gay-friendly brussels thematic kit
For several years, VISITBRUSSELS has been making it a point of honour to promote Brussels as the gay-friendly capital of 500 million Europeans. Today, courtesy of its humanistic culture and modern legislation, Brussels stands out even more in the European landscape.

Ten years ago, Belgium signed the law legalizing same-sex marriage, thereby becoming the second country in the world to acknowledge equal rights for the gay and lesbian community. Three years later, the country’s Parliament also granted same-sex couples the right to adopt children. As true pioneers, our country and our capital city set an example for our neighbouring countries.
1. BRUSSELS, GAY-FRIENDLY CAPITAL

Much more than just the capital of Europe, Brussels is above all known by its inhabitants and its many visitors as the capital of diversity. The Belgian non-discriminatory legislation upholds the spirit of freedom that prevails in the city. Brussels has indeed a lot going for it. It is a city where you can enjoy a wide and varied range of activities in terms of night life, cuisine, shopping and culture.

Brussels never sleeps and the Saint-Jacques neighbourhood near Grand-Place largely contributes to the saying. The gay heart of the capital beats in the lively Saint-Jacques district and its scene is true to the city’s image: discreet, varied, warm and friendly. Every week numerous bars and night clubs welcome you to party the night away. And there’s always a good reason to celebrate.

Just a stone’s throw away from the gay district, head for and discover Rue Dansaert and its adjacent alleyways. A focal point for fashion and design, the Dansaert neighbourhood is a must-see destination, an inspiring tour of the many facets of Belgium’s rich and original artistic talent.

Uptown Brussels in its heeled-up streets and alleyways makes you feel equally welcome. Avenue Louise and Place du Châtelain spoil you with the very best Brussels has to offer: upmarket, prestige and luxury brands galore. In the prestigious setting of the Etangs d’Ixelles, the rather bohemian bourgeois Flagey neighbourhood is a hotbed of diversity that resonates with the tempo of a location brimming with life. Trendy restaurants and bars offer relaxation, bonhomie and global gourmet cuisine, all within a remarkable architectural setting. A short distance away, in the European district, Place du Luxembourg, favourite after-hours haunt for young expats, is calling. Thursday night sees the square rammed with a cosmopolite noisy and cheerful crowd.

Brussels takes pride in being one of the most gay-friendly capitals of Europe which makes it an attractive and wonderful place to live in for everyone, anytime, anywhere, rain or shine!

2. THE PRIDE

Each year Brussels hosts The Pride. Gathering no less than 70,000 visitors in the very heart of Brussels in 2012, it has slowly but surely become a major event in the Belgian calendar. The 2013 edition did even better and rallied 80,000 people. The 2014 edition will take place on Saturday 17th May.

The Pride marks the end of the Pride Week and is the genuine climax of a full week of LGBT celebrations. Indeed, the parade through the streets of Brussels comes after a full week of events, debates, thematic evenings, literary cafes and other festive events organized throughout the country during what is commonly called Pride Week.

Beyond the festive aspect of this event, where gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transgender people, transsexuals, but also their friends celebrate the freedom of being themselves for a whole day, it is also an annual event that carries a more specific message of solidarity and equality.

In 2013, Belgium, pioneer country for LGBT rights, celebrated 10 years of same-sex weddings and seven years of legal adoption for LGBT parents, whilst the same debate still causes quite a stir with our French neighbours. Since then families have taken on many different faces. This is the reason why The Pride decided during this year’s edition to pay tribute to these Rainbow Families, the result of our diversity and
open-mindedness, while also highlighting the work that still needs to be done to make sure that all families are equal in the eyes of the law. In 2014, the theme is “Vote for Equality”. The event is just one week before important regional elections in Belgium.

Each year, true to tradition, the event opens the European gay pride season and stands out by its uniqueness.

Organized in coproduction with VISITBRUSSELS, The Pride offers every year to its public a highly varied program. All the ingredients for a perfect festive day are in place: from the traditional Parade, that goes across the city centre in a colourful atmosphere, to the Pride Village, where information happily mingles with entertainment, national and international, enough to guarantee that party will be in the air.

PROGRAMME

The Pride programme is rich and varied. Each year it welcomes new activities and shows but some events are an integral part of the tradition.

