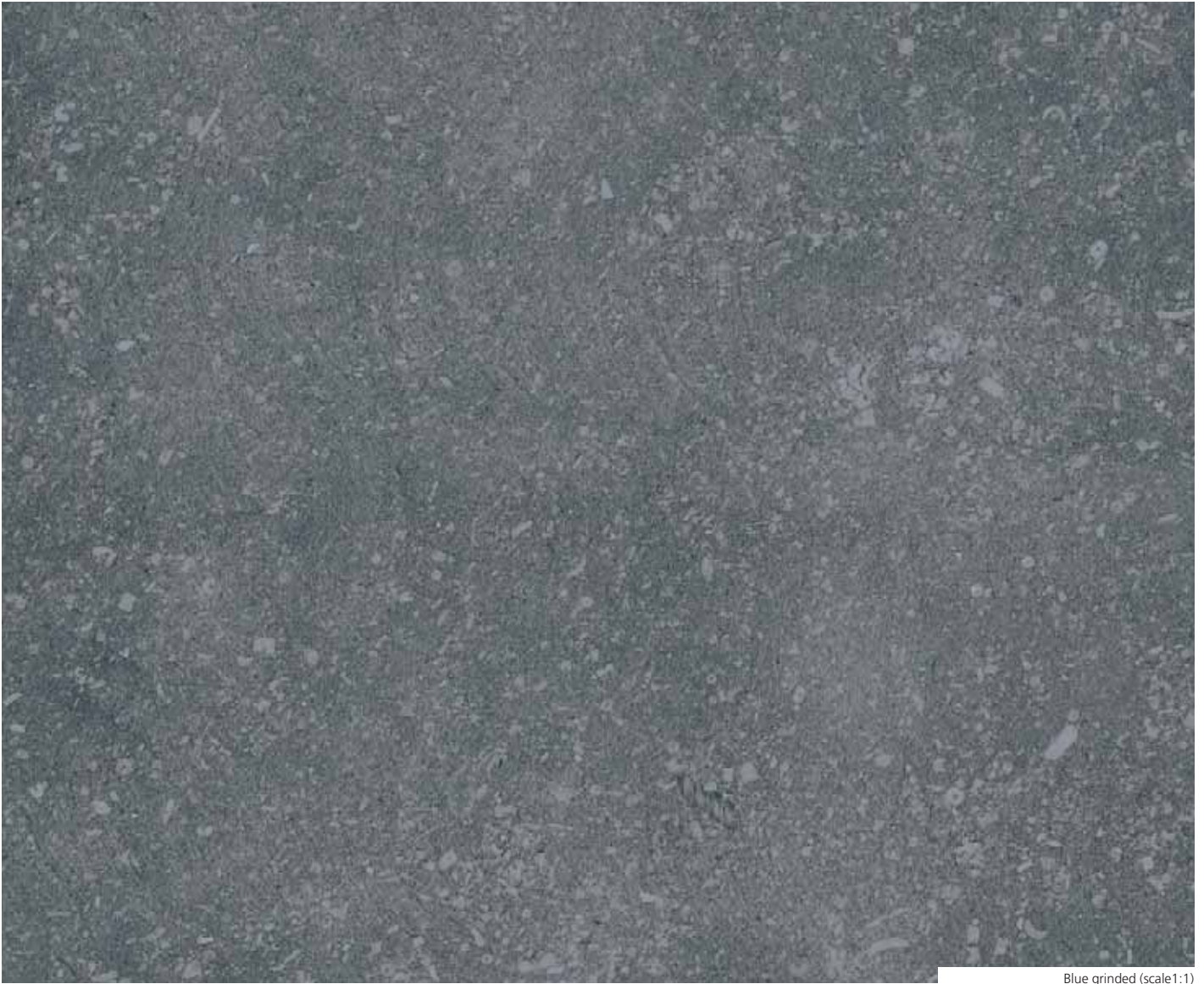




# The La Préalle Quarries

PETIT GRANIT - BELGIAN BLUE LIMESTONE ■



Blue grinded (scale 1:1)



## *Petit granit* | Belgian blue limestone

ALSO KNOWN AS	TYPE	STRATIGRAPHICAL AGE
Blue stone, <i>Petit granit</i> - <i>Pierre bleue de Belgique</i> ®	Crinoidal limestone	Upper Tournaisian (Lower Carboniferous, Palaeozoic)

### LOCAL QUARRIES FOR A QUALITY SERVICE

We have been extracting blocks of superb quality Belgian blue limestone for over 100 years. Our methods of extraction have kept up with all the technological advancements that have taken place over time. In this way, we now extract stones through sawing, either using a diamond wire or chain saw. This enables us to extract substantially-sized blocks in the form of parallelepipeds, free of fractures. The quarries at La Préalles have an annual production capacity of about 10,000 m<sup>3</sup> of blocks.

Our work begins with the extraction process and ends with shaped stone, ready to be integrated into a work of art, a construction, a garden, a public area, etc. In between, we offer a whole range of semi-finished products such as blocks, stones sliced or sawn to measure, and quarry stone for rockfill.



