

# 1815 - Ligny - 2025 - 210th anniversary

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**A sneak preview of the programme to whet your appetite!**

## The Bivouacs

More than 1,000 soldiers, infantrymen, artillerymen, horsemen, musicians, craftsmen and civilians of yesteryear make up an exceptional visual display, with several hundred tents perfectly aligned, where wood fires stand alongside rifle beams and the smell of soup perfumes the meadow. Life in the camp comes to life: fetching water and wood, inspecting the barracks, maintaining weapons, making cartridges, training young conscripts, requisitioning food, cooking for the vivandières, staff meals, etc. The public can interact with all these enthusiasts and create real moments of sharing and exchange.

## Civil villages and old trades

The Ligny1815museum farm is transformed into a real 18th-century rural village. A reconstructed village on the farm will captivate you with its authentic and friendly atmosphere: peasants, blacksmiths, spinners, clog-makers, basket-makers, taverns, merchants, notables and old-fashioned games will help you discover the trades of yesteryear. Maybe you'll have the chance to meet Fanchon, the innkeeper who has set up shop in the barn, and enjoy a good meal in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

## The battle re-enactment

Saturday at 5.30pm

Sunday at 2pm

The face-off between Blücher and Napoleon has begun! 1,000 soldiers, 20 cannons and 50 horses will take you back to 1815 at the time of the battle. Orders shouted, cavalry charging, bayonets fixed, drums in motion! The sound and visual immersion is spectacular, and accompanied by a narration at human level!

## Activities for families and children

Wooden games to test their dexterity, search for treasure in a straw bale, etc. Soldier life with an instructor to develop team spirit and concentration, Listen to stories from the period told by storyteller Anne Catherine,



## Drums for peace

Saturday: 4pm - 7.30pm

Sunday: 11.30am - 3.30pm

5 musical groups featuring almost 100 musicians will set hearts beating.

Drums, fifes, horns, trumpets and other instruments will sound in memory of Belgium's military campaign in 1815.

## Demonstrations of major manoeuvres

Cavalry charge and battlefield reconnaissance,  
Movement and manoeuvres of the battalions,  
Artillery battery in action,

## The military hospital

The wounded are evacuated and the ambulance service provides the 1st aid. The surgeon Percy, a loyal Napoleon, takes the time to share his knowledge and expertise with you. Meet at the bivouac, at the foot of the field ambulance.

## The Napoleonic market

Make a diversion to our 'Empire' area,  
Strategy games - wargames  
Painting and figurine making,  
Costume and uniform dealers,  
Collectors and booksellers

## The meal of Emperor Napoleon and Marshal Blücher

Evenings around the fire are organised, songs are sung in the camps, stories and memories are recounted. The staffs eat their evening meal and organise the next stage of the fighting. The unusual in 2025; they will do it together, proof of the friendship between peoples today. Saturday at 7.30pm

## The commemoration

Sunday 10.30am

Troops and bands will join the farm below to pay tribute to the veterans.

Speeches, national anthem and meditation in a historic site

