



Turnhout is a centre of the graphics industry, with the playing card being its most famous product. The printing of the very first playing card in 1826 made Brepols its founder. Others soon ollowed his example and seven factories were built. These nerged and together they formed Carta Mundi. Today around playing cards in Turnhout and in the Low Countries, as well as elopment of the playing card as well as the evolution of the of this being a steam machine from the 19th century '00,000 games are made each day. The museum highlights th



the Sacred Heart. It was constructed after a design by architect P.J. Taeymans, who then left the rest of the work in the hands of his son, Jules. The work went quickly and in September 1906, when pastor Verschueren died at the age of 61, only the floor was yet to be finished. The very first service in the new church was the funeral of its first parish priest. In 1999 the church was awarded nastor Verschueren was to build a church and in the laying of the first stone of the current Ch

Church of the Sacred Heart

installation. In 2012, a wooded area that belonged to the castle. Since a water source had been discovered in the area, in 1902 a tender was put out to build a water tower. Construction went well and on out out to build a water tower. Construction went well and on 19th June 1904 Crown Prince Albert and Princess Elisabeth attended the inaugural unveiling of the water supply. The Turn hout coat of arms can be seen on the side of the water tower Having been often out of use in the intervening years, it was eventually replaced by a more mode however, it was used as a lighthouse the Cultural City of Flanders.

n of the water tower was, back in 1904, a me old elm trees; a remnant of the Warande, current location of the





any achievements of Turnhout's most honoured citizen and the eatest Belgian ever - after Father Damian - Dr. Paul Janssen. iscover the importance of this world citizen, his team and their evelopmental work in the realm of pharmaceuticals. Janssen was a well-loved doctor in the Campine region who, along with his team, discovered over 100 new medicines that went on to save across the world. The evolution of care for the ully charted using the medical materials that hospi na, collected during her career at the St. Elisabet



you out on to Tweetorentjesplein (Square of two tower building to your right and the one opposite were forme stables and coach house of François du Four. Both bu date from 1889, a date that can be seen above the entrar the dyed cotton fabric called siamoises; the company was founded and built up by François Borghs. A passageway brings . Both buil

Taxandriamuseum



The majestic 'Huis metten Thoren' (Tower House) dates from the mid-16th Century and, after the castle, it is the oldest remaining residence in the city. In 1649 Princess Amalia of Solms stayed here following her 'joyous entry', demonstrating the importance of the house. In 1952 the city purchased the patrician

point it even took on the role of gunpowder store for the vigilante patrol. The city purchased the dilapidated building in 1902 and tore it down two years later. The new Steentje was rebuilt in 1922 by the architect Van Ravestyn. If you look up you will see

For a long time the old Steentje building was a prison and home to a local policeman. Later it became a guesthouse, served as

a district court and a seat of administration for the poor. At or

't Steentje Tourist Information Office

ovation work was the conversion of the cloister into a service centre without making any drastic changes to the existing structure. The most notable change, however, was the covering of part of the cloister garden. Make sure to take a look at the glass dome and the the cloister complex in 1989. The most extensive phase of the ren After the priests left, the I eague of Christian Employers purchase dence of Friars Minor. After

residence and six years later the building was honoured with a 'classified' label by the Monuments and Sites Department. The Museum of Playing Cards was housed here in 1969, but later swapped addresses with the Taxandria Museum. After a thorough restoration in 1996, it reopened its doors. Each room is 'inhabited' by an historical figure. Why not get to know all of the guests and allow them to tell you their stories about the origin and history of Turnhout and the Antwerp Campine region as part of the new permanent exhibition, 'Hotel Taxandria'.



back to the 13th Century; the choir with the processional aisle, apse chapels and transept were built in the Gothic style during the second half of the 15th Century. The baroque crossing tower was added in 1633. The interior is also striking; the delicate pulpit was made by Turnhout sculptor H. Peeters-Divoort and put in place in 1862. The choir stalls originated from the priory at Corsendonk. The floor contains several commemorative stones from the 18th Century and the stained glass windows date from

The church is built of brick, which was formerly the only mate ial available in the region. The oldest section of the church, the

oundation part of the tower

St Peter's Church

the period between 1872-1945

presbytery and of course the St. John Convent which has house the Beguinage Museum since 1953. It is a museum of which Turn of the beguinage is still with us today. Take in the buildings such as the Church of the Holy Cross, the Chapel of the Holy Face, the The Beguinage was first mentioned in 1340, but is thought to be a few decades older than this. It was founded in the former grounds an Joanna de Boer, died in 2002; however of the castle. In the 18th Century it housed around 350 begu decreased. The last beguine, Dutchwom in 2002; however, the pomp and splendou

the Dukes of Brabant Castle of

took great pains to ensure that the entire building was restored to its former glory. It is as a result of this that the Turnhout Cour it in 1908 and in 1936 his work was honoured when the castle came the property of the state and in 1975 the Buildings Agency ty deserted the castle, it became dilapidated. Around as a prison for a period, with its very own 'thief hole' in the from tower. During the French period, when the families of the nobil nd rented it to the Ministry of Justice. The provi cts. In 1807 the City of Turnhout purchased the 1800 the



e one of the older parts . This pedestrian street

