

# TERRA MOSANA

We draw the past

## Central Places

The territory covered by the Terra Mosana project has known several central places. Contrary to neighboring regions, here, different cities have housed the sees of temporal, spiritual or judicial power.

### Atuatuca

At the 1st century BC, the Eburons occupied a territory corresponding to the current provinces of Liege, Belgian and Dutch Limburg and the region of Aachen. Their capital was Atuatuca, whose location is still unknown today.

### Tongeren

When the Romans had completed their conquest, they created a new municipality, capital of the region called: "*civitas Tungrorum*". They named this capital "*Atuatuca Tungrorum*" (today: Tongeren). In addition to an administrative and economic center, Tongeren became, at the latest from the 4th century, the see of a bishopric which took its name. From that time also, the bishops exercised judicial power.

### Maastricht

In the 6th century, the bishop's see was transferred to Maastricht by St Monulphe. Indeed, since the middle of the 5th century Tongeren has been almost deserted. Maastricht on the contrary was a living and fortified city.

### Liège

At the end of the 7th century, or the beginning of the 8th century, bishop Lambert of Tongeren-Maastricht was killed in Liège, probably in the context of a family vendetta. He was first buried in Maastricht but, following the emotion caused by his death, the site of his assassination became a place of pilgrimage. In 718 at the latest, his body was brought back to Liège for burial. The see of the bishopric followed and was also transferred to Liege, probably at the end of the 8th century. In 985, the bishop of Liege also became a temporal lord who ruled over an area under the authority of the Emperor of the Holy German Empire.

### Aachen

At the end of the 8th century, after Jupille and Herstal (both located near Liège), another Carolingian palace gained importance: Aachen became the preferred residence of Charlemagne. He died there and was buried in St Mary's church in 814. It was here that, from 936 and for the 600 following years, the Emperors of the Holy Roman Empire were crowned.

