

Brussels

Travel Guide



Introduction

Brussels, Belgium's capital, is a prime destination for business travellers. Known as the "Capital of Europe," it hosts numerous EU institutions, making it a hub for political and economic activities. The city offers excellent transportation infrastructure, with Brussels Airport serving as a major gateway.

Brussels boasts a range of modern conference facilities and business hotels, like the Brussels Expo and the Square Brussels Meeting Centre, catering to diverse corporate needs. The city's strategic location in Western Europe facilitates easy access to neighbouring countries.

Beyond business, Brussels offers a rich cultural experience, with historic landmarks, world-class dining, and vibrant neighbourhoods to explore during downtime.



Accommodation options range from luxury hotels to business-friendly serviced apartments. The culinary scene is diverse, with numerous restaurants serving Belgian specialties and international cuisine.

While in Brussels, explore its rich culture, historic landmarks, and vibrant neighbourhoods to unwind after meetings. However, it's essential to be aware of traffic congestion during peak hours. The city's efficient public transport system and compact size make it easy for business travellers to navigate and make the most of their stay.



International Airport

Brussels Airport (Zaventem) is a top choice for business travellers visiting Brussels. It is Belgium's largest and busiest international airport, conveniently located just 12 kilometres from the city centre. The airport offers excellent connectivity to major European and global destinations, making it a key gateway for corporate travel.

Business amenities at Brussels Airport include modern lounges, free Wi-Fi, and conference facilities for meetings or work sessions. Multiple transportation options, including taxis and a direct train connection to the city centre, ensure easy access to the heart of Brussels. Additionally, the airport features a wide range of dining and shopping options, providing a comfortable and efficient experience for business professionals on the go.



Getting into Brussels



Getting from Brussels Airport (Zaventem) to the city centre is straightforward and convenient. Here are the primary transportation options:

Train

The quickest and most popular option is to take the train. The Brussels Airport railway station is located in the airport itself. You can catch a direct train to Brussels Central Station, Brussels Midi Station (also known as Brussels-South), or other city centre stations. The journey takes approximately 20-30 minutes, depending on your destination.

Airport Shuttle

Several shuttle bus services operate between the airport and various city centre locations. These buses may take slightly longer than the train, depending on traffic, but they provide an alternative for those who prefer buses or need a specific city centre stop.

Taxi

Taxis are readily available at the airport, and you can take one to your desired destination in the city centre. The journey duration and cost will vary depending on traffic conditions and your exact destination.



Transport Options

Brussels offers a variety of transportation options, and the best ones for you will depend on your specific needs and preferences. Here are four of the most popular and efficient transport options:

Public Transit

Brussels has an extensive public transportation system operated by STIB/MIVB. This includes buses, trams, and a metro system. You can purchase tickets or travel cards for various durations to use on these modes of transit. The metro is particularly convenient for traveling longer distances within the city.

Bicycles

Brussels is becoming more bike-friendly with dedicated bike lanes and bike-sharing schemes like Villo! Bikes can be a great way to explore the city, especially during good weather.

Taxis and Ride-Sharing

Taxis are readily available throughout the city, and you can also use ride-sharing services like Uber. They provide door-to-door transportation but can be more expensive than public transit.

Walking

Many parts of Brussels, especially the city centre, are pedestrian-friendly. Walking is an excellent way to explore historic neighbourhoods, parks, and landmarks.



Hotel Options

Selecting the ideal hotel in Brussels for business travel requires a strategic approach. Prioritise proximity to your work-related destinations to minimise commute times. Ensure easy access to public transportation for convenience. Assess the hotel's Wi-Fi quality and business facilities, such as meeting rooms and business centres, to support your work needs. Comfortable workspaces in your room or dedicated areas are crucial for productivity. Consider guest reviews for insights into the hotel's service quality and reliability.

At Selective Travel Management, we have a Hotel Process in place to ensure we fulfil our Duty of Care as a professional travel Booker and to make sure you receive the service you expect. We quality check all hotels and make recommendations based upon a benchmark of the review sites on the day that you confirm your hotel. The final choice of where you want to stay is yours, we will simply provide our recommendations.

For recommendations on hotel options in Brussels, please get in touch with your Dedicated Team, who can advise on the best accommodation to suit your travel needs. Our team of experts will use their personal experience, expertise, and knowledge to advise on the best accommodation for your trip. We will take into consideration many factors including: the reason for travel, your travelling scenario (solo, female, group etc.), your personal preferences, and more.



Work Facilities

For those in search of co-working spaces, we've handpicked these exceptional options that cater to various needs and preferences.

Silversquare Louise

It fosters a vibrant community, catering to start-ups and established companies alike. Striking a harmonious balance between private and shared workspaces, it elevates productivity and workplace satisfaction.

Factory Forty

Located centrally in Brussels, accessibility is a breeze, whether you're driving, biking, or using public transport. This vibrant workspace promotes collaboration and daily exchanges. The ground floor offers a spacious, sunlit environment with a kitchen, cyber café, and a garden for rejuvenation.

