











Flanders Highlights: Brussels to Bruges

From Brussels to Bruges via Antwerp

Flanders, a haven of art and culture, represents a region in the north of Belgium enriched with centuries of tradition and history. You'll ride along the historic art city route, guiding you through breathtaking sights in cities such as Brussels, Leuven, Mechelen, Antwerp, Ghent, Kortrijk, and Bruges. Amidst these urban gems, picturesque green landscapes unfold, featuring grazing cows, expansive forests, and fertile marshlands. Along the route, historic castles and gardens add to the visual splendour, with many of the old buildings and monuments designated as UNESCO World Heritage Sites, creating an unparalleled atmosphere.

Venture into the River Leie's scenic landscape, where you can trace the footsteps of Flemish painters. For a refreshing experience, dip into the cool waters of the North Sea. Follow the small rivers that often guide your journey, promising relaxed cycling pleasure along flat and tranquil routes. Culinary delights abound in Flanders, with specialities including chocolate, waffles, French

fries, and, of course, Belgium's renowned brewing tradition. In summary, Flanders is a region that effortlessly combines history, art, nature, and gastronomy, offering a diverse and enriching cycling holiday experience.

Book this holiday: Flanders Highlights: Brussels to Bruges

Details about the Flanders Highlights: Brussels to Bruges cycling tour

Cycling in Flanders is a passionate affair deeply rooted in the region's culture and history. Renowned for its picturesque landscapes, charming cobblestone roads, and undulating terrain, Flanders offers a unique cycling experience that attracts enthusiasts from around the globe.

The region boasts a rich cycling heritage, hosting iconic races like the Tour of Flanders, where cyclists conquer the legendary cobbled climbs and challenging routes that wind through scenic villages and countryside.

Flanders' cycling culture extends beyond professional racing, with a network of well-maintained cycling paths catering to riders of all levels. Cyclists can explore historic cities like Ghent and Bruges, pedal through serene countryside dotted with windmills and tulip fields, or challenge themselves on routes that pay homage to cycling legends.

The warm hospitality of the Flemish people adds to the allure, with cycling-friendly cafes and local pubs welcoming riders to refuel with hearty Belgian cuisine and world-famous craft beers after a satisfying day in the saddle.

The highlights of the Flanders Highlights cycling holiday at a glance

- **Picturesque landscapes:** Explore breathtaking landscapes as you pedal through scenic countryside, passing by charming villages, rolling hills, and fields of vibrant flowers, especially during the tulip season.
- **Rich cycling heritage:** Immerse yourself in a region steeped in cycling history, where passionate locals celebrate the sport, offering cycling-friendly paths, museums, and monuments honouring legendary riders.
- **Cycling infrastructure:** Enjoy well-maintained cycling paths and networks catering to cyclists of all levels, ensuring a safe and enjoyable riding experience across the region.
- **Culinary delights and Belgian brews:** Indulge in the delightful gastronomy of Flanders, with cycling-friendly cafes, pubs, and restaurants offering hearty Belgian cuisine and world-renowned beers—a perfect way to refuel after a ride.

Worth knowing about the Flanders: Brussels to Bruges tour

Cities like Ghent and Antwerp have embraced cycling as a primary mode of transportation, implementing cyclist-friendly infrastructure such as bike lanes, bike-sharing programs, secure bike parking facilities, and traffic-calmed zones to prioritise cyclists' safety and convenience.

Flanders also uses a node network system, where cyclists can plan their routes using numbered nodes that connect various paths. This intuitive system allows riders to create customised routes that are easy to follow.

This tour has been graded as **Medium**. Find out more about our **cycling holiday difficulty levels**.

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Tour information



Medium



8 Days / 7 Nights



Self-Guided



Luggage transfers included



Total cycling distance: approx.
330 km

To the online version



Itinerary

DAY
1

Arrival in Brussels

Brussels, a lively Belgian metropolis, pulses with art, culture, and awe-inspiring architecture. From the iconic Grote Markt to the futuristic Atomium and the whimsical Manneken Pis statue, its landmarks capture the city's essence. Indulge in classic Belgian fries from stalls adorning every corner, adding a crispy delight to the vibrant cityscape.

DAY
2

Brussels – Mechelen approx. 65 km

After breakfast, explore the European capital at your leisure. Discover intriguing insights into Central Africa at the Royal Museum in Tervuren, or enjoy a tranquil stroll through the adjacent park, perhaps stopping for a picnic to energize for the upcoming kilometers. Following the historic Art City Route swiftly guides you to Leuven, a bustling university town where vibrant student life sets the tone in pedestrian-friendly zones. Continuing along the Dijle's path, you'll arrive at Mechelen, today's destination. The melodious chimes of the renowned tower bells resonate through the narrow streets, marking time up to eight times an hour.

DAY
3

Mechelen – Antwerp approx. 45 km

Mechelen, a picturesque Flemish gem, boasts a treasury of heritage-protected buildings, churches, and monuments dating back to the 16th century. Following tranquil and level paths tracing the Beneden-Dijl and Nete rivers, you'll encounter the historic town of Lier, renowned not only for its delectable cuisine but also for its UNESCO-recognized beguinage and striking belfry. Your journey culminates in Antwerp, famed as a pivotal diamond trading hub. Art thrives in this port metropolis, and avid shoppers will revel in the abundance of upscale boutiques.

