

Bruges, Belgium

Field	Value
Name	Bruges
Country	Belgium
Coordinates	51° 12' N, 3° 13' E
Population	119,765
Currency	Euro (EUR)
Website	brugge.be
Time Difference	± 0 hours
Date	January 9, 2024
Day Temperature	1 °C – 3 °C
Arrival Time	07:00
Departure Time	18:00
Sunrise – Sunset	08:49 – 16:58
Distance Traveled	284 nautical miles

Sightseeing

- Barge Bridge – Striking red bridge with a great view over canals and brick façades.
- Powder Tower – Remnant of the old city fortifications, once used to store gunpowder, now a popular photo spot.
- Beguinage Quarter – Founded in the 13th century, a former semi-monastic community for unmarried women, with a quiet and historic atmosphere.
- Church of Our Lady – 115-meter-high brick tower, inside you’ll find Michelangelo’s Madonna and Child, one of his few works outside Italy.
- Belfry – Iconic 83-meter-high bell tower with 47 bells; climbing it offers panoramic views (though impressive even from below).
- Market Square & Historic Bruges Exhibition – Surrounded by ornate gabled houses; the exhibition shows the city’s development with models and interactive displays.
- Culinary Highlights – Belgian fries with special sauce, freshly baked waffles, and countless chocolate shops with pralines like small works of art.
- Walplein & Beer Pipeline – Home to the De Halve Maan Brewery, featuring a unique underground pipeline transporting beer to the bottling plant outside the center.

Additional Tips

- Getting to Bruges:

- Train from Zeebrugge directly to the city center (flexible, but you must manage your return trip carefully).
 - Cruise line shuttle bus (fixed return time, direct drop-off and pick-up at the bus parking area).
- Within Bruges:
 - All sights are easily reached on foot.
 - Wear comfortable shoes (cobblestone streets can be tiring).
 - In winter: bring warm clothes, gloves, and a hat, as the wind can be icy.
- Food & Drink:
 - Don't miss traditional chocolateries in addition to fries and waffles.
 - Some shops allow you to watch chocolatiers at work.
- Other Excursions:
 - Brussels: Grote Markt, Manneken Pis, Atomium, EU Quarter, Comic Museum, and cozy cafés.
 - Ghent: Another worthwhile destination, easily reached.
 - Smaller towns around Zeebrugge offer quieter spots to enjoy Belgian flair.
- Zeebrugge itself:
 - Mainly industrial, not much to see.
 - A small beach section and promenade are available.