

## 8 NEW REASONS TO HAVE YOUR NEXT MEETING IN BRUSSELS!

### BRAND NEW FOR MEETINGS IN 2009

**Brussels**, capital of Belgium and headquarters of the EU and NATO:  
Re-opening of "**Square- Brussels Meeting Center**" on 20.09.2009 at 20:09

Once known as the Congress Center of Brussels, "The Square", a completely renovated property next to the Grand Place on Mont des Arts in the center of Brussels, will offer 10,000m2 of multi-use/flexible rooms, including 3 auditoria, 2 conference rooms, 20 high-tech meeting rooms, a modular hall of 4,000 m2 and an exclusive top-floor event room, a venue suitable for every type of meeting, whether it be an international conference gala dinner, a fashion show, or product presentation!

[www.square-brussels.eu/renovation/index.php](http://www.square-brussels.eu/renovation/index.php)

#### 1) PLAN AN AFFORDABLE MEETING

Most 3, 4 and 5-star hotels in Brussels have meeting rooms, most popular with companies that have representation in the United States. Keep in mind, Brussels offers lower prices per day than Paris, Amsterdam, London and Rome, making it an accessible and affordable destination for meetings in the heart of Europe. In the 2008 resource guide of **Business Travel News**, Brussels ranks a low no.16 for its hotel prices, rendering it cheaper to stay overnight in Brussels than in other cities like Paris, London, Rome or Amsterdam. Book your meeting in January, February, July, August or September for the best rates.

#### 2) MOST POPULAR HOTELS WITH US REPRESENTATION

**Accor hotels:** Brussels has 5 Ibis, 2 Sofitels and 3 Novotels that are all part of the Accor hotel group, offering spacious rooms and comfortable meeting spaces. <http://www.accorhotels.com> <<http://www.accorhotels.com/>>

**Rocco Forte Amigo Hotel:** a member of one of the "Leading Hotels of the World", Hotel Amigo offers a wide-variety of comfortable, elegant guest rooms each with individual style as well as six fully-equipped meeting rooms and a ballroom, which can be divided into two rooms and can accommodate up to 160 people, theatre style.

[www.hotelamigo.com](http://www.hotelamigo.com)

**Crowne Plaza Brussels City Center:** 356 guest rooms and 20 meeting rooms including the state-of-the-art "Rogier Room", the Crowne Plaza is available to hold meetings for up to 550 persons.

[www.crowneplazabrussels.com](http://www.crowneplazabrussels.com)

**Conrad Brussels (Hilton):** Located on the fashionable Avenue Louise, the Conrad offers comfortable, luxurious guest rooms and 16 meeting rooms, including the 6,000 sq. feet column-free ballroom available for banquets or receptions.

<http://conradhotels1.hilton.com>

**Hilton hotels (uptown or downtown):** You will get Hilton international service at either Hilton hotel in Brussels, with spacious guest rooms and meeting spaces.

[www.hilton1.com/](http://www.hilton1.com/)

**Le Meridien (Starwood):** 224 elegant guest rooms and suites offer a place of luxurious sanctuary and unmatched comfort. Easily accessible from the International airport and the TGV/Eurostar terminals, Le Meridien Brussels stands opposite the Palais des Congrès and Central Station.

[www.starwoodhotels.com/lemeridien/](http://www.starwoodhotels.com/lemeridien/)

**Hotel Le Plaza:** Located in the city center, this newly-renovated luxury hotel has 193 rooms and suites with 9 meeting rooms that can accommodate between 8 and 900 persons.

[www.leplaza-brussels.be](http://www.leplaza-brussels.be)

**Marriot Brussels Hotel:** A five minute walk from the Grand'Place, set where an island once stood in a flowing river, this grand city center hotel now offers luxurious accommodations in a historic building. With 5 meeting rooms, a total of 6,780 square feet of meeting space, the hotel can accommodate up to 460 people for your meeting.

[www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/brudt-brussels-marriott-hotel/](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/brudt-brussels-marriott-hotel/)

**Royal Windsor and The Warwick Hotel:** The Royal Windsor is located off the Grand'Place, the Royal Windsor has 266 rooms, 16 suites and 1 royal suite, with 15 sound-proofed and air-conditioned meeting rooms that can accommodate up to 300 people. The Warwick Hotel is located in the chic Avenue Louise district, it offers 99 guest rooms and five meeting rooms, ideal for seminars, business lunches, or social gatherings for up to 75 people. Each one of the meeting rooms offers natural daylight and the latest technology, including ADSL, TV, CD, DVD and amplifiers.

