



Transport & services:

- **Parking:** underground parking available at the hotel with direct access to the lobby-reception. Key card system and video surveillance.
- **Train:** the Midi Station is the station for the international lines Eurostar and Thalys. From there you can take a taxi or take the metro towards “Simonis”. After three stops you will be at the station Louise. Walk down Avenue Louise. Continue straight forward after the roundabout (Place Stéphanie) for about 150 meters, and you will see the hotel on your right hand side.
- **Brussels Airport:** located at 13 km from the hotel, it takes only 15 minutes to get the hotel. You can take a taxi, rent a car, and take the train up to Midi Station or the Airport Express Bus.
- **Brussels South Charleroi Airport:** easily accessible via highway E19. You can take a taxi, rent a car (Budget Rental Car as in the hotel), and take the train up to Midi Station or the Airport Express Bus (+/- € 10,00/pers.).
- **Airport Express Bus:** both the airport offer this service from the airports to the Midi Station.
- **Public Transport**
 - **Tram:** Stops about 100 m from the hotel.
 - **Metro:** Get off at the metro station Louise. Walk down Avenue Louise. Continue straight forward after the roundabout (Place Stéphanie) for about 150 m, and you will see the hotel on your right hand side.
 - **Bus:** Stops about 100 m from the hotel
- **Rental Car:** Pick up at the hotel with Budget Car Rental. [Book it now](#) by selecting Brussels as location. Budget Car Rental also has a pick up point at Brussels South Charleroi Airport.
- **VILLO!** A service for hiring bikes available day and night, every day of the week. The stations are situated about 450 m from one another. The bikes can be used in connection to other public transport. The hotel can provide you with cards for an easy service; one of the stop is located at 50m from the hotel.

Welcome to Brussels!

What to do at walking distance?

■ Cultural activities:

- **The Magritte Museum:** The museum is located at the Place Royale, in the very heart of Brussels. The museum displays the works of the surrealist artist and this multidisciplinary collection is the richest in the world. It contains more than 200 works consisting of oils on canvas, gouaches, drawings, sculptures and painted objects as well as advertising posters, music scores, vintage photographs and films produced by Magritte himself. [Magritte Museum](#)
- **The famous Brussels' Grand-Place:** "One of the most beautiful town squares in Europe, if not in the world", is a phrase often heard when visitors in Brussels try to describe the beauty of the central market square. French-speakers refer to it as the 'Grand-Place', whereas in Dutch it is called 'de grote Markt'. Nowadays, the Grand-Place is the **main tourist attraction** of the City of Brussels. All through the year it is visited by thousands who like to spend some time wandering around and admiring the beautiful buildings, or sitting down on one of the many terraces having a good Belgian beer. Concerts and musical happenings are organized all through the year on the square. The most famous events that take place here are the annual Ommegang (an historical procession at the beginning of July) and the biennial flower carpet.
- **The Royal Palace:** The Royal Palace was built on the site of the former Palace of the Dukes of Brabant which was destroyed by fire in 1731. Started in 1820 under the reign of King William, it was modified in 1904 under Léopold II, who had it rebuilt in Louis XVI style. The side wings date from the 18th century and at the end of each wing there is a pavilion. On the left that of the Civil List and on the right the Hotel Bellevue which is currently the BELvue Museum. [The Royal Palace](#)
- **Flagey:** cultural centre giving priority to music (jazz, classical, contemporary and world) and cinema (in collaboration with the Cinematek film archives), as well as festivals and special evening events. But they are also giving increasing time to literature, debate and analysis, as well as to activities for small children, the young and the neighborhood. All of this within our own programs or as part of festivals and collaborations. [Program](#)
- **Horta Museum:** The Horta Museum is established in the private house and studio of the famous architect, Victor Horta. Built between 1898 and 1901, the two buildings are characteristic of Art Nouveau at its peak. The house has kept intact most of its interior

decors: mosaics, stained-glass windows, furniture, paintings and murals form a collection whose every detail evokes harmony and sophistication. [Horta Museum](#)

- **Musical Instruments Museum - MIM:** This excellent museum occupies the old Art Nouveau buildings and is one of the biggest collections of instruments in the world. The four exhibition levels display nearly 1200 instruments, antique or contemporary, in a stage set blending the acoustic and visual aspects and integrating technological tools such as interactive terminals and sound spaces. [MIM](#)
- **Porte de Hal:** Renovated from top to bottom in 2007-2008, this museum devoted to the history and traditions of the city of Brussels puts on a number of temporary exhibitions. Sweeping view over Brussels. [Porte de Hal](#)

■ **Activities for families:**

- **Belgian Centre for Comic Strip Art:** This museum offers two visits in one: an "archaeological" discovery, since it is housed in what used to be the Waucquez warehouse (built by Victor Horta); not to mention the building's highly original contents - comic strips - in a setting that provides space and light in abundance. The museum devotes much of its space to the history of the comic strip in Belgium, with Hergé undoubtedly at the head of a group whose fame is international. [Belgian Centre for Comic Strip Art](#)
- **Museum of Cocoa and Chocolate – MUCC:** During your visit in the Museum of Cocoa and Chocolate, you will learn everything about the origins of the chocolate, the beans cultivated by the Aztecs to be then offered to their Gods. In the Museum the different phases in the production process are explained and also the hand-made "praline". A visit to the Museum will include the demonstration of a chocolate master and the possibility of sampling various chocolate delights. [MUCC](#)
- **The Bois de la Cambre:** The Bois de la Cambre or Ter Kamerenbos consists of a park and a wood, in the South of Brussels. The style of the park is very English; these gardens try to imitate nature as closely as possible. The bushes and trees are planted in a very irregular way. Nowadays, the Bois de la Cambre is a green lung in Brussels and one of the favorite parks for leisure activities.
- **Scientastic Museum:** Over 50 simple and original experiments that reveal a whole new side of physics, optics, acoustics. A great source of amusement and amazement.
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▪ **Outdoor activities and nightlife's:**

