

Wallonia, land of stones, stones of our land



For centuries, the richness of the subsoil to be found in Wallonia has facilitated the extraction of countless varieties of ornamental rocks. Facing profitability and fierce competition from non-local sources, forty ornamental stone quarries are currently in operation, most of which are members of the "PIERRES et MARBRES de WALLONIE" association. Their production covers about fifteen rock types of various natures and textures.









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that...

... ORNAMENTAL STONE IS AN IMPORTANT SOURCE OF NATURAL WEALTH FOR THE WALLOON REGION?

17 varieties of superior quality stone are currently being exploited to meet demands in architecture, urban development, interior design and landscaping.

... STONE FROM THE WALLOON REGION IS EXPORTED?

With an annual production total of 950,000 tonnes gross weight, Belgium is ranked 4th out of European exporters of ornamental stone and 9th overall in the world, covering 2,6% of world's export with 60% finished products.



... STONE IS A CONTEMPORARY, ATTRACTIVE MATERIAL?

Used for coating, finishes and decoration, but also for structural purposes, stones number among the materials preferred by architects, who continue to choose them for their intrinsic qualities, making judicious selections according to each specific usage.



Thanks to constant efforts, investments and age-old expertise, Wallooon quarries remain some of the most modern and successful in Europe. Nowadays there are almost forty quarries supplying products with high added value and remarkable quality.



... STONE PLAYS ITS PART IN THE GLOBAL POLICY OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT?

This is one of the few industries to produce practically no harmful emissions or atmospheric pollution. Moreover, the geographical proximity of the quarries and construction sites means that environmental pollution caused by transport is considerably reduced.

... STONE POSSESSES EXCEPTIONAL QUALITIES FOR CONSTRUCTION?

Our native stones have proved impressively resistant to bad weather and shown great stability, hence their well-known reputation for reliability.



... YOU CANNOT CULTIVATE STONE?

It has taken over 300 million years for stone to achieve its maturing process and its maximum potential. Responsible and careful management of the reserves ensures that this common heritage is not wasted.



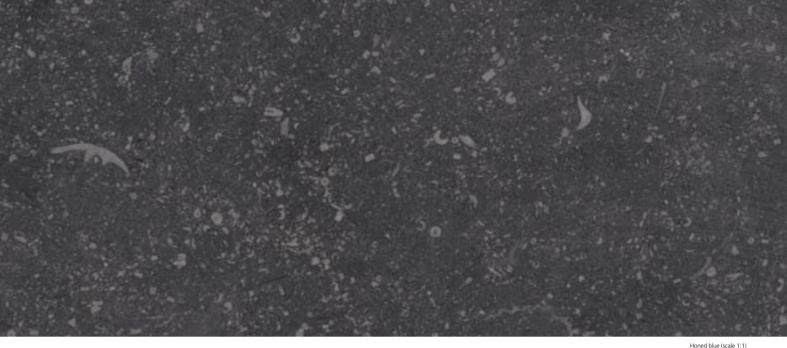
... BUILDING WITH STONE IS MORE ECONOMICAL?

Exceptionally resistant over time, stone offers a long lasting investment, appreciable every day and for decades to come. What is more, its patina adds to its beauty and worth. And let's not forget that, despite what is generally believed, stone is easy and inexpensive to maintain.



... STONEWORKING IS A JOB FOR SPECIALISTS?

It takes dozens of skilled experts, working in turn, to extract, transform, cut and maintain the stone, in its journey from quarry to building site, using craftsmen's techniques in conjunction with state-of-the -art technology.



CALCAREOUS STONES | BLUE STONES

Petit granit - Belgian blue limestone



ALSO KNOWN AS / VARIETIES

Blue stone, Petit granit - Pierre bleue de Belgique® / Petit granit du Bocg



EXTRACTION ZONE

Basins of Soignies, Ourthe-Amblève and Bocq, provinces of Hainaut, Liège and Namur



MINERALOGICAL COMPOSITION

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



MAXIMUM DIMENSIONS OF ROUGH BLOCKS

Length 4,5 m width 2,5 m thickness 2,5 m



MINIMUM THICKNESS FOR APPLICATION

Facing 1 cm - tile 2 cm



SURFACE TREATMENT

Split, sbattu, striated, bush-hammered, sclypé, combed, chiseled, old cut, ice flowers, flamed, aged, sawn, grinded, honed, polished