[www.royalwindsorbrussels.com](http://www.royalwindsorbrussels.com)

[www.warwickbarsey.com](http://www.warwickbarsey.com)

**Radisson Hotels:** The Radisson SAS Royal and EU Brussels have luxurious guest rooms and different meeting facilities to suit your needs.

[www.radissonsas.com/](http://www.radissonsas.com/)

**Sheraton (Starwood):** 508 guest rooms and 19 meeting rooms (some are connectable), extensive conference technology and a la carte banqueting provides a sophisticated setting for coffee breaks, cocktail receptions, lunches and dinners.

[www.sheraton.com/brussels](http://www.sheraton.com/brussels)

### 3) NEW HOTELS WITH MEETING SPACE

**Hotel Bloom!:** With 305 rooms and suites and 1300m<sup>2</sup> of meeting space and with lots of natural light, Hotel Bloom, trendy and centrally-located near the botanical gardens, offering relaxing and rejuvenating accommodations for your meetings.

[www.hotelbloom.com](http://www.hotelbloom.com)

**Be Manos:** In April 2007, the owners of the Manos Premier and Manos Stephanie hotels in Brussels, built a third, contemporary-style hotel situated very close to the terminals for the Eurostar train to London & Thalys train to Paris, with 60 rooms and two halls available for meetings.

[www.bemanos.com](http://www.bemanos.com)

**Dolce La Hulpe Brussels:** 10 miles from the city center of Brussels in La Hulpe, near the town of Waterloo, this hip resort and conference center next to having 264 generously-sized guest rooms and suites, two gastronomic

restaurants, a full spa and swimming pool, it is also contains 47,000 square feet of meeting space spread out over 36 meetings rooms and 4 ampitheatres.  
[www.lahulpe.dolce.com/](http://www.lahulpe.dolce.com/)

**The Dominican:** A deluxe design hotel, located in the city center, the Dominican has 150 stylishly-designed rooms and numerous facilities for your meetings.  
[www.thedominican.be](http://www.thedominican.be)

**Hotel Progress:** A smaller hotel with 57 deluxe rooms and suites and a variety of conference rooms to choose from. The hotel even offers "conference packages" for meetings of 20 delegates or more.  
[www.progresshotel.be](http://www.progresshotel.be)

#### 4) THE BEST OF BRUSSELS FOR YOUR MEETINGS

Brussels, famous for its **gastronomy**, has **2,129 restaurants** and **456 cafés**. In Brussels, where every type of cuisine is on the menu, you can delight in fine chocolates and waffles, munch on Belgian fries with mayo, savor fresh mussels and wash it all down with the country's diverse variety of beer, over 500 kinds available. Tastings for groups are a must!

All hotels, from small properties to international chain hotels, assure that a quality experience awaits you. There are **10,000** hotel rooms in Brussels. In the past ten years, Brussels has witnessed an increase of 113% in overnight stays, as was documented in 2006 by BITC (Brussels International Tourist and Convention Bureau).

There are **90 museums** to visit in Brussels and these interesting venues are also available for your **meetings and events**.

#### 5) SPECIAL VENUES

**Brussels Events Brewery:** Formally the old Bellevue Brasserie, Brussels Event Brewery is now the perfect place for any project requiring space, sound-proofing and logistic facilities. Events can be coordinated from 40 to 40,000 people.  
[www.eventbrewery.com](http://www.eventbrewery.com)

**Concert Noble:** Located in the EU district, this renovated, historic building, built in the 19th century, can today accommodate up to 800 people!  
[www.concertnoble.com](http://www.concertnoble.com)

**Dinosaur Gallery at the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences:** Europe's largest dinosaur gallery can also be the site of your next meeting. The gallery contains functional congress space, offers unique tours and even a banquet hall available for dinners or receptions.  
[www.naturalsciences.be/museum/dinosaurs](http://www.naturalsciences.be/museum/dinosaurs)

**Cantillon Brewery:** Situation in a warehouse of a 100-year old brewery and holds 110 standing or 80 people sitting for a tasting.  
[www.cantillonbrewery.com](http://www.cantillonbrewery.com)

**Vaudeville Theater:** A completely-restored 19<sup>th</sup> century multi-purpose event space situation in the Saint-Hubert Galleries.

[www.chouxdebruxelles.be](http://www.chouxdebruxelles.be)

**Van Buuren Museum:** This villa houses five centuries of art, from Flemish and Italian masters. It's art deco lounge inside and garden can be rented for private events.

[www.museumvanbuuren.com/gb/infosgb.htm](http://www.museumvanbuuren.com/gb/infosgb.htm)

**Caves de Cureghem:** The Cureghem Cellars are an ideal location for various events such as banquets, gala-dinners or cocktail parties. There is a seminar room available which can sit from 50 to 300 people. The caves are especially known for the organization of dinner with spectacle for its "medieval" ambiance.

