

Tour Overview

The tour starts on a Thursday and finishes 14 nights later, although you are free to join or depart from the group at any time.

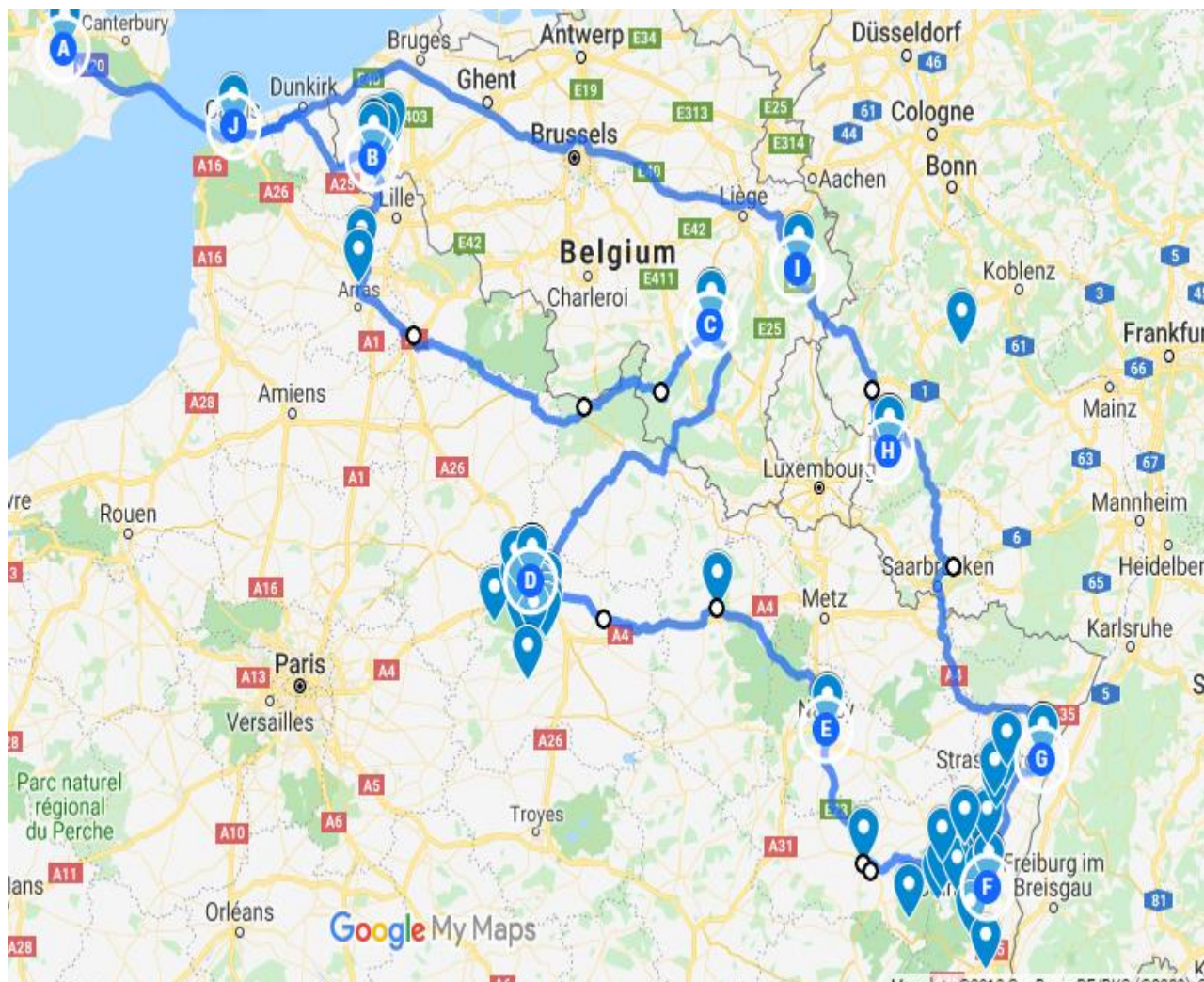
It is a fully guided tour with remedial maintenance and local recovery support.

The Itinerary uses a mixture of 4- and 5-star Hotels, with up to 2-3 nights at each.

The routes generally avoid Motorways and tolls but do not exclude their use altogether.

The itinerary itself covers c.1,700 miles through North Eastern France, Western Germany and Belgium and includes:

- Guided tours of the WW1 battlefields at Ypres and attend the Last Post at the Menin Gate in Ypres
- Drive through the Ardennes to Reims
- 3 days stopover in Reims to tour the Champagne Vineyards and evening tastings.
- Drive through the Voges to spend 3 nights in Colmar to follow the highlights of the south of the Alsace Wine route before turning North to spend 2 nights in Strasbourg.
- Opportunity to visit the Bugatti Museum in Molsheim.
- Following the river up into Germany the guided part of the will finish with 2 days in Trier and the upper Moselle.
- If undertaken in May it includes the option to attend the Spa Classic.



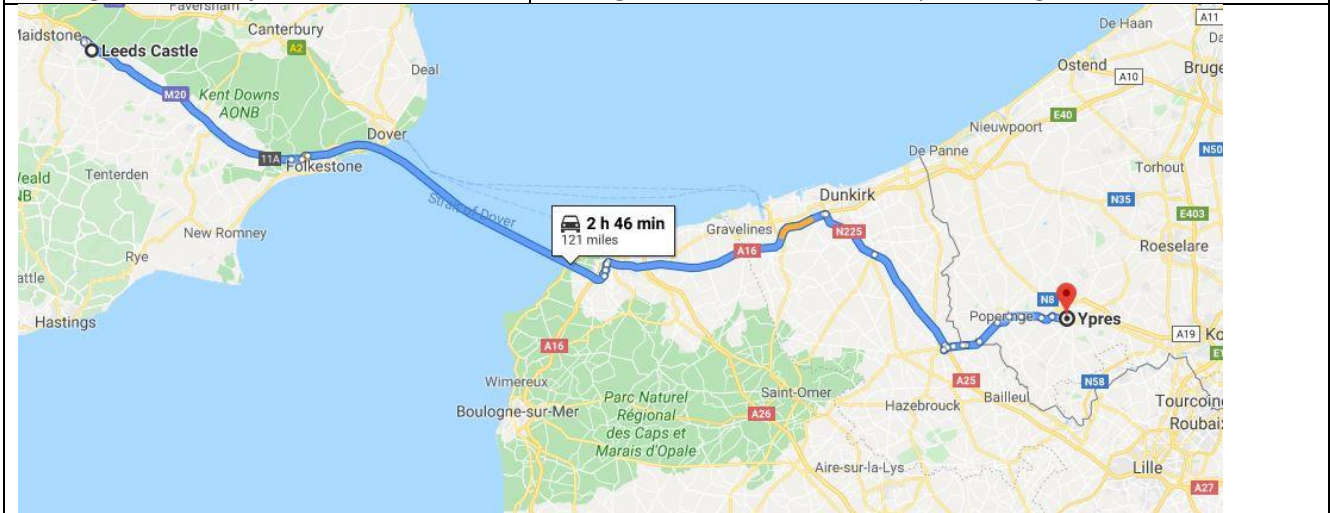
Itinerary (Can be subject to alterations based on availability and suitability)

Thursday

The Tour will make an official start from Leeds Castle, meet at 12:00 for Lunch in the restaurant to get to know the other members of the tour and to ensure that the group arrives at the Channel Terminal at about 14:30. We shall cross at around 16:00. Then we will make the short drive to the hotel at Ypres. Where once checked in there will be a group meal at the hotel, where the party can get re-acquainted.

