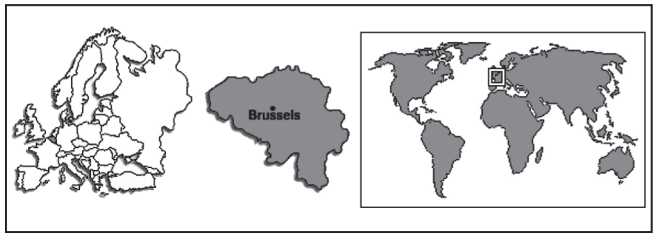
Belgium (BE)
Amounts shown are expressed in Euro (EUR)



0. General Information

- IATA Area : 2
- Capital : Brussels (BRU)
- Local Time : GMT + 1
- Daylight Saving Time : GMT + 2: Starts on the last Sunday in March and ends on the last Sunday in October.
- ☎ Country Code : + 32
- Local Currency : Euro (EUR)
- Bank Information : Closed on Saturday and Sunday.
- Public Holidays :

Date
01 Jan 2015
05 Apr 2015
06 Apr 2015
01 May 2015
14 May 2015
24 May 2015
25 May 2015
21 Jul 2015
15 Aug 2015
01 Nov 2015
25 Dec 2015
26 Dec 2015

- **Cargo Claims Information**
  The following Protocols / Conventions have been ratified:
  1. Warsaw Convention (1929)
  2. Hague Protocol (1955)
  3. Montreal Protocol MP4 (1975)
  4. Montreal Convention MC99 (1999)

  For further details, explanation and how to apply these Protocols / Conventions see paragraph 2.1.5. (General Rules) including list of countries.

- **E-freight and e-AWB status of airports**
  For e-freight and e-AWB implementation status of airports please refer to chapter 6.4.

- **E-Customs**
  Advance Electronic Information (AEI) requirements
  - Status: Live
  - System name: Import Control System (ICS) and Export Control System (ECS)
  - Pre-registration to file data: Required
  - Scope: Import, Export, Transit, Transhipment cargo Party responsible for filing: For imports, the incoming carrier.
  - For exports, when an Exit Summary Declaration (EXS) is required, the outgoing carrier.
  - Deadline - shorthaul (imports): For flights less than four hours,
  - the deadline is before take-off from foreign airport
  - Deadline - longhaul (imports): At least four hours prior to arrival
  - Deadline (exports): At least 30 minutes prior to departure
  - How to submit information: For imports, an Entry Summary Declaration (ENS) is sent electronically through the ICS. For exports, an AEI transmission of data for security risk assessment of cargo may be incorporated into the export declaration. If the security data has not been included in the export declaration, an exit AEI declaration (EXS) is required.
  - Further information: http://ec.europa.eu/ecip/

  Note:
  if data are not sent in advance, goods have to be declared immediately on arrival at the border, which can delay the customs clearance of consignments at the border pending the results of risk analysis for safety and security purposes.

  E-Customs information and Advance Electronic Information requirements are subject to change. Readers should check for the latest information available from relevant country authorities.

  For additional information on E-Customs and Advance Electronic Information, please refer to chapter 6.5.

- **Security**
  ACC3
  (EC Regulation 185/2010 on Cargo Security)

  Since February 1, 2012, all air carriers carrying cargo or mail from a non-EU country to the EU must be designated as an ‘’Air Cargo or Mail Carrier operating into the Union from a Third Country Airport” (ACC3) by an EU Member State. A list of exempted countries is relieved from this requirement.

  In order to obtain ACC3 designation, a carrier should
  - Ensure its security program integrates necessary EU security requirements for cargo and mail loaded onto its aircraft at any third country airport for carriage into the EU.
  - Nominate a person who has overall responsibility for implementation of cargo and mail security.
  - Submit a “Declaration of Commitments” to the appropriate EU Member State authority.

