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*Tour:* **Bruges Christmas Markets**  
*Destination:* Bruges, Belgium  
*Specialisation:* Christmas Market Shopping Tours  
*Itinerary:* 3-days / 2-nights in destination

Christmas Market Tour - Burges, Belgium			
Day	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
1	Travel to Bruges, Belgium		VIE Welcome & Safety Meeting   Dinner
2	Tour of Bruges	Free Afternoon	Christmas Market
3	Canal Boat Trip	Depart for Calais, ferry to Dover; return transfer back to school	



**BRUGES**

Bruges, ‘Venice of the North’, is a small, picture-postcard city in northwest Belgium with its connection via the Baudouin Canal to the port of Zeebrugge giving it strategic importance. Indeed the network of picturesque canals are an important part of Bruges, intertwined with the cobbled streets which link the many squares. The city is remarkably unblemished by the ravages of 20<sup>th</sup> century war with numerous medieval towers, churches and immaculate houses enriching its bustling, cosmopolitan feel.

**BRUGES CHRISTMAS MARKET**

The festive season in Bruges includes the Bruges Christmas Market and Ice Rink. Stalls can found on the Market Square and on Simon Stevinplein.

**Specialists in Student Travel**

As with all sample itineraries, please be advised that this is an ‘example’ of a schedule and that the activities and hotels shown may be variable dependent upon dates, weather, special requests and other factors. Itineraries will be confirmed prior to travel.

## Day 1

### *Dinner*

Travel to Bruges, arriving at in the early afternoon/evening. Upon arrival, your Visions Ambassador will conduct an in-depth welcome, safety and orientation meeting, followed by an excellent dinner in the hotel.



## Sample Hotel - [Hotel Mercure Oostende](#)

Located close to the city centre in a quiet residential area. This 3 star hotel is the perfect base for Visions groups. All rooms are spacious and are complete with bathroom, satellite television and radio. On-site facilities include a bar-cafeteria, air-conditioned restaurant, television room. An extensive range of all-you-can-eat buffet is served to suit all appetites.

Tonight, Visions groups will enjoy a wonderful dinner at the hotel to kick off the start of our tour.

## Day 2

*Breakfast included; lunch and dinner on own*

**Good morning Bruges.** After a leisurely breakfast, we'll embark upon our tour of Bruges. Here you will find many wonderful shops and cafes.

Get ready to explore this small but beautiful city; enjoy wandering the attractive, narrow, cobbled, medieval streets as they intertwine with the calming canals; browse in bookshops, imbibe a Belgian beer in a back street bar or enter the tranquillity of a church away from the bustle of the boutique shops before bursting into the vast historic Markt Square, filled with pedestrians and cyclists in the shadow of the 12<sup>th</sup> century belfry tower.

Here you can visit various places such as:

**THE GROENINGE** - The Groeninge Museum offers a varied overview of the history of Belgian plastic arts. Although the Flemish Primitives are a high point, you will also marvel at top 18th and 19th-century neoclassical pieces, masterpieces from Flemish Expressionism and post-war modern art.

**THE CHOCOLATE WALKING GUIDE FOR BRUGES** – The city has created a walk along Bruges' most interesting chocolate related sites. Consult this chocolate walking guide as you walk among Bruges' most beautiful attractions and choose 2 out of the 12 chocolate shops to take a whiff, a taste or have a drink full of chocolate!

Then continue your tour with an informative visit to the Chocolate Museum, Choco-Story. If you are curious about the Bruges of today and yesterday and you are crazy about chocolate, this walk is made for you!

*This is how it works.....At the back of the guide you will find 3 tickets that can be torn out. Two of them can be exchanged in different chocolate shops mentioned in the guide. In exchange of the third ticket, you can enjoy a free visit at the Chocolate Museum, Choco-Story.*  
**Price : € 14**

Whichever option you choose we will all end up at the famous Bruges Christmas Market where you will find wonderful stalls and eating places.

Dinner will be on your own this evening.

### Day 3

*Breakfast included; lunch and dinner on own*

After breakfast we will load the coach and go into Bruges to pick up our boat trip along the canals of Bruges. From your boat you will be able to see the wonderful sights of Bruges.

**BRUGES BOAT TOUR** - Canal Boat Ride. See Bruges from a whole new perspective as you tour the city's waterways on a canal boat ride. Hop aboard your open-air boat and get ready to see the city from the water, giving you amazing views of landmarks that you simply can't get from anywhere else.



After our tour we will board the coach and make our way to Calais for the return ferry to Dover and on to school, taking the memories with us.

### **ADDITIONAL OPTIONS / ADD-ON DAYS**

Extra day: £40 per student

# Christmas Markets in Bruges

**Minimum Booking Numbers:**

30 students coach

**What's Included:**

Coach transportation  
2-nights accommodation (or more,  
dependent upon quote)  
Meals as indicated on the itinerary  
Full day excursion around Bruges  
Full Tour Representative Service  
24-hour emergency cover

**What's Not Included:**

Fully comprehensive insurance (mandatory)  
Cost of visas, full or collective passports  
Lunches & dinners on Days 2 & 3  
Additional Sightseeing / Entertainment Options  
Personal expenditures

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As always, our staff are always available to answer any questions you may have regarding programming. If we may serve you in any way, please do not hesitate to contact your Travel Advisor or our Offices at [info@visionsineducation.co.uk](mailto:info@visionsineducation.co.uk) / 01444 810399



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