

A cultural and touristic hotspot



6 must-see art cities

Antwerp • Bruges
Brussels • Mechelen
Ghent • Leuven



28.8 million overnight stays

- 23.2 million for leisure and holidays
- 5.6 million for business tourism (2025)
- accounting for 230,821 jobs (2024)



A contemporary culinary hotspot

with a rich tradition, and no fewer than 77 Michelin-star restaurants and 8,000 pubs

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



13 diplomatic representations, active in almost 30 areas of jurisdiction



+70 economic representations worldwide



11 Science & Technology Offices



VISITFLANDERS active in 18 countries

Flanders has a global informal network of **over 90 representatives** of 'Vlamingen in de Wereld'

For more information, please visit www.fdfa.be/en/fdfa-en,
<https://corporate.flandersinvestmentandtrade.com/en>, www.viiv.be/nl/about-viiv
Data provided by Statistics Flanders, www.vlaanderen.be/en/statistics-flanders

FLANDERS IN A NUTSHELL

A region of creators with a passion for knowledge and expertise



Flanders is the autonomous northern region of Belgium with Brussels as its capital



Flanders: the logistics hub of Western Europe

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



6.9 million inhabitants (58% of the Belgian population)



59.3% of the Belgian GDP (2025)



82% share of overall Belgian goods exports



€56,800 GDP per capita (2025)



Employment rate: 77% (2025)



48% of 25-64-year-olds is highly skilled (2025)



Population below the poverty threshold: 7.2%, among the lowest in the EU (2025)



Life expectancy: 81.4 years (M) 85.2 years (F) (2024)

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
investments in Flanders:
€3.79 billion
(2025)

285
new
projects



5,870
new
jobs



Waterway network of **1,400 km and 3 seaports**



**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

10.3% renewable energy
in gross final energy consumption



Solar energy
6,411 GWh



Wind energy
4,084 GWh



Bioenergy
2,027 GWh

(2024)

Flanders:
institutional dimension



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



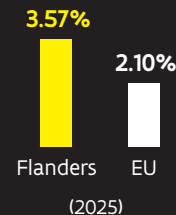
Full
treaty-making
power



No hierarchy
between Flemish
and federal
legislation

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

**R&D
intensity**



**4 world-class
strategic research
centres**

Cleantech
(VITO)

Biotech
(VIB)

Micro-electronics
(Imec)

Production tech
(Flanders Make)

**Excellent
higher education
and research**

KU Leuven

Ghent University

University of
Antwerp

Vrije Universiteit
Brussel

Hasselt University



Flanders is the heartland of
cycling and home to the iconic
Tour of Flanders