  ACC3 designation is to be obtained for every non-EU airport station from which the air carrier flies cargo and/or mail into the EU, unless an exemption applies.

  Carriers are responsible for ensuring all cargo or mail is screened or comes from a secure supply chain regulated agent (RA), known consignor (KC), account consignor (AC) before entering EU airspace.

  For designation as ACC3, carriers should contact the appropriate authority, as follows:
  - For EU carriers - the Member State that issued the AOC.
  - For non-EU carriers - the Member State listed in the Annex to Regulation 394/2011 (ETS).
  - For non-listed carriers - the Member State in which you have your major base of operations in the EU.

  By July 1, 2014, air carriers need to
  - Ensure that on-site airport station verification of cargo and mail security measures has been carried out by an EU aviation security validator.
  - Ensure that its business relations with regulated agents and known consignors are independently validated by an EU aviation security validator, after which a database should be maintained with details of the RA, KC and AC they are accepting cargo from.
    This regulation includes additional measures for High Risk Cargo, defined as cargo originating from a list of specific countries.

  On-site validations will take place either at each airport from which the air carrier flies cargo or mail to the EU, or, with conditions applied, at a representative number of airports from which the air carrier flies cargo or mail to the EU. Each successful security validation will require revalidation on a 5 year cycle.

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7.3. Import/Transit/Export Regulations

7.3.2. Countries Alphabetically Listed

1. Airport Information

1.1. Customs Airports

- **Antwerp - ANR**
  Tel.: +32 (0)3 285.65.00
  +32 (0)3 285 69.28 (Customs)
  Fax: +32 (0)3 285.65.01
  +32 (0)3 285 69.30 (Customs)
  E-mail: antwerp-airport@vlaanderen.be
  Website: www.antwerpairport.be
- **Brussels - BRU**
  Tel.: +32 (0)2 753.77.53
  +32 (0) 900 700.00
  +32 (0)2 578.93.30 (Customs)
  Fax: +32 (0)2 753.42.50
  +32 (0)2 753.41.22
  +32 (0)2 751.60.19 (Customs)
  E-mail: brucargo@brusselsairport.be
  Website: www.brusselsairport.be
  www.customs.fgov.be
- **Liege - LGG**
  Tel.: +32 (0) 4 234 84 11 (Liege Airport)
  +32 (0) 257 84 294 (Customs)
  Fax: +32 (0) 4 234 84 04 (Liege Airport)
  +32 (0) 257 98 226 (Customs)
  E-mail: info@liegeairport.com
  insp.bierset.grace-hollogne@minfin.fed.be (Customs)
  Website: www.theflexport.com
- **Oostende/Brugge - OST**
  Tel.: +32 (0)59 80.20.08
  +32 (0)59 55.14.02
  Fax: +32 (0)59 70.55.12
  +32 (0)59 50.31.08 (Customs)
  E-mail: pr@ost.aero
  marc.montens@minfin.fed.be (Customs)
  Website: www.ost.aero

1.2. Airport Facilities

1.2.1. Loading/Unloading equipment

Antwerp
Forklift.

Brussels
Main deckloaders up to 30T, lower deckloaders, pallettransporters, trailers 10ft and 20ft, conveyor belts.
Forklifts from 2,5T to 12T.
Crane rental in subcontracting possible.

Liege
Main deckloaders up to 52T, lower deckloaders, pallettransporters, motordollys, conveyor belts.
Forklifts, highloaders, cranes.
Equipment available to handle all type of aircrafts and trucks.

Oostende/Brugge
All equipment available to handle aircrafts and trucks; maindeckloader for freighter aircraft max. capacity 30 tons; heavy forklift capable of lifting 12,600 kg.

1.2.2. Storage

Antwerp
At the airport.
Cold storage: Not available.
Safe for valuables: Available.
Room for radio-active material: Not available.
Animal hostel: Non approved borderinspectionpost (BIP) for live animals and animal products - unloading prohibited.

