

Natuurpunt launches new Green Day

visit the tern peninsula in Zeebrugge through internet and by boat !

From today on, you can visit the largest breeding colony of terns in Western Europe with a simple mouse click. Go to www.natuurpunt.be/sternen and admire this unique natural piece of beauty.

After the expansion of the harbour during the nineties, Zeebrugge attracted not only ships. Also terns showed their interest in the port, and how?! In less than 10 years, the artificial peninsula at the eastern breakwater in the port, has turned into the largest breeding colony of terns in Western Europe. In 2004, 7291 terns bred here: 172 little terns, 4067 sandwich terns and 3052. Beside these red-listed birds, you also can find Kentish plover and gulls. No wonder the project exists in the line of Natura 2000, as Belgium submitted the area as a Natura 2000-site.

The area is located in a zone inaccessible for the large public (in the security zone of Fluxys which handles Liquid Natural Gaz), and is almost free of disturbance. To make accessible the tern peninsula, Natuurpunt (Flemish partner Birdlife Belgium) called on high quality technique like the fastest media streaming servers and the most modern security cameras and set up a cooperation with telecommunication partners Scarlet and Rambla.

**visit www.natuurpunt.be/sternen
and see the birds breeding on your screen!**

The website does not only intend to show the terns live, it also offer a lot of other information about the tern peninsula and its inhabitants; it also get to know the technique behind the whole project and learn more about our partners. Besides that, you will find a lot of information about the Flemish coast, its natural reserves and tourism.

To bring the project even closer to the large public, Natuurpunt launched the campaign "Terns at their best". Everyone can join us at he passenger boat "River Palace" which will make a harbour tour each Sunday in June and July passing the tern peninsula. Aboard, tern guides (= enthusiastic volunteers) will tell you more about the terns.

Dirk Draulans (a well-known Flemish journalist and author) is the fresh godfather of the project and needed not to be persuaded on this new Green Day : *"I think it's magnificent that nature and industry go hand in hand here, creating a unique place for rare birds and what's even more magnificent, those rare birds will become a tourist attraction. Birds should take profit from people and the other way round, people should enjoy the birds!"*

Here is listed all the information you need:

- When? Each Sunday in July at 14h and 16h, except on 2nd July.
- Where? The "River Palace" is moored at the Jacques Brel berth in the old fishing port of Zeebrugge (close to Seafront).
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Price?	Groups (>20 persons)	Individuals
Adults	€ 7.80	€ 8.30
Children (<12 years)	€ 5.80	€ 6.50
Seniors	€ 7.80	€ 7.80

Schools and youth movements: € 5.80 (<14 years) and € 7.80 (>14 years); per 20 paying persons, 1 teacher has free entrance.