



Information Bulletin

**U-SPACE IN PRACTICE: FROM LESSONS LEARNED TO
FUTURE CHALLENGES**

AT THE HAVENHUIS ON 10TH OF APRIL 2024



International event organized by the Belgian Civil Aviation Authority in cooperation with EUROCONTROL and EASA. This event is hosted by the Port of Antwerp-Bruges.



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1. THE CITY OF ANTWERP

Antwerp, located in the Flanders region of Belgium, is a city of multifaceted charm and cultural significance. With a population exceeding half a million, it stands as one of Belgium's most vibrant urban centers. Antwerp is a historical and architectural treasure trove, boasting landmarks such as the Grand-Place, the awe-inspiring Notre-Dame Cathedral and the Rubenshuis, the former residence of the illustrious painter Peter Paul Rubens.

Antwerp also shines as a fashion capital, where trendy boutiques and designer labels grace its streets, particularly in the fashionable Het Zuid district. Its bustling port, one of the largest in the world, is a hub of global trade, connecting the city to the far corners of the globe. Culinary delights in Antwerp range from the famous Belgian fries to high-end gastronomic experiences, making every meal a memorable event.

The city's creative spirit is embodied by its innovative architecture, and the renowned architect Zaha Hadid designed the striking Port House. Antwerp is a lively cultural hub, hosting various events and festivals throughout the year. This vibrant metropolis is a fascinating blend of tradition and modernity, a city where the past harmonizes with the present, making it a captivating destination for visitors from around the world.

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Market Square and Notre-Dame Cathedral, Antwerp



The Grote Markt



Peter Paul Rubens's house

¹ Source : Shutterstock

2. THE VENUE

The Havenhuis (Port House) is an iconic architectural building located in the Port of Antwerp. It was designed by the legendary architect Zaha Hadid and was opened 2016.

This building stands out with its futuristic and innovative design. It was built on an existing base, an old port warehouse, to which a diamond-shaped structure was added. The façade is made up of glass and steel triangles, creating an impression of transparency and lightness. This bold design represents both the city's maritime heritage and its forward-looking vision.

The Havenhuis serves as the administrative headquarters of the Port of Antwerp. It was designed to symbolize the modernity and innovation of the port while preserving its rich maritime history. The interior of the building is equally impressive, providing modern and well-lit workspaces for port administration employees.

The location of the Havenhuis offers panoramic views of the Port of Antwerp, creating a visual link between port activities and decision-making within the port administration. It has become a symbol of the economic significance of the Port of Antwerp and a world-renowned architectural landmark. The Havenhuis is a must-visit for enthusiasts of contemporary architecture and visitors to Antwerp.

Website : <https://www.portofantwerpbruges.com/en/our-port/visit/port-house-antwerp>



The Havenhuis



² Source : Shutterstock

3. TRANSPORT TO ANTWERP

By Train:

The main train stations in Brussels are Brussels-Central, Brussels-Midi, and Brussels-North. You can take a high-speed train (Thalys or Eurostar) or a regional train (InterCity) heading to Antwerp-Central. The journey typically takes about 30 to 45 minutes on a high-speed train.

Website :

- <https://www.belgiantrain.be/fr>

By Car:

If you prefer driving, you can take the E19 highway connecting Brussels to Antwerp. The car journey typically takes about 45 minutes to an hour, depending on traffic conditions. Upon arrival, those coming by car can park at *the Kinopolis parking lot located at Groenendaallaan 394, 2030 Antwerp.*

From there, a shuttle will be provided for transfer from the parking lot to the Havenhuis.

By Bus:

Bus companies also offer services between Brussels and Antwerp. You can check schedules and routes with bus companies such as FlixBus, Eurolines or De Lijn.

Website :

- <https://www.delijn.be/nl/>
- <https://fr.flixbus.be/>

Taxis Verts (Taxi Central Brussels):

Phone Number: +32 2 349 49 49

Call this number to book a taxi or use an online taxi booking application if available. Taxis can pick you up from your current location in Brussels and take you to your destination in Antwerp.

Shuttle bus Brussels- the Havenhuis-Brussels :

A shuttle service Brussels- the Havenhuis -Brussels will be available on the 10th of april 2024 to attend the U-space event . Details regarding schedules and departure points will be communicated later.

4. TIME ZONE

Time Zone: Belgium is located in the Central European Time (CET) zone during standard time and Central European Summer Time (CEST) during daylight saving time. CET is UTC+1, and CEST is UTC+2.

Daylight Saving Time: Belgium observes daylight saving time, typically starting on the last Sunday in March and ending on the last Sunday in October. During this period, time is advanced by one hour.

5. CURRENCY AND CREDIT CARDS

Currency: The currency used in Belgium is the euro (€).

Credit/Debit Cards: Credit and debit cards are widely accepted in most shops, restaurants, and hotels. Major cards like Visa, MasterCard, and sometimes American Express are generally accepted. It may be helpful to have some cash, especially in less touristic areas.

Contactless Payment: Contactless payment is common in Belgium. Most merchants accept contactless payments for amounts below a certain limit. Ensure you activate this feature on your cards if not already done.

In summary, the euro is the currency used, credit/debit cards are widely accepted, and contactless payment is common. Having some cash may be useful, but most transactions can be done with cards.

6. ELECTRICITY

Type of Outlet: Electrical outlets are of type C and E. Bring an adapter if needed.

Voltage: The standard voltage is 230V. Ensure your devices are compatible or use a converter if necessary.

Make sure you have the right adapter for the outlets and check the voltage compatibility of your devices. This should be sufficient for safe use of electricity in Brussels.

7. USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

General emergency number: The emergency number in Belgium is **112**. It can be dialed for free from any phone (landline or mobile) to seek assistance in case of a medical emergency, fire, police or other serious situations.

Emergency medical services: In case of a medical emergency, the number **112** is also the most appropriate.

Local Police: The local police number depends on the region where you are in Belgium. Each region has its own contact number for the police. For example, in Brussels, the contact number is **101**.

8. PASSPORT AND ID CARD




Passport or ID card: Although you do not need a visa, it is essential to travel with a valid passport or ID card. Ensure that your identification document is valid for the entire duration of your stay.

9. ACCOMMODATION




1. Hotel Docklands Antwerp – 3 stars

	Kempischdok-Westkaai 84/90, 2000 Antwerp
	032310726
	https://www.hoteldocklands.be/en/


2. U Hotel – 4 stars

	assastraat 42, 2000 Antwerp
	032019070
	https://u-eatsleep.be/

3. FEEK Suites – 5 stars

	Oudeleeuwenrui 23, 2000 Antwerp
	0479279842
	https://feeksuites.com/eng

4. One Lux Stay Antwerp City Centre

	Kribbestraat 6, 2000 Antwerp
	038080719
	https://www.oneluxstay.com/locations/antwerp/antwerp-city-centre/

5. Holiday Inn Express Antwerp City - North, an IHG Hotel – 5 stars

	Italiëlei 2A, 2000 Antwerp
	032214949
	https://www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels/gb/en/antwerp/anrhe/hoteldetail?cm_mmc=GoogleMaps-_-EX-_-BE-_-ANRHE