Servcorp

This facility hosts major corporations, providing easy access to public transport, shops, and government offices. With a VIP business centre reputation, it's known for its modern amenities and prime financial district placement, making it ideal for networking and work-life balance.

Timesmore

This 1927 townhouse, a hidden Brussels gem, exudes welcoming efficiency behind its Beaux-Arts façade. Equipped meeting rooms, the aroma of morning croissants and coffee, showers, and a charming garden provide members with all the essentials for business growth.



Business Environment

Brussels, as the capital of Belgium and the European Union, is a thriving business hub known for its strategic location and international influence. It hosts key EU institutions like the European Commission, European Parliament, and NATO, attracting professionals from around the world.

Several multinational corporations have also chosen Brussels as their European or regional headquarters. Notable examples include Anheuser-Busch InBev (one of the world's largest brewing companies), Solvay (a leading chemical company), and Delhaize Group (a major retail conglomerate). Its financial sector is robust, with a bustling stock exchange (Euronext Brussels) and numerous banking and insurance companies.

In recent years, Brussels has been fostering a supportive ecosystem for start-ups and innovation. Co-working spaces, incubators, and accelerators have emerged, encouraging entrepreneurship in sectors like technology, biotech, and sustainable energy. With the presence of multinational corporations, a robust financial sector, and a growing start-up ecosystem, Brussels continues to be a prominent player in the global business landscape.



Sightseeing

Brussels offers a wealth of tourist attractions, but these top five must-visit sites offer a mix of history, culture, and contemporary significance, making Brussels an engaging destination for business travellers.

Grand Place (Grote Markt)

This stunning central square is a UNESCO World Heritage site and showcases the city's architectural grandeur with its opulent guildhalls, the Town Hall, and the King's House.

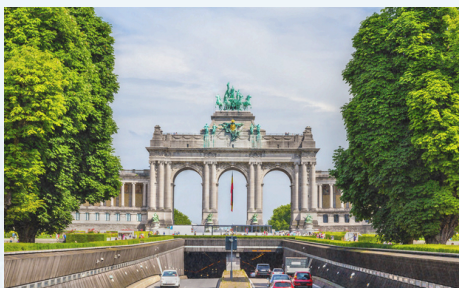


Atomium

A futuristic building resembling an iron crystal magnified 165 billion times, the Atomium is an iconic symbol of Brussels. Visitors can explore its interior, which includes exhibitions on science and design.

Manneken Pis

A beloved Brussels landmark, this tiny bronze statue of a boy urinating into a fountain has become a symbol of the city's irreverent spirit.



Cinquantenaire Park

This expansive park features beautiful gardens, triumphal arches, and several museums, including the Royal Museum of the Armed Forces and Military History.

European Quarter

Explore the heart of the European Union with a visit to the European Parliament, Berlaymont Building, and Parc Léopold, where you can see modern architecture and gain insights into EU institutions.



Food and drinks

Cosmopolitan and generous, Brussels is bursting with gourmet experiences. If you'd like to take a culinary trip or discover the best of local flavours, indulge in a decadent brunch or discover all about the new restaurants that are spicing up the capital's food scene, get your taste buds ready – we've got it all here!

Wolf Food Market, once a financial hub, now hosts a diverse culinary scene near Brussels' cathedral and Monnaie. With 19 restaurants, two bars, and offerings from burgers to sushi, it's a global gastronomic journey. Yves Matagne's gourmet waffles and an eco-friendly Food Hub enhance the experience in this historic space.

In Brussels' Sablon district, Liu and Lin, the sister-duo managing this 100% vegan restaurant, bring a taste of Taiwan to your table. Don't be fooled by dish names like calamari rings and shrimp fritters; they're all plant-based surprises. With tofu, soy, and shiitake mushrooms, their cuisine aims to win over carnivores to the world of vegan delights.

Brussels' rooftop terraces unveil the city's hidden hotel treasures. One standout is the four-star Warwick Brussels hotel, conveniently near Central Station. Its chic rooftop terrace boasts panoramic views of the Grand-Place and the historic centre. You can savour Belgian culinary delights and signature cocktails while getting to know the city.

If you're looking for a more upscale dining experience, explore these [Michelin-starred restaurants](#).



Useful Apps

Navigating Brussels can be made much easier with the help of various smartphone apps designed to assist travellers. Here are some of the best apps to download for getting around:

VisitBrussels – The VisitBrussels app is your ultimate guide for navigating Brussels. It offers practical information on accommodation and dining, as well as insightful tips and tours. With 1,500 addresses and an offline interactive map, it's your go-to tool for city exploration.

STIB/MIVB – The official public transportation app for Brussels, offering schedules, routes, and ticket information for buses, trams, and metros.

AllBikesNow – This app provides you with up to date information about bike stations' availability. Where to rent or leave a bike, and how far they are from your location.

Monument Tracker – Users will be guided to various monuments throughout Brussels and learn about their history – all without the fumbling of guidebooks in hand. Individuals can also share their adventures through their profile, create itineraries and share their adventures with other users.

Interested in other useful business travel apps? [View Top Business Travel Apps](#) 





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