

TTW Europe

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Copenhagen
vibrant city
with great meeting facilities

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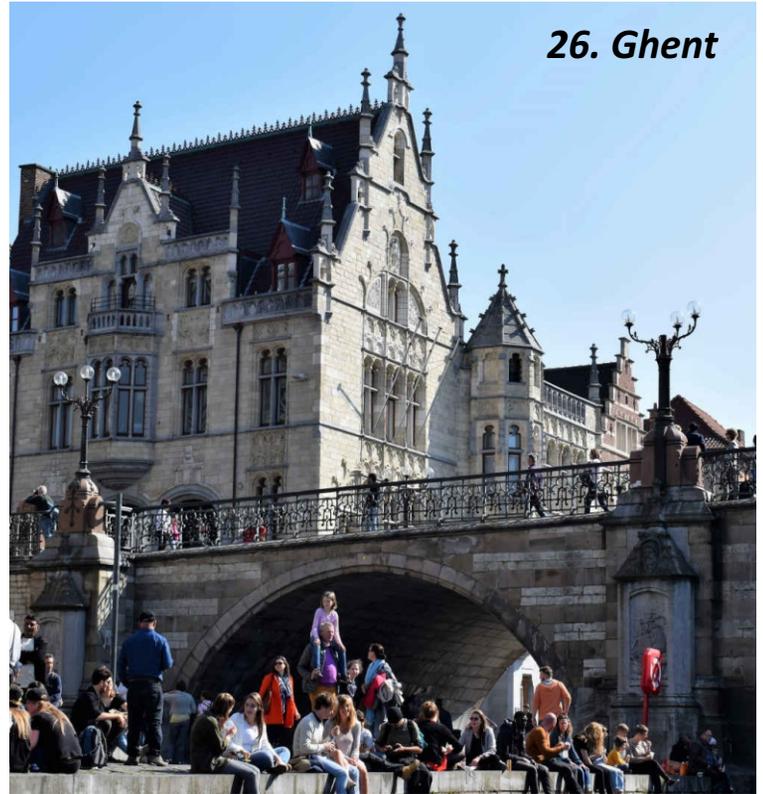
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Dear Readers,

The European tourism industry is bracing itself for a downward economic impact that could put most of the nations into recession as a result of ongoing spreading of COVID –19 crisis. On 12th April, Europe will celebrate Easter Sunday. Though there is a catastrophe happening, we are hopeful that lockdown will able to move further for a better life. Easter is all about finding a ray of hope amidst this harsh time. Read our Special feature to know about the different Easter markets in Europe.

Denmark is gradually looking to reopen after Easter holidays. If you are planning to host an event with all necessary safety measures, then Copenhagen will be a great choice. For this, we are highlighting Copenhagen in Meetings Point as a most important MICE-destination.

The Megalithic Temples of Malta are surely amazing architectural examples. Archeologists are still discovering the engineering techniques and scientists are trying to reconstruct the temples using modern mapping technologies. Yet a lot of mystery still surrounds. Read this Cover Story to uncover those mysteries.

Our Destination Diary covers Ghent, Belgium's less popular tourist attraction. The old city has charming muddle of alleyways rimmed by old-fashioned buildings with architectural designs, running along pretty canals. When you visit Bruges, definitely go to Ghent. A walking tour in the city will give you a chance to discover medieval Europe and its time.

Editor-In-Chief

Mr. Anup Kumar Keshan

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Special Feature

Europe's Extravagant Easter Markets



Easter or Resurrection Sunday is one of the largest celebrations held across different parts of Europe. It is that time of the year when Europeans come together to celebrate the rebirth of Christ and welcome the season of spring. The festival is usually celebrated by exchanging Easter eggs and other Easter goodies. As the trees bloom with pink and white flowers, the streets are adorned with bright and colourful decorations.

To welcome the festival and prepare for the celebrations, annual markets specifically designed for Easter are set up in different cities and towns. These markets mostly consist of traditional Easter items and cuisines and attract various tourists both locals and foreigners.

Unfortunately, with the COVID-19 pandemic spreading across Europe as well as the rest of the world, most of these markets will remain closed for the year. However, the festival of Easter is about finding a ray of hope amidst troubled times. Therefore, as the festival looms around the corner, we take a moment to cherish the Easter markets that has kept the spirit and tradition of Easter alive over the years. Read on to know about some of the best Easter markets and maybe even plan a visit for the forthcoming year:



Kraków, Poland



Poland's second largest city and historical capital, Krakow is also known for its traditional Easter market. The Easter market is set up in the city's main square, the Rynek Główny Central Square each year. The market begins 10-14 days prior to Easter, continues throughout the Holy Week and ends on the night of Easter Monday. The market features numerous stalls and shops that sell authentic Easter essentials and decorative handicrafts. Most of the stalls sell beautifully decorated Easter eggs. Here one can find the traditional Polish Easter egg called *Pisanki*. The age-old technique of *batik* printing (an Indonesian technique of wax-resist dyeing) Easter eggs is still in vogue in the market. The place is also decorated with lanterns and adorned with flowers to reflect the ideal Easter vibe as snow thaws and flower begins to bloom in Southern Poland. In addition, the market also hosts folk performances, live parades, Easter food exhibitions and fun contests attracting numerous tourists from across the globe.

