



Gardens and parks

A walk through the green areas of the City of Luxembourg



Luxembourg

the city

bonjour!



A walk through the green areas of the City of Luxembourg

Our stroll through the parks and gardens of the City of Luxembourg begins at the **Bock Outcrop** [1], the cradle of the City, where we can enjoy a wonderful view of the imposing silhouette of the old city and the valley of the River Alzette. Here too is the entrance to the Casemates, underground fortress galleries.

From the Bock Outcrop we walk down the Montée de Clausen. To the left we have a panoramic view over the Pfaffenthal Hospice nestling in the valley and the strict geometric arrangement of its **Convent Garden** [A].

Arriving in Clausen, to the right before the bridge a few steps lead down to the pedestrian promenade along the bank of the River Alzette. Taking that path we come to the “Stierchen” fortified bridge, which we cross to reach the **Neumünster Abbey** [2]. The cultural centre here is noted inter alia for its contemporary monastery garden.

Over the “Stierchen” bridge we return to the left bank of the River Alzette. There, at the foot of the Bock Outcrop, is the “Klouschtergaart” (**Convent Garden**) [3]. At this point the sandstone rock protects the Alzette Valley from the cold north winds. The hours of sunshine and the warmth



[1]



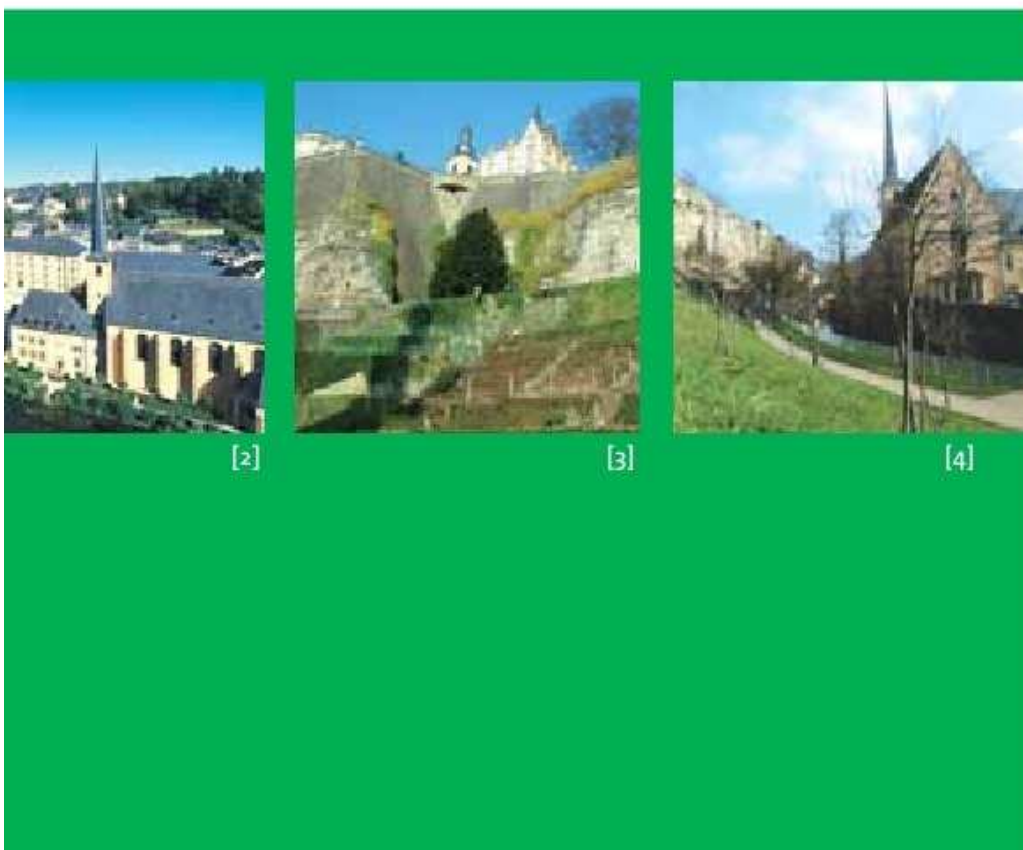
[A]



