



Brussels

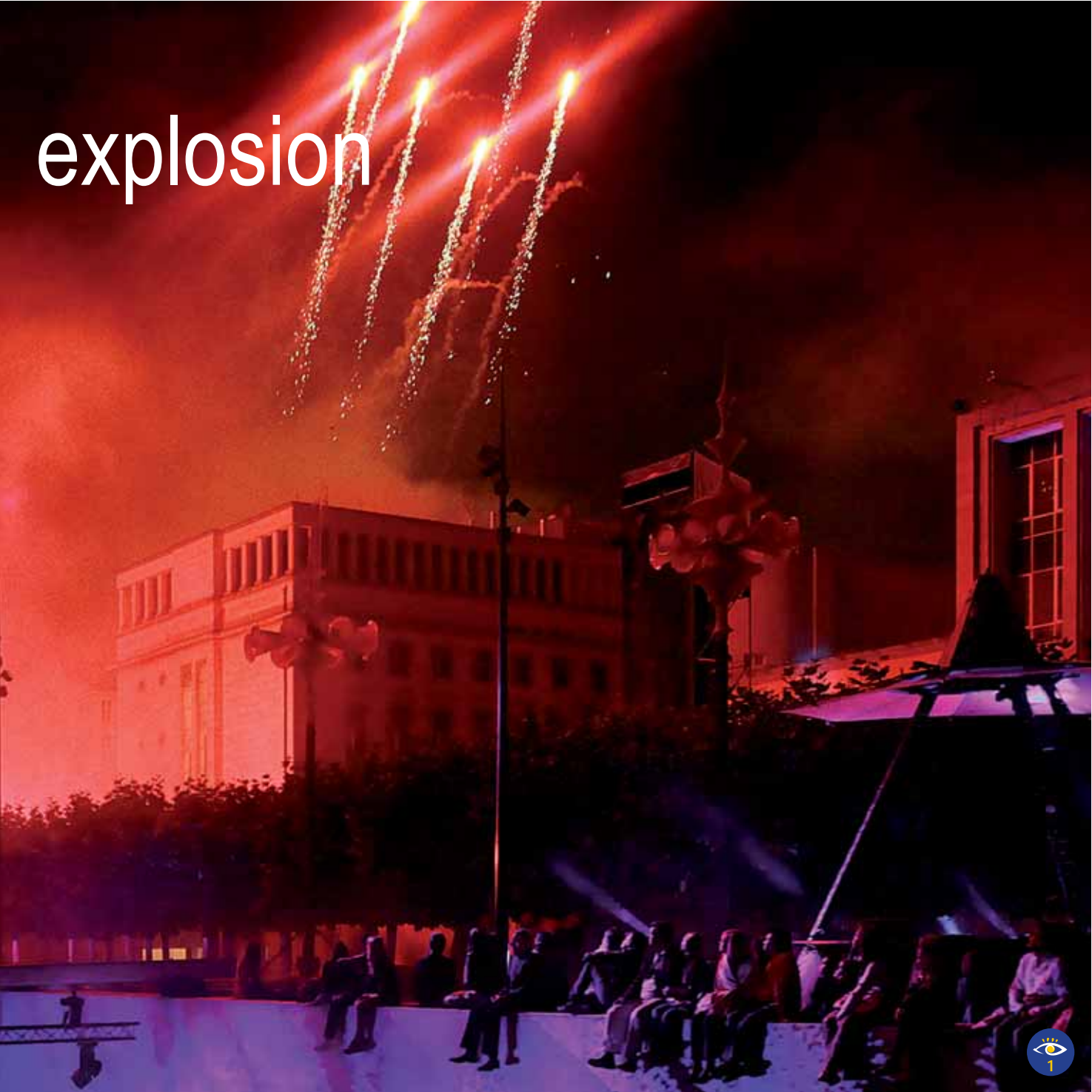


yours to discover

*T*he European cultural



explosion



Mont des Arts/Kunstberg, where cultural



Europe lives

Musée Magritte Museum



A short walk away from Gare Centrale (the central railway station), **Mont des Arts/Kunstberg** has a name that suits it perfectly: it's literally covered in fabulous museums. And it's buzzing with excitement! **'SQUARE'**, the trendiest conference centre in Europe, has just opened there. With its giant glass cube, the Kwint brasserie, which was designed by the Antwerp artist Arne Quinze, the finest panoramic terrace in Brussels and its food shops beneath the arcades, **'SQUARE'** is well worth a detour even if you're not there to attend a conference.

To get your tour of the museums off to a good start, call in, first, at **bip**, rue Royale/Koningsstraat and stock up on info and good tips. Make the most of it and visit *Experience Brussels*, a free exhibition in which natives of Brussels tell you about their city. As you leave, you're already facing **Musée Magritte Museum**, which attracts crowds of fans of the

undisputed master of Belgian surrealism. 170 mysterious and mischievous works await you there in an original scenography. On rue de la Régence/Regentschapsstraat, five centuries and under a hundred metres separate the **Museums of Ancient and Modern Art**. You'll move on quite naturally from masterpieces by Jérôme Bosch and Breughel to James Ensor and Delvaux. If it's history that fascinates you, go into the **Coudenberg Museum** and plunge, literally, beneath place Royale/Koningsplein to see the vestiges of Charles V and the old palace of Brussels. Or learn about the captivating history of this funny little country at the **BELvue Museum**.

Go down again towards the grand old store 'Old England', covered with iron and glass arabesques, which houses the very fine **Musical Instruments Museum (MIM)**. Don't forget to go up to its roof terrace to enjoy the breathtaking view... and the little café. Further down, on the same pavement, you come to **Brussels' Centre for Fine Arts (BOZAR)**. In this brilliant architectural maze by Victor Horta, something's always happening: concerts, exhibitions, theatre... or the screening of a silent film with live piano accompaniment at the **CINEMATEK**, the cinema museum that's the envy of the world.