Young, multicultural, artistic and trendy, Ixelles is still one of the liveliest localities in Brussels. Thoroughfares of **shops and stores** and perfectly-sited outside tables happily coexist in the mix of local community atmospheres. In the middle, the **Saint-Boniface district**, loyal to its good food establishments in unfailingly original settings, borders on the highly colourful **Matongé quarter**. Its inhabitants, who are mainly Africans, open up their doors and sunny terraces.

- **The Avenue Louise and Boulevard de Waterloo:** Paris has the Champs Elysées, Barcelona the Ramblas, New York has Fifth Avenue and Brussels has avenue Louise and boulevard de Waterloo! The area has become the muse of designers. Lined with grand town houses including the ones designed by Victor Horta.
- **The Sablon antique square:** a real gold mine for art lovers, collectors or bargain hunters. It is also overflowing with an infectious 'joie de vivre'. The [antique and modern art galleries](#) of the Sablon constitute a chic museum in themselves, where (almost) everyone can chance on that rare and elusive pearl thanks to its eclectic mix.
- **The Marolles district:** A constant whirl of activity, the popular **Rue Haute and Rue Blaes** are thronged with the most unexpected bric-a-brac and **decoration shops**, carefully interspersed with typical and welcoming cafés and restaurants. Tempting, carefully-prepared dishes are served alongside soups and soft cheese sandwiches. The 'zwanze' is a must: once you've heard an absurd, incredible or surreal story told in the good old brusseleer accent, you'll have reached the roots of the Marolles. All of this local tradition is further enhanced by the fantastic bric-a-brac: **the flea market** that's held every morning on Place du Jeu de Balle!
- **Rue du Bailli – Place du Châtelain :** Between the very chic Bois de la Cambre and the Palais de Justice, perpendicular to the famous avenue Louise, a view opens up over the Eglise de la Trinité: this is rue du Bailli, gateway to a very special district. Those who live here wouldn't change it for the world. This is where they want to live, because of that wonderful blend of diverse culture and talent. Not far from the city centre, you'll be surprised by the cheerful tranquillity of these streets with an almost rural charm when you stroll around the Quartier du Châtelain with its fancy bar and restaurants.
- **Ixelles ponds:** In the past, strings of ponds used to run along the valley of Maelbeek, around Brussels. In Ixelles remain two of those ponds. Places for picturesque walks lined with majestic trees, Art Nouveau houses and the Flagey cultural center. Nearby are the gardens of Abbaye de la Cambre (la Cambre Abbey) where a peaceful atmosphere reigns.

What to do by car?

■ Cultural activities:

- **The Atomium:** Inaugurated on the occasion of the 1958 World Exhibition and fully renovated in 2005, the Atomium is built on the model of a metal crystalline molecule enlarged 165 billion times. The most spectacular views of Brussels and Brabant from the uppermost ball. A must! [The Atomium](#)
- **Mini-Europe:** Located at the foot of the Atomium, Mini-Europe is the only park where you can have a whistle-stop tour of Europe in a few short hours. A truly unique journey! Enjoy a stroll taking in the typical atmosphere of the most beautiful towns of the old Continent. The incomparable chimes of Big Ben welcome you to the heart of London. The gondolas and mandolins invite you to discover the charms of Venice. Follow the TGV high-speed train from Paris to the other end of France. You can make the models work yourself: the eruption of Vesuvius, the fall of the Berlin Wall, a bull-fight in Seville and many others. All in all, 350 models and sites with an unequalled level of craftsmanship. Visit also the European area, packed with interactive multimedia games and the exhibition “Spirit of Europe”. [Mini-Europe](#)
- **Far East Museums - Chinese Pavilion, Japanese Tower and Japanese Art Museum:** The Chinese pavilion was built on the edge of the Royal Estate at Laeken on the orders of King Leopold II. The pavilion houses a major collection of Chinese ceramics manufactured for export to Europe. Following the Paris Universal Exhibition in 1900, King Leopold II decided to commence building-work on the Japanese Tower. You'll discover also temporary exhibitions on various aspects of Japanese art. <http://www.kmkg-mrah.be/>

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- **Planetarium:** Come and observe the astronomical wonders, as projected onto the screen of the Planetarium. Children will love seeing the wondrous display of stars and planets closer and brighter than in the night sky. [Planetarium](#)
- **Océade:** This is the capital's water funpark, open all year round, with all the excitement of high-speed slides, the charm of jacuzzis, saunas, solariums and wavepools. [Océade](#)
- **Brussels' public aquarium – Aquariology centre:** Permanent exhibition of 47 aqua(terra)riums from 5 continents, illustrating the kingdom of fish, amphibians and other invertebrates. This centre is designed as a place for finding out about and raising awareness of respect for the environment. Audio guide available. [Aquariology centre](#)
- **Walibi theme park:** <http://www.walibi.be/en/buy-online>

