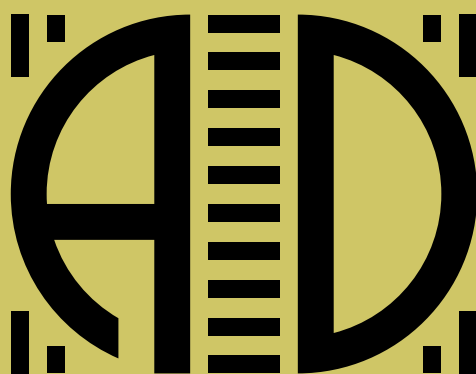


REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

ART DECO BRUSSELS 2025



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Following the major success of the Art Nouveau Year, the Brussels Capital Region confirmed its ambitious strategy to showcase its architectural and cultural heritage in 2025 by dedicating the year to Art Deco. As part of the centenary of the 1925 Paris International Exhibition of Modern Decorative and Industrial Arts, the Art Deco Year met with widespread public, institutional and professional acclaim, both in terms of the scale of its programme and the wealth of the partnerships it generated.

Throughout the year, urban.brussels, visit.brussels and all our partners offered a fresh approach to Brussels Art Deco, moving beyond a strictly aesthetic or heritage interpretation. The Art Deco Year questioned the social, economic and cultural context that saw the emergence of this movement. As such, it was an opportunity to put into perspective the social issues raised by this period of profound change, between the liberation of morals, modernity and the threat of economic, social and geopolitical crises. Examining these issues created echoes with today's challenges, such as sustainable development, the fight against discrimination, decolonising knowledge and the arts and intergenerational exchanges.

ART DECO, RESOLUTELY MODERN?

The substantial and varied programme of exhibitions, events, tours and conferences in the capital's most iconic Art Deco buildings, as well as in a number of museums and private venues, made a major contribution to boosting the region's cultural and tourist appeal. There was a particular focus on geographic decentralisation, showcasing the architectural wealth of all the capital's districts.

The Art Deco Year also played a structuring role in creating and consolidating lasting partnerships between public institutions, cultural organisations, associations, municipalities and tourism operators, laying the foundations for long-term collaborations beyond 2025.

This report reflects on the main achievements of the Art Deco Year, its diverse initiatives and their impact, not only highlighting the successes but also the momentum and partnerships established throughout the year.

“We are honoured by the exceptional public interest in the Art Deco gems of our heritage, sometimes subtle and sometimes exuberant, which are the soul and charm of Brussels. The enthusiasm of visitors rewards the work of knowledge, preservation and promotion of heritage undertaken by Urban and its partners. Art Deco Year 2025 is coming to an end, but the efforts to raise awareness of the treasures in our environment will leave a lasting and positive mark,” says Sarah Lagrillière, Deputy Director General of urban.brussels.

“The Art Deco Year 2025, which was co-organised with urban.brussels, confirmed the strong appeal of this iconic architectural movement in Brussels. The figures speak for themselves. This theme year has enhanced the tourist appeal of our capital, in Belgium as well as internationally. It also highlighted the remarkable commitment of our partners, whose mobilisation made it possible to create a rich programme. This collective momentum confirms Brussels' unique position as a must-visit destination for everyone who's fond of architecture and heritage,” says Patrick Bontinck, CEO of visit.brussels.

THE ART DECO YEAR 2025 IN A FEW KEY FIGURES:

The Art Deco Year 2025 stood out for the breadth of its programming, the diversity of the formats offered, the quality of the cooperation between its partners and particularly high attendance figures, demonstrating public interest in Brussels' Art Deco heritage.

More than

200

activities as part of Heritage Days 2025, an Art Deco-themed event that attracted over 50.000 visitors.

Over

660.000

visitors to the various exhibitions.

Over

1.000

guided tours of buildings or exhibitions and city walks in the 19 municipalities.

No fewer than

26

exhibitions in 17 museums and institutions in the Brussels Capital Region.

In all, the Art Deco Year 2025 attracted more than

760.000

participants and visitors.

More than

37.000

people took part in these guided tours and city walks.