Brussels
At the airport.
Customs Airport Warehouse. Time limit 30 days, thereafter goods are returned to shipper, sold or destroyed.
EU veterinary facilities:
Available and approval for live animals, animal products for human (HC) and for non-human consumption (NHC) - unloading allowed.
Perishable handling/inspection facility: Available - meat, fish, flowers, vegetables etc.
Live animal handling and/inspection: Available.
Horse stables: Available.
Cold storage: Available.
Deep - freeze: Available, limit to 10 m³.
Strong room for valuables: Available.
Bunker for RRY shipmentsl: Available.

Charleroi (Gosselies)
EU veterinary inspection facilities:
Available and approved for animal products for human consumption (HC) - unloading of these products allowed.

Liege
- EU approved veterinary inspection and phyto facilities: Available
  - HC
  - NHC
  - AVI
  - PER
- Handling & Storage for all temperature ranges, frozen products included.
- Dedicated horses handling facilities.
- Centralized perishable center available.
- Temperature controlled facilities available at all Ground handling Agents (Aviapartner, Lachs, Swissport).

Oostende/Brugge
Freight station: 6686 m² and 4050 m².
Cold storage: Available, 273 m² including 85 m² deepfreeze facilities.
EU veterinary inspection facilities:
Available and approved for registered horses and other nonungulate animals and for animal products for human consumption (HC) - unloading of those products allowed.

1.2.3. Clearance

Antwerp
At the airport by the consignee or his agent.

Brussels
At the airport by consignee, agent or broker.

Liege
- Customs clearance at each facility.
- Customs bonded.
- Fiscal representation available.

1.2.4. Customs hours

All airports
Shipments may be cleared by the consignee or his representative (agent).

Antwerp
Monday through Saturday 08.30 - 17.00 hrs. Clearance outside Customs hours possible after prior approval and against payment of overtime fee.

Brussels
Monday through Saturday 08.00 - 20.00 hrs.
Clearance outside Customs hours possible after prior approval. Items such as live animals, perishables, etc. can always be cleared.

Liege
Phyto, Veterinary, Customs services available 24/7.

Oostende/Brugge
24 hours daily, however on request between 24.00 - 06.00 hrs. local time.

1.2.5. Delivery

Liege
- Handlers and/or agents available 24/7.
- All major trucking companies available on site.

1.2.6. (Re)-Forwarding

Liege
- Freight Forwarders present 24/7.
- All major trucking companies available on site.

2. Import

2.1. General

2.1.1. Packing
No special packing requirements: IATA Rules and Recommendations apply.

2.1.2. Marking
Each shipment must bear name, address of shipper and consignee.

2.1.3. Routing
Live animals and animal products may only be routed by approved border inspection posts (BIP) as indicated, case by case, under 1.2.2.

2.1.4. Language on documents
Dutch, English, French or German.
Veterinary documents in general: Dutch, French or German.
Veterinary documents for dogs and cats: Dutch, French, German or English.

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2.1.5. Other requirements

- All goods must be cleared (Customs application) within 20 days after arrival. The period may be extended, if reasons for extension are acceptable to Customs. If no Customs application is presented, all duties and taxes will be debited to the holder of the goods. In order to avoid such burden, goods may be destroyed or returned to origin.
- Dutiable goods temporarily imported: Generally a deposit for the expected duties and/or taxes has to be paid. The deposit is not necessary, if the goods are covered by a CARNET ATA (Admission Temporaire/Temporary Admission) from the local Chamber of Commerce in the country of export or if a simplified temporary import procedure between Customs and consignee is agreed.
- Live animals and animal products must be submitted to veterinary checks (Decision of the Commission 2002/349/EC) as soon as possible after unloading - arrival must be notified to the veterinarians at least 24 hours before.

