



# SUPERCHARGED

THE INDEPENDENT MAGAZINE FOR TESLA OWNERS AND ENTHUSIASTS

AUGUST 2019 / N°12



Photo Credit: Martin Gillet  
RE: Erik De Ridder



**360° ZICHT**  
OP ZEE EN DUIN



## ONTDEK DE EERSTE ASSISTENTIEWONINGEN OP HET STRAND

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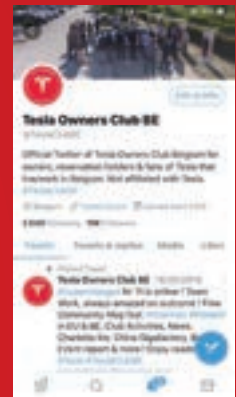
**DEAR NEWEST MODEL 3 OWNERS!  
DEAR READERS,  
DEAR TESLA OWNERS AND CLUB MEMBERS,  
DEAR RESERVATION HOLDERS,  
DEAR SHAREHOLDERS,  
DEAR EV ENTHUSIASTS,  
DEAR SPACE TRAVELLERS,**

WELCOME TO ALL Model 3 Owners! More Owners everyday! We are delighted to have you onboard and we look forward to our exchanges! Supercharged is a great way to break the ice and join the Community.

For new readers or if you want to read past editions. SuperCharged is available online at <https://www.teslaclub.be/supercharged>

We may sound 'like a broken record', still, but Supercharged is only 'as good as the energy' we are putting in along with qualitative content. We welcome as always your topics proposals and your invitation for collaborating with the editorial team. We look forward to hearing from you, contact us through our Club website. Thank you for your ongoing support and trust.

**A BIG THANK YOU to all of you and all new followers, we have reached thanks to you 10k followers on Social Media. Engage, Share and join the revolution, follow us on our different platforms if not already done. Thank you for the ongoing conversation and amazing footage and stories!**



### ON BEHALF OF TESLA OWNERS CLUB BELGIUM VZW/ASBL



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For this twelfth edition, we have once worked very hard as a team to bring you rich highlights, with meaningful topics, lifestyle topics and information.

We literally had a blast sharing these special moments with you during your ‘Model 3 Info Day’, where we had the opportunity to meet and greet with a great turn out; to demystify the amazing Model 3 capabilities and sharing tips and tricks’.

The Club is also proud to launch its ‘Ambassador Program’, as we are Community, let’s exchange, share, learn and communicate towards our respective networks, to echo Tesla’s key message towards the ‘Transition to sustainable energy’.

It takes a lot of energy to volunteer and manage all Club activities but did you know that we have sibling Clubs all over the World? Find out about the official Clubs European Leaders Summit that took place at Tesla Tilburg in the Netherlands.

Have you read about this crazy project (good crazy) ‘Plug me in?’ That took EV to the next level, a World Tour! Find out in his detailed debriefing the stunning story behind the journey.

We all heard and have seen \*live\* online the amazing adventures of Space X. Always wanted to see the Event ‘up close and personal!’ Well, lucky winners -fellow Steven Peeters and Kris Buytaert- did go to infinity and beyond .. with a pitstop next to the launchpad! They were indeed part of the Space X launch experience (with the unlocking of the secret level). Read their Fantastic detailed story in this edition.

More whereabouts! ‘It will never work’ .. Non sense! Read Armand Vervaeck’s story debriefing, taking his Model 3 across Europe, driving through stunning landmarks! ‘It simply works’!

We look forward to your impressions, stories, article ideas and feedback as well as welcoming you during our monthly events. Keep up the conversations online through social media, ‘share the Love’ using hashtag #TeslaClubBE Best pictures are featured in our Instagram feed.

We are wishing you an Amazing Summer, with Family, Friends and your Tesla of course. Safe travels and journeys, we look forward to your stories, like the one Armand shared with us. Bon Voyage!

On behalf of Tesla Owners Club of Belgium vzw/asbl,

**Martin Gillet**

Vice President Global Communications and Marketing Tesla Owners Club Belgium asbl/vzw.

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# CLUB EVENTS AND MORE

Club is always looking for great venues and ideas to organize cheerful events and memories. Feel free to submit ideas and locations, Community at work, the more ideas, the more creative, the merrier. Team Work! All our events are listed under eventbrite, join us and plan ahead as places might be limited: <http://TeslaClub.eventbrite.com>



*Credit Martin Gillet*



*Credit Martin Gillet*

## TESLA OWNERS CLUB BELGIUM GOLF CUP 2019

On July 2nd, Club held its yearly Golf competition. As always, we had a great turn out for the initiation and the tournament. Congratulations to the winners : Jo Verspeet for the Golf initiation and Wim Labie for the Golf Cup. We enjoyed a great company and had a great time along with a BBQ right after the tournament. No doubt that we are all looking forward 2020 edition !

## TESLA DIVA'S MEETUP (LADIES ONLY) MARCH 31ST, 2019.

To all lovely diva's from Europe, the FIRST diva-get-together in Europe was held on March 31st, 2019. We are glad you all had good times and we look forward to the next edition

## NIEUWPOORT DRIVERS DAYS FOR EV'S APRIL 27TH, 2019.

Club participated and supported the initiative for yet another amazing rally that all Owners did enjoy on April 27th! 100% Electric cars along with some 'other' dream cars.... Great time out, enjoying the scenery.



*Credit Gwenn Schoovaerts*

## BEEKSE BERGEN [ROAD TRIP] MAY 2019

We thoroughly enjoyed the road trip that led us to the Beekse Bergen where we drove into wild-life. A family Event for all Club members, we had an Awesome Family Day!



# NEXT CLUB EVENTS

All Club events can be found under <https://www.teslaclub.be/events> - Join us! The more the merrier! Electrifying and cheerful moments as always!

Have an idea or would like to host one of Club Event? Get in touch with our Event Manager:

## **2019 CHAMPAGNE TOUR (SOLD OUT) AUGUST 2019**

The yearly Champagne Tour will take place in August in the stunning Reims area. Due to popular demand, the Tour is already sold out. There is a waiting list for 2019 and you can already express your interest for 2020 by emailing our Event Manager [kelly@teslaclub.be](mailto:kelly@teslaclub.be)

## **MODEL 3 TRACK DAY SEPTEMBER 2019**

Club will support the Model 3 Track Day to be held in September by the RevTeam.

More news to come along with registration in our newsletter.



*Credit Benoît Denet*

**More Events to come after the Summer!**

# TENTZ

party in style

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# NEWS IN A NUTSHELL

## ELON'S 48<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY

We added playfulness and 'as usual' wished Elon, on behalf of the Club Members and the Community, a belated Happy Birthday by 'recycling' Supercharged 3 Cover and upgrading the 45th Birthday picture to a 48th Birthday picture! Happy Birthday Elon!

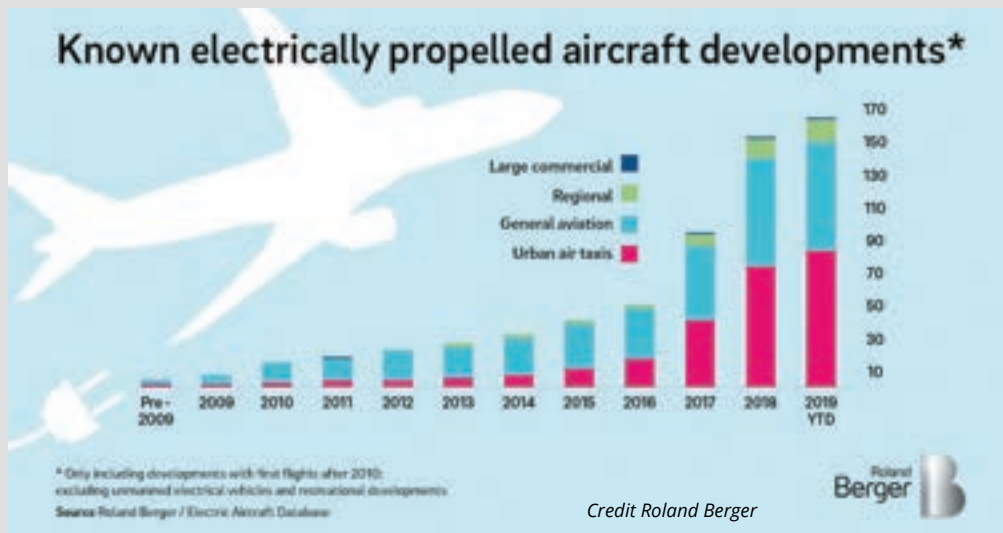


## REVOLUTION MOVING ACROSS SECTORS FEATURING PARIS AIRSHOW

During Paris Airshow (Salon du Bourget) 2019, Roland Berger (founded in 1967; which is the only leading global consultancy of German heritage and European origin) reported that "almost 170 electric aircraft are in development globally".

Discover and explore who the key players are and what major projects are currently underway in their interactive map: <http://bit.ly/2KQOV04>

You also fairly remember our article in Supercharged 2, featuring the electric plane project UPSELON GT. Well Paris Airshow featured in June the "Pipistrel ALPHA ELECTRO 167" in their demos. This electric plane is equipped with a 60 kW electric engine. According to Paris Airshow, "this aircraft is mostly used for training purposes in flight schools, but some pilots like to use it for leisure!".



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# NEWS IN A NUTSHELL

## TESLA BRINGS GAMIFICATION TO THE NEXT LEVEL

More playfulness was brought onboard our Model 3, featuring the “Beach Buggy Racing 2 Tesla Edition”. It was announced on the Game Awards channel in June: “A racing game for @Tesla you can use the steering wheel with! Thank you @elonmusk! #E3Coliseum.” Time spent at Superchargers will go even faster while playing.