47

partners involved,
including museums,
cultural institutions, guide
associations, embassies,
Brussels municipalities
and publishers.



Heritage Days 2025, Institut des Arts et Métiers,
Jonathan Ortegat © urban.brussels

Around

50

various complementary activities,
including some 20 conferences as well
as special screenings, 30s Jazz evenings,
Charleston classes, educational activities,
a post-congress event and a fashion show.

Approximately

350.000 €

invested in the coordination
and communication around
the Art Deco Year.

Several major festivals
and events, including the
BANAD Festival, the Art
Deco at Home festival, the
Art Nouveau and Art Deco
Objects Fair, Artonov, etc.

HERITAGE DAYS

20 – 21 SEPTEMBER 2025

An unmissable cultural and heritage event in Brussels, Heritage Days was one of the major highlights of the Art Deco Year 2025, attracting a wide audience from all walks of life over the weekend. For the **37th event**, based on the theme “ART DECO, Roaring Twenties, Crash Years”, the Heritage Days paid tribute to this movement. It invited visitors to (re)discover Brussels’ interwar



HERITAGE DAYS 20-21-09-2025
JOURNÉES DU PATRIMOINE
OPEN MONUMENTENDAGEN
ART DECO † HERITAGEDAYS.URBAN.BRUSSELS U.

Illustration: Anne Brugni, Design: Julien Lelièvre © urban.brussels

heritage through a wide range of offers: buildings, facades, interiors, along with furniture, collections, intangible heritage and public spaces.

The 2025 edition drew over **50.000 visitors** to **193 venues and activities** spread across Brussels’ **19 municipalities**, testifying to the scale of the event and its ability to mobilise a wide network of players throughout the region. The programme stood out through the diversity of its formats: **84 Art Deco buildings** open to the public, **72 guided tours** and **63 walks**, alongside **15 exhibitions**, **9 workshops** and **8 lectures**.

Particular attention was paid to accessibility and audience diversity. 2025 saw the use of **17 accessible venues**, **7 tours in sign language** and **10 activities for families** and young audiences, reinforcing the inclusive ambition of Heritage Days and its large-scale cultural promotion dimension.

Finally, the event’s visibility was reflected in the substantial distribution of communication materials, with **50.000 programme cards printed**, **1.800 posters**, and **126.000 visitors registered on the website**.

AN IMMERSIVE, MULTI-FACETED PROGRAMME

The 2025 event featured the opening of iconic buildings such as Flagey, the van Buuren Gardens, BOZAR and the Residence Palace, as well as offering exclusive access to places that are normally closed to the public. Visitors were able to go behind the scenes of architectural treasures such as the Hôtel Riez, the Maison Pelgrims, La Monnaie workshops, and the home of architect Henry Lacoste. Remarkable private homes, including the Glass House, the Villa Vandevelde and the Dotremont House, also opened their doors, offering visitors an exclusive immersion in interiors preserved from the interwar period.

Architecture was not the only focus of this year's event. There was a special screening of the immersive film "Quartier Nomade" at the Cinéma Galeries and lectures on the fashion house Norine Couture and the female figures of Belgian Art Deco, such as Céline Dangoth and Lina Cauchie, pioneers in this largely male-dominated field. These were accompanied by themed itineraries featuring jazz and Brussels' legendary night spots that reproduced the cultural effervescence of the 1920s and 1930s. These events also shed light on the links between artistic development and female emancipation in the interwar period.

Dance, gastronomy and lifestyle also punctuated the programme, with Lindy Hop and Solo Jazz workshops, along with culinary strolls exploring the social changes and

new dining practices of the era. Brussels' beer culture was also showcased through exhibitions, meetings and tastings. This highlighted the central role played by cafés and breweries in social interaction and everyday life between the two wars and demonstrated how this period helped shape Belgian beer culture, now recognised for its richness and diversity.



Heritage Days 2025, Institut des Arts et Métiers, Jonathan Ortegat © urban.brussels

ICONIC MONUMENTS AND PRIVATELY OWNED SITES: WE FOLLOWED THE GUIDE!

