



Belgium – Brussels to Bruges Bicycle Tour 2024
Individual Self-guided
8 days / 7 nights



On this one way cycling holiday, follow the Flemish Masters to the most beautiful towns in Belgium and admire their artworks in the Old Masters Museum in Brussels, St. Bavo Cathedral in Ghent, KMKSA and Rubens House in Antwerp, St. John's Church in Mechelen and Groeninge Museum in Bruges. In between towns, you will ride your bike through many different regions, often cycling alongside a river, following a beautiful route.



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Itinerary Day to Day

Day 1: Arrival in Brussels

Try to arrive early and head for the Grande Place. Not only does Brussels have Manneken Pis, it also has the most delicious waffles, chocolates and pints. This is a city where culture vultures, shopaholics, and gourmets & gourmands make merry!



Day 2: Brussels – Mechelen 66 km

After one last tour of the Grande Place it's time to leave the city behind. Cycle through the suburbs to Grimbergen, known for its lovely abbey church, a baroque basilica. Then ride your bike on tree lined country lanes, past a series of ponds, along a river, around a wood and through meadows and crop fields to Mechelen: not as large as the other Flemish towns but just as nice.

Day 3: Mechelen – Antwerp 45 km

In the town of Sint-Kathelijne-Waver, at the Ursuline Institute, a boarding school run by nuns, an exquisite surprise awaits. The convent/school complex, Our Lady of Wavre, is a successful blend of art nouveau, neo-Gothic, neo-Empire and art deco. Best of all: the winter garden! Feast your eyes on a masterpiece of art nouveau, an ode to nature, springtime and light! Back outside, continue through the countryside to Duffel on the River Nete, Mortsel and Berchem. If you are into military heritage, stop off in Mortsel to visit Fort no. 4 of the originally eight Brialmont Forts (1860-1864) that made up the defensive line of Antwerp. It is built in brick with sandstone decorations and stands on an island surrounded by a ditch and glacis. Crown your day in Antwerp, a city with a long beer tradition and countless cafes. Discover the beautiful Old Town or go shopping for antiques and curio's, home deco, vintage fashion finds or diamonds!



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Day 4: Antwerp – Dendermonde 61 km

During most of today's route, the River Scheldt will show you the way. Near Kruikeke, you will find Wissekerk Castle. In the 10th century this was a so-called water castle and part of the defense line of Antwerp along the River. A little farther on, cross the Scheldt by ferry. Then proceed atop the river dike to De Zilverreiger, a regional museum focused on preserving knowledge about trades and crafts that once flourished locally: basket weaving, river fishery, cooperage (barrel making), flax processing and clog making.



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Day 5: Dendermonde – Gent (Ghent) 47 km

You will soon be back on the Scheldt river banks, cycling past a string of Flemish villages and towns. Laarne Castle is a great place for a break before continuing to Ghent. The Old Town of Ghent is like an open-air museum. It is also a UNESCO Creative City of Music. The music scene here is thriving. Festivals, musical institutions, the carillon, concerts, students of music having a singsong on the quays... music is everywhere. After dark the ambiance is magical, thanks to the town's ingenious light plan.



Day 6: Gent (Ghent) – Maldegem or Lembeke 57 km

Head west and discover the rural Meetjesland region, a cycling paradise with woods, meadowland and vast croplands. It is easy-peddalling through the flat landscape to Eeklo, a small town known for its many sculptures. Then cycle through the Het Leen and Drongengoed woods. In the evening, put your feet up in Maldegem.

Day 7: Maldegem or Lembeke – Brugge (Bruges) 54 km

Yet another lovely route through the flat Flemish countryside. After Maldegem you will pass some quiet villages such as Knesselare, Maria-Aalter and Moerbrugge. On the last stretch, follow the Ghent-Bruges canal. It dates back to the 14th century and is one of the oldest in the country. Together with its towpath verges, it forms a green corridor that is important for biodiversity. Your destination Bruges is a true gem for Belgium. The charming town has cobbled roads, medieval-looking buildings and a fairytale ambiance.

Day 8: Departure from Brugge (Bruges)

After breakfast, your holiday will come to an end





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Route



Technical Characteristics:

Route Profile: Relatively Easy. The terrain is slightly hilly. You will encounter a short incline from time to time. With some cycling experience you should easily be able to handle this level. Daily distances span 30-65 km. A five gear bike is sufficient. More gears may be appreciated.

Distance: 295 - 329 km

Travel Season: Departures Friday and Sunday 01/04 to 24/09

This tour is also available in the opposite direction on Thursdays. Please ask us for details.



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Price per Person in Euros: *all prices subject to confirmation on booking*

Double occupancy with breakfast	€ 875
Single Supplement	€ 480
Bike Rental 21/24 gear	€ 115
E-bike Rental	€ 240
Extra Night Double Occupancy B&B	€ 95
Extra Night Single Occupancy B&B	€ 150

Included:

- Overnight stays in 3 star and 4 star hotels with own bathroom
- Breakfast (buffet)
- Route description and maps
- Daily luggage transfer
- Tourist tax

Not included:

- Other meals
- Personal Expenses





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Bikes

You will receive your rental bike at the start of your holiday and return it before you go home. All bikes are provided with chain locks.

24-speed gear Bike



E-Bike



Assisting people in realizing their touring dreams worldwide is our passion.

www.okcycletours.com



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