

Belgium Profile

Summer 2006 edition



Belgian Tourist Office
Brussels • Wallonia

The Institute of Directors Opens First Ever Center in Brussels



The Institute of Directors (IoD) now has a base in the Belgian capital after it launched IoD Brussels at the Plaza Hotel earlier this year.

By special agreement with the 5 star hotel, members of the IoD can use meeting and entertaining facilities in the heart of Brussels and enjoy a specially negotiated package of benefits, including preferential rates on bedrooms, private meeting rooms, parking and first-class dining. It is also possible to hold meetings of up to four people in the Esterel Bar area.

The hotel was built in 1930 and was recently completely refurbished to the highest standards.

The Plaza Hotel is currently offering members of the IoD an exclusive summer rate of €99 per room per night until 1st September 2006. Members can also enjoy a complimentary beer on the golf terrace from 5pm-8pm during their stay. For more information, or to make a reservation please call +32 (0) 2 278 0100.

The IoD is planning a networking event for the autumn to raise awareness of the benefits of membership.

For more information, and for details of training courses, events in Brussels, and membership, contact Deborah Hill on 020 7 766 6824, or premises@iod.com.



Special Recognition for Liege's Famous Gin



Peket, the famous gin made in Wallonia of juniper berries, is to be awarded special protection by the European Commission along with other famous Walloon products Ardennes Ham, Pâté Gaumais, Ardennes butter and the potent Herve cheese.

No other products but Walloon gin made of juniper berries, and distilled in Wallonia, will in future be able to carry the famous Peket name.

And of course Liege has its own establishment dedicated to the tasty drink, la Maison du Peket, which also has a restaurant and new night club, where it can be enjoyed either dry, delicious served with pate, or in a variety of fruity options such as lemon, blueberry, banana, peach, coconut, strawberry, cherry, melon, orange, passion fruit, violet and many more!

La Maison du Peket, Rue de l'Épée, 4 - 4000 LIEGE,
www.maisondupeket.be



Redevelopment of Tournai's Wharfs



Tournai, the only Belgian town ever to have belonged to the British under Henri VIII, has just completed the renovation of its wharfs along the left bank of the Escaut (Schelde) river, providing locals and visitors alike with a larger pedestrian area complete with restaurants, shops and cafes and the prospect of delightful walks and bicycle rides along the edge of the waterside.

The redevelopment of the city's Quai Notre-Dame and Quai Marché au Poisson took 10 months to complete, and forms part of a wider regeneration of the historic centre of the town which started in 1995 and will end with the full restoration of its UNESCO listed cathedral.

Located close to the French border, the 2000 year old city of Tournai possesses an exceptional cultural heritage, including not only its cathedral but also its belfry, the oldest in Belgium and in Northern Europe, which was fully restored in 2002 and is also UNESCO listed.

The wharfs have also been enhanced by the planting of trees and the provision of benches and planters, and special lighting will highlight the city's monuments and bridges.

More information on Tournai is available on www.tournai.be



New Outlet Centre for the Province of Liege

Visitors to Southern Belgium can now take advantage of discounts of up to 60 percent on leading brands Gery Weber, Adidas, Lee, Wrangler, Nike, as well as exclusive prêt à porter labels Georges Rech and Apostrophe, and shortly Carven For Men, at the recently opened Ardennes Outlet Centre in Verviers, right in the heart of the beautiful Belgian Ardennes region.

Situated only one hour away from Brussels, and in close proximity to the towns of Liege and Spa, the outlet centre also has restaurant facilities with a Pizzeria and a typical Belgian Brasserie, a kidifun miniclub, 1,100 free parking spaces, and special parking for 17 coaches, while nearby complexes feature a bowling alley, fitness centre and 8 screen cinema showing films in original version on Tuesdays. An hotel is scheduled to open at a later stage.

The Ardennes Outlet Centre will also be proposing special Leisure Shopping packages for individuals or groups, combining a shopping experience with a number of themes, from motor sports with a visit to the racing track in Spa Francorchamps and the Formula 1 Museum at the Abbey of Stavelot, to spa experience at the newly built Thermes de Spa complex in the original water town of Spa, or a fun adventure package with kalying or skiing and a visit to one of the many family attractions in the area.

