EUROPEAN HERITAGE DAYS
OCTOBER 17, 2026

Sovereign perspectives

Portraits of the Grand Dukes and Grand Duchesses of Luxembourg

Chambre des Députés
GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG

The Chamber of Deputies

The Chamber of Deputies is the unicameral Parliament of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

The 60 members of Parliament are elected every five years by universal suffrage. Its three main responsibilities are to draft and adopt legislation, scrutinise the Government and conduct political debate – the adoption of legislation being its most emblematic role. **Luxembourg is a parliamentary democracy** organised in the form of a constitutional monarchy. **Constitutional ties** connect the Chamber of Deputies and the Head of State, the Grand Duke. However, in accordance with the principle of the separation of powers, the Grand Duke does not take part in public sessions of the Parliament.

Nevertheless, his presence is ensured symbolically by several works of art representing Luxembourg's monarchy, in particular the **portrait of the current Grand Duke located in the Plenary Hall**, at the heart of the Chamber of Deputies.

At the heart of Parliament's official rooms

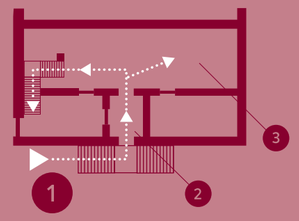
Gallery of Speakers
The portraits of the Speakers of the Parliament welcome visitors at the entrance to the main building of the Chamber of Deputies.

Foyer of the Chamber of Deputies
The Foyer of the Chamber of Deputies is the main entrance to the "Hôtel de la Chambre" (Chamber Hall). This is where the members of Parliament and ministers pass through to access the Plenary Hall.

The "Salle des pas perdus" (the "Antichamber")
This room, which is located before the Plenary Hall, is where the members of Parliament and ministers meet for discussions during public sessions.

The Plenary Hall
This is where the 60 members of Parliament all meet to debate and vote on legislation. This is the official heart of the legislative process and government monitoring.

Ground floor



1 Start of the tour
2 Portrait gallery (Speakers of the Chamber of Deputies)
3 Foyer of the Chamber of Deputies

Adolphe and Wilhelm IV, Grand Dukes of Luxembourg

Ferdinand d'Huart (1858–1919)
1900 and 1910

Commissioned for the Universal Exhibitions in Paris (1900) and Brussels (1910), these monumental portraits of Grand Dukes Adolphe and Wilhelm IV highlight the presence of Luxembourg and its dynasty. Ferdinand d'Huart drew inspiration from a portrait by Carl von Pidoll for Adolphe's likeness, while Wilhelm IV's portrait was based on a photograph, as the sovereign's illness prevented him from posing.

Foyer of the Chamber of Deputies **3**

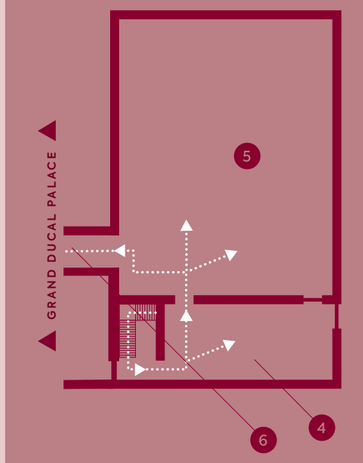
Grand Duchess Charlotte

Cipri Adolf Bermann (1862–1942)
Foundry: Verbeyst, Brussels
1935 (or before)

This bronze bust was on show in Luxembourg's pavilion at the Universal Exhibition in Brussels in 1935. Created by the German sculptor Cipri Adolf Bermann, it continues a tradition of painted portraits and busts of Luxembourgish sovereigns presented at major international exhibitions.

Foyer of the Chamber of Deputies **3**

First floor



4 The "Salle des pas perdus" ("Antichamber")
5 Plenary Hall
6 Corridor to the Palace

Grand Duchess Charlotte

Hubert-Denis Etcheverry (1867–1952)
1937

Painted at Berg Castle by the French artist Hubert-Denis Etcheverry for the Universal Exhibition in Paris in 1937, during the Second World War this portrait of the sovereign became a clandestine image of the Resistance. It was reproduced in photomontages associating the Grand Duchess with patriotic symbols, and tens of thousands of copies were distributed. After 1945, the piece was moved to the Chamber of Deputies' Plenary Hall.

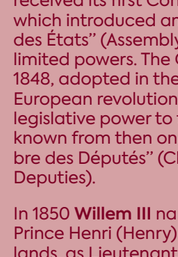
"Salle des pas perdus" **4**

Grand Duke Jean

Ricardo Macarrón (1926–2004)
1989

In 1989, the Spanish painter Ricardo Macarrón painted the official portrait of Grand Duke Jean. While the one hanging in the Grand Ducal Palace is a three-quarter length representation, this one is a full-length portrait. Wearing his full dress uniform, the Grand Duke wears his ribbon bar of military decorations, in keeping with the portraits of Grand Dukes Adolphe and Wilhelm IV exhibited at the entrance to the Chamber of Deputies.