Guided tours were one of the pillars of the Art Deco Year 2025, offering the public privileged access to the richness of Brussels' Art Deco heritage. Sometimes discreet, sometimes monumental, this heritage is revealed not only through iconic buildings and entire neighbourhoods but also privately owned spaces normally closed to the public.

In total, **over 37.000 participants** took part in more than **1.050 guided tours of exhibitions or buildings**, city walks and bike rides featuring over **90 different themes**, across the **19 municipalities** of the Brussels Capital Region. These visitor numbers demonstrate the public's continuing interest in learning more about our heritage.

The programme was based on the extensive involvement of various associations and institutions, such as Pro Vélo, ARAU, Arkadia, Korei, Bruxelles Bavard, Itinéraires, the Brussels Art Deco Society, CIVA and numerous partner municipalities, including Anderlecht, Schaerbeek, Forest, Ixelles, Koekelberg, Ganshoren and the City of Brussels. Together, these players came up with a multilingual, accessible offer, structured around a variety of themes: monumental and domestic architecture, public facilities, leisure facilities, industrial heritage and residential districts.

Highlights included the Brussels Art Nouveau Art Deco Festival (BANAD Festival) organised by Explore.Brussels and

held from 15 to 30 March. This alone drew **almost 23.000 participants** to its 9th event. Its programme combined **over 60 tours of interiors** rarely open to the public with **some 20 themed walking and cycling tours**, confirming the festival's major role in promoting Brussels' Art Deco and Art Nouveau heritage.

Through their scope and local roots, these activities have ensured a balanced distribution of the programme across the region, helping to broaden audiences and strengthen cooperation between cultural operators, associations and local authorities.



Van Buuren Museum & Gardens, Jean-Paul Remy © visit.brussels

ART DECO MUST-SEES

In addition to guided tours and special openings, the Art Deco Year 2025 also highlighted a series of key sites that are accessible all year round, enabling the public to discover Art Deco independently and continuously. Museums, iconic buildings, cultural and religious sites are therefore a lasting gateway to this theme.

This increased accessibility was reflected in the development of the Art Nouveau Pass, which became the Art Nouveau Art Deco Pass, incorporating several Art Deco venues in addition to the Art Nouveau sites. In 2025, **6.949 passes were sold** and **scanned 12.840 times**, confirming the public's interest in a combined experience and the discovery of emblematic sites throughout the Region.



Heritage Days 2025. The historic main auditorium of the Eldorado cinema, Jonathan Ortegat © urban.brussels



Bozar Facade, Philippe Braquenier © urban.brussels

The Flagey Building, home to concert and cinema halls.



© Johan Jacobs

Bozar whose grand hall is freely accessible.

Wiels, the former Wielemans-Ceuppens Brewery, showcasing a modernist take on Art Deco in its grand reception hall and exhibition spaces.

UGC de Brouckère which retains a cinema hall with Art Deco decor.

The Forest Town Hall, recently restored and opened to the public.



A. de Ville de Goyet
© urban.brussels

The House of European History, located in the former George Eastman Dental Institute.



A. de Ville de Goyet © urban.brussels

The National Basilica of the Sacred Heart, the fifth-largest church in the world.



Jean-Paul Remy © visit.brussels

The Sainte-Suzanne Church in Schaerbeek

The Saint-Jean-Baptiste Church in Molenbeek-Saint-Jean

The Saint-Augustin Church in Forest

The Villa Empain, home to the Boghossian Foundation.



Jean-Paul Remy © visit.brussels

Van Buuren Museum & Gardens

The Art & History Museum officially opened on June 13, 2025, two new permanent exhibition halls dedicated to its Art Nouveau & Art Deco collections.

The Clockarium, housed in a beautiful Schaerbeek Art Deco house, features a collection of period earthenware mantelpiece ornaments.

EXHIBITIONS FOR ALL

Throughout the year, **26 exhibitions** exploring the diversity of Art Deco were added to the programme. These covered a wide range of themes: architecture, furniture, sculpture, glass art, design, fashion, textiles, gastronomy and bookbinding. Subjects related to changes in society, such as the development of leisure activities, were also covered, highlighting the major social and cultural dimensions of the period.