Vienna, Austria



The Easter market in Vienna is organised every year in front of the iconic Schonbrunn Palace. The Old Viennese Easter market at Freyung is also home to Europe's biggest tower of Easter eggs that are built with 40,000 painted eggs. The market also hosts the Easter Festival featuring an all-day-long musical festival. Nearly 70 exhibitors arrange their stalls that sell customised Austrian Easter decorations, culinary delights and handiworks. A separate Easter bunny workshop is organised for little ones to make their own bunnies and Easter flower decorations. The kids can also take part in the Easter Nest Hunt. Meanwhile, the Kalvarienberg Festival allows visitors to test their creativity in various Easter workshops.

Prague, Czech Republic



Opened every day around the time of Easter each year, Prague's main Easter markets are held at Old Town Square and Wenceslas Square. Both the markets are just 5 minutes' walk away from one another. The markets mainly celebrate the arrival of spring in the country. The trees are adorned with charming pink blossoms and colourful decorations. Travellers and locals visit the country's capital in numbers to witness the brightly lit wooden huts selling local handcrafts like ornaments, glassware, ceramics, toys, embroidered lace and scented candles. The market has a wide variety of Easter eggs made out of wood or eggshells that are intricately designed and painted. It also allows guests to taste some signature Easter dishes of the region. The Prague Easter markets offer music and dance presentations too. Little children visit the market dressed up in traditional costumes and experience the fun and frolic that the venues offer.

Budapest, Hungary



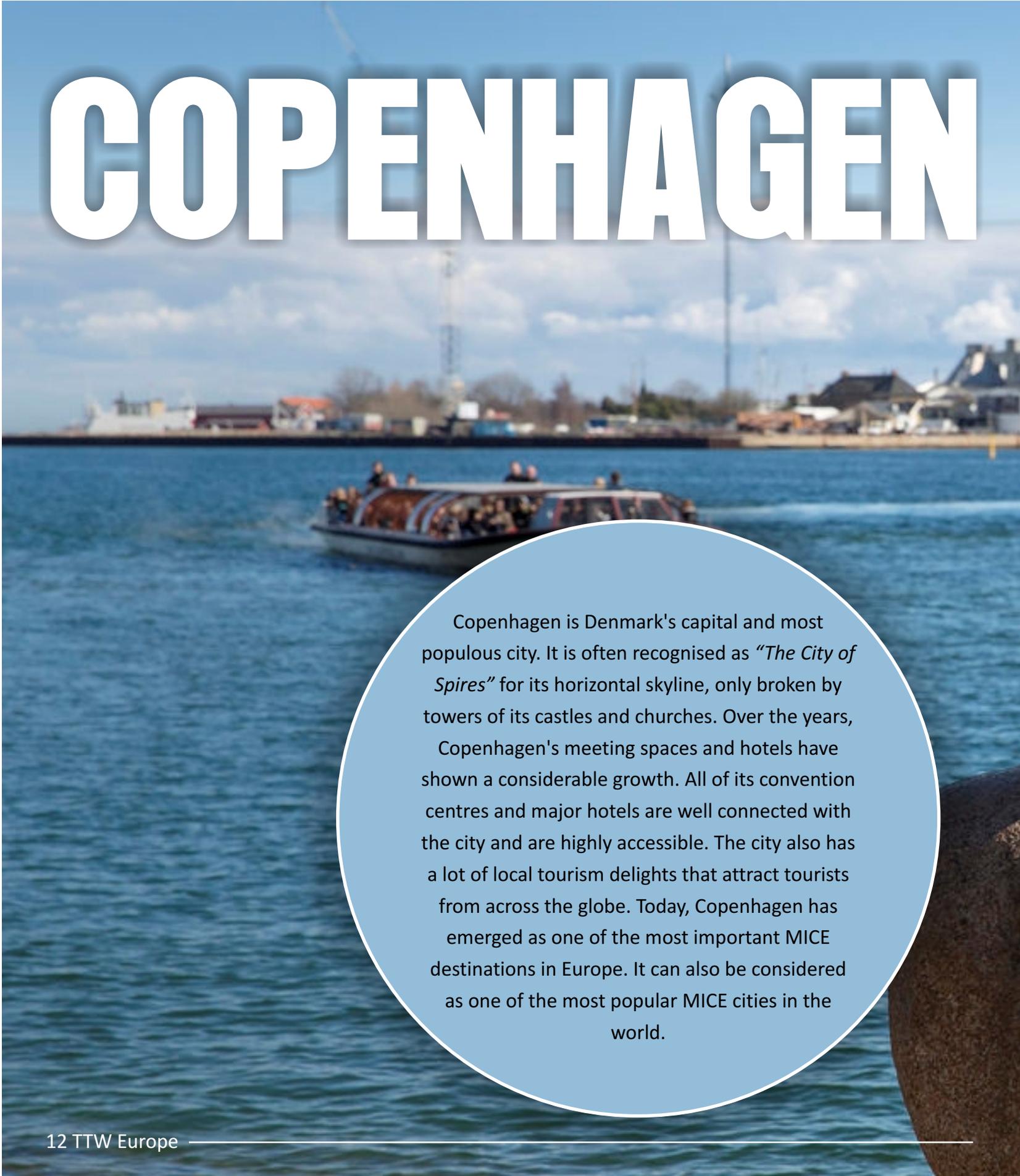
The Budapest Easter market opens at the Vorosmarty Square every year and features the grand Easter Fair. This market is the hub of colourful Easter crafts and small souvenirs of the region. The wooden huts and stall offer wooden handicrafts, handmade potteries, Easter baskets, porcelain flowers and Easter delicacies among others. The market also organises workshops and concerts. Traditional craftsmen present their skills through the live display of crafts and interactive programmes. Numerous guests flock to the market to marvel at the Easter essentials and witness the bygone folk traditions and classic crafts of the region. Visitors can also be a part of activities like beading, felting, crafting musical instruments and glass blowing at the fair.

