That’s a strike!

*Bowling at Café XXX in XXX*

*Café XXX* has been a family-owned restaurant since 1908. Once inside, you may be alarmed to hear the occasional rumble of thunder. But there’s no need to worry – you’re not hearing things. Like any good local establishment, the bowling alley’s not too far away. And as it happens, the *XXX* has three of them.

Did you know that bowling is one of the most popular leisure activities amongst men and women alike in Luxembourg? The popularity of the sport is clear to see from the country’s impressive collection of world championship titles and records. Not to mention all the bowling clubs and alleys. Here in Luxembourg the alleys use narrower wooden scissor lanes that only widen out towards the end to make the sport more challenging. No wonder the nation’s bowlers tend to do well at international level. Many professionals start off bowling as a hobby. The *Café XXX* provides the training ground for around ten seasoned teams who are no strangers to success. And whether amateur or pro, no one wants to be thrown off their game by a rumbling tummy. Luckily, at *Café XXX*, food and drink are an important part of the game experience, with traditional fare being served up with a smile.

Calling all treasure hunters

*Discoveries around XXX*

The *Place de l’Indépendance* is a vibrant spot in the town of *XXX* made even brighter by a bold splash of colour on the outside of local food shop *XXX Epicerie*. The mural, the handiwork of Luxembourgish graffiti artist *XXX* *XXX*, reflects the food shop’s mission to shout about sustainability as loudly as possible. Its shelves are stocked with over 1000 local and fair-trade products. And the lunchtime menu at the in-store brasserie ‘meet & greet’ changes every day, offering a wonderful choice of dishes that are always organic, delicious and good value for money. The ingredients are so local they’re pulled fresh from the fields nearby.

Behind the shop, these same fields slope steeply up the side of the *XXX*, one of the tallest hills in the area at 422 m and a popular destination for hikers and treasure hunters. If you suffer from vertigo, the winding path up to the dizzying heights of the observation towers may not be for you. But when you do make it to the top, you may be surprised by how flat it is. No wonder it was chosen as the perfect site for a castle around 600 years ago. All that remains of the castle today is a well and a few scattered ruins. But legend has it that Duke Alexander lived here until he was defeated in battle and banished from *XXX*. His distraught wife was allowed to take as many treasured belongings as she could carry on the condition that she would keep walking until she collapsed from exhaustion. Wherever she stopped would be the place she would have to call home from then on. She wasted no time in lifting Alexander, her greatest treasure, onto her shoulders and carried him to *XXX*, where they built a new castle together.

Iron-strong connection between north and south

*Exploring the XXX*

As you walk or cycle along the old *XXX* railway line, it’s hard to believe that carriages loaded up with iron ore once clattered down these tracks day in, day out. It’s a stark contrast to the peaceful surroundings alive with nature that you see today. Named the *XXX* after the river valleys it passes through, this historic train line was created in 1880 specifically to transport iron ore. The route between *XXX* and *XXX* was a lifeline for miners travelling between their homes in the north and the mines in the south. Today hikers and cyclists can follow the old line for 57 kilometres, including a pit stop in *XXX* on the way. In amongst all the greenery is the former train station, now beautifully restored. As you take a look around, keep an eye out for a large painting and metal board commemorating the last train that ever stopped here back in 1967. Stopping here is also probably a tempting proposition for today’s tired hikers in need of a break... Even more so once they realise that the station has been turned into a restaurant! So it is that, just as in the railway’s heyday, people still head here from all different directions, albeit on footpaths rather than tracks. The *Brasserie XXX* has a lovely terrace that’s perfect for a spot of people watching. And the basketball and tennis courts and playground for the kids are all very popular. Once seated, diners can admire the view of the Chapel of *XXX* as well as one of Luxembourg’s oldest trees – a sturdy little-leaf lime that dates back over 500 years.

Creativity with an industrial twist at Creative Hub XXX°

*Luxembourg’s first creative workshop*

Ever since Creative Hub *XXX*° was launched over ten years ago, creative sparks of brilliance have been flying around the old joinery workshops at the steelworks in *XXX*. Inspired by similar hubs abroad, this creative melting pot is designed to provide an inspirational and motivational co-working space for creative professionals of all kinds. The long list of creative talents based here includes designers, graphic designers, artists, journalists, architects, photographers, filmmakers, tattoo artists, advertising professionals and start-up entrepreneurs. The modern building complex itself is a wonderful blend of *XXX*’s industrial heritage and innovative urban development concepts. But why the name 1535°? Because it’s the melting point of iron. And so the name ensures there’s no danger of the industrial origin of this site being forgotten. Not that it could be given the hub’s striking design inside and out.

All that inspiration and productivity making you hungry? Then head next door to the restaurant *XXX*. Where better to plan out artistic endeavours over a delicious bite to eat?