The town of Verviers, known as Belgium's "Capital of Water", is easily accessible by rail, road and air from a large number of destinations. It boasts no fewer than 12 nature reserves, lakes and valleys, and the region is well known for its rolling countryside, chateaux and fortresses, historic cities and gastronomy.

The Ardennes Outlet Centre, which also offers tax free shopping, is open daily from 10 am to 6pm Mondays to Wednesdays, and 10 am to 7pm Friday and Saturdays, and offers late night shopping on Thursdays until 8pm and special openings on some Sundays.

More information on +32 (0) 87 30 10 00, www.ardennesoutlet.com



Two New Belgian Eateries in Central London



Trendy Belgian chain Le Pain Quotidien has opened two more branches, one in Young Street just off Kensington High Street and the other at the Royal Festival Hall, both serving the same delicious naturally leavened Belgian breads, open tartine sandwiches, healthy salads, soups and mouth-watering brioches and patisseries as its first successful venture in Marylebone High Street.

Le Pain Quotidien, which was originally started in Brussels by French speaking Belgian chef Alain Coumont, now has over fifty branches all over Belgium, as well as in France, the US, Italy and Switzerland.

The format is the same in all LPQs, with long communal pine tables mixed with smaller individual tables, and the walls stacked high with delicious Belgian organic sourdough, whole wheat and nut breads as well as other goodies for sale such as Belgian jams, organic preserves, chocolates, teas, coffees and of course Belgian chocolate sauce.

Both new branches are open for breakfast and lunch with opening hours extending to 11pm, making for the perfect way to end a hectic day late night shopping in Kensington High Street or to start or round off a cultural evening in the South Bank.

A fourth Le Pain Quotidien is scheduled to open opposite London's fashionable Carnaby Street at the end of September.

More information on 020 7486 6154, www.lepainquotidien.com

Lithuania to join Mini-Europe in Brussels

Lithuania was the latest country to join one of the Belgian capital's most popular family attractions and Europe's best miniature park when a replica of the University of Vilnius became the third most important model in **Mini Europe's** collection of miniatures.

The replica, which measures 9,5m, took 18 months to complete and brings to a total of 8 the new member countries of the European Union to feature at **Mini Europe** since the enlargement of the Union in 2004.

Situated at the foot of the Atomium, **Mini-Europe** houses around 350 miniature versions on a scale of 1 to 25 and in perfect detail of some of Europe's most famous European monuments, including the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben, the Eiffel Tower and the Acropolis.

Mini-Europe also incorporates themed restaurants, an IMEX movie theater showing films in English, the European Space of interactive multimedia games for children and a European Union information office.

More information from www.minieurope.com



Re-opened and re-designed Hotel Mercure in Dinant



Following a long renovation, the Hotel Mercure Castel de Pont-à-Lesse near Dinant has reopened and been upgraded to a three star establishment.

The new hotel now offers a wide range of high-class facilities, with 91 tastefully decorated new comfortable en-suite rooms, a new restaurant "L'Orangerie" serving traditional cuisine, and a new bar.

Facilities also include an indoor heated swimming pool, a putting green, and nine new air-conditioned naturally lit meeting rooms able to accommodate up to 300 people.

Situated less than one hour from Brussels, the Hotel Mercure Dinant is located in a green setting of some 25 hectares on the banks of the river Lesse, close the pretty town of Dinant and its many attractions.

Hotel Mercure Dinant Castel de Pont a Lesse, Route de Walzin 36, B-5500 Dinant

Tel: +32 (0) 82 22 28 44 – Fax +32 (0) 82 22 63 03



New Sofitel to open in Brussels

A new Sofitel Brussels Europe will be opening in the early part of September 2006 in the very heart of the capital's European Quarter, right in between the European Parliament, the European Council and the European Commission, and close to the Cinquantenaire with its park and museums.

The five star luxury hotel will have 149 "Mybed" state of the art rooms over six floors, including 11 suites, as well as a Royal Suite on the top floor offering breathtaking view of Brussels.

Facilities will include a fantastic restaurant and trendy bar, over 6,000 square feet of meeting space, a business center, a fitness center and a hammam. Private parking is available (44 spaces) as is WIFI-net access across the entire hotel.

The Sofitel Brussels Europe is also ideally located for travel into and from Brussels with the Eurostar terminal at the Gare du Midi only 20 minutes by metro or 15 by taxi, and Brussels International Airport at a distance of 10 miles.