Rostock, Germany

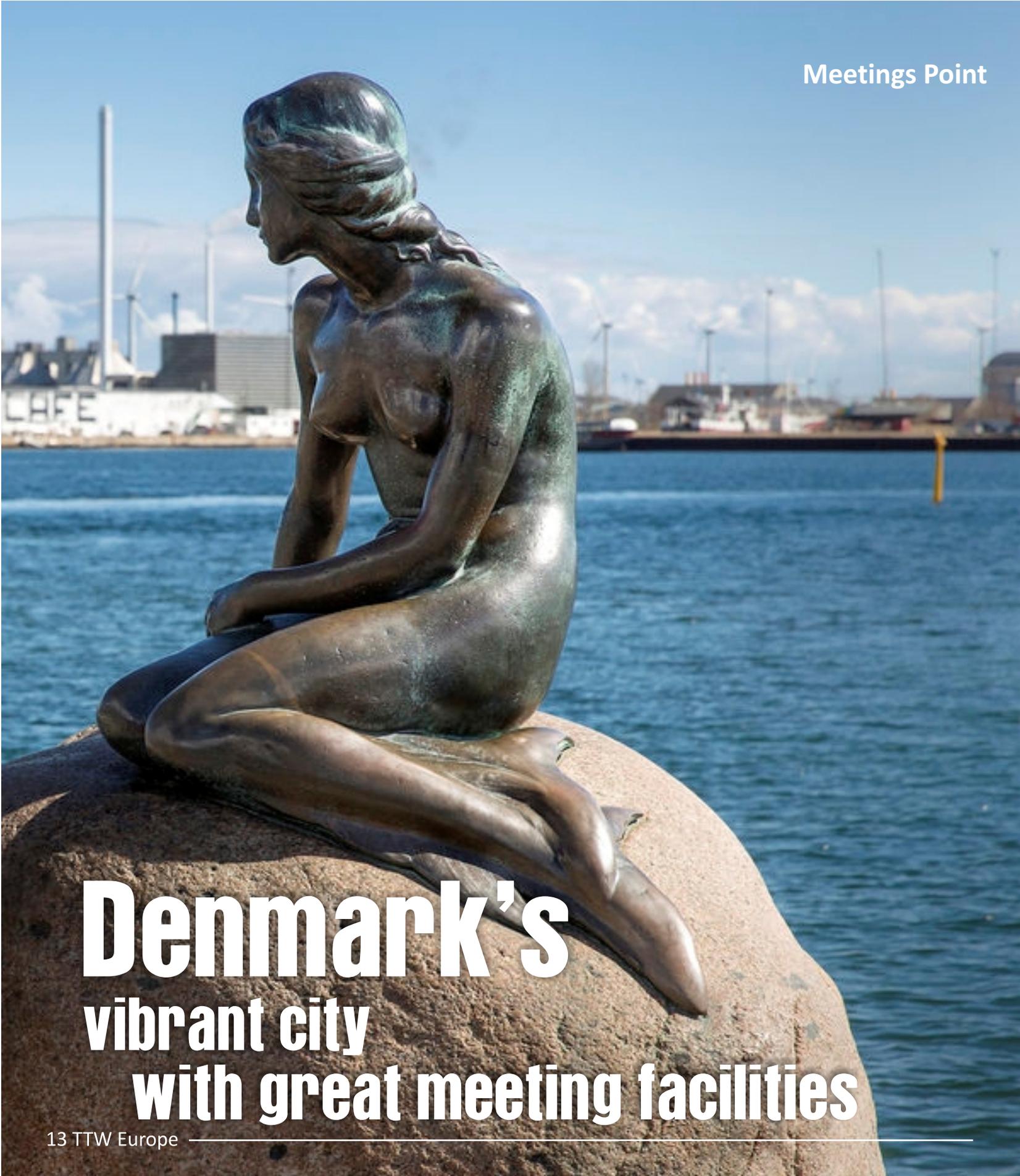


Located on the Baltic coast of Germany, “The City of Light” opens its doors to many visitors. Nearly 80 vendors from across the country display various crafts, Easter presents and signature culinary items for visitors to buy. The major attraction of the market is the largest Easter egg in the whole Hanseatic City that is open for visitors to paint, decorate and admire. The market also celebrates Family Day on Wednesday, allowing guests to buy Easter goodies of their choice at a much-discounted rate.

COPENHAGEN



Copenhagen is Denmark's capital and most populous city. It is often recognised as “*The City of Spires*” for its horizontal skyline, only broken by towers of its castles and churches. Over the years, Copenhagen's meeting spaces and hotels have shown a considerable growth. All of its convention centres and major hotels are well connected with the city and are highly accessible. The city also has a lot of local tourism delights that attract tourists from across the globe. Today, Copenhagen has emerged as one of the most important MICE destinations in Europe. It can also be considered as one of the most popular MICE cities in the world.



