

A cultural and touristic hotspot



6 must-see art cities

Antwerp • Bruges
Brussels • Mechelen
Ghent • Leuven



28 million overnight stays

- 23.3 million for leisure and holidays
- 4.8 million for business tourism
- accounting for 235,500 jobs (2023)



A contemporary culinary hotspot

with a rich tradition

A solid foreign network abroad at the service of Flanders and its partners



13 diplomatic representations, active in almost 30 areas of jurisdiction



83 economic representations in **66** countries

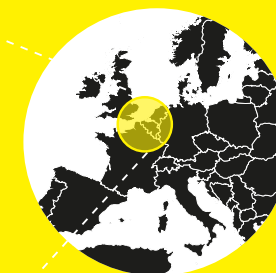


10 Science & Technology Offices



VISITFLANDERS active in **17** countries

FLANDERS IN A NUTSHELL



Flanders: logistics hub of Western Europe

- 60% of the European consumer market within a radius of 500 km
- 4 international airports



6.8 million inhabitants (58% of the Belgian population)



60% of the Belgian GDP



82% share of overall Belgian goods exports



€47,300 GDP per capita (2024)



Employment rate:
77% (2023)



45% of 25-64-year-olds is high-skilled (2023)



Population below the poverty threshold:
8%, among the lowest in the EU (2023)



Life expectancy:
81 years (M)
85 years (F) (2023)

For more information, please visit www.fdfa.be, www.flandersinvestmentandtrade.com, <https://www.visitflanders.com/en>, or contact the Flanders Chancellery and Foreign Office (foreign.affairs@flanders.eu)

Data provided by Statistics Flanders, www.vlaanderen.be/en/statistics-flanders

Strong
15th
position as goods
exporter



Chemistry
and pharma



Minerals, oil
and gas



Machinery
and electrical
equipment



Transport
equipment



**1 in 3
jobs**

in Flanders
depends
on exports

Record number of foreign
investment in Flanders:

€4.92 billion

(2023)

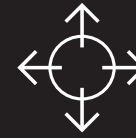
265
new
projects



4,596
new
jobs



Flanders: **institutional dimension**



Flanders is externally
competent for all
internal competences
(economy, trade,
education, culture, etc.)



Full
treaty-making
power



No hierarchy
between Flemish
and federal
legislation

Waterway network of **1,400 km** and **3 sea ports**



Port of Antwerp-Bruges, largest
petrochemical
cluster and second
largest port
in Europe



North Sea Port Ghent, one of
Europe's leading
biotech clusters



Port of Ostend,
major hub for
construction and
maintenance of
offshore wind farms
in the North Sea

11% renewable energy in gross final energy consumption



Solar energy
5,966 GWh



Wind energy
4,044 GWh

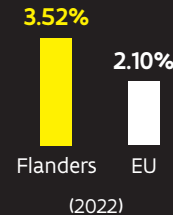


Bioenergy
2,418 GWh

(2023)

Flanders: **a knowledge region like no other**

**R&D
intensity**



**4 world-class
strategic research
centres**

Cleantech
(VITO)

Biotech
(VIB)

Micro-electronics
(Imec)

Productiontech
(Flanders Make)

**Excellent
higher education
and research**

KU Leuven

Ghent University

University of
Antwerp

Vrije Universiteit
Brussel

Hasselt University