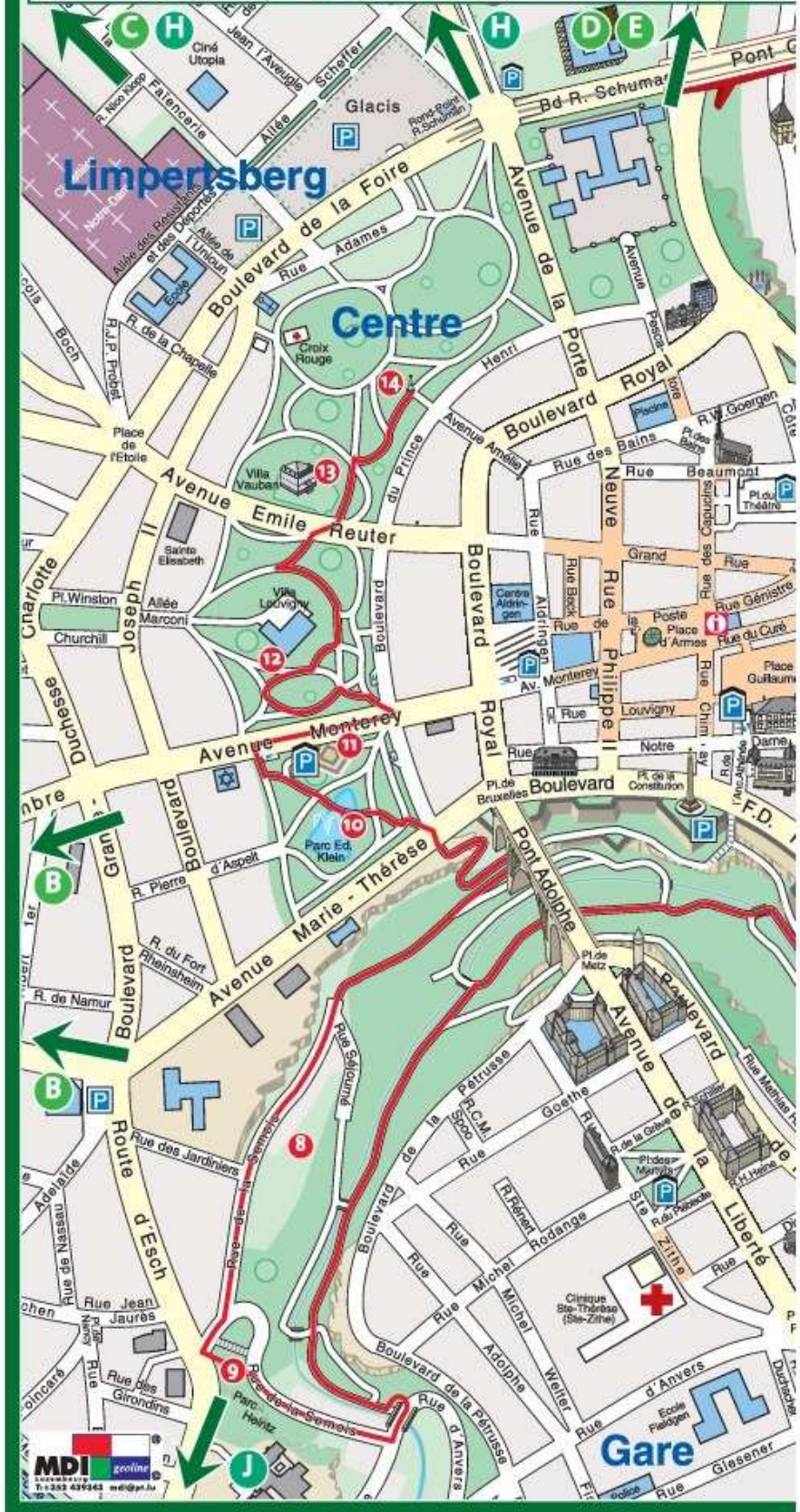
that is stored throughout the day are a boon to horticulture. Within the context of the partnership with the Trier Garden Show 2004, the old terrace gardens are being restored to their former glory. Vegetables, vines and medicinal plants grow in renewed splendour. A part of the area serves the National Museum for Natural History, located on the other bank, for educational and research purposes.

