

6th UNWTO World Forum on Gastronomy Tourism

Gastronomy Tourism: Promoting Rural Tourism and Regional Development

**Bruges, Flanders (Belgium),
31 October - 2 November 2021**

Onsite Information Note II

- Participants -

(as of 27 October 2021)



1. INTRODUCTION

We are pleased to welcome you to **the 6th UNWTO World Forum on Gastronomy Tourism** in Bruges, Flanders (Belgium), on 31 October – 2 November 2021.

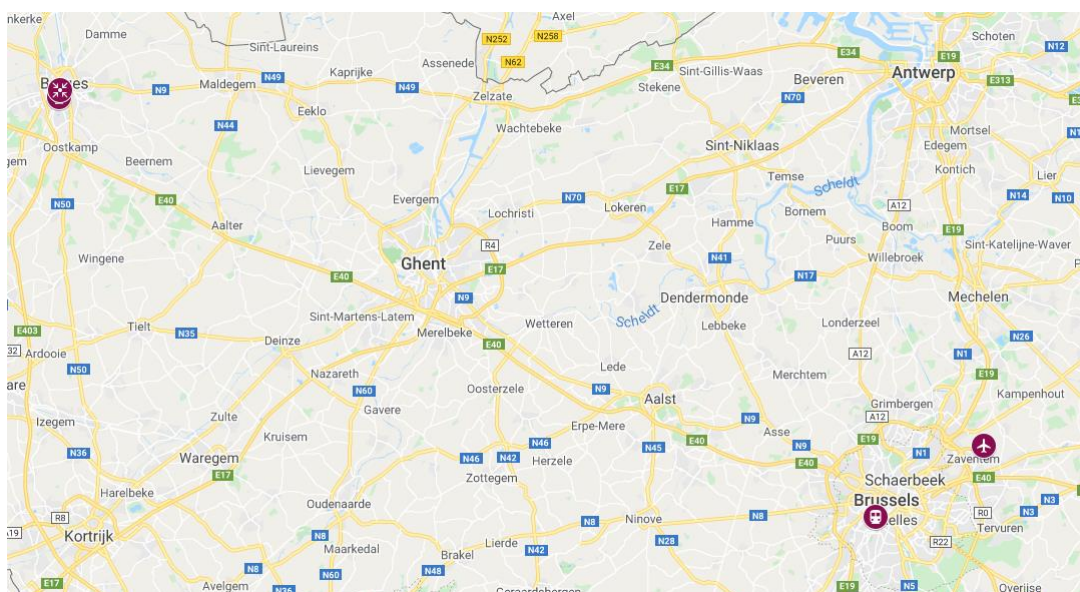
This onsite information note provides details on logistical arrangements, along with other relevant information pertaining to your participation in the Forum.

2. ARRIVAL AND TRANSPORT

Upon arrival at **Brussels Airport** (airport code: BRU), roundtrip train tickets from Brussels to Bruges will be provided from 31 October to 3 November 2021 for those who fully completed information about their flights and accommodation through the registration online available at: <https://unwto-gastronomy-tourism-forum.hybr.live/en/login>.

To benefit from this service, participants should fill out all relevant data by **Monday, 25 October 2021**. Once your travel details are fulfilled, please keep an eye on your mailbox. You will receive a direct email from the NMBS (**National Railway Company of Belgium**) **which will contain your ticket that you can print and or open on your smartphone.**

The drive Brussels Airport – Bruges takes approximately 1 hour 40 minutes. by train. Please check your itinerary carefully as some trains are direct and some are not. You might need to change trains in Brussel-Zuid station.



3. COVID-19: MEASURES, GUIDELINES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 Entry to Belgium

- Delegates who are **fully vaccinated** (at least 2 weeks since last shot) with a recognized vaccine and that can prove this with **an acceptable vaccination certificate** (see requirements here), can travel freely to Belgium (besides having the required Schengen Visa).