**Denmark's
vibrant city
with great meeting facilities**

The second largest exhibition and conference centre in Scandinavia, the Bella Center stands between the Copenhagen Airport and the city centre in Orestad. Established back in 1965, the centre has a total indoor area of 121,800 sq.m. and is capable of accommodating 20,000 visitors in a day. Bella Center is known for hosting major events like **Copenhagen International Fair**, the key event of Copenhagen Fashion Week and CODE – **Copenhagen Design Week**. It has also been home to the **2009 United Nations Climate Change Conference**. The convention centre comes with 63 flexible meeting rooms that can accommodate up to 400 people each. The Congress Hall can be divided into three different sections and can hold more than 4000 people. In addition, there are 4 auditoriums, a central hall and a shopping centre. As a part of the BC Hospitality Group – one of the biggest organisations in hotel, conference, exhibition and hospitality sector in Denmark– it is an ideal venue to organise conferences, congresses, conventions, exhibitions as well as private and personal events.

Bella Center Copenhagen



**COPENHAGEN'S TOP MEETING VENUES
AND BEST ACCOMMODATIONS**



Comwell Conference Center Copenhagen

Located centrally at the heart of the city, Comwell Conference Center is Denmark's largest meeting venue and conference space. It is situated near Copenhagen airport and just walking distance away from the metro station. The centre is well-built, fully-furnished and is an ideal modern-day convention venue. It includes 48 separate meeting rooms, all of which are equipped with contemporary technologies and offer state-of-the-art facilities. The centre can accommodate up to 4000 people and comes with an auditorium that can host more than 900 individuals. It also has a balcony and a large lobby with lounge areas, service centre, coffee stations as well as its own signature restaurant. In addition, there is a parking space that has room for parking around 3000 cars.

Crowne Plaza Copenhagen Towers

Considered to be the first hotel in Denmark to generate power from renewable sources, the Crowne Plaza Copenhagen Towers offers 366 rooms. Situated close to the city's best convention centres and easily accessible from the airport, it is one of the most convenient and pleasant venues for business and leisure purposes. The hotel also has 21 flexible meeting rooms and a ballroom, which can host up to 800 guests. It is ideal for organising conferences, meetings, social and private events.

Clarion Hotel Copenhagen Airport

Clarion Hotel is a first-class convention hotel situated next to the Copenhagen Airport. The hotel comes with 8 large meeting rooms, 22 small meeting rooms and 383 hotel rooms. It stands as an ideal place for business visitors to reside, relax and work simultaneously during their stay in the city. The meeting rooms are bright, vibrant and flexible with proper facilities to organise meetings and conferences. Each meeting room can accommodate nearly 500 guests. The hotel is also set to launch a new large conference space this year, which can hold more than 2000 people, 5 Cessna aircraft or 25 cars. It is deemed to be Northern Europe's largest airport conference centre.

Connectivity And Transportation

Copenhagen is well connected with the rest of the world through airways, railways and roadways. The city has a 24x7 functioning rapid metro rail service. Copenhagen is also one of the world's most bicycle-friendly cities and has numerous cycle tracks. The city also provides good ferry services to Oslo and Norway.



Things to do beyond work in Copenhagen

Copenhagen has a rich history known for its landmark destination, it has a lot of tourism delights to offer. Visit the **Rosenborg Castle** from 1600s to witness Copenhagen's royal history and catch a glimpse of the Scandinavian past. Take a look at **The Design Museum Denmark** to see some iconic Danish designs and work of art. Step inside the recognised **Tivoli Gardens**, the second oldest functioning amusement park in the world and enjoy the roller-coaster rides alongside a vast manicured garden. One can also visit this place at night to marvel at numerous twinkling lights that turn the venue to an enchanted fairytale. A comfortable 10-minutes walk from Tivoli takes you to the **National Museum of Denmark** and opens a gateway of Danish art, culture and history. Walk past the Nyhavn Harbour to see wooden ships, modern boats, multicoloured townhouses and some of Copenhagen's oldest houses. One can also taste some of the mouthwatering dishes at one of the seafood restaurants here. Less than 2 km from here stands the **Little Mermaid statue** in **Kastellet**, the emblem of the Danish capital. Finally, wind up your day after paying a visit to the **Stroget Shopping Mile**.



Cover Story

Stunning Megalithic Temples of

MALTA

One of the oldest free-standing structures on Earth



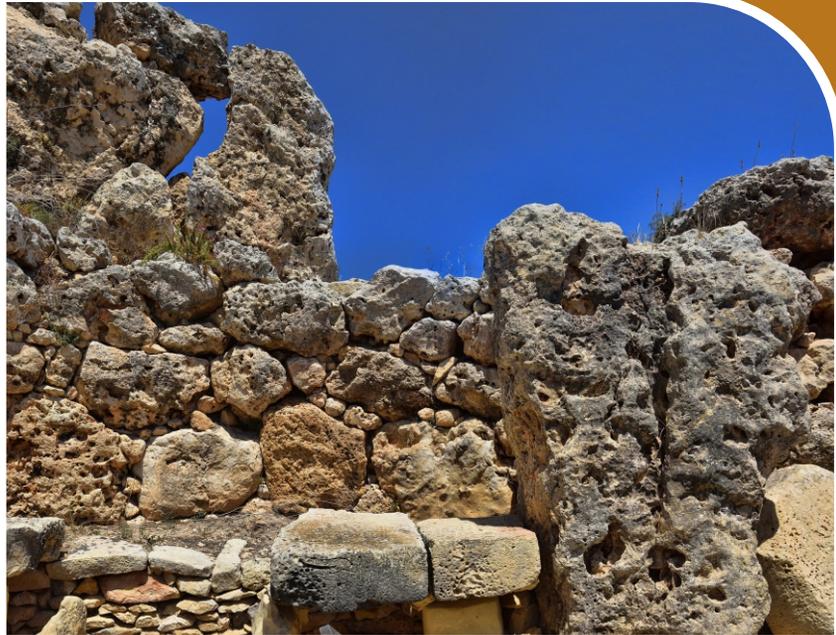
The remarkable Megalithic Temples of Malta are unique architectural masterpieces. Known for their diversity of form and decoration, the monumental buildings were constructed during 4th and the 3rd millennium BC.