Mileage for the Day: 119

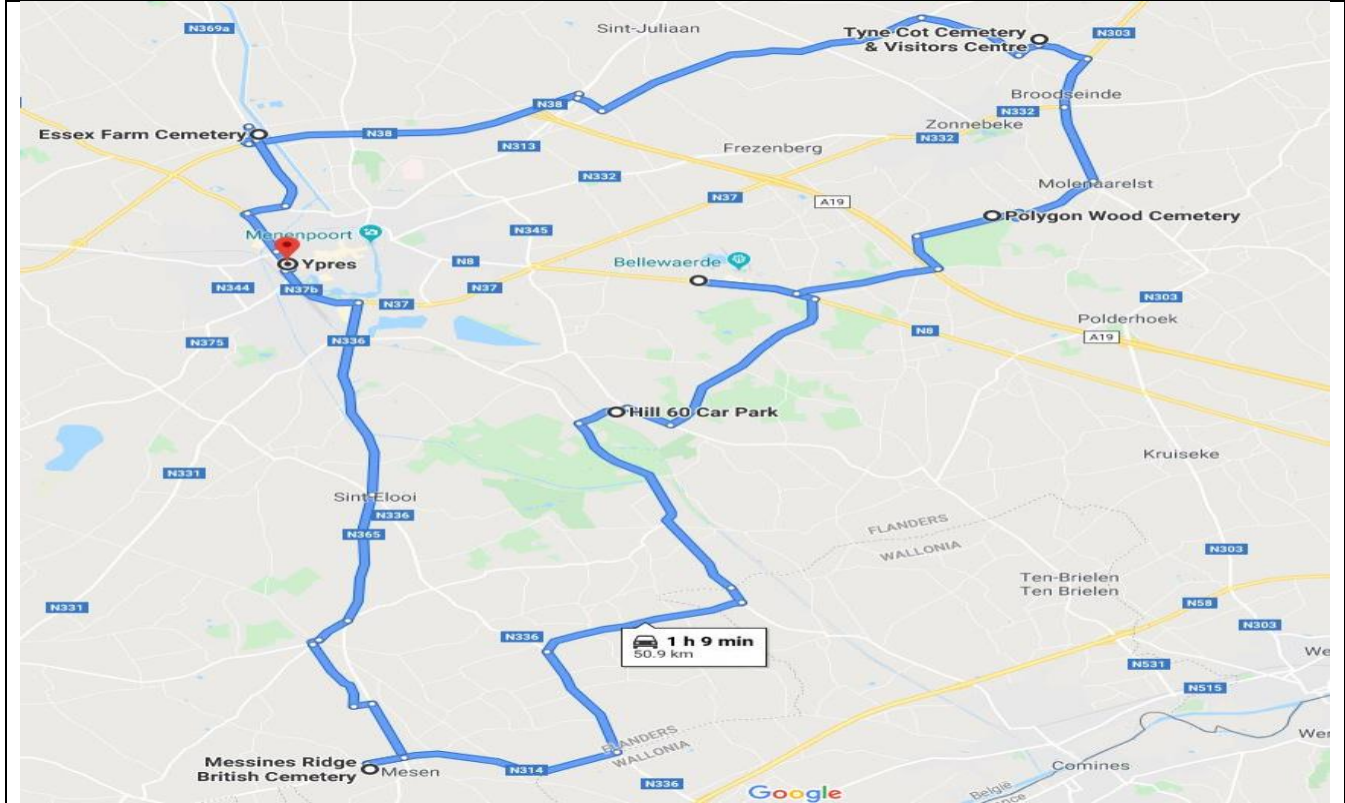
Overnight Hotel: Ariane Hotel, Ypres 1st night of 2



Friday

Surrounding the ancient town of Ypres are the salient battlefields. Here we see John McCrae’s Dressing Station at Essex Farm Cemetery. Visiting the battlegrounds of Messines Ridge, Hooge Crater, Polygon Wood, and Tyne Cot military cemetery. We walk the shell-scared craters of hill 60 battlefield. We see dozens of memorials to commonwealth units and their units. Then as the sun sets we contemplate the haunting sound of the last post ceremony at the Menin Gate.

Mileage for the Day: 35 **Overnight Hotel: Ariane Hotel, Ypres 2nd night of 2**



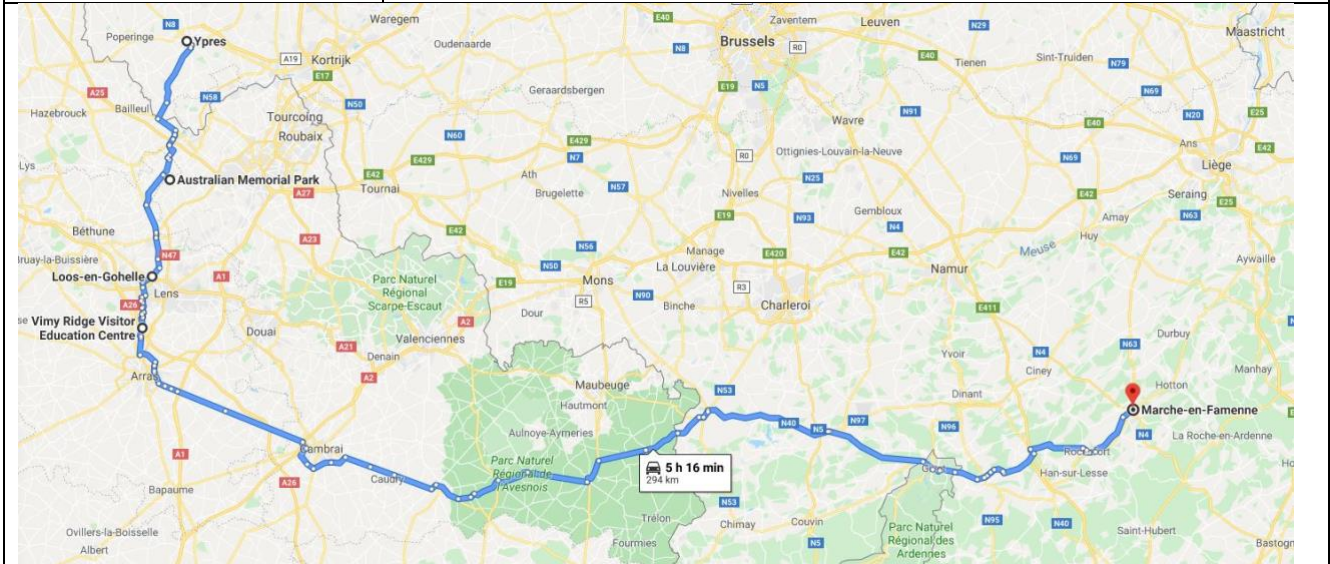
Saturday

After checking out of the hotel we make our way from Ypres to Fromelles, we explore Pheasant wood Cemetery. Crossing the Loos battlefield we continue to the Canadian Memorial Park at Vimy Ridge to tour the trenches. The tour of the battlefields finishes at Vimy Ridge to contemplate the memorial for those who were never found.

From Vimy we cross into the Ardennes to take some spectacular roads to Marche-en-Famenne.

