

WHAT'S ON WHILE IN BRUSSELS?

SUMMER 2019 VIBES

This is the handbook of insider tips on how to experience the real Brussels in just a few hours. We have added a few of our favourite things to do!

Welcome to Brussels, where business, urban spirit, a cosmopolitan atmosphere, as well as cultural and leisure activities, blend into a harmonious whole.



INTEREST PICKS

STROLLING THROUGH THE CITY

[Take your pick of thematic walks here](#) and explore the city on your own or with a guide: Art Nouveau & Art Deco, Surrealism, Tintin, Comic Strip, the Beer Tour, or the Mixity Walk...

FOR CULTURE LOVERS

The options are legion whatever your interests:

- For art lovers: the [Magritte Museum](#), [BOZAR](#) and the [Royal Museums of Fine Arts of Belgium](#)
- For history buffs: the [BELvue](#) and [Coudenberg](#)
- For Art Nouveau enthusiasts: [10 must-visit world-class Art Nouveau buildings](#)
- To fulfil specific passions: the [Royal Museum for Central Africa](#) (newly renovated!), the [Centrale](#) for contemporary art, the [Musical Instruments Museum](#), the [Museum of Natural Sciences](#), the [Belgian Comic Strip Centre](#), [Autoworld](#) and [The Temple of Human Passions](#)

BRUSSELS IS GREEN

Stay fit and zen. Take the air and stroll, jog, cycle or meditate in our parks (Bois de la Cambre, Sonian Forest, Parc du Cinquanteenaire, Parc de Bruxelles and Parc de Laeken), in our numerous public gardens or in our wide tree lined avenues:

- [visit.brussels selection](#)
- [Brussels gardens apps](#)
- Run the city with the apps [running city world](#) or [strava](#)
- Cycle with [Villo](#) or the [electric bikes Jump \(by Uber\)](#)
- Sunday [Yoga in the Park Cinquanteenaire](#) (May-Sept)

SUCCUMB TO TEMPTATION

Fries, beer and chocolate. Vive la différence!

- Book at [Brasserie Frites Atelier](#), Place Sainte Catherine
- Stroll through the city eating Belgian chips with your fingers from a [Brusselicious chip stand, or van!](#)
- [Visit one of our numerous brewery](#), young initiatives are pioneering and innovating!
- Combine chocolate shopping with tasting and workshop with the renowned [Laurent Gerbaud](#)

AFTER HOURS

HERE, YOU WILL APPRECIATE THE QUALITY OF LIFE, THE MANY CULTURAL POSSIBILITIES AND, NOT LEAST, THE GREAT FOOD

SUMMER POP-UPS BARS AND ROOFTOPS

Open 7/7 with bar, food and music (and sometimes dancing)

- [Les Guinguettes Barc](#) (10.05-30.09, weather permitting)
7 unique pop-up Guinguettes in the main parks
- [La Terrasse O²](#) (17.05-20.07, covered in case of rain)
- Bar [Perché](#) on the rooftop of the JAM hotel
- [Brewdog](#) and craft beers
- [Coucou Brussels](#) beach chairs in the sun

Thursday afterwork partying (an essential ritual in Brussels!)

- [Boeremet](#) (from mid-April)
Foodtrucks, bars and Deejay's (outdoor but covered)
- [Là Haut rooftop](#) - Viage Casino (from May to Sept)
Luxurious décor in a garden with a view above Brussels
- Square 'Place du Luxembourg' for yuppies and Eurocrats

On certain days of the week

- [Pretentious Mondays](#) at Cospaia
- Wednesday's open air market and eating area at [Châtelain market](#) or [The European Canteen](#)
- Food trucks and DJs [Fridays Frunch](#) (lunch, 17.05-30.08)
- Friday's [festive aperitif Jettestream](#)
- Culture and fun at [Vaux-Hall Summer](#) (w/e, 31.05-11.08)