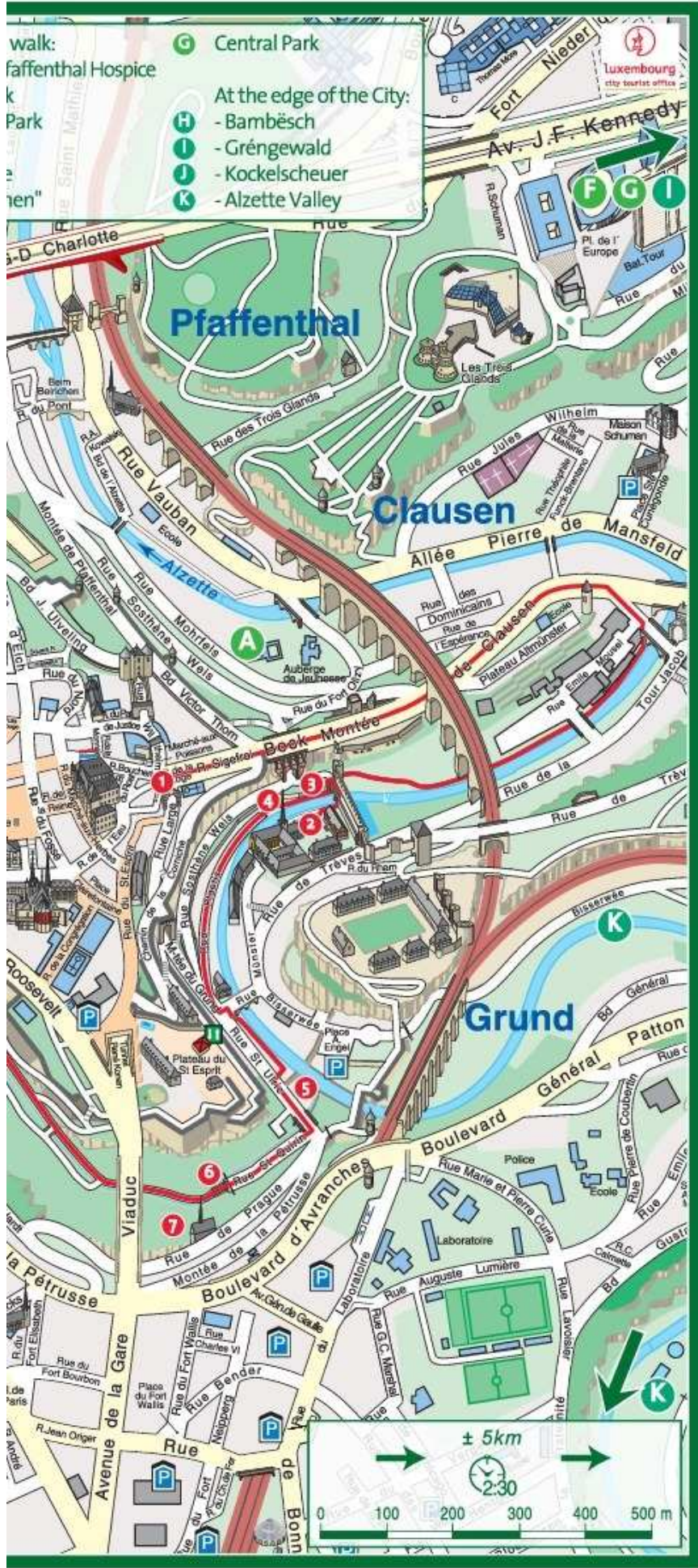
We stroll upstream along the bank and come to the Rue Plaetis. On the steep slope there, known as the “Op der Bleech” (At the Bleachery) [4], washerwomen once bleached sheets and tanners dried skins. The slope was converted into a large orchard. In April no fewer than 120 apple trees burst into blossom.

At the bridge, which crosses the River Alzette in the suburb of Grund, we take the steps to the path laid alongside a number of restored tanners’ houses. After some one hundred metres a narrow passage leads to the Rue Saint-Ulric. At the confluence of the Rivers Pétrusse and Alzette, the so-called “Krauseck” [5], we discover laid-out rose beds and benches upon which to rest awhile. At this point we go right into the Pétrusse Valley. Facing the Minigolf Course [6] is the station for the miniature steam railway with its five-inch track, in



- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Bock | 8 Vegetable Gardens | Away from the |
| 2 Neumünster Abbey | 9 "Heentze Park" | Garden of the P |
| 3 "Klouschtergaart" | 10 Edmond Klein Park | B Merl-Belair Parl |
| 4 "Op der Bleech" | 11 Lambert Redoubt | C Tony Neuman |
| 5 "Krauseck" | 12 Villa Louvigny - playground | D Laval Park |
| 6 Minigolf | 13 Villa Vauban | E Parc de l'Europe |
| 7 Saint-Quirin Chapel | 14 Amalia Park | F "Klosegroendc |





walk:
Pfaffenthal Hospice
Park
"en"

- G Central Park
- At the edge of the City:
 - H - Bambësch
 - I - Gréngewald
 - J - Kockelscheuer
 - K - Alzette Valley



the wagons of which we can sit to enjoy a trip around a specially laid-out rail network.

