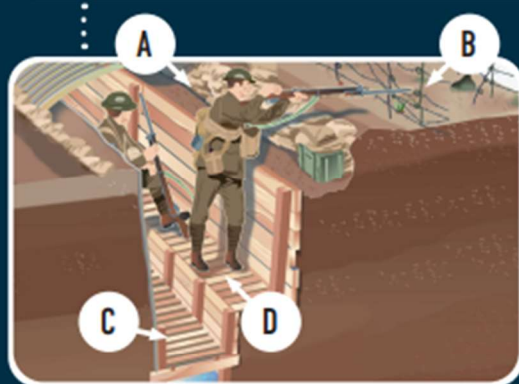
Fill in the correct wind direction.

The Hooge Crater is located to the ... of Ypres.



F

Connect the correct parts to the drawing of a British trench. You can choose between: **barbed wire**, **sandbags**, **a fire step** and **A-Frames**. Good luck!



A

B

C

D

.....

.....

.....

.....

MUSEUM
THEME CAFE
HOOGE CRATER

Meenseweg 467
B-8902 Zillebeke
Ieper / Ypres

mon closed
tue - sat 10.00 - 18.00
sun 10.00 - 21.00

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