

Open Churches Days

The Open Churches Days are undoubtedly the best-known project of the non-profit organisation Open Churches. Our aim on these days is to present our religious heritage in the best possible light. Participants open their doors to the public and/or organise a special event.



WHO IS IT FOR?

All churches of all denominations can take part in Open Churches Days, whether or not they are members of the network.

WHERE?

In countries where the Open Churches network is present.

WHEN?

Every year, on the first weekend in June.

WHAT DO YOU DO?

Open and welcome

- You open your church building in a welcoming atmosphere.

Organise

- Organise one (or more) festive events that highlight your religious heritage and reach a wide audience. This event should be linked to the year's theme.

Promote

- Use the promotional material made available to you by Open Churches: distribute the **leaflet cards**, place the **posters** in a prominent place, hang the **flag** outside the church, and provide reception volunteers with a **name tag** so that they can be recognised.
- Make sure your event is publicised locally.

WHAT DO WE DO?

The non-profit organisation Open Churches promotes the Open Churches Days at national and international level, in particular through its website openchurches.eu and contacts with the media.

WHAT DOES IT COST?

- **Members** of the Open Churches network take part in the Open Churches Days at **no cost**.
- **Non-member** churches pay a membership fee of **70 euros**.

This fee entitles them to :

- Publication of their event on the openchurches.eu website
- Promotional material: brochure cards featuring members of the network, programme, posters, welcome badges and a flag for new participants.

HOW TO REGISTER?

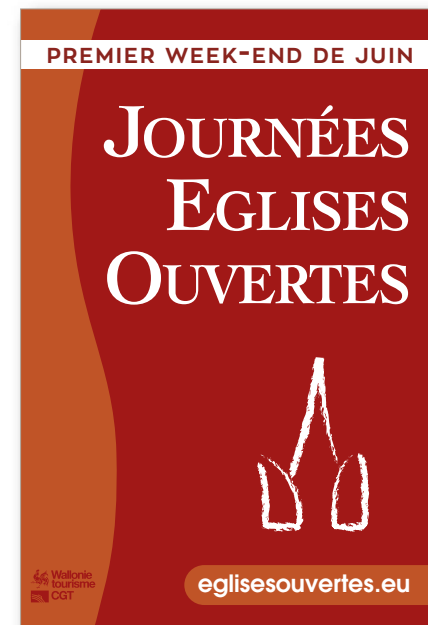
You can register for the Open Churches Days via the **online form** openchurches.eu/en/jeo

The deadline for registration is **28 February**.

Your registration is effective as soon as we receive your payment:

Open Churches, IBAN BE 74 0016 0364 3507

With the mention : OCD + postal code + municipality + name of the church



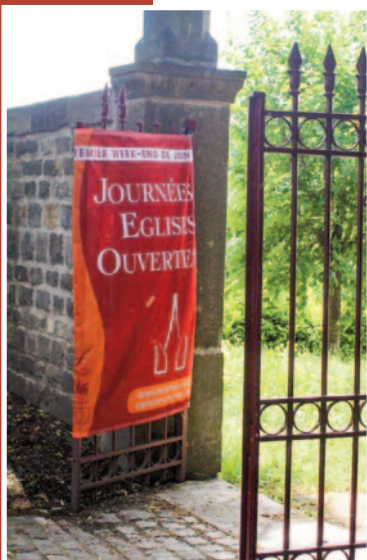
INSURANCE

Liability insurance (other than work accident or fire insurance).

The churchwardens are responsible for managing 'temporal' assets of parishes (buildings and equipment), so that worship can be carried out in appropriate conditions.

Churchwardens and parish generally take out :

- **civil liability** insurance to cover damage caused to others as a result of the buildings or worship activities,
- compulsory '**Volunteers**' insurance to cover
 - damage they may cause to others,
 - bodily injury that volunteers may suffer during their activities for the parish , including travel to and from these to and from these activities.
- As an 'operator' of premises accessible to the public of at least 1000m2 the parish and/or the parish church take out third party liability insurance. This insurance, which is compulsory, covers bodily injury and material damage caused by fire or explosion to persons having access to these public places.



We advise you to contact your broker or insurance company to broaden - if necessary - the description of the activities covered by your policies. A general formulation is preferable to an enumeration, which is always restrictive.

The following clause is generally accepted without additional premium:

'Insured activities: any activity that furthers the objects of the church parish, including charitable, recreational or cultural activities.

By way of example, this includes Open Churches Days, receptions, cheese dinners, bbqs, exhibitions or Christmas concerts.... Larger-scale events (ballets, sound and light shows, concerts with orchestra) must be registered or negotiated on an annual basis if they are repeated.

If, on Open Churches Days, you make places that are not usually accessible to the public (e.g. the bell tower and vaults) to the public, warn your broker or insurance company: by increasing the accessible area, the 1000 m2 limit may be exceeded. In any case, don't take any risks: a visit to the bell tower and vaults should only be considered if the public can access them safely.

SABAM

Don't forget that you have to pay copyright fees when you use music, films or texts from SABAM's repertoire. Contact them in advance to avoid any unpleasant surprises!

SCHEDULE

- **November:** online registration opens at openchurches.eu/en/jeo
- **28 February:** deadline for registrations
- **End of April:** promotional material sent out
- **First weekend in June:** Open Churches Days

For more information.....

If you have any questions about the Open Churches Days :
info@openchurches.eu • +32 479 62 33 55