The Rue Saint-Quirin is named after the **Chapel [7]** which snuggles into the rock wall to the left. This Gothic place of pilgrimage was built in 1355 close to a spring reputed to have a curative effect on ailments of the eyes.

We now pass beneath the “Passerelle”, a viaduct towering 30 metres above to link the railway station district with the upper city. Our route follows the River Pétrusse and leads beneath the Adolphe Bridge. To the right stretch the previously terraced **Vegetable Gardens [8]**, which once supplied the market on the “Knuedler” (Place Guillaume II). Now there are privately used allotments and ecologically laid-out beds.

By a playground steps lead to a bridge over which we cross to the Rue de la Semois. A timber gate to the left provides access to the “**Heentze Park [9]**”, which surrounds the headquarters of the Dexia-BIL Bank. The park is named after Joseph Heintz, an industrialist and former City Juror. The bank uses the spacious park for the open-air exhibition of works of art, among them numerous stone sculptures by renowned artists.



[5]



[6]



We leave the “Heentze Park” at the side of the Route d’Esch and immediately fork right again into the Rue de la Semois. We follow this small road above the already mentioned terraced gardens to the Adolphe Bridge. There we leave the Pétrusse Valley, cross the broad Avenue Marie-Thérèse and enter the **Edmond Klein Park [10]**, the lower section of the City Park. A pond with spring and waterfalls surrounded by bamboo give this area an Asian feel.

After 1867 the fortress was razed to the ground, and the former fortifications gave place to extensive parklands, created by the famous Paris landscape architect Edouard André. A remaining vestige of the days of the fortress is the **Lambert Redoubt [11]**, built in 1685 and excavated during construction work on the car park on the Avenue Monterey. Extensive lawns, richly varied flower beds and groups of trees mark the botanical image of the City Park. No less worth seeing are the numerous sculptures, which depict both international greats like Victor Hugo and Mahatma Gandhi and prominent Luxembourg personalities such as writer Batty Weber and professional cyclist François Faber.