Sofitel Brussels Europe, Place Jourdan 1 - 1000 Brussels - Belgium

Tel: + 32 (0) 2 235 51 00 - Fax: +32(0)2 235 51 01

More information, www.sofitel.com or www.accorhotels.com



Park Inn to Open at Liege Airport

The Park Inn Liege Airport, due to open in February 2007, will be the only hotel located in the newly-constructed passenger terminal of Liege's Bierset airport.

The hotel will have 100 guestrooms designed in a colourful and vibrant Park Inn style, with all rooms featuring flat-panel LCD televisions and wireless Internet access. Facilities will also include a 56 m2 fully-equipped fitness centre, a spacious restaurant with seating for 70, a bar capable of accommodation 30 guests and four meeting rooms, all with daylight and wireless Internet access.

In-hotel live flight arrival and departure information will also be available at the Park Inn Liege Airport located only 8 kilometres from the centre of the historic city of Liege, which is also known as Belgium's Fiery City.

Park Inn Liege Airport, Liege Airport (Bierset) Rue de l'Aéroport, Section C.137.T. B-4460 Liege (Grâce-Hollogne) - Belgium

More information from info.liege@rezidorparkinn.com



New Executive Suites in Spa

The Dorint Resorts Spa-Balmoral Hotel in the original water town of Spa has opened a new executive floor with 9 new junior suites all overlooking the beautiful valley of the lake Warfaaz.

All renovated rooms on the 5th floor of the hotel have been tastefully decorated in charcoal grey and shades of orange and include a salon area, as well as cable TV, safe and minibar, an in-house movie system, and a computer connection. All rooms are for non-smokers.

Facilities at the four star Dorint Resorts Spa-Balmoral also include 11 conference rooms for between 5 and 200 participants, 5 with direct access to the private garden and 1 with panoramic views and a roof terrace.

The hotel also has a Beauty Spa and Wellness Center, a Finnish sauna, Turkish bath, outdoor Jacuzzi in a private garden, solarium, cardio and power training facilities, an indoor swimming pool and a large relaxation room.

It is located 2 kms away from the center of the famous town of Spa in the heart of the Belgian Ardennes.

Dorint Resorts Spa-Balmoral, Route de Balmoral 33 - 4900 Spa - Belgium

Tel: +32 (0) 87 79 32 50 - Fax: +32 (0) 87 77 41 74

More information from www.dorintspa.be





Renovated Course at Royal Golf Club of Waterloo

La Marache, one of Belgium's favourite golf courses has just reopened after two years of extensive renovations as a 73-par 6,300 m2 course. Martin Hawtree, son of original designer Fred Hawtree, was called in to redraw some of the greens and bunkers, making for a more challenging and competitive course and bringing the 18 hole La Marache back to the status of real championship course that it enjoyed in the 1980s.

Competitions have already started to take place on the new course, and it is expected that the 45 hole Royal Golf Club of Waterloo and its three prestigious courses (La Marache, Le Lion and Le Bois Héros) will be the setting for one of the legs of the Challenge Tour in 2007.

More information on golfing in Southern Belgium on www.destinationgolf.be



New attractions at the Eurospace Centre



The Eurospace Centre at Redu in the province of Hainaut has acquired a new 13 metre high model of an Ariane 4 rocket, the expendable launch system designed by the European Space Agency which is now displayed alongside its life size model of the Europa 2 rocket.

A new 6 km walk on the theme of mythological legends related to space and astronomy has also been inaugurated, and the addition of these two new attractions brings the length of a visit to the Eurospace Centre to 6 hours.

The Eurospace Centre relates the story of the first astronauts, and its attractions include a life-size model of the space shuttle Columbus, sections of the European rocket Ariane and the Russian space station Mir, 3D videos and a simulated flight.

As well as being great fun, the centre aims to educate children about space, the planets and the stars and also runs special programmes for schools.

Eurospace Centre, Rue Devant les Hetres, 1 - B-6890 Transinne – Belgium

Tel: +32 (0) 61 65.64.65 – Bookings: +32 (0) 61 65.01.33
More information from www.eurospacecenter.be



Booking Rail Travel in Belgium made easy with www.BELGIANRAILTICKETS.com

Booking rail travel to and within Belgium has never been easier – with the launch of www.belgianrailtickets.com by International Rail supported by the Belgian Tourist Office. This comprehensive website allows visitors to book online and in real time any pass or rail journey within Belgium as well as connections to and from it.

