



# The American Club of Brussels

# News & Events

An International Club with an American Heart

---

## November 2012

- Thanksgiving Dinner
  - Final Friday Cocktails
  - Dates to Remember
  - U.S. Election Night Fever
  - *Jordaens and the Antique*
  - Chocolate Workshop
  - Palm Breweries Visit
  - Christmas Cocktail Party
  - Introducing - ING Belgium
  - Community News
    - Boston University Culture Night
    - Vlerick Expat Event
  - *Out & About in Belgium with Nancy Kapstein*
- 

## Thanksgiving Dinner



Sign up now for one of the American Club of Brussels' most popular social events – a traditional Thanksgiving dinner, consisting of roast turkey with all the trimmings, followed by an assortment of real American pies.

This very American event is held on Thanksgiving Day itself, Thursday, November 22, at 7:00 p.m. at the Sheraton Hotel in Brussels. Whole turkeys are carved and served family-style at tables for eight. It's just like home, only better, because someone else does the cooking.

## MENU

*Apéritif*

\* \* \*

New England clam chowder

\* \* \*

Turkey with stuffing  
Mashed potatoes  
Sweet potatoes  
Green beans with mushrooms  
Corn pudding  
Beets  
Cranberry jelly  
Gravy

\* \* \*

Pecan pie  
Mince pie  
Apple pie  
Pumpkin pie

### **Event Details**

**Date:** Thursday, November 22

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Place:** Sheraton Brussels Hotel, Horizon Room (30th floor), Place Rogier 3, 1210 Brussels (St.-Josse-ten-Noode)

**Price:** €70 for ACB, AWCB, and ACAB members (includes *apéritif*, one-half bottle of house wine, soft drinks, and mineral water); €80 for non-members. €38 for children under 12

**Sign up:** Reservations are due by noon on Friday, November 16 by email ([info@americanclubbrussels.org](mailto:info@americanclubbrussels.org)), online at [www.americanclubbrussels.org](http://www.americanclubbrussels.org), or by telephone to the ACB Office Manager (02/219.58.08). Payment to ACB at BE55427919588144 (KREDBEBB) will confirm your reservation. Be sure to mention "Thanksgiving" in the communications section of the *virement*. Note that cancellations are possible until noon on Friday, November 16. Members canceling after that date, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

---

## Final Friday Cocktails

Friday, November 30  
6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

**Renaissance Brussels Hotel**  
**(ground floor near the bar)**  
**Rue du Parnasse 19, 1050 Brussels (Ixelles)**  
**(walking distance from Place du Luxembourg)**

Cash bar open to all. Newcomers to Belgium and prospective ACB members are especially welcome. No reservation is required. Bring a guest or two.

## Dates to Remember

- Friday, October 26: Final Friday Halloween Cocktails
  - Tuesday, November 6: U.S. Election Night Party
  - Saturday, November 10: Guided visit to the Jacob Jordaens exhibit
  - Wednesday, November 14: Guided visit to the Palm Breweries
  - Thursday, November 22: Thanksgiving Dinner at the Sheraton Hotel, Brussels
  - Friday, November 30: Final Friday Cocktails
  - Wednesday, December 5: Chocolate-making workshop at Zaabär Chocolates
  - Thursday, December 13: Christmas Cocktail Party
- 

## U.S. Election Night Fever



It's red versus blue on Tuesday, November 6 as voters go to the polls to choose the next president of the United States of America. As the results start trickling in, don't miss live coverage of the elections at the Renaissance Hotel in Brussels as *The Bulletin* and the American Club of Brussels host the capital's and country's biggest party. Officially opening the event are U.S. Ambassador to Belgium Howard W. Gutman and Jamie Shea from NATO, with Belgian Foreign Affairs Minister Didier Reynders invited to join them.

More than 3,500 people attended the 2008 all-night party when Barack Obama and Joe Biden won one of the most significant U.S. elections of the past 100 years. Now President Obama is going to the polls to fend off Republican contender Mitt Romney in the hope of winning another four-year term. Replicating the tussle taking place across the Atlantic, Belgian Democrats Abroad and Republicans Abroad will take to the floor to stage a debate.

Other entertainment includes live Country & Western music from Brussels' own Saint-Gillbillies, a *tombola*, and the chance to cast your vote in a straw ballot. The festivities start at 8:30 p.m. with American-themed food and drink plus a cash bar. Sample West Coast wines and enjoy hot dogs and other Uncle Sam specialties.

### Event Details

**Date:** Tuesday, November 6

**Time:** 8:30 p.m. until 3:00 a.m.

**Place:** Renaissance Brussels Hotel, Rue du Parnasse 19, 1050 Brussels (Ixelles)

**Price:** €15

**Sign up:** [www.xpats.com/en/electionnight](http://www.xpats.com/en/electionnight) (pre-pay) or buy a ticket at the door.

Prepayment does not guarantee admission since the number of people allowed in the hotel at any given time is limited to 1,400. Do not be surprised if you have to wait in line since this event is incredibly popular and *the* place to be on election night.