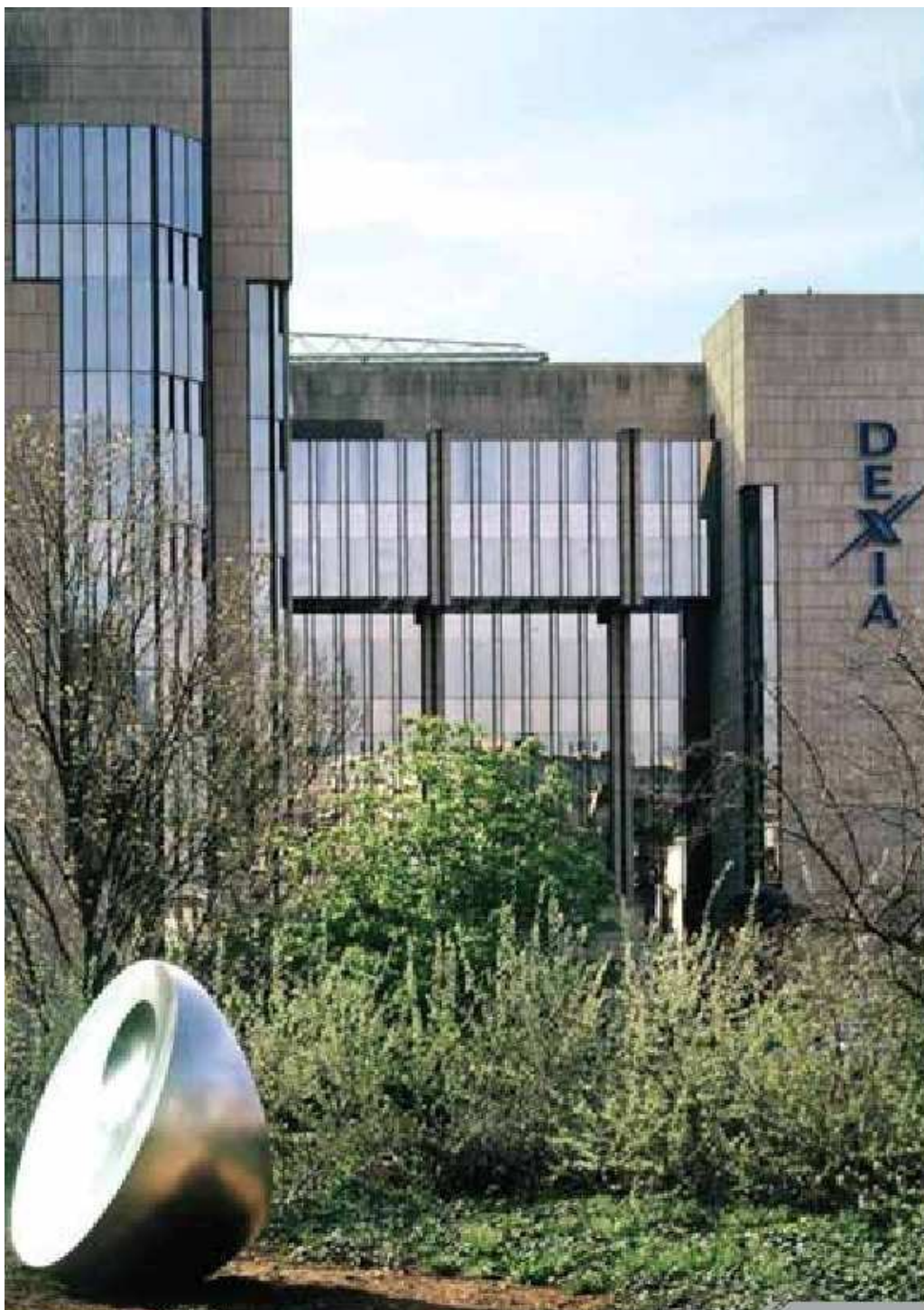
[7]



[9]



[10]



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By crossing the Avenue Monterey we come to the central part of the City Park. Alongside the **Villa Louvigny [12]**, the former headquarters of RTL, a playground with timber animal sculptures created by the artist Will Lofy and a pirate ship is being laid-out. An artificial stream is an invitation to children to enjoy a paddle.

The northern section of the City Park begins on the other side of the Avenue Emile Reuter. Here is located the **Villa Vauban [13]**, which houses the City Art Gallery, presenting some outstanding exhibitions.

Our stroll brings us to the area around the **Amalia Memorial [14]**. Princess Amalia of Saxony-Weimar was the second wife of Prince Henry of the Netherlands, Governor in Luxembourg for his brother, King William III. Around the memorial, flanked by two giant redwoods, the park administration has laid out splendid flower borders and installed a fountain.

From the finishing point of our excursion through the gardens and parks of the City it is only a few minutes walk to the city centre.



[11]



[13]



Away from the walk:

[A] Garden of the Pfaffenthal Hospice

[B] Merl-Belair Park (in the suburb of Merl): five hectares of parkland with a playground, lakes and a guest pavilion

[C] Tony Neuman Park (in the suburb of Limpertsberg): park with modern sculptures

[D] Laval Park (in the suburb of Eich-Weimerskirch): harmoniously laid out on the banks of the River Alzette, in part left to nature

[E] Parc de l'Europe (in the suburb of Dommeldange, Route d'Echternach): a park in the English landscaped style

[F] Klosegroendchen (Luxembourg-Kirchberg): a dunelike landscape covered with varied vegetation, as well as sculptural stonework, combines urban nature with art in a public space in an out of the ordinary way.

[G] Central Park (Luxembourg-Kirchberg): impressive juxtaposition of water and park landscape between the European School and the National Sports and Cultural Centre, "D'Coque"



[14]



Merl-Belair Park



Tony Neuman Park

At the edge of the City:

[H] **Bambësch:** leisure area with footpaths, jogging track, sports facilities and playgrounds, to the north-west of the City

[I] **Gréngewald:** large area of forest with walks to the north-east of the City

[J] **Kockelscheuer:** recreation centre, woodland with lakes, camp site, sport centre, jogging track and ice rink to the south of the City

[K] **Alzette Valley between Grund and Hesperange:** promenade and cycle path alongside the river



Alzette Valley



Kockelscheuer

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