



# **DRINKABLE**

## DESTINATIONS

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## **BELGIAN BEER TOUR**

**7 Days/7 Nights**

**Monday September 15th - Sunday, September 21st , 2025**

Join us on a trek to discover the incredible and historic beer culture that UNESCO added to their list of Intangible Culture Heritage of Humanity. Spend 7 days in the Flanders region of Belgium exploring why Belgium's beer culture has earned this UNESCO designation, as well as the history that shaped that region from medieval trade to World War I. We've partnered with local guides based in Belgium to build a custom beer and history tour that will give our guests the types of experiences you've come to expect from Drinkable Destinations.

This will definitely be an experience to mark off your "bucket list"! Now, let's get to the fun stuff: the run down on the tour!

## Highlights

- An exclusive tour and tasting at Brouweij Verhaeghe, brewer of the famous Duchesse de Bourgogne
- Hop field tour in the hops growing region of West Flanders
- City and beer tour of Bruges, perhaps the most charming medieval city you'll ever visit. The tour includes stops at De Halve Maan and Borgogne de Flandres breweries.
- City and beer tour of Brussels, including stops at the famous Manneken Pis statue and Brasserie Cantillon
- Battlefield and trench tour in Ypres, a major frontline in World War I
- A stay at the charming St. Bernardus Brouwers Huis Guesthouse, formerly the brewer's house, located next door to the St. Bernardus Brewery and Bar Bernard
- A stop at In De Vrede, the café where you can sample the famous Westvleteren Trappist beer, which some claim to be the best beer in the world
- City tour and canal cruise of Ghent, an architecturally medieval city, including a tour of the 12th century Gravensteen Castle



## Itinerary

### **Day 1: Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> - Brussels**

- **Evening:** Meet us in Brussels! We'll meet at the hotel before heading out to a welcome dinner for some classic moules frites and our first Belgian beers as a group! Delirium Tremens Cafe will be our dessert stop.

### **Day 2: Brussels**

- **Morning:** We'll kick off the day with a guided walking tour of Brussels featuring the historic city center.
- **Afternoon:** Lunch at a beer café, followed by a walk to Cantillon Brewery for a tour and sampling. The beer tour will continue to a beer cafe for guided beer tasting by a local expert covering the basics of Belgian beer styles and history.
- **Evening:** Free evening in Brussels.



### **Day 3: Bruges**

- **Morning:** Group moves on via train to our next home for two nights, Bruges.
- **Afternoon:** After storing our luggage at the hotel, we will head out for a lunch and beer sampling at De Halve Maan Brouwerij. Lunch will be followed by a city and beer tour with a stop at Bourgogne de Flandres Brouwerij for a tasting.
- **Evening:** Evening Free



#### Day 4: Bruges

- **Morning/Afternoon/Evening:** Free day to explore Bruges on your own. We'll provide plenty of recommendations, of course!

#### Day 5: Watou/St Bernardus Brewery

- **Morning:** A private bus will pick us up to head to the southwest part of Flanders, where some of the biggest battles of World War I were fought. We'll meet with a local guide for a battlefield and trench tour of Ypres Salient.
- **Afternoon:** After the tour, we'll enjoy lunch in Ypres before heading out for a tour of a Hops Farm in West Flanders. Near the Hops Farm, we have a stop planned at In De Vrede, the café across from the Abbey of Saint Sixtus, where we can sample the famous Westvleteren Trappist ales - allegedly the best beer in the world!
- **Evening:** That evening, we'll check into the oh-so-charming St. Bernardus Brouwers Huis, the former brewer's house-turned-guesthouse, and enjoy group dinner next door at the St. Bernardus Bar Bernard.



### Day 6: Brussels

- **Morning:** We'll enjoy breakfast at the Brouwers Huis before heading to Brouwerij Verhaeghe, brewer of Duchesse de Bourgogne, for an exclusive tour and tasting (there is no tap room and this brewery is normally not open to the public).
- **Afternoon:** After our tour and tasting, we'll hit the road for Oud Beersel, a lambic brewery south of Brussels. We'll enjoy lunch in their Bierhuis before our tour and tasting next door in the brewery. That night we'll be staying in Brussels, where you'll have the evening free.
- **Evening:** Free to explore Brussels

### Day 7 (Last day): Day Trip to Ghent

- **Morning:** We'll grab the train for a day trip to the medieval town of Ghent. Meet up with our guide and begin a walking history tour of the city
- **Afternoon:** Lunch at a local Beer Cafe
- **Evening:** Take an early evening train back to Brussels for an evening free there or grab a later train to extend your time in Ghent. Farewell dinner will be held in Brussels for those who choose to join.