---

## *Jordaens et L'Antiquité / Jordaens and the Antique*



After the successful exhibition *Rubens: A Genius at Work*, the Royal Museums of Fine Arts are organizing a major exhibition on Jacob Jordaens, entitled *Jordaens and the Antique*. Jordaens (1593-1678) was one of three Flemish Baroque painters, along with Peter Paul Rubens and Anthony van Dyck, to bring prestige to the Antwerp school of painting. As well as being a successful painter, he was a prominent designer of tapestries. Like Rubens, Jordaens painted altarpieces, mythological and allegorical scenes, and after 1640 – the year Rubens died – he was the most important painter in Antwerp for large-scale commissions.

Loans of around 80 paintings and drawings, tapestries, and sculpture from major museums and private collections from Austria, Denmark, Spain, and the United Kingdom, supplemented with key works from Brussels and Kassel (Germany), will offer the public lesser-known yet unexpectedly engaging episodes from Classical sources.

**Note: This visit is limited to a maximum of 15 participants.**

### **Event Details**

**Date:** Saturday, November 10

**Time:** 2:00 p.m.

**Place:** Musées Royaux des Beaux-Arts, Place Royale 3 (Gresham entrance), 1000 Brussels

**Price:** €20 for ACB and AWCB members; €25 for non-members

**Sign up:** Reservations are due by noon on Monday, November 5 by email

([info@americanclubbrussels.org](mailto:info@americanclubbrussels.org)), online at [www.americanclubbrussels.org](http://www.americanclubbrussels.org), or by telephone to the ACB Office Manager (02/219.58.08). Payment to ACB at BE55 4279 1958 8144

(BIC/SWIFT: KREDBEBB) will confirm your reservation. Be sure to mention "jordaens" in the communications section of the *virement*. Cancellations are possible until noon on Monday, November 5. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

---

## Chocolate Workshop



Are you a chocolate-lover looking for a new experience in Brussels? If so, join the ACB for an hour-long session on Wednesday, December 5 making chocolate at Zaabär Chocolatier + Epicerie in Saint-Gilles. The workshop will begin with a short demonstration by an experienced *chocolatier*, followed by an opportunity to create your own chocolate bars and truffles. Zaabär is known for its enchanting flavors and amazing creations using exotic fruits, flowers, and spices in combination with their rich, fine chocolate. Their shop on Chaussée de Charleroi near Place Stephanie is both a sales outlet and modern production area.

Space for this visit is very limited, so please indicate your interest by sending an email to [info@americanclubbrussels.org](mailto:info@americanclubbrussels.org) and paying in advance (see below).

### Event Details

**Date:** Wednesday, December 5

**Time:** 2:30 p.m. (plan on arriving at 2:20 p.m.)

**Place:** Zaabär Chocolates, Chaussée de Charleroi 125, 1060 Brussels (Saint-Gilles). Trams 92 or 97 to "Faider" stop

**Price:** €17 (ACB members only). Note that space is limited, so sign up early.

**Sign up:** Reservations are due by noon on Friday, November 30 by email ([info@americanclubbrussels.org](mailto:info@americanclubbrussels.org)), online at [www.americanclubbrussels.org](http://www.americanclubbrussels.org), or by telephone to the ACB Office Manager (02/219.58.08). Payment to ACB at BE55 4279 1958 8144 (BIC/SWIFT: KREDBEBB) will confirm your reservation. Be sure to mention "chocolate" in the communications section of the *virement*. Cancellations are possible until noon on Friday, November 30. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

---

## Palm Breweries Visit



Here's an event that's tailor-made for beer-lovers – a visit to the Palm Breweries in the peaceful Flemish village of Steenhuffel, about 30 minutes from downtown Brussels. But don't worry about driving; a comfortable bus, provided by our friends at *The Bulletin*, will take us to our destination and return us safely home again.

The reception team of Palm Breweries will greet us in De Oude Bottelarij (The Old Bottling Plant) visitor center where we will be shown a short film about the history of the brewery and the nearby Kasteel Diepensteyn, formerly part of the Duke of Brabant's 13th century military network. We will then be given a guided tour of the brewery where we will be introduced to the craft of beer-making the Palm Breweries' way from brewing boiler to production hall.

After the visit to the brewery, a small train will take us to the Diepensteyn Stud Farm where Palm Breweries' magnificent Brabant draught horses are bred and stabled. The stud farm is presently home to about 20 chestnut draught horses, all registered in the stud book under the surname "Van Diepensteyn."

The golden age of the Belgian draught horse was between the end of the 19th century and 1940. And by the time the 20th century drew to a close, the breed was practically extinct. However, thanks to the breeding bonus introduced by the Association for the Belgian Draught Horse (VBBT) and the Flemish Community, the future of this noble breed is now assured. For its own part, Palm Breweries helps to protect the Belgian draught horse with its program of breeding primarily chestnut-colored draught horse foals. With its amber-colored coat and white mane, the Belgian chestnut draught horse is the symbol of Palm Breweries and proudly appears on all its labels.

