



*digital
humanities
Benelux* |  *Leuven
2024* (4-7 June)
<https://2024.dhbenelux.org/>

Food and Drink Highlights

Drink

As one of the guided tours on the social program states: Leuven is the place to beer. You'll find a pub on every street corner – and typically several in between – and the Oude Markt is known as the longest bar in Europe. So don't miss the opportunity to pull up a chair there, especially when it is "terrasjesweer" (i.e. warm enough to sit outside).

(A small fraction of) Belgians take great pride in beer rituals. Beer should always be served in the right glass (and there are as many glasses as there are beers). Even if you just want to stick to lager (like the unavoidable local Stella Artois), you'll have to make a choice between 25cl, 33cl or 50cl (mind you: only tourists order 50cl), and might get your pilsner served in a ribbed or a smooth glass, with or without a golden rim. If you order a Stella in some traditional pubs, you'll get served a 33cl if they clock you as a local, but a 25cl if you're from out of town. And if you're looking to start a bar fight, just loudly extol the superiority of Bavik or Cristal.

Here are some personal favourites of the organising committee if you want to venture beyond the Oude Markt:

Café Commerce (<http://cafecommerce.be/>), Herbert Hooverplein 16 (close to the MSI, where the workshops are organised, and the University Library).

Metafoor, Parijsstraat 14 (not far from the Irish College, which serves as the main conference venue).

If you feel like local beers accompanied by a jazz or blues soundtrack, go to **De Blauwe Kater** (<http://www.blauwekater.be/>), on the Vismarkt (Mechelsestraat 51).

Check out our map with food and
drink recommendations



Food

Leuven is a student town and the close to 200 nationalities working, studying and living here give the city an international flavour. This is reflected in the food offer. You can eat Thai, Italian, Lebanese, Indian, Japanese, American, Mexican, Korean, Spanish, Greek, Portuguese, ... at affordable prices.

Food places are all over town, but we recommend finding something in either Muntstraat or Tiensestraat if you do not want to stray too far from the MSI or the University Library (for instance on the days when lunch is self-catered, and the afternoon activity is at either of those two locations). Some of these are chains, but most serve good food quickly at student-friendly prices. The many options, which all offer good vegetarian meals as well, include:

also suited for larger groups

Balls&Glory (<https://ballsnglory.be/leuven/>), Tiensestraat 31: stuffed meatballs, a Flemish classic

Mykene (<https://www.mykene.be/>), Muntstraat 44: Belgian cuisine with lots of allergy-friendly options

Taj Mahal (<https://www.tajleuven.be/>), Muntstraat 10B: Indian

Bavet (<https://bavet.eu/nl/restaurants/leuven-tiensestraat/>), Tiensestraat 9: Belgian-style spaghetti

smaller places

Pasta Ruffo (<https://www.pastaruffo.be/>), Tiensestraat 48

Umamido (<https://www.umamido.be/locations-pages/umamido-leuven>), Tiensestraat 18: ramen

Thai House (<https://www.thaihouse.be>), Alfons Smetsplein 11

Palmyra (<https://www.palmyra-restaurant.com/>), Parijsstraat 49 or 84 : Syrian cuisine

Le Pain Quotidien (<https://www.lepainquotidien.com/be/nl/locations/Leuven/Parijsst/>), Parijsstraat 35

Bar Leuv (<https://barleuv.be/nl/>), Parijsstraat 6: brunch restaurant

a bit further, but still perfectly doable if you have a 1,5 h lunch break

De Werf (<https://www.dewerf-leuven.be/>), Hogeschoolplein 5: known for wraps, salads, chowders (served in a big bread bowl), food “door de bomma” (traditional Flemish cuisine)

Würst (<https://www.wurstdogs.be/>), Margarethaplein 1: fancy hot-dogs

ice cream

Decadenza Gelateria (<https://www.decadenza.be/>), Ladeuzeplein 4

't Galetje (<https://galetje.be/>), Tiensestraat 46