Watch full Tesla video online: <https://tinyurl.com/TeslaBuggyRacing>

## MODEL 3 ARRIVALS AND DELIVERIES IN ZEEBRUGGE

Model 3 are still arriving in droves and deliveries are taking place. Great shot from Luc Waterlot on twitter: “Happy hour at #portofzeebrugge #Tesla #model3 fullpower exits for the tesla madness”.

*Credit Luc Waterlot*



## SPACEX'S STARLINK MISSION

Spectacular coverage of SpaceX's Starlink Mission: “train of satellites” spotted over Belgium!

Read more on Aviation24: <https://tinyurl.com/trainsatellites>



*Credit Marco Langbroek*

## BLOCKED CHARGING STATION



*Credit PZ Mechelen Willebroek*

We all come across charging stations being blocked by ICE (Internal Combustion Engine) cars. We were very pleased to see law enforcement apply the rules ‘by the book’ and remove the offender as too often, the situation is sadly ‘left as is’. Information was reported by Police zone Mechelen-Willebroek on social media: <https://tinyurl.com/PZMechelenWillebroek>

*And as always, share your best pictures and experiences along with tips and tricks with us, using the hashtag TeslaClubBE Join the daily only conversations and news on twitter with the Community and over 10k peers, join us <https://twitter.com/teslaclubbe> Hashtag #TeslaClubBE and Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/TeslaClubBE/>*

model 3

# MODEL 3 INFODAY

TEXT MARTIN GILLET - PICTURES: MARTIN GILLET

14



### MODEL 3 ARRIVALS

As Model 3's are now arriving en masse to excited new owners, we thought it would be a great idea, based on popular demand, to organise a 'meet and greet Info day on Model 3'.

We invited all new Owners and potential new Owners to discover the Tesla Model 3.

We aimed at pointing out and discovering all specific features of the Model 3, the panoramic roof, the premium interior and the 15 inch touchscreen. We wanted to broaden Owners and potential Owners' knowledge on all different practicalities.

For those where the Tesla Model 3 is their first 100% electric car, we were delighted to explain why driving electric and being part of the Tesla community is something very special. We explained how and where to charge. What to do in case of a 'problem' with your Tesla and many more tips & tricks.

It was also an ideal event to network with other Tesla Owners, who were ecstatic to pass on their experiences onto the Community. We had a great turn out and lots of passion vibes and feedback.



# MINNE GOED WINES

VLAAMSE ERFENIS UIT DE 17<sup>E</sup> EEUW

## Vrede & Lust



*De een zijn dood is de ander zijn brood. Of wijn in dit geval.  
Een faillissement en een verbanning om godsdienstige redenen dwongen  
een Gentse textielondernemer in de zeventiende eeuw naar Drakenstein  
in Zuid-Afrika. De Vlaming richtte er een boerderij op, waarvan  
niemand de bloeiende toekomst had kunnen voorspellen.*

Toen de familie Buys de boerderij in 1996 overnam, begonnen zij die op te waarderen. Het potentieel van weelderige groeiende wijnranken op de zonnige velden inspireerden de oudste broer Dana Buys. Samen met zijn jongste broer Etienne, runt hij vandaag "Vrede&Lust". Susan Erasmus - South African Woman Wine Maker 2017 - maakte er wijnen in klassieke nieuwe wereldstijl tot vorig jaar en Karlin Nel, 23-jarige volbloed, neemt er nu de fakkel over.

Ook bezit Vrede&Lust een domein in Elgin. Daar groeien voornamelijk witte druivensoorten zoals chardonnay en sauvignon blanc. Er worden voortdurend nieuwe wijngaarden aangeplant, de wijnproductie is dus altijd in beweging.



### ENKELE TOPWIJNEN

#### THE RED LADY

100 procent merlot uit Elgin. Vol aroma van rood fruit met een rokerige afdrank. Gemaakt om jong te drinken. Verwijst naar de rode jurken die de vrouwen bij de wijnproeverij in Vrede&Lust dragen.



€8,25\*

#### BOET ERASMUS

Cabernet sauvignon, merlot, petot verdot en malbec uit Paarl. Gerijpt in Franse eik (16-18 maanden). Rood en zwart fruit, tabak en vanille op de neus. Fijne tannines, lange en hertige afdrank. Eerbetoen aan de opa van de broers.



€16,80\*

#### WHITE MISCHIEF

Chenin blanc, pinot grigio, semillon, sauvignon blanc, riesling en viognier uit Elgin. Tropisch fruit en bloemige toetsen op de neus, witte peer en fruitsalade in de mond. Zachte uitgebalanceerde afdrank.



€8,60\*

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\*Alle prijzen zijn inclusief btw en kunnen variëren tussen de verdelers onderling.

don't drink and drive



Including onsite 'tips and tricks' to connect and charge:



The ideal Ter Helst location allowed us to bring two courtesy Model 3 from Tesla in order to see Model 3 up close and shift from theory to practice.



## THANK YOU

Tesla Owners Club would like to thank Tesla for providing the Model 3 courtesy cars and their support. We also would like to express our gratitude to the Hotel Ter Elst for having us and providing a great Community meetup location. We also would like to thank our sponsor Van Dessel Insurance Brokers.

## SEE YOU AT YOUR NEXT CLUB EVENTS!

Make sure to follow Club Newsletters (Free Membership) and/or to check our website in order to not miss any events, we thoroughly enjoy your company and Leadership!

### Free Membership:

<https://www.teslaclub.be/membership/membership>

### Club Events:

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*Simon Baker*  
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HydroConquest



Credit Martin Gillet

### THE AGENDA

This day consisted of hands-on workshops on how your touch screen works, how charging works and tips & tricks. The Info Day was held at the ideal Supercharger location located at Ter Helst.

We structured the Info Day into two sessions, containing the following topics:

- Introduction
- Media Control Unit (Central Screen): Settings, Navigation, Unlocking, Reset, Tips & Tricks, Q&A
- Outside: SuperCharging, Unlocking, Maintenance, Q&A
- Autopilot
- Roadtrips
- Final Q&A.

Great interactions within the Tesla Owners Club Community:



Credit Martin Gillet



**BOSE**

# Onopvallende speakers. Opvallend geluid.

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**NIEUW**

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# TESLA OWNERS CLUB BELGIUM AMBASSADORS PROGRAM

TEXT MARTIN GILLET

## AMBASSADORS PROGRAM

As you know, Tesla Owners Club Belgium is built around its Community, started in the early beginning of Tesla. We believe in Team Work. We strive for values such as sharing, collaborating, playfulness and most important echo Tesla's key message towards the transition to sustainable energy. We are all volunteers and work very hard to make it all happen, with your precious help and support. Recently we passed 10k followers on Social Media.

All Board Members and Club Members take great pride in taking an active part in the rEvolution and EVangelisation of our peers; throughout our posts, actions and respective networks. We wanted to reach out to even more people, to boost the transition and raise the awareness. Club is proudly launching your Ambassadors Program.



## WHAT IT IS? WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME? FOR THE CLUB?

The Ambassador Program allows you to share valuable content through your network, with a simple click on the respective networks where you are present. We grow the communication organically together without any hassle. Indeed, there is no additional work on your end, simply reach out to your network in order to 'share the love' and support the awareness rise. You remain in charge and in control at all times, we are not invading privacy or else.

Together we have already achieved so much, it gets even better with the proper tools!

Let's show our peers and the other communities what we are capable of and how we are determined to make more than a change, we are aiming at changing the World. After all, some of us are even aiming at Mars... no objective is too far away ... Team Work and Community at work will empower us to reach our goals.



*Social Seeder is an all-in-one employer branding solution to help you amplify your brand's reach and social engagement. With our platform as a facilitator, we analyse your company's needs and help you define an effective strategy, launch your employer branding programme and make sure it succeeds.*



### CREATE IMPACT ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Spread your content through your ambassadors and increase your brands reach through digital word of mouth.

We thank you for your precious support and ongoing trust. We will be in touch with some further information and practicalities.

### WHAT WE DO

We help you build the most successful employer branding program.

We optimise the interaction between the ambassadors and their social network. Create a community where you can share your corporate news with your employees/ambassadors.

### TURN EMPLOYEES INTO AMBASSADORS

We offer an easy solution to ask your employees & fans to become your ambassadors without any gamification.

### LEARN, ADAPT, IMPROVE

Social Seeder gives data-based insights and creates benchmarks. That way you can continuously improve your results, see which campaigns worked, which content worked...



Tesla Owners Club would like to express their gratitude and thank Social Seeder for empowering the Ambassadors Program.

# Loewe bild 3

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Design voor alle zintuigen.

De heldere, minimalistische oppervlakken en het matte frame in geborsteld aluminium contrasteren prachtig met de luxueuze akoestische stof rond de luidsprekers. Elk toestel wordt geleverd met een premium draaibare aluminium tafelvoet.

Dual Channel-technologie.

Neem een programma op terwijl u tegelijkertijd een ander bekijkt. Sluit gewoon een externe harde schijf aan op de USB-poort. Zap bliksemsnel: de onmiddellijke respons staat garant voor een uitzonderlijke gebruikerservaring.

Helder, krachtig geluid.

De ingebouwde stereo-soundbar met basreflexbox genereert 80 watt aan rijk muziekvermogen. De perfecte aanvulling met digital audio link (dal): het Loewe klang 1 systeem verkrijgbaar in Black, Light Grey of Graphite Grey. Geniet van 2.1 tot 5.2 surroundgeluid – voor de ultieme homecinema-ervaring.



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# TESLA EUROPEAN LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

After two successful US Leadership Summit held in the Bay Area and at Tesla, a European version took place late in May 2019 in the Netherlands where Tesla has its main European offices.

