



Study Tour in Flanders

6th and 7th December 2018

Well known for its picturesque cities such as Ghent and Bruges, the region of Flanders is also a forerunner regarding waste management. Among the reasons there are the work of OVAM (Public Waste Agency of Flanders) and the innovative measures implemented by cities such as the Food Waste prevention programme in Bruges.

Indeed, in 2003 Belgium had already met the EU 2020 recycling target (50% of Municipal Solid Waste). Within Belgium, Flanders is the most advanced in terms of Municipal Solid Waste with already 60% of recycling rate in 2000. But since recycling is not the highest target in the waste hierarchy, the region also initiated an ambitious waste prevention program: a PAYT (Pay As You Throw) scheme to reduce waste directly at the household level.

To better understand how Flanders achieved this successful waste management system, Zero Waste Europe invites you to a Study Tour in Flanders and Brussels. Developed with the objective to disseminate good practices around Europe, this Study Tour will take place on the 6th and 7th December. Visits and presentations will be in English.

PROGRAMME

Places and visits orders are subject to change due to last-minute arrangements.

Day 1 - Thursday, December 6th - Brussels

The region of Brussels - 1 205 309 inhabitants - is densely populated. Yet, many waste management initiatives are flourishing, i.e. community composting and reuse centres.

Morning

10.00 - 12:00: Visit of the [RecyK](#) reuse center in Anderlecht

Recy-K is the biggest reuse, repair and recycling platform in the Brussels region. Finished in 2016, the project benefited from the European FEDER grant to focus on social and circular economy. The 5000m² platform promotes circular economy through the training and employment of people in socio-professional reinsertion.

12:00 - 13:30: Lunch at la [Kantine du canal](#) (Fresh and organic food)

In partnership with Recy-K, la Kantine du canal serves everyday meals with local and organic food. From beers to cake, everything is fresh and will be served in reusable containers!

Afternoon

14:00 - 15:00: Presentations of:

- Bruges' Food Waste prevention strategy

The city of Bruges implemented an ambitious strategy to effectively reduce Food Waste. During our Study Tour you will have the chance to hear more about it from Karine de Batselier - Climate and Food Lab Coordinator who closely contributed to the project.

- The work of [WORMS](#) Asbl

Founded in 2008, WORMS is a Brussels based association which promotes the implementation of local community composting. Since its creation, results have been very encouraging with the number of local compost almost tripling between 2013 and 2016.

- The new EU waste legislation

As the EU recycling targets for 2020 should be met within 1 year, the EU already voted a new ambitious legislation for the next 10 years. Among the measures voted, the directive specifically emphasizes separate collection for bio waste and waste prevention.

15:00 - 16:30: Visit of community compost site in Brussels

Community composts are the results of the work of WORMS asbl. They accept organic waste from citizens living in the neighborhood and are managed by a volunteer master composter.

17:00 - 18:00: Coffee break at [Le Local](#): A Zero Waste restaurant

Le Local is a Zero Waste restaurant cooking with local and fresh food thus promoting a short supply chain. In that sense, it earned the Good Food label rewarding environmentally-friendly restaurant in Brussels.

Optional: 20-22: Dinner at the [Mary Pop-in store](#)

Night in Brussels

Day 2 - Friday, December 7th - Mechelen and Leuven

Morning

9:30 - 12:00: Presentation of the waste management system in Flanders by [OVAM](#) (Public Waste Agency of Flanders)

OVAM is the Public Waste Agency of Flanders. Its work as waste management organism greatly contributed to the development of good practices all around Flanders.

12:00 - 13:15: Lunch at OVAM office

Afternoon

14:00-16:00: Visit and presentation at the [EcoWerf](#) recycling center in Leuven.

As Flanders shows good results in terms of waste separate collection, the visit to EcoWerf recycling center is a good chance to discover how this collection works on a practical basis.

Back in Brussels at 17:00. End of the study tour.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Cost per person

Option 1: 350 € / person (Transport, accommodation and meals included)

Option 2: 150 € / person (Transport and meals included)

Accommodation includes 2 nights (December, 5th and 6th) in a hotel in Brussels.

Transport includes transport tickets and bus for visits on the 6th and the 7th.

Meals include lunch for the 6th and 7th.

Dinner for the 6th is optional and will cost around 35€.

Transport to and from Brussels, train and bus transfers are not included.

After your registration, you will receive a receipt for the payment of the tour depending on which option you chose. Note that your registration will only be confirmed once we have received the payment.

Coming to Brussels

By plane:

- Flight to Brussels Charleroi: 2 hours from/to Brussels by public transport
- Flight to Brussels Zaventem: 30 minutes from/to Brussels by public transport

By train or by bus:

- Bus/train to Brussels Nord station: Direct connection to Brussels center by public transport
- Bus/train to Brussels Midi station: Direct connection to Brussels center by public transport

Registration

Registration is open until the **20th of November**. Please note that places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

For any information request, please contact us by mail at : pierre@zerowasteurope.eu