"Salle des pas perdus" **4**

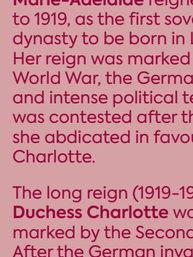


Grand Duke Henri

Louis Van Gorp (1932–2008)
2001

For the Plenary Hall of the Chamber of Deputies, Louis Van Gorp represents Grand Duke Henri in full dress uniform, in front of a view of Clausen. His everyday realism, attentive to the lighting, reflections and colours, anchors the sovereign in a landscape that is emblematic of the capital.

"Salle des pas perdus" **4**

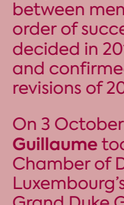


Grand Duke Guillaume

Andrew Gow (* 1978)
2025

Andrew Gow painted the official portrait of Grand Duke Guillaume for the Chamber of Deputies. In front of a sober blue curtain, the Grand Duke is accompanied by his monogram, which was included for the first time in the official portrait of a Luxembourgish sovereign.

Plenary Hall **5**



Posthumous bust of Grand Duchess Marie-Adélaïde

Hans Defregger (1886–1956)
1929

Commissioned by Luxembourg's government in 1928, this posthumous bust of Grand Duchess Marie-Adélaïde was created by the Munich-based sculptor Hans Defregger. Her mother, Grand Duchess Marie Anne of Braganza, considered it a faithful likeness of the sovereign as she was during the final months of her life.

Chamber-Palace Corridor **6**

Series of portraits

Ferdinand d'Huart (1858–1919)
1895–1910

In the passageway connecting the Chamber of Deputies with the Grand Ducal Palace, the portraits by Ferdinand d'Huart give the impression of being designed as a homogeneous whole. However, they were commissioned successively by the Luxembourgish government between 1895 and 1910, based on portraits painted by the artist for the "Salon des Rois" in the Grand Ducal Palace as well as for the Universal Exhibitions of 1900 and 1910.

From left to right and top to bottom:
Prince Henri (Henry) of the Netherlands, Lieutenant Representative of Willem III;
Grand Duke Wilhelm IV;
Grand Duke Adolphe;
King-Grand Duke Willem I;
King-Grand Duke Willem II;
and King-Grand Duke Willem III.

Chamber-Palace Corridor **6**

The Plenary Hall is the heart of Parliament

The Monarchy, the Chamber of Deputies and the Constitution over the years

The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg was created by the Congress of Vienna in 1815, and personally assigned to the King of the Netherlands, **Willem I**. Luxembourg then joined a personal union with the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Under **Willem II**, the Grand Duchy received its first Constitution in 1841, which introduced an "Assemblée des États" (Assembly of States) with limited powers. The Constitution of 1848, adopted in the context of the European revolutions, entrusted the legislative power to the Parliament, known from then on as the "Chambre des Députés" (Chamber of Deputies).

In 1850 **Willem III** named his brother, Prince Henri (Henry) of the Netherlands, as Lieutenant Representative in Luxembourg. In 1856, an authoritarian revision of the Constitution reduced the rights of Parliament, before the Constitution of 1868 re-established most parliamentary freedoms.

In 1890, the accession to the throne of **Grand Duke Adolphe**, who was from the Walramian branch of the House of Nassau, ended the personal union with the Netherlands.

As a father of six daughters, in 1907 **Grand Duke Wilhelm IV** amended the rules of succession in order to make his eldest daughter Marie-Adélaïde heir to the throne and ensure the continuation of the dynasty.

Marie-Adélaïde reigned from 1912 to 1919, as the first sovereign of the dynasty to be born in Luxembourg. Her reign was marked by the First World War, the German occupation and intense political tensions. She was contested after the conflict, and she abdicated in favour of her sister Charlotte.

The long reign (1919–1964) of **Grand Duchess Charlotte** was deeply marked by the Second World War. After the German invasion of 10 May 1940, she went into exile with her family and the government. Her speeches broadcast by the BBC from London made her a symbol of national independence. The buildings of the Chamber of Deputies and the Grand Ducal Palace were requisitioned by the occupying forces.

The reign of **Grand Duke Jean** (1964–2000) accompanied the economic and social modernisation of the country, and also confirmed its commitment to Europe. Before acceding to the throne, he had served in the British army in the Normandy landings and returned to a liberated Luxembourg on 10 September 1944.