Pride Week
Week preceding The Pride

The three Belgian regions host all sorts of events, debates, thematic evenings, literary cafes and other festive events: a rich and varied programme for an entire week hoisting the rainbow colours.

Pride Village
During The Pride

Since 2011, the Belgian Pride besieges the very heart of the capital city and sets up its headquarters in front of the Bourse. From midday onwards, it welcomes you in its Pride Village. Stands offer information, entertainment and food, and provide countless animations.

Parade
During The Pride

At the beginning of the afternoon, the opening speech is held on the main stage set up in front of the Bourse. The Parade flag is then unfolded and handed over to the crowd. The main stage hosts various DJ sets.

Parties
At the end of the Belgian Pride

When the Belgian Pride is going full swing, the party is never really over. A multitude of Pride Parties invite everyone who wishes to use up the energy left in the tank.
3. LA DEMENCE

La Démence is a huge, hugely popular and hot international monthly circuit party which generally takes place on Fridays or the day before an official holiday.

Time and again it gathers thousands of mostly loyal devotees for an unforgettable night. What makes La Démence stand out from the other gay parties are its international crowd and the variety of styles and ages. Unlike other parties, La Démence indeed attracts many muscled guys from all over Europe, who span the gay gamut of ages and types. Packed with an eclectic mix of leather boys, fashionistas, muscle bears, grungy students and transvestites, La Démence is a microcosm of the best of European gay life and its success has been going on unabated for 24 years now. No dress code here. Come as you are and be yourself!

Once an insider’s tip, La Démence now belongs to the biggest and best gay parties in Europe. Besides the locals you have party people from France, The Netherlands, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Spain, England and the United States. For some editions, over 20 different nationalities are represented. Some of them even travel together from Cologne or Paris on specially rented buses.

Still going strong after more than two decades – a 20th anniversary which was duly celebrated in great style with decibel overload and light show profusion in 2009 – La Démence has accustomed us to huge anniversary parties each year and this year is no exception. For its 25th anniversary the oldest gay party in Europe has concocted 3 days of non-stop wild partying in Brussels from 31st October to 2nd November. Come spring, during Easter weekend, La Démence has another festive 3-day weekend in store, the most auspicious start to the spring and summer season.

Housed in the cool, cavernous brick arches of Fuse, 8 top international DJs take it in turns to pump out the most infectious techno and house anthems on the planet. Fuse contains three different halls offering an eclectic mix of music ranging from techno to house. The only gay party taking place at Fuse is La Démence. On other dates it is regular club!


4. OTHER EVENTS

Brussels never sleeps and the LGBT scene is as always busier than ever. Here are some of Brussels gay parties you wouldn’t miss for all the tea in China.

GAY

You Gay Tea Dance
The famous nightclub You keeps its Sundays aside for the equally famous You Gay Tea Dance. Let’s dance!
Rue Duquesnoystraat 18, 1000 Brussels
Every Sunday: 9 pm - 2 am
www.leyougayteadance.be
Thé dansant @ Smouss café
Every Sunday people rush en masse to this trendy event.
Rue du Marché-au-Charbon 112 Kolenmarkt, 1000 Brussels
Every Sunday: 5 pm - 10 pm
www.lethedansant.be

Hunkut @ Steelgate
Weekly gay fetish-oriented house party with international guest DJs.
Rue des Chartreux 52 Kartuizersstraat, 1000 Brussels
www.hunkut.com

Blackout @ Catclub
Catclub regularly welcomes this gay nineties inspired party.
Quai des Charbonnages 30 Koolmijnenkaai, 1000 Brussels
www.catclub.be

LESPHIAN

Velvet 69
Elegant and glamorous “women only” evening with dress code according to the themed evening.
www.velvet69.com

Rebellious Dolls
New alternative girls’ party. Check out their facebook page!

Pullet Rocks
Girls’ rock-’n’-roll party at the Rainbow house.
www.rainbowhouse.be

Girls’ Corner
Monthly girls’ get-together at the Rainbow house.
www.rainbowhouse.be

Bitchy Butch @ le Biberium
“De la pop et des baisers” (pop music and kisses): this sounds like an excellent teaser for a trashy alternative evening.
Cantersteen 55 Kantersteen, 1000 Brussels
www.bitchybutch.be
MIXED CROWD

Dansez-vous français?
It's been nine long years since «Dansez-vous français?» began its brilliant concept: make the people of Brussels dance like at home to music they love. The formula has worked so well that it attracts more and more people. The party is uninhibited but, more importantly, unpretentious.
Jour de Fête, Boulevard Anspach 181 Anspachlaan, 1000 Brussels
http://dansezvousfrancais.tumblr.com

Mon Cul ta Praline
Regular mixed party, alternative music and friendly atmosphere. Check out their facebook page!