Recognized vaccines are:

- Pfizer/BioNTech – Cominarty
 - Moderna – Spikevax
 - AstraZeneca/Oxford - Vaxzevria en Covishield
 - Johnson and Johnson - Covid-19 Vaccine Janssen (at least 4 weeks since last shot)
- Delegates who are **EU nationals/residents** and are **NOT (fully) vaccinated** (with a recognized vaccine) are required to present any of the following:
 - Test certificate: An EU Digital COVID Certificate or another certificate in Dutch, French, German or English which indicates that a negative Nucleic Acid Amplification Test (NAAT) was carried out in an official laboratory not more than 72 hours prior to arrival on Belgian territory.
 - Recovery certificate: An EU Digital COVID Certificate of recovery or a recovery certificate from a country which is not part of the European Union that is deemed equivalent by the European Commission on the basis of the implementing act or by Belgium on the basis of bilateral agreements.
A recovery certificate can only be issued for a positive PCR test older than 11 days (= the isolation period after infection), and performed in the previous 180 days. The certificate is valid for 180 days and the period of validity begins at the time of sampling. Please note that other countries may impose additional restrictions or conditions.
 - Delegates who are **non-EU nationals/residents** and are **NOT (fully) vaccinated** (with a recognized vaccine), can only travel to Belgium for “essential purposes”. Participating at the UNWTO Forum can be considered as "essential travel", which however has to be proven by an **Essential Journey Certificate (EJC)**.

This certificate is delivered by a Belgian diplomatic or consular post in order to certify the essential nature of the travel. VisitFlanders can provide delegates with a letter explaining the essential purpose of their travel. With this letter, delegates can apply for an EJC at the competent embassy/consulate. Apart from the letter, applicants will need to provide copies of their passport (all pages, also empty ones), flight details and travel insurance details.

Delegates are kindly invited to verify the latest information on current measures and travel requirements [here](#).

3.2. Passenger Locator Form

Please note that all persons travelling to Belgium, need to fill out a Passenger Locator Form (PLF). Are you traveling to Belgium by plane or boat? Then you must always fill in the PLF,

even if you are staying in Belgium for less than 48 hours or were abroad for less than 48 hours.

Are you travelling by train or bus from a country outside the EU or Schengen area? Then you must always fill in the PLF, even if you are staying in Belgium for less than 48 hours or were abroad for less than 48 hours.

If you have stayed in a very high-risk country for the past 14 days, you need to fill in the PLF at all times, regardless of the length of your stay.

You can access the PLF by clicking [here](#).

3.3. At the Forum

Delegates will be required to provide a 'Covid Safe Ticket' (CST) to be scanned at their arrival to the Concertgebouw. If you are travelling from outside Europe, you will need to provide your vaccination or PCR test certificate to obtain a 'Covid-safe bracelet' to enter the Forum's venues without a mask.

According to current Belgium Regulations the use of face masks is obligatory in public indoor areas (such as shops, transport, bars, dining venues, etc.), but not obligatory in indoor spaces after the CST scan. Nevertheless, its use is recommended during the event.

A first CST scanning is foreseen at the Welcome Dinner on Sunday, 31 October 2021. Participants that are scanned safe will receive a 'Covid-safe bracelet' for 3 days.

At the Welcome Dinner and the Concertgebouw, an extra information point will be added with a 'Covid Coach' that participants with questions can contact, or not accepted vaccination forms for the scanner can be controlled personally by the coach.

During the transport of the Culinary Experiences on Tuesday, 2 November 2021, delegates are required to wear mouth masks on the bus.

3.4. COVID-19 tests for participants before their departure

The Forum's Secretariat has arranged for PCR testing to be available for participants needing it for their return to their home country. PCR tests will be available at the Concertgebouw on **Monday, 1 November 2021 from 14.30h to 17.30h.**

PCR tests will be charged at a price of 95€ payable on the location and results will be available 4 hours after the testing (by email).

Participants wishing to make use of this service, should inform the Secretariat by email at unwto@theovaloffice.be before visiting the testing area.

4. VENUE

The Forum will be held on 31 October – 2 November 2021 at the:



Concertgebouw Brugge

't Zand 34

8000 Brugge, Belgium

<https://www.concertgebouw.be/en>



4.1. Registration and badges

Participants will be able to collect their identification badges at:

- Welcome Dinner on **Sunday, 31 October 2021** (19:00 – 22:00)
- Registration desk in the Concertgebouw on **Monday, 1 November from 10:00 – 11:00.**

All participants are requested to wear their identification badges for the duration of the 6th UNWTO World Forum on Gastronomy Tourism, as well as at social events.

4.2. Official languages

The official language of the Forum is English. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in Spanish and Dutch.

4.3. Social Programme

Sunday, 31 October 2021

19:00 – 22:00 Welcome dinner, hosted by Visit Flanders and City of Bruges at [Restaurant Karmeliet](#) (by invitation only) (for all international participants).

Dress code: Business Formal / Cocktail

Address: Langestraat 19, 8000 Brugges

Monday, 1 November 2021

12:45 – 14:00 Lunch hosted by the Nara Prefectural Government in the [Foyer](#) of the Concertgebouw.