There is no better way to discover Brussels & Wallonia than by train; just sit back and relax as majestic landscapes and beautiful cities pass by your window. www.belgianrailtickets.com adds to these qualities by being convenient, inspirational and educational, with timetables, maps and journey planners on the site to guide you through your booking and on your rail adventure in Belgium..

A range of tickets and passes are available online including Eurostar and InterRail Pass with pass prices starting at £29 for a 3 day Belgium Eurodomino Pass.

To ensure optimum customer support, www.belgianrailtickets.com is backed by International Rail's UK based call and after sales support centre. Travel Agent and Tour Operators will be able to earn attractive levels of commission on these tickets at www.railagent.co.uk.



Golfing packages in Southern Belgium with Golf Amis

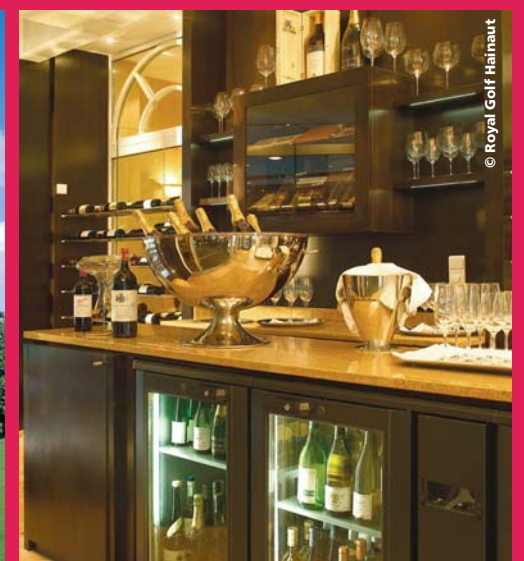
Golf Amis – a recent European venture by leading golf tour operator Golf Amigos - is now offering tailor-made golf packages to Southern Belgium featuring some of the best deals in Wallonia with 18 excellent golf courses and a range of accommodation options to suit everyone.

The four-star Quartier Latin, a delightfully restored 18th century Jesuit church in the former medieval town of Marche en Famenne is ideally located for the nearby Gary Player designed Five Nations Golf club with its stunning panoramic views, or the challenging Blue Green Golf Club of Durbuy designed by Fred Hawtree in an exceptionally beautiful setting, or again the Royal Golf Club du Sart Tilman, designed in 1938 by Tom Simpson and set in superb wooded countryside near Liege.

The two-star Hotel Ibis Mons, situated minutes from the pretty town centre and the cobbled Grand Place is perfect for short golfing breaks and excellent value for money for golfers on a budget. The hotel, which features 72 ensuite bedrooms, is located close to the Royal Golf Club du Hainaut, boasting courses created by Simpson and by Hawtree, as well as to the 18-hole championship course of Mont Garni designed by Tom McAuley on a 300-acre estate, and only a short drive away is La Tournette with its two superb 18-hole challenges, the American course by Bill Amick and the English course by Martin Hawtree and Peter Alliss.

Another four-star is the Radisson Balmoral Spa which has been totally renovated into a luxurious hotel and is located in the town of Spa itself, home to the Belgian Grand Prix and of course the world's first health resort. The Royal Golf des Fagnes, nestled in unspoilt woods and fens on the hills above the town is a beautiful parkland course designed by Tim Simpson which is rated among the top 100 courses in mainland Europe, while a short drive away the magnificent Henri-Chapelle Golf Course offers excellent facilities for golfers of all levels.

For more information visit www.golfamis.co.uk or call 0845 230 3100.



Second edition of Conrad on Ice in Brussels

From November 24 to February 14 2007, guests at the Conrad Brussels, one of the most exclusive establishments in the Belgian capital, will be able to enjoy the use of a private 300 m2 ice rink in the total security of the hotel's inner courtyard.

Located on the famous Avenue Louise, in Brussels' most fashionable shopping area, and within easy reach of the international business district, the Palais Royal, and the beautiful Grand' Place, the Conrad Brussels offers a classic blend of world-class luxury and state-of-the-art hotel amenities and services.