The reign of **Grand Duke Henri** (2000–2025) was marked by several institutional developments. The 2009 constitutional revision abolished the power to sanction laws. Equality between men and women in the order of succession to the throne was decided in 2010 by the Grand Duke and confirmed by the constitutional revisions of 2023.

On 3 October 2025, **Grand Duke Guillaume** took the oath before the Chamber of Deputies and became Luxembourg's new Head of State. Grand Duke Guillaume and **Grand Duchess Stéphanie** have two sons, Prince Charles and Prince François.

Corridor between the Chamber of Deputies and the Grand Ducal Palace

Grand Duchess Marie-Adélaïde

Oscar Edwin Adalbert Meyer-Elbing
(1866-1938)
1918

Oscar Meyer-Elbing was born in Elbing (now Elbląg, in Poland) and lived in Wiesbaden, the former residence of the Nassaus. He painted the Grand Duchess at the Grand Ducal Palace in 1918. The same tiara was worn by her sister Charlotte from 1919 onwards.

"Salon jaune" 10

Grand Duke Henri and Grand Duchess Maria Teresa

Ricardo Macarrón (1926-2004)
2004

In 2002, Ricardo Macarrón was commissioned to paint Grand Duke Henri and Grand Duchess Maria Teresa. The setting offers a glimpse of the interior of the Grand Ducal Palace. The artist's death in May 2004 interrupted the work: unfinished and unsigned, the portraits were authenticated on the reverse by his widow.

"Salon jaune" 10

Willem I and Willem II, Kings of the Netherlands and Grand Dukes of Luxembourg

Adriaan Johannes Petrus Boudewijnse
(1862-1909)
1893-1894

Based in The Hague, A.J.P. Boudewijnse painted the portraits of Willem I and Willem II for the "Salon des Rois" in the Grand Ducal Palace. He was inspired by the works of Jan Adam Kruseman and Nicolaas Pieneman, both kept at The Hague's city hall.

"Salon des Rois" 9

Willem III, King of the Netherlands and Grand Duke of Luxembourg

Willem ("Willy") Martens (1856-1927)
1894-1895

Willy Martens painted a copy of his monumental portrait of King-Grand Duke Willem III. The original, at the time kept at the legation of the Netherlands in Paris and which today hangs in Het Loo Palace, served as a model in his workshop in The Hague.

"Salon des Rois" 9

Prince Henri (Henry) of the Netherlands, Lieutenant Representative of Willem III

Ferdinand d'Huart (1858-1919)
1894-1895

Ferdinand d'Huart, a Luxembourgish painter based in Paris, designed this portrait of Prince Henri without copying one single model. D'Huart painted the piece using several references and he simplified the décor in order to harmonise the painting with the other portraits in the gallery. The prince appears in naval uniform, the outfit worn during official ceremonies in Luxembourg.

"Salon des Rois" 9

Grand Duke Adolphe

Carl von Pidoll zu Quintenbach (1847-1901)
1895

This portrait was painted in 1895 by the Austrian painter Carl von Pidoll zu Quintenbach, who was related by marriage to a Luxembourg industrial family. It represents the sovereign in the uniform of the chief of the volunteers corps in front of the Nassau coat of arms. An inscription highlights his age at the time it was painted: 77.

"Salon des Rois" 9

Grand Duke Wilhelm IV

Edmond Goergen (1914-2000)
1949

The space intended for the portrait of Grand Duke Wilhelm IV was initially occupied by a view of Vianden. In 1949, Luxembourg painter Edmond Goergen filled this gap: inspired by Ferdinand d'Huart's portrait, now displayed at the entrance to the Chamber of Deputies, he installed the sovereign in the Gallery of Honour.

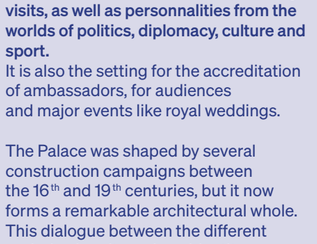
"Salon des Rois" 9

Grand Duke Guillaume

Serge Ecker (* 1982)
3D Scan: Artec 3D
Foundry: Kunstgießerei Strassacker
2025

Intended for Luxembourg institutions, this official bust by Serge Ecker originated from a 3D scan of the Grand Duke, subsequently reworked by the artist before being cast using traditional techniques. This dialogue between digital technology and materiality echoes Mélusina, the artist's iconic work installed alongside the Alzette river.

"Salle des Fêtes" 11



Grand Duke Jean and Grand Duchess Joséphine-Charlotte

Ricardo Macarrón (1926-2004)
1989

In 1989, Ricardo Macarrón painted new official portraits of the grand ducal couple. The Grand Duke appears in full dress uniform, and the Grand Duchess in an off-white dress. Against understated, abstract backgrounds, their direct gazes lend the portraits a solemn presence characteristic of the painter's artistic style.

