

How to find the Barge La Mar in Bruges?

You may board the barge on Sunday between **1:00 & 1:45 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 Sunday, we suggest you have lunch before you arrive. **Our Welcome Aboard Toast and Orientation Meeting** will take place at **2:10pm**. We plan to leave the barge at **2:45 pm sharp** for our first afternoon's excursions.

Where is the Barge in Bruges located?

The barge is within an easy walking distance from the train station and from the middle of town. ([See Google Map](#) Below) 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 the taxi driver, let them know about these 2 landmarks which are extremely close to the barge (La Mar):**

- [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 to the barge or about 2km drive from the center of town.**

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 2 ½ to 3 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)

ARRIVAL TRAINS to Bruges directly from the Airport:

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 with 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.

After 9am there are up to 6 trains per hour which leave from the Airport and go to Brussels, where you will then need to change trains if you are continuing to Bruges. The train from the airport will take between 10-17 minutes to arrive at Brussel Nord station. Then if you need to switch trains in Brussels to continue onto Bruges, there are 3 trains per hour, which will take an additional 1hr 08 min to 1hr 18 minutes.

How To Purchase Your Train Tickets in Advance for use within Belgium:

You can buy tickets for [journeys within Belgium by using this site](#) .

Or even better get the app SNCB App and purchase your tickets on your smartphone [SNCB App from Google Play](#): or [SNCB App from Apple](#). Just make sure you set up an account prior to making your purchase. Also, be aware, if you are arriving or departing from the airport you will need to scan the QR code on your train ticket to enter or exit the train platform.

Please Note that these train ticket, (the ones using the local slow speed trains within Belgium) can only be purchased if it is within 30 days before departure.

Note: there are three major train stations in **Brussels** from north to south (from the airport) you have:

1. **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. ******
2. **Brussel Centraal aka (Bruxelles Central) – Most common stop for most hotels & Closest to the Grand Place**
3. **Brussel Zuid aka (Bruxelles Midi) – For connections to High Speed Trains - DO NOT CONFUSE THIS WITH BRUSSEL CENTRAAL!!!!!!**

****The Train from the airport stops at all 3 Brussels train stations. 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.

For the Arrival Trains I listed below 3 Options, just find the option which suits your needs:

OPTION A: Directions on taking a Train from Brussels Airport to Bruges
(Day Prior or Same Day as **Tour Start Date**- Saturday & Sunday Schedule)

OPTION B: Directions on taking a Train from Brussels Airport to Bruges
(**2 Days** or so **Before Tour Start Date**- Weekday Schedule)

OPTION C: Direction on taking a Train from Brussels Airport to Brussels – then Travel from Brussels to Bruges on another Day:

OPTION A) Directions on taking a Train from Brussels Airport to Bruges (Same day as Tour Start Date- Sunday Oct 26th or Day Prior on Saturday Oct 25th : This is based on trains after 8am going to **Brussels Nord** then Transferring to **Bruges**. (prior to 8 am there are 5 trains per hour)

Time Schedule for your Train from Brussels Airport to Brussels Nord on Sat Oct 25th & Sun Oct 26th
There is one Direct Train per hour from the Airport to Bruges at :22 or :24 min after the hour going to Knokke

Train Departure Time at the Airport minutes after each hour	Minutes to Brussels Nord station	Time of Arrival at Brussels Nord station	Best Train(s) to take at Brussels Nord station as a transfer to Bruges (see Below Schedule)	Direction of Train Leaving the Airport (ie end of line)
:13	12 min	:25	:36/:38	Oudenaarde
:22/:24	11 min	:33/:35	DIRECT TRAIN – Stay on this train	Knokke
:29/:30	11 min	:40/:41	:51	Soignies
:42	17 min	:59	:15	Tournai
:54	11 min	:05	:15 or :36	Bruxelles Midi
:57	11 min	:08	:15 or :36	Gent St Pieters

Time Schedule for your Transferring Train from Brussels Nord to Bruges on Sat or Sun Oct 25th - 26th

Train Departure Time At Brussels Nord Minutes after each hour	Time to get to Bruges train station	Time of Arrival at Bruges station (+1hr)	Direction of train Leaving Brussels Nord (ie end of line)
:15	1 hr 11 min	:26	Blankenberge
:36/:38	1 hr 12 min	:50	Knokke
:51	1 hr 08 min	:59	Oostende

The last possible train you can take at the airport and arrive on the Barge in time for the start of our welcome toast on Oct 26th is the **11:57 train at the airport**, which goes in the **Direction of Gent St Pieters**, then change to the **12:15 train at Brussels Nord** going in the **Direction of Blankenberge** and arrives in **Bruges at 13:26**. Then either walk or take a taxi to barge to arrive by 14:00.

OPTION B) Directions on taking a Train from Brussels Airport to Bruges (2 Days or so Before Tour Start Date- Weekday Schedule): This is based on trains after 9am.

On Weekdays there is one Direct Train from the Airport to Bruges which leaves at either :24 after each hour going in the direction of Knokke. This train takes only 1hr 26 minutes.