Ġgantija, Ғaġar Qim, Mnajdra, Skorba, Ta' Ғaġrat and Tarxien are the monuments and each of them have a different plan and construction technique. One can enter these from an elliptical forecourt in front of a concave façade.

Orthostats or upright stone slabs are present in the façade and internal walls which are surmounted by horizontal blocks. There are corbelled roofs capped by horizontal beams and the external walls have larger blocks which tie the wall securely. The whole structure is bound by stones and soil.

Apses are the interiors of the buildings formed of semi-circular chambers and are symmetrically arranged on either side of the main axis. The temple builders availed the local stones, hard coralline limestone for the external walls and the softer globigerina limestone for interiors and decorated elements.

It shows high level of craftsmanship and there are decorated panels, drilled holes and bas-relief panels that depict spiral motifs, trees, plants and animals. One can sense a highly organised society from the form and layout of these buildings and the artifacts. The UNESCO has designated seven of the Megalithic Temples of Malta as the World Heritage Sites.



Ġgantija

There are two complete temples and one partially complete temple located within the same outer wall. Archaeologists believed that the temples were a dedication to the Great Mother Earth, the Goddess of Fertility. The round, curved architecture is believed to reflect the Great Mother Earth and the two completed shrines represent her body while the round rooms symbolise her womb.

Ta' Ħagrāt

There are ancient artifacts in the Major Temple and the Minor Temple. A number of ancient artifacts can be found like pottery and a scale model of the temples. The temples are thought to have been built in two separate time periods; the Major Temple around 3600-3200 BC and the Minor Temple around 3,300-3,000 BC. The presence of ceramic material at the sites reveals that the location was used both before and after the construction of the temples.



Skorba

It was built between 3600 and 3200 BC and replaced a village. The area around the Skorba Temples was inhabited during the early years of the Neolithic period. Among the findings, pottery, stone tools, wheat, lentil and barley were found.

Ħaġar Qim

Along with a temple there are three megalithic structures. The remains indicate that it was built between 3600 and 3200 BC. It is believed to be associated with fertility rituals and animal sacrifices. Obsese figures made of stone and clay can be found here and seem to be connected with fertility.

Mnajdra

The oldest structure here dates back to 3600-3200 BC. The main purpose of the temple artifact is not known but artifacts found inside the temple hint that they were used for religious ceremonies to heal illness and promote fertility. Flint knives, ropes, animal remains and stone tables have been found here.

Tarxien

These structures were built between 3600 and 2500 BC and were re-arranged between 2400 and 1500 BC. There are four separate structures here that form a complex. Animal cravings are found on the relief and altars which show that animals were sacrificed here, however this is not certain.

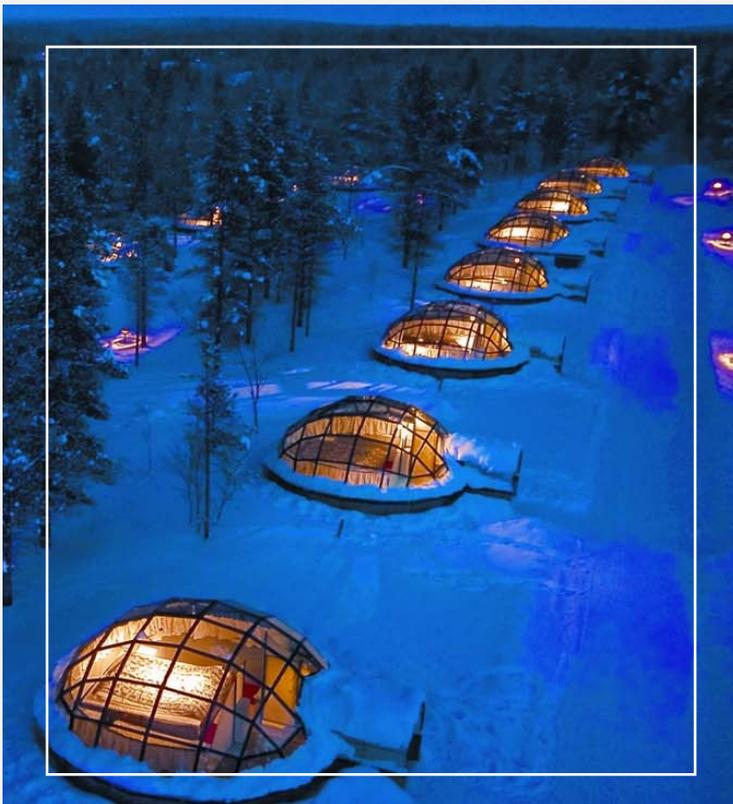




Protective structures are built over Mnajdra, Ғағар Qim and Tarxien to protect them from withering. Some of the lesser known are off limits to public and those listed above are open to the public on certain days of the week. In order to preserve the structures, there is limitation on how many individuals can enter the structures at one time.