EXPERIENCE BRUSSELS



BRUSSELS CARD 72h, 48h or 24h

This card gives you admission to around thirty museums in Brussels with free public transport, loads of reductions and an illustrated guide.
www.brusselcard.be
40.00 €, 34.00 € or 24.00 €



Tourist Information Brussels - bip

Rue Royale 2 - 4 Koningsstraat
1000 Brussels
Tel.: +32 (0)2 513 89 40
tourism@brusselsinternational.be

Every day from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
closed 25/12 and 01/01
www.brusselsinternational.be



The art of good living in the



Capital of the European Union



The finger-licking city

Spoiled for choice !

If you think that the Belgians' love of chips (French fries) is a bit of a myth, it's because you haven't tasted a real paper cone of chips from a real chip stall yet. Here, we eat chips with our fingers, ideally served with a good beer. And, if you're interested, you've got more than 400 beers to try: from a simple Pils to beers characteristic of Brussels, brown ale, lager or fruity.... And there are even more places to try them: from old-style cafés such as le Cirio or la Mort Subite (city centre) to trendy brasseries such as le Belga (Flagey). It's customary to go from one place to the next to vary the enjoyment. And if, on the way, you come across some comic strip heroes making their way along the streets, it's not the beer's fault: giant frescoes cover a number of walls in the lower part of the city.

When it comes to gastronomy, you're going to be spoiled for choice. Alongside tasty Belgo-Belgian specialities such as prawn croquettes, sole meunière or filet américain (steak tartare), which reign supreme in the lower part of the city, the upper part of the city has developed a very cosmopolitan gourmet style which will satisfy all the taste buds of the world. While bobos are to be found on place du Châtelain/Kasteleinsplein side, the hip and trendy have got their HQ on place Flagey/Flageyplein.



And what could be more natural than making the most of your trip to Brussels to enjoy the subtleties of Belgian chocolate. Brussels is full of traditional chocolate-makers who will sometimes invite you to visit their workshops. Soon, you'll learn everything there is to know about 'manons', 'ganache' and 'praliné'. At night, Brussels shakes off its sometimes demure image and joins the ranks

of the big names of European nightlife. The posters of the concert halls, theatres and alternative venues feature the biggest stars and greatest surprises. The bars and clubs attract the best European DJs and, for that matter, many of them are Belgians! The casino does a roaring trade. Here, the nights are as long as the ale is light. And the chip stalls don't close until the bakeries start to open.



The GOURMET

From quick snacks to fine dining, everything that's on the menu of Brussels' gastronomy is in this free guide, available at the Tourist Information Brussels - TIB. www.brussels-gourmet.be

2012, GOURMET YEAR

Take a seat on Grand-Place/Grote Markt

The best viewing points for studying the finest square in the world are the terraces of its many cafés and restaurants. With a nice Gueuze in front of you, you can take your time contentedly admiring the subtleties of its wonderful stone filigrees.





The art of communing

with European nature



The city where you walk from park to park



Thanks to its many parks, gardens and forests, Brussels has no fewer than forty square metres of green space per inhabitant. It's the greenest capital city in Europe. Right in the centre, a short walk from the Grand-Place/Grote Markt, enjoy a stroll in the Mont des Arts/Kunstberg garden or have a lie-down on a hammock seat in the little park opposite the cathedral. Nearby, the broad walkways of the magnificent **Park of Brussels** are an invitation to stroll. At the lower end of rue de la Régence/Regentschapsstraat, enter the pretty square of Petit Sablon/Kleine Zavel and admire, on the railings that surround it, the bronze statuettes depicting all the old trades. Next, go back up rue aux Laines/Wolstraat and into **Egmont Park**. Pure tranquillity! And to think that you're just a short walk away from the hustle and bustle of place Louise/ Louizaplein! Yes, you really can walk across Brussels and meet almost nothing but trees along the way!

The further you go from the centre, the more awe-inspiring the green spaces become: **Cinquantenaire Park/Jubelpark** and its museums or **Woluwe Park** with its 71 hectares of English-style parkland. Right at the end of avenue Louise/Louizalaan, **Bois de la Cambre/Ter Kamerenbos** leads you seamlessly from the city to the heart of the countryside. At the lakeside there, take the ferry to the chalet on the little Robinson island. This quaint inn has just been restored and you get to it by ferry-boat.

Cycling is the perfect way of exploring the hidden treasures of this green city.



SAINT-CYR HOUSE



On your bike for Art Nouveau !

Ixelles/Elsene has some magnificent examples of this amazing architecture. There's nothing better than a bike for criss-crossing the districts and stopping wherever and whenever you like to admire the extraordinary creativity of Horta, Hankar & co.