Brussels, arch. M. Corblan, landscape arch. C. Rebold, 1991

## WORKING SITE

Carrières de la Préalpe - 4140 CHANXHE

## TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS\*

### MINERALOGICAL COMPOSITION

Calcite ± 96 %, traces of dolomite, quartz and pyrite

### ATTRIBUTES

Apparent density  
**2686 kg/m<sup>3</sup>**

Open porosity  
**0.31 % vol**

### PERFORMANCE

Compressive strength  
**146 N/mm<sup>2</sup>**

Compressive strength after freeze  
**143 N/mm<sup>2</sup>**

Flexural strength  
**22 N/mm<sup>2</sup>**

Flexural strength after freeze  
**18 N/mm<sup>2</sup>**

Abrasion resistance (Capon method)  
**19.3 mm**

## MAXIMUM DIMENSIONS OF BLOCKS

Length  
**3 m**

Width  
**1.8 m**

Thickness  
**1.2 m**

## MINIMUM THICKNESS FOR APPLICATION

**2 cm**

## TECHNICAL APPROVAL

**ATG 07/H787**

## APPEARANCE, COLOUR AND PATINA

This stone is characterized by the presence of a great many fossil remains, cemented together by a microcrystalline gangue containing very finely divided carbon. When the stone is freshly broken, the fossils produce a sparkling effect through the action of the light on the facets. The crinoids, corals and shells stand out pale against a dark background, which varies from light grey to black, through a range of bluish shades, according to the finish. The stone becomes lighter with exposure to harsh weather conditions, through the surface washing of the interwoven carbon.

## FINISHED PRODUCTS AND STANDARD DIMENSIONS

This stone is widely admired for the numerous cuts and finishes it can take, as well as for huge range of sizes it can be given. It may be applied in several different ways, both inside and out : plinths, façades, as rubble stones, wall coverings, exterior tiles and setts, borders, doorsteps, surrounds for bay windows, window sills, stairs, interior paving, covering for interior walls, skirting boards, worktops, covering for bridges, rockfill, street furniture, as well as all the applications for marble-work, dressing and sculpture.

### Dressed stones

length <150 cm, width <150 cm, thickness 2-30 cm

### Floor tiles

40 x 40 cm, 50 x 50 cm and specified measures  
thickness 2-5 cm

### Doorsteps

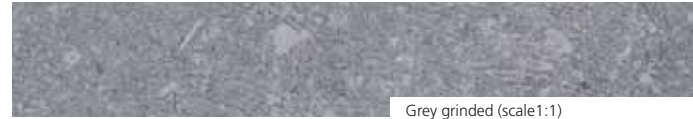
thickness 5/8/10 cm

The surface areas of each element should ideally measure less than 0.5m<sup>2</sup>. Their length should not exceed 1.5 m. For anything larger, it will be necessary to use specially adapted methods when applying the material and the distinctive visual characteristics inherent in all natural matter will have to be borne in mind.

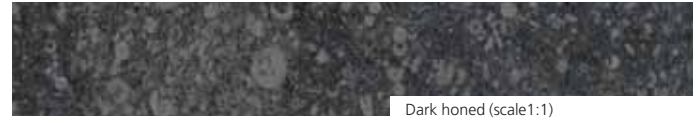
Non-standard dimensions, in addition to advice on application and maintenance, can be obtained directly from the producer.



Sawn (scale1:1)



Grey grinded (scale1:1)



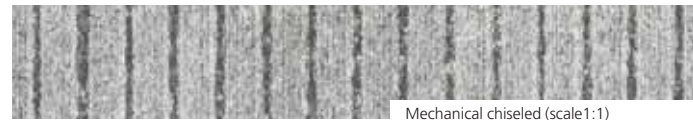
Dark honed (scale1:1)



Polished (scale1:1)



Thick bush-hammered (scale1:1)



Mechanical chiseled (scale1:1)



Old cut (scale1:1)



Flamed (scale1:1)

## DESCRIPTIVE SPECIFICATIONS

«Petit granit - Belgian blue limestone, crinoid limestone, grey-blue in tone, stratigraphic period Upper Tournaisian (Lower Carboniferous, Palaeozoic), belonging to the category [to specify] in accordance with the classification taking account of particular features regarding structure and appearance, as established in technical information note n° 220 of the C.S.T.C. (2002).

This stone comes from quarries holding the Technical Approval certified by the U.B.A.tc, which covers the entire deposit. The finish and appearance will match the samples presented to the individual carrying out the project in question; these three contractual samples will show the standard appearance and the two extremes of variation allowed within the market.

Equivalence: Any proposed product or finish differing from the description given above must undergo the equivalence procedure described in manual 100.2 published by the department of construction quality at the Ministry of Communications and Infrastructure, now the Federal Public Service for the Economy.»

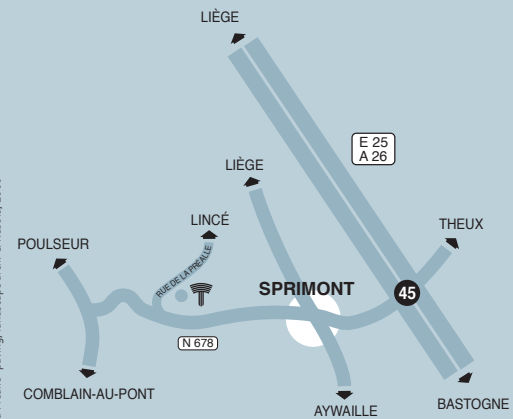
[\*] Data are the most recent available, measured according to applicable European standards.

## CARRIÈRES DE LA PRÉALLE S.A.

Rue de la Préalle, 31 · B-4140 CHANXHE  
 Tel. +32 (0)4 369 99 66 · Fax +32 (0)4 369 99 67

info@laprealle.be · www.laprealle.be  
 VAT BE 0403 974 910 · RPM Liège

Acting managing director: ir. F. Renier  
 Manager: Ing. Y. Vincent



Brussels, "La Préalle" paving, landscape arch. C. Rebollé, 2000



Photo S. Anton



Solid basin with a honed finish



Paving blue grinded and old finish, columns: grey grinded



Liège, place St. Lambert, arch. atelier du Sarti Tilman, 2000



PIERRES & MARBRES WALLONIE



Member of the federation of Belgian blue limestone - Petit Granit producers



Wallonie