United Nations named Finland as world's happiest country for the third time

For the third consecutive year, Finland has been named the world's happiest country. The annual United Nations World Happiness Report released its 2020 edition where Finland declared as the world's happiest country. As per the report the reasons for happiness is good social support networks, social trust, honest governments, safe environments and healthy lives. Four countries could claim the top spot since the first report in 2012- Denmark in 2012, 2013 and 2016, Switzerland in 2015, Norway in 2017 and Finland in 2018, 2019 and 2020.

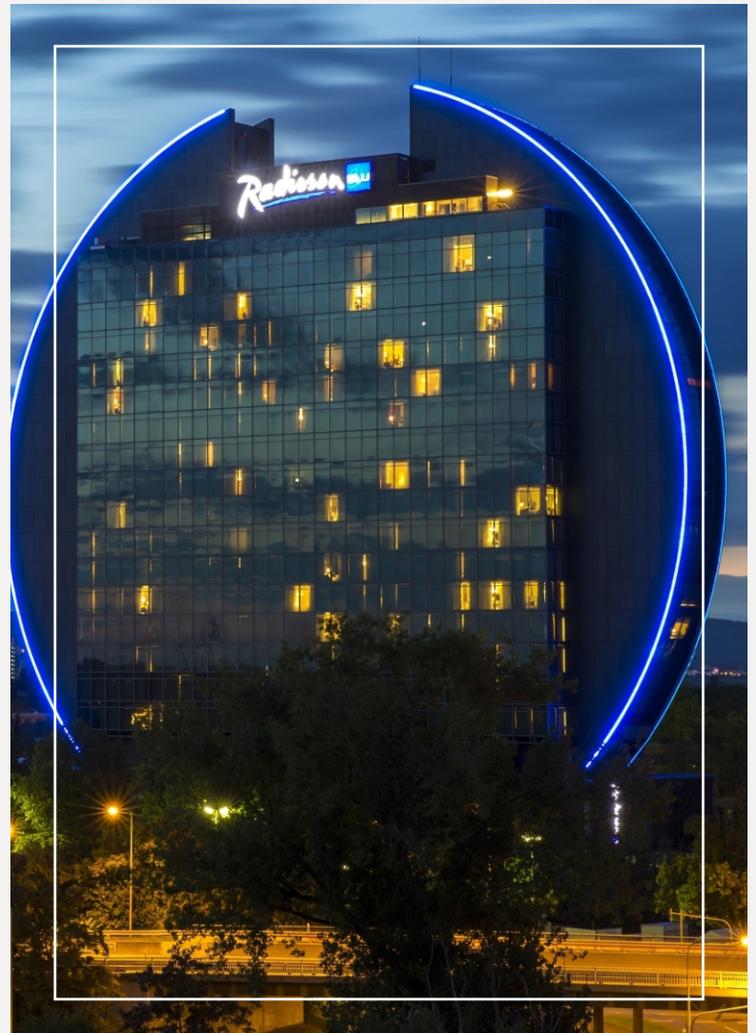


Longleat Safari Park opens with strict hygiene standards

Longleat has announced its drive-through safari park will be open for visitors from 20th March 2020. While Longleat House, walk through animal areas and other attractions are temporarily closed as a result of the Coronavirus (COVID-19), the world-famous Safari Park will continue to operate under strict hygiene standards.

60,000 flights saved annually due to current high-speed rail travel

Grant Shapps, the Transport Secretary said that HS1 is a true success story and they are fully committed to expanding international high-speed rail links between the U.K. and the rest of Europe as part of their work to be a truly Global Britain. The huge potential of high-speed rail is demonstrated in the new partnership to help the U.K. reach its net zero carbon emission target by 2050. Once the Eurostar's routes to Amsterdam and Rotterdam reach their full potential and all other international destination are added to the network passenger which could make up to 4.9 million more international train trips in a year.



Radisson Hotel Group opens its new hotel in Germany

Radisson Hotel Group has signed its first Radisson Red Hotel in Germany. In a central city location, the new Radisson Red Cologne will be located which is just a stone's throw from UNESCO World Heritage recognized Cologne Cathedral. A new building for the lifestyle brand of the Radisson Hotel Group with an existing listed hotel property is being redesigned and supplemented.

Destination Diary

GHENT



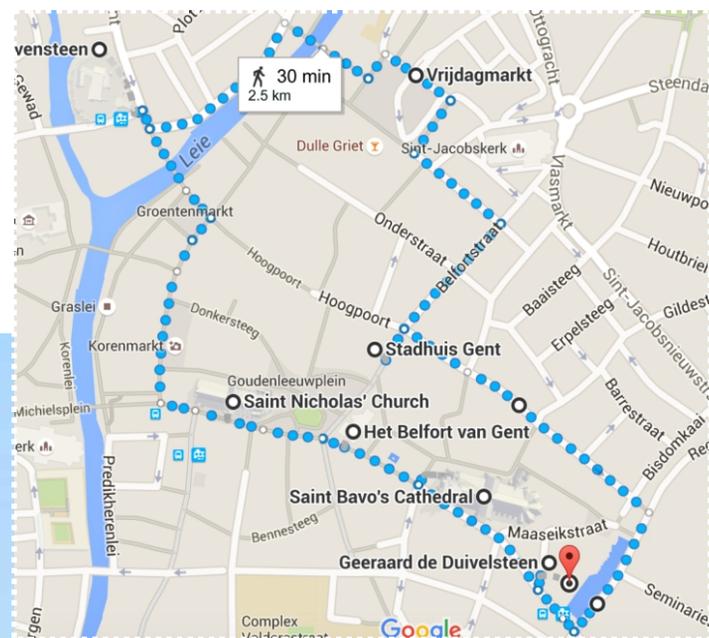
Experience Belgium's Cultural Diversity & Warm Hospitality

Belgium's most popular city, Ghent attracts tourists for its picturesque muddle of alleyways rimmed by quaint steeple-roofed buildings and running canals. While travelling here, you are definitely going to feel the essence of the medieval Europe.