[www.abatan.be](http://www.abatan.be)

**Le Roy d'Espagne:** Smack on the Grand'Place with great views, Le Roy d'Espagne is an authentic Belgian brasserie with a banquet room that can seat 110 people.

[www.roydespagne.be](http://www.roydespagne.be)

**Royal Museums of Fine Arts:** the largest museum complex in Belgium, this centrally-located venue, the museum offer guided tours or permanent or temporary exhibitions followed by dinner or cocktails, ensuring visitors a stimulating and unforgettable evening.

[www.fine-arts-museum.be](http://www.fine-arts-museum.be)

**Grand Place 19:** Situated inside a historic exchange building, on the famous Grand'Place, Grand Place 19, is a beautiful venue for hosting a private dinner, party or cocktail reception.

[www.chouxdebruxelles.be](http://www.chouxdebruxelles.be)

**Atomium:** Celebrate the Atomium's fiftieth anniversary this year by holding at meeting in Brussels' most astonishing building! There are four meeting rooms, including a reception hall that holds 400 and a banquet hall that can hold 250.

[www.atomium.be](http://www.atomium.be)

**Bruxelles en Scène:** located in the Galerie de la Reine, this sound and light show exhibition provides the perfect backdrop for a company function or private party. The venue can accommodate up to 170 people.

[www.bruxelles-enscene.be](http://www.bruxelles-enscene.be)

#### 6) INCENTIVE IDEAS: AROUND BRUSSELS JUST FOR FUN

Brussels is not just about meetings! Enjoy a beer on the terrace of the Grand'Place, visit the Royal Gardens, go weekend antiquing at the Grand Sablon, take an architecture tour, a comic strip walk or indulge in chocolate, waffles, golden frites with mayo and over 400 varieties of Belgian beer! Less than an hour away by coach, visit numerous beautiful castles, also available as venues for your meetings.

[www.visitbelgium.com/gardens.htm](http://www.visitbelgium.com/gardens.htm)

#### 7) HOW TO GET TO BRUSSELS

**AIRLINES:** 9 direct flights to Belgium from North America:

American Airlines: New York (JFK) and Chicago (ORD)-daily, [www.aa.com](http://www.aa.com)

Continental Airlines: Newark (EWR)-daily, [www.continental.com](http://www.continental.com)  
Delta Airlines: New York (JFK) and Atlanta (ATL)-daily, [www.delta.com](http://www.delta.com)  
Jet Airways: New York (JFK) and, Newark (EWR) and Toronto (YYZ)-daily  
And more to come! [www.jetairways.com](http://www.jetairways.com)  
United Airlines: Washington, D.C. (IAD)-daily, [www.united.com](http://www.united.com)  
US Airways: Philadelphia (PHL)-daily, [www.usairways.com](http://www.usairways.com)  
Brussels Airlines: New York (co-share with AA)-daily,  
[www.brusselsairlines.be](http://www.brusselsairlines.be)  
Easy connections with Air France, BA, BMI and Virgin Atlantic

#### **RAIL**

**Thalys train:** Paris-Brussels in 85 minutes, 25 daily departures. Brussels-Amsterdam in 2h30 minutes, 7 daily departures

**Eurostar:** London-Brussels is only 1h51minutes. Up to 9 daily departures  
[www.visitbelgium.com/transportation.htm#bytrain](http://www.visitbelgium.com/transportation.htm#bytrain)

#### **LIMO SERVICES**

##### **GET to Belgium**

Pierre-Yves Dalem, Chauffeur and Guide  
[www.get-to.be](http://www.get-to.be), [info@get-to.be](mailto:info@get-to.be)

##### **Brussels International Limo Servic**

[www.bils-limo.be](http://www.bils-limo.be)

##### **Avis Limousines**

[www.avislimousines.be](http://www.avislimousines.be)

Other Choices Available: [www.visitbelgium.com/transportation.htm#bycar](http://www.visitbelgium.com/transportation.htm#bycar)

#### **COACH**

[www.visitbelgium.com/transportation.htm#bycoach](http://www.visitbelgium.com/transportation.htm#bycoach)

#### 8) USEFUL CONTACTS FOR MEETING PROPOSALS

##### **Brussels International Tourist and Convention Bureau**

[www.brusselsinternational.be](http://www.brusselsinternational.be)

More: <http://www.visitbelgium.com/meetings.htm>

Website: <http://www.visitbelgium.com>

E-mail: [kira@visitbelgium.com](mailto:kira@visitbelgium.com)

Phone: 212-758-8130 ext # 11