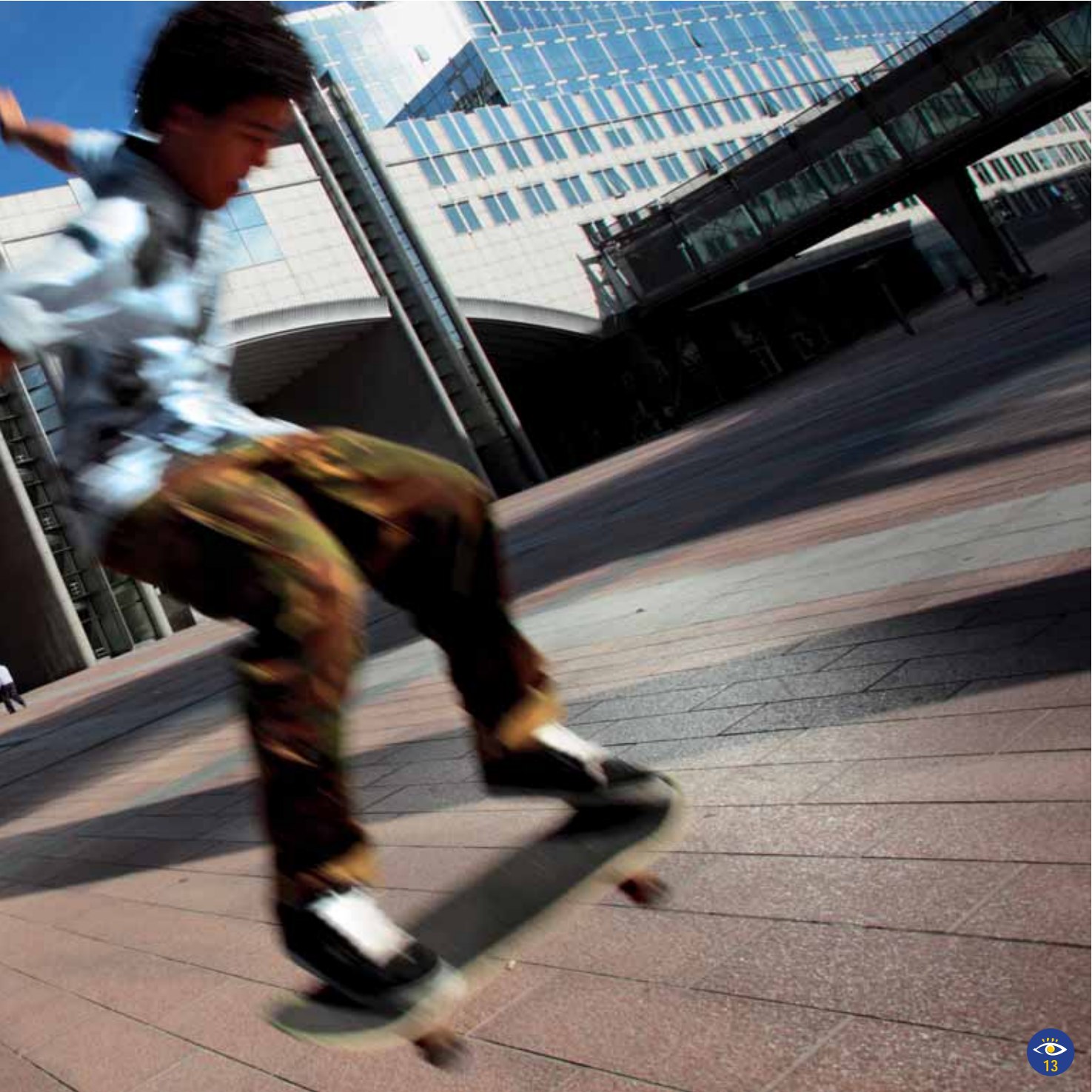
The City by VILLO

180 bicycle hire stations all over the city offer good, sturdy and easy-to-handle bicycles 24/24h for riding across the city. You drop the bicycle off again at any of the network's drop-off points and the first half-hour is free. Payment is made by chip-and-pin card and the prices are very reasonable.

www.villo.be



The European Tower of Babel



The city with a European lifestyle



Rond-Point Schuman/Schumanplein, in the heart of the European institutions district, is a kind of Tower of Babel because it's a place where you can hear every language spoken. Here, you're at the epicentre of Europe; so, you should feel more or less at home. But you're also at the heart of an authentic Brussels district that has retained all of its original character.

After visiting the imposing European Parliament, stroll around the charming **Leopold Park** or cross **Cinquantenaire Park/Jubelpark** and see the treasures of the **Royal Museums of Art and History** or the gleaming vehicles of **Autoworld**. Stray off the beaten tracks and see the local sights: the special atmosphere of the little **Wiertz Museum**, or **Paul Cauchie's** amazing **Art Nouveau house**. Make a detour, too, via **squares Ambiorix, Marguerite and Marie-Louise**, where the best architects of the Art Deco and Art Nouveau period vie with each other in imagination.

Fancy a quick bite or a long drink? On **place du Luxembourg/Luxemburgplein**, cafés, brasseries and restaurants with hospitable terraces welcome you with open arms. **Place Jourdan/Jourdanplein** is a whole microcosm of its own, as cosmopolitan as it is friendly, where all the cuisines of Europe happily come together. During the week, you'll see some very serious Eurocrats there, forming a queue in front of 'Antoine', the most popular chip stall in the city. Join the queue!



CAUCHIE HOUSE



THE MAP-GUIDE

Seven signposted trails and a map for each district: slip this little guide into your pocket to explore Brussels without missing out on the best places.

7.00 € at the **Tourist Information Brussels - TIB**



MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCES

A Museum unlike the others

If you like very old things, a visit to the Museum of Natural Sciences is a must.

There, you'll meet life-sized iguanodons, triceratops and all their cousins. A fascinating experience and the only one of its kind in Europe! Interactive exhibits for children and adults take you from dream to scientific reality.

www.naturalsciences.be

Local creativity in a world



city



Shop windows of desire



If Paris has its Champs Elysées and New York its Fifth Avenue, then Brussels has avenue Louise/Louizalaan and boulevard de Waterloo/Waterloolaan. The most famous international couture houses fly the flag alongside leading Belgian names such as Natan and Strelli. Retail therapy addicts who want to do more than window-shop will have a great time in the little shops of the avenue Louise/Louizalaan bottleneck and its shopping arcades.

If you like strolling along peacefully, far from the chain stores, you really must go to **quartier du Châtelain/Kasteleinswijk**. Between interiors shops, fashion boutiques, lingerie and second-hand book shops, you'll appreciate the peaceful little town feel of the place. Don't miss the city's most stylish market on Wednesdays, on place du Châtelain/Kasteleinsplein.