Facilities include 269 magnificent rooms and suites, the Loui Restaurant Lounge & Bar, a brasserie, Café Wiltcher's and a traditional Lobby Lounge. All are imbued with authenticity and character and offer an excellent range of international cuisine.

Guests of the Conrad Brussels also have direct access to the hotel's exclusive health club, Aspria Avenue Louise, equipped with a 17-metre pool, gym, sauna, jacuzzi and a dedicated spa with over 60 treatments.

Conrad on Ice is also the ideal setting for company seminars or parties, and a range of options is available for business as well as private use.

Conrad Brussels –Avenue Louise, 71-1050 Brussels-Belgium
Tel: +32 2 542 4242, Fax: +32 2 542 4200. For more information about Conrad on Ice contact mark.brouwer@ConradHotels.com



updates on what's happening in Brussels and Wallonia.
Wallonia, 217 Marsh Wall, London E14 9FJ.
Phone: 0800 9545 245. Email: info@belgiumthelaceto.be
Go to the OPT and the BTO unless otherwise stated.



Belgian Tourist Office
Brussels • Wallonia

Calendar of events for the last six months of 2006

Sporting Events

Bikes, cars, cars, cars, rollers ...and running

- Various evenings 2 June- 21 Sept 7pm *Roller Parade, Brussels & Wallonia* Free 20 km roller parades throughout the streets of Namur (Thursdays), Brussels (Fridays) and Mons (Saturdays)
- 29 & 30 July *Proximus 24 Hours of Spa, (Province of Liege)* This 24-hour Endurance race solely for GT cars takes place on the Spa-Francorchamps racing track and is one of the major motor sport events of the Belgian calendar.
- 26 & 27 August *Bugshow 2006 Spa (Province of Liege)* The Biggest VeeDub festival in Europe. At Spa Francorchamps, of course!
- 27 August *3rd Houffalize Mountainbike Marathon (Province of Luxembourg)* 2,200 participants took part last year in this new event which is set to become another Belgian classic.
- 27 August *ING Brussels Marathon, Brussels 42 Kms*, taking in the best sites in Brussels, starting at the Cinquantenaire and finishing at the Grand Place. Also a half marathon (21Kms), mini marathon (3Kms) and kid's run (1Km).
- 15 & 16 October *Superbiker, Jules Tacheny Circuit, Mettet (Province of Namur)* The largest SuperMoto event in the world with Superbiker and Starbiker events and a Freestyle show. Noisy and crazy!

Music Festivals & Cultural Events

Brussels & Wallonia are awash with events and festivals from jazz, world, and classical music festivals, to celebrations of Southern Belgium's rich cultural heritage

- 26 June-31 July *Musical Month in St Hubert (Province of Luxembourg)* 49th "Juillet Musical" with jazz and classical music concerts in and around St Hubert. One of the most important summer festivals in the Province of Luxembourg.
- 15 July- *30th Summer Festival of the Meuse (Province of Namur)* 15 September Classical concerts in spectacular abbeys, chateaux and churches. This year commemorates the music of Marin Marais, Pachelbel, Mozart, Schumann, Chostakovitch and Sibelius.
- 15 & 29 July *Durbuy Music Festival (Province of Luxembourg)* 13 & 15 August With eight evening performances of classical music concerts and recitals in the Church of Durbuy, officially the smallest town in the world. Performers include winners of the prestigious Queen Elizabeth Music Competition held yearly in Brussels.
- 05-06 August *Nuit des Livres, Redu (Province of Luxembourg)* 22nd anniversary of this all-night literary event in the historic book town of Redu, the first in Continental Europe. Attracts around 300,000 book worms a year! With concerts, exhibitions, street artists and fireworks.
- 19 & 20 August *Fiesta Latina, Brussels* The trendy Place du Châtelain will be celebrating with the best Latin bands that Belgium has to offer, sunny food and more than a couple of Caipirinhas and mojitos. Kids can learn the congas or timbales, there is free brunch on Sunday, and if you join the salsa competition you might win a trip to Cuba. Get ready to move those hips!
- 19 & 20 August *Latinos Beach Festival, Bolland (Province of Liege)* International festival set in the Belgian country-side dedicated to latino music and dance. Features Cuban, Caribbean and South American sounds by bands Grupo Azul, Orville Small and Samba Chocalho, as well as salsa, bachata or rueda classes, stalls selling Central American products, a restaurant and a cocktail bar by the swimming pool.
- 24-26 August *6th Nuit des Choeurs Festival, Villers la Ville (Province of Walloon Brabant)*. A wonderful series of prom concerts by international chorals groups in the truly magical floodlit ruins of the 12th century Cistercian Abbaye of Villers. This year sees the participation of Scottish vocal ensemble Cappella Nova, the Prague Philharmonic Choir, and les Petits Chanteurs de St Marc.
- 9 & 10 September *Heritage Days in Wallonia* The 18th edition of this important cultural event will be focusing on the richness and diversity of Heritage & Citizenship, particularly during the 19th and 29th century with 480 activities and festivities over the weekend
- 29 September – 1 October *Dinant Jazz Nights* 9th edition of this increasingly popular festival in the pretty town of Dinant, birthplace of none other than Adolphe Sax, inventor of the instrument of the same name. This year's top notch lineup of artists from the ECM label includes Jan Garbarek and the UK's Hilliard ensemble playing in the magnificent Dinant Collegial church, veteran Polish trumpeter Tomasz Stanko, and of course Manu Katche.
- 23 September – 6 December *21st Audi Jazz Festival*, various venues in Brussels and Wallonia Program still to be finalised but this year already promises a terrific lineup with confirmations so far by Marisa Monte, Herbie Hancock, Philip Catherine, Eliane Elias, John Zorn, Jef Neve and Sergeant Garcia.

