

# Belgium



A warm-hearted welcome on Flanders' waterways

Bruges canal



## Regional highlights

Wherever you cruise in Belgium, you can be sure of a warm welcome. Famous for its hand-made chocolates, delicious beers, delicate lace and the cartoon character Tin Tin, Belgium also offers peaceful countryside and ancient towns and cities that are inextricably linked by the country's rich cultural and historic past.

From the fairytale facades of Gent, Belgium's ancient Flemish capital, to the meandering canals and hump-backed bridges of Bruges - the 'Venice of the North', you will find plenty to see and do on your travels. The network of pretty canals and rivers and close proximity of places to visit means you can tailor your cruise to take in as much or as little as you want. Visit the World War memorials at Ypres, spend time at sandy beaches and nature reserves and visit museums, monuments and markets on your travels around this small country with a big heart.



- Excellent sandy beaches at Nieuwpoort
- War memorials and The Last Post at Ypres
- Beautiful Bruges and Gothic Gent
- More than 300 varieties of Belgian Beers!
- Fast access from UK - less than one hour from Calais



“Belgium was a real eye-opener. We found fantastic restaurants wherever we stopped and loved Bruges - it is really beautiful. So many great things in one tiny country.”

**Cruising Notes**  
In April and October, all locks and bridges are closed on Sundays and Bank Holidays. Only return-to-base cruises are possible from Nieuwpoort.

## Some cruising ideas to help you choose...

**The Peace Cruise**  
Nieuwpoort - Bruges - Ypres - Veurne - Nieuwpoort  
1 week - Return trip  
158kms • 14 locks • 40 bridges  
40hrs

Follow the waterways to the delightful city of Bruges; visit the war memorials in Ypres and spend time in the former Spanish garrison town of Veurne, famous for its Museum of Bakery!

**The Capital Cruise**  
Nieuwpoort - Deinze - Nieuwpoort  
1 Week - Return trip  
200kms • 5 locks • 37 bridges  
42hrs

This delightful cruise takes in the seaside and bustling port at Ostend, the beautiful town of Bruges, the former Flemish capital Gent and the lovely town of Deinze. You'll get to see how the rich and famous live in St Maartens Latem - a place of inspiration for many artists.

**Beautiful Bruges Cruise**  
Nieuwpoort - Bruges - Nieuwpoort  
Short Break - 3 days - Return trip  
39kms • 2 bridges • 15 locks  
12hrs

One of our best short break cruises! Spend time in the lovely city of Bruges - perfect for chocolates and shopping!

**The Turrets & Tapestry Cruise**  
Nieuwpoort - Oudenaarde - Nieuwpoort  
2 Weeks - Return trip  
350kms • 57 bridges • 27 locks  
80hrs

Enjoy all the cultural charm of Belgium in this wonderful two week cruise to Oudenaarde - the capital of the Flemish tapestry industry which still thrives today. See for yourself the amazing 17th century tapestries on display. En route visit Bruges, Gent, Deinze, Kortrijk and Bossuit.

Perfect for short breaks  
Make the most of off-peak prices

- History & heritage
- Culture
- Gastronomy
- Cycling
- Horse-riding
- Watersports
- Fishing
- Golf
- Wildlife
- Swimming

## The Belgian Fleet

- Match a boat to your choice of cruise
- Crown Blue Line Fleet
  - CONNOISSEUR Fleet
- Comfortably sleeping 8+
- Classique
  - Valentré (1230FB A), Tower (1325FB A), Magnifique
- Comfortably sleeping 6+
- Continentale, Elegance
- Comfortably sleeping 4+
- Countess, Tamaris
  - Merchant (1070FB), Rialto (1140FB), Caprice, Conn 1135D/E, Corvette B
- Comfortably sleeping 2+
- Traditional 900



Please see pages 50-74 for more details