

TRIP TIP #2



Ok, you're right. Belgium is not all about blue skies and sunshine :)

Just now and then you can witness our famous grey skies accompanied by some crispy rain... and that's why we have some really great MUSEUMS!

Museums have a 'go' from the government to re-open so tadaaa:
we present you some must-see indoor and outdoor CULTURAL HUBS.

NOT THE CLASSIC TOURIST STOP, MUSEUMS WITH A TWIST



VERBEKE FOUNDATION

This exhibition space does not aim to be an oasis. The [Verbeke Foundation](#) presentation is unfinished, in motion, unpolished, contradictory, untidy, complex, inharmonious, living and unmonumental, like the world outside of the museum walls. You will find no flamboyant sensational buildings here but rather **a refreshing, unpretentious place to look at art and a subtle criticism of the art world.**

A little bit more challenging to get there but most definitely worth it!

By bicycle: 41,5 km (one way), nice 'green' cycling route

By public transport: train to Sint-Niklaas, at the train station you can take bus nr. 41 to Sint-Niklaas-Stekene-Moerbeke. Ask the bus driver to drop you off at 'Kemzeke Drieschouwen' this is the closest bus stop to the Verbeke Foundation. From this bus stop it's a 1,5 km walk to the open air museum.



MIMA BRUSSEL

4 years ago the [MIMA contemporary art museum](#) opened in the center of Brussels, on the territory of Molenbeek. The institution is distinguished by its exhibitions that highlight a young generation that transgresses the artistic genres and goals a new audience to the museum.

By public transport: train to Brussels Central and from here you take the underground (Metro) line 1 or 5 and you get off at stop 'Graaf van Vlaanderen/Comte de Flandre'.

STAY LOCAL - GHENT



Ghent is culturally top level, proven by the **numerous qualitative museums** you can find all over the city:

Design Museum Gent, The Castle of Counts, Museum of Fine Arts, S.M.A.K., Huis van Alijn, ...

Check this [overview of the museums in Ghent](#).

If we have to select 1 favorite well then we don't hesitate:

G.U.M. + Botanical Garden

[Ghent University Museum](#): new in town and already on the must-see- list!

This museum located in the heart of the Ghent Botanical Garden, is not a classic dull science museum...

Just go there and find out yourself!

MUSEUMS LOCATED IN BEAUTIFUL SETTINGS



MAS ANTWERP

In this impressive warehouse, all the museum rooms are stacked like boxes. Follow the Boulevard with its metres-high glass windows as it spirals upwards, and enjoy an incredible view of the city from every level.

Tip: you can enter the panoramic roof terrace without visiting the exhibitions.

By public transport: Take the train to Antwerpen Centraal. At the trainstation you switch to the underground, lines 3, 5, 9 or 15, direction Linkeroever. Get off at station

'Meir'. Above ground, take tram 7 at 'Meirbrug'.



NATURAL SCIENCE MUSEUM

This impressive [science museum](#) is part of the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences and exhibits **the largest dinosaur gallery in Europe** with a surface area of over 3000 m² and dozens of specimens. But there is lots more to explore!

Tip: If you visit the upper levels of the museum via the staircase, you have a nice panoramic view over Brussels.

By public transport: Brussels-Luxembourg train station is a five-minute walk from the museum.

MUSEE MAGRITTE MUSEUM

[The Musée Magritte Museum](#), located in the heart of Brussels, brings together the world's **largest collection of the renowned surrealist artist René Magritte**

By public transport: take the train to Brussels Central station. From here you can take the tram, line 92 or 93, to the tram stop 'Royale'.

Tip: there are new audio guides for youngsters.



AFRICA MUSEUM

[The Africa Museum](#) is located in beautiful Tervuren Park.

Tip: We suggest you combine the museum visit with a picnic, walk or bike ride in the parc.

By public transport: Take the train to Brussels Central station. At Brussels Central: take metro line 1, direction Stockel, and alight at Montgomery. At Montgomery: take tram 44 until the last stop (Tervuren station). The tram trip is 22 minutes long. The museum can be found across the tram stop.



GOOD TO KNOW

- Of course we have some other 101 museums in Belgium to explore ... that's what they invented Google for, knock yourself out!
- To limit the number of people in the museum, you'll have to reserve your tickets online and choose a time slot. Show up at the time indicated on your ticket.

- Most of the museums offer reduced prices for students. Make sure to carry your student card with you.
- On public transport and in the museums, it's mandatory to wear a face mask.

Hope you got some inspiration to get your heads out of your study books ;) !

Enjoy!

And as always... respect the safety measurements regarding social contacts, face masks, hygiene... Thank you!

- Elke & Laura —

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