



LOUVAIN-LA-NEUVE SURVIVAL GUIDE

SUMMER 2020



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INFORMATION ABOUT BELGIUM

POPULATION

11.3 million inhabitants

In Louvain-La-Neuve:
31 562 inhabitants



CURRENCY

Euro

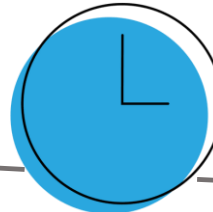
Other currencies are
Not accepted



TIME ZONE

CET (GMT+1)

Belgians are very punctual!



LANGUAGES

Dutch, French & German

In Louvain-La-Neuve :
French



MONEY EXCHANGE OFFICES

You will find them at the **airport** or **railway station**.

Tip: don't change too much money at the airport or railway station. When you arrive in the big cities such as Brussels, you can change in the banks at a much better rate!

PAYMENT

You can pay almost everywhere with **cash**.

Electronic payment is also popular but, in some places, they will only accept Belgian debit cards (Bancontact).

However, in touristic places you can use VISA, MasterCard and American Express (free of charges) and Maestro (same cost as internal payments in Euro-countries). VISA Electron is often not accepted.

METEO

The weather in Belgium is **very unpredictable**. During the summer, it can hail and be sunny within one day!

Check the **weather forecast** just before you come! It should give you an indication, but you can never be sure!

GENERAL INFORMATION

TRAVEL

- At night there is no public transportation from our airports to Louvain-la-Neuve and we won't be able to pick you up at the airport!
- You need to have a medical and general travel insurance.
- If you need a visa to get to Belgium, ask us for an invitation letter immediately after you have been selected for this course.

FOOD

You will get breakfast and two meals a day (lunch & dinner). If you have any allergies, special diet or if you're vegetarian, send an e-mail to the organizers before the course!

WIFI

We are staying at an accomodation without wifi. However, if you have eduroam wifi you will be able to connect to the university wifi which you will have access to during your classes.



BELGIAN CULTURE

DRINKS

The water is very clean in Belgium: tap water is drinkable and Belgians usually drink from it. But when they're not drinking water ...

Belgian beers! Duvel, Leffe, Orval,...

Do any of these names ring a bell? Belgium is home to more than 100 different types of specialty beers. You will have the opportunity to taste Trappist beer during our course which is beer brewed by Belgium monks in our abbeys.

FOODS

Belgium is also known for some wonderful foods : chocolate, waffles, BELGIAN fries and the list goes on...

If you're curious about typical dishes you can look up "carbonnade flamande", "boulets liégeois" or "moules frites".

Belgian food isn't always vegetarian friendly but don't worry, we always have yummy food for everyone!



LANGUAGE

If you're up to learning some french, we've gathered a couple useful words/sentences ...

English	French
Good morning/evening/night	Bonjour/bonsoir/bonne nuit
Hello	Bonjour
Goodbye	Au revoir
Yes/No	Oui/non
Thank you (very much)	Merci (beaucoup)
Sorry/Excuse me	Pardon/excusez-moi
What's your name?/My name is...	Quel est votre nom?/Je m'appelle...
Police station	Poste de police
Train/Bus station	Gare
Arrival/Departure	Arrivée/départ
One beer please	Une bière, s'il vous plait
Milk/coffee/tea	Lait/café/thé
Eat/drink/sleep	Manger/boire/dormir
I love you (polite)	Je vous aime bien
I love you (familiar)	Je t'aime
I'm a little strawberry, eat me	Je suis une petite fraise, mange moi
Your eyes are as beautiful as the night	Tes yeux sont aussi magnifiques que la nuit
Can I offer you a drink?	Puis-je vous offrir un verre?
Can I get your number?	Puis-je avoir votre numéro?
I'm lost	Je suis un pauvre étudiant étranger, récemment lobotomisé, et j'ai perdu, outre ma raison, mon chemin. Pourriez vous avoir l'extrême obligeance de me l'indiquer?

Louvain-la-Neuve

Louvain-La-Neuve (LLN) is situated in Wallonia, the southern part of Belgium.

This city is special. It was built around the university and is essentially a student city. There are more than 20,000 students.

It's a large university campus, mostly pedestrian.

There is a lot of artwork on walls of buildings, you might even see the ones we put in this presentation...