Mileage for the Day: 180

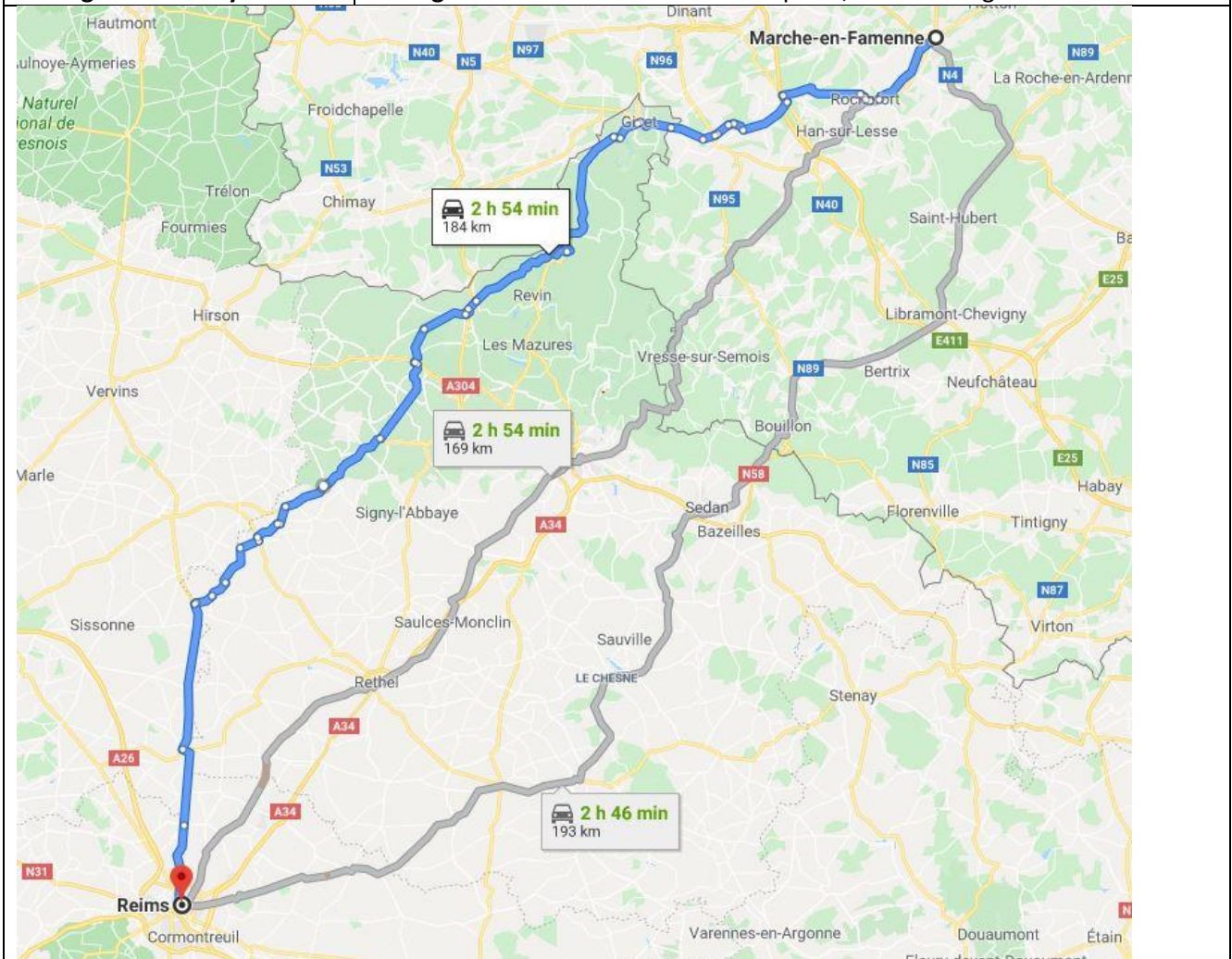
Overnight Hotel: Hotel Quartier Latin, Marche en Famenne 1st night of 1



Sunday

Following a late breakfast we will take some more great roads from the centre of the forest and eventually make it into Reims to check into the Hotel for the next three nights. The hotel is in the centre of Reims, where there are plentiful restaurants for you to get a taste for the region.

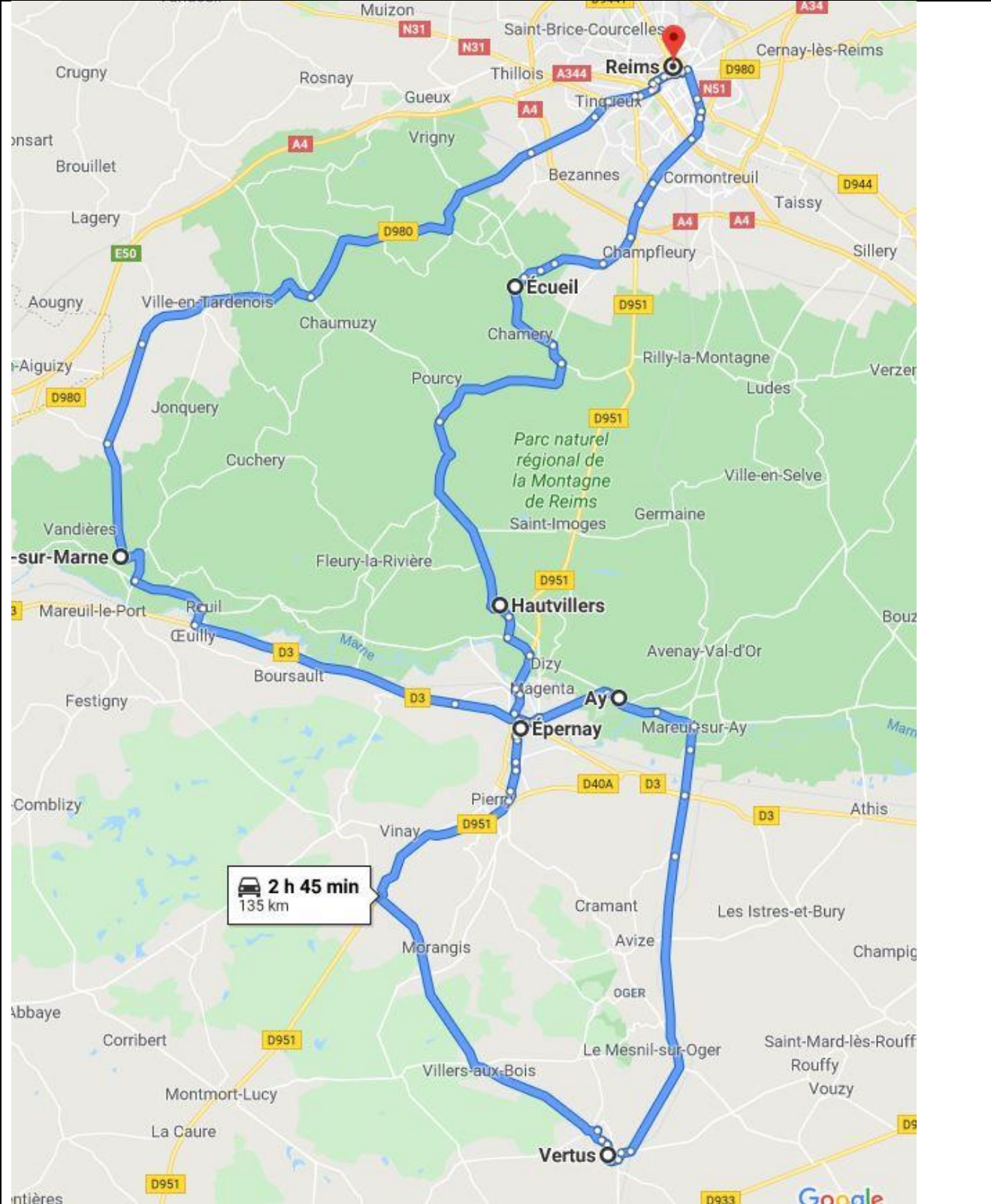
Mileage for the Day: 114 **Overnight Hotel: Grand Hotel des Templiers, Reims 1st night of 3**



Monday

After assembling post breakfast we will start the tour of Champagne Region by driving out to Hautevallée to find out about the ‘Methode Champenoise’ and the origins of Champagne. Following lunch we will visit a vineyard and the centre of the region at Epernay to take a stroll up the Avenue de Champagne, lined with many famous merchants houses and cellars. Then its on to La Cote des Blancs, where we visit an artisan producer. Returning to Reims to sit and sip champagne in one of Reim’s Art Deco Brasseries.

Mileage for the Day: 85 **Overnight Hotel: Grand Hotel des Templiers, Reims 2nd night of 3**

