
BELGIUM: BASIC DATA

GEOGRAPHY	Total land area for Belgium is 30,500 square kilometres, broken down as 20 percent arable, 21 percent pasture and 17 percent forest.		
CLIMATE	Temperate, the hottest month is July (12-23°C), and the coldest month is January ({-1}-4°C). The driest month is March (53 mm average rainfall), and the wettest month is July (95 mm average rainfall).		
POPULATION	10.04 million (1992).		
MAIN CITIES	Brussels	984,000	Charleroi 218,000
	Antwerp	491,000	Liège 204,000
	Ghent	257,000	Bruges 133,000
TIME	Belgium is 1 hour ahead of GMT, 2 hours ahead in summer.		
MEASURES	The metric system is used throughout Belgium.		
LANGUAGE	Flemish, French and German, with most businessmen fluent in English.		
CURRENCY	The Belgian franc (<i>Bfr</i>) is broken down into 100 centimes. In 1993, the mean rate of exchange stood at approximately 28Bfr=Cdn\$.		
HOLIDAYS	Public holidays fall on January 1, Easter Monday, May 1, Ascension Day, Whit Monday, July 21 (Independence Day), August 15, November 1, November 11 (Armistice Day), December 25; in Flanders: July 11; in Wallonia: September 27.		