Tagada
New theme party.
http://tagadaparty.tumblr.com

Catclub
It serves top-notch electronic music to an international audience. A real must!
Quai des Charbonnages 30 Kolmijnenkaai, 1000 Brussels
www.catclub.be

Los Ninos
Los Ninos knows how to keep it exciting for keen partygoers. The party changes as its designers change and influences do. Five times a year, Los Ninos finds the most out-of-the-ordinary places to party. Get ready to be amazed!
www.losninos.be

Merhabar
MerhaBar is a chat café for women, men and transgender persons mainly with roots in the Maghreb, the Middle East, Turkey and sub-Saharan Africa. On the programme: oriental music and mint tea!
Rainbow House, rue du Marché-au-Charbon 42 Kolenmarkt, 1000 Brussels
Every last Thursday of the month: 6.30 pm - 10 pm
www.merhaba.be

Zukunft
Twice a month, Fady One attracts a very open audience with her minimal electro music.
www.zkft.be

Vicuna
Vicuna offers innovating and electrifying quality music, bringing out a rare energy in you till the break of dawn. Locations differ to perfectly fit the mood and the line-up.
www.vicuna.be

The Marquee
Microclubbing on Fridays and Saturdays. Check out their facebook page!
5. FESTIVALS

**Tels Quels Film Festival**
LGBT film festival enjoying a top-class international programme: screenings, debates, meeting with film directors and actors, competition...

[www.fglb.org](http://www.fglb.org)

**Pink Screens Film Festival**
Each year, the Pink Screens Film Festival taking place in November stands for ten days of pure pleasure exploring sexual genders and identities. Ten days of premières, finds, exhibitions, parties and encounters.

[www.pinkscreens.org](http://www.pinkscreens.org)

**Bear Weekend**
Mister Bear Belgium election hosting activities and parties over several days.

[www.bearweekend.be](http://www.bearweekend.be)

**FestHIVal**
Culture and arts’ festival around HIV/AIDS – serophobia.

[www.rainbowhouse.be](http://www.rainbowhouse.be)

**Swim 4 Life**
Swimming marathon for a good cause (fight against AIDS), organized by Brussels Gay Sports.

[www.swimforlife.be](http://www.swimforlife.be)

**L-Week Festival**
Week for LBT women in the Brussels region.

[www.rainbowhouse.be](http://www.rainbowhouse.be)

**Tous les genres sont dans la culture/Van alle genders thuis**
Festival that aims at making the public aware of the plurality of genders and to trans identities in a creative and friendly atmosphere.

[www.genrespluriels.be](http://www.genrespluriels.be)
6. CLUBS AND BARS

Le Belgica <gay + gay friendly>
Its down-and-out décor has made it an institution. A pre-club must staging live DJs, Le Belgica has always managed to keep up with the trends and the right music.
Rue du Marché-au-Charbon 32 Kolenmarkt, 1000 Brussels
www.lebelgica.be

Le Boys Boudoir <gay>
Le Boys Boudoir, favourite bar of boyish guys and their admirers, is open every day from 7 pm onwards. Friday and Saturday nights have nice surprises in store...
Rue du Marché-au-Charbon 25 Kolenmarkt, 1000 Brussels
www.leboysboudoir.be

Chez Maman <gay>
The most famous drag show of the capital. Spectacular!
Rue des Grands Carmes 7 Lievevrouwbroers, 1000 Brussels
Fridays and Saturdays: as from 10 pm
www.chezmaman.be

Duquesnoy <gay>
For over 30 years now, this bar/sex club has been a crowd-puller promising pleasurable and intimate evenings.
From Mondays to Thursdays: 9 pm - 3 am
Fridays and Saturdays: 9 pm - 5 am
Sundays: 6 pm - 3 am
www.duquesnoy.com

