

Etone College MFL Brussels Trip 2024



Etone College
www.etonecollege.co.uk

Travel information:

Depart: Monday 15th July

- 00:30 – Coach arrives at Etone College
- 01:00 – Coach departs from Etone College
- 05:30 – Check in at DFDS ferry port, Dover
- 07:40 – Depart from Dover
- 10:00 – Arrive in Calais (local time)
- 13:00 – Arrive at the hotel in Belgium (VJH Antwerp “Pulcinella”)

Return: Thursday 18th July

- 16:00 – Check in at DFDS ferry port, Calais
- 18:00 – Depart from Calais
- 19:20 – Arrive in Dover (local time)
- 00:00 – Arrive at Etone College

Passports, consent forms and GHIC cards:

It is strongly recommended that you apply for a GHIC card and bring it with you on the day of departure. They are free via the NHS website.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you arrive ready for departure and here at the correct time

Communication:

Pupils are allowed to bring and use their mobile phones throughout the day. Travel updates will also be posted on the Etone MFL X account (@etone_mfl). Pupils will be asked to communicate home at various stages of the return journey to confirm our ETA.

What to pack:

- The weather in Brussels is similar to the weather in Britain at this time of year. It will be warm but it also may rain so students will need to dress accordingly. A raincoat might also be a good idea!
- Consider getting a **portable charger** to allow pupils to charge their phones on the coach journeys to and from Belgium.
- We will be doing a lot of walking so students will need **practical and comfortable footwear**.
- Remember to bring a **towel** for the hotel **and adaptors** for the plug sockets in Belgium too.
- We would advise around €20 per day spending money (lunch, souvenirs, public transport). There will be opportunities to go shopping while exploring too.



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FAQ's

Are there any COVID-19 travel restrictions in place?

As it stands (May 2023), there are no COVID-19 related requirements for entering Belgium.

What kind of activities will my child be doing?

Monday – travelling to Belgium and exploring the area.

Tuesday – A stop at a supermarket to get snacks and lunch, a visit to Mini-Europe, the Design Museum, the Atomium, and bowling.

Wednesday – A visit to Walibi World Theme Park and exploring the centre of Brussels

Thursday – A guided visit and tasting session of Concept Chocolate, the famous Belgian chocolate factory, a stop off in picturesque Bruges to explore, and then back to Etone!

What will my child eat?

All breakfast and evening meals will take place in the accommodation. At lunch times, pupils can choose what they want to eat and will have access to supermarkets daily.

Will my child get to choose who they share a room with?

The way we always allocate rooms is firstly by gender and year group based on the number and size of rooms we are given by the hotel. Friendship groups are taken into account as much as possible, and we will speak with your child about this if necessary.

Will my child be unsupervised?

Where there is time on the itinerary for 'free time', this will be in a pre-agreed confined area (e.g. a town square), there will still be staff members present and one will always be at a pre-agreed meeting point. Pupils must always be in groups of at least three and all pupils will be given the number for a staff phone to contact us in case they get separated from the group at any point.

Can my child take their phone?

Yes, but it is their responsibility to look after and use appropriately and not the responsibility of staff on the trip. This includes using data roaming. Pupils are allowed to take photos of themselves and the sights, but not of any other pupils or members of staff. Any misuse of a phone will result it in being confiscated. Normal school expectations and sanctions do still apply.