TEXT MARTIN GILLET - BYRON SOULOPOULOS PICTURES: MARTIN GILLET - BYRON SOULOPOULOS

## INTRODUCTION LEADERSHIP SUMMIT: WHAT IS IT?

A Leadership Summit gathers all official Club Leaders, usually over two days, when Community meets the Best Tesla Ambassadors. Although the format is flexible, we usually start with a factory tour to see up close the latest developments and enhancements. Then we meet and greet with Tesla representatives (agenda permitting, we can also meet with Tesla executives) where we review Club activities, challenges etc. It is a dedicated time where we can learn from each other and share 'best practices' on how to structure a Club and be proactively echoing Tesla key message 'transitioning to sustainable energy'. It is also a dedicated time where Tesla Staff can meet and greet 'up close' these passionate communities, and learn from their multiple actions on the field.

During the European Leadership Summit, European Leaders of the official Tesla Owners Clubs were invited to attend the yearly European Leadership Summit organised by Tesla, inc. Namely Leaders from Tesla Club Austria, Tesla Club Finland, Tesla Club Germany, Tesla Club Italy, Tesla Owners Club Belgium, Tesla Owners Club Helvetia, Tesla Owners Club Norway, Tesla Owners Club Portugal, Tesla Owners Club Spain, Tesla Owners Club Sweden, Tesla Owners Italy, Tesla Owners UK, Tesla Owners West Sweden, TFF e.V. Germany, TOCA (Australia), Tesla Owners Club Western Australia.

Tesla Owners Club Belgium facilitated the setup of the event along with the registration process.



Credit Byron Soulopoulos

### WHERE WAS IT HOSTED?

The main event was held at the Tesla European Assembly Factory in Tilburg, the Netherlands.

### WHAT WERE THE OBJECTIVES AND AGENDA?

The objectives are informal but aimed at gathering, connecting the Community 'under one roof' in order to mingle with all these fine individuals. Learn from each other, share common best practices, meet onsite with Tesla Staff, nurture creative ideas, have a good time and more.

Pre-event day (May 22nd 2019) was dedicated to the registration process along with a welcome dinner and optional Tilburg assembly plant tour.

The first conference day (May 23rd, 2019), after registering the latest guests arrival, saw the day divided into different sessions, from Conference Kicking off session, Club Presentation session, Working lunch along with other topics such as Energy Sales, Super Charging, Production Process Engineering, Mobile Services and Software QA among other topics.



*Credit Byron Soulopoulos*

The day concluded with a cheerful dinner located nearby at the 'De Eetkamer', where we could further exchange information and enjoy a tasty dinner.



*Credit Martin Gillet*

The second conference day (May 24th, 2019) was filled with multiple workshop sessions, for example on items and processes that could be improved along with positive thinking on potential solutions. The rest of the sessions included sharing tools and experiences between the different Tesla Owners Clubs.

### HOW DID THE SUMMIT GUESTS RESPONDED TO THE EVENT?

We could feel it throughout the conference, the reception of the Summit guests was very positive. The Summit was a success in terms of attendance and objectives. The confirmation came during the debriefing of each Club, where everyone stressed out how thankful they were as Tesla did hear the Clubs out but was in fact also listening very carefully. Not to mention that internal Staff put a lot of energy to secure the event and the topics after review with Clubs.

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### KEY TAKE AWAYS ON THE EVENT

There's a very strong friendship and support among the Leaders of the different Tesla Owners Clubs. It was also great to receive the gratitude from the several Tesla leaders towards the Tesla Owners Clubs.

We are looking forward to the next 2020 European Summit Event, in the meantime, we are keen to continue the conversation and take active participation in the next US Summit Event likely to take place in October 2019.

**We would like to thank all the parties involved to make this Event successful, from the Club Boards members, members and Tesla Staff; namely William, Kerstin, Laurens, Mandy, Saskia and Marie.**

**The conversation continues, follow the respective twitter of each club along with the Global Owners account: <https://twitter.com/teslaownersww>**

# Steenimex

## Natuursteen met karakter

**B**ij Steenimex kan u uw creativiteit, ideeën en verlangens botvieren met de eindeloze mogelijkheden van natuurlijke gesteenten, composiet en keramiek (neolith, lapictec, inalco, dehton, laminam,...). Het gamma van Steenimex, specialist steensoorten, is strikt en uitgebreid, u kan vrijblijvend meer dan 300 soorten bezichtigen en uitkiezen. Een toegankelijke en grote showroom, opgefleurd met hedendaagse hippe kunst, vol originele steenideeën en materialen, staat daarvoor steeds ter uwer beschikking. In de ruime magazijnen, achter de toonzaal, staat een zee aan steen, waaruit u uw specifieke blok of plaat kan kiezen.

U wordt op professionele manier wegwijs gemaakt in de ongekende mogelijkheden en kwaliteiten van de diverse steensoorten. Steenimex is bovendien ontwerper en producent van een aantal originele afwerkingen zoals de heden succesvolle rosselini-afwerking. Naast een ganse rits klassieke en gekende soorten kan u bij Steenimex ook een reeks unieke originele en zeldzame steensoorten terug vinden.

U wenst eens rond te neuzen in de creatieve en kunstzinnige showroom, doorheen de kleurrijke en unieke steenwereld van Steenimex, dit kan steeds (behalve vankantieperiodes) op:

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# UNVEILING OF THE TESLA MODEL Y

On March 14<sup>th</sup>, Elon gave his S3XY presentation to an enthusiastic crowd in California. Starting with an overview of Tesla's journey so far, the finale was the unveiling of the company's fifth production car, the Model Y.

TEXT: JOANNA PAYS







The major part of the S3XY presentation was dedicated to a look back over the last decade or so, when the original Roadster became Tesla's first production vehicle. The first ever Roadster, Elon's own, was driven onto the stage. There followed after, the story of the Model S, the Model X, the Model 3, the Semi and the new Roadster. The last that join the stage was the new Model Y, which is expected to begin production during the next two years.

The Model Y is a top of the range compact SUV which is based on many of the components of the Model 3. According to Elon, the key aspects of the new car will be safety and performance. The starting price range will be between US\$ 39,000 and \$ 60,000, depending on which of the four versions is chosen.

### **SAFETY**

The Model Y is designed to be the safest vehicle in its class. Its low centre of gravity, rigid body structure and large crumple zones provide unparalleled protection. Emergency braking, collision warning and blind-spot monitoring will come as standard features – as with other Teslas. The Model Y will have Full Self-Driving capability, enabling automatic driving on city streets as well as highways (pending regulatory approval), as well as the ability to find you anywhere in a parking lot. Over-the-air software updates will introduce new features and functionalities in real time.

### **INTERIOR**

With versatile seating and storage configurations, Model Y will have an optional third row of seats to accommodate a total of up to 7 passengers. Up to 66 cubic feet of cargo space will be available, by folding down the second row of seats. The rear cargo space benefits from a lowered platform, to ease loading and unloading.

The interior of Model Y is streamlined and designed for driver and passenger comfort. The driver has an elevated seating position and low dashboard with a 15-inch centre touch screen display, for a perfect view of the road ahead. The experience is enhanced with an immersive sound system and an all-glass roof that maximises headroom and provides a clear view of the sky.

### **VERSIONS AND PERFORMANCE**

There will be four versions of the Model Y – Standard, Long Range All Wheel Drive (AWD), Long Range Rear Wheel Drive (RWD) and Performance. Autonomy will vary from 389 kilometres for the Standard version, to 540 kilometres for the RWD version, with Supercharging on a pay per use basis.

In terms of speed and acceleration, the car will perform 0 to 100 km/h in 5.9 seconds for the Standard range and 3.5 seconds for the Performance version. The top speed for the Performance version will be 241 km/h.

That is all the information that has been given so far on the Model Y. Supercharged will provide you with updates, as and when we hear more.



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# ARMAND VERVAECK

## STRAIGHT FROM MODEL 3 DELIVERY TO ROAD TRIPS!

Since going electric and taking possession of his Model 3 in March, Armand Vervaeck has been bitten by the passion for road trips. He has been travelling around Europe, sharing his driving experiences on Facebook, while he tests all of the car's features.

TEXT: JOANNA PAYS - PHOTOS: ARMAND VERVAECK

36



### THE SWITCH TO ELECTRIC

Armand, from the Mechelen area, recently retired and wanted to travel more. He had been considering taking a hybrid car as his next vehicle, rather full electric, due to range anxiety. Nevertheless, with encouragement from one of his friends (a Model S owner since 2013), he decided to give Tesla a try. The real trigger came during a trip to San Francisco in August last year, when Armand saw the Model 3 for the first time in a car showroom. "As soon as I sat in that car, I was convinced it was for me" says Armand. "In December, when the window for ordering the Model 3 in Europe was opened, I immediately signed up. Happily for me, as I was one of the first customers, I didn't have to wait too long and I received my Model 3 in March. I took the long range, all-wheel drive option, in a deep blue metallic finish with white interior."

"The experience of driving a Tesla for the first time is like a tsunami of emotions" says Armand. "It is totally the next generation of driving. It's much more than just the speed and acceleration. One of the biggest revolutions for someone who has not driven a Tesla before is the 'one pedal' driving, as I hardly ever have to use the brakes. Everything is streamlined. Then there is the whole screen experience and the fact that there is almost no noise at all."

### STRAIGHT TO ADVENTURE

As soon as Armand received his Model 3, he took off on his first European trip, with no specific destination in mind. "We just followed the weather and chased the sun." The first trip took him to destinations in France, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Austria, Germany, Switzerland and Luxembourg, including Zaragoza, Nice, San Remo, Lake Garda and Lech. "That was quite a lot in just 12 days, but with the Tesla, there is so much more comfort when you are driving. I have spent a lot of time in the past travelling between European cities and my usual habit is to take time to visit a city in the morning, then during the afternoon, I travel on to my next destination.



Armand has already taken two European road trips with Tesla, covering over 14,000 kilometres. “One of the initial reasons for the trips was to learn new driving habits with the car, so these were more than just tourist trips. It’s a great experience to drive the Tesla to new destinations while I test all of the features. The mountain roads are the best, as with this car they are extraordinary. I can keep up with the local drivers on the mountain roads – and even leave them behind!”