COMMON APPLICATIONS

Outside: rubble stone, floor tile, paving stone, dressed stone, border, sill, thin cladding, window and door sill, stair, wall coping, rockfill, urban equipment

Inside: floor tile, lining, skirting, stair, counter top, all the applications for marblework, dressing and sculpture







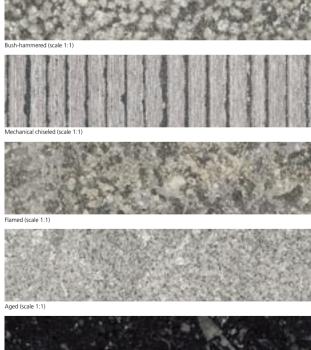












PIERRES & MARBRES WALLONIE | 7

Bocq polished (scale 1:1)



Honed (scale 1:1)

CALCAREOUS STONES | BLUE STONES

Vinalmont Meuse limestone



ALSO KNOWN AS / VARIETIES

Vinalmont stone, Meuse stone, Calcaire de Meuse dit de Vinalmont



EXTRACTION ZONE

Region of Moha and Vinalmont, province of Liège



MINERALOGICAL COMPOSITION

Calcite > 99 %



MAXIMUM DIMENSIONS OF ROUGH BLOCKS

Length 2,2 m width 1,2 m thickness 1,35 m



MINIMUM THICKNESS FOR APPLICATION 1,5 cm



SURFACE TREATMENT

Split, sbattu, bush-hammered, sclypé, combed, chiseled, old cut, ice flowers, aged, grinded, honed, polished



COMMON APPLICATIONS

Outside: rubble stone, floor tile, dressed stone, thin cladding, wall coping, border, window and door sill, sill, stair, rockfill

Inside: floor tile, stair, lining, skirting, furniture, all the applications for marblework, dressing and sculpture







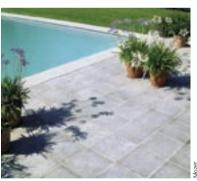


Polished (scale 1:1)

CALCAREOUS STONES | BLUE STONES

Longpré Meuse limestone









ALSO KNOWN AS / VARIETIES Longpré stone, Meuse stone, Calcaire de Meuse dit

EXTRACTION ZONE Valley of Mehaigne, province of Liège

MINERALOGICAL COMPOSITION Calcite > 99 %

de Longpré

MAXIMUM DIMENSIONS OF ROUGH BLOCKS Length 2,5 m width 1,5 m thickness 1,5 m

MINIMUM THICKNESS FOR APPLICATION 2 cm

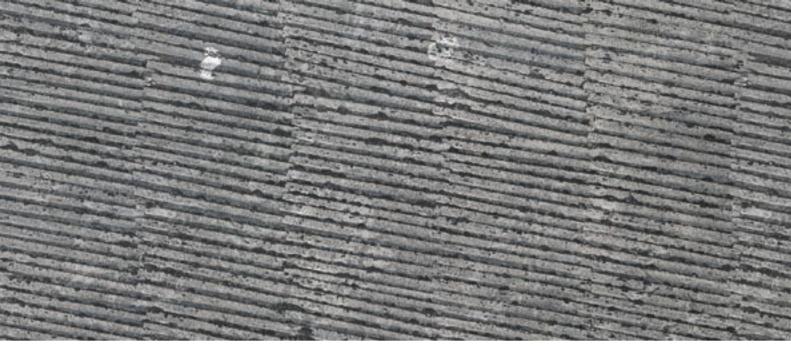
COMMON APPLICATIONS

SURFACE TREATMENT

Split, sbattu, striated, bush-hammered, sclypé, combed, chiseled, old cut, sawn, grinded, honed, polished

Outside: rubble stone, floor tile, paving stone, dressed stone, sill, thin cladding, wall coping, border, window and door sill, stair, rockfill

Inside: floor tile, stair, lining, skirting, counter top, all the applications for marblework, dressing and sculpture

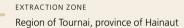


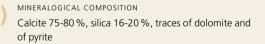
Chiseled (scale 1:1)