2.2. Documentary Requirements

2.2.1. Commercial consignments

Normal Import

- 3 Commercial Invoices. The Commercial Invoices must contain detailed description of goods, quality or grade, unit price and total value, statement whether term of sale is CIF, FOB, etc.,
- Import licence for live vertebrate animals and bees and products not intended for human consumption (NHC) - application at veterinary services (e-mail : import.export@favv.be), information veterinary office at the airport.
- Certificate of Origin required in certain cases; obligatory for the following commodities, irrespective of their origin and value: fertilizers; hosiery and knitted articles; clothing, accessories thereof and other textile made articles; umbrellas; dish-washers; washing machines (electrically powered); sewing machines; household articles fitted with an electric motor; water heaters; radio receivers and television sets (even when combined with a sound recording device); loudspeaker systems; X-ray equipment and other electrical equipment for medical use; electrical/ electronic measuring instruments; toys.
  For goods carried from an EU country, the form of Certificate of Origin must be as defined in the relevant EU Rules.

2.2.2. Sample consignments

Normal Import

- Without commercial value: 2 Pro Forma Invoices. Import Licence if the article falls under the restricted categories as animal products (HC and NHC): import licence see 2.2.1. Animals are not allowed as “sample” and are subjected to the complete veterinary procedure.
- With commercial value: see 2.2.1.

For dutiable samples temporarily imported: see 2.1.5.

2.2.3. Gift consignments

2 Customs Declarations.
Restricted categories: animals and animal products (HC + NHC): see 2.2.2. and 2.2.4.

2.2.4. Unaccompanied baggage

No special requirements. List of Contents recommended.
Animals are always submitted to veterinary checks, except pet animals (dogs, cats, small rodents, birds) accompanied by their owner during the journey.
Animal products in baggage are strictly ruled-information at the airport authorithies.

2.2.5. Other consignments

No special requirements.

2.3. Restrictions

Importation of live animals, and perishables from non-EU (European Union) countries

Animals imported for commercial purposes and unaccompanied pet animals, meat and meat products of cattle, cloven-hoofed wild animals, game, goats, horses, pigs, poultry, rabbits, sheep and wild solipeds, eggs and egg products, embryos, fishery products, frog legs, hatching eggs, honey, milk products, molluscs, snails, hunting trophies, petfood and other animal products not intended for human consumption (NHC) are subjected to veterinary inspection when entering the EU.
Shipments must enter the EU via registered airports of entry where inspection posts and facilities exist. The inspections to be performed are subject to a charge. The exact amount may be retrieved from the respective veterinary office. Shipments are subject to the following 3 checks: documentary, identity and physical.
Airlines must notify the inspection posts of arrival details so that specific inspection teams for live animals and perishables are positioned at the inspection posts.

2.3.2. Live animals

General

All vertebrate animals and bees are subjected to an import licence, application to be introduced in written and prior to shipment (at least one week) at the veterinary services. All vertebrate animals and bees must be accompanied by a health certificate as prescribed by the EU-legislation (harmonised species) marked with * hereafter, or as attached to the import licence (non-harmonised species).
The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild fauna and flora (CITES) is enforced by Belgian law.
Animals must always be healthy and fit to travel before shipment.
Animals must always be transported with respect of their welfare.

Additional information:

Birds, except poultry:*

subjected to quarantaine measures after arrival. List of third countries allowed to send these species applicable.

Poultry and hatching eggs:*

list of third countries allowed applicable

Ratites and hatching eggs:*

list of third countries allowed applicable

Live fish and aquatic invertebrates:

- distinction is made between ornamental animals, animals for reproduction or fattening* and animals for human consumption*. Ornamental species: all countries allowed.

Horses and equidae (donkeys, zebras, ...):*

list of third countries allowed applicable, some countries can only send registered horses; the health requirements are harmonised within EU and applicable to any category of equidae (sport, breeding, slaughter, circus, “pet animal”, ...).