GETTING TO LOUVAIN-LA-NEUVE

All information is available at : <https://www.belgiantrain.be/>

Brussels South (Bruxelles-midi) train Station

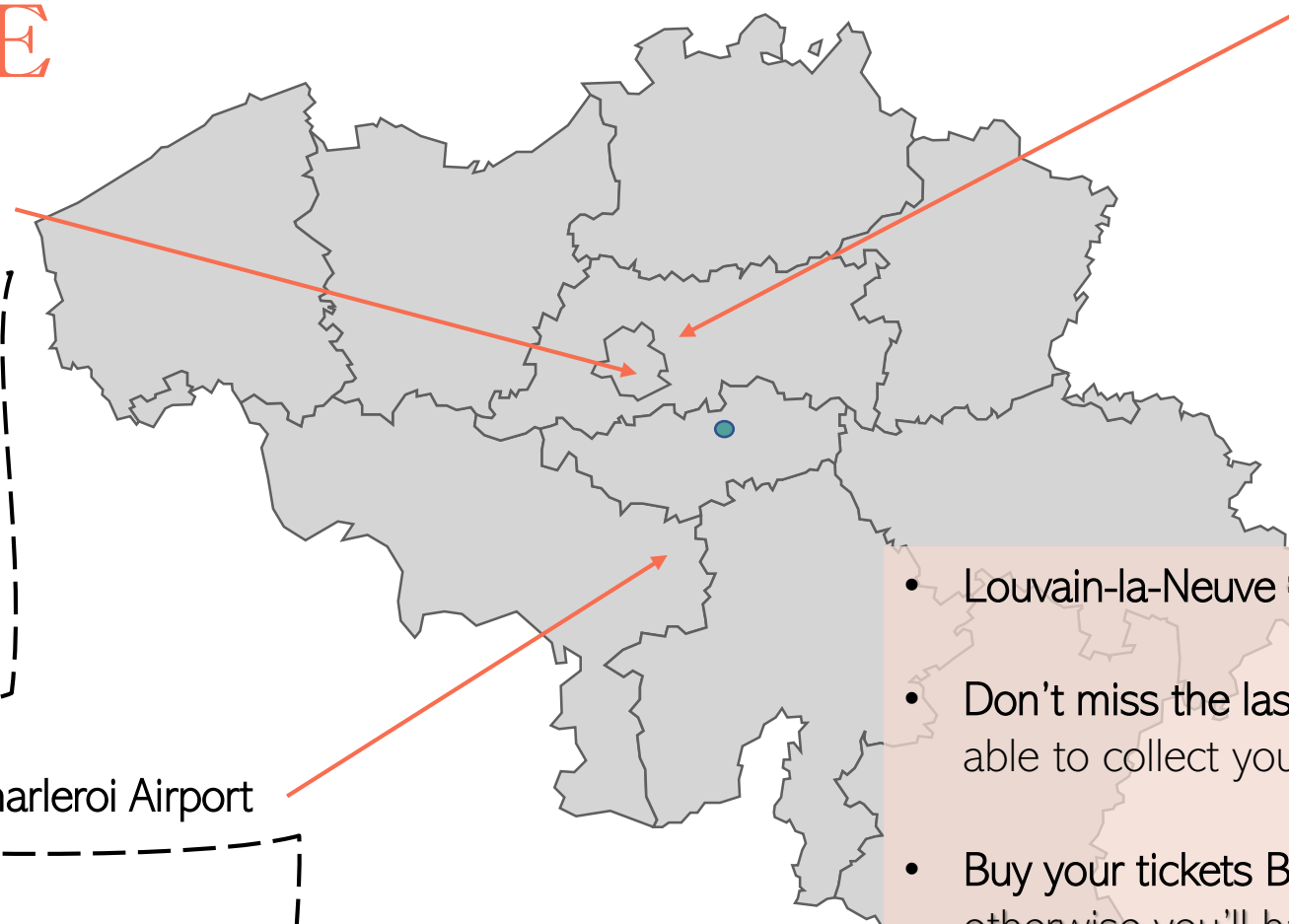
Time to travel : 50-70 min
Frequency : at least 2 per hours
Last departure : 22:48
Price : 5€50*

Brussels South Charleroi Airport

Time to travel : 2 hours
Frequency : one per hour
Last departure : 21h26
Price : 12€60*

Brussels Airport (Zaventem)

Time to travel : 60-90 min
Frequency : at least 2 per hour
Last departure : 22:31
Price : 12€10*



- Louvain-la-Neuve ≠ Louvain (Leuven) !
- Don't miss the last transport! We might not be able to collect you
- Buy your tickets BEFORE getting on the train, otherwise you'll have to pay 7€ extra!
- To travel in Belgium, always compare the price to the price of a GO pass 1

● Louvain-la-Neuve

* for people younger than 26

WHAT TO BRING

- Sleeping Bag, a sheet to cover a one person mattress and a little pillow
- Medical and general travel insurance
- ID, passport and/or visa (if required), student card (for discounts)
- Cash for the fee. Check the BEST website <https://www.best.eu.org/courses/countryCategories.jsp> to know how much to pay.
- Leisurewear (that might get dirty): there will be sports and games
- Fancy clothes for official opening, company visit and eventually some gala-evening
- Swimsuit or swim shorts
- Sunscreen, sunglasses and a hat
- Raincoat
- Personal medication (also against allergies)
- National food for the international evening. Please bring any (special) ingredients that you think will not be available in Belgium (you can ask the organisers beforehand). The rest we will buy here. Also bring your favourite song(s) from your country.
- Earplugs to sleep (just in case 😊)
- Paper/notebook and pens for the lectures, if you can, bring your computer please!
- Huge, tremendous, incredible sense of humour, and lots of energy !
- Your smile
- **Anything legal but big fun!**

CONTACT INFORMATION

BEST Louvain-la-Neuve

E-mail: ln@BEST.eu.org

Website: <http://best-ln.be/wordpress/>

Important phone numbers :

Emergencies: 112

Police: 101

(directs you to the nearest police station)

Main organiser :
Nicole



+324 93 21 90 99

Participant Responsible :
Ange



+32 489 37 06 24

President :
Roxane



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