"Salle des Fêtes" 11

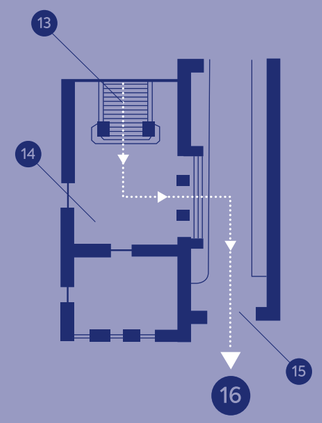
Grand Duke Guillaume and Grand Duchess Stéphanie

Louise Pragnell (* 1981)
2025

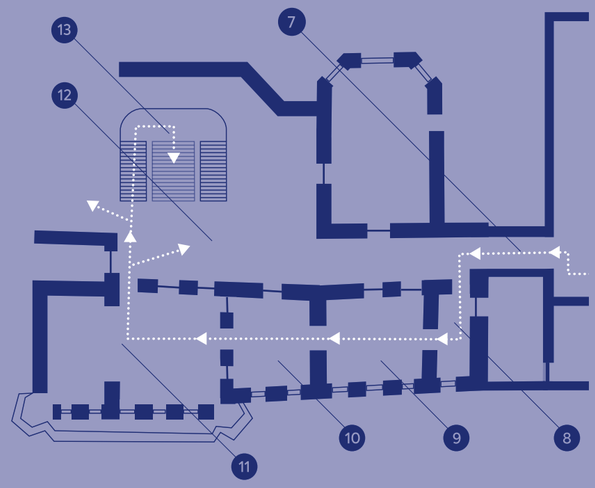
The official portraits by British portrait artist Louise Pragnell depict the grand ducal couple at the Grand Ducal Palace, thereby anchoring them in the principal setting in which the Head of State performs his official duties and representative functions.

"Salle des Fêtes" 11

Ground floor



First floor



7 Corridor to the Chamber of Deputies
8 "Salon des Cartes"
9 "Salon des Rois"
10 "Salon jaune"
11 "Salle des Fêtes"
12 Gallery of Honour
13 Grand staircase
14 Entrance Hall
15 Carriage entrance
16 End of the tour

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Sovereign perspectives

Portraits of the Grand Dukes and Grand Duchesses of Luxembourg

Maison du Grand-Duc

The Grand Ducal Palace

The **Grand Ducal Palace**, one of the most emblematic buildings in the capital, **has been the official workplace of the Head of State since 1895**.

Behind its elegant façade subtly sprinkled with symbols, an intense institutional life takes place. **The Palace hosts State visits, official visits, working visits, as well as personnalities from the worlds of politics, diplomacy, culture and sport.**
It is also the setting for the accreditation of ambassadors, for audiences and major events like royal weddings.

The Palace was shaped by several construction campaigns between the 16th and 19th centuries, but it now forms a remarkable architectural whole. This dialogue between the different periods gives it a unique identity: **a symbol of the continuity of the state as well as a jewel of Luxembourg's national heritage**.

© Maison du Grand-Duc; Sophie Margue, Christof Weber/MNAHA; Tom Lucas

Grand Duchess Charlotte and Prince Félix

Jos Damien (1879-1973)
and Anne Rutten (1898-1981)
1936-1938

Belgian portrait painters based in Hasselt, Jos Damien and Anne Rutten jointly created these monumental portraits of Grand Duchess Charlotte and Prince Félix between 1936 and 1938, for which the Grand Duchess and the Prince sat at Berg Castle. Initially displayed at the castle, the portraits were moved to the Hôtel Saint-Maximin in 1955 and subsequently to the official rooms of the Grand Ducal Palace.

Gallery of Honour 12

Grand Duchess Charlotte

Paul Landowski (1875-1961)
1939

This patinated plaster bust was created in 1939 by French sculptor Paul Landowski, creator of Christ the Redeemer in Rio. Interrupted by the Second World War, the project ultimately resulted, after 1944, in a marble bust intended for the new Radio-Luxembourg building, Villa Louvigny.

Gallery of Honour 12

Grand Duke Guillaume

Roland Schauls (* 1953)
2025

The Luxembourgish artist Roland Schauls, who trained in Stuttgart, painted this official portrait of Grand Duke Guillaume in 2025 to mark his accession to the throne. In it the sovereign places his hand on the Constitution, placed on a showcase table given as a gift to Grand Duchess Charlotte in 1945 after the Liberation.

Gallery of Honour 12