Homo Erectus <gay>
Small but lively gay bar with a warm and friendly atmosphere.
Rue des Pierres 57 Steenstraat, 1000 Brussels
Every day: midday - 3 am
www.lhomoerectus.com

Homo Erectus Classicus <gay>
Unwind in a cosy and elegant setting.
Rue du Marché au Charbon 5 Kolenmarkt, 1000 Brussels
www.homoerectus-classicus.be

Le Baroque <gay>
This rustic gay “bear-friendly” bar is tapping into the bear club craze that is sweeping across the gay world. Don’t worry: more than the pure physical appearance, it is rather a state of mind.
Rue du Marché-au-Charbon 44 Kolenmarkt, 1000 Brussels
Every day: 5 pm - 5 am
www.barlebaroque.be

Le Plattesteen-Taverne <mixed crowd + gay-friendly>
True headquarters of the Saint-Jacques district, the terrace of Plattesteen is undoubtedly the place to be in the summer.
Rue du Marché-au-Charbon 41 Kolenmarkt, 1000 Brussels
Le Cancan <gay>
Karaoke bar.
Rue des Pierres 55 Steenstraat, 1000 Brussels

Le Stamm <gay>
Modern cruising bar, dark rooms and queer culture.
Rue du Marché-au-Charbon 114 Kolenmarkt, 1000 Brussels
www.stamm.be

C’est ma tournée <mixed crowd>
Lounge bar, lunch and cocktails.
Rue du Lombard 2, 1000 Brussels

Mad Bar <gay>
Ibiza concept bar with international DJs and regular parties.
Rue des Pierres 32 Steenstraat, 1000 Brussels

Station BXL <gay>
Bar/restaurant, open each day from 5 pm until the early hours.
Rue du Marché-au-Charbon 27 Kolenmarkt, 1000 Brussels

The Wood <gay-friendly>
Posh and trendy night owls come to this gay-friendly lounge club in the middle of the beautiful Bois de la Cambre to soak up the smell of the forest.
Avenue de Flore 3 - 4 Floralaan, 1050 Brussels
www.thewood.be

Fontainas <mixed crowd + gay-friendly>
Mixed cafe and bar with a nice street terrace where a rather creative and bohemian crowd happily gathers.
Rue du Marché-au-Charbon 91 Kolenmarkt, 1000 Brussels

La Réserve <gay>
This rustic bar close to the Grand-Place is the oldest gay bar in Brussels with mainly forty-something, fun-loving clientele.
Petite rue au Beurre 2A Korte Boterstraat, 1000 Brussels
Every day: as from 3 pm onwards

Dolores <mixed crowd>
Dolores is a trendy bar with loyal customers.
Rue du Marché-au-Charbon 40 Kolenmarkt, 1000 Brussels
www.facebook.com/ledolores

Le Club <gay>
Very popular cocktail bar with a stylish interior.
Rue des Pierres 45 Steenstraat, 1000 Brussels

Pintxo <gay>
Enjoy a cosy atmosphere in the heart of the bustling Saint-Jacques district.
Rue des Pierres 53 Steenstraat, 1000 Brussels
7. TOP 15 OF TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

With 104 shopping areas, thousands of restaurants and eating houses, and more than 100 museums, Brussels offers an abundance of activities to spend the weekend with friends, family or partner. We give you the top 15 of cultural and tourist activities according to gusmen.com.

Vanhaerents Art Collection
The Vanhaerents Art Collection is a family collection of contemporary art located in a former industrial building in the Dansaert district in the heart of Brussels. It covers several artistic movements from the 1970s until today. It thus offers the possibility to confront works from emerging young artists with those of more established artists by whom they were inspired. Every two years the Vanhaerents Art Collection shows a selection of art works from the collection. For the moment, you can discover “Sympathy for the Devil” which contains works of international contemporary artists, linked in one way or another to prominent ideas in the eponymous Rolling Stones song.

Rue Annesensstraat 29, 1000 Brussels
T.: +32 (0)2 511 50 77
www.vanhaerentsartcollection.com

David and Alice van Buuren Museum
In 1929, after starting to plant the garden, the Dutch banker, David van Buuren (1886 - 1955) - related to the Family of Orange - and his wife, Alice, built their home. These were crazy times in Europe, whose social elite wanted nothing but unfettered luxury. An aspiration met here by the designer-decorators by their use of precious materials (exotic woods, burl, ivory etc.) Superb collections of paintings from the 15th to the 20th century, including a version of “The Fall of Icarus” painted by Bruegel the Elder. Harmony was the chief concern of David and Alice van Buuren when they designed their home: harmony in the interior’s Art Deco style and harmony in the gardens that surround the house.