This programme combined large-scale exhibitions with more intimate formats, illustrating how the Art Deco Year was able to diversify its offer and reach a variety of audiences. The final figures show **662.690 visitors to all exhibitions**, confirming the public's enthusiasm for this multi-faceted approach.

VILLA EMPAIN

Echoes of Art Deco

13 · 11 · 2024 → 02 · 11 · 2025

With “Echoes of Art Deco”, the Villa Empain invited visitors to explore its iconic architecture, a paragon of Art Deco with an eventful past. The exhibition offered an immersive experience into the lifestyle of the Roaring Twenties.

→ 118.000 visitors



Echoes of Art Deco © Silvia Cappellari

LA WITTOCKIANA

Art Deco bookbindings: between tradition and modernity

01 · 02 · 2025 → 01 · 06 · 2025

La Wittockiana presented a capsule exhibition featuring Art Deco bookbindings from the Michel Wittock – King Baudouin Foundation collection. This highlighted a dialogue between the refined craftsmanship of the 1930s and the emergence of post-war industrial production.

→ 1.349 visitors

ATELIER BRUNSWYCK / WATHELET

Jean Delhaye, architect and defender of Horta's work

14 · 03 · 2025 → 29 · 03 · 2026

Atelier Brunswyck / Wathélet, in Ganshoren, exhibited the fascinating world of the modernist architect Jean Delhaye (1908-1993), who worked as a trainee with Horta from 1934 and specialised in the construction of modern apartment buildings in the Art Deco vein inherited from his master.

→ 720 visitors

THE MODERN RELIGIOUS ART MUSEUM

Sketching for the Basilica.
Albert Van Huffel & Art Deco

30 · 03 · 2025 → 29 · 03 · 2026

MRAM presented previously unpublished sketches by Albert Van Huffel, architect of the National Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Belgium's largest Art Deco building. These rare drawings perfectly reflect his search for the ideal form for this project. The exhibition also featured pictures of the construction site, works from the museum's collection and artworks by contemporary artists.

→ 4.824 visitors

FOUNDATION MADELEINE 7

Art deco – The Val Saint Lambert Golden Years

01 · 04 · 2025 → 28 · 09 · 2025

The Foundation Madeleine 7 presented “Art Deco –The Val Saint Lambert Golden Years”, an installation featuring works by Philippe Wolfers, Joseph Simon, Modeste Denoel and many others, celebrating the multifaceted Art Deco creations produced by Val Saint Lambert. This exhibition was accompanied by a publication.

→ 1.700 visitors



© Foundation Madeleine 7

ARTONOV LAB

The geometry of light: Borobudur & Batik

05 · 10 · 2025 → 12 · 10 · 2025

Presented as part of the Artonov festival, this exhibition explored how Indonesian art and Nias culture influenced Art Deco, through exoticism and traditional geometric patterns.

→ 470 visitors

FONDATION POUR LE VITRAIL PIERRE ET MARCELLE MAJERUS NIZET

Stained glass 1925-2025
Crossed glances

04 · 04 · 2025 → 18 · 10 · 2025

The foundation exhibited a large number of high-quality Art Deco stained-glass windows in dialogue with stained-glass windows produced from 1945 to the present day. Some pieces were exhibited for the first time. Guided tours and glass-cutting demonstrations completed the programme.

→ 453 visitors

THE DESIGN MUSEUM BRUSSELS

Paris, Brussels and back. The Art Deco period of the Baucher-Feron couple

06 · 06 · 2025 → 02 · 11 · 2025

The Design Museum Brussels featured an archive collection received in 2024 from the estate of René Baucher and Sylvie Feron, known for their projects in furniture, lighting, textile and interior decoration.

→ 100.000 visitors



Baucher Feron © Design Museum Brussels

MARINUS CENTRE

Opalescents

18 · 04 · 2025 → 19 · 10 · 2025

The Marinus Centre presented “Opalescents”, a selection of over a hundred opaline glass creations belonging to the collector Philippe Decelle, an engineer and visual artist. This exhibition was accompanied by a publication.

