

# INFOFILE



## TRANSPORT

### TYPES OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT

The public transport network in Belgium consists of train, tram, metro and bus.

Buying a ticket before you get on is cheaper than buying one onboard. Not paying for your ticket results in a fine when you get caught! To avoid this, buy your ticket in advance or inform the conductor/driver that you still have to buy one, s/he will then print you a ticket and you will not be fined.

### TRANSPORT BY TRAIN

The train is mainly used for transport between cities. Brussels has 3 main train stations:

1. Brussel Zuid/Bruxelles-Midi
2. Brussel Centraal/Bruxelles-Centrale
3. Brussel Noord/Bruxelles-Nord.

These and all other railway stations are indicated by the NMBS-logo at the entrance:



- More information is available on the website of the Belgian Railroad company, called [NMBS](#).
- More information on the different types of tickets you can buy can be found [here](#).
- Besides the 3 main train stations, Brussels has a variety of smaller stations as well. The VUB campus of Etterbeek is located near the railway station '[ETTERBEEK](#)', close to the main campus entrance at building M.

### TRANSPORT BY TRAM, METRO AND BUS

#### Bus/Tram

There are three different companies that provide transport by bus in the Brussels area:

1. 'De Lijn' = provider for the Dutch-speaking part of Belgium
2. 'TEC' = provider for the French-speaking part of Belgium
3. 'STIB-MIVB' = provider for the bilingual region of Brussels

You will mainly use the STIB-MIVB in Brussels, but you will also see buses from the other two companies, as there is a lot of transport from the surrounding areas into the city.

### STIB-MIVB

All information is available on: [www.stib-mivb.be](http://www.stib-mivb.be).

STIB/MIVB also provides transport via tram or metro, your STIB-MIVB ticket is valid on their buses, trams and metros. In Brussels, all metros and trams are STIB-MIVB, and their buses look like this:



For information on the different kinds of tickets, [click here](#). Prices can vary depending on the length of your stay, your age, and where you live.

### De Lijn/TEC

It's important to know what the buses of 'De Lijn' and TEC look like, so that you don't confuse them with the buses of STIB-MIVB.



De Lijn



TEC

The average price of a ticket is 1,80 EUR if you buy it through the app. or the vending machine. Via a text message you will pay 2,15 EUR. With these tickets, you are allowed to travel for 1 hour (one way!). If you buy your ticket from the driver, it will cost 3,00 EUR. If you change bus/tram/metro WITHIN the STIB-MIVB company, then you don't need to buy a new ticket. The machine will then register you as 'transit'.

### Metro

All metro stations in Brussels can be recognised by the following logo at the entrance:



For the VUB campus Etterbeek, the nearest metro station is called 'Pétillon', on the 'Colruyt-side' of the campus. Brussels has 7 metro lines and each has its own colour. The Pétillon station is part of the yellow line (line 5). You can find a map of the whole network through [this link](#).

## Combinations

If you live in the suburbs of Brussels, you might well do a combination of different transport companies. In most cases, you can buy a long period subscription for this combination. Check the different websites of the different public transport companies. If you want to combine different transport providers within Brussels, you can buy a JUMP ticket, at the price of 2,10 Euro. The one-hour rule is also valid in this case. Note that JUMP tickets are only sold at specific places, so check the internet.

## TRANSPORT BY BIKE

If the weather is nice and you feel like cycling then you can hire a bike for a period ranging from 1 day to 7 days to one year, using Villo!. On the <http://en.villo.be/> website, you can find all the information on how Villo! works. There is an unmanned renting place in front of the railway station of Etterbeek. For one day the price is 1,60 EUR, and after the first half an hour, approximately 1,00 EUR is added for each half an hour. [Rates](#) can be found on the website. On the picture below, you can see what Villo! bikes look like:

Please note that you can only rent a Villo! bike with a bank card and when you are [registered](#) in the Villo! network.



villo! bikes

## TRANSPORT BY CAR

Brussels has lots of private car renting companies, but you can also use the car sharing system of Cambio. To make use of this, you need to register with a valid driver's license that's at least two years old. More information can be found on [this website](#).

You can also call a taxi, however this is by far the most expensive way of transport!

## FROM THE AIRPORT TO BRUSSELS

### Train

The airport train station is located below the terminal (basement level -1). Up to 4 trains an hour connect the airport to Brussels North, Brussels Central and Brussels Midi stations. Approximate travel times to Brussels Central: 17 minutes. A one-way ticket to Brussels Central costs 8,50 EUR.

### Bus

The bus station is located on level 0 – one floor down from the arrivals hall. Centrally located at the bus station are 3 platforms.

### *De Lijn*

Bus company De Lijn operates bus services to Brussels North railway station (lines 272 and 471), the Brussels metro station Roodebeek (lines 359 and 659) and also to Jette (line 820)

### *MIVB-STIB*

The Airport Line is a 30-minute express service between Brussels Airport and the European quarter. From Monday to Friday 8pm the Airport Line is operated as an express service with bus number 12

and only serves the major stops. On weekdays after 8pm and on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays, the Airport Line is operated as a regular service as bus number 21, serving all stops.

*All MIVB/STIB buses depart from platform C.*

To save time and money, buy your ticket from the GO ticket vending machines before boarding. These machines accept bank cards, credit cards and coins. Tickets bought from the driver are more expensive.

### **Taxi**

Taxis are permanently available in front of the arrivals hall. The fare from the airport to the city centre of Brussels is normally around 45,00 EUR. Licensed taxis can be recognised by the black and yellow emblem. Travellers are advised to avoid unlicensed taxis!