Avenue Léo Erreralaan 41, 1180 Brussels
T.: +32 (0)2 343 48 51
E-mail: info@museumvanbuuren.com
www.museumvanbuuren.com

Villa Empain
The stunning Art Deco Villa Empain mansion set in the heart of the European capital now houses a Centre of art and dialogue between Eastern and Western cultures. This centre is intended to enrich the reciprocal discovery of the East and the West in order to answer to several complementary ambitions: cultural, artistic, educational and scientific as well as various activities highlighting the bonds that might reinforce this dialogue. It is with this cultural open-mindedness that the Boghossian Foundation presents prestigious exhibitions, accessible to the public from Tuesday to Sunday.

Avenue Franklin Rooseveltlaan 67, 1050 Brussels
T.: +32 (0)2 627 52 32
E-mail: info@boghossianfoundation.be
www.villaempain.com
Horta Museum
The Horta Museum is established in the private house and studio of the famous architect, Victor Horta (1861 - 1947). Built between 1898 and 1901, the two buildings are characteristic of Art Nouveau at its peak. The house has kept intact most of its interior decors: mosaics, stained-glass windows, furniture, paintings and murals form a collection whose every detail evokes harmony and sophistication. The museum is also a centre for research into Victor Horta and Art Nouveau. The architect’s personal archives, a collection of blueprints for his buildings and a library are open to the public by arrangement.

Rue Américaine 25 Amerikaansestraat, 1060 Brussels
T.: +32 (0)2 543 04 90
E-mail: info@hortamuseum.be
www.hortamuseum.be

WIELS
WIELS, the Contemporary Art Centre in Brussels, is an international laboratory for the creation and the diffusion of contemporary art. The programme of WIELS focuses on seven to nine large-scale exhibitions a year, and is strengthened by a series of parallel activities (conferences, debates, exchanges, workshops, community programs and interdisciplinary confrontations...) that makes it an innovating and experimental art centre. In the heart of Europe, WIELS constitutes a unique contemporary art institution with regards to its international dimension, its specific objectives as well as the remarkable architecture of its building.

Avenue Van Volxemlaan 354, 1190 Brussels
T.: +32 (0)2 340 00 50
E-mail: welcome@wiels.org
www.wiels.org

BOZAR
Erected in 1928 by the architect and master of Art Nouveau, Victor Horta, BOZAR (Centre for Fine Arts) is a Mecca for culture and art. It stages theatre, movies, dance and music performances. When famous jazz musicians come to Brussels, they generally perform in the magnificent Henri le Bœuf theatre, famous for hosting the renowned International Queen Elisabeth Competition every year.

Rue Ravensteinstraat 23, 1000 Brussels
T.: +32 (0)2 507 82 00
E-mail: info@bozar.be
www.bozar.be

Ixelles Museum of Fine Arts
The reputation of this museum which currently houses more than 13,000 art works is essentially based on its collections from the 19th and 20th centuries. It therefore offers a rather comprehensive overview of the period’s different painting schools. Surrealism definitely holds an important place with great names of the surrealist movement such as René Magritte, Paul Delvaux, Max Ernst and Joan Miró. Furthermore, the museum acts as custodian for a vast private fund of works by Delvaux, which is used for various exhibitions such as “Paul Delvaux. Paths of Creation”. The Museum of Ixelles gives you the ideal opportunity to get acquainted with the so typically Belgian surrealist movement.

Rue Jean Van Volsemstraat 71, 1050 Brussels
Mon - Sun: 9.30 am - 5 pm
www.museedixelles.be
Musée Magritte Museum
In the building of Belgium's Royal Museums of Fine Arts, visitors can explore the 2,500 m² of the Magritte Museum. This museum stands right in the centre of Brussels, on Place Royale, and exhibits for public viewing the surrealist artist's creations. This multidisciplinary collection is the richest in the world. It comprises more than 200 works consisting of oils on canvas, gouaches, drawings, sculptures and painted objects as well as advertising posters, music scores, vintage photographs and films directed by Magritte himself.