Our evening will end with a tasting session back at the visitor center, where we can sample a refreshing Palm as well as another beer produced by Palm Breweries. Bring some snacks or a sandwich to eat while enjoying your beverage.

For more information about the Palm Breweries, visit [www.palm.be/en/bs\\_palm\\_bezoeken.php](http://www.palm.be/en/bs_palm_bezoeken.php).

#### **Event Details**

**Date:** Wednesday, November 14

**Time:** 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. or 9:30 p.m.

**Place:** Gare Centrale (Central Station), Carrefour de l'Europe 2, 1000 Brussels (**meet in the main hall by the ticket windows**)

**Price:** Free – but space is limited, so sign up early. It's first come, first served.

**Sign up:** Reservations are due by noon on Monday, November 12 by email ([info@americanclubbrussels.org](mailto:info@americanclubbrussels.org)), online at [www.americanclubbrussels.org](http://www.americanclubbrussels.org), or by telephone to the ACB Office Manager (02/219.58.08).

---

## Christmas Cocktail Party



Once again, the American Club of Brussels will usher in the Christmas season with an elegant cocktail party on Thursday, December 13 in a private room at La Maison du Cygne – one of the best locations in Brussels. Partly sponsored by Gosselin Moving, the evening will feature sparkling cava, wine, and a variety of hot and cold hors-d'oeuvres.



La Maison du Cygne is housed in a former 17th century guild house that overlooks the historic Grand'Place. From our private balcony, we will have a marvelous view of the square with all its festive holiday decorations and the giant Christmas tree.

Prepare to be impressed!

### Event Details

**Date:** Thursday, December 13

**Time:** Cocktails from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Place:** Private room, La Maison du Cygne, Grand'Place (entrance: Rue Charles Buls 2), 1000 Brussels

**Price:** €30 for ACB and AWCB members; €35 for non-members

**Dress code:** Coat and tie requested

**Sign up:** Reservations are due by noon on Monday, December 10 by email ([info@americanclubbrussels.org](mailto:info@americanclubbrussels.org)), online at [www.americanclubbrussels.org](http://www.americanclubbrussels.org), or by telephone to the ACB Office Manager (02/219.58.08). Payment to ACB at BE55427919588144 (KREDBEBB) will confirm your reservation. Be sure to mention "Christmas Cocktail" in the communications section of the *virement*. Cancellations are possible until noon on Monday, December 10. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

---

## Introducing – ING Belgium

The Bank of the Expatriate in Belgium



*This is the second in a series of articles highlighting the ACB's corporate members. After introducing Gosselin Moving last month, News & Events is now happy to present ING Belgium, one of our most faithful corporate members. ING Belgium's expat team, headed by Dave Deruytter, offers outstanding banking services. In addition, our club has partnered with ING on various occasions in presenting seminars on real estate, pensions, and other topics of concern to expatriates in Belgium.*

### History

ING Belgium became part of the ING Group (a leading Dutch banking group) in 1998. Before 2003, ING Belgium was the BBL – Bank Brussels Lambert – which had come about as a result of the merger between the Bank of Brussels and the Bank Lambert in June 1975.

### Universal Direct Bank

On its home market, ING Belgium provides financial products and services in the field of banking, insurance, and asset management to meet the needs of private, corporate, and institutional customers through a network of commercial regions. In addition, ING Belgium is active in all direct distribution channels with over 800 Self'Bank (ATMs), retail Home'Bank services, [www.ing.be](http://www.ing.be), and [Telelink@Isabel](mailto:Telelink@Isabel) for companies as well as the ING Contact Center.

As a wholesale bank, ING Belgium offers products and services to business and institutional clients and is active in the field of financial markets, commercial banking, and corporate finance. These activities are carried out in close cooperation with other ING subsidiaries or in the framework of cross-border community platforms.

## **Corporate Vision**

ING's strategy focuses on optimizing the services it provides to its customers, as well as stable growth and maintaining profitability.

ING works according to a set of clearly established business principles and always takes account of the interests of its customers, staff, shareholders, business relations, and society as a whole.

In 2008, ING Belgium successfully changed its positioning in the mass retail market to include universal direct banking.

ING Belgium services all banking customers with a wide range of financial products, via the distribution channel (click, call, or face) of their choice. Its range of customer segments includes mass retail, Private Banking, small and medium-sized businesses, institutionals, and large corporates.

## **ING VIP Expat Financial Services**

At ING Belgium, your bank accounts and cards, your rental guarantee and renter liability insurance can be ready for use on arrival in Belgium.

The ING Internet Banking Services permit you to do most bank transactions online, including foreign currency international bank transfers, and travel and car insurance.

ING officers are there to assist you with managing your investments, including Personal or Private Banking, and buying property in Belgium.

## **Corporate Social Responsibility**

ING Group constantly strives to be and remain a good corporate citizen. The Group has recently taken several new initiatives reflecting its ongoing responsible behavior toