



4 Nights Incentive Programme Belgium


Ovation
Belgium

Often called the Essence of Europe, Belgium is both multicultural and multilingual. The people of Belgium are friendly and welcoming, with three official languages they can still effortlessly converse in English, their fourth unofficial language! Within the span of one day, you can take a romantic cruise, hunt for diamonds, enjoy waffles, frolic in a festival in Binche, get lost in a castle in Namur, discover antiques at an outdoor market in Liege, and explore a fine art museum in Brussels.



Day 1

Belgium



Day 1



○ **Arrival and transfer from Brussels National Airport to hotel**

The city of choice for Eurocrats, Brussels is sumptuous, historic and luxuriously cosy. With artistry richer than its chocolate and architecture as graceful as its cuisine, Brussels is truly a gem of northern European culture.

This afternoon, explore some of the city sights (Place du Grand Sablon, Atomium, Manneken Pis) before a beer tasting at the famed Grand Place. Nowhere will you find more beer than Belgium so connoisseurs will relish this special event. There's 450 different types on the menu many with special shaped glasses designed to enhance the flavour.



○ **Evening – Tram Experience**

This is more than a dinner but a unique experience! A tram that has been completely outfitted as a modern and stylish restaurant, to serve a three-course gourmet meal prepared by a chef with two stars to his name, while travelling through Brussels by night for two hours.



Day 2

Belgium



Day 2



○ Antwerp & Ghent

The age old flirtation between man and diamond is often sung about, but nowhere more faithfully than in Antwerp. This morning, relive the heyday, the near extinction and ultimate revival of Antwerp's diamond industry in the 19th century. Wander the bustling streets of the diamond district and eavesdrop as a colourful mix of international dealers negotiate transactions. Let your senses be stirred by a visit to the interactive diamond museum, then marvel at unique contemporary and historic diamond creations.

Another “diamond” awaits you in Restaurant Zuiderterras. Lying like a moored ship along the Schelde River, its panoramic views offer a lovely backdrop to its simple honest cooking.



○ Transfer by luxury coach to Ghent

This afternoon the city made rich and famous as the largest Europe cloth producer of the 14th century is waiting to be explored. “Ghent Upside Town” is our stimulating tour on foot through medieval Ghent. Walk by St Michaels Bridge for a stunning view of the old town’s buildings and the towers of St Bavo and St Nicolas Church, The Polyptych by Jan van Eyck (15th century) is an absolute must in St Baefs Cathedral, at the forbidding Castle of the Counts, feel for yourself how fierce the battles of the 100 year War must have been....



○ Evening - Belga Queen

Housed in a 13th century grain storehouse, this latest dining concept by Antoine Pinto has become a reference point in new Belgian gastronomy. Sit back and enjoy classic Belgian food presented by servers dressed in the brown sleeveless monk like tunics of old.



Day 3

Belgium



Day 3



○ **Transfer to Bruges**

Just half an hour from Ghent lies the fairytale town of Bruges. Soak up its sights as you stroll its cobbled streets; ornate spires, romantic canal views and step gabled houses greet you at every turn. Climb the 366 narrow steep steps of the Belfry to discover the impressive clock mechanism, the 47-bell carillon and finally a breathtaking view over the city. Enjoy an exclusive musical intermezzo by the bellringer. Hop on board a canal boat and glide under numerous historical bridges. Sip some Jenever (the juniper-flavoured traditional liqueur from which gin has evolved) as you go. Stroll from Saint Anna Canal to St George's Archers Guild. Pause before lunch to watch a private demonstration by the crossbow archers. Rest assured, you will not have to hunt for lunch but if you would like to give crossbow shooting a go, be our guest!

This afternoon, settle in at your historic house hotel with its picturesque canal setting. Enjoy some leisure time or shop for some antique lace or chocolates.



○ **Evening**

Restaurant De Zilveren Pauw awaits you this evening. Behind its elegant 15th century façade, Art Nouveau and Art Deco rooms, relax and savour rich and colourful gastronomic creations of renowned chef Patrick Devos.



Day 4

Belgium



Day 4



○ Rally adventure in West Flanders countryside

Prepare for the adventure of a lifetime this morning. The land between Bruges and the Dutch border is the picturesque setting for today's MINI car rally. Step back in time to the 1960's to relive the smugglers days and dark nights when canny smugglers fearlessly stole across the border with their contraband. The circumstances will be a little more pleasant today, however a diligent border official and police officer will make your attempts challenging. You will also have the chance to compete in shrimp peeling competitions and other original Flemish Folk Games. The trip ends in "de Hoeve De Stamper in Damme", where prizes are awarded over an informal BBQ dinner.





Day 5

Belgium

Day 5



○ Bruges

Your last day in Belgium is spent in Bruges. Uniquely this is a city with two town squares; the commercial Market and administrative Burg. Soak up the sights of Market square, its guild houses and statues of battle leaders Jan Breydel and Pieter de Coninck. Stop at the gallery of local artist and calligrapher Brody Neuenschwander whose work explores the boundaries between text and image. Restaurant Den Dyver is your lunch venue this afternoon. A true Bruges institution offering excellent food in a smart country cottage style setting. For dessert, let's pay a visit to a nearby chocolate maker.

Taste some of the divine confections while you learn the history of the Belgium chocolate and watch its production. Perhaps you wish to buy some as souvenir of your time in Belgium?



○ Transfer to airport and departure





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