# ZEEBRUGGE, BELGIUM

The West Flanders port of Zeebrugge is the seaport for Bruges - it's in the name Zee-Brugge (Bruges-by-Sea). Zeebrugge was occupied by Germany in both World Wars, and after the Second World War became a thriving shipping crossroad for the continent.

# **KEY INFO**

Currency: EUR (1 USD = 0.92 EUR) Languages: Dutch (Flemish), French, German

**Population:** 4,301 (11.69 million Belgium) Drive on the: Right

Emergency #: Dial 112 Pharmacy: Pharmacy A Dochy, Steenstraat 6 3

Protection: SPF 30+ **Drinking water:** Tap water is drinkable

Time Zone: GMT+1 (winter), GMT+2 (summer) Wi-Fi: Port Building and Blankenberg town

ID Requirements: Photo ID/Passport (non-EU) Post Office: Pakjes Punt boost, Koning Leopold II Plein (?)

### PORT LOCATION

Ships dock at the Port of Bruges-Zeebrugge, about 2km from Blankenberg and 15km from Brugge (Bruges). Complimentary shuttle buses are provided by the port as it is an industrial facility.

Getting Around: The easiest way to reach Blankenberg is to take the shuttle bus from the port or use the public tram. If heading to Bruges, the hourly train from Blankenberg is the easiest way to make the 11-minute journey (€4 one-way). If you get the All-Day Ticket from the Spar Shop it includes bus and tram, so you can take bus 33 all the way to Bruges (1-hour).

Click here for a map of Bruges and here for a tourist guide to Blankenberge

Taxis: Taxis are available at the port.

Tourist Bus: There is no Hop-On Hop-Off Sightseeing Bus in Bruges or Blankenberge

**Tourist Information:** At the pier (click here for a pdf map of Bruges) Port Facilities: Taxis, Tourist Information, Toilets, WiFi, Shuttle Bus

Port Address: Cruise Terminal Zeebrugge, Zweedse Kaai, 8380 Brugge, Belgium 😚

#### BLANKENBERG HIGHLIGHTS

Blankenberge is 2km down the road from the port. It is accessible via a public tram or port shuttle bus. The single-road route is also walkable.

Blankenberge Beach: The beach runs the length of the town and is popular with locals and tourists.

Huisje van Majutte: A house museum showing what traditional life was like in the region. 11a-6p | Price Unknown | 🚱 | 👚

Belle Epoque Centrum: Set across three 19th Century villas, this museum showcases local life during the era known as the Belle Epoque. 2p-5p (Tue-Sun) | €5 | 🚱 | 👲

Belgium Pier: The only tourist pier in Belgium - reaching 350m out to sea. Built in 1933. 11a-10p (Wed-Sun) | Free | 🚱 | 👚

# **BRUGES HIGHLIGHTS**

Bruges is a 15-minute train journey from Blankenberg. Once you arrive at Bruges station, you'll walk about 800m on cobble stone streets to reach the centre.

Kiss The Frog: You might be the one to turn the frog into a prince (or princess). On the 100,000th kiss, this fantastical transformation is said to happen. The frog is in the bronze lovers statue in Burg Square. For clues, click here. (?)

Belfry Tower: Climb the 83m Belfry for fabulous panoramic views from this medieval tower. Just like the Leaning Tower of Pisa, the Belfry in Bruges leans... currently by about 1.5m. 366-steps, 47-bells. 9a-8p | €14 | 🚱 | 💁

Hospital Museum (Sint-Jans Hospitaal): Tour a medieval apothecary, with tools on display and art by painter Hans Memling.

9:30a-5p (Tue-Sun) | €15 | 🕎 | 👚

Volkskundemuseum: Return to the 'good old days' in this tranquil living museum setting.

Reopens August 15 2024 | 😚 | 😷

Groeninge Museum: Art from across six centuries, including works by the famous Flemish primitive painter Jan van Eyck.

9:30a-5p (Tue-Sun) | €15 | 😚 | 🐣

Basilica of the Holy Blood: A site of Christian pilgrimage, displaying a phial thought to contain the blood of Christ on a cloth.

10a-5:15p | Free | 🕎 | 💁

### SOMETHING TO EAT OR DRINK

Beer: The Belgians love their beer - all different types (over 350). In some places you can even find beer soup.

Ossetong en hesperolletjes: A traditional dish from the region - ox tongue in orange sauce.

Chocolate: Belgium is world-famous for its chocolates and chocolate has been a major industry here since the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Some of the most famous names in the industry are Neuhaus, Guylian, Godiva, Leonidas, Côte d'Or, and Callebaut