26 TTW Europe

A Walk to Remember

This city is a medieval masterpiece with underground music scenes, cobble-stoned alleyways, cutting-edge architectural buildings and pioneering sustainable projects. You can get a chance to discover tourist delights between Brussels and Burges. A walk through the town area on a summer evening will create an amazing experience.



Discover city's best kept secret

Ghent is a perfect city blended with great art, food and Belgium's best kept secrets. Here the nightlife and food are the cynosures of the city. Take a look at some of the city's hidden gems, which you can discover during your city walk.

Cathedral of St. Bavo (Sint-Baafskathedraal)

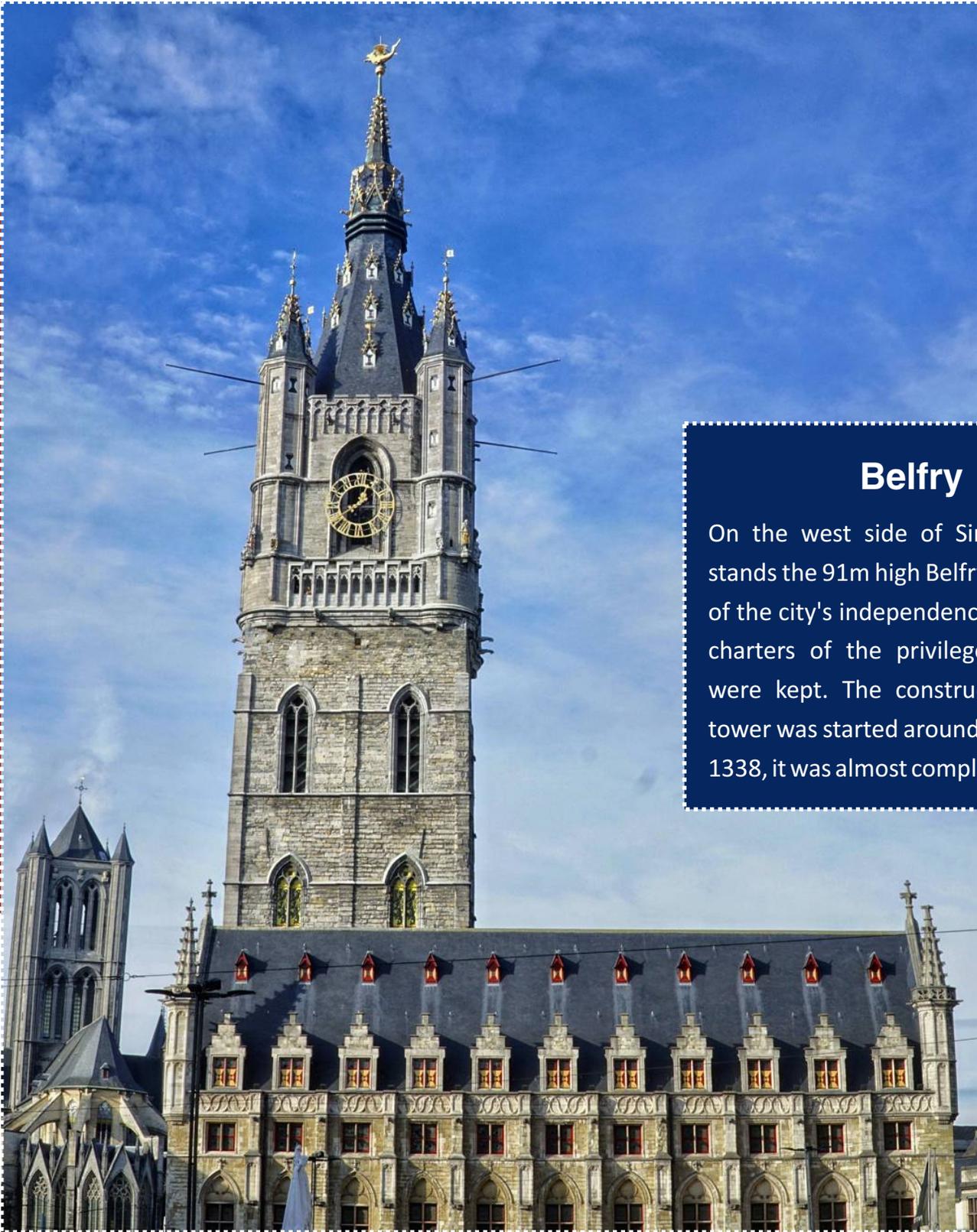
Located on the eastern side of Sint-Baafsplein, Cathedral of St. Bavo is a grand architectural delight made up of brick and granite with a Romanesque crypt of St. Jans Church. The medieval king Charles V gave the present name of this cathedral, after he destroyed the old Kirk to build a fortress to suppress the revolts against him.