The places to go for fashionistas are all in the lower part of the city, in the rue Dansaert/Dansaertstraat and Place Saint-Géry/Sint-Goriksplein district. That's where they find, in fashion and interiors, the latest trendy labels and brand names, the creations of the most specialised fashion designers and the best little vintage shops. A genuine showcase of the genius of a handful of fashion designers, interior designers and jewellers who have made Brussels a determinedly avant-garde city.



YOUR GUIDE AND MAP

The whole of Brussels in your pocket!

1000 great places and a map. Available at Tourist Information Brussels – TIB (Grand-Place/Grote Markt) and at bip (Mont des Arts/Kunstberg) - 4.00 €

Cool designers

Belgian fashion design schools are inexhaustible training grounds of talent. No doubt because, in this crossroads of culture that is Belgium, open-mindedness and curiosity work wonders. To discover today's new talents, who may well be the big names of the future, go to www.modobruuxellae.be



2010

in the European village



This cultural diary tells you everything you have to see and hear, where to eat, drink, go out and go shopping... in other words, everything you just have to do in Brussels ... Available more or less everywhere in the city.

This is our Earth 2: from Kyoto to Copenhagen

10/09/2009 – 30/03/2010

Following the huge success of the first exhibition, this one asks you to become aware of the fragility of biodiversity and to understand clearly global warming and the issues of the Copenhagen conference.

www.expo-terra.be

The three dreams of the Mandarin

22/10/2009 – 14/02/2010

The artistic and intellectual world of Chinese men of letters, whether men of power (mandarins) or artists, between the 16th and the 18th centuries.

www.ing.be/art

Whales and dolphins

14/10/2009 – 29/08/2010

The Museum of Natural Sciences sweeps you down to the ocean depths to discover these fascinating marine mammals and our sometimes ambiguous relationship with them.

www.naturalsciences.be

Felix Gonzalez-Torres

16/01/2010 – 24/04/2010

The Wiels lends its space to a retrospective of the works of this Cuban artist, who was able to revitalise minimal and conceptual art by incorporating emotion into it.

www.wiels.org

Frida Kahlo

15/01/2010 – 18/04/2010

Art as a weapon of survival. An enigmatic and revolutionary body of work, which presents itself as a reaction to the artist's physical ordeals, the anguish of her existence and her tormented passions.

www.bozar.be

55th BRAFA – Brussels Antiques & Fine Arts Fair

22/01/2010 – 31/01/2010

Nothing but beauty at one of the oldest antiques fairs in the world. 120 rigorously selected exhibitors and expert valuation days, for which people come far and wide.

www.brafa.be

Dautzenberg Exhibition

February 2010 – April 2010

From the name of this unique collection from the early part of the last century, which gathers together 4.5 million shells of 40,000 species. The exhibition displays forty or so superb photographs accompanied by texts.

www.naturalsciences.be

Anima

12/02/2010 – 20/02/2010

For fans of mangas, animated fables or plastinated fantasies, the animated film festival presents more than 150 films with a special focus on young Chinese animation.

www.awn.com/folioscope

Heart-made. The avant-garde of Chinese architecture.

Until 21/02/2010

As part of Europalia China, an exhibition with an innovative approach presents Chinese architects and artists who are shaking up design and town planning.

www.civa.be

Ars Musica

02/03/2010 – 02/04/2010

23rd year of a festival of sounds as strange as they are pleasant. Thirty or so events on the theme of mathematics in music and a tribute to the composer Xénakis.

www.arsmusica.be

Museum Night Fever

06/03/2010

Fifteen or so museums don their party clothes for the 3rd Brussels Museum Night. Surprise, after-party programme for night-owls.

www.museumnightfever.be

Symbolism

26/03/2010 – 27/06/2010

An ode to that 'fin-de-siècle' spirit, of which Brussels was one of the capitals. An exhibition between dream and reality, which recounts the development of symbolism with, topping the bill, Fernand Khnopff, Félicien Rops and many others.

www.fine-arts-museum.be

Eurantica

18/03/2010 – 28/03/2010

Collector's items and Champagne bubbles, that's the eclectic combination of this famous fair, which brings together rare objects from 150 antique dealers from Europe.

www.eurantica.be

International Fantastic Film Festival

08/04/2010 – 20/04/2010

Off-the-wall screenings, body-painting competition and a real vampires ball. Two weeks of guaranteed thrills and shivers. 'Kids-allowed' and 'Enfantastiques' sessions for the family audience.

www.biff.net

The Royal Greenhouses of Laken

From late April to early May 2010

Two weeks to visit the 'little' winter garden of King Leopold II, an environmentalist before his time, and let yourself be won over by these voluminous spaces of glass and metal bathed in the intoxicating fragrance of flowers.

www.monarchie.be

Art Brussels

23/04/2010 – 26/04/2010

Photographs, paintings, sculptures and live happenings, trashy or elegant, always astonishing... 150 international galleries present a shock showcase of contemporary art.

www.artbrussels.be

Short-film Festival

29/04/2010 – 09/05/2010

Spotlight on the 'short' in the area around Flagey. Public and professionals rub shoulders there in an artistic and entertaining approach. And when the shorts end, the nights go on and on...

www.courtmetrage.be

Zinneke Parade

22/05/2010

City brass band, urban exuberance and poetic carnival along the city centre boulevards, the Zinneke makes all your childhood dreams come true. The theme this year, "À table" (Come and eat!), is already making us hungry.

www.zinneke.org

Queen Elisabeth International

Competition 2010 – Piano

03/05/2010 – 29/05/2010

One of the most highly-regarded tests within the international world of music, every year this competition gathers together thousands of informed music-lovers in search of impeccable auditory sensations.

www.cmireb.be

Les Nuits Botanique (Botanic Nights)