→ 5.632 visitors



© Centre Albert Marinus

VAN BUUREN MUSEUM & GARDENS

Around Art Deco

24 · 04 · 2025 → 28 · 09 · 2025

“Around Art Deco” was an exhibition spotlighting interwar sculptures set against the enchanting backdrop of the Museum’s gardens, offering visitors a unique immersive experience.

→ 24.180 visitors



© vanbuuren museum

Fashion in the 1920-1930

06 · 11 · 2025 → 02 · 02 · 2026

The van Buuren Museum and Gardens teamed up with Brussels' Fashion and Lace Museum for a groundbreaking exhibition dedicated to fashion in the 1920s and 1930s. Through a selection of garments and accessories, this exhibition explored the evolution of the female silhouette at the time.

→ 5.883 visitors

AUTRIQUE HOUSE

Loisirs-Plezier Brussels 1920-1940

03 · 05 · 2025 → 12 · 04 · 2026

With the "Loisirs-Plezier Brussels 1920- 1940" exhibition, Maison Autrique shone the spotlight on a series of aspects of Brussels life between the wars, reflected through posters, magazines, photographs, enamel plates and objects.

→ 5.230 visitors

BELVUE MUSEUM

Art Deco. The style of a society in the throes of change

04 · 06 · 2025 → 04 · 01 · 2026

The BELvue Museum presented "ART DECO. The style of a society in the throes of change" which explored the shift from Art Nouveau to Art Deco and the social and societal changes of the time, through the collections of the King Baudouin Foundation.

→ 90.470 visitors

HORTA MUSEUM

All Over

15 · 05 · 2025 → 02 · 11 · 2025

The Musée Horta presented "All Over", an exhibition focusing on patterns and decoration during the interwar period, questioning the role of women artists and highlighting collaborations by many major Cubist artists in camouflage design during the First World War.

→ 20.550 visitors

BIBLIOTHÈQUE SÉSAME

The work of Georges Mansy

07 · 05 · 2025 → 26 · 06 · 2025

The library presented an exhibition of photographs by Georges Mansy, highlighting the architecture of the interwar period through a selection of shots illustrating some of the major sites from the period: apartment blocks, festive venues, industrial buildings.

LAB•AN

Art Deco and Art Nouveau: convergence and divergence

20 · 09 · 2025 → mars 2026

This exhibition, presented by LAB•AN presented these two artistic trends through the prism of both built and movable heritage.

→ 7.330 visitors

TRAIN WORLD

Draw me a train

19 · 09 · 2024 → 31 · 08 · 2025

The "Draw me a train" exhibition was designed to showcase the work of some of the greatest artists of their time who expressed the beauty of the train in their work. Original drawings by Victor Horta relating to his work on the Brussels-Central station were exhibited to the public for the first time. Carriages from the 1930s, designed by Henry van de Velde, were also restored and presented exclusively for this occasion.

→ 80.957 visitors



© trainworld

LES HALLES SAINT-GÉRY

In 2025, Les Halles Saint-Géry placed Art Deco at the heart of its programme, with **nine exhibitions**, conferences and activities highlighting both architectural heritage and its cultural and gastronomic aspects, with an international outlook. Completely free of charge and accessible to people with reduced mobility, this sophisticated, high-quality programme attracted **138.340 visitors**, confirming the central role played by Les Halles in showcasing the Art Deco theme.

→ 138.340 visitors

Art Deco Cinemas in Brussels

27 · 01 · 2025 → 11 · 05 · 2025

“Art Deco Cinemas in Brussels” immersed visitors in the magical world of cinema, highlighting the grand “first release” movie theatres of central Brussels during the Art Deco era, along with other cinemas in the city centre and outlying neighbourhoods, ranging from the grandiose to the modest.

→ 14.882 visitors



© rayanouassaidi

Bruxelles-Tokyo

13 · 03 · 2025 → 12 · 04 · 2025

Discovering Art Deco elegance: from Brussels to Tokyo, the exhibition highlighted the artistic dialogue between Japan and Belgium. An offer by JEPAA and the Association d'Artistes Ucclois.

→ 4.739 visitors

At the van Buuren table

24 · 03 · 2025 → 29 · 06 · 2025

“At the van Buuren table” invited visitors to delve into an era where refinement and elegance defined a unique lifestyle. Featuring a rare collection of vintage menus - true works of art - this exhibition demonstrated an etiquette that combined gastronomy, culture and aesthetics.

