

# LEUVEN

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For the 2025 Conference of the International Network of Sport Anthropology we take inspiration from the city of Leuven as a vibrant city of sport, leisure, education, and recreation, both indoors and out. An accessible, modern university city with medieval roots, a short train ride from Brussels and Brussels-Zaventem airport, Leuven is home to the Stella Artois Brewery, Arenberg Castle, OH Leuven football club, and KU Leuven (the host of this year's conference). With several sections of medieval architecture still visible within the ring-road of the city, St. Peter's church, famous University Library Tower, Arenberg Castle, and gothic-style town hall to rival Brussels', there is much history to explore. Several trails just south of the city that run along the Dyle River offer great locations to run, stroll, cycle, bird watch, and even catch site of the resident beavers. As KU Leuven celebrates 600 years as a university, we gather to delve into the theme of moving 'Beyond Definitions' for this year's conference.



# LOGISTICS

## LOCATION OF THE CONFERENCE

Huis bethlehem (125-03)

00.08 Aula Wolfspoord

Schapenstraat 34

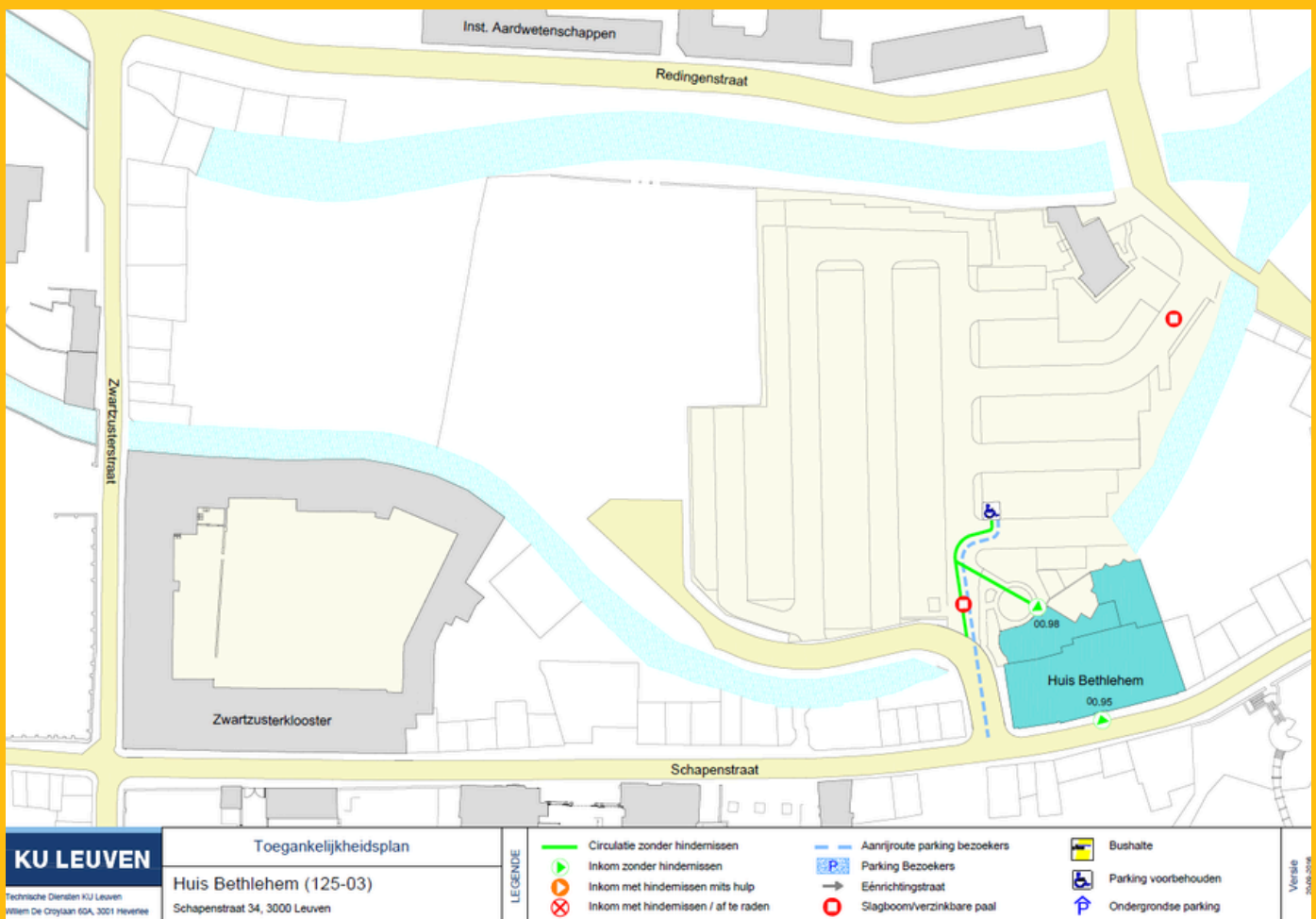
3000 Leuven



Find the walking route from the station [here](#)



Main entrance is at the back of the building accessed from Schapenstraat 34.



[Click here for more information on the venue](#)

# LOGISTICS

## HOTELS

There are many hotel options in Leuven. Below are a few on the cheaper side, which are also closer to the train station. The walk to the conference venue is approximately 15min. There are also regular buses that run through the city centre.

- [Ibis Budget Leuven Centrum](#)
- [Ibis Leuven Centrum](#)
- [Hotel Industrie](#)
- [Hotel Malon](#)
- [Theater Hotel](#)



# GETTING THERE

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## IF FLYING

From Brussels Zaventem Airport, you need to take the train directly to Leuven (+/- 20min.)

From Brussels South Charleroi Airport you need to

- (1) take a Flibco Bus to Brussels Midi Station (+/- 50min.)
- (2) take a train to Leuven Station (+/- 30min.)