### CHARGING ALL OVER EUROPE IS NO PROBLEM

“Throughout both trips I had a smooth and easy experience finding Superchargers. In my experience, you can easily travel all over Europe using them. Planning to charge in advance wasn’t really necessary, especially as the car itself clearly maps out where you can charge. The only place where Superchargers were a bit busy was in the South of France, but for all the rest, there was no problem.”

### AUTOPILOT TAKES THE STRESS OUT OF DRIVING

Armand has been fully benefiting from the car’s Autopilot functions. “When you are travelling in Europe on calm highways, without too much traffic, the Autopilot makes driving so pleasant and unstressful. You can take your foot off the pedal and enjoy the passing scenery as you listen to music. When something unexpected does happen, the automatic braking and traffic aware cruise control take over immediately.”

“The Autopilot system works really well but of course you still need to be aware of what is around you. You also need to be careful about speed controls, as they vary a lot from country to country and the maps don’t always show the right speed.”

### THE CAR OF THE FUTURE

“Other manufacturers may copy Tesla,, but this is really the car of the future. You don’t need to worry about oil or servicing. Instead you just get new updates, automatically added. I have spoken with many people along the road, including very experienced Tesla owners and I was happy to hear how excited they all are about their cars, even after many years of ownership. I still have my ICE car and I drove it last week, for the first time in ages. There is no comparison at all! Now I understand why Tesla drivers almost never go back to an ICE car again.”

### FOLLOW ARMAND

Next on Armand’s agenda is a trip to Scandinavia, with Norway high on his list of destinations. You can follow Armand’s European travels on Facebook at

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# SPACEX WOWS FANS WITH FIRST COMMERCIAL LAUNCH FOR FALCON HEAVY



40

SpaceX has chalked up another success, with the first commercial mission of the world's most powerful rocket. On April 11<sup>th</sup>, Falcon Heavy and its 27 Merlin engines launched a telecoms satellite into space, before landing all three of its booster rockets back on earth. Weighing in at nearly 1.5 million kilos, the Falcon Heavy generated over 5 million pounds of thrust at lift-off. Tesla and SpaceX fans from around the world were there to witness the event live, including Steven Peeters and Kris Buytaert from Belgium.

TEXT: JOANNA PAYS



### VIP EVENT FOR SECRET LEVEL MEMBERS

Members of Tesla's 'Secret Level' referral programme, who had reached the third level of referrals, were invited to a VIP event for the launch at the Cape Canaveral space port. Among these guests was Steven Peeters, who was previously featured in Supercharged Magazine for the Tesla Semi event in 2017.

Steven explained about the Secret Level Referral Programme. "There are five secret levels in the referral programme. On the first level you receive a discount on a Roadster. On the second level, you get to drive a Boring machine. The third level gets you an invitation to attend a SpaceX rocket launch, while the fourth means you get to race the Tesla semi. The fifth and final level lets you launch a time capsule into space. I have been on Tesla's various referral programmes for 3 and half years and so far I have made over 100 referrals. A lot of these were for Model 3s, following the launch in Europe at the end of 2018."



### VIEW FROM THE EXPLORATION TOWER

"My invitation to the rocket launch didn't include travel and hotel costs, which were at my own expense, but the event was held in a great location, at the top of the seven-story Exploration Tower" says Steven. "This is the highest viewing point at Cape Canaveral, so we had a clear view over the launch pad. I flew especially to the US for the event and even extended my stay for a couple of days, as the launch date was postponed twice, due to weather conditions. Some of the 80 guests could not extend their stay unfortunately, so we were then down to about 50 by the time the launch took place. The positive side of this, for those that stayed on, is that SpaceX laid on extra networking events for us and an additional pre-and-after party at the event location! Trip Harriss, the SpaceX launch site mission manager, came to talk with us and explain about the mission. This was for the launch of the Arabsat 6A telco satellite - the first commercial mission for the Falcon Heavy rocket. All of the participants received a T-shirt and a mission badge, which we only got because the mission was a complete success. This was the first time I had ever seen an actual rocket launch live. It was quite something for all the participants and a completely different experience from watching it on the TV. I also got to meet a lot of great people, including Youtubers I have been following."



### VIEW FROM THE ROCKET GARDEN

Kris Buytaert, from Antwerp, was also present at the launch. A space and Tesla enthusiast, he was visiting Florida on holiday with his wife and children and by happy coincidence had a trip planned to visit the exhibition centre at Cape Canaveral.

“We were in Key West on the day when the launch was originally planned to take place” says Kris. “That day we had already decided to get up early and drive to the shore to watch it. When we arrived there were loads of local people who had already pitched up early to watch the event. There were even some Dutch people watching from the roof of their camper van. It was a lot of fun to be with them. We were all watching the twitter feeds, but that day the weather was so bad that at some point the electricity got cut off. Eventually it was postponed, so we went back to our hotel.”

“In fact this delay actually worked out really well for us as a family, as our trip to the space centre was planned for the next day. We were able to watch the launch and the landings really close up from the rocket garden, which is the viewing area of the museum. There were a couple of hundred people in the garden, but most of them were sitting down so we had a good line of sight. All of them were so enthusiastic, it was a great atmosphere.”



### ANOTHER FIRST FOR SPACEX – ALL THREE BOOSTER ROCKETS LAND SAFELY

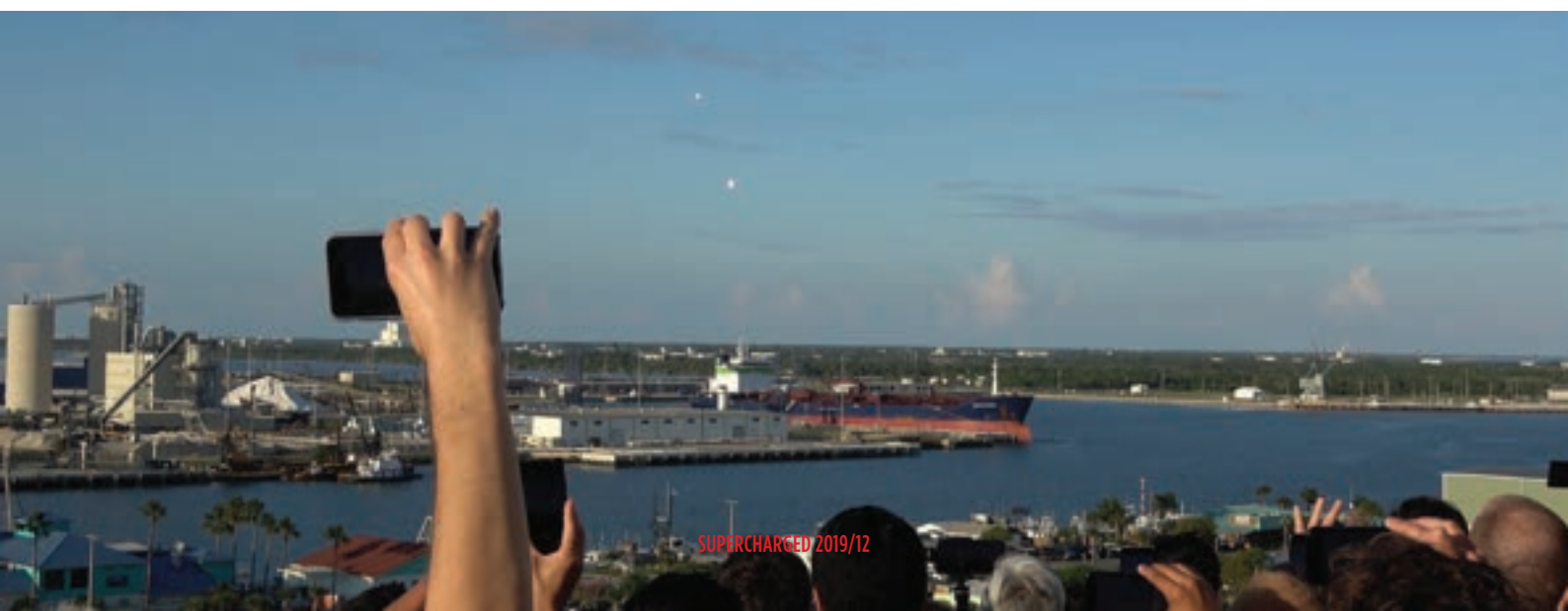
The spectators cheered as just a couple of minutes after launch, the two side booster rockets cut off power and detached themselves from the core, before turning round back to earth. Shortly after re-entering the atmosphere they landed back on their respective landing pads, side by side at the space centre. The perfection of these two landings was an amazing site to see and is a must to be viewed on the internet for those who have not already yet seen it. View it at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eu12XFoERZU>

“My two boys, who are 7 and 12, thought it was awesome!” says Kris. “They were shouting and screaming and running around, they were so excited – as we all were. The most exciting thing about the whole event was when the two side rockets landed. That was just crazy – and the noise they make. All in all, from launch to the landings took just a few minutes.”

The third booster, from the centre core, successfully detached shortly afterwards, to make its own journey back. As it was travelling too

fast to head back to Cape Canaveral, it was directed to the SpaceX “Of Course I Still Love You” drone ship landing pad, out at sea. 11 minutes after take-off the centre booster landed safely on the drone ship. Unfortunately, even though the landing was perfect, the drone ship later toppled over because of rough sea conditions and the centre booster fell into the ocean. Hopefully it will be recovered soon and Elon later said in a tweet that it will most likely still be reusable. .

This was nevertheless a remarkable achievement for SpaceX however, as this marked the first time that all three boosters had been safely landed. The April mission was a particularly important milestone for SpaceX, in its proof of concept for reusable space hardware to reduce the environmental impact and lower the cost of space missions. SpaceX plans to refurbish and reuse these two boosters to be refurbished, for the STP-2 Air Force Space Test Mission.