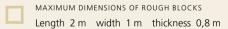
CALCAREOUS STONES | BLUE STONES

Tournai stone - Tournai black



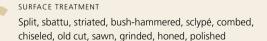








COMMON APPLICATIONS



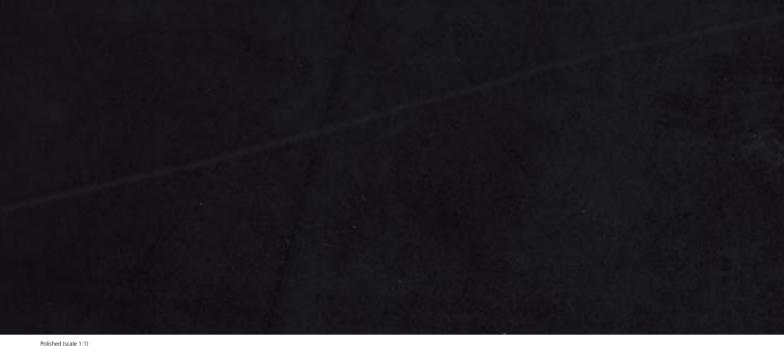
Outside: rubble stone, floor tile, paving stone, dressed stone, sill, thin cladding, wall coping, border, window and door sill, stair, rockfill

Inside: floor tile, stair, lining, skirting, counter top, all the applications for marblework, dressing and sculpture















CALCAREOUS STONES | MARBLES Golzinne black marble

ALSO KNOWN AS / VARIETIES Noir de Mazy, Noir fin, Noir belge / Marbre noir de Dinant

EXTRACTION ZONE Region of Mazy / Region of Dinant, province of Namur

MINERALOGICAL COMPOSITION Mainly calcite

MAXIMUM DIMENSIONS OF ROUGH BLOCKS Length 3 m width 1,5 m thickness 0,5 m

MINIMUM THICKNESS FOR APPLICATION 2 cm

SURFACE TREATMENT Mainly honed and polished

COMMON APPLICATIONS

Outside: rubble stone Inside: floor tile, skirting, sill, wall cladding, step, chimney, fine sculpture



Griotte polished (scale 1:1)

CALCAREOUS STONES | MARBLES

Coloured marbles



Griotte, rouge royal, byzantin, "jaspe," rouge de Flandre, impérial, gris dévonien, gris des Ardennes,

gris de Hautmont, gris Saint-Edouard, gris Versailles / Grand Antique de Meuse, Rubané de Tailfer



Region of Philippeville / Region of Lustin, province of Namur

MINERALOGICAL COMPOSITION

Calcite 90-97 %, with traces of quartz, dolomite and ferruginous minerals

MAXIMUM DIMENSIONS OF ROUGH BLOCKS

Length 3,5 m width 1,6 m thickness 1,6 m

MINIMUM THICKNESS FOR APPLICATION 1,5 cm / 2 cm (reinforced)

SURFACE TREATMENT

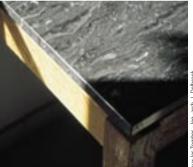
Split or sawn edges, all standard finishes and cuts of marblework, mainly honed and polished

COMMON APPLICATIONS

Outside: rubble stone, floor tile, paving stone

Inside: floor tile, lining, skirting, sill, sculpture, furniture





















Pink grey polished (scale 1:1)



Grand Antique de Meuse polished (scale 1:1)



CALCAREOUS STONES | WHITE STONES

Fontenoille sandy limestone



ALSO KNOWN AS / VARIETIES

Fontenoille stone, Fontenoille sandstone, Sinemurian calcareous sandstone, Calcaire gréseux de Fontenoille



EXTRACTION ZONE

Gaume region, province of Luxemburg



MINERALOGICAL COMPOSITION

Quartz 32,4 %, calcite 65,7 %, traces of dolomite and ferruginous minerals



MAXIMUM DIMENSIONS OF ROUGH BLOCKS

Length 1,2 m width 1-2 m thickness 0,45 m



MINIMUM THICKNESS FOR APPLICATION

3 cm

SURFACE TREATMENT

Split, trimmed, sawn, grinded



COMMON APPLICATIONS

Outside: rubble stone, corner, voussoir, window and door sill (thin facing, paving stone, floor tile, border, stair)

Inside: floor tile











CALCAREOUS STONES | WHITE STONES

Gobertange sandy limestone

ALSO KNOWN AS / VARIETIES Gobertange stone, Bruxellian stone, Calcaire gréseux de Gobertange