## IF TAKING THE TRAIN

Brussels Midi Station (South/Zuid) is the closest large transfer hub to catch the train to Leuven.

Take the IC train directly to Leuven (+/- 30min)

There are several ways to bypass Brussels if you are arriving from elsewhere in Europe. Please consult local train guides (<https://www.belgiantrain.be/en>)



Pay close attention to take the train to Leuven and **NOT** Louvain-la-Neuve. These are two different cities.

## IF DRIVING

Be aware that driving within the city is difficult as most areas are accessed via the ring road. If you are driving down, there are several options for long-term parking.

# EXPLORE LEUVEN

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## RENTING A BIKE

Bike travel around the city is a great option. Fietspunt keeps an eye on parked bicycles and makes repairs. It is also a place where you can rent city bikes.

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ORGANIZERS

- UNIVERSITY LIBRARY & LIBRARY TOWER
- UNIVERSITY HALL
- TOWN HALL
- ST. PETER'S CHURCH
- BREWERY STELLA ARTOIS
- PARK ABBEY
- BOTANICAL GARDENS
- GREAT & SMALL BEGUINAGE
- OUDE MARKT
- ARENBERG CASTLE & PARK
- KEIZERSBERG ABBEY
- M LEUVEN (ART MUSEUM)
- MUSEUM OF ZOOLOGY
- KADOC
- HEVERLEEBOS & MEERDAALWOUD
- KAYAK TOURS OF THE DIJLE
- 'DE PLAS' IN ROTSELAAR FOR LAKE SWIMMING
- PLAQUE AND BUST OF GEORGES LEMAÎTRE, PIONEER OF THE BIG BANG THEORY, IN THE COURTYARD OF THE PREMONSTREITCOLLEGE

# EXPLORE LEUVEN

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## RECOMMENDATIONS

You'll find our recommended coffee bars, pubs, and restaurants on [this map](#) — along with the conference venue, all the sites mentioned in this document, as well as useful locations like hotels, hospitals, and police stations.

## SEE YOU IN LEUVEN!

We're delighted to welcome you to Leuven — a city with centuries of academic tradition. Whether you're strolling through its historic streets, enjoying its cafés and pubs, or exploring its rich cultural heritage, we hope you'll find inspiration both inside and outside the conference venue. We look forward to insightful discussions, new connections, and a memorable stay for all.

Welcome to Leuven!