### Rates:

**\$4100 person based on double occupancy lodging.**

**\$800 single supplement for solo travelers.**

**Pricing may fluctuate with the extreme fluctuations in exchange rate.**

### Deposit:

**\$975/person**

## Fully refundable until 6/13/25 or 91 days prior to the tour start date

### Included in the Belgium tour price:

- All breakfasts, 5 lunches, 2 dinners, as described in the itinerary
- 7 nights of lodging in nice, centrally located hotels
- Ground transportation via train or private coach, as described in the itinerary
- Beer during group meals and tours, as described in the itinerary
- All tours and admissions, as described in the itinerary
- Local guides and/or Drinkable Destinations escort during all structured tour days
- All taxes and tips on included hotels, meals, and transportation

### Not included in the tour price:

- Airfare and other transportation to the tour starting point and from the tour ending point
- Meals not specified in the itinerary
- Personal expenses, such as laundry and phone calls
- Expenses for any activities not included in the itinerary
- Passport or visa fees
- Travel insurance coverage to cover tour cancellation or interruption, lost luggage, accidental death, medical expenses, emergency medical evacuation, or unavoidable flight delays. **Please note: many personal health insurance plans don't cover their participants while they are traveling out of the country.**

### Hotel Information:

Sept. 15th & 16th Brussels - TBD

Sept. 17th & 18th Bruges - TBD

Sept. 19th Watou - St Benardus Brouwers Huis [Website](#)

Sept. 20th & 21st Brussels -TBD

You do not need to contact the hotels about your reservation. We will give them our guest list when we've confirmed the tour (at this time, they are all under the name Justin Schmitz). However, feel free to contact the hotel about any specific questions you have about their facilities or requests.

### Group Size:

We believe small group sizes make for better experiences. Small groups allow our guests to form closer relationships with us and our local tour guides, and gives us more intimate access to places, restaurants and attractions. There is one downside to small group sizes; a higher cost per person. We know from experience, however, that this is the way to go for high quality tours.

Minimum: 8

Maximum: 12

## Terms and Conditions

### **RESERVATIONS AND PAYMENTS:**

**To reserve a spot on the Belgian Beer Tour, you must agree to ALL Tour Terms and Conditions listed below. A deposit of \$975 or full payment of \$4100/person for double occupancy lodging or \$4900 for single occupancy lodging**

**Final payment is due on Friday, June 13th, 2025. Please mark this on your calendar; we will also send a reminder email two weeks in advance.**

**By submitting a deposit and/or payment, you are confirming that you AND ANYONE WHOSE NAME YOU MAKE A RESERVATION UNDER understands the nature of the tour and the inclusions.**

Why do I include the above statement? We do everything we can to lay out the details and inclusions of the tour. However, we cannot control whether a spouse, partner or companion does not read and understand the nature of the tour. We have not had any problems with this on our international tours yet but we have seen this in other tour scenarios.

Paypal is my payment services provider and you will be sent a Paypal invoice via email for the deposit. If you prefer to use a credit card for payment, you will be able to submit it through Paypal via the invoice.

Your final tour payment is due at least ninety (90) days prior to the tour departure date, in one payment. Please mark your final payment due date on your calendar. The due date will be listed on your confirmation email and tour invoice. Missing the final payment deadline may result in your spot being given to someone on stand by.

If you sign up for a tour less than ninety (90) days prior to its departure date, the entire tour price must be paid in full immediately.

Contact for reservations:

Justin Schmitz

tours@drinkabledestinations.com

920 740 8791 (this number works on WhatsApp, too)

**STANDBY:**

If the tour is already full, we will accept reservations on a standby-basis. Should space become available, the notified participant has the choice to join the tour by paying in full by credit card or forfeiting the space.

#### **CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS:**

Life happens and things come up that may make it impossible for you to join the tour you've made a payment on. Sometimes folks need to cancel for a multitude of reasons. Please inform us of your cancellation in writing as soon as possible.

Non-refundable cancellation fees are reflective of payments we have already made for your attendance on the tour and loss of time to sell your spot. Our cancellation policy is firm and we cannot make exceptions even in the event of terrorism, medical emergencies and other situations out of our control.

Refunds will be processed within 30 days of the written cancellation notice.

Once the tour begins, there are no refunds for:

- arriving late.
- leaving the tour early.
- for being removed from a tour.
- unused portions of the tour including meals, attractions, tour and hotels.

**We highly recommend travel insurance. Travel insurance plans can cover common scenarios in which you may need to cancel your trip. It can also cover medical emergencies while you are on the trip.**

Our cancellation and refund schedule is below:

Full payments and deposits are 100% refundable until 91 days prior to the tour.

Deposits are non-refundable within 90 days of the tour.

Full payments are 50% refundable within 89-30 days of the tour.