Cloven hoofed animals:

- list third countries allowed applicable.
- health requirements apply to domesticated* and non-domesticated species (artiodactylae) and includes also camelidae and wild boar.
- generally not allowed from Africa, Asia, South America (except ovines from Chili) for animal health reasons (foot and mouth disease, ...).

Dogs and cats:

- rabies vaccination required, vaccination must have taken place at least 30 days and at most 12 months before arrival.
- dogs and cats imported for commercial purposes must be identified by lisible microchip - transponder (ISO-standard chip) before shipment to Belgium.

Apes (simiae and prosimiae):

- import only allowed for approved institutes, establishments and organisms and for captive bred animals, unless explicite licence for specific purpose
- import not allowed as pets or for the trade in pets, or animals captured in the wild, unless specific licence in special situations.

Reptiles and amphibians:

- no third country list applicable
- duly protective packages necessary

Mammals (in general):

Belgian law prohibits to keep and therefore import of mammals (all kinds) which are not included in the so called positive list. This positive list contains however all domesticated mammals.

2.3.3. Plants and plant material

Health Certificate, except for: Bulbs, cut flowers, fresh cherries from France, Germany, Italy, Hungary, or Spain, peeled almonds, nuts and similar fruit.
Woody plants and parts thereof: Vine-pest Certificate.
The Health Certificate should also state that the country of origin is free from San José louse, name of shipper, name of consignee in Belgium, nursery where the products were grown, botanical name and number of plants.
Prohibited: Vines and their shoots and resiniferous buds.
Fruits and vegetables: Tomatoes, plums, cherries (originating from France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Spain): Sanitary inspection.
Cherries from other countries: Health Certificate.
Certificate should also state that the fruits are free of worms.

2.3.4. Arms, ammunition and explosives

Arms, ammunition, material and vehicles of war and their spare parts as well as powder, explosive and strategic material: Special Permit from Administration de l’Aéronautique.

2.3.5. Narcotics and drugs

Narcotics (such as opium, morphine, cocaine) and antibiotics: Special Permit from Ministry of Health.

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2.3.6. Human remains
Mortuary Permit issued by the competent authorities of one of the following countries. Austria, Czech Republic, Egypt, France, Germany, Italy, Liechtenstein, Mexico and Switzerland or Special Permit from the Ministry of Public Health in Brussels. These documents must accompany the consignment.
2.3.9. Animal products
Importation into the EU:
Importation of animal products and products of animal origin (meat, meat products, fish, seafood, agricultural goods, honey, skins, hides, casings, milk and milkproducts, eggs, petfood etc.), is subjected to veterinary checks upon unloading at the airport. Identification marks on each individual package.
Eggs: Indication of country of origin on each egg.
Hatching eggs: identification marks on each egg.
2.3.14. Radio-active materials
Special Permit from Ministry of Health.

2.4. Prohibitions
Absinth; coins of bronze, copper or nickel no legal tender in Belgium, except coins for collections; foreign merchandise bearing marks or inscriptions unjustly trying to suggest a Belgian origin: literature (seditious): morally offensive objects, publications etc.: poisonous products. See also 2.3.

2.5. CHARGES
2.5.1. General
For specific details, contact the carrier or agent concerned.
For veterinary checks fees are due, payment after veterinary checks at custom's office.

3. Transhipment/Transit

3.1. General
Transshipment is only accepted as a transfer of the whole consignment from one airplane to another airplane within the custom's territory of the same airport. Transshipment activities must always be notified to the veterinarians in charge at the airport. Live animals are always subjected to veterinary checks even in the case of quick transfer.