07/05/2010 – 16/05/2010

Rock beats, electro vibrations and other unclassifiable styles set to French lyrics, the 'Nuits' add colour to your May evenings. An exciting programme and high-quality discoveries.

www.botanique.be

KunstenFESTIVALdesArts

07/05/2010 – 29/05/2010

Theatre, music, dance, film, fine arts... and every imaginable combination of them. This festival, which gives pride of place to original new Belgian and foreign productions, is a barometer of today's talents.

www.kfda.be

Lesbian & Gay Pride

15/05/2010 (to be confirmed)

The big annual coming-out of the homo-, bi- and transsexual community of Brussels. Straights and others are welcome to this event, which sparkles with glamour and humour.

www.blgp.be



THE ROYAL GREENHOUSES OF LAKEN



Brussels Jazz Marathon

28/05/2010 – 30/05/2010

Mister Jazz descends in force on the capital for a hundred or so live music gigs in the open air, in bars and on four big outside stages. And it's free!

www.brusselsjazzmarathon.be

The Brussels 20 km

30/05/2010

Good jogger or hardened athlete? The city's finest avenues and Bois de La Cambre/Ter Kamerenbos unfurl beneath your feet while a crowd of enthusiastic Brussels residents cheers you on.

www.sibp.be

Bruneaf – Baaf – Boaf

June 2010

The very aristocratic Sablon/Zavel district turns into a showcase of the best achievements in the field of Asian, pre-Columbian, Oceanian and African arts.

www.bruneaf.com

Marcel Broodthaers

15/06/2010 – 29/08/2010

The works of this visionary anti-establishment artist, one of the greatest Belgian artists of the 20th century, are being exhibited for the first time in their entirety.

www.fine-arts-museum.be



Couleur Café

25/06/2010 – 27/06/2010

Make a date at the Tour & Taxis site for a cross-cultural, altruistic and 'caliente' festival! Reggae, ska, salsa, hip hop, dance, funk... a gigantic multicultural fiesta, just like Brussels itself.

www.couleurcafe.be

James Ensor

June 2010 – September 2010

A fresh look at 'the Prince of painters', this brilliant and complex artist, fascinated by light and death, inspired by Breughel and Bosch.

www.bozar.be

Brussels Rollers

Every Friday evening from June to September

Leave your cars behind and get your skates on. Miles of Brussels boulevards are reserved for you to enjoy a funny sort of outing on little wheels, which will end with a party in the heart of the city centre.

www.belgiumrollers.com

The Studio of Franquin and Cie

15/06/2010 – 26/09/2010

This exceptional exhibition recreates the setting of the imagination and inventiveness that would give life to the most exuberant works of comic strip: Lucky Luke, Spirou and Fantasio, the Marsupilami, Boule and Bill, the Schtroumpfs and many more.

www.cbbd.be

www.stripmuseum.be

The Ommegang

29/06/2010 and 01/07/2010

Brussels takes a leap five centuries back in time. Nearly 1500 extras in Renaissance costume walk in solemn procession from Sablon/Zavel to the magnificent Grand-Place/Grote Markt in tribute to Emperor Charles V.

www.ommegang.be

Brosella Folk & Jazz

10/07/2010 – 11/07/2010

How can you resist the charm of this completely free festival tucked away in an open-air theatre, just under the Atomium spheres. Bliss!

www.brosella.be

Brussels Film Festival

03/07/2010 – 11/07/2010

This specialist summer festival is a real treat for cinema-lovers. In the style of Sundance, it puts on amazingly high-quality films that are sensitive, original and, above all, personal.

www.brusselsfilmfestival.be

Carpet of Flowers

14/08/2010 – 17/08/2010

The master-horticulturalists of Ghent come and enhance the magnificent Grand-Place with stylish designs and decorations. The outlines are kept secret until their final execution.

www.brusselsinternational.be



Tour of the Royal Palace

± 25 July to mid-September 2010

Every summer, the Palace of Brussels, in pure Louis-16th style, opens to the public. The ceiling of the hall of mirrors decorated with one and a half million elytrons of Thai scarabs alone is well worth seeing.

www.brusselsinternational.be

Brussels-on-Sea (Bruxelles les Bains)

Mid-July to mid-August 2010

Fine sandy beach, coconut palms, pétanque green, fountains and Mojito cocktails, DJs and live music are the spicy ingredients of this summer festival in the tropics of the canal, in the heart of Brussels.

www.bruxelleslesbains.be

Brussels Summer Festival

August 2010

For 10 days, the Mont des Arts district becomes the special setting of big music stages, street theatre and children's shows.

www.brusselssummerfestival.com

Memorial Van Damme

27/08/2010

This is the unmissable annual gathering of the greatest athletes on Earth and of an enthusiastic crowd of spectators. It's also an indescribable atmosphere, a music show and a big fireworks display.

www.memorialvandamme.be

Brussels Marathon

03/10/2010

A stunning route that takes the runners to the loveliest parts of the capital and finishes triumphantly on the most beautiful square in the world. A half-marathon (21km), a mini-marathon (5km) and a kids run (1km) are included in the programme.

www.ingbrusselsmarathon.be

Charles Van der Stappen

20/07/2010 – 26/09/2010

This jack-of-all-trades sculptor died just about 100 years ago. He owes his fame to the sculptures of the Botanic Garden and his collaboration with Victor Horta. The exhibition presents the many different facets of his work.

www.fine-arts-museum.be

Heritage Days

18/09/2010 – 19/09/2010

For a whole weekend, the public can slip inside original buildings that are rarely open to the public and see some unexpected interiors and well-hidden treasures in there.

www.monument.irisnet.be

Design September

September 2010

Design in all its guises is the subject of fifty or so events: exhibitions, conferences, films, debates, studio visits, second-hand shops, urban trails... The cool date of the autumn.

www.designseptember.be

Klara Festival – International

Brussels Music festival

03/09/2010 – 17/09/2010

This year, the world of Gustav Mahler is the focus of this music festival, which combines great symphonic repertoires, dance, electronica and musical theatre.

www.klarafestival.be

Beer Weekend

03/09/2010 – 05/09/2010

Take a city with an age-old brewing tradition, a beverage that comes in 400 different flavours, mix in the most beautiful square in the world and some 'bons viveurs' ready to clink glasses together... and enjoy sensibly.

www.belgianbeerweekend.be

Late-night Opening of Brussels Museums

23/09/2010 – 16/12/2010

Every Thursday evening, for a modest sum, museums open up their doors and their secrets to you in a friendly atmosphere with guided tours, drinks, activities for children and concerts.

www.brusselmuseums.be

Wim Delvoye.