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# PLUG ME IN

## AN INTERACTIVE ROUND THE WORLD TRIP

Wiebe Wakker from Haarlem has always been passionate about travelling. When he became interested in sustainability he decided to combine the two, and take an extended world tour in an EV to promote the ease of EV driving. To up the challenge, he selected a first generation EV from 2009, which is actually a petrol conversion. He told us about his mission and his journey.

TEXT: JOANNA PAYS





### A KEEN TRAVELLER

"I love to explore new cultures, meet people and discover life" says Wiebe. "In 2009 I went to Australia, bought a car there and travelled around the country for a year. Later I took a trip to stay for several months in Southeast Asia. I have read a lot of books by people who travelled around the world in unique ways and I was inspired by that. I thought it would be really cool if I can do something like that once in my life, but at that time I had no idea when or how."

### THE IDEA FORMS

When Wiebe returned to Holland to study Event Management at the Utrecht University of Arts, his dreams started to develop and he started to get ideas on how to make this trip. "I wanted to combine the professional skills which I learned at University, such as organisational skills, marketing, concept development and account management, with my own passion and interest for photography, videography, travelling and the environment" says Wiebe. "I approached a teacher and told him that for my graduation project I wanted to travel around the world. When he read the concept he was really enthusiastic and approved it and I am still really thankful for that. Something like this you can probably only do at the University of Arts, as other uni's will never allow such a crazy idea!"

"In the Netherlands people started to talk about electric cars but I also saw that the uptake was going really slowly, mainly because people think they are not reliable or that you cannot cover long distances. I decided that I want to beat those prejudices and inspire people to start driving electric. My plan was to drive from Holland to literally the other side of the world in an electric car, to show people if you can do that, than we should definitely be able to use an electric car to go to the supermarket. So that is how the idea of the sustainable road trip started."

### THE JOURNEY BEGINS

To get a lot of people involved in the project, Wiebe came up with the idea of a journey that people could support in an interactive way. "With my website Plug Me In, I ask people to support me with a meal, a place to sleep or electricity to charge the car" says Wiebe. "This means that anyone can contribute to this project."

"I successfully graduated from university with the concept of this project in August 2014. It then took me 18 months to organise the trip, including things like creating a website and finding sponsors. Then, in March 2016 I began my journey and I have been travelling around the world ever since."

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### THE CAR

The car Wiebe is driving is a 2009 Volkswagen Golf Variant, nicknamed the 'Blue Bandit'. It is a former petrol powered car that has been converted to electric. The conversion was originally a project by a Dutch utilities company back in 2009, so it is one of the first generation EV's. The capacity of the battery is 37 kWh which gives a range of 200km. The motor is 150 KW, 200HP and the top speed is 180 km/h.

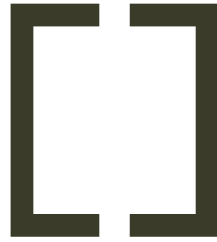
India was the most challenging part of the journey for Wiebe, as he encountered several mechanical problems with the car. "It started with a broken spring" says Wiebe. "Then car got detained by Bangladeshi customs and had to return to India. Then, following repairs for other things at a garage workshop, we tried to charge the car and due to a short circuit, the 3-phase charger blew up. The car had to be transported by truck to nearest city – but then we didn't have the equipment needed to offload the car from the truck. It was a chain of events that was really hard and we had some sleepless nights – but when you begin a journey like this you have to accept that these types of situations will happen. In the end, it makes the trip more memorable and many people reached out to help me, both online and offline."

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE TRIP

For Wiebe, the highlight of the trip so far has been Iran. "I knew very little about the country and was amazed by the way I was received by the Iranians" says Wiebe. "The people are really kind, friendly and hospitable. The natural landscape is beautiful and the architecture truly unique. Overall though, the most positive thing has been the amount of offers and help I received everywhere."

"One of my fave moments was the encounter with the Green Sheikh in Ajman, UAE, who is well-known for his contributions to the environment. He received me at his residence for an interview and we ended up spending hours talking, rather than just the one hour we had planned. A few weeks later he invited me again, as he had students over from the US and he wanted me to give them a presentation. I stayed at his residence for two days and we went dune bashing and did a trip to the desert, which was pretty cool."

"Electric Vehicles are a way to tackle climate change and that is why I am very passionate about it. I wanted to do my bit to promote sustainable mobility by doing something as insane as driving to the other side of the world, to prove how reliable they can be and to create a lot of buzz. I mainly use social media as my tool to promote my project and I have also been featured in mainstream media like the BBC, the Guardian, National Geographic and many more."



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### INTERACTIVE ITINERARY

There is an interactive map on the Plug me In website, where people can select their own location and contribute to the project with a meal, a place to sleep or a plug to charge the car on Wiebe's journey. The route of the journey is also decided by the people that support him. Each week he looks at the map and travels from plug to plug. There is no time scale or exact route planned. Sometimes he stops in places for a few months to work and gather money for the next stage of his trip, particularly if he needs to ship the car to another land mass.

"The original plan was to finish my journey in Sydney, but after I finished there on April 7 I was contacted by people from New Zealand who invited me come to their country to actually finish there. I am currently traveling through New Zealand and will finish the journey in August."

"Now that EVs can do distances of 350-500km on one charge, it's pretty easy to make your way around and it is a fact now that electric mobility is a viable way of transport. I have become the first ever person to cross Turkey, Iran, India, Myanmar and Indonesia by electric car. I hope that I have proven that there is no need for range anxiety, only range excitement and that there is no longer any need to stay addicted to fossil fuels. So far I have driven 100,000km through 34 countries in 2,103 days."

If you would like to support Wiebe or follow his progress, visit his website <https://plugmeinproject.com/>

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## Edward is verliefd. En dat zal een invloed hebben op uw vermogen.

San José, Californië, VS. Edward, een gentleman van 83, heeft een oogje op Susan. Om te bewijzen dat hij nog 'hip' is, zoekt hij haar op in een zelfrijdende auto. Een teken dat de vraag voor voertuigen met Artificiële Intelligentie (AI) in de lift zit. De onderneming die deze wagen bedacht, nam ondertussen 15 mensen in dienst. Van ingenieurs en roboticspecialisten tot databeheerders. Dit stimuleert andere bedrijven op hun beurt om het potentieel van AI verder te ontwikkelen, voor zelfrijdende voertuigen, maar ook voor smartphones, videogames en domotica. En dat opent dan weer nieuwe perspectieven voor de ontwikkeling van steden, regio's en zelfs landen. Maar eerst en vooral voor Edward, ook al is hij 83.

Om die redenen adviseren onze Private Bankers om onder andere te beleggen in bedrijven die focussen op Artificiële Intelligentie.

**Dankzij de informatie van onze specialisten in 70 financiële centra wereldwijd, kunnen ze rechtstreeks inspelen op marktevoluties en weldoordachte beslissingen nemen. En dat maakt een groot verschil voor uw vermogen.**

Meer info op [deutschebank.be/privatebanking](https://deutschebank.be/privatebanking)

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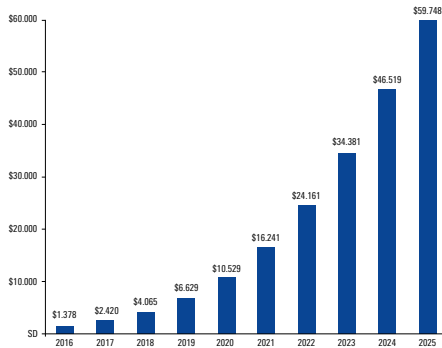
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# Meesurfen op de exponentiële groei van artificiële intelligentie.

Zelfrijdende auto's en slimme steden zijn enkele voorbeelden van de vele concrete toepassingen van artificiële intelligentie, één van de favoriete beleggingsthema's voor 2019 bij de strategen van Deutsche Bank. Ondersteund door hun expertise zullen de Private Bankers van de bank hun cliënten laten meeprofiten van de ongeziene opmars van artificiële intelligentie.

## De inkomsten van artificiële intelligentie zullen naar verwachting omhoogschieten.



Bron: Deutsche Bank



[deutschebank.be/privatebanking](https://www.deutschebank.be/privatebanking)

Edward is verliefd.  
En dat zal een invloed hebben op uw vermogen.

Na de creatie van de mechanische ridder door Leonardo Da Vinci aan het einde van de XVde eeuw, hebben we vijf eeuwen moeten wachten op het eerste grootschalige gebruik van artificiële intelligentie via de spraakassistenten in de mobiele telefoons. Maar de revolutie is aan de gang en binnenkort zal artificiële intelligentie alomtegenwoordig zijn. Deze spijttechnologie zal de komende jaren in almaar meer domeinen worden ingezet, want ze laat een heleboel goederen en diensten beter functioneren. Vandaag heeft de consument nog een futuristisch beeld van artificiële intelligentie, terwijl deze in bepaalde sectoren toch al sterk aanwezig is. Zo doen gezondheidswerkers een beroep op krachtige algoritmen om tal van databases, in het bijzonder met gegevens afkomstig van klinische proeven, te verwerken en met elkaar te vergelijken om zo de beste opties voor toekomstige behandelingen te vinden.

De komende decennia zal de opmars van artificiële intelligentie de robotisering een boost geven. Daardoor zal niet alleen de productiviteit in ondernemingen toenemen, maar zal de consument ook nieuwe diensten aangeboden krijgen. Momenteel evolueren we van een fase waarin artificiële intelligentie de verzameling en verwerking van gegevens bevordert naar een fase waarin ze zeer concreet processen zal kunnen verbeteren. Zo zal er in het grafische informaticacircuit al vanaf dit jaar een nieuwe generatie van elektronische chips opduiken die concreet inzetbaar zullen zijn.

## INDUSTRIËLE ROBOTISERING

“Dit jaar zal er waarschijnlijk een ‘industrie 4.0’ ontstaan, waarbij artificiële intelligentie in dagelijkse producten zal worden geïntegreerd”, voorspellen de strategen van Deutsche Bank. “De meest voor de hand liggende toepassing ervan is de industriële robotisering van de productiefase. We denken aan intelligente ondernemingen, waarbij informaticasystemen de fysieke bedrijfsprocessen runnen en gedecentraliseerde beslissingen nemen.”