Rue de la Régence 3 Regentschapsstraat, 1000 Brussels
T.: +32 (0)2 508 32 11
E-mail: info@musee-magritte-museum.be
www.musee-magritte-museum.be

Ampersand House
Ampersand House is a gallery of art and design located in a magnificent “maison de maître” near Avenue Louise in central Brussels. The owners curate the gallery as a constantly evolving living environment mixing vintage, contemporary and prototype work to inspire a dialogue with and between collectors and artists.

During exhibitions, Ampersand House is open to the public from Wednesday through to Saturday from 1 pm to 6 pm. Outside exhibition times, it welcomes visitors by appointment.

Rue Tasson-Snelstraat 30, 1060 Brussels
www.ampersandhouse.com

SMETS concept store
In this new Brussels paradise for fashion victims, multi-brand Smets concept store reigns supreme over alternative fashion offerings. This cultural power house combines 4 key genres over nearly 4,000 square meters: contemporary art, high fashion, beauty and design mixing in some gourmet food as well. You won't know where to look first. Smets Concept Store brings a vast choice of exciting designer labels for trendy men and women, jewellery, shoes, accessories, design and a beauty corner.

Chaussée de Louvain 650 – 652 Leuvensesteenweg, 1030 Brussels
T.: +32 (0)2 325 12 30
E-mail: info@smets-store.com
www.smets.lu

Crystal Lounge
The Crystal Lounge inside the Sofitel Brussels is a high class place to be. A place to see and be seen where cocktails come in all shapes and sizes. This is where movers and shakers come to play, or at least warm up for the clubs. You are spoilt for choice: relax on the terrace, enjoy exclusive dining or a tasty brunch, drink in style in a setting which oozes distinction, modernism and luxury. Early evenings have the feel of an intimate, low-key lounge. Later in the evening the energy level increases as the Crystal Lounge hosts top local, regional and national DJs every Thursday, Friday and Saturday night.

Avenue de la Toison d’Or 40 Guldenvlieslaan, 1050 Brussels
T.: +32 (0)2 549 61 44
E-mail: info@crystallounge.be
http://crystallounge.be/
La Monnaie
The pure symbolic load of the Mint is significant. In the collective consciousness it is far more than just an opera house. Let’s not forget that on August 25, 1830, the opera presented Auber’s La muette de Portici (The Mute Girl of Portici). This patriotic themed opera so inflamed members of the audience that a riot broke out in the house, which soon spread to the streets outside. This, in turn, sparked a national revolution against Dutch rule and resulted in the establishment of Belgium as an independent kingdom. Enjoying a worldwide reputation, La Monnaie is currently the most prestigious opera house in Belgium.

Rue Léopold 4 Leopoldstraat, 1000 Brussels
T.: +32 (0)2 229 13 00
E-mail: info@lamonnaie.be
www.lamonnaie.be

Wittamer
Heirs to a tradition dating back to 100 years, Myriam and Paul Wittamer continue their craft in constant search for perfection. They select and assemble the finest cocoa grands crus to produce delicate combinations with creative and harmonious flavours. “Pralines”, “gateaux” and various other “patisseries” can be bought and enjoyed at home or if you really can’t wait, there is a nice tearoom on the first floor for immediate consumption.

Place du Grand Sablon 6 Grote Zavel, 1000 Brussels
T.: +32 (0)2 512 37 42
www.wittamer.com

Maison Particulière
Maison Particulière is a unique venue for an artistic project on human scale. It is a non-profit organization set in a private residence, which can be visited without prior appointment. Nothing is for sale. Discovery, appreciation and emotion are all free for the asking. In this house, temporary art exhibits are organize together with art collectors who choose the art works they lend, themselves.

Rue du Châtelain 49 Kasteleinsstraat, 1050 Brussels
T.: +32 (0)2 649 81 78
E-mail: info@maisonparticuliere.be
http://maisonparticuliere.be

The Saint-Hubert Royal Galleries
This covered gallery, with glittering shops on both sides, was built in 1846 – 47 in accordance with plans drawn up by the architect J. P. Cluysenaer. The building of these galleries was a first in Europe (Galerie de la Reine, Galerie du Roi, Galerie des Princes). Under our often not very clement skies, the idea to create covered streets with natural light filtering through impressive glass roofs became quite obvious from the 19th century onwards. You can still enjoy the advantages of this clever invention today and stroll around passed the prestigious shop windows of this magnificent gallery.