LUNCH TIME WITH TERRACE

- La [Fabrique en ville](#) well-hidden corner of greenery
- Well-hidden veranda of [Pain Quotidien Sablon](#)
- Gourmet and majestic [Brugmann](#)

ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME CULINARY EXPERIENCE

- Best vegan restaurant of the world [humus x hortense](#)
- [Chalet Robinson](#) in a wood, on an island
- Dizzying [Villa in the Sky](#)
- Try something original: Brussels' best prawn croquettes at [Fernand Obb Delikatessen](#), la [Quincaillerie](#) or at [Ma Folle de Sœur](#)

CULTURE AT NIGHT

- [Wiels contemporary art centre](#) (open until 09:00 p.m. on 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month)
- Theatre and concerts for international travellers (some English programmes too): [Théâtre National](#), [Flagey](#), [Bozar](#), [Botanique](#), [La Monnaie](#), or [Sounds Jazz Club](#)



Wim Delvoye
Art works exhibition
(22.03-21.07)



Intimate Audrey
The life of Audrey Hepburn
(01.05-25.08)



Carolus V Festival
Europe's Renaissance
(May-Sept)



Brussels Summer Festival
Quality & multi-cultural
(14.08-18.08)



Brigittines Festival
Contemporary performances
(16-31.08)



Tour de France
Official exhibition
(04.04-14.07)



Tour&Taxis Summer Ed.
Restaurants, bars, music
(27.06-29.09)



Sophie Whettnall-Etel Adnan
Contemporary exhibition
(04.04-04.08)



Flower Time, City Hall
100,000 flowers
(14.08-18.08)



Hello Summer
Pop-ups in 4 districts
(25.07-25.08)



Designing the night
Nightlife heritage
(01.03-29.09)



Visit of the Palace Royal
A tradition in Brussels
(22.07-02.09)



SUMMER
2019
DATES
FOR YOUR
DIARY

UNMISSABLE
EVENTS IF YOU
ARE IN
BRUSSELS ON
THESE DATES...

(IN NO PARTICULAR
ORDER)



INSIDER TIPS

We have asked insiders to share what they would like to do best if they only had a few hours of free time:

"I would walk along the Ixelles ponds, go to the market on place Flagey and meet some friends at the cafe-bar, in the art deco Flagey center."


Marie Droeshaut, Chez Marie

"...and I would get a waffle from a truck on Place Royale and savour it While enjoying the splendid view over the city from Mont des Arts."

Lucile Canque, NH Collection Grand Sablon

USEFUL LINKS

Where else but Brussels?

agenda.brussels  Cultural and festive activities finder, the only site you'll need



24/48/72 hours passport to discovering Brussels including access to 41 museums, numerous discounts, an information guide and transportation (optional)

arsene50.brussels  Half-price tickets for performances and concerts for the same day

Moving around in the city

[Bus, metro or tram](#)

[Shared taxis](#)

[Bikes](#)

[Cab](#)

[Collective night taxi](#)

[Scooters](#)



Please visit the websites or contact the suggested places directly to make your reservations, to check opening days and times and to verify that all information is still valid.

AND IF IT RAINS?

COSY UP IN A CAFÉ

Relax and watch the world go by and take in the atmosphere in the warmth of [one of Brussels' many cafés](#).

GET CULTURAL

Brussels has so many museums [that you will spoiled for choice](#) (See on page 1 of this handbook).

GO ON A SHOPPING SPREE

[Explore traditional arcades](#) such as Galeries Royales Saint-Hubert, Porte Louise or Galeries Toison d'or or the shopping malls City 2, the Woluwé Shopping Centre, and Docks Brussel.

BROWSE BOOKSHOPS

Brussels has some truly great bookshops (with, sometimes, cafés):

- Over 20 languages: [Librebook](#)
- French, English & Flemish: [Filigranes Arts-Loi](#)
- English: [Cook & Book](#), [Sterling books](#)
- Italian: [La piola Libri](#)

