

Food, glorious food: Brussels celebrates its place on the global gastronomic stage



The city of Brussels laid on a gourmet spread of local specialities when it hosted the 10th anniversary celebrations of international food network Délice. Representatives of 17 of the 23 member cities descended on Brussels for a three-day foodie extravaganza in February, based on the theme of gastronomy and good food.

BRUSSELS

THE TASTE OF A GREAT FOOD CITY

MEMBER OF DÉLICE NETWORK

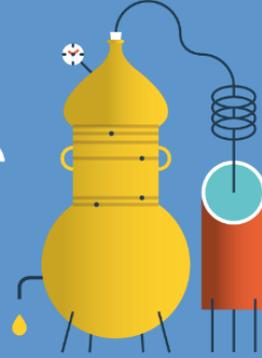


MUSSELS & FRENCH FRIES

The popular main dish originating from Belgium



WHAT TO TASTE ?



LAMBIC BEER

The only spontaneously fermented beer in the world



1500

Different Belgian beer brands



2000
Restaurants

18

Michelin
starred
restaurants



140

Belgian trucks participating to the largest food truck festival in the world

DID YOU KNOW ?



1912

The first chocolate praline was created by Jean Neuhaus in the heart of Brussels



560

Places where to try Belgian Fries in the city

ONLY IN... BRUSSELS



50/50

National cuisine and world cuisine are equally important

WHERE TO GO ?



THE TRAM EXPERIENCE

Get aboard for a gastronomic dinner whilst touring Brussels by night

FOOD EVENTS

BRUSSELS IN THE SKY
June → 5 days

EAT ! BRUSSELS,
DRINK ! BORDEAUX
September → 4 days

SEAFOOD EXPO
April → 3 days

visit.brussels
www.visit.brussels

be.be.brussels
www.be.brussels

BXL
www.bruxelles.be

DÉLICE

www.delice-network.com

Brussels has taken over the presidency of Délice, an international network of gourmet cities sharing the desire to promote their culinary excellence. Launched in Lyon in 2007, the aim of the network is to enable members to increase their knowledge of the ever-

evolving gastronomy sector, as well as sharing good practices and creating special partnerships.

Beyond traditional fare such as beer, chocolate and mussels, the EU capital showed off the best of its quirky and culinary concepts, including Dinner in the Sky and The Tram Experience. Michelin-starred chefs were among the Brussels-based restaurants and budding food entrepreneurs to welcome the gourmet guests.

At a final gathering at the town hall, city alderwoman for tourism and culture Karine Lalieux said: "Food and gastronomy play an integral role in a city's identity, constituting a really important means for driving economic and tourist development within urban centres."



The new president of Délice Olivier Marette added: "Most people don't know about Délice because it has been a B2B network, but now we are trying to build a collective intelligence. Gastronomy is a boost for the economy and the image of the tourism industry."

The various representatives were then treated to a lunch of Belgian specialties, including a selection of Belgian cheeses provided by city-centre cheese bar La Fruitière, a spread of vegetarian dips and dishes served by Uccle-based French chef Damien Bouchéry, bread rolls filled with Belgian favourites courtesy of Pistolet Original, and in a final sweet flourish, dessert was a choice of three floral-themed cakes by Anaïs Gaudemer of Cokoa. Brussels brewery Cantillon supplied the liquid refreshments.



Written by **Sarah Crew**

<http://www.xpats.com/food-glorious-food-brussels-celebrates-its-place-global-gastronomic-stage>