20:30 – 22:30 Discover Bruges by Night: A guided walk on the evening to discover the illuminated highlights of the city of Bruges including a drink at the local's favorite cafés.

Dress code: Casual

Point of departure will be the [Jan Breydel Statue](#) at the Grote Markt.

Tuesday, 2 November 2021

12:30 – 16:30 Culinary Experiences including lunch: The culinary experiences at various locations in and around Bruges (for onsite participants) and in Flanders (for online participants) demonstrate the best of Flanders as culinary destination. Visit the passionate craftsmen from farmers to brewers and explore the rich Flemish culinary heritage. For onsite delegates to participate in this activity, please indicate your theme of preference when you register online. Four themes for the live culinary experiences include: *Sea of Flavours*, *Craft brewers around Bruges*, *the Flemish garden of Eden* and *Handmade in Bruges*.

All Culinary Experiences will leave from the Concertgebouw at approximately 12h30. Busses will be parked at the venue indicating the specific experience. Please note that spots are limited and delegates will not be able to change their selection.

Dress code: As all culinary experiences are partially or completely taking place in the open air, please remember to dress warm and wear comfortable shoes. You are recommended to bring your jacket, so you do not get cold during the experience.

17:30 – 20:30 Bruges Unplugged: The closing event takes place at [Brewery De Halve Maan](#), an authentic family brewery in the heart of Bruges. For both online and onsite audiences the evening consists of a tour of the brewery and a talk show with inspirational guests discussing topics such as local products and talent development in the gastronomy sector. Location is in walking distance. The event will be hosted in English only.

Dress code: Casual

Address: *Walplein 26, 8000 Bruges*

20:30 – 21:30 Closing drinks: After the Bruges Unplugged show, onsite participants enjoy their last evening in Bruges with classic Flemish dishes and Belgian beers. Closing drinks will take place as well at Brewery De Halve Maan

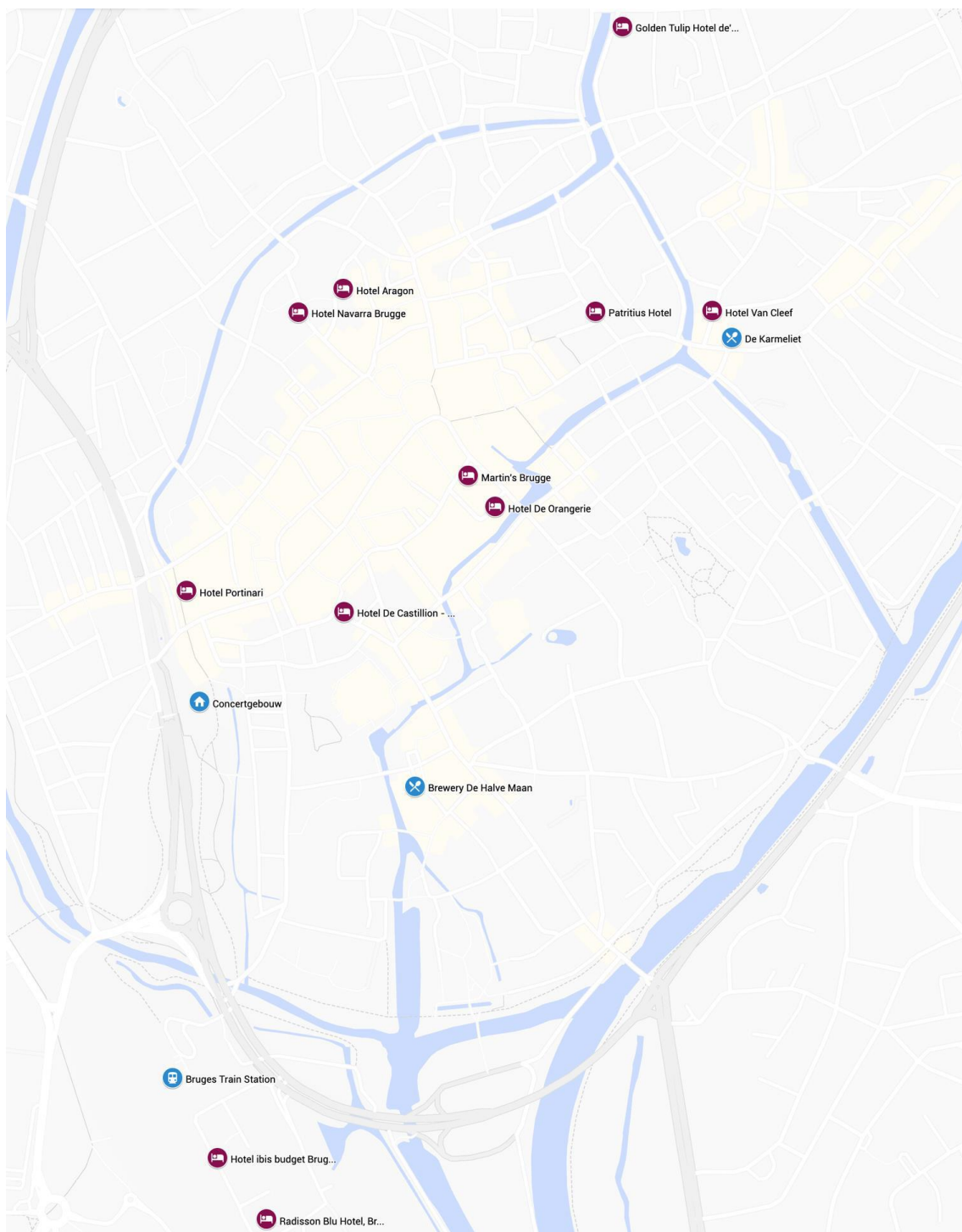
Participants are kindly requested to indicate whether they are joining any of the activities above when registering online: <https://www.unwto.org/6th-unwto-world-forum-on-gastronomy-tourism>.