MINERALOGICAL COMPOSITION

COMMON APPLICATIONS

Inside: chimney

door sill, floor tile, paving stone

Region of Jodoigne, province of Walloon Brabant

Calcite 73-87 %, quartz 11-25 %, traces of ferruginous

EXTRACTION ZONE

minerals







MAXIMUM DIMENSIONS OF ROUGH BLOCKS Length 0,7 m width 0,4 m thickness 0,12 m MINIMUM THICKNESS FOR APPLICATION 6 cm SURFACE TREATMENT Split, chiseled, aged, sawn, grinded, honed, easy cutting and moulding

Outside: rubble stone, dressed stone, window and



Condroz sandstone



ALSO KNOWN AS / VARIETIES

Hard sandstone, Condroz psammite, Meuse sandstone, Famennian sandstone, *Grès du Condroz*



EXTRACTION ZONE

Valleys of Amblève, Bocq, Hoyoux, Ourthe and Samson, provinces of Liège and Namur



MINERALOGICAL COMPOSITION

Quartz 62-78 %, lesser amounts of mica and feldspar



MAXIMUM DIMENSIONS OF ROUGH BLOCKS

Length 2 m width 1-2 m thickness 07-1,5 m



MINIMUM THICKNESS FOR APPLICATION
Horizontal element 2 cm



SURFACE TREATMENT

Split, rough split, trimmed, retouched, squared



COMMON APPLICATIONS

Outside: rubble stone, step, wall coping, corner, window and door sill, claddingstone, paving stone, thin paving stone, floor tile, small tile, border

Inside: interior decoration

















Cleaved rubble stone (scale 1:1)





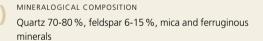
Cleaved rubble stone (scale 1:1)

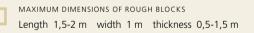


Arkose

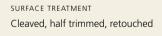












COMMON APPLICATIONS

Outside: rubble stone, cornerstone, window and door sill, floor tile, wall coping Inside: interior decoration









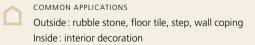
Quartzite













Cleaved rubble stone (scale 1:1)

Schistose sandstone



EXTRACTION ZONE

Ardennes, provinces of Liège and Luxemburg

MINERALOGICAL COMPOSITION

Combination of silica, clayey, ferruginous and aluminiferous minerals

MAXIMUM DIMENSIONS OF ROUGH BLOCKS

Length 0,5-3 m width 0,25-2 m thickness 0,4 m varies with type

MINIMUM THICKNESS FOR APPLICATION

Tile 3 cm - vertical element 5 cm

SURFACE TREATMENT
Untreated, split, sometimes sawn

COMMON APPLICATIONS

Outside: flat rubble stone, corner, voussoir, lintel, floor tile, wall coping, sill, furniture

Inside: floor tile, interior decoration







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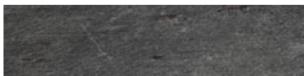




Cleaved rubble stone (scale 1:1)



Cleaved rubble stone (scale 1:1)



Cleaved rubble stone (scale 1:1)



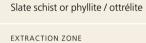
Cleaved rubble stone (scale 1:1)



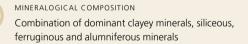
Cleaved rubble stone (scale 1:1)

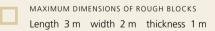
SILICEOUS STONES Schist

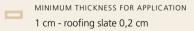


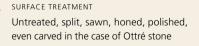












COMMON APPLICATIONS Outside: rubble stone, corner, voussoir, window and door sill, sill, step, wall coping, floor tile, furniture, roofing slate and wall covering Inside: counter top, floor tile, interior decoration









Paving stone (scale 1:1)

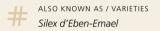
SILICEOUS STONES



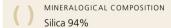


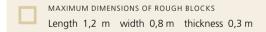




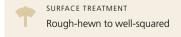












COMMON APPLICATIONS Outside: rubble stone, corner, voussoir, window and door sill, paving stone Inside: chimney