Ondernemingen zetten wel al robots in, maar kunstmatige intelligentie zal ze veel efficiënter en energiezuiniger maken. Het gebruik van algoritmen die automatisch leren en zo hun prestatie verbeteren, zal die evolutie nog versnellen. In het toepassingsgebied van consumenten verwachten de strategen van Deutsche Bank de opkomst van nieuwe geïntegreerde systemen die een combinatie maken van

verschillende grafische elektronische circuits. Enerzijds degenen die bestemd zijn voor intelligente leeralgoritmen en anderzijds klassieke informaticasystemen die meer op de besluitvorming zijn gericht. Dat zal zeer concrete gevolgen hebben.

“Zo zullen almaar meer autobouwers hun zelfrijdende wagens, die nu al in testfase zitten, in het verkeer brengen”, voorspellen de strategen, “iets wat grote gevolgen heeft voor de ondernemingen die dergelijke chips en informaticasystemen ontwerpen. In de praktijk zou de totale omvang van die markt de komende vier jaar wel eens elk jaar kunnen verdubbelen. En tegen 2021 zullen de systemen waarschijnlijk uitgroeien tot een sector die miljarden dollars waard is.”

## VERSPREIDING VAN CAMERA'S

De sterke groei die op korte termijn wordt verwacht, zette de strategen van Deutsche Bank ertoe aan om van artificiële intelligentie een van hun favoriete beleggingsthema's voor 2019 te maken.

De verwachte versnelling in de ontwikkeling van artificiële intelligentie berust ook op het idee om in de toekomst ‘intelligente steden’ te bouwen, waar de bewoners geavanceerde diensten krijgen aangeboden, op basis van nieuwe technologieën. Een van de eerste vereisten voor de ontwikkeling van dergelijke ‘smart cities’ is de verspreiding van camera's die essentieel zijn voor de werking van intelligente algoritmen om, bijvoorbeeld, het verkeer te kunnen regelen. Hoewel sommigen bezwaren hebben wegens de bescherming van de privacy, lijkt een uitbreiding van die camera's onvermijdelijk.

“De verspreiding van camera's is slechts één van de domeinen van de artificiële intelligentie die net in een beslissende fase is gekomen”, verklaren de strategen van Deutsche Bank. “Zelfs

als er in 2019 maar de helft van de beloften wordt ingelost, dan nog zal de praktische toepassing van technologie het leven van de mensen ingrijpend veranderen tegen het einde van het jaar.”

De strategen voorspellen dan ook dat de inkomsten van bedrijven die actief zijn in artificiële intelligentie exponentieel zullen toenemen. Want almaar meer ondernemingen zullen deze technologieën in hun activiteiten integreren (zie grafiek).

Hoer kunnen particuliere beleggers een graantje meepikken van deze structurele groei? De Private Bankers en beheerders van Deutsche Bank helpen hun cliënten daarbij. Aan de hand van de aanbevelingen van de strategen van de bank, die hun overtuigingen baseren op analyses door de experts van Deutsche Bank op het terrein in een zeventigtal financiële centra wereldwijd, kunnen zij de juiste beslissingen nemen en ervoor zorgen dat de portefeuilles van hun cliënten ten volle meegenieten van de ongeziene opmars van artificiële intelligentie.





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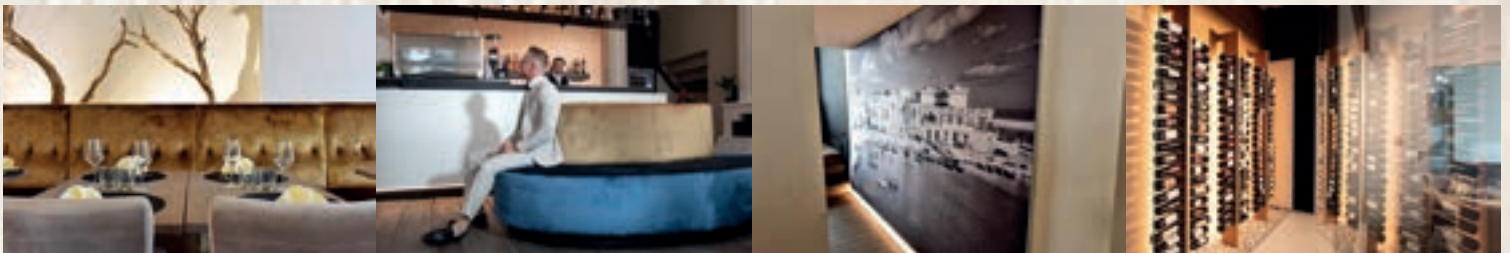
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# HELI BUSINESS

## THE REFERENCE FOR ALL HELICOPTER FLIGHTS

Founded in 2012, Heli-Business has quickly become a reference in the world of helicopter flights. With the Kortrijk-Wevelgem International Airport as a base, the company offers various services with and for helicopters. A flight as a gift or team building? Fast transportation in Belgium or abroad? Want to follow a training to become a helicopter pilot yourself? Everything is possible.

TEXT: WIM VANDER HAEGEN



### FIRST TIME IN THE AIR

For many people, a helicopter flight remains a dream. Many people have never done that and have it on their bucket list. "An expensive affair," is often cited as a reason not to do it. And that is not true at all, because thanks to Heli Business it is perfectly possible to offer something for every budget. An air baptism or helicopter flight is an excellent gift for a birthday boy, an anniversary person, a retirement, etc. Also as a team building or during events a helicopter flight is certainly appreciated. Heli-Business offers helicopter flights for one or more people. The flights last 20, 30, 45 or 60 minutes as standard. Longer or shorter flights are possible on request. The helicopter flights depart from the airport in Wevelgem. You can also compile the flight route yourself if you want to.

### AIR TAXI AND VIP TRANSPORTATION

Heli Business also specializes in business flights. Air taxi and VIP transport are excellent for people who have little time and do not want to spend hours in traffic. After all, a helicopter taxi is the ideal and safe way to make fast journeys, both in Belgium and abroad. Such flights are possible from 1 to 5 passengers per helicopter. Heli Business picks up the customer (s) near their home, company or party and flies the company to the desired location. Helicopter flights are perfectly suitable for distances that are not too long and can perfectly match a flight that has the airport of Kortrijk-Wevelgem as its end point. Transport from A to B (licensed), also in neighbouring countries, is the specialty of Heli Business, but the experienced team is also ready for aerial photography, film recordings and moving images of sports events such as cycling races.

Should there always be an airport nearby? Not necessary, flights are of course always possible to and from official landing places such as an airport or heliport. But a one-off landing is also possible, provided that the owner gives permission and the landing site complies with the regulations.

### INITIATION FLIGHTS

Flying by yourself with a helicopter? That is also possible at Heli Business. An initiation flight is the way to get acquainted with helicopter flying. The flight consists of a theoretical and a practical part and is carried out with a device with dual control. After an introduction to the helicopter and the instruments on the ground, the pre-flight check and the start-up procedure, the practical part with exercises to learn how to steer the helicopter follows. An initiation flight of 30 minutes, 45 minutes or 60 minutes is a unique experience and first introduction to helicopter flying.





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### TRAININGS

If you want more, you can sign up for a basic helicopter pilot training. The training for private helicopter pilot (Private Pilot License Helicopters - PPL (H)) covers both a theoretical and practical part. The helicopter school is a recognized training centre. With the PPL (H) flight license or Private Pilot License (Helicopter) one can fly internationally for non-commercial purposes with a helicopter registered in the European aviation register. The first flight license is issued for the type with which you were given the training and the exam. At Heli Business, this is a Cabri G2 or Robinson R44. In addition to the basic PPL (H) training, Heli Business also offers various further training courses for pilots who already have their certification. For each helicopter type, a short training course, called a "type rating" in professional terms, is necessary. Besides a PPL (H), there is also a CPL (H) or Commercial Pilot License (Helicopter). With this permit you can also take paying passengers as a professional pilot.

### UNIEKE BELEVENIS

Speciaal voor de bezoekers van W-Fest, het festival voor fans van new wave en synthpop dat dit jaar plaatsvindt van 15 tot 18 augustus in Waregem Expo, zal Heli Business een helikopter met flight-simulator plaatsen op de festivalsite. Dankzij VR heb je het gevoel echt in een helikopter te zitten. Een unieke beleving en wie weet, volgt er meer ...

### RENT AND BUY

Helicopter pilots can turn to Heli Business for renting a helicopter for an all-in price or advice if they wish to purchase a device themselves. Renting a station point in one of the warehouses at Kortrijk-Wevelgem airport is also part of the comprehensive service package, as well as "helicopter management" for owners.

### UNIQUE EXPERIENCE

Especially for the visitors of W-Fest, the festival for fans of new wave and synth pop that takes place this year from 15 to 18 August in Waregem Expo, Heli Business will place a helicopter with a flight simulator on the festival site. Thanks to VR, you will have the feeling that you are really in a helicopter. A unique experience and who knows, more will follow ...

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# OXBOARD SIGNS UP FOR A SAFE AND FANTASTIC DRIVING EXPERIENCE

Since the Introduction of the hoverboard in Europe, not only has Oxboard developed into the reference for e-mobility par excellence, but also the company has become a renowned name in the toys sector. In 2018, Mark Collee, who can boast lots of experience in the toy sector, entered the firm as joint owner. Under his impetus, Oxboard has continued to grow steadily, due to the development of new products, including fully electric solutions. Furthermore, Mark himself drives around as the owner of a Tesla fully electric.