3.2. Documentary Requirements
Except as those mentioned under Restrictions no further requirements.

3.3. Restrictions
3.3.2. Live animals
For all transit shipments, both with final destination to one of the members of the European Union as well as with final destination to a non-European Union country, same regulations as for IMPORT apply. For veterinary purposes, a transit licence or permit must always be attached to the AWB.
3.3.4. Arms, ammunition and explosives
Arms, ammunition, material and vehicles of war and their spare parts as well as powder, explosives and strategic material: Special Permit from Administration de l'Aeronautique except for consignments consisting of not more than altogether: 25 rifles exclusively for hunting purposes, 10 revolvers or pistols with a maximum bore of 6.35 mm., 25 kg. net of ammunition or spare parts for above mentioned guns. The transit of arms and ammunitions on the territory of the Republic of Rwanda is submitted to the production of a declaration issued by the country where these arms and ammunitions will be used, stating that they are destined to the legal authorities of that country or to a determined person designated by name on the declaration.
This not precluding the fact that a temporary embargo is still possible if the Ministry of Defence of Rwanda deems it necessary in order to assure the security of the Rwandese territory.
3.3.6. Human remains
Same as for 2.3.6.
3.3.14. Radio-active materials
Radio-active substances: Special Prior Permit from Ministry of Public Health and Family.

3.4. Prohibitions
Live animals: transit and transshipment are only allowed for animals which comply with import conditions in the EU. Welfare regulations also apply in transit and transshipment. Incompliance with these conditions leeds to rejection or confiscation.

3.5. Charges
3.5.1. General
- **Veterinary Control Fee**

Veterinary control fee plus exact veterinary control fee is applicable for all live animals and products of animal origin not for human consumption, perishable shipments and animal products for human consumption.

For specific details, contact the carrier or agent concerned.

4. Export

4.1. General
Export is possible on any day of the week at any hour.

4.2. Documentary Requirements
4.2.1. Commercial consignments
Licence or Exportation Advice (Model B) as the case may be. Licence not required for consignments of value under EUR 74.37, under 5 kg. of weight, the details of the contents are shown on the outside packing.
4.2.2. Samples consignments
No licence required.
4.2.4. Unaccompanied baggage
List of Contents.
Personal effects: Sent by a third person to the consignee: Licence or Declaration Licence according to customs tariff.

4.3. Restrictions
4.3.2. Live animals
Veterinary checks upon departure at the airport of consignments of live animals to be shipped to third countries is only compulsory for bovines, by EU-regulation.
Certain third countries of destination require a final veterinary check at the airport of departure for some species (i.e. dogs and cats send to Australia).
4.3.3. Plants and plant material
Incl. flowers, fruits, vegetables: Duplicate of Inspection Certificate delivered by O.N.D.A.H.: for consignments over 10 kg., of chicory, cauliflowers, lettuce, tomatoes, cherries, gooseberries, peaches, pears, apples, plums and grapes; for consignments of over 200 kg. and EUR 61.97 of cuttings, scions, grapes vines, fruit trees, cut flowers, decorative green plants: bulbs, tubers, onions, rhizomes of flowers and foliage plants.
4.3.4. Arms, ammunition and explosives
Incl. material and vehicles of war and their spare parts as well as powder, explosives and strategic material: Special Permit from Administration de l'Aéronautique.
4.3.5. Narcotics and drugs
Export Permit from Ministry of Public Health.
4.3.9. Animal products
Health certificate and certain identification marks required, for animal products for human consumption, semen and embryo's, feed, etc. Compliance with health conditions imposed by third country of destination.
4.3.11. Tobacco and tobacco products
Tobacco samples: Export Permit No. 137 established by the grower or manufacturer.
4.3.15. Others
Postage and fiscal stamps: Export Licence.
Fish and crawfish: Authorised subject to imposed minimum lengths respected.

4.4. Prohibitions
Export of visibly diseased animals, export of animals under transport conditions which do not comply with their welfare.
Export of non wholesome animal products: damaged packages, unidentified packages, etc.
Animal proteins (i.e. meat and bonemeal) of mammals destined for farm animal feed, unless explicite import licence from third country of destination (not applicable petfood ready to use).

4.5. Charges
4.5.1. General
For specific details contact the carrier or agent concerned.

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