Knockin' on Heaven's door

10/10/2010 – 11/01/2011

After the Cloaca faecal machine, the tattooed pigs and other works symbolic of an approach that mixes genres, cultures and practices, now Wim Delvoye tackles the Gothic and metamorphosis.

www.bozar.be



FASHION DESIGNERS' TRAIL



Skoda Jazz Festival

October 2010 – November 2010

Blues, free jazz or rock, every version of international jazz invades the best halls of the capital with a single objective: to push the blue note as far as it will go.

www.skodajazz.be

To life, to death: Death in the Middle Ages, 6th – 16th century

02/11/2010 – 24/04/2011

Learn about Medieval man's attitude to death, depending on his rank and social status, through burial rituals, beliefs, mourning and memory.

www.kmkg-mrah.be

Francis Alÿs

October 2010 – December 2010

An exhibition co-produced with the Tate Modern and the MOMA on this Belgian artist who lives in Mexico. His subversive work questions society and the place that art assumes in it.

www.wiels.org

Fashion designers' trail

22-24/10/2010

For 3 days, take the pulse of fashion design in Brussels. Designers, students and fashion houses invade unusual venues in the city centre to exhibit their collections there.

www.modobruuxellae.be

Orientalism

15/10/2010 – 06/02/2011

A journey into Orientalist art from the late 18th to the early 20th century or how, on discovering the Orient, the West developed an enduring imagination.

www.fine-arts-museum.be

Winter Wonders

December 2010

In the Place Sainte-Catherine/Sint-Katelijneplein and Marché aux Poissons/Vismet district, take a magical, food-lovers walk along the little stalls of the Christmas market. Warm up with a mulled wine and 'croustillons' (little doughnuts) before stepping onto the ice rink or the Big Wheel.

www.winterpret.be -
www.plaisirsdhiver.be

The best in Brussels information



www.brusselsinternational.be

A number of organisations offer themed tours to help you explore all the most original and eccentric aspects of the city. Sometimes extremely scholarly, always very characteristic and at all times very lively. It would be surprising if you didn't find that something 'extra' to make your stay even more memorable...

Arau (Atelier de Recherche et d'Action urbaines / Urban Research and Action Workshop)

Architecture speaks

Boulevard A. Max 55 A. Maxlaan - 1000 Brussels
Tel.: +32 (0)2 219 33 45 - Fax: +32 (0)2 219 86 75
E-mail: info@arau.org - www.arau.org

Since 1979, the Arau guides, specialising in architecture and town planning, have been offering themed guided tours explaining the growth and development of the city from every angle.

Arkadia.be

Learning to look

bip - Rue Royale 2-4 Koningsstraat - 1000 Brussels
Tel.: + 32 (0)2 563 61 53 - Fax : +32 (0)2 563 61 60
E-mail: info@asbl-arkadia.be - www.asbl-arkadia.be

Learning by looking. Guided tours led by art historians with a passion for the subject, to help you see, understand, experience and love even more the treasures of Belgian and Brussels heritage.

Brukselbinnenstebuiten

Off the beaten tracks

Rue du Houblon 47 Hopstraat - 1000 Brussels
Tel.: +32 (0)2 218 38 78

E-mail: bruksel@skynet.be - www.brukselbinnenstebuiten.be
On a constant quest for the unusual and avant-garde, these really are guides who can lead you off the beaten tracks.

Brussels by Water / Rivertours

Brussels, going with the flow

Boulevard d'Ypres 84 Ieperlaan - 1000 Brussels
Tel.: +32 (0)2 218 54 10 - Fax: +32 (0)2 218 54 50
E-mail: info@rivertours.be - www.rivertours.be
www.scaldisnet.be

Every week, Brussels by Water organises guided boat trips and day excursions

in Brussels and from Brussels to other cities and regions of Belgium. Boats are a unique means of transport that let you explore Brussels and the surrounding areas in an unusual way.

Bus Bavard/Chatterbus **Original and passionate**

Rue des Thuyas 12 Thujastraat - 1170 Brussels
Tel.: +32 (0)2 218 38 78

E-mail: busbavard@skynet.be - www.busbavard.be

The chatterbus trails: original, fascinating and friendly guided walks for exploring, dreaming about and loving Brussels...

Calèches Carlos Moens-Stassens

An old-style ride

Watermolen 1 - 9300 Aalst

Tel.: +32 (0)53 70 05 04 - Fax: +32 (0)53 78 63 27

A short ride around the city centre to the clip-clop rhythm of horses' hooves. (Horse-and-carriage tours, only for groups and on request)

Culturama

A la carte tours

Baron de Vironlaan 140 - 1700 Dilbeek

Tel.: +32 (0)2 569 27 74 - Fax: +32 (0)2 569 31 44

E-mail: culturama@telenet.be - www.culturamavzw.be

Themed tours of museums, the metro, the city centre, architecture, literature, the fine arts, folklore, gastronomy, the age of Breughel and Charles V. Tours on foot or by bus.

