

OIE Information & Travel Cheat Sheet



Country:

Belgium (BE)

Sex & Dating

- Communication is often more reserved but direct
- Dating customs vary from region to region
- Relationships typically develop more slowly
- Monogamy is taken very seriously

Alcohol & Drugs

- Legal age to buy/consume alcohol: 16 or 18
 - Dependent on percentage of alcohol
- Cannabis (marijuana) use is illegal
 - Possession of up to 3 grams decriminalized, punishable by fine
 - Medicinal use is permitted under certain conditions

LGBTQIA+ Culture

- LGBTQIA+ rights and freedom are welcomed and embraced!
 - Belgium was the second country in the world to legalize same-sex marriage
- Increased penalties implemented for hate-crimes due to sexual orientation
- Resources
 - Rainbow SIG
 - Diversity Abroad
 - OutRight Action International

Cultural Customs and Norms

- Population: 11 million
- Currency: Euro
- Official Languages: Dutch, French & German
 - Greetings are typically more formal, communication reserved
- Culture values honesty and good manners
 - Considered progressive

Resources

100 Emergency / **112** EU emergency number

+32 Phone number country code

- [DU's Travel Assistance](#)
 - Phone: +1 443-569-8601 / Website: [dutravelassistanceprovider](#)
 - Please use DU credentials to sign in
- Student Support Program (My SSP): 24/7 Mental Health Support
- U.S. Department of State Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP): [travel.state.gov](#)



International Education
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This is meant to be a helpful resource for students in selecting, understanding, and preparing for their time abroad. There is no intent to discriminate, generalize or stereotype the country or culture with the information provided here. A variety of sources, both formal and informal, were researched to gather this information.