Rue du Marché-aux-Herbes/Grasmarkt, 1000 Brussels
T.: +32 (0)2 545 09 90
E-mail: info@grsh.be
www.galeries-saint-hubert.com
8. HOTEL PACKAGES

There is absolutely no doubt that Brussels is packed with hotels and places to stay. Nowhere else will you find as many hotels that have given top priority to welcoming gay and lesbian singles or couples. As genuine partners of the gay cultural life, several hotels even propose packages that are exclusively reserved for this target group with for instance tickets for La Démence, mini-map, etc.

*Since the offer constantly changes, please take a look at www.visitbrussels.be/gaystay.*

9. PUBLICATIONS

“Brussels Gay-friendly”: addresses and favourite spots
This guide lists the best “gay” hotspots of the capital but also lingers over some major tourist attractions. In its numerous bars, restaurants, parties, shops, museums and events, Brussels invites you to party well into the night. True to the reputation of the capital, Brussels’ gay scene is discrete, varied and warm, as illustrated by portraits of the city’s inhabitants included in this Brussels gay-friendly guide.

Author: Christophe Cordier / Publisher: De Rouck / 155 pages

Mini-map «Visitbrussels-sized for Lesbian and Gay»
Are you hungry for more? Then get VISITBRUSSELS’ mini-map “Visitbrussels– sized for Lesbian and Gay” gathering even more gay-friendly cultural, gourmet and nightlife addresses. Discover the richness of the most gay-friendly capital of Europe... The mini-map is available in our tourist information offices at the price of €0.50.

*You will find even more interesting places to visit on www.visitbrussels.be/gay*
10. ASSOCIATIONS

Brussels also houses different associations that still strive for gay rights. They organize various activities and are there to listen to you.

Rainbow house
The Rainbow house (La Maison Arc-en-ciel) is home to different French-speaking and Flemish-speaking LGBTQI (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersexual) associations from Brussels. It is a place where the LGBTQI and their friends go to receive information and meet in a warm welcome atmosphere. The Rainbow house provides a meeting point / café: the Infobar which is open from Tuesday to Thursday from 6.30 pm to 10 pm, from Friday to Saturday from 6.30 pm to midnight, on Sunday from 3 pm to 7 pm.

The Rainbow house welcomes amongst others the following associations: Activ’elles, African Pride, Bastia, Beyond Brussels to 7 seas, Brussels Gay Sports, Brussels HOLEBI senioren, Communauté du Christ Libérateur, Ecolo nous prend homo, Egow, Fédération Arc-en-ciel, Fuchsia, Genre d’à côté, Genres pluriels, Haltelesbienne, Homoparentalités, Long Yan Club, Merhaba, Natuurlijk Holebi, Nelfa, Nuance Bru, Omnia, Polyamour...

Rue du Marché-au-Charbon 42 Kolenmarkt, 1000 Brussels
E-mail: info@rainbowhouse.be
T.: +32 (0)2 503 59 90
www.rainbowhouse.be

Tels Quels
Tels Quels is a LGBT association (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) set up to welcome, listen to, inform, redirect and help anyone who is directly or indirectly involved in homosexuality or concerned by his or her sexual orientation or gender identity.

Rue du Marché-au-Charbon 81 Kolenmarkt, 1000 Brussels
E-mail: service.social@telsquels.be
T.: +32 (0)2 502 00 70
www.telsquels.be

Belgian Business Association
The Belgian Business Association (BBA) is the leading network in Belgium for gay professionals. The association unites managers, entrepreneurs, self-employed, employees of international institutions, high potentials and last-year college students. Within the setting of its monthly dinners in the heart of Brussels, the BBA offers its members the framework to meet and interact in a friendly and elegant environment. During these monthly gatherings it presents interesting speakers, looking further than the traditional LGBT themes. The main languages of the association are French and Dutch, but English members are very welcome.

Rue du Marché-au-Charbon 42 Kolenmarkt, 1000 Brussels
E-mail: contact@belgianbusinessassociation.be
11. VISITBRUSSELS CONTACTS

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