Religious and Military Processions

From military marches to reconstructions of the battle of Waterloo

- 10 September *Historic Grand Procession, Tournai (Province of Hainaut)* Historical Procession in one of the oldest towns of the Western world, and former home of Henri VIII, in honour of the Virgin Mary who delivered the city from the plague in 1092. The main treasures of the Cathedral are carried through the town, escorted by fraternities and groups in ancient costumes, and by musicians and choirs. A High Mass is celebrated in the cathedral at 10 am on the day.
- 1 October *Tour Saint-Gertrude, Nivelles (Province of Walloon Brabant)* 730th edition of this religious procession attended by over one thousand pilgrims in honour of St Gertrude, patron saint of the town of Nivelles, where she founded a monastery.
- 29 October *Militaria Military Fair, Ciney (Province of Namur)* The largest of its kind in Europe with 400 stands of exhibitors of collector's and sports weapons, parts, decorations, uniforms and books. Amateurs can find parts for old military vehicles as well as ancient weapons and detection devices.

Street Parties, Carnival & Folklore

Belgium is well known for its colourful carnivals and street parades, most of which are based on ancient festivals. Great fun for participants and spectators alike!

- 15 August *24th International Bathtub Regatta, Dinant (Province of Namur)* Surely the wackiest and most entertaining boat race on earth with over 250 participants in a flotilla of original vessels made out of at least one bathtub racing down the river Meuse. Strictly no deliberate sinking of opponents allowed!
- 14 & 16 August *Celebrations for the 15th of August in Outremeuse, (Province of Liege)* Three days of processions and festivities, including flea markets, folkloric dancing, and opportunities to taste the famous Peket gin and delicious "bouquettes" pancakes typical of this lively part of Liege.
- 19 & 20 August *International Festival of Street Artists, Chassepierre (Province of Namur)* 33rd edition of this bubbly and colourful event, with all manner of street entertainment, theatre, music and puppetry, with participants this year from Portugal, Spain, the UK, Belgium, France, Germany, Sweden, Holland, the US and Australia.
- 26 & 27 August *Ducasse, Ath (Province of Hainaut)* Thousands of people take part in this ceremony dating back to the 15th century. A folkloric procession of giants and 20th century style floats takes place over two days, culminating in a hot air balloon festival on Sunday.
- 17 September *Festival of the Pumpkin, and of curious and forgotten vegetables, Noduwèz (Province of Walloon Brabant)* Unusual festival in this province of Walloon Brabant with a prize awarded for the largest and most beautifully decorated pumpkin. Other attractions include a crafts fair, tastings of all things pumpkin-related and the sale of rare vegetable seeds.

