

EUROPEAN JAZZ CONFERENCE 2024

HOW TO GET TO GHENT?



In this document, you'll find all the ways to swiftly reach Ghent from different places in Europe. However, we strongly advise you to take the train for environmental reasons!



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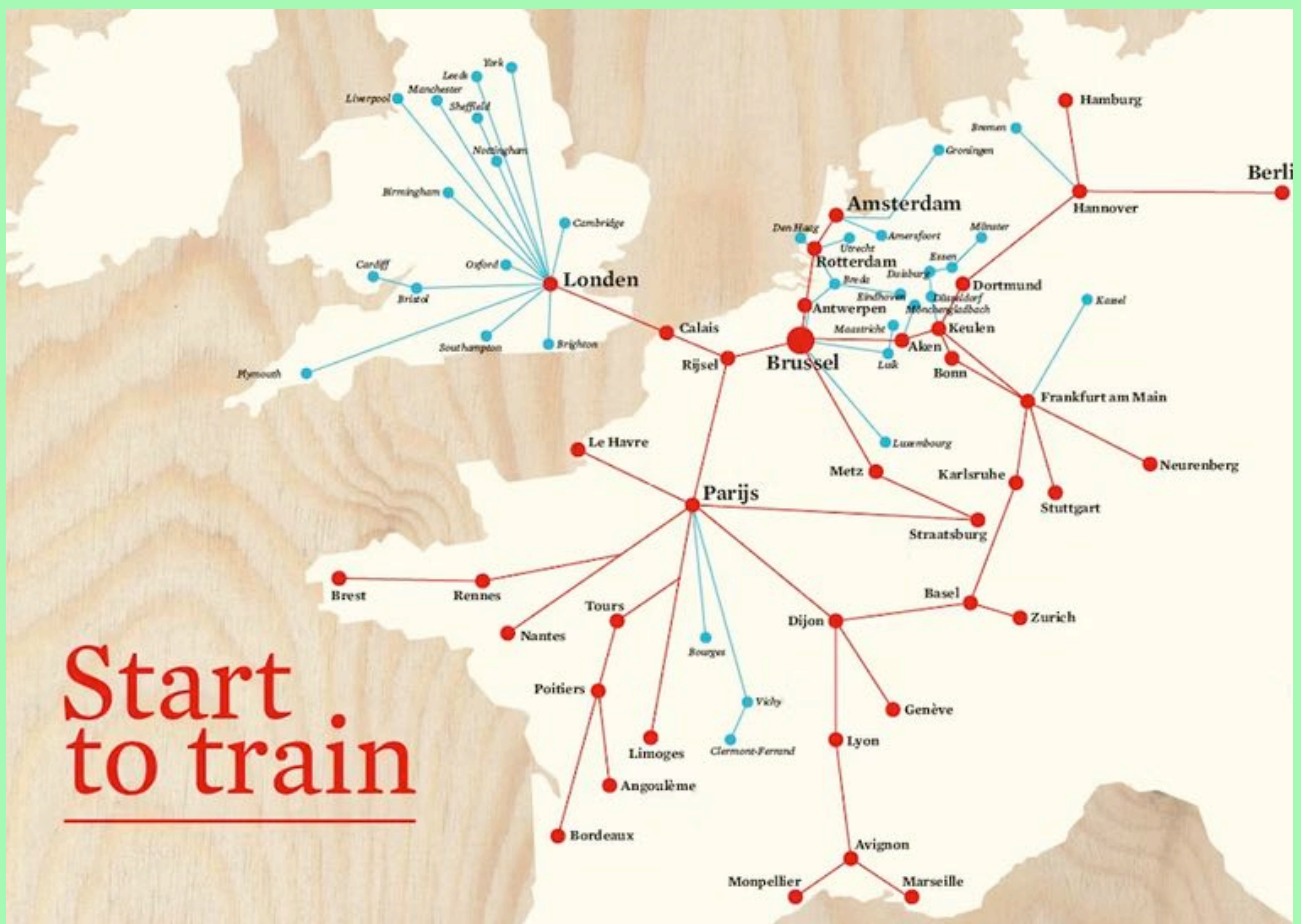
1. BY TRAIN

WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU TRAVEL BY TRAIN FOR ENVIRONMENTAL REASONS!

Ghent, nestled in the heart of Belgium, is exceptionally accessible by train, connecting seamlessly with neighbouring countries and major Belgian cities such as Brussels, the capital.

From the destinations shown on the map, Brussels can be reached by train **within 7 hours**.

The routes in red are high-speed trains. The routes in blue are regular trains.



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1.1 INTERNATIONAL TRAINS

GHENT IS EASILY ACCESSIBLE BY TRAIN FROM...

FRANCE: Paris offers direct connections to Brussels via Eurostar trains, with a travel time of approximately 2 hours and 40 minutes.

Ticket prices range from €50 to €100. From Brussels, you can then travel to Ghent within 30 minutes. [More info.](#)

THE NETHERLANDS: Trains from Amsterdam to Ghent take about 3 hours with 1 changeover in Antwerp Berchem Station, with ticket prices ranging from €31 to €90. [More info.](#)

GERMANY: Travellers from Germany can reach Ghent via connecting trains through Brussels. All train routes to Belgium pass through Cologne. A journey from Cologne typically takes around 3 hours, with ticket prices between €60 and €120. [More info.](#)

UK: From London St. Pancras Station, there is a direct train connection to Brussels-South Station. There you will find a train connecting to Ghent every 15 minutes. The journey takes around 3 hours. Ticket prices start from €70. [More info.](#)

[More info on international trains](#)

INTERRAIL

Europe provides a close partnership with the railway companies from 33 European countries.

This rail pass can be used and is recognized by all the railway companies involved. Travel on as many trains as you like from midnight to midnight on each of your travel days. Spread them out or use them back to back – it's up to you.

