

How to find the Barge the Fiep in Bruges?

You may board the barge on Saturday between **1:30 & 2:00 pm**. Please do not arrive earlier as the crew will be busy turning the ship over from their previous tour. Since no lunch will be served on Saturday, we suggest you have lunch before you arrive. **Our Welcome Aboard Toast and Orientation Meeting** will take place at **2:30 pm**. We plan to leave the barge at **3:15 pm sharp** for our first afternoon's excursions.

Where is the Barge in Bruges located?

The barge is an easy walking distance from the train station and from the middle of town. However whether you've just arrived by train or you've stayed a night or 2 in Bruges it is easiest to just take a taxi to the barge, especially if you have luggage. Just tell the taxi driver to take you to the Bus Parking area (**Brugge Katelijneparking**). **To help out the taxi driver let them know about these 2 landmarks which are extremely close to the barge (Fiep):**

- **Lichtschip Mayflower** Bargeweg 13 (a restaurant)
- **De Barge Boat Hotel Brugge** Bargeweg 15 (a hotel & restaurant)

The best bet would be to print out the 1st map below and show it to him/her. It is about 1km drive from the train station.

Where are the Taxi Lines at the Bruges Train Station?

Once you arrive at the Bruges train station walk out the front entrance of the Station and you will see a "taxi line". Just flag down the 1st Taxi in that line to get to your final destination. (if for some reason there are no taxis in the line, just wait a few minutes and you will be sure to see one show up)

Trains...

We highly suggest you arrive in Belgium at least a day before the cruise departs to allow for flight or train delays, etc...however, we realize vacation time can be limited. So if you are arriving the morning of the cruise, we advise you allow a minimum of two hours between your landing time and arrival at the barge to allow you enough time to collect your luggage, take the train from Brussels Airport to Bruges, and then take a taxi to our mooring. (Please see Google maps referenced above)

Direction on taking a Train from Brussels Airport to Bruges:

At the Brussels Airport, just follow the signs to the Airport Train Station once you exit customs. The airport train station is located below the terminal (basement level -1). Here you will find a ticket booth to purchase your tickets; you can pay by euro or credit card. Just ask for a one way ticket to Bruges. If you are unsure which train track to take, just ask the person in the ticket booth. Up to 6 trains an hour leaves to Brussels from the Airport and takes about 15 minutes. Then the 2nd train you would then take from Brussels to Bruges takes an additional 1hr 10 minutes. (if you arrive the same day and want to go from the Airport to Bruges DO NOT take the direct train to Bruges!! That train takes about 1 hour longer than when you transfer to a 2nd train in Brussels).

Note: there are three major train stations in Brussels from north to south (from the airport) you have: **Brussel Noord aka (Bruxelles Nord)** - Best one to use if you are coming from the airport & connection to another train to Bruges immediately after arrival.

Brussel Centraal aka (Bruxelles Central) - Most common stop for most hotels Closest to the Grand Place
Brussel Zuid aka (Bruxelles Midi) - For connections to High Speed Trains

The Train from the airport stops at all 3. We suggest you get off at Brussel Noord to transfer to Bruges, since it is the 1st stop in Brussels and therefore you will have an easier time finding a seat and storing your luggage.

Once you get to Brussels Nord, look for the Train Board or ask at the Info desk which is the next train to Bruges and Which track. (it will be either traveling in the Direction Blankenberge, Knooke or Oostende). The 3 direct trains to Bruges are at :28, :40 & :52 minutes after each hour **DO NOT TAKE the train at :28 minutes past the hour**, that train takes an hour and 8 minutes longer than the other 2!!!

Obviously, if you get in a day or so earlier and just want to go to Brussels from the Airport, you will only need to purchase a ticket to Brussels and you can get off whichever stop in Brussels is closest to your destination.

If you need any further assistance with train info, i.e. from Brussels to Bruges, or any return Trains from Tournai (Doornik) etc... Please [email Mike](#) and he will be happy to help you out.

If you have any other questions or if I can help you with anything else, please let me know

Cheers
Mike

IF YOU WANT TO WALK TO THE BARGE (From the Train Station):