Markets & Fairs

From antiques to Christmas shopping

- 19 & 20 August *Temploux Market (Province of Hainaut)* 29th edition of the largest market in Belgium, with over 1500 exhibitors of antiques and second and items. First day reserved for collectors and buyers of comic strip only. Lasts through all of Saturday night and culminates on Sunday with the Coxa Nostar, a meeting of Aircooled VWs!
- 6-8 October *45th Ciney Antique and Flea market (Province of Namur)* One of the largest antique fairs and flea markets in Belgium with over 400 exhibitors from Belgium, France, the UK, Germany and Holland displaying their wares in two massive halls as well as on outside stalls. Parking available for 4,500 cars. First day for trade only.
- 1 December – 1 January 07 *Christmas Markets in Brussels and Wallonia* Markets in Brussels and Walloon towns such as Liege (the biggest Christmas market in Belgium!), Mons and Tournai, ice rinks, fun fairs, tastings of local specialities and hundreds of Christmas stalls selling all sorts of Christmas goodies.

Exhibitions & Special Events

Must-dos and unique exhibitions and events in Brussels and Wallonia

- 22 July – 22 August *Bruxelles-les-Bains, along the Boko Basin in Brussels* Summer in the city with sand, coconut palms, fountains, a football pitch, a pétanque green, salsa bars, dance classes, DJs and concerts and more.
- 24 July – 17 September *Opening of the Royal Palace, Brussels* After the national holiday, the Royal Palace opens every year for approximately two months. Commissioned by Leopold II and completed in 1865, it contains priceless collections and decorative art from every continent. Daily 10:30-16:30, except Mondays. Free entry.
- 12-15 August *Carpet of Flowers, Grand' Place, Brussels* Made out of 800,000 begonias, one of the glories of Belgian horticulture. The theme this year is inspired by the alchemy of the Middle Ages, with 9 rosettes mounted on vast rotating platforms to form a giant kaleidoscopic wind rose.
- 17 August *Fashion Picnic on the Grand' Place, Brussels* To celebrate the year of Fashion and Design in Brussels a very special fashion show in the Grand Place organised by world famous hat designer Elvis Pompilio featuring some of Brussels' best know designers.
- 22 August – 14 September *Zingaro Equestrian Theatre at the Citadel of Namur (Province of Namur)* World famous equestrian troupe Zingaro is back in Namur with its latest breathtaking one and a half hour show Battuta. With 2 gypsy orchestras from Moldavia and Transylvania, 16 dancers and 36 horses it promises to be a real Visual treat.
- 1-3 September *7th Belgian Beer Weekend, Grand Place Brussels* With 53 Belgian breweries presenting their best selections of beers and a procession of historic brewery carts and beer wagons through the streets of Brussels. Entrance is free and prices very reasonable!
- 9 & 10 September *Designers' week end, Brussels* In addition to visits to the trendiest shopping arcades and interior design stores of the capital, designers' week end shows its style by putting on a number of exhibitions, gatherings and workshops with designs by international and Belgian designers.
- 10 September *Brussels Design Market, Place Saint Lambert, Brussels* A flea market exclusively devoted to design, with items mainly from the forties to the eighties. To mark its fifth anniversary, it will be bringing vintage design face to face with the work of young Belgian designers.
- 15 September – 24 December *La Caravane du Caire, Liege (Province of Liege)* The rediscovery of Egypt in the 19th century by scientists and egyptophiles from the region of Liège, featuring previously unseen objects from the Musée Curtius of Liege and exceptional pieces from overseas museums and private collections.
- 15 September – 29 April 2007 *The Masters of Pre-Columbian Art, Brussels* The Janssen collection is world-famous. With a wealth of more than 350 outstanding works from the American continent, it tells the story of over 3000 years of pre-Columbian history. This is very definitely a blockbuster exhibition.
- 1 - 9 Oct *5th Brussels Flower Show, Basilica of Koekelberg, Brussels* Over 100 of the city's finest florists will transform the grounds of the fifth-largest church in the world with waterfalls, tropical plants and flowers. Musical evenings will round off each day, but places must be booked-previous performances have included the Soloists of the Bolshoi Opera.
- 27-29 October *Fashion Designer Trail, Brussels* The Belgian capital turns into one massive fashion show every two years with established brands, fashion houses and promising new Belgian talent taking part in some 50 exhibitions and installations.
- 18-26 November *Design Brussels at Brussels Expo, Brussels* New international design fair with 10 000 m² of exhibitors, and a host of events, exhibitions, conferences, workshops, and a "Cash & Carry" section. The biggest event of its kind for the general public in the Benelux region.