Dédale Culture

On foot, by bus and even at night

Avenue de la Nivéole 10 Lenteklokjeslaan - 1020 Brussels

Tel.: +32 (0)2 268 42 26 - Fax: +32 (0)2 268 21 14

Themed walks, bus tours and Brussels by night..

D*Tours

Brussels in your ears

Avenue des Klauwaerts 30 Klauwaartslaan - 1050 Brussels

Tel.: +32 (0)2 648 80 77 - E-mail: info@d-tours.org - www.d-tours.org

Audio trails, colourful and historic, comical and curious, entertaining and dream-like, off you go for a tour on the Grand-Place/Grote Markt, a walk in the Marolles district or a walk in the delightful Place Sainte-Catherine/Sint-Katelijne area.

Now to download on www.brusselsinternational.be

CURIOUS TRAILS

La Fonderie

Social, economic and industrial life

Rue Ransfort 27 Ransfortstraat - 1080 Brussels
Tel.: +32 (0)2 410 99 50 - Fax: +32 (0)2 410 39 85
E-mail: parcourslafonderie@skynet.be - www.lafonderie.be

An original approach of highlighting the working and daily lives of the people of Brussels. Their studies and programmes evoke the economic, social and industrial life of Brussels. The present and future of the region and its inhabitants are considered on the basis of historical analysis.

« Hop on, Hop off » Tourist bus Tourist Information Brussels – TIB

The perfect sightseeing tour

Town Hall - Grand-Place/Grote Markt - 1000 Brussels
Tel.: +32 (0)2 513 89 40 - E-mail: tourism@brusselsinternational.be
Every hour, double-decker buses leave from the Gare Centrale/Centraal Station and public transport stopping points to explore the city.

Itinéraires

Tailor-made

Rue de l'Aqueduc 171 Waterleidingsstraat - 1050 Brussels
Tel.: +32 (0)2 541 03 77 - Fax: +32 (0)2 541 03 73
E-mail: info@itineraires.be - www.itineraires.be
Brussels seen through its celebrities... real or fictional. Through music with Jacques Brel, or the mysteries of the Freemasons narrated by Victor Horta.

Klare Lijn

Lively tours

Rue du Village 40 Dorpsstraat - 1070 Brussels
Tel.: +32 (0)493 50 40 60 - Fax: +32 (0)2 520 83 93
E-mail: info@klarelign.be - www.klarelign.be
The Klare Lijn guides love their city. A tour with commentary turns into a relaxing time for the visitors. The aim of the guides is to create a dialogue about the city, its specialities, the architecture, the people and the literature.

Korei

Behind the scenes of history

Sentier du Verger 18 Boomgaardpad - 1120 Brussels
Tel.: +32 (0)2 380 22 09 - Fax: +32 (0)2 380 22 09
E-mail: korei@skynet.be - www.korei.be
Korei shows you around, sways you and banters with you in the chiaroscuro between architecture, literature, currents of thought and the savoir-vivre of the 18th century to the present day. Stories told in a particular place in the city or by a fireside, in a museum or at an exhibition.

Onthaal en Promotie Brussel

Start by reading the menu

Rue des Princes 8-10 Prinsenstraat- 1000 Brussels
Tel.: +32 (0)800 13 700
E-mail: info@opbrussel.be - www.uitinbrussel.be
Need more information about classic walks? Looking for a specific programme? This organisation covers around fifteen guide associations and will help you to find what you're looking for.

Pro Velo

2 wheels and 5 senses

Rue de Londres 15 Londenstraat - 1050 Brussels
Tel.: +32 (0)2 502 73 55 - Fax: +32 (0)2 502 86 41
E-mail: info@provelo.org - www.provelo.org
A pleasant and active way of exploring the city with neither windscreen nor roof in your way and giving you a completely unimpeded view.

Vizit

Gourmet trail

Tel.: +32 (0)9 233 76 89 - Fax: +32 (0)9 225 23 19
E-mail: brussel@vizit.be - www.vizit.be
Walks for lovers of food and culinary experiences in the city centre and the Marolles area.

Voir et dire Bruxelles

Personal and alternative

Tel.: +32 (0)2 563 61 51 - Fax : +32 (0)2 563 61 61
E-mail: info@voiretdirebruxelles.be - www.voiretdirebruxelles.be
Under the fitting name of "Voir et dire Bruxelles", a few associations have pooled their knowledge and enthusiasm of the city by creating individual themed tours.

Official Guides GBB – Guides Brussels Belgium The original in 12 languages

Town Hall - Grand-Place/Grote Markt - 1000 Brussels
Tel.: +32 (0)2 548 04 48 - Fax: +32 (0)2 514 45 38
E-mail: guides@brusselsinternational.be
www.brusselsinternational.be
From the Brussels of Charles V to European capital, official guides accompany you in a choice of 12 languages as you step out for the first time here. (On request).

Arrival by air

Brussels Airport

Brussels Airport is 14 km from the city centre. Trains run to the Gare Bruxelles-Nord/Brussel-Noord, Gare Bruxelles-Centrale/Brussel-Centraal and Gare Bruxelles-Midi/Brussel-Zuid every 20 minutes. Journey time: approx. 30 minutes.

- www.brusselsairport.be

Arrival by train

Railway station Bruxelles-Midi/Brussel-Zuid, 15 minutes from the Grand-Place/Grote Markt, is the main interchange for international services, particularly TGV (Thalys) and Eurostar.

Passenger information

- www.sncb.be or www.b-rail.be
- Tel. +32 (0)2 528 28 28 national services (weekdays and WE 7 a.m. to 9.30 p.m.)
- Tel. +32 (0)70 797979 (0.30 €/min) international services and reservations (weekdays 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. - WE 9 a.m. - 4.30 p.m.)