TEXT: WIM VANDER HAEGEN – PHOTOGRAPHS: OXBOARD



### EXTRA VALUE

In 2015, Oxboard successfully introduced the 'hoverboard' in Europe. In no time at all, the company grew into the reference in the sector par excellence, but soon faced competition from countries like China. Mark comments: 'Originally, the idea was to provide a solution to give e-mobility a boost, but, due to cheap imitations from the Far East, the toy sector also recognised the hoverboard's potential. Since I had a lot of experience in the toy sector myself, I joined the company last year. Oxboard is counting on me to increase distribution, build up the trademark, and develop new products. Oxboard continues to make a difference thanks to the superior technique and the riding experience which we summarise with the motto "Stunning on the outside - Genius on the inside". Moreover, with my experience and extensive network, I can add something extra to the company. Although the market for the classic hoverboard is declining somewhat, I'm convinced that with other products such as e-steps and e-skateboards we're in a category with excellent prospects.'

### RAPID BLADES

The classic hoverboards, known by the name of 'Original', are still permanent fixtures in the range, but most attention nowadays is spent on technologically high-quality innovations such as the recently introduced Oxboard Blades. Mark says: 'Turning and moving are raised to a completely different level by means of the latest technology in the field of the hoverboard and self-balancing-technology. The Blades are actually two electric roller skates which operate separately from each other to give maximum freedom of movement. To master the technique, you can also join them to each other with a rod and you have a hoverboard. The Blades can reach a speed of 8km per hour and have a range of 10km on a full battery. Thanks to the built-in battery indicator, you can easily keep a check on when they have to be charged.'

### A REAL CART

Owners of an Oxboard Original can also convert it into a real cart! Mark continues: 'You can connect the Oxboard Cart to an Oxboard hoverboard quickly and easily. The cart is easy to steer by means of the handles which you use to "accelerate" and, obviously to brake as well. The adjustable frame means that the Oxboard Cart is suitable for young and old. Moreover, the cart is very light and therefore easy to carry around.'

The Original hoverboards, the Blades, and the Cart are technically superior, so Oxboard makes a difference with similar products from other companies. 'At Oxboard everything is tested extensively with a view to providing a safely tested driving experience. Moreover, the balance boards are the only ones with a two-year factory guarantee and their own service engineers.'

### SECOND DIMENSION

For two and a half years now, Mark has been driving a Tesla Model S P85 Performance Plus. We think that's quite logical for someone who is involved with e-mobility on a daily basis. He admits: 'To be honest, that wasn't the reason initially why I wanted to buy the vehicle. I did it because it was fiscally very attractive to a new entrepreneur. Indeed, in the Netherlands you get subsidies. However, after a test drive, a second dimension came to light, namely the driving experience. After the drive, I was so amazed at the driving dynamics, driving comfort, and vast comfort of the car itself that I was won over at once. The flexibility, the power, the speed, and, don't forget, the uniquely pleasant silence are incomparable. I can now honestly say that I couldn't or wouldn't drive a diesel or petrol car again. Driving an electric vehicle, and certainly a Tesla, has nothing but benefits.'

### RELAXED DRIVING

Mark easily covers 50,000km per annum and his job regularly takes him abroad. Do those long distances ever cause a problem? 'Not at all,' he says. 'I can drive just as easily to Austria, Germany, and Italy as I make shorter trips in my own country. There are enough Superchargers available to cover longer distances with no problem at all. And the charging times during those drives are the ideal opportunity to have some rest.'

### UNIQUE ACTION FOR OUR READERS

Mark Collee and Oxboard have a special offer up their sleeve for our readers. Anyone who places an order via the web site [www.oxboard.com](http://www.oxboard.com) and enters the discount code Tesla 2019 will get a good discount of no less than 10% as well as a free delivery.





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# ONCE YOU'VE BEEN TO SARDINIA, YOU WON'T WANT TO GO ANYWHERE ELSE

70

The title of this article is a local adage and it really is no exaggeration. Welcome to Sardinia, the favourite holiday paradise of one in five Italians. It is one of the finest pearls in the Mediterranean Sea with its golden beaches, many harbours, azure water, coves and rocks which protrude well into the sea, and impressive towns with historic churches and basilicas. This little piece of Italy, surrounded by other small islands, is a sun lover's dream, but it also offers a wealth of history and has a magnificent coastline to help you relax completely. We had the opportunity to explore this fantastic holiday resort from one of the most charming spots on the island, namely the luxurious Forte Village Resort.

TEXT: DOMINIQUE SERGANT - PHOTOS: FORTE VILLAGE & DARIO SEQUI





© Dario Sequi

### A TOUCH OF HISTORY

In prehistoric times, Sardinia was already occupied by tribes. They probably discovered the island because in those days Sardinia still adjoined another stretch of land. They built tombs and special towers, also known as nuraghi, which you can still admire today on the island.

The Romans and Arabs are just two of a long series of oppressors who have acquainted themselves with Sardinia. All those oppressors brought their own cultures with them and thereby contributed to the design of buildings. Consequently, you can find several building styles on the island. Furthermore, some traditions have been taken over from occupying cultures, such as the well known sweetish snacks, which are a remnant of Arab culture. Nevertheless, due to its isolated location, the island has largely managed to preserve its own culture.

It was not until the 19th century that Sardinia officially became part of Italy. The island prospered under the dictatorship of Mussolini. Plots of land were drained and set aside for agriculture and mines were constructed. During the two world wars, interest in the island diminished and it fell into decline, but growing tourism did eventually yield an improvement in Sardinia's economic situation.

### A DASH OF CULTURE

On the island the people speak not only Italian, but also Sard or Sardinian. This language bears a close resemblance to Latin. Sardinian, which Italians from mainland Italy do not understand, is still spoken by a large part of the population and is used in traditional music and song. Furthermore, there are also some dialects. For instance, in the north they speak Lugudorese, in the east Nuorese, and Campidanese in the south.

In some towns the local people still wear traditional Sardinian costume. This costume is originally of Spanish and Moorish origin, extremely colourful, and full of embroideries and other adornments. Almost all villages or cities (400 in total) have their own traditional costume. Although the individual items of clothing vary widely, they all have certain features in common. For example, women wear a veil or scarf around their head, long pleated skirts, and embroidered blouses. They show their wealth by means of gold jewellery. By contrast, just about all men wear the same costume: a cap (known as a 'beret'), a white shirt and a tight-fitting jacket, with wide dark trousers. A lot of Sardinians still wear the traditionally made costume during village parties and festivities.

Italy is obviously renowned for its tasty pizzas and pastas, but it has much more to offer than that. The Sardinian cuisine is just as varied as the landscape. As you might expect, there are lots of fish specialities (some even say that the 'best lobster in the world' is found here), but there are also plenty of tasty delicacies from abroad, such as roasted pork and wild boar sausages. In Sardinia you often have a wide choice of restaurants. You also almost always get a basket of 'pane carasau' (thin and flat Sardinian bread) served at the table. Typical Sardinian dishes include 'agnello con finocchetti' (stewed lamb with fennel, tomato, and onion), 'gallina al mirto' (chicken cooked in myrtle leaves and berries), and 'bottarga' (dried fish eggs). The wine produced on the island is of good quality, so it is also the favourite drink with the meal.

The special towers on Sardinia, the nuraghi, are thought to have been built in the bronze age (3000 to 800 before Christ). These constructions are now part of the island's archaeological heritage and are also the reason why Sardinia is nicknamed 'Isola dei Nuraghi' (Nuraghi island). The



towers are made from stones piled on top of each other. There are another 6500 of them on the island, some of them up to 19 metres high.

### **FROM RELAXING ON THE COAST OVER CULTURAL TRIPS INLAND TO SPORTING FEATS IN THE MOUNTAINS**

All types of holiday makers will find something to their taste in Sardinia: magnificent architecture, glamorous nightlife, world class hotels, gourmet restaurants, folkloric festivals, exclusive shopping, and varied activities. For an adventure trip, a romantic trip, or a honeymoon, Sardinia makes an unforgettable destination.

If you're looking for the sun, sea, and relaxation, you can enjoy endless hours on the island's golden beaches amidst the bright sunshine and azure blue water. Sardinia has a coastline of 1,800 kilometres and it isn't called the Gold Coast for nothing. The east and north coasts are very rocky. The rest of the coast is characterised by large inlets with small coves and shell and pebble beaches. Southern Sardinia in particular has lots to offer. White sand beaches, pink sand beaches, rocky beaches, and, in the neighbourhood of Capo Teulada, a 'cow beach', where the shrubs, effusing the aroma of thyme and lavender, extend almost into the sea and stoically chewing cattle stare at the wave breakers. The most popular cliché about Sardinia is that there are more sheep than people. In fact, it's true because apart from the months of July and August when Italians come here on holiday, the empty landscape is the domain of a few lonely shepherds with their flocks and dogs.

For nature lovers and hikers the island houses scores of beautiful mountains. The highest mountains are the Punta la Marmora (1834 metres) and Monte Bruncu Spina (1829 metres). These mountains are part of Mount Gennargentu, which runs through the country inland from north to south and towards the south merges into Mount Gerrei and into the Monte di Alba in the north. The Marghine Goceano mountain range runs over the island. In the south-west there is the Iglesias mountain range and to the south-west of Cagliari there is Mount Capoterra. The mountains in the east are fairly barren, whilst the mountains inland are vegetated by thick woods. Apart from the many woods, there are also the extensive vineyards and scores of olive trees for enthusiasts.

If you're not a fan of walking or relaxing on the beach, you can view Sardinia from under the water. The many caves and wrecks make the island a great spot for diving. For instance, near Nereo's Cave, the cliff near Capo Caccia, you will find a cave with red coral, lobsters, and a huge conger (a very fat type of eel). Or you can go dolphin and whale spotting in the north-west of Sardinia, in the strait of Bonifacio. You can enjoy a day trip to the Grotta di Nettuno (the caves of Neptune, god of the sea). During a boat trip, you are treated to stalactites and stalagmites in special forms. It is also possible to make the trip to the caves on foot, but in that case you will have to venture up more than 650 steps along a steep rocky slope.