Gravensteen

Gravensteen is one of the strongest moated fortresses in Western Europe, surrounded by the River Lieve. It was built between 1180 and 1200, ordered by Philip of Alsace, the former count of Flanders. It was created in the style of Syrian crusader castles.





Belfry

On the west side of Sint-Baafsplein stands the 91m high Belfry, the symbol of the city's independence, where the charters of the privileges of Ghent were kept. The construction of the tower was started around 1300 and by 1338, it was almost completed.

Graslei

Belgium's finest guild houses are along the Graslei Canal. This is an excellent place for anyone with more than a passing interest in architecture. Check out the adjoining Gildehuis der VrijeSchipppers (House of the Free Boatmen), built in 1531 in Brabant Gothic style, and Gildehuis der Graanmeters (House of the Grain Weighers).





Korenmarkt

Korenmarkt is a historic square. It is home to many of the old Guild Houses (Gildenhuis) positioned along the Leie River. This was once an important centre of trade, and today, it is a lively area known for its lovely architecture and numerous restaurants and cafés.



Saint Michael's Church and Sint-Michielsbrug

Saint Michael's Church is located on the western shore of the Leie River. This marvelous architecture is known for its absolute grandeur, a massive Gothic church constructed of Belgian sandstone. The pulpit, altar, and many other parts of the interior are in Neo-Gothic style. Other styles are evident as well, including an early 17th century Baroque confessional design.

Rouketopolemos

Europe Festivals

Rouketopolemos is the name of a local traditional event held annually at Easter in the town of Vrontados on the Greek island of Chios. As a variation of the Greek custom of throwing fireworks during the celebration of the service at midnight before Easter Sunday, two rival church congregations in the town perform a "rocket war" by firing tens of thousands of home-made rockets across town, with the objective of hitting the bell tower of the church on the other side.

Date

5-12 April, 2020

Place: Greece



Easter

Easter is an annual festival commemorating the rebirth of Jesus Christ from the dead, as described in the New Testament of Holy Bible, as having occurred on the third day after his burial following his crucifixion by the Romans at Calvary c. 30 AD. This is also known as the culmination of the Passion of Jesus, preceded by Lent, 40-day period of fasting, prayer, and self-punishment.

Date:
14 April, 2020
Place:
Throughout Europe





Date:
26 April- 2 May, 2020
Place:
Andalucia, Spain

Seville April Fair

It is probably one of the biggest and most important of the April festivals in Spain. This Seville April held each year in Seville, the capital city of Andalucia. As the festival is held during Easter week the actual festival dates can vary each year so it is always best to check before booking your holiday. The city of Seville comes alive with the sight of thousands local girls wearing colourful and stunning Flamenco dresses. In fact people come from all over Andalucia, Spain and further afield each year to witness and be part of this unforgettable Spanish tradition.

Cork Vegfest

Cork Vegfest is a celebration of vegan food, vegan friendly businesses and vegan culture. This festival also promotes lifestyle talks, music, cruelty free food products, exhibitors, info stalls, non-profits, film & lots more. Here you can just hang out eating great food, try natural ethical products, learn about plant based health benefits or enjoy a talk among a super friendly gathering.

Date:
27 April, 2020
Place:
Cork, Ireland



King's Day

This festival is also known as Koningsdag. This Dutch national holiday pays tribute to King Willem-Alexander on his birthday, a tradition that dates back to the late 19th century. On that day, the locals sport orange in honour of ruling family, the House of Orange-Nassau, and take to the streets—and the canals—for parades and celebrations as well as to snack on tompouce, a local pastry.

Date:
27 April, 2020
Place: Amsterdam,
Netherlands



Travel AND Tour™ WORLD



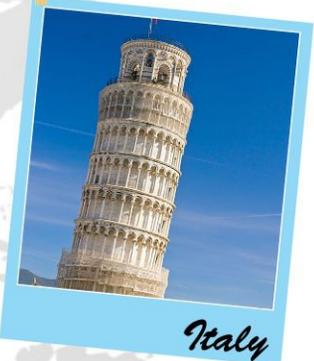
Paris



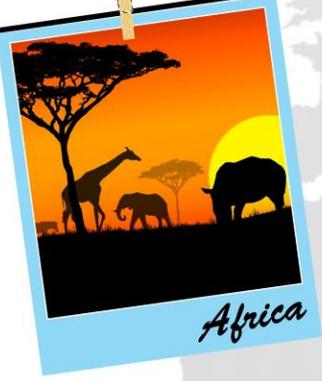
Egypt



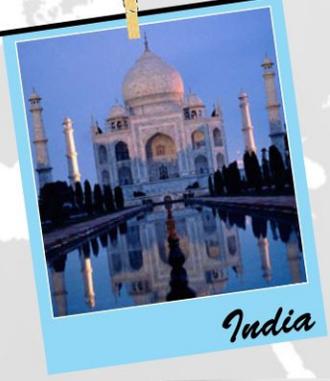
Brazil



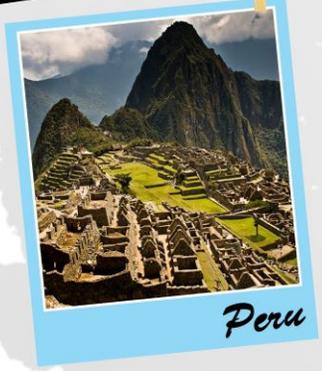
Italy



Africa



India



Peru



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