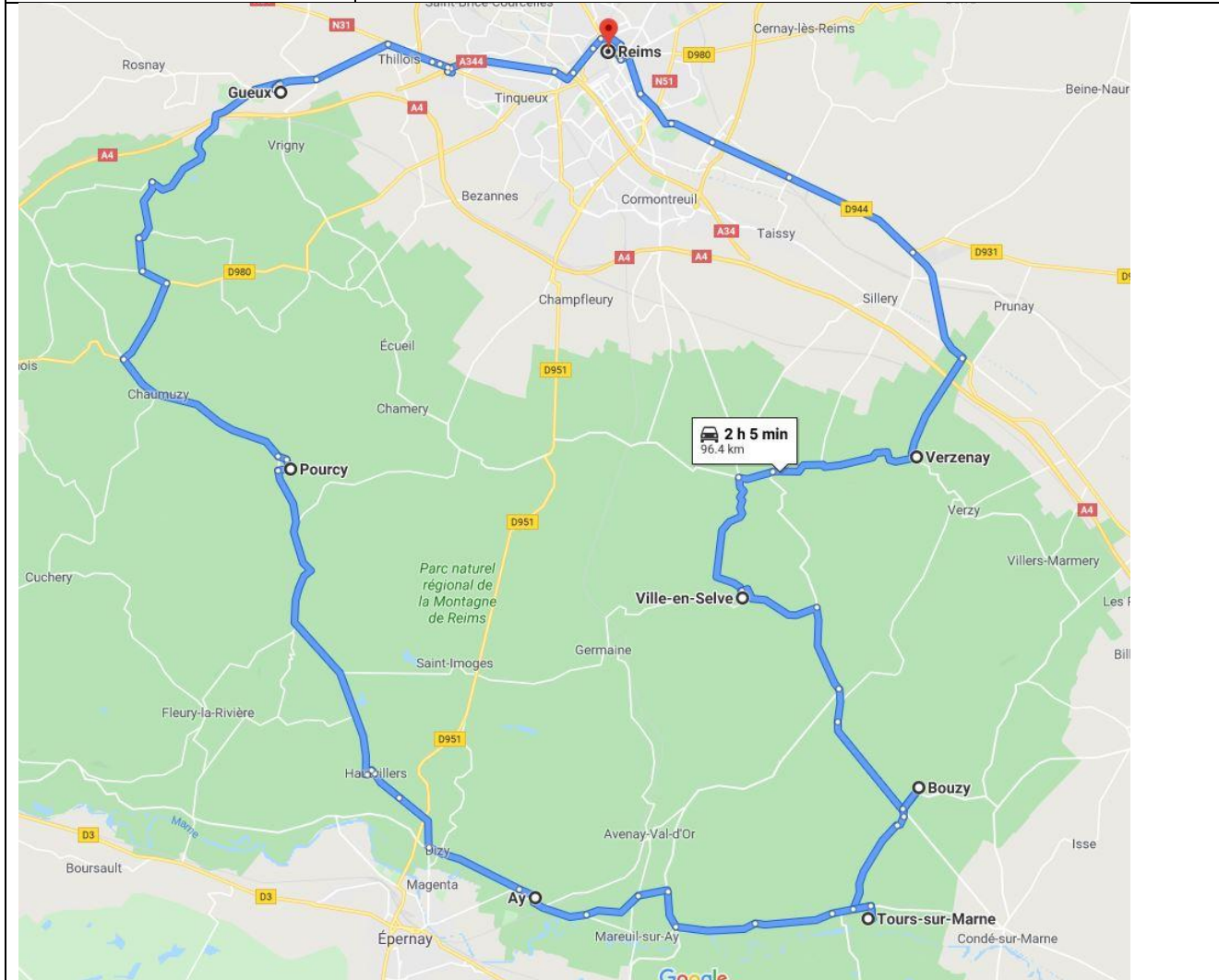


Tuesday

On this second day of the Champagne Tour we will drive out to the Grande Montagne de Reims, visiting the Musee de la Vigne in Verzenay. From there we take the forested highland route, where the hillsides are covered with the Pinot Noir Grapes an 10 out of 17 'Grand Cru' territories are concentrated in this area. We shall return via on the Old Reims Circuit, so that there is an opportunity to get some pictures of the cars alongside the abandoned grandstands, making our way back into Reims for an evening tasting at G H Martell

Mileage for the Day: 60

Overnight Hotel: Grand Hotel des Templiers, Reims 3rd night of 3

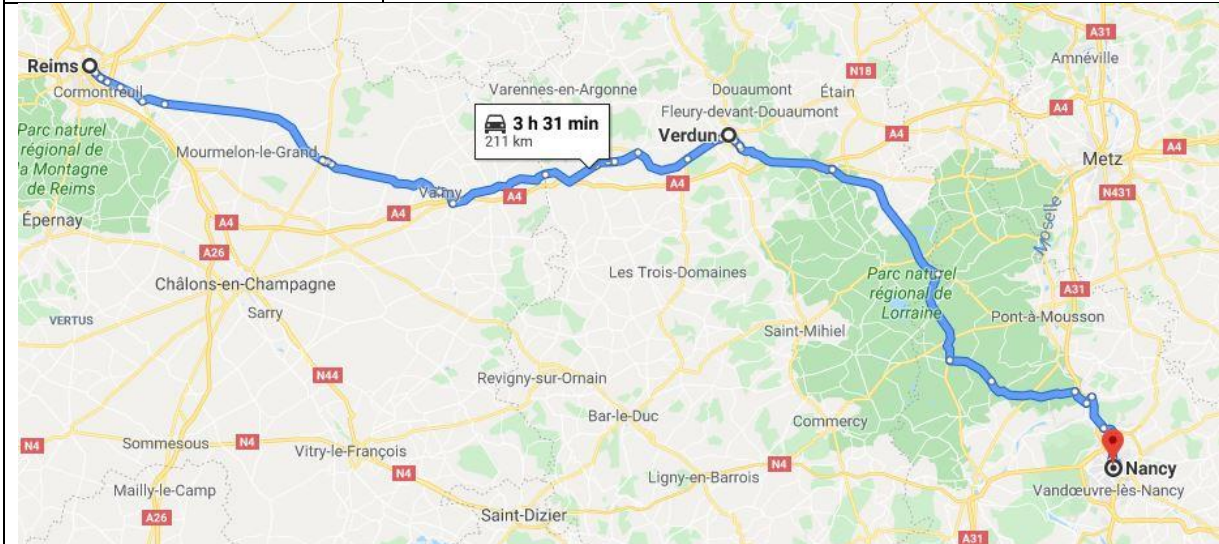


Wednesday

Following the previous evenings tastings it is probably prudent not to drive the morning after the night before. This is a perfect excuse to spend the morning to explore Reims on Foot (a 45 minute walking tour will be supplied in your Road Book.) Take an early lunch so that the 13:00 departure to Nancy via Verdun for an overnight Stop on the way to the Alsace Wine route.