Travel on public transport

Metro, tram and bus

- www.stib.be or www.mivb.be



Places to stay

Hotel bookings

Bookings and last minute bookings:
Tourist Information Brussels - TIB,
Town Hall

Hotel bookings online:

- www.brusselsbookingdesk.be

Youth hostels

- www.brusselsmania.com

Guest-house rooms

Bed & Brussels

- www.bnb-brussels.be
- Taxistop - Bed & Breakfast
- www.taxistop.be





Tourist Information Brussels - TIB

Town Hall of Brussels

Grand-Place/Grote Markt, 1000 Brussels

- Tel. + 32(0)2 513 89 40
- Fax + 32(0)2 513 83 20
- tourism@brusselsinternational.be
- mice@brusselsinternational.be
- www.brusselsinternational.be

Opening hours:

Daily 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, summer:
9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; winter: 10 a.m. to
2 p.m.; 1/1 till Easter: closed on Sunday.
Closed: 25/12 and 1/1



bip

Rue Royale 2-4 Koningsstraat – 1000 Brussels

- Tel. + 32(0)2 513 89 40
- Fax + 32(0)2 513 83 20
- tourism@brusselsinternational.be
- mice@brusselsinternational.be
- www.brusselsinternational.be

Opening hours:

Daily 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Closed: 25/12 and 1/1



www.brusselsairlines.be



Gare de Bruxelles-Midi /
Station Brussel-Zuid

Tourist Information:
Central concourse

Opening hours:

Winter: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday 8 a.m. to 8
p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday and
bank holidays, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.;
Summer: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m. to 9
p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Closed: 25/12 and 1/1



Tourism Office for Flanders

Rue du Marché-aux-Herbes/Grasmarkt 61 -
1000 Brussels

- Tel. + 32(0)2 504 03 90
- Fax + 32(0)2 513 04 48
- info@toerismevlaanderen.be
- www.visitflanders.com



Belgian Tourist Offices

USA

Tourist Office for Flanders - Belgium New York office

The New York Times Building
620 Eighth Avenue, 44th floor - New York, N.Y. 10018 - USA
•Tel. +1 212 584 2336 3002
•E-mail: info@visitflanders.us
•www.visitflanders.us

UNITED KINGDOM

Tourism Flanders-Brussels

Flanders House
1A, Cavendish Square - UK - London W1G 0LD
•Live operator: Tel. +44 (0)207 307 7738
•E-mail: info@visitflanders.co.uk
•www.visitflanders.co.uk

SCANDINAVIA

Denmark / Sweden

Det Belgiske Turistbureau Flandern-Bruxelles

Vester Farimagsgade 1, (3rd floor),
DK - 1606 Copenhagen V
•Tel. +45 33 93 01 30
•Fax +45 33 93 48 08
•E-mail: info@belgien.dk
•www.flandern.dk
•Sweden: www.flandern.se

JAPAN

Tourist Office for Flanders - Belgium - Tokyo office

Heiwa Daiichi Building
1-4-5 Hirakawa-cho, Chiyoda-ku - 102-0093 Tokyo
•Tel. +81 3 3237 8032
•Fax +81 3 3237 8075
•E-mail: info@visitflanders.jp
www.visitflanders.jp

ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA

Flanderská turistická

Informační kancelář
Táboritská 23/ 1000
130 87 Praha 3 - Česká Republika
•Tel. +420 2 670 92 444
•Fax +420 2 670 92 650
•E-mail: info@flandry.cs
•www.flandry.cz

CHINA - BEIJING

Tourist Office for Flanders

Room 612B, Beijing Kuntai International Mansion,
12-B, Chaowai Avenue, Chaoyang District - 100020 Beijing - China
•Tel. +86 10 5879 0785 / 86
•Fax +86 10 5879 0787
•E-mail: info@visitflanders.com.cn
•www.visitflanders.com.cn

INDIA

Tourist Office for Flanders - India - New Delhi office

Represented by Mileage Communications Pvt. Ltd.
30, Hauz Khas Village (3rd floor) - New Delhi 110 016 - India
•Tel. + 91 11 2651 1423 / 2651 1342
•Fax + 91 11 2651 1246
•www.visitflanders.in

Tourist Office for Flanders - India - Mumbai Office

Represented by Mileage Communications Pvt. Ltd.
306, Abhishek Building (3rd Floor)
New Link Road, Andheri (West) - Mumbai - 400 053 - India
•Tel. + 91 22 2673 1108
•Fax +91 22 26731 109
•www.visitflanders.in

... FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM

By road:

Via France E42 (Calais-Lille-Tournai-Namur)
Via Zeebrugge E40 (Ostend-Brussels)

By rail:

EUROSTAR:

High-speed trains from London to Brussels.
Numerous crossings daily. Journey: 1h51
Info: www.eurostar.com

EUROTUNNEL:

•www.eurotunnel.com

By coach: Eurolines: various destinations

•www.eurolines.com

By air: Frequent flights between UK cities and Brussels.

By ferry: Several ferry companies have crossings to Belgium:

NORFOLKLINE-FERRIES (Dover-Dunkerque) (Rosyth - Zeebrugge)
•www.norfolkline-ferries.com

P&O FERRIES (Hull-Zeebrugge) •www.poferries.com

Superfast FERRIES (Rosyth - Zeebrugge) •www.superfast.com

Trans Europa Ferries (Ramsgate - Ostend: for cars, caravans, motorhomes) •www.transeuropaferry.com

APPROACH ROADS TO BRUSSELS



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Completely crazy!

A symbol of the fifties, the Atomium represents an iron atom standing 102 metres tall. Designed in 1958 for the World Fair, it embodies the daring dreams of a generation. It was built to last 20 years but has just celebrated its 50th anniversary. And, following a complete renovation, its 9 spheres are shinier than ever.