Cagliari, the capital of Sardinia, isn't the only place bathed in history and culture. Oristano, too, is a city to delight the typical cultural



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enthusiast, whilst Arzachena houses a tomb from the bronze age. Other pleasant day trips include La Maddalena, the exceptional archipelago of Sardinia, the Costa Smeralda (the gold coast of Sardinia), the Gennargentu mountain range, Iglesiente (unknown South-Western Sardinia), Sinis, the heavenly peninsula of Sardinia, the mysterious tombs (the Tombe dei Giganti) or the natural swimming baths, the hidden pearls of Sardinia.

We just don't have the time or space to mention all that the island has to offer. And so, the only solution is to come and discover it all for yourself and, to do that in style, we can most certainly recommend the Forte Village Resort.

### **FORTE VILLAGE RESORT - A TASTE OF HEAVEN ON EARTH**

One of the many world class resorts in Sardinia is undoubtedly the Forte Village Resort. This resort is equipped with all the modern facilities and luxuries, yet it also combines natural Sardinian charm with international elegance and style.

The resort lies directly adjacent to the beach in an extremely quiet spot. However, it is only 40km from Cagliari airport and 15 minutes drive from the historic city of Nora in the southern and most beautiful part of the island.

Forte Village Resort has excellent, yet discreet security and is a completely car-free zone.

### **ROOM WITH A VIEW**

The fact that people on the island of Sardinia live mainly outdoors is as plain as day. Furthermore, although the easy life on the island isn't really tiring, a good night's sleep does help you to enjoy a proper holiday. The latter is certainly guaranteed in the Forte Village Resort. The resort, a 47ha park with pine trees lies on an extensive cove with a beautiful sandy beach. There is a range of splendidly designed rooms in the eight luxury hotels, 11 villas, and 40 suites available, all of them with a view of the sea or the subtropical gardens. Some of them have their own balcony or a plot of garden, whilst others are located on the beach or near the spa. The holiday of your dreams!

The hotels and suites are located on the beach or they have their own private garden. Yet they're all a haven of rest and privacy. They also offer extra services, such as a 'British-style' butler, your own



chef, or a driver. Staff guarantee each guest the finest personal service with the utmost discretion.

Guests in the hotels and suites can enjoy breakfast in their room, in the Terrazza Cinque Stelle, or in the Cavalieri restaurant. Some restaurants are available for booked guests without a supplement, whilst others require a reservation or make an extra charge.

However, the 11 luxury villas also provide the necessary rest and privacy, since they are located on a closed site and have their own spacious private garden and swimming pool. You can opt for a villa with two or four bedrooms, which, in turn, can be combined with adjoining bungalows for big families, for instance.

The rooms are spacious and designed with shades of natural wood, stone, and earth, inspired by the Sardinian landscape. Villa guests, too, can call upon the services of the 'British butler' for breakfast or for all sorts of reservations.

Obviously, guests in the bungalows can also use all the resort's facilities, such as restaurants, sports facilities, entertainment, shops, and the world class Acquaforte spa, and they can also book their own wellness sessions. All rooms are fitted with an LCD television and air conditioning.

### THE GOOD LIFE

The Forte Village Resort lies on the beach in Santa Margherita di Pula just a few minutes from the city of Nora, which was known for its thermal baths even in Roman times. Inspired by the healing powers of thalasso therapy, the owners of the Forte Village Resort have constructed and developed a spa with the focus on detoxifying, rejuvenating, and refining the body. The working methods have been further refined in collaboration with top specialists in the fields of sport, aesthetics, and diet.

Apart from open-air thalasso, the Acquaforte wellness spa also offers, amongst other things, sauna, hammam, jacuzzi, a fitness gym, massage, and a Spa circuit. You can book a variety of treatments.

Sardinia wouldn't be Sardinia without its charming beaches. The Forte Village Resort, too, has its own private pearl in that regard. For those who prefer not to go swimming in the sea, there are seven swimming pools (two of which have seawater and slides and two swimming pools in the Castello Hotel for guests from Castello, Villa del Parco, and Le Dune), scores of sun terraces, and three children's swimming pools. Beach towels and sun loungers are provided both for on the beach and at the swimming pools.

Obviously, designers have also thought about guests who prefer to be somewhat more active. Sports enthusiasts can play tennis, football, do water sports (waterskiing, sailing, windsurfing, canoeing, pedalo, or banana boat), go diving, cycling, or go-carting or can visit one of the sports academies (Chelsea football, rugby, tennis, cycling, etc.). Finally, there is also a PADI diving centre. You can play golf 10km from the resort, whilst just 100m away you can go horse riding.

### WELCOME TO CHILDREN'S WONDERLAND

We already knew that Italians love children. In Forte Village, too, every effort has been made to give the youngest guests a great holiday. Wonderland (2-12 years) offers ample amusement for children and has a supervised crèche, a water park, and an art and craft centre. For older children there is Leisureland, with a disco, skelters, and bowling facilities. In the adjoining Forte Arena you can enjoy international concerts. Moreover, to give parents more peace of mind, the whole domain is car-free.



You have to **sea** it, to believe it.



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### FEEDING THE INNER MAN

The extensive choices of eating facilities in Forte Village include Italian and other ethnic dishes, Sardinian specialities, grilled dishes, and fish.

One thing's for sure: You won't go hungry or thirsty in the Forte Village Resort. The 21 restaurants and various bars will make sure of that.

A leisurely buffet breakfast invariably means a good start to the day. For quick snacks around noon or an ice-cold drink or if you prefer not to leave your sun lounger for long, you can call in, for instance, at the pizzeria or pasta house. For dinner in the evening you can opt for the grill, gourmet, or fish and sea foods, but you can also try Asian, Brazilian, or Sardinian food. Anyone opting for half board can eat free of charge in the theme restaurants and can also eat in the gastronomic restaurants, subject to the payment of a supplement. In the Pineta- & Colosseo Restaurant half a bottle of the wine of the house and water is included. There is even a children's restaurant for the youngest guests.

For the real connoisseurs there are gourmet restaurants of Michelin star chefs Gordon Ramsay, Rocco Lannone, Alfons Schuhbeck, and Emanuele Scarello or the top class gastronomic restaurants Le Dune & Le Belvedere, which also have a Michelin star.

Under the motto 'looks are also important', all restaurants are extremely elegantly designed and they all have a fabulous view of the sea or the tropical gardens. The friendly staff and the entertainment provided each evening make full a full package.

### TILL WE MEET AGAIN

And so, we can say with hand on heart that this heavenly island hasn't disappointed us in the least and the magnificent Forte Village Resort has certainly lived up to its name.

If we get another chance, we're certainly going back there! Ciao, Sardegna (good-bye, Sardinia, see you soon)!



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Ook zijn gekregen in een onvergetelijke reis naar Sardinië? Meer informatie kan u terugvinden in de brochure van Exclusive Destinations. Deze is te verkrijgen bij de betere reisagent of u kan ze downloaden via [www.exclusive-destinations.be](http://www.exclusive-destinations.be).

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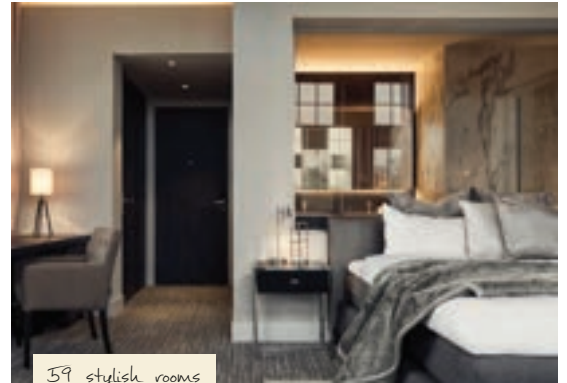
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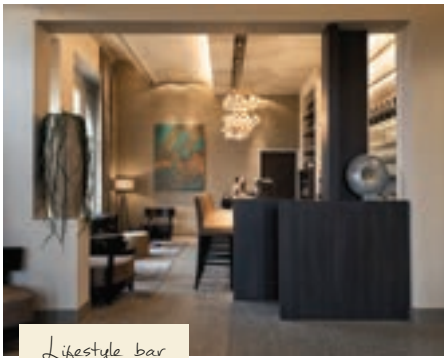
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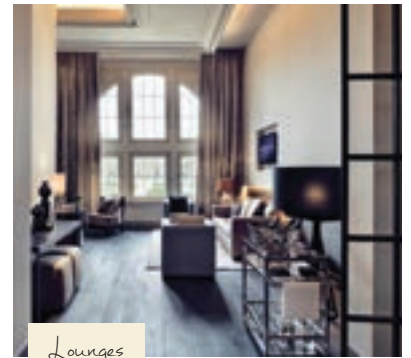
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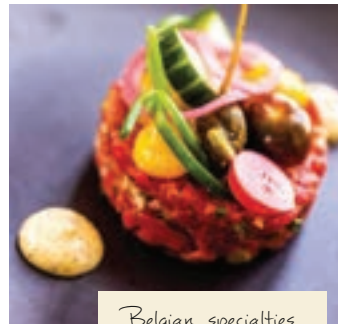
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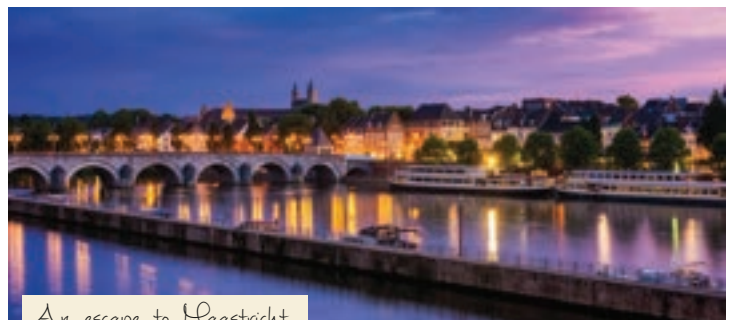
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