

TRAVELLING TO ANTWERP

Media for all: Quality made to measure

22-24 October 2009

When travelling around in the Brussels Capital Region, you may come across both the Dutch and French names of Belgian cities, train stations, bus stops, etc. Watch out for the following common translations:

ENGLISH	DUTCH	FRENCH
Antwerp	Antwerpen	Anvers
Antwerp Central (train station)	Antwerpen Centraal	Anvers Central
Brussels	Brussel	Bruxelles
Brussels Central (train station)	Brussel Centraal	Bruxelles Central
Brussels North (train station)	Brussel Noord	Bruxelles Nord
Brussels South (train station)	Brussel Zuid	Bruxelles Midi

BY AIR


Option I: BRUSSELS AIRPORT (aka ZAVENTEM)



Brussels Airport is Belgium's major airport, with flights to and from both major European cities and a selection of intercontinental cities. Brussels Airlines is the main carrier at Brussels Airport. For more information about Brussels Airlines flights go to www.brusselsairlines.com.

From Brussels Airport you can travel to Antwerp by bus or by train.

FLIGHT + BUS

- 1 The airport express bus runs every hour.
- 2 The trip to Antwerp takes approximately 45 minutes (though longer travelling times may apply depending on the time of day, possible traffic jams, etc.)
- 3 A single ticket costs approximately €10.00.
- 4 Follow the sign  in the airport terminal.
- 5 The buses leave from the back of platform B at level 0 and take you to Antwerp, where they stop near the central station (stop *De Keyserlei*).
- 6 Check www.brusselsairport.be/en/parking_transport/to-and-from/bus for additional information.

FLIGHT + TRAIN

- 1 Trains run about 3 times every hour.
- 2 The trip to Antwerp takes approximately 1 hour.
- 3 A single ticket costs approximately €6.20.
- 4 First take a train to Brussels North railway station (Trains with as final destinations *Ghent, De Panne, Quevy* or *Landen* all stop at Brussels North. Then travel to *Antwerp Central* (Trains with as final destination *Antwerp Central* or *Essen* all stop at Antwerp Central).
- 5 Check www.b-rail.be for train timetables and additional information.

BY AIR**Option II: CHARLEROI AIRPORT**

Charleroi Airport is the low-cost airport. The main carrier at the airport is Ryanair. For more information about Charleroi Airport and about flights to and from Charleroi Airport go to www.charleroi-airport.com.

From Charleroi Airport you can travel to Antwerp by train or by train/bus. The trip from Charleroi to Antwerp takes approximately 2 hours (though longer travelling times may apply when traveling by bus/train depending on the time of day, possible traffic jams, etc.).

FLIGHT + TRAIN

- 1 The cheapest way to get to Antwerp is to buy a combo ticket called “bulk ticket” at the information desk at Charleroi Airport.
- 2 A “bulk ticket” includes both the short bus ride (bus A) to Charleroi South railway station and the train journey to Antwerp Central.
- 3 The price includes both the bus fare and the train fare.
- 4 There are several direct train connections from Charleroi South to Antwerp Central.
- 5 When returning to Charleroi Airport ask for ticket code 814 in any Belgian train station.

FLIGHT + BUS/TRAIN

- 1 There is also a shuttle bus that runs once every hour from Charleroi Airport to Brussels South railway station.
- 2 At Brussels South take a train to Antwerp Central possibly changing at Brussels North (see description above under Brussels Airport, FLIGHT + TRAIN).
- 3 Shuttle bus tickets are sold inside the Charleroi Airport terminal (counter 1).
- 4 For the shuttle bus trip from Brussels to Charleroi Airport tickets may be purchased on the bus itself.
- 5 Check www.b-rail.be for the timetables of trains from Brussels (any station: North, Central or South) to Antwerp Central.

BY TRAIN**EUROSTAR / THALYS / NS HISPEED / ICE / Belgian national railway**

Antwerp is easy to reach by train and international train connections provide easy links between Antwerp/Brussels and several other major European cities. High-speed trains include Eurostar (from the UK via Brussels), Thalys (from France and the Netherlands), NS Hispeed (Netherlands), ICE (from Germany via Brussels) and other direct rail links with different cities in France, the Netherlands and Germany. The main station in Antwerp is called Antwerp Central.

For more information about ticket prices and timetables for both national and international trains go to www.b-rail.be.

BY CAR

Antwerp is a city which is surrounded by several important motorways. The city is easy to reach from almost anywhere in Europe but both traffic and finding a parking space might be a problem.



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BY BUS BY TRAM

A relatively comprehensive public transport network called *De Lijn* provides fast and easy transport between both the various neighbourhoods in Antwerp and the different parts of the city centre.

DE LIJN

- 1 A single ticket for travelling around in the city centre (1 zone) costs €1.20 and allows you to travel around for 60 minutes.
- 2 A card with ten 1-zone trips costs €8.00.
- 3 A 1-day travel pass costs €5.00 and a 3-day travel pass costs €10.00. Both passes allow you to travel around without any limitations.
- 4 You are advised to buy your tickets beforehand at, for example, newspaper agents or at one of the *Lijnwinkels* (public transport shops) in the city centre. Single tickets may also be bought at many stops (e.g., at underground stations). Buying tickets on buses and/or trams is not always possible and when it is, you will pay more than the usual fares.

The **Department of Translators and Interpreters** (Schildersstraat 41) as well as the **Museum of Fine Arts** can be reached by public transport as follows:

- 1 Trams 12 (direction *Bolivarplaats*) and 24 (direction *Schoonselhof*) near the Central Station in Antwerp. Get off at the stop *Frankrijklei* or the stop *Gerechtshof* near Schildersstraat.
- 2 Tram 4 (direction *Hoboken*). Get off at the stop *De Vrièrestraat* near Schildersstraat.
- 3 Tram 8 (direction *Bolivarplaats*). Get off at the stop *Museum* near Schildersstraat.

The **University of Antwerp** campus in the city centre can be reached by public transport as follows:

- 1 Buses 17 / 501 / 502 from the stop *Pelikaanstraat* near the Central Station in Antwerp. Get off at the first stop at the *Paardenmarkt* near the Rodestraat.

BY TAXI

Taxis are relatively expensive in Belgium. You can find them at various locations in Antwerp (e.g., the Central Station, *Rooseveltplaats*, *Groenplaats*) or call them. A few reputable taxi companies are ATM (☎ 03 216 01 60), STAR TAXI (☎ 03 216 16 16) and ANTWERP TAXI (☎ 03 238 38 38)

ON FOOT

The centre of Antwerp is not very big. Please see map under 'Venues' on the conference website (www.mediaforall.eu). You will also be able to find a city map in your conference folder. The distances from all the hotels to the pre-conference and conference venues are perfectly walkable. All hotels are located in the 2000 postal code area, which is the city centre.