

## 2024 Bolero UCI Gravel World Championships – Flanders – Forests of Brabant – Belgium

*Travel & Transport Guide for International Participants of the 2024 Gravel World Championships*

### Welcome to Flanders!

We are thrilled to welcome you to the 2024 Gravel World Championships in the picturesque region of Flanders. As participants in the 2024 Gravel World Championships, we must demonstrate climate responsibility by mitigating environmental impacts. This guide provides essential travel and transport information to ensure your journey is smooth, sustainable, and enjoyable.

### Getting to Flanders

#### Flying to Belgium

- Main Airports: Brussels Airport (BRU) and Brussels South Charleroi Airport (CRL) are the primary international gateways.
- Fly Economy: Choose economy class to reduce your carbon footprint. Flying in First or Business Class creates three times more carbon emissions than flying economy.
- Fly Less: Reducing the amount of travel to the event is the best way to avoid emissions occurring in the first place.
- Direct Flights: Opt for direct flights to minimize fuel usage and emissions.
- Calculate Emissions: Use tools like the ICAO Carbon Emissions Calculator to calculate your emissions.

#### Ground Transportation

##### 1. *Public Transport*

- Flanders has an extensive and efficient public transport network. Use trains, trams, and buses to travel and for getting around. Both the start (Halle) and finish (Leuven) location are easily accessible by train and are close to the railway station.

##### 2. *Carpooling*

- Share rides with teammates or other participants to minimize the number of vehicles & journeys and reduce emissions.

##### 3. *Car Rentals*

- If renting a car is necessary, choose vehicles that are fuel-efficient or electric. Many rental companies offer hybrids or electric cars.

##### 4. *Cycling*

- Cycling: Flanders is known for its cycling infrastructure. Renting a bike or using your own bike can be a great way to travel short distances and experience the local scenery.

## **Accommodation**

- Location: Choose accommodations close to the event venues or well-connected by public transport.
- Sustainable Choices: Look for hotels that have sustainability policies, such as energy-efficient operations, water conservation practices, and waste reduction programs.

## **Equipment Transport**

- Shipping vs. Airfreight: Whenever possible, use shipping services instead of airfreight for transporting equipment. Shipping has a lower carbon footprint.
- Green Freight Companies: Select companies that use low-emission vehicles and have green practices in place.

## **Sustainable Practices During Your Stay**

- Waste Reduction: Use reusable containers and water bottles to minimize single-use plastics.
- Recycling: Participate in local recycling and dispose of waste properly.
- Energy Conservation: Turn off lights and electronics when not in use to save energy.

## **Enjoy Flanders Responsibly**

- Cultural Sites: Explore the rich history and culture of Flanders, from its medieval cities to its vibrant art scene.
- Local Cuisine: Enjoy local, sustainably sourced foods to support the community and reduce your carbon footprint.

For more information on sustainability efforts visit the official event website and the UCI Sustainability Guidelines.

We hope this guide helps you have a wonderful and sustainable experience at the 2024 Gravel World Championships. Let's work together to make this event a success and a model of environmental responsibility.

Welcome to Flanders, and may your ride be both challenging and eco-friendly!