Mileage for the Day: 126

Overnight Hotel: Hotel D'haussonville, Nancy, 1st night of 1



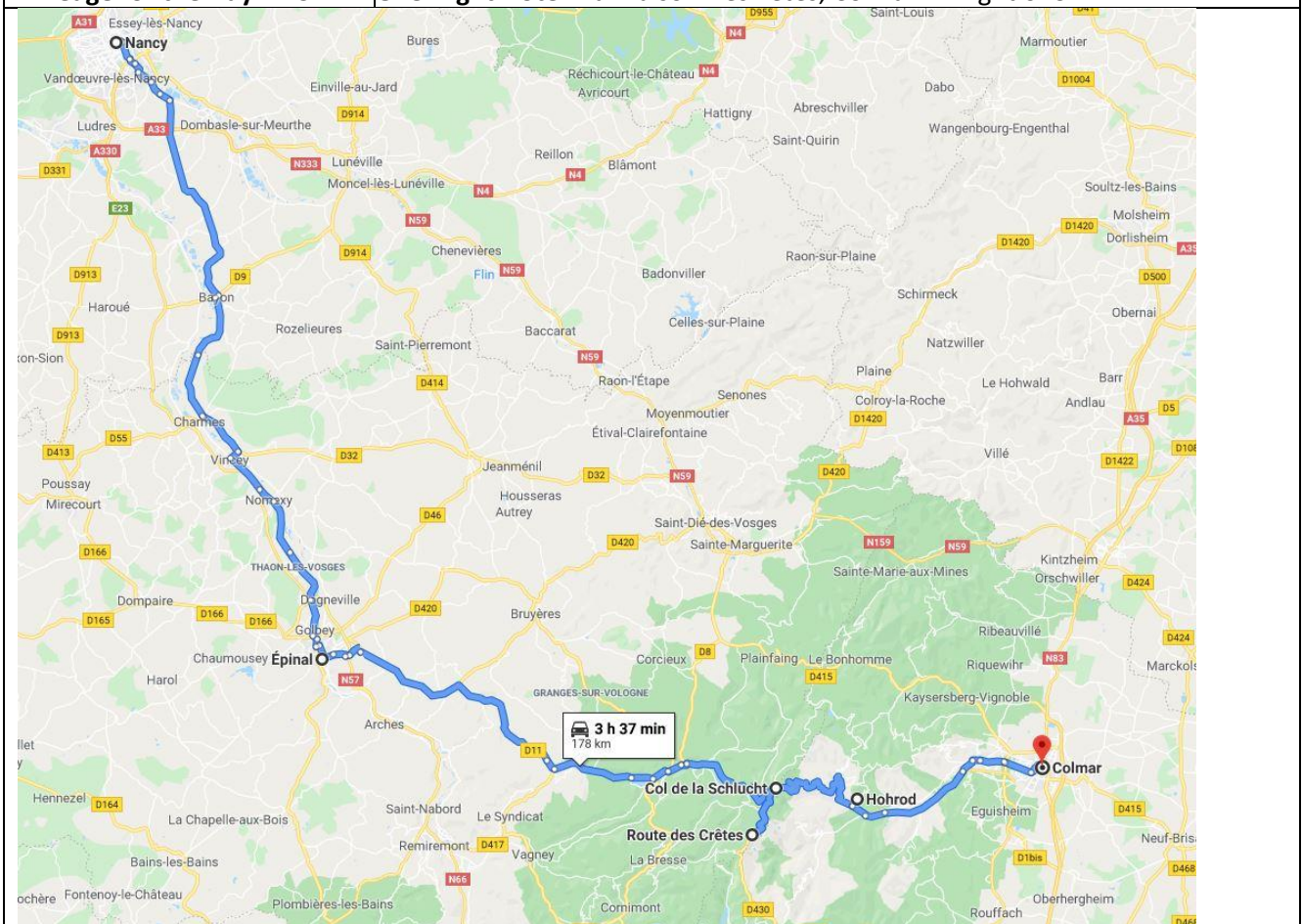
Thursday

Driving from Nancy to Colmar via the spectacular Voges Mountains, rising to 1,200 metres alongside pastures, via hairpins and forest, topping out at the Col de Schlucht. The road across these rounded heights, the Route des Crêtes, was built in the Great War to supply the French front-line trenches has startling views across grassland to the sky, down to rocks, woods and lakes and, in the distance. Farm inns punctuate the landscape where lunch can be taken, however beware that when Alsaciens suggest light lunches, they're lying.

We will also pay a visit to ferme-versant-du-soleil in Hohrod, where the farmer will demonstrate the art of making cheese and there may even be some to taste!

Mileage for the Day: 115

Overnight Hotel: La Maison Des Têtes, Colmar 1st night of 3



Friday

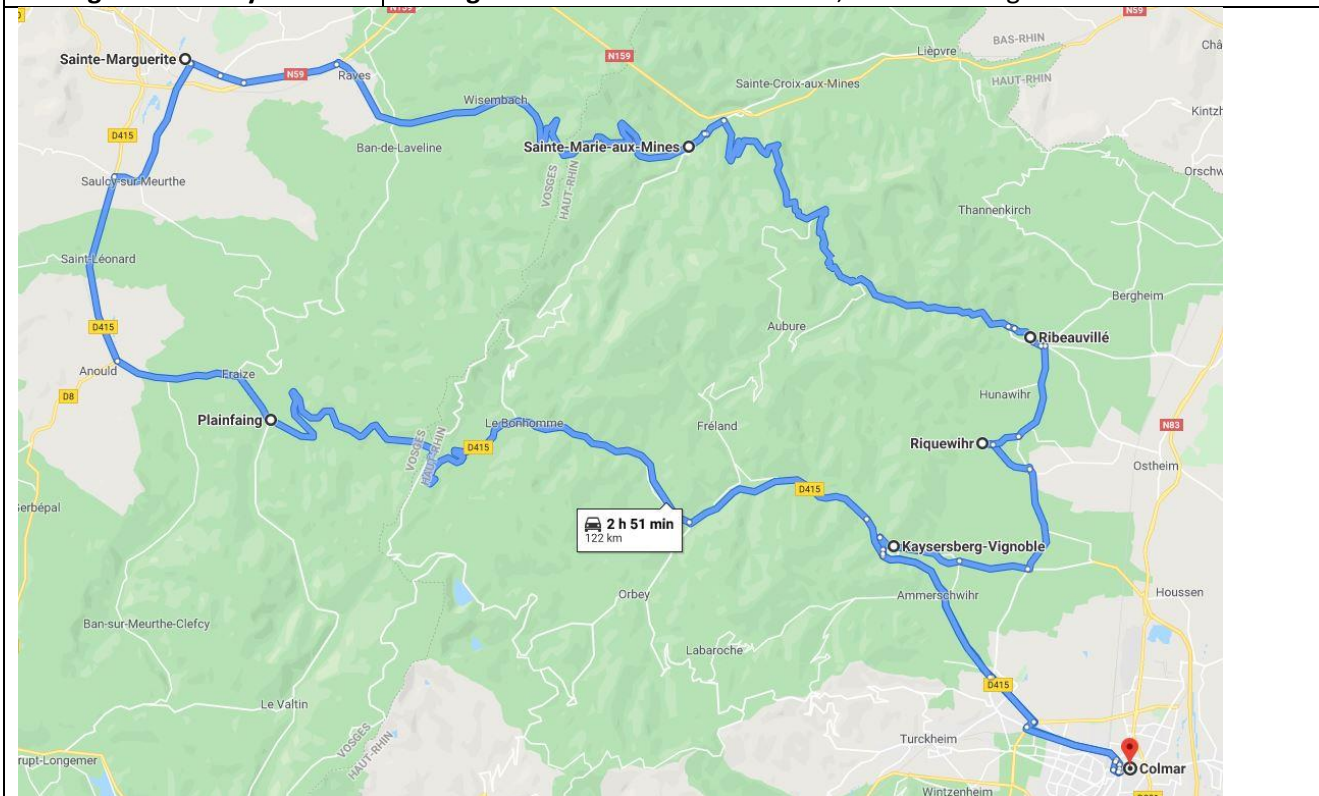
Colmar is ideally located to explore the southern part of the Alsace Wine route. We shall make our way up towards Ribeauvillé and then work our way back south through the treasure chest of delightful villages, museums and Vineyard walks.

Lunch is probably best in Riquewihir, where the local mayor is concerned that visitors spend more than an hour walking the streets. His restaurant, Le Médiéval (55 Rue Général de Gaulle) is particularly renowned for the local dish the Riquewihrienne, which is choucroute finished with cream and eight herbs and thus a fetching shade of green.

Returning to Colmar for some local wine tasting and a group meal.