Please Note the train which departs at :13 past each hour at the Airport, is also a Direct train to Bruges which is going in the Direction of Oostende, **HOWEVER get off at Brussels Nord anyway**, if you stay on this train, it will take you an hour longer to get to Bruges. SO it is much faster to transfer at Brussels Nord!!

If you missed the Direct train at :33/:35 after the hour, then you can take the following trains via a Transfer at Brussels Nord for Bruges

Time Schedule for your Train from Brussels Airport to Brussels Nord Weekday Schedule

Train Departure Time at the Airport minutes after each hour	Minutes to Brussels Nord station	Time of Arrival at Brussels Nord station	Best Train(s) to take at Brussels Nord station as a transfer to Bruges (see Below Schedule)	Direction of Train Leaving the Airport (ie end of line)
:13	12 min	:25	:38	Oostende
:22/:24	11 min	:33/:35	DIRECT TRAIN – Stay on this train	Knokke
:29/:30	11 min	:40/:41	:54/:56	Mons
:42	17 min	:59	:15/:16	Tournai
:54	11 min	:05	:15/:16 or :38	Bruxelles Midi
:57	11 min	:08	:15/:16 or :38	Gent St Pieters

Time Schedule for your Transferring Train from Brussels Nord to Bruges Weekday Schedule

Please Note: Do not take the train which departs at :27 minutes after the hour, as it takes an hour longer! Only take the trains which depart at :15/:16, :38 or :54/:56 after each hour.

Train Departure Time At Brussels Nord Minutes after each hour	Time to get to Bruges train station	Time of Arrival at Bruges station (+1hr)	Direction of train Leaving Brussels Nord (ie end of line)
:15/:16	1hr 11 min	:26	Blankenberge
:27 – Do Not Take	2 hr 17 min	:44	Oostende
:38	1 hr 12 min	:50	Knokke
:54/:56	1 hr 07 min	:01	Oostende

OPTION C) Direction on taking a Train from Brussels Airport to Brussels – then Travel from Brussels to Bruges on another Day:

Obviously, if you get in 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. The most common train station most passengers would use if they were to spend time in Brussels would be the **Brussel Centraal aka (Bruxelles Central) station.**

Train Schedule From the Airport to Brussels Centraal Station after 8am:

(Weekdays – :13; | :22/:24; | :29/30; | :42 or :54; :57 min past the hour) trip takes 11 to 17 min

Train To Bruges from Brussels Centraal Station on Sunday the day of tour(trip time approx 1hr 9 min)

After 8am there are 3 direct trains to Bruges they are at :15 | :36/:38 & :51 min after each hour

- The train which leaves at :15 minutes past the hour goes in the direction of **Blankenberge**
- The train which leaves at :36/:38 minutes past the hour goes in the direction of **Knokke**
- The train which leaves at :51 minutes past the hour goes in the direction of **Oostende**

The best trains to take to Bruges, if you want to arrive on the barge between 1:00 to 1:45 pm on Sunday Oct 26th would be the following:

- **11:41 Train** from **Brussel Centraal** going direction of **Knokke** arriving in **Bruges @ 12:48**
- **11:56 Train** from **Brussel Centraal** going direction of **Oostende** arriving in **Bruges @ 12:59**
- **12:20 Train** from **Brussel Centraal** going direction of **Blankenberge** arriving in **Bruges @ 13:26**

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.

Departure Day Trains: (Detailed Schedule is listed in App under Departure Trains)

I will have the train schedule on board the barge (plus it will be in your **beercation app**) to hand out to those guests going to either **Brussels** or the **Brussels Airport (BRU)** on Sunday November 2nd.

The train ride from Tournai to Brussels Centraal will take about 1hr 10 minutes.

There is 1 direct train to Brussels Centraal leaving Tournai at :45 minutes after each hour.

The train ride from Tournai to Brussels Airport will take about 1hr 39 minutes.

There is 1 direct train to the Brussels Airport leaving Tournai at :45 minutes after each hour. (It is the same train that goes to Brussels Centraal then continues on to the Airport)

The earliest you can get to the Brussels Airport (BRU) via train will be 7:24am if you take the 5:45 train.

Private Transfer Car Service / Gilbert Spruyt - Car Service 2025 tariffs-

If you prefer a private transfer car service to using the trains or taxis pre- or post-cruise in Belgium, we work with Gilbert Spruyt. He and his drivers have very nice cars/mini vans and great service. They can go pretty much anywhere as long as the ride either originates or ends in Belgium! They have proven to be reliable and reasonably priced.

You can send Gilbert an e-mail to request a quote at: gcvgilbertspruyt@gmail.com or use his new web link to get a quote: <https://gcvgilbertspruyt.bookitware.com/book>

Make sure you tell him that you are a guest of Bon Beer Voyage so that you will get the best service and pricing available. He is familiar with where our pickup and drop locations are from previous trips and/or contact us with any questions about timing and location. Plus, this will assure VIP service since they know you are our guests.

He does not accept credit cards, so you will need to pay in cash.