There is a pass of 5 days that you can use for travelling within 1 month, at the price of €283. For more information check [interrail passes](#) and the [the 5 day bestseller interrail passes](#).

TIP: Travellers under 27 and travellers over 60 enjoy discounted rates.

For a youth ticket you pay €239 and for a senior ticket you pay €255.



1.2 REGIONAL TRAINS

Once you've crossed the borders, you'll find yourself in either Brussels or Antwerp. Ghent is very accessible from these two cities by our offer of Intercity trains.

BRUSSELS: Ghent is just a short train ride away from Brussels, with services departing every 15 minutes from Brussels Central Station (called Brussels Central) and Brussels South Station (called Bruxelles-Midi or Brussel-Zuid or Brussels South). The journey takes around 30 minutes. A standard ticket costs €10,80.

ANTWERP: Antwerp offers frequent train services to Ghent, with a travel time of 40-50 minutes, with a standard ticket costing €11,40.

[More info on regional trains](#)

TIP: Travellers under 26 and travellers over 65 enjoy discounted rates!

Youth tickets are fixed at €7,50 while Senior tickets are fixed at €8,30.

2. BY PLANE

If you choose to fly to Belgium, the following airports allow the smoothest connection to Ghent Sint-Pieters:

2.1 ARRIVAL AT BRUSSELS AIRPORT

ZAVENTEM

Brussels Airport Zaventem is renowned for its accessibility across Europe. Situated at the continent's heart, it offers dozens of direct flights from major European cities every day, ensuring seamless travel.

Ghent central station - called Sint-Pieters - is easily accessible by train from Brussels Airport Zaventem, with trains leaving the airport every 15 minutes. A ticket costs €18,80, including an Airport Tax. Are you -26, you pay €14,10 for a Youth Ticket, including an Airport Tax.

[Further details and booking.](#)

2.2 ARRIVAL AT BRUSSELS SOUTH

CHARLEROI AIRPORT

The connection between Charleroi Airport and Ghent is provided by the Flibco airport shuttle service, which operates between the two locations. The journey typically takes around 1 hour and 45 minutes, with a fare ranging from €17,90 to €20.

[Further details and booking.](#)

2.3 ARRIVAL AT LILLE AIRPORT (FR)

If you take an airplane and land in Lille, France, you can still travel to Ghent via train. From there you can take the train to Ghent Sint-Pieters with a transfer in Kortrijk/Courtrai.

Important note:

There are 2 stations in Lille: Lille Europe and Lille Flandres. If you leave from Lille Europe you will have to buy an international ticket, which will take you to Brussels. From Lille Flandres you will be able to take a train to Ghent through Kortrijk/Courtrai.

[More information.](#)

3. BY INTERNATIONAL BUS

Ghent is an accessible city for all sorts of travel. The FlixBus services stop at Ghent Dampoort station. There you can take public transport to the city centre, where the conference is within walking distance.

The fastest routes to Ghent Dampoort are from The Netherlands and Paris, France.

These trips usually take about 3 hours. Certain connections with Germany like Cologne or Düsseldorf are also swift trips, which take approximately 4 hours. Flixbus also has services from London, those trips will take 7 hours.

[More info on international buses](#)



4. BY CAR

Are you feeling the urge to drive to Ghent? That's certainly possible. Ghent is centrally located within Flanders, Belgium. There are many connecting highways throughout Belgium to our bordering countries. If you're leaving from England, don't forget to buy a ticket for the ferry or Channel Tunnel train to Calais.

Important note: The Ghent Circulation Plan

The Circulation Plan prevents traffic from entering the city centre. Pedestrians, cyclists, buses and trams have more space and motorists who genuinely need to drive in the city are able to reach their destination more quickly.

The city is divided into seven sectors for the plan. Vehicles can travel between the various sectors using the ring road (R40).

Don't cross the multiple red lines street marks to go to another sector. They are camera guarded and cost you €55. The centre and centre car parks remain accessible to cars.

For more information check out [the mobility plan by the city of Ghent](#) or watch [this video](#).



5. UPON ARRIVAL IN GHENT

Once arrived at 'Ghent Sint-Pieters' station, the city centre is easily accessible by bus, tram, bike, taxi, Uber or a 30 minute walk!

You can take trams T1 and T3 at station Ghent-Sint-Pieters to reach the city centre quickly. A trip to the centre of Ghent takes about 15 minutes. Along the way, the tram stops near Muziekcentrum De Bijloke (stop 'Gent Bijlokehof') and in front of Ha Concerts (stop 'Kouter' - temporary terminal). These are the main venues of the conference. There are also many buses that go to Ghent Zuid, which is close to Bibliotheek De Krook (Library De Krook) where there is a pick-up point for city bicycles.

Once you've arrived in the city centre, everything is relatively closeby. Public transport is available, but (almost) every location is within walking or cycling distance.

Important note:

You can buy tickets for trams and/or buses at the vending machines just in front of Ghent-Sint-Pieters train station. (more info) It's also possible to pay in the tram or bus with a contactless card or payment app. It accepts Bancontact, Maestro, Visa, MasterCard and iDEAL. You can also send a text message to De Lijn, to number 4884, and receive your ticket through text message. A simple one-off journey costs €2,50.

More info on buses and trams provided bij De Lijn in Ghent

If you have luggage and are tired of walking and/or taking any more public transport, you can call an Uber for a fair price.

More info on Uber in Ghent

Still lost?

We advise you to use Moovit. This application will help you find the best route (public transport, walking, cycling...).

Download the Moovit app (available on Apple Store and Google Play) or use [their website](#) directly.

If you still have any questions left, you can reach us at registrations@europejazz.net

MORE INFO ON EJC 2024

