

# Cafe Bridge Weekend in Antwerp

## 11<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> September 2020

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**It is with great pleasure** that I invite you to join me this September on a bridge weekend in Antwerp. The main event is a Saturday afternoon café drive in the heart of one of Europe's great cities. We will also be welcomed at the The Boeckenberg Sports Club as well as The Riviera, Belgium's pre-eminent bridge club. There will be plenty of opportunity for sightseeing and relaxation.

The package which I have negotiated with Eurostar permits outward travel on either Thursday morning or Friday lunchtime, and return on either Sunday or Monday evening. All itinerary choices take in the café bridge and the Boeckenberg and Riviera visits. Non-bridge playing friends, spouses and partners are also welcome, and there is an abundance of things to see and do in Antwerp.

Please book by debit card using the electronic payment link at

<https://www.brianbridge.net/antwerp2020>

Indicative prices are shown at the bottom of this brochure, valid until my initial supply of Eurostar tickets is exhausted., so please consult either the online payment form to find the up-to-date price, or mail me directly with an enquiry at

[antwerpbridge2020@gmail.com](mailto:antwerpbridge2020@gmail.com)

I hope that many of you will be able to join in this event, and look forward to hearing any questions you may have.

### **About Antwerp - I didn't write this, but it's all true..**

Antwerp is a beautiful city in the north of Belgium. Full of fine buildings and with a rich history, it has been named in the world's top 10 of must-see destinations. It has the second largest harbour in Europe after Rotterdam. It has numerous architectural highlights, most of which date from the city's golden era in the 16th and the 17th century. While the destruction during the Second World War scarred the old town somewhat, there are still enough monuments to spend many days admiring them. Fine art is also on show at the house Peter Paul Rubens, who lived in Antwerp during the early 17th century, and at a fascinating museum of printing based in the old factory of the Platijn printing dynasty. There are numerous restaurants and cafés, situated in some of the most attractive surroundings in Europe.

### **Sinjorentocht Cafe Drive - Saturday**

Our main event is the Riviera club's annual Café Bridge Drive - the *Sinjorentocht* - in the centre of Antwerp starting early afternoon. Each pair will play at six or seven cafe/bars close together around the central plazas, with a free drinks voucher for every location. Play ends at about 6.30pm, and results are announced at 9pm. Although Dutch is the primary language, English is widely spoken and full English instructions are given.

### **Boeckenberg Bridge Club - Friday evening**

A popular, well provisioned local sports club with a large and thriving bridge programme. We are invited for dinner and bridge at their Friday Evening game. They are excellent hosts, and last year's inaugural visit was a great success.

### **Riviera Bridge Club - Sunday morning**

Belgium's largest and best-attended bridge club, based in an attractive clubhouse in the Ertbrugge area, and frequented by many of the nation's best players. We are invited for a Sunday morning duplicate and lunch. Warm welcome guaranteed.

### **Plaza Hotel - our main hotel**

Friendly and comfortable hotel in the same tree-lined avenue as the remains of the historic Royal Squeeze bridge club. Set in the diamond quarter of Antwerp. You can read more about it on the website (<http://www.plaza.be>).

### **Leopold Hotel - rooms available by request or if the Plaza is full**

Modern hotel facing the Stadspark - On the same road as the Plaza.

## **Trip itinerary**

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### **Thursday 10 Sep 2020**

- Relaxed trip, leaving on Eurostar from St. Pancras at 1258.

### **Friday 11 Sep 2020**

- Leave on Eurostar from St. Pancras at 1258.
- Arrive Antwerp Central Station at 1700 local time.
- Check into Plaza hotel
- Evening dinner and duplicate at Boeckenberg **or** a chance to explore the city.

### **Saturday 12 Sep 2020**

- Breakfast at the Plaza (0700 - 1100)
- Sinjorentocht café drive registration (before 1145)
- Café bridge (1300 - 1830)
- Evening: dinner in Antwerp, results of the Sinjorentocht.

### **Sunday 13 Sep 2020**

- Breakfast at the Plaza
- Duplicate and lunch at the Riviera Club **or** more time to explore
- Return to London on Eurostar, leave Brussels at either
  - 1756, arrive St. Pancras at 1915 UK time **or**
  - 2022, arrive St. Pancras at 2133 UK time

### **Monday 14 Sep 2020**

- Breakfast at the Plaza (0700 - 1100)
- Return to London on Eurostar, leave Brussels 1756, arrive St. Pancras at 1915 UK time.

**Please see next page for price list.**

# Prices

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**Consolidated price payable on booking (incl. Eurostar, Café Bridge registration, admin):**

- £165 - indicative only. Please ask or check at <https://www.brianbridge.net/antwerp2020>
- Return on Monday - £15 less
- Non bridge-player £25 less

**Standard premier upgrade on Eurostar:**

- £60 extra per person - Indicative only. Please ask or check as above.
- Suitable for groups of four who want a table to play bridge on the train.
- Includes a light meal with beverage.

**Plaza hotel room prices per night, payable on checkout, no advance payment required**

- Superior Single €109.00 or Twin/Double €119.00. €15 discount for 3-night stay.
- Deluxe and Junior suite rooms available, prices on inquiry.
- Prices are exclusive of €2.50 tourist tax per person.
- Hot and cold breakfast buffet is included.

**Optional events, payable in Antwerp:**

- Bridge dinner at the Boeckenberg: €30 approx including transport to & from The Plaza
- Sunday morning : €35 approx including transport to & from The Plaza

**Please see next page for booking form.**

# Booking Form

or book and pay online at [brianbridge.net/antwerp2019](http://brianbridge.net/antwerp2019)

Please complete and send to Victor Lesk, Flat 15, 27 Lancaster Gate, London W2 3LP, or email a scan or photo to [antwerpbridge2020@gmail.com](mailto:antwerpbridge2020@gmail.com)

Principal contact for this booking

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address (used to post tickets) \_\_\_\_\_

Partnership 1 - please write names, and circle which apply

Name 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Out: Thurs Fri Back: Sun-1756 Sun-2022 Mon Premier: Yes

Name 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Out: Thurs Fri Back: Sun-1756 Sun-2022 Mon Premier: Yes

Cafe bridge shorter walking route Yes No

Partnership 2 (if applicable)

Name 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Out: Thurs Fri Back: Sun-1756 Sun-2022 Mon Premier: Yes

Name 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Out: Thurs Fri Back: Sun-1756 Sun-2022 Mon Premier: Yes

Cafe bridge shorter walking route Yes No

Any not participating in Café bridge, use these lines

Name 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Out: Thurs Fri Back: Sun-1756 Sun-2022 Mon Premier: Yes

Name 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Out: Thurs Fri Back: Sun-1756 Sun-2022 Mon Premier: Yes

Amount to pay: £ \_\_\_\_\_

Payment method: Cheque enclosed\* BACS transfer\* Other: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to reserve the following rooms at the Plaza hotel

Room 1

Size: Superior Deluxe Junior suite Occupancy: Single Twin Double

Occupant name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Smoker(s): Yes No

Room 2 (if applicable)

Size: Superior Deluxe Junior suite Occupancy: Single Twin Double

Occupant name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Smoker(s): Yes No

Room 2 (if applicable)

Size: Superior Deluxe Junior suite Occupancy: Single Twin Double

Occupant name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Smoker(s): Yes No

Full refunds will be given for cancellations before 1 August 2020, afterwards on a case-by-case basis.

\*Please remit cheques to Victor Lesk

\*Please remit BACS transfers to:

Beneficiary: Victor Lesk Account: 3187 5426 Sort code: 40 05 19 Reference: <your surname>A20