→ 21.490 visitors



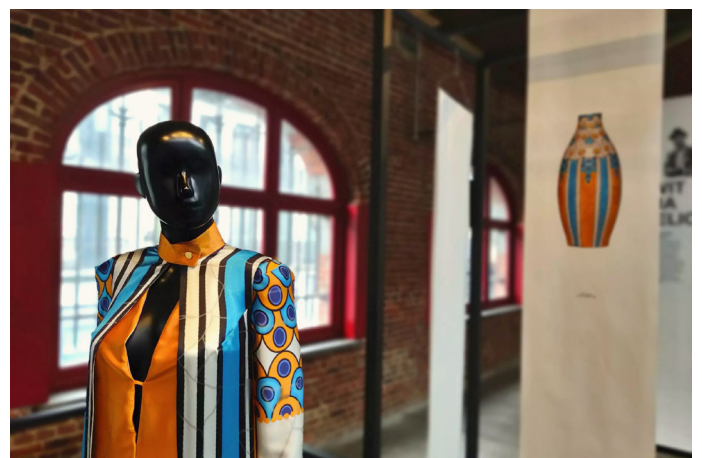
© pyleclercq

Art Deco 1925 >< Mode 2025

26 · 05 · 2025 → 16 · 11 · 2025

“Art Deco 1925><Mode 2025” presented a reinterpretation of Art Deco through the prism of 10 Brussels designers. Echoing the images and magazines of the period, where drawings and photographs show the creativity of dressmakers in the interwar period, each designer presented their contemporary vision of the movement’s codes in a fashion silhouette.

→ 26.837 visitors



© Arkadia

Art Deco Into the Wild

12 · 07 · 2025 → 12 · 11 · 2025

For this exhibition, Gaspard Giersé created a series of images depicting iconic Art Deco buildings in Brussels out of their urban context, offering a fresh take on Art Deco, blending the precision of formal architectural with surrealist universes.

→ 28.185 visitors



© Gaspard Giersé

Date a master of Art Deco

20 · 09 · 2025 → 31 · 01 · 2026

Urban and Les Halles Saint-Géry presented some twenty figures of Brussels' Art Deco, revealed through portraits generated by artificial intelligence, from legendary names to lesser-known talents.

→ 15.543 visitors



© rayanouassaidi

Hlyniyan carpets: Art Deco and textile art

06 · 10 · 2025 → 23 · 11 · 2025

This exhibition highlighted the carpet-weaving tradition of the Ukrainian town of Hlyniyan, whose patterns and techniques influenced the Art Deco aesthetic. It also presented the contemporary revival of this traditional art through a selection of textileworks.

→ 6.134 visitors



© Marie Claire Business Ukraine and UN Women Ukraine

Illustrated aromas, coffee and Art Deco

27 · 11 · 2025 → 31 · 12 · 2025

"Illustrated Aromas" invited visitors to discover Art Deco through the eyes of contemporary illustrators. The project was supported by La Sabam and Café Rombouts.

→ 16.409 visitors

Art Deco in Havana

03 · 11 · 2025 → 31 · 12 · 2025

Cuban photographer Néstor Martí's images immersed the viewer in Havana's Art Deco architecture.

→ 4.121 visitors

CONFERENCES, FESTIVALS, SCREENINGS AND OTHER EVENTS

The Art Deco Year 2025 was also experienced in ways other than tours and exhibitions. Throughout the year, a fringe programme featured conferences, screenings, festivals and unique events that enabled us to present Art Deco in fun, festive and immersive formats, combining heritage, cultural history and unique experiences. A total of **56 events** were organised, bringing together **11.472 participants**.

There were a number of conferences throughout the year, organised, among others, by the Autrique House (**7 conferences, 175 participants**) and the Brussels Art Deco Society (**8 conferences, 652 participants**). These were complemented by awareness and educational activities. The “Classes du Patrimoine” programme saw **387 participants** attend some twenty school group activities, including a visit to the van Buuren Museum & Gardens and a family tour as part of the “Printemps des Cimetières” event.