Full payments are non-refundable within 29 days of a tour.

#### **TOUR CONFIRMATION:**



This tour requires a minimum of 8 participants in order to operate. Please do not buy your airline tickets until you've received the TOUR CONFIRMATION. When we have at least 8 participants signed up, we will send out a Tour Confirmation.

**IF you do buy airline tickets** prior to reception of TOUR CONFIRMATION, please purchase refundable or cancellable tickets.

#### **CANCELLATION BY DRINKABLE DESTINATIONS:**

We reserve the right to cancel a tour due to not meeting our participant minimum or for other reasons. In the event that WE cancel the tour, FULL REFUNDS OF DEPOSITS AND PAYMENTS will be processed within 30 days of our notification.

Refunds of your deposits and payments will constitute full settlement and we will not be held liable for any other expenses including non-refundable airfare, passport fees and other arrangements a participant has made before, during or after a tour. We HIGHLY RECOMMEND travel insurance.

#### **MEDICAL AND HEALTH ISSUES:**

Our tours are very active and participants need to be of a moderate fitness level. International tours will include a lot of walking particularly to attractions, public transport, hotel, meals, etc. Participants need to be able to walk and/or be on their feet for 1-2 hours at a time and can keep up with the group.

Part of the experience is using the convenient public transport in Belgium! We will be taking some public trains and buses to move from city to city and to some attractions.

You will need to be able to carry your own luggage from the hotels to transport stations so please keep that mind when choosing how much to pack and the type of luggage you're bringing. Travel backpacks may be the most convenient for some but luggage with roller wheels will also work.

Please disclose any medical conditions while registering for the tour. Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate participants requiring wheelchair assistance on our European tours. The places we are visiting are very old and not designed for accessibility.

We will not be responsible for any medical cost you may incur in a medical incident or emergency while on our tour. **We HIGHLY RECOMMEND securing a travel insurance plan; your personal health insurance policy may not cover incidents while out of the USA.**

**SOLO PARTICIPANTS:**

These tours are priced for double occupancy. Solo participants will have to pay a supplemental fee to cover the additional cost of lodging.

By request, we can try to match same-sex solo participants to share a room. This is not guaranteed and if we can't find a match, solo participants will be subject to the single supplemental fee. You must inform us in advance of any medical or personal issues that could negatively affect someone's else's enjoyment of the tour. If you do not inform us, we reserve the right to change your booking to a single and for you to be charged for the new room and half of the other room.

**PASSPORTS:**

A current passport is required of each traveler. Be sure your passport is valid for at least six months after the last day of the tour, even though three months may be all that is required. It can take three weeks to get a new passport without paying for it to be expedited. Plan ahead. Also, "As of November 1st, 2016, customers applying for or renewing their passport must remove glasses for their passport photo. Last year, more than 200,000 passport customers submitted poor quality photos which we couldn't accept. **The #1 problem was glasses.** We had to put their passport applications on hold because we couldn't clearly identify them from their photo. If the photo of you in your unexpired passport has glasses, don't worry about it. You don't have to get a new passport now. Next time you renew your passport, though, you'll have to take your glasses off."--U.S. Dept. of State.

**TOUR CHANGES:**

We reserve the right to make changes to the itinerary, hotels, restaurants, brewery tours, etc due to forces outside our control. We may even change it because we have found a superior experience!

We reserve the right to correct pricing errors. We always hope to keep our tour prices the same from the moment we start taking reservations, however, since our tours are planned so far in advance, we may have to adjust the price due to reasons beyond our control such as extreme currency fluctuation.

**Wi-Fi:**

Complimentary WiFi is available at most hotels and many businesses, but not guaranteed.

**TRANSFERS:**

Transfers between the airport and our first and last hotels are not included unless listed specifically on the itinerary.

**PARTICIPATION:**

We reserve the right to accept or reject any person as a tour participant at any time. Participants may be removed from a tour for displaying abusive or threatening behavior to other participants or to the public, for harassment of any kind, impeding on the enjoyment of the tour by other participants or not being suitable for group travel.

If a participant is removed from a tour, we will not refund any payments for the tour or cover any expenses for the participant to return home.

Our tours are designed around [JS1] beer, wine and spirits experiences. However, participants are required to know their limits and enjoy alcohol in moderation and responsibly.

**AGE RESTRICTIONS:**

Our tours are adult experiences with adults expecting to travel with other adults. Tour participants must be 18 or over.

**HOTELS:**

We will stay at nice, clean hotels in the 3-4 star range. Some hotels will be small independent affairs (like a brewery guesthouse) while others will be international chains. Some hotels will have very small rooms with twin beds very close to each other and some hotels may not have TV's and elevators.