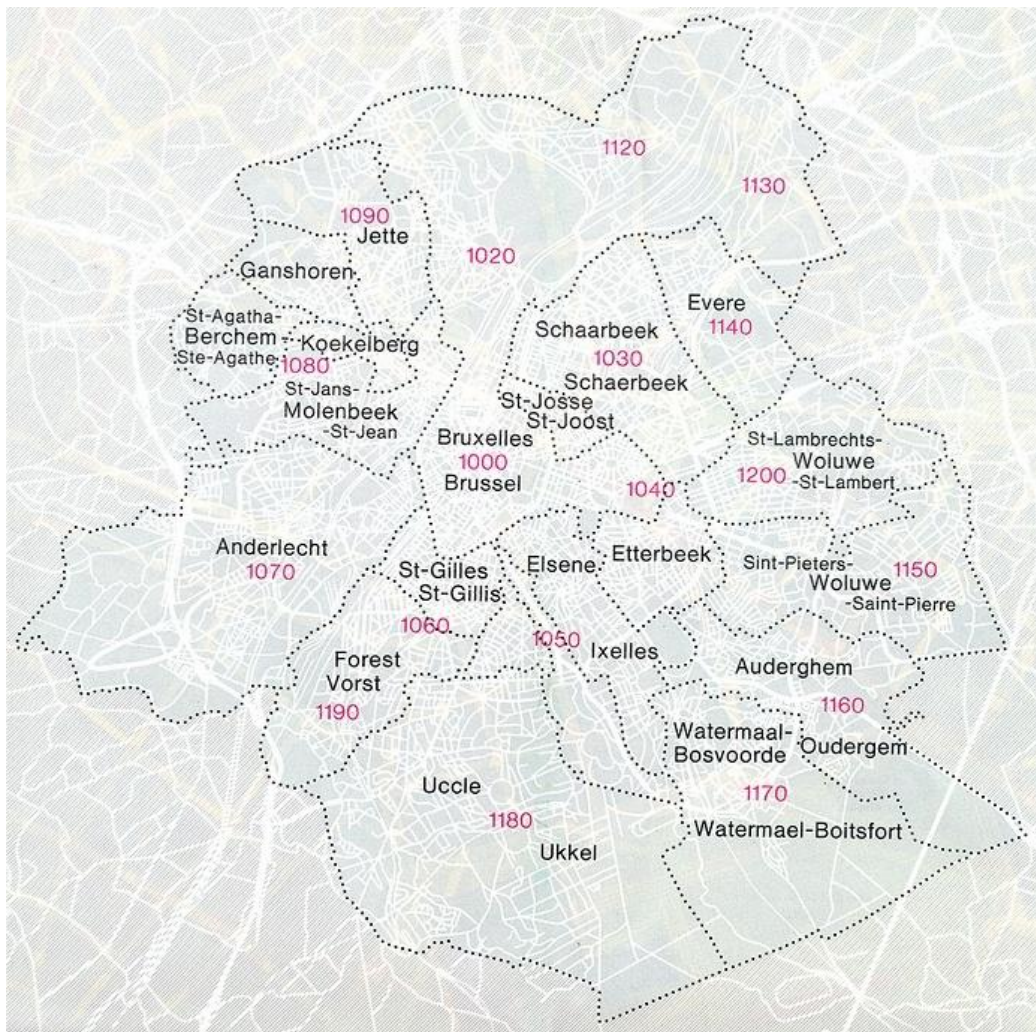


How to find an accommodation in Brussels

1. Brussels and its 19 communes



Brussels is divided into 19 municipalities called „communes“. The commune manages matters related to the daily life of the inhabitants of Brussels and the communal territory. In the Brussels-Capital Region the 19 communes play an essential role in urban governance.

For citizens the communes are the basic political body that is closest to their daily lives. It is where citizens are registered, where they make use of administrative services, where they vote, etc. And as non-Belgian students coming for a few months to Belgium, you will also have to register to the commune where you live at the beginning of your stay.