Following on from the 17th World Congress on Art Deco® in Paris, a post-congress Art Deco event was held in Brussels. It offered **120 delegates** from around the world a rich programme of visits, events and a gala evening.

In addition, the Villa Empain presented several events combining heritage, music and popular culture: the Friday Late events (**2.860 participants**), the 30s Jazz evening (**402 participants**), the Summer Party (**1.200 participants**) and a Charleston class (**40 participants**).

Art Deco was also explored through objects and heritage trades: the Art Nouveau and Art Deco Objects Fair welcomed **2.821 visitors**. Around **50 dealers** and **20 craftsmen** showcased their restoration skills and expertise in the presence of urban brussels.

From 12 to 18 May, the Art Deco at Home festival offered a specific event every evening at a different venue, organised by one of the participating partners: the Boghossian Foundation, the van Buuren Museum & Gardens, the Autrique House and the Horta Museum. The festival brought together a total of **3.850 participants** and enhanced the programme’s collective and touring dimension.

Finally, the green spaces of the interwar period were put in the spotlight through the Printemps des Cimetières (**285 visitors**) and the CIVA Garden Tales (**991 visitors**). Meanwhile, the closing fashion show of the Art Deco 1925 >< Mode 2025 exhibition, featuring a contemporary reinterpretation of the clothing aesthetics of the period, drew over **400 people** to Les Halles Saint-Géry.



Closing fashion show “Art Deco 1925 >< Mode 2025” (Julie Menuge) © lefashionshow

BRUSSELS ART DECO SOCIETY

22. 04. 2025

Halles Saint-Géry

Conference on Art Deco cinemas in Brussels

30. 04. 2025

Halles Saint-Géry

Conference / meal on "Art Deco and Gastronomy"

12. 05. 2025

Musée van Buuren

Lecture on Belgium at the 1925 Paris exhibition

28. 05. 2025

École nationale supérieure des
Art Visuels de La Cambre

Lecture on architect Henry van de Velde

05. 06. 2025

D'leteren Gallery

Lecture on mobility during the Art Deco period

09. 10. 2025

D'leteren Gallery

Lecture on the theme: "1890-1945: Art Deco versus
Art Nouveau"

26 · 10 · 2025 → 28 · 10 · 2025

Bruxelles

POST-CONGRESS ART DECO

NATIONAL BASILICA OF THE SACRED HEART

20 · 09 · 2025

Screening of the short film
"Leopold's Sacred Heart"

15 · 11 · 2025

Symposium "The Basilica and its centenary model"

GRAND ELDORADO, UGC DE BROUCKÈRE

27 · 03 · 2025

Screening of "The Great Gatsby"
by Jack Clayton, 1974

MUSEUM VAN BUUREN

26 · 05 · 2025 → 27 · 05 · 2025

Forum "European Route of Historic Gardens"

24 · 10 · 2025

Lecture "Art déco, parfums et modernité de Paris
à Bruxelles"

MAISON AUTRIQUE

15 · 09 · 2025

Lecture "La plaque émaillée belge,
notre patrimoine industriel"

06 · 10 · 2025

Lecture "Les tendances du jouet
dans l'entre-deux-guerres"

24 · 11 · 2025

Lecture "De la brasserie à l'estaminet"

08 · 12 · 2025

Lecture "Peter De Greef,
illustrateur de génie méconnu"

19 · 01 · 2026

Lecture "Splendeur Sabena!"

16 · 02 · 2026

Lecture "Lucien De Roeck, graphiste"

30 · 03 · 2026

Lecture "La petite histoire d'une grande maison
gantoise, *la Compagnie Chantal*"



Brussels Post-Congress Art Deco 2025, Église Saint-Augustin
© visit.brussels, Jean-Paul Remy

PUBLICATIONS

In addition to the cultural programme, a number of publications were produced to perpetuate the Art Deco Year 2025 and provide communication on the theme. These publications have been used to enhance the long-term promotion of Brussels' Art Deco heritage, alongside the events organised throughout the year.