Mileage for the Day: 80

Overnight Hotel: La Maison Des Têtes, Colmar 2nd night of 3



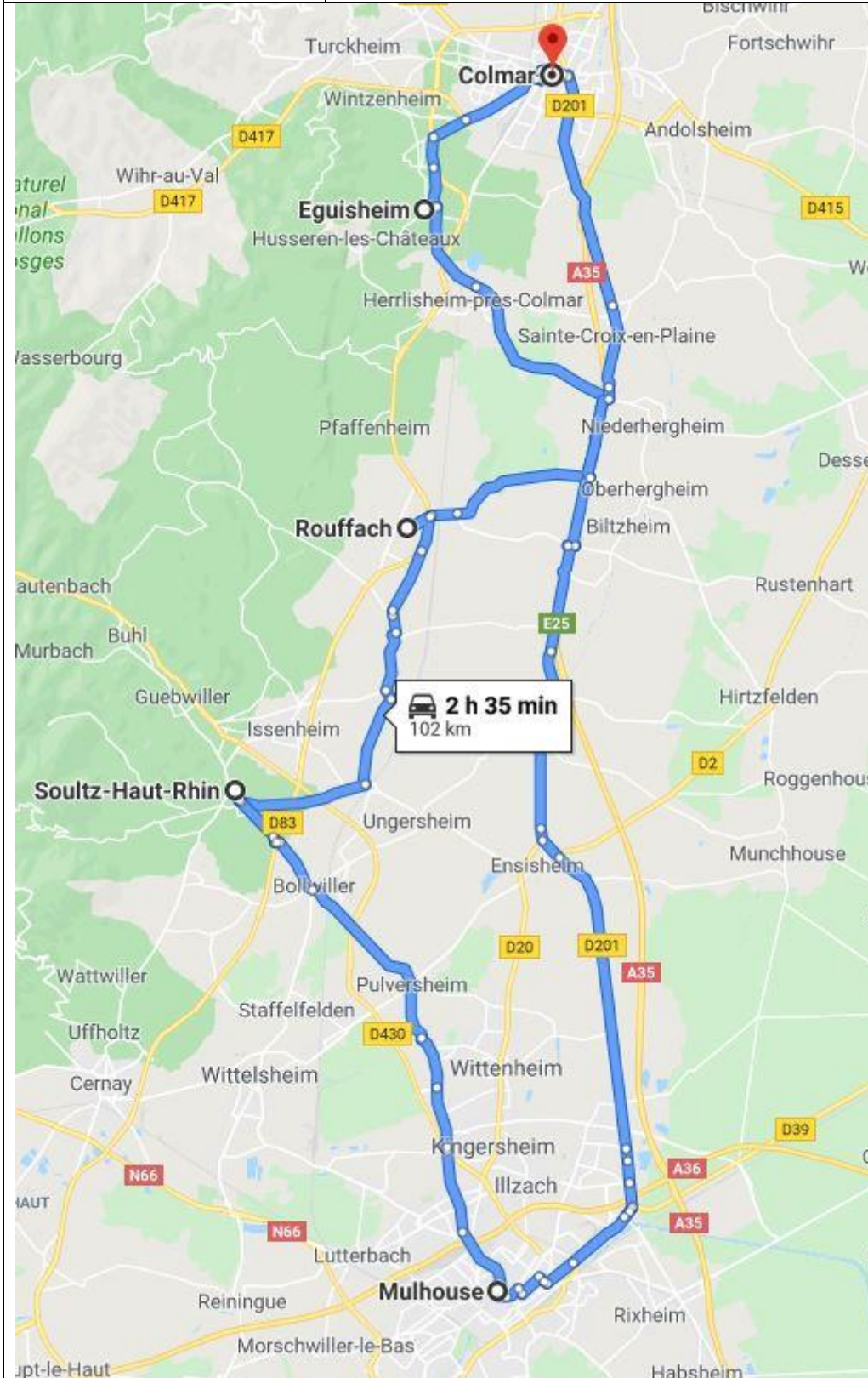
Saturday

Again, following an evening's wine tasting it is better not to drive so again there is a morning for an unguided exploration of Colmar. Centuries of wine, food and laughter have led to unexpected squares and a hubbub around every corner.

In the afternoon we will finish our tour of the southern wine Trail South by visiting the old marketplace in Eguisheim and the town of Mulhouse before heading back to Colmar

Mileage for the Day: 60

Overnight Hotel: La Maison Des Têtes, Colmar 3rd night of 3



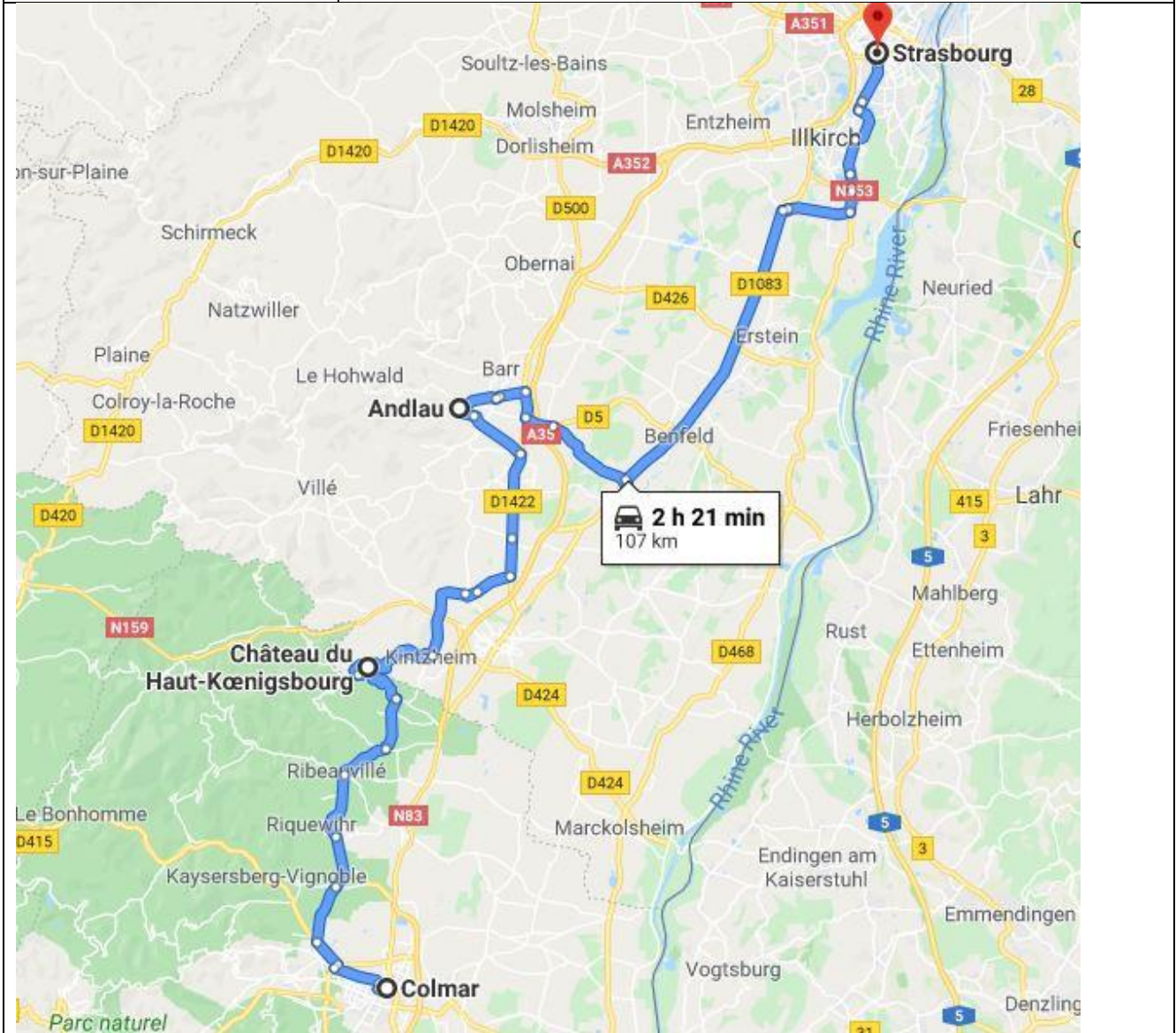
Sunday

Checking out of the hotel in Colmar we will head north towards Strasbourg and the upper reaches of the wine trail. Visiting the Chateau de Haut-Koenigsberg, a medieval style reconstruction of the original 12th century castle, which was demolished by the Swedish army in the Thirty years war in the 17th century. The Pink Goliath Tower stands 800m above the plain to watch over the wine and wheat routes to the north and the silver and salt routes from west to east.

Making our way further up the trail we will visit Andlau, home to three of Alsace's Grand Cru Rieslings on the way to our hotel in Strasbourg for the next two nights.

Mileage for the Day: 60

Overnight Hotel: Le Bouclier D'or, Strasbourg, 1st night of 2





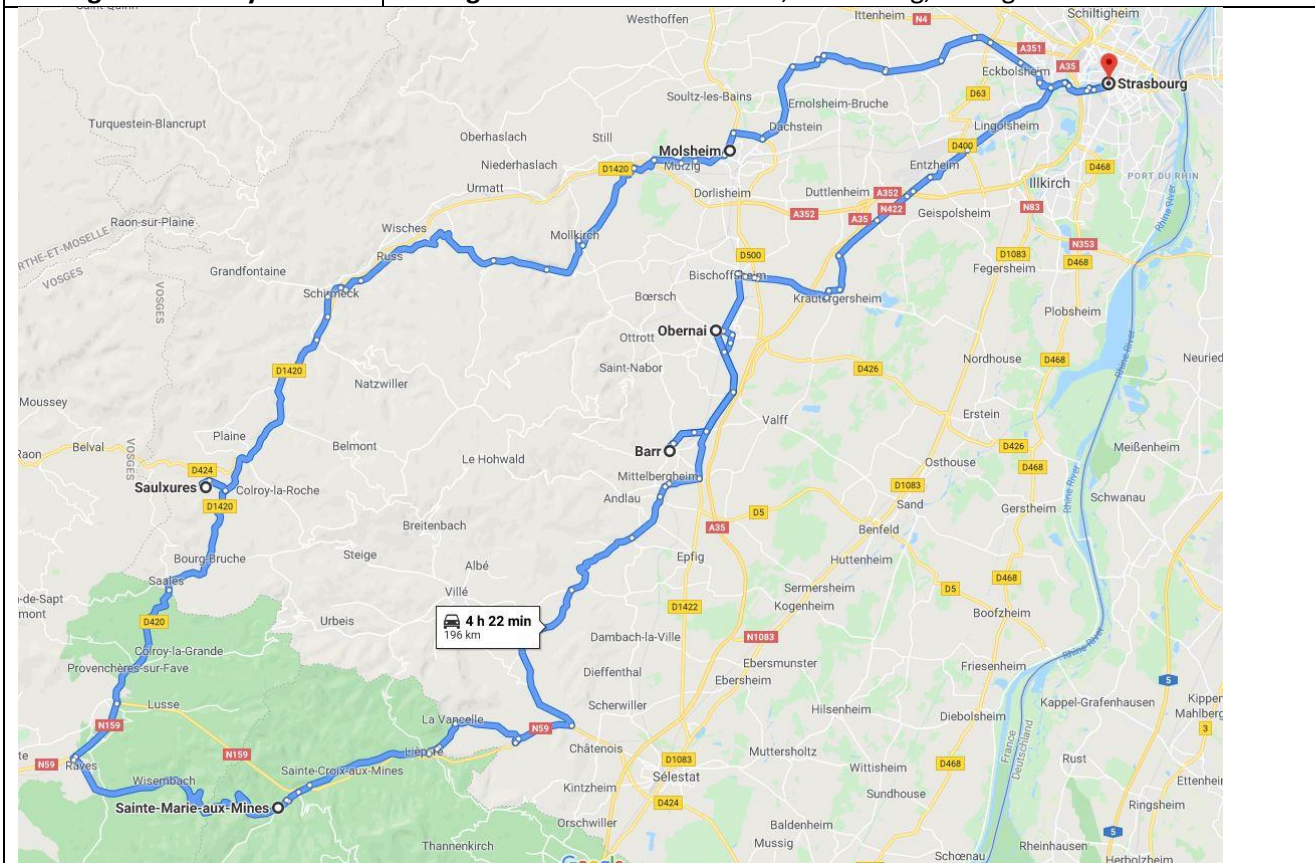
10 YEARS

Monday

Today we will be visiting Mont Saint-Odile and the village of Obernai, considered to be the northernmost point of the classic wine trail. Then onto Barr, widely considered to be the capital of the wine route with its quintessential flower decked half-timbered houses. In fact the day will be a discovery of the magnificent view of the wine region of Couronne d'Or and Piémont, and an experience of its important architectural, medieval and religious heritage, such as the Carthusian Monastery of Molsheim, Then back to Strasbourg for sampling the local wines and an evening meal.

Mileage for the Day: 120

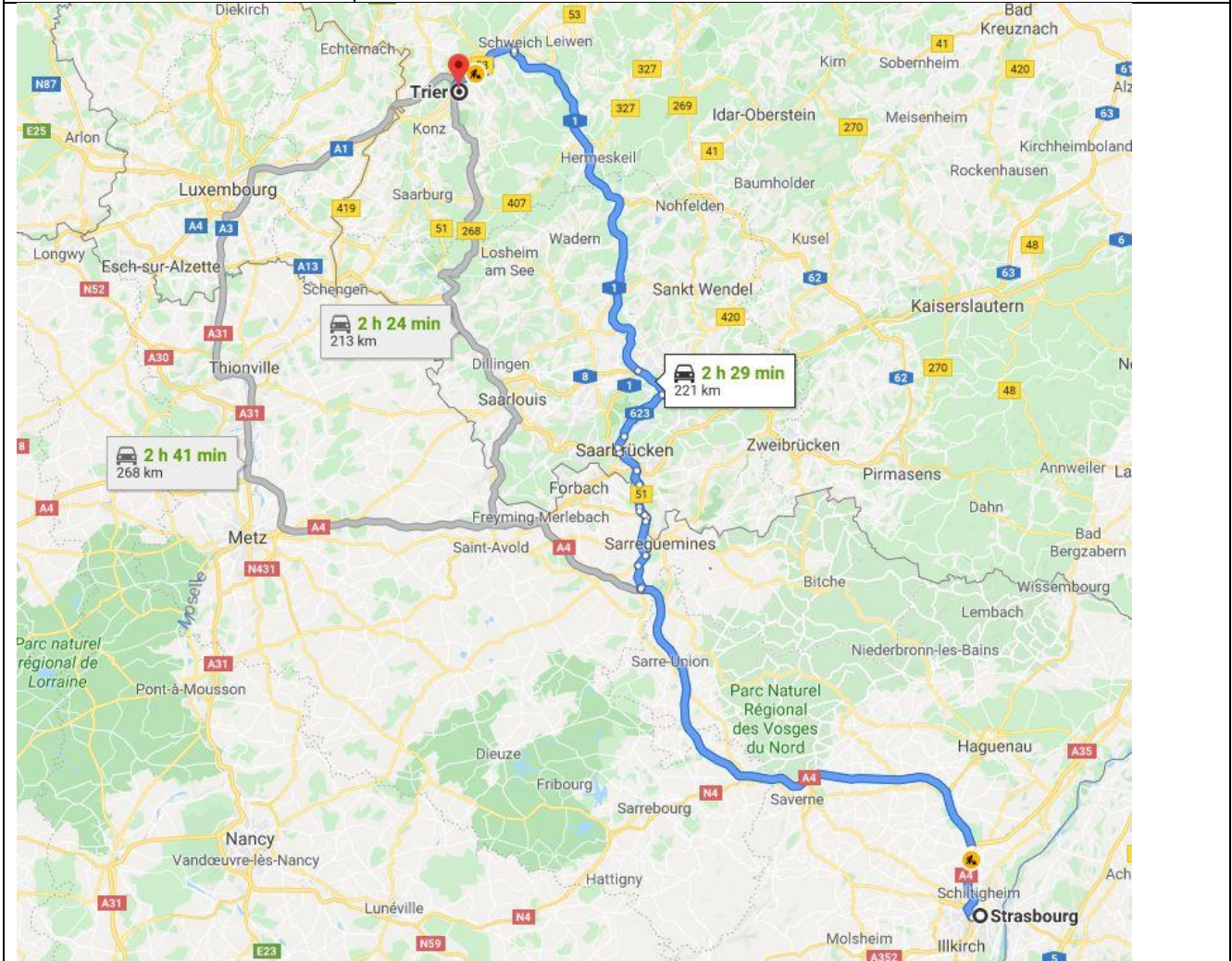
Overnight Hotel: Le Bouclier D'or, Strasbourg, 2nd night of 2



Tuesday

This will be a morning for a unguided wander through Strasbourg or a visit to the Bugatti Museum in Molsheim. Those who have opted not to visit the museum will be expected to meet at it by 13:00. In the afternoon we will be driving to Trier, in Germany a 120-mile dash across country via the Parc Naturel Régional des Vosges du Nord and running through the countryside to the east of Saarbrücken, or via the unrestricted A1 to blow the cobwebs off.

Mileage for the Day: 120 **Overnight Hotel: Beckers Hotel and Restaurant, Trier, 1st night of 2**