Each commune has a name in French and in *Dutch*, and has a postcode. Here is the list:

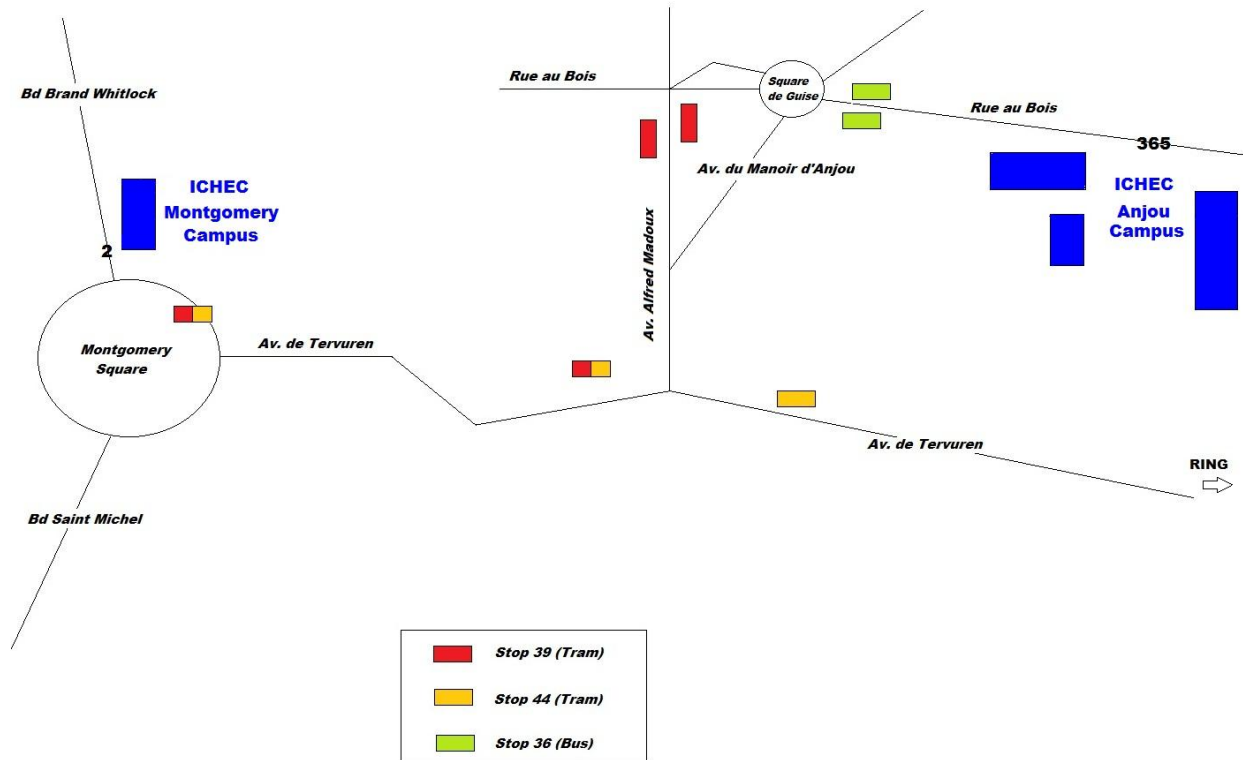
- 1000 Bruxelles-Ville, *Stad Brussel*
- 1020 Laeken (Bruxelles-Ville), *Laken (Stad Brussel)*
- 1030 Schaerbeek, *Schaarbeek*
- 1040 Etterbeek
- 1050 Ixelles, *Elsene*
- 1060 Saint-Gilles, *Sint-Gillis*
- 1070 Anderlecht
- 1080 Molenbeek-Saint-Jean, *Sint-Jans-Molenbeek*
- 1081 Koekelberg
- 1082 Berchem-Sainte-Agathe, *Sint-Agatha-Berchem*
- 1083 Ganshoren
- 1090 Jette
- 1120 Neder-Over-Heembeek (Bruxelles-Ville, *Stad Brussel*)
- 1130 Haeren (Bruxelles-Ville), *Haren (Stad Brussel)*
- 1140 Evere
- 1150 Woluwe-Saint-Pierre, *Sint-Pieters-Woluwe*
- 1160 Auderghem, *Oudergem*
- 1170 Watermael-Boitsfort, *Watermaal-Bosvoorde*
- 1180 Uccle, *Ukkel*
- 1190 Forest, *Vorst*
- 1200 Woluwe-Saint-Lambert, *Sint-Lambrechts-Woluwe*
- 1210 Saint-Josse-ten-Noode, *Sint-Joost-ten-Node*

2. ICHEC location

ICHEC has two campuses, one is located in Montgomery, and the other one is in Anjou. Both campuses are in the commune of Woluwe-Saint-Pierre, and at 10-15 minutes from each other by tram. The easiest way to go from one campus to the other is to take the tram 39. If you want to go to Montgomery, there are many trams and metros stopping in the “Montgomery station”.

If you come from somewhere else, you can also take the bus 36 to go to the Anjou campus. The name of the stop just in front of the campus is “Manoir d’Anjou”. If you take the tram, the name of the stop is “Rue au Bois”, and then you have to go down the street and walk 2

minutes straight ahead in the direction of the round-about. ICHEC Anjou will be on your right. Here is a map with the two campuses of ICHEC.



Most of the courses take place in Anjou. Only first-year classes and evening classes (HD) take place in Montgomery. Here are the addresses of both campuses:



ICHEC Montgomery Campus

2 Boulevard Brand Whitlock

1150 Brussels



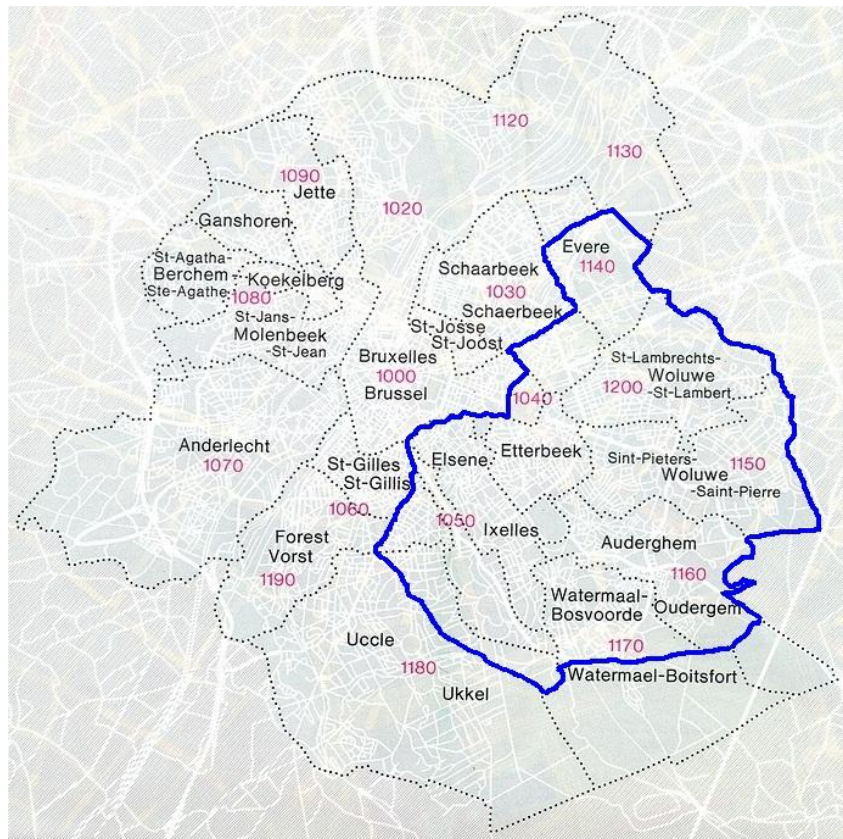
ICHEC Anjou Campus

365a rue au Bois

1150 Brussels

3. The recommended areas and their characteristics

We would recommend you to try to find an accommodation in the following areas, either because the other communes are too far away from ICHEC (Jette, Anderlecht, Ganshoren, etc.) or because some areas are less safe than others (Saint-Gilles, Saint-Josse, some parts of the city center of Brussels, parts of Schaerbeek, etc.). Please note that in Belgium the shared accommodations are called either “kot” or “colocation”.



3.1. Residential areas

- 1140 Evere
- 1200 Woluwe-Saint-Lambert
- 1150 Woluwe-Saint-Pierre
- 1160 Auderghem
- 1170 Watermael-Boitsfort
- 1180 Uccle

These communes are a little bit more expensive and you could expect to find an accommodation for 400€ to 500€ per month. But, they are generally well maintained rooms in apartments or houses in quiet and safe neighborhoods.

Some nice neighborhoods are: Schuman, Montgomery, Mérode, Tomberg, Stockel, Georges-Henri, Cinquanteaire, etc.

3.2. Animated areas

- 1000 Bruxelles
- 1030 Schaerbeek
- 1040 Etterbeek
- 1050 Ixelles

These parts of Brussels are a little bit cheaper and you could expect to find an accommodation for 300€ to 400€ per month. There are more student rooms and shared apartments or shared houses than in the residential areas.

Some nice neighborhoods are: Place du Luxembourg, Cimetière d'Ixelles, Flagey, Meiser, etc.

4. Where you can look for an accommodation

If you are a non-EU student, you can ask ICHEC to book a room: we guarantee to find an accommodation for you. To do so, you have to fill in the accommodation form and pay a 300€ deposit + 50€ fees, before the deadline (June 1 for the fall semester and November 15 for the spring semester).

If you are an EU student, then after June 1 (for the fall semester) or November 15 (for the spring semester), you can ask the Erasmus coordinator from ICHEC if there are still free rooms in the International House. If so, you can fill in the accommodation form, and pay a 300€ deposit + 50€ fees, and ICHEC will book a room for you.

If there are no more rooms available in our International House, you can have a look at ICHEC website: www.icheccampus.ichec.be; in the section "International", then in "Incoming students", and finally click on "announcements". This part of the website is in free access. When we receive offers from external owners, or from ICHEC students going on exchange, we post them here.

Another solution to find a room is to register to the Facebook group called "BXL A LOUER – Bouche à Oreille". There are many offers every day, but you have to be quick to answer when you are interested!

Finally, here is a list of useful websites:

- www.housinganywhere.com
- www.brukot.be
- www.bnb-brussels.be
- www.xpats.com
- www.kitkot.be
- www.vlan.be
- www.lviimmo.com/residences
- www.traineesinbrussels.be

- www.student.be
- www.kots.be
- www.qlb.irisnet.be
- www.studiokotbrussel.com
- www.kotplanet.be
- www.inforjeunes.be
- www.easykot.be
- www.appartager.be
- www.allekoten.be

Otherwise, if you wait until your arrival to find something, then, you can always walk around in the streets, and you will find some offers on the windows that are not on any website.

5. Some difficulties that you could have

First of all, you have to know that it is harder to find a room during the fall semester than during the spring semester. Indeed, the reason is that, at this period, many Belgian students and international students are also looking for a room in Brussels. Whereas during the spring semester, many international students stay only for one semester and they leave their room in January.

Secondly, some owners do not want to rent only for one semester, as they prefer renting their apartment for the whole year. Beware that some owners also rent their apartment for 12 months, and not only for the academic year.

So, if you are coming for the first semester, we would recommend you to look for a room before arriving in Brussels! If you do not find anything before your arrival, make sure to arrive a few days before the start of the classes and to take appointments to visit various apartments on these days.