5. ACCOMMODATION AND TRANSFERS

The official hotels of the Forum are:

Hotel Portinari ****	Website	170m	2 minutes
Aragon Hotel ****	Website	290m	3 minutes
Patritius Hotel **	Website	350m	4 minutes
Hotel Orangerie ****	Website	600m	7 minutes
Hotel Van Cleef	Website	650m	8 minutes
Martin's Brugge Superior ***	Website	700m	9 minutes
Radisson Blu Brugge ****	Website	800m	10 minutes
Hotel Navarra ****	Website	900m	11 minutes
Hotel de Castillon ****	Website	900m	11 minutes
Ibis Budget Brugge Centrum Station	Website	1100m	13 minutes
Hotel De 'Medici ****	Website	1700m	21 minutes

Shuttle service will not be provided from/to the hotels to/from the Concertgebouw Brugge as these are located at walking distance to the venue, as well as to social activities (except the culinary experiences).



6. PRACTICAL INFORMATION

6.1 Weather

Bruges enjoys a mild, maritime climate. The summers are warm without being hot and the winters are cold without being freezing. During spring and autumn, the temperatures are also pleasant and there is moderate rainfall throughout the year, with the heaviest concentrations in autumn and winter. So, remember to bring your umbrella!

6.2 Official time

The Standard Time Zone in Bruges is UTC/GMT +1 hour.

6.3 Local currency

The local currency is the Euro, its symbol is €. The existing bills are for the values 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200 and 500 euros. There are eight types of coins: 5, 10, 20 and 50 cents, 1 and 2 euros.

6.4 Official language

The three official national languages are Dutch, French and German. The locally spoken language in Bruges is Dutch.

6.5 Banking Hours

Most of the banks in Bruges are open from 9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and from 2.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Some branch offices are also open on Saturday morning, but on Sundays they are all closed. There are cash points in several shopping streets, on 't Zand, Simon Stevinplein and in the railway station. You can easily withdraw money from cash machines with Visa, Eurocard, or MasterCard.

You can exchange money in one of the currency exchange offices. In the event of the loss or theft of your bank or credit card, it is best to immediately block the card by calling Card Stop on tel. 070 344 344 (24 hours a day).

- Exchange office Western Union, Steenstraat 2, tel. +32 (0)50 34 04 71
- Exchange office Pillen bvba, Vlamingstraat 18, tel. +32 (0)50 44 20 55
- Exchange office Moneytrans Brugge, Rozenhoedkaai 2, tel. +32 (0)50 34 59 55

Please note that the 1st of November is a public holiday in Belgium.

6.6 Electricity

The power supply in Belgium is 230V/50 Hz (two round pins).



6.7 Local and international phone calls

For international inbound calls, the country code is +32, and the area code for Bruges is 50.

6.8 Useful telephone numbers

Medical emergency: 100/112

Police: 101

Fire rescue: 100/112

6.9 Tourist information Flanders

Please see Visit Flanders website for more information: <https://www.visitflanders.com>

Visit Bruges: <https://www.visitbruges.be/>

7. EMERGENCY CONTACT (HOTLINE)

In case of any emergency, participants can contact the following number

Mr Freek Wambeke
freek@theovaloffice.be
Mobile: +32472101628