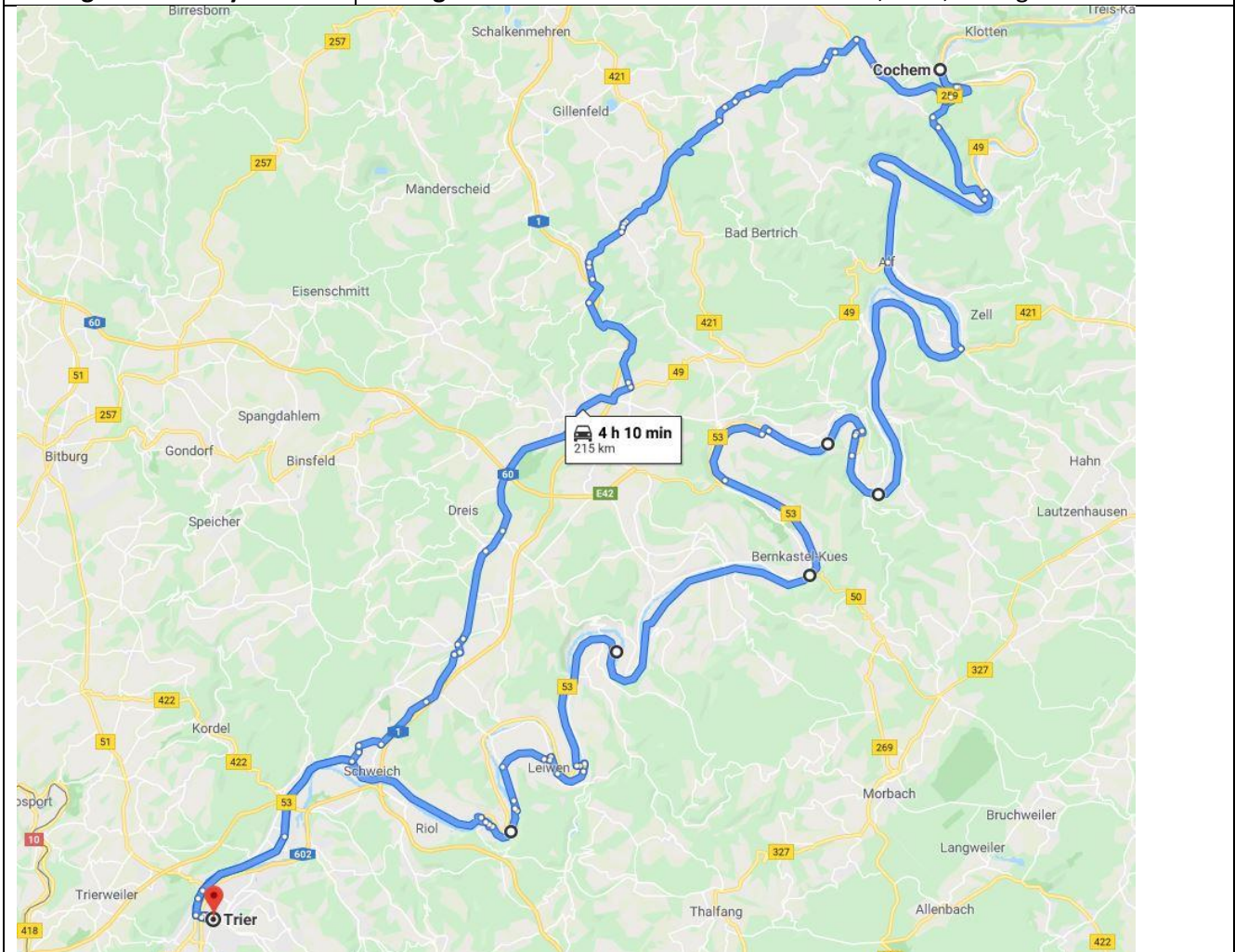


Wednesday

Today we follow the road from Trier that follows the meandering gorges of the Mosel. to a Lunch stop in a town called Cochem on the Mosel River.
Returning to the Hotel from the Farewell meal.

Mileage for the Day: 130

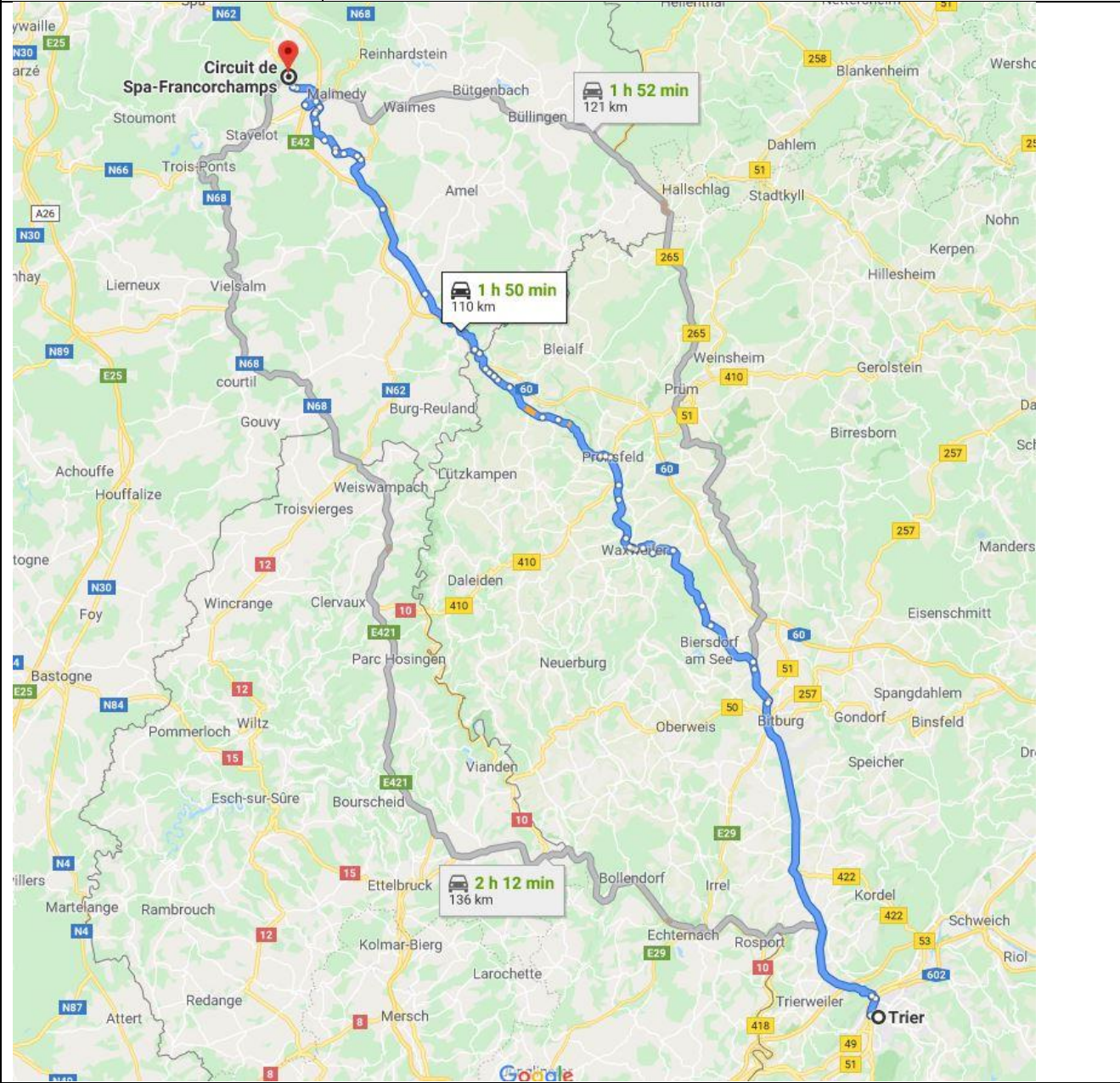
Overnight Hotel: Beckers Hotel and Restaurant, Trier, 2nd night of 2



Thursday

Trier is a southwestern German city in the Moselle wine region, near the Luxembourg border. Founded by the Romans, it contains several well-preserved Roman structures like the Porta Nigra gate, the ruins of Roman baths, an amphitheatre just outside the centre and a stone bridge over the Moselle River. The Archaeological Museum displays Roman artifacts. Among Trier's many Catholic churches is Trier Cathedral. Following a morning exploring the Roman remains we will then head north east towards Spa. Those not staying to attend the Spa Classic are free to make their way home from here.

Mileage for the Day: 70 **Overnight Hotel: Hotel de la Source, Spa, 1st night of 3**





Friday to Sunday (Additional Cost) Usually last full week end of May

Spa-Francorchamps has often been described as the most beautiful circuit in the world and it could also be qualified as a photographers' paradise. There are few race courses in the world where spectators can do a full lap on foot without ever losing sight of the track. The la Source hairpin, Eau Rouge the Raidillon, the Combes Esses, the Malmédy corner, the Pouhon double left-hander and the curve at Blanchimont all provide spectacular viewing points. And to finish off your walk visit the exhibitions, activities and boutiques installed in the paddock.

The Spa Classic differs from the Le Mans Classic as its focus is on touring cars. Among the races the two Heritage Touring Cup races, one run in daytime and the other at night, pay homage to this Belgian singularity. On track are saloons and coupes that raced in the event between 1966 and 1984: Alfa Romeo 1750 GTAMs, BMW 3.0 CSLs, Chevrolet Camaros, Ford Capris, Jaguar XJSs, etc.

While production cars have a special place in the Ardennes, the sports prototypes and GTs are not forgotten either. Ferrari 250 GTs, Porsche 917s, Ford GT40s and Jaguar XJR-9s, all former participants in the 1 000 km or 6 Hours of Spa are all back at the circuit in their respective grids.

Mileage for the Day: 250 Overnight Hotel: Hotel de la Source, Spa, 2ns & 3rd nights of 3