DAY
4**Antwerp – Dendermonde** approx. 55 km

Antwerp, nestled along the Scheldt, becomes the scenic backdrop for your day's journey. Enjoy a picturesque route flanked by verdant meadows and grazing cows. Serene landscapes intermingle with charming Flemish villages, inviting several opportunities to unwind with a cup of coffee. Dendermonde, our stage destination, boasts a distinctive symbol—a colossal wooden horse—and hosts the rare Ross Bayard parade every decade, a celebration of folk traditions. As evening falls, savour a palate-pleasing experience at the myriad restaurants gracing the historic market square.

DAY
5**Dendermonde – Ghent** approx. 45 km

Today, your journey traces the meandering path of the Scheldt once more. Embrace carefree cycling along flat riverside paths, passing by quaint Flemish villages ideal for rejuvenating breaks. Your day culminates in Ghent, adorned with a wealth of cultural gems. The historic centre unfurls a tapestry of sights akin to strung pearls. As night falls, immerse yourself in Flanders' culinary panorama, indulging in the trendy city's diverse gastronomic delights.

DAY
6**Ghent – Kortrijk** approx. 60 km

Today's stage leads you through the enchanting landscape along the river Leie. This picturesque region, with its lush greenery and expansive forests, stands as a natural paradise that has inspired countless artists. Along the way, neoclassical castles and quaint artists' villages grace the route, inviting admiration of painters' works showcased in local museums. Your destination, Kortrijk, embodies the allure of a bustling city fused with the warmth of a village. Its centre is a blend of modern architectural marvels, centuries-old cultural heritage, and vibrant creative expressions.

DAY
7**Kortrijk – Bruges** approx. 60 km

You should not delay too much today, because Bruges awaits you at the end of the stage: arguably one of the most beautiful places in the world. The city has been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is a treat for the eyes. The medieval city centre has remained practically unchanged since the 15th century. The canals guaranteed success and prosperity in the Middle Ages and made Bruges the Venice of the North. A perfect place to end your cycling tour through the historic art cities of the beautiful Flanders region!

DAY
8**Departure from Bruges or extra nights**

After breakfast, it's time to embark on your return journey. Choose between our optional cycle bus transfer to Brussels or extend your stay in Bruges for further exploration, including the possibility of a round trip to the North Sea. The choice is yours to tailor your homeward journey according to your preferences.

Route information

Flanders stands as an ideal destination for cycling enthusiasts. The region boasts a superb network of cycle paths, with predominantly easy stages navigating flat terrain along dedicated paths or low-traffic side roads. Expect slightly increased traffic only when entering or leaving towns.

Following the historic Art City Route, you'll journey along rivers and canals, with well-signposted, mostly asphalted roads ensuring a smooth ride. With an extensive local rail network, there's flexibility to shorten routes using trains if needed, making this trip family-friendly and accommodating for children.



Included services and travel information

Price calculation and check availability: **Flanders Highlights: Brussels to Bruges**

Place of arrival: **Brussels**

	Season 1	Season 2	Season 3	Season 4
	12.04.2024	19.04.2024 -	03.05.2024 -	24.05.2024
	-	02.05.2024	23.05.2024	-
	18.04.2024	20.09.2024 -	06.09.2024 -	05.09.2024
	Friday,	22.09.2024	19.09.2024	Friday,
	Saturday and	Friday, Saturday and	Friday, Saturday and	Saturday and
	Sunday	Sunday	Sunday	Sunday
Flanders Highlights: Brussels to Bruges, BE-FLRBB-08X				
Base price	949.00	1,009.00	1,099.00	1,159.00
Single room surcharge	479.00	479.00	479.00	479.00

Category: 4**** hotels

Additional nights

Place of arrival: **Brussels**

	Season 1	Season 2	Season 3	Season 4
	Apr 12, 2024 - Apr 18, 2024	Apr 19, 2024 - May 2, 2024	May 3, 2024 - May 23, 2024	May 24, 2024 - Sep 5, 2024
	Friday, Saturday and Sunday	Friday, Saturday and Sunday	Friday, Saturday and Sunday	Friday, Saturday and Sunday
Brussels				
Double room p.p	89.00	89.00	89.00	89.00

	Season 1 Apr 12, 2024 - Apr 18, 2024 Friday, Saturday and Sunday	Season 2 Apr 19, 2024 - May 2, 2024 Sep 20, 2024 - Sep 22, 2024 Friday, Saturday and Sunday	Season 3 May 3, 2024 - May 23, 2024 Sep 6, 2024 - Sep 19, 2024 Friday, Saturday and Sunday	Season 4 May 24, 2024 - Sep 5, 2024 Friday, Saturday and Sunday
Single room surcharge	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00
Bruges				
Double room p.p	119.00	119.00	119.00	119.00
Single room surcharge	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00

Our rental bikes

	Price
21-Speed Unisex Bike	99.00
21-Speed Men's Bike	99.00
27-Speed Bike PLUS	169.00
Unisex E-Bike	259.00

Prices per person in GBP

Included services and travel information

Services

Included:

- Overnight stays as per the listed hotels
- Breakfast
- Luggage transfer
- Digital travel documents 1x per room
- GPS data available
- Service hotline
- Tourist tax

Arrival information

Arrival / Parking / Departure:

- Train: Antwerp railway station. Eurostar: Brussels and a short transfer to Bruges
- Airport(s): Brussels or Antwerp Airport
- Good train connection between Bruges and Antwerp
- Parking in a paid underground car park near the start hotel

Please note:

- Return journey Bruges - Antwerp is made on your own.