Mont-Malmedy - Arch. Artau

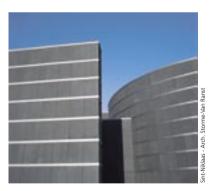
COMMON APPLICATIONS

Architecture

Rubble	Thin facing	Linear element
		•

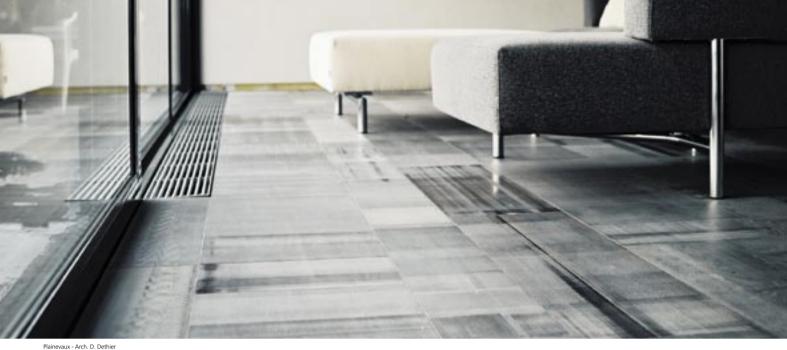






A TRADITION OPEN TO ALL INNOVATIONS

The local stone blends ideally into our natural and built-up landscape, even into the boldest achievements. Renovation, restoration, contemporary architecture, it combines harmoniously with wood, concrete, glass or metal, in a frank and original dialogue. Its aesthetic and building qualities make it an additional asset for a peaceful environment.



COMMON APPLICATIONS

Interior design

STONE, A LIVING MATERIAL

Always more beautiful to look at as the years go by, stone naturally finds its place in your everyday life, in your home or at work. Long-lasting and easy to keep clean, stone is a first-choice material for interior design purposes. It takes an active part in your indoor comfort and serenity combining practical and aesthetic characteristics.







Thin facing	Tile	Straight-line element	Decoration	
				Blue limestone
				Vinalmont-limestone
				Longpré-limestone
				Tournai-limestone
•			•	Black marble
				Coloured marbles
				Fontenoille-sandstone
				Gobertange-sandstone
				Condroz-sandstone
				Arkose
				Quartzite
				Schistose sandstone
				Schist
				Flint



Brussels - City architect

COMMON APPLICATIONS

City and garden developments

	Paving stone	Tile	Linear element	Furniture
Blue limestone				
Vinalmont-limestone				
Longpré-limestone				
Tournai-limestone				
Black marble				
Coloured marbles				
Fontenoille-sandstone				
Gobertange-sandstone				
Condroz-sandstone				
Arkose				
Quartzite				
Schistose sandstone				
Schist		•		
Flint				

LOCAL STONE, AN INTEGRAL PART OF NATURE

Stone is instrumental in creating a quality living environment, in our towns and cities and in our gardens. Whether on a boulevard or in a public square, in a garden or on a terrace, stone meets all your requirements. Stone is resistant to weathering and pollution and retains all its characteristics in a happy association with nature and the city.







Editing and coordination Cristina Marchi Graphic design and production Noir Quadri Photoengraving Noir Quadri Printing Imprimerie François

Illustrations Serge Brison © Pierres et Marbres de Wallonie, Histoires d'images, Françoise Denoël, Yannis Argyropoulos © Pierres et Marbres de Wallonie, Guy Focant, Laurent Lecocq, Daylight, Silvio Cassano

Publisher V. Brancaleoni, 54 rue Joseph Potier, B-4140 Sprimont

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We would like to thank the architects whose works have been used to illustrate this brochure. We apologize to those who have not been mentioned here and invite them to contact the Association

The "Pierres et Marbres de Wallonie" association benefits from the active support of its members, the Walloon Minister for the Environment, the General Administration for Natural Resources and the Environment in the Walloon Region, the Walloon Export Agency.







The association "PIERRES et MARBRES de WALLONIE" provides a quality service offering information on stone and its uses, for the general public, architects, entrepreneurs and local authorities:

- > technical and general information;
- > awareness and tools for providing information;
- > technical research;
- > contacts between different partners within the sector and authorities.



PIERRES & MARBRES WALLONIE

PIERRES et MARBRES de WALLONIE asbl

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ffraix - Arch. L. Nelles

Everything you would like to know about the stones and marbles of Wallonia, the quarries and their products

www.pierresetmarbres.be



PIERRES & MARBRES WALLONIE