Transfers	Cost for use of E-Class Sedan up to 3 Passengers max- but with luggage more like 2 passengers	Cost of Mini Van 3-6 Passengers
Brussels Airport to Bruges	200 euro	Add 10 euros per pax
Bruges to Brussels Airport	200 euro	Add 10 euros per pax
Bruges to Brussels (city)	205 euro	Add 10 euros per pax
Tournai to Brussels (city)	205 euro	Add 10 euros per pax
Tournai to Brussels Airport	200 euro	Add 10 euros per pax

As far as our normal barge mooring location in Bruges or Tournai, Gilbert should know the location, but in case he does ask for it see below:

Bruges is always the same. The Boat La Mar will be very close to these two landmarks:

Lichtschip Mayflower at **Bargeweg 13** (a restaurant) or

De Barge Boat Hotel Brugge at **Bargeweg 15** (a hotel & restaurant).

Both of these locations are located adjacent to Brugge Bus Parking: **Brugge Katelijneparking**.

Tournai mooring location could vary:

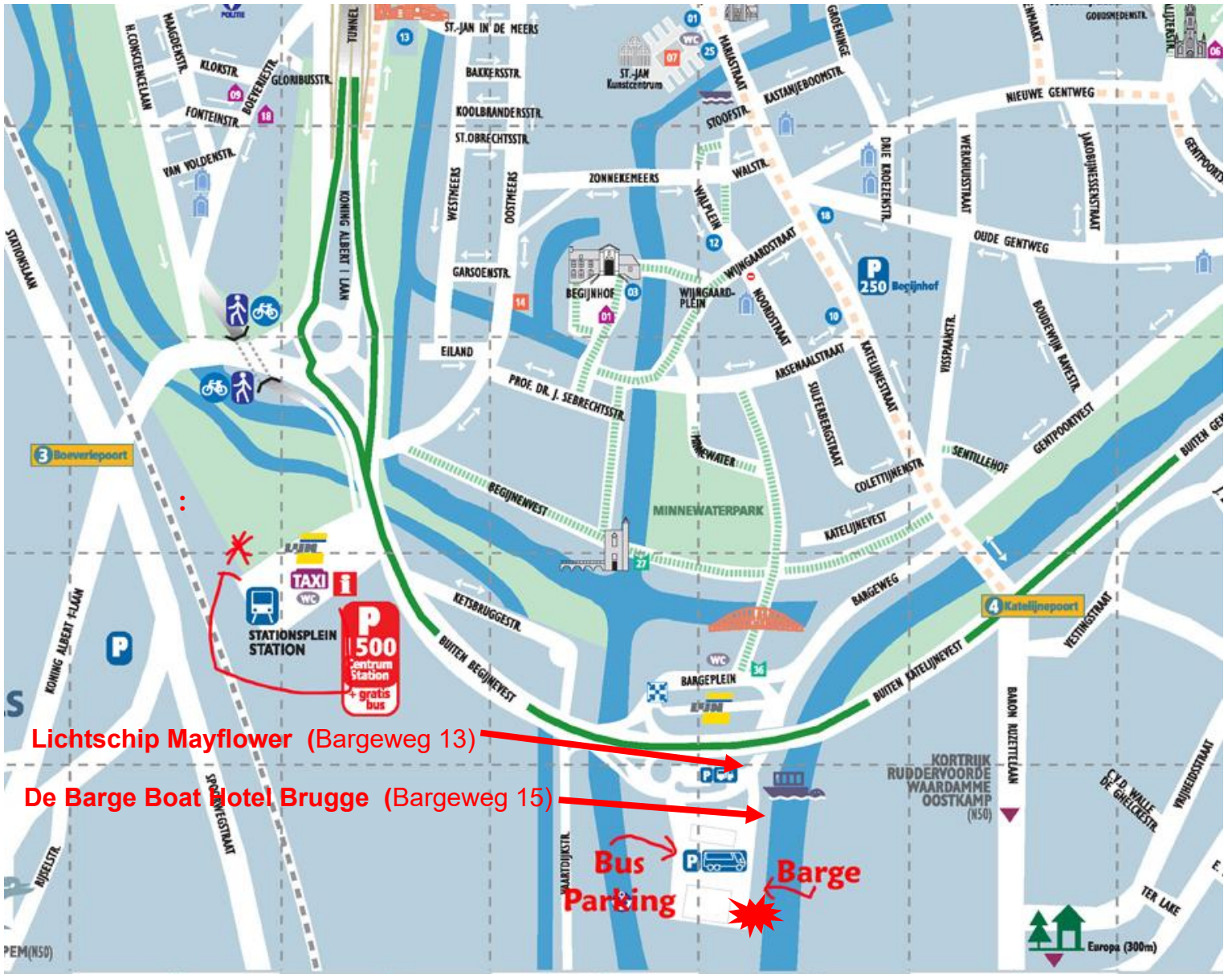
Last year, due to construction, the pickup location was on **Quai des Vicinaux** just **North of Bd Delwart** (R52).

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

Cheers

Mike

Location of the Barge (La Mer) in Bruges and its proximity to the Train Station.



IF YOU WANT TO WALK TO THE BARGE (From the Train Station) @ 900 yards or ½ mile walk.

