



## Landgoed Altenbroek

### A rich history

The earliest history of Landgoed Altenbroek is - as is the case with many castles and manors - unknown. The name first appears on our radar around the year 1300. The original owner and reason for building the estate? Untraceable.

However, we do know that the estate changed hands quite regularly over the centuries. Land was bought, and sold again. And many renovations took place. For example, around 1775, the construction of the north wing in brick was started. This bergerie initially served as a sheepfold. Clues about this small piece of history can still be found on the facade. The beautiful scenery - which you're also enjoying at the moment - frequently served as the backdrop for various noble weddings.



*Louis de Schiervel*



*Henri de Schiervel*

But history also has its tragedies. In 1789, the French Revolution began. Scary times. The fear of ending up under the guillotine was ever present. Also for Léonard Schiervel, the then owner of the estate. When he died - at the age of 76 - he left behind two sons, Louis and Henri.

While Louis worked on an impressive career - he refused his appointment as first Governor of Belgian Limburg by the Provisional Government, but quickly climbed the social ladder - Henri returned to Altenbroek after the death of his father to take over the estate.

Henri's grandchild - Albert - was destined to continue the dynasty as the next baron De Schiervel. A true Burgundian. But unfortunately not a sensible one. He got into a fight with another aristocrat. In a duel - of only minutes - Albert was hit in the chest and died.

Albert was the last male tribe bearer of the Schiervel family. The property rights were transferred to his sister. The estate remained in the family until 1994, after which it was sold to Dutch businessman Wim Claessen.

In 2009, this businessman transformed the estate with a hotel-restaurant with 27 rooms. But things didn't go as planned. When renovating the castle, Wim broke several rules. He managed to survive until the curtain fell in 2013, but barely.

One of the three wells - the Sint Lambertus well - around the estate, was also given a new purpose. The water from this spring is bottled, for you to enjoy during your stay.

Of course, we can't forget the beautiful scenery around the estate. Landgoed Altenbroek is located in the middle of the Voer region, on a domain of about 20 hectares. In addition to the previously mentioned springs, you will also find the Altenbroek mill in the wider area. Enjoy the breathtaking views of picturesque villages in a hilly landscape. And find out why Landgoed Altenbroek is called 'the pearl of the Voer region'.