Some publications included Cécile Dubois's book "L'Art Déco à Bruxelles. Demeures intemporelles", published by Racine, which was distributed in **2500 copies**, while the magazine Natrimoine had **a print run of 600** and has virtually sold out. Demeures Historiques et Jardins de Belgique also published an issue featuring Art Deco in Belgium.

Urban.brussels published **seven themed publications (FOCUS)** highlighting various aspects of Art Deco, in relation to urban planning, architecture, decorative arts and daily life in Brussels.

As a retrospective of this rich Art Deco Year, Urban will dedicate the 40th issue of its "Bruxelles Patrimoines/Erfgoed Brussel" magazine entirely to this style. This is set to be published in early 2026. The themes addressed include the major challenges posed by the restoration of two protected giants: the Palais de la Folle Chanson in Ixelles and the Pavillons français in Schaerbeek.



"L'Art Déco à Bruxelles - Demeures intemporelles" (Editions Racine)



"L'Art Déco, une autre modernité" (Natrimoine n°10)



Bruxelles Patrimoines n°40 "Art Déco, résolument moderne" urban.brussels (available soon)

DYNAMICS AND OUTLOOK

Beyond the overall results presented in this report, the Art Deco Year 2025 generated a significant increase in visitor numbers for many partners, reflecting the public's growing interest in the subject. Several institutions recorded exceptional attendance levels with temporary exhibitions at the Villa Empain and the BELvue Museum setting records. Meanwhile, the van Buuren Museum & Gardens doubled its attendance in 2025 compared to 2024 and the Brussels Art Deco Society saw participation in its activities triple, from 900 participants in 2024 to 2.709 in 2025. The National Basilica of the Sacred Heart, often seen as a little-known jewel, saw an estimated increase in visitor numbers of almost 20%, recording an all-time high of 31.239 visitors in 2025. The number of guided tours also doubled.

These and other results illustrate the ripple effect of the Art Deco Year, a momentum that is set to continue beyond 2025. Several exhibitions have been extended or continued due to their success, notably at LAB-AN, the van Buuren Museum & Gardens and Atelier Brunswyck. Art Deco conferences and guided tours are already scheduled for 2026, notably by the Brussels Art Deco Society.

Finally, and this is one of the major achievements of this initiative, the Art Deco Year 2025 has encouraged the creation and strengthening of lasting synergies between cultural players, institutions and municipalities, one such example being the intermunicipal collaboration between Ganshoren and Koekelberg. These dynamics demonstrate the value of a coordinated approach to culture and heritage on a regional scale. This approach is not only capable of raising the profile of heritage and conveying this to the general public but also of supporting players in the cultural, associative and economic sectors, while at the same time ensuring that its effects are sustained over time.



Heritage Days 2025, Pelgrims House, Jonathan Ortegat © urban.brussels



Heritage Days 2025 program brochure, Jonathan Ortegat © urban.brussels

PARTNERS



MAISON DE
L'HISTOIRE
EUROPÉENNE



Brussels
Museums



flagey



GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG
Ambassade à Bruxelles



MUSÉE HORTA
SAINT-GILLES
HORTAMUSEUM
SINT-GILLIS

WIELS

Classes
▲ patrimoine
▲ Erfgoed
● klassen

Anderlecht
10
70

arkadia



ARTONOV

BELvue!
museum



C I.II.III.IV. A
Culture — Architecture

Racine

DESIGN
MUSEUM
BRUSSELS

Bruxelles Bavard
 Brussel Babbelt
 Brussels Chatterguides



Samen werken aan een betere samenleving
Agir ensemble pour une société meilleure



ART & HISTORY MUSEUM



Bozar



WITTOCKIANA
Musée des arts du livre et de la reliure
Museum voor boekkunst en boekband

EXPLORE
BRUSSELS



Pro Velo



ST-GORIKS
HALLEN
ST-GÉRY

Korei guided tours

itinéraires
SUR LES SENTIERS DE L'HISTOIRE



Commune de Forest
Gemeente Vorst



MUSEE-WOLUWE-MUSEUM



VAN BUUREN
MUSEUM & GARDENS



Ixelles
Elsene

BRAFA
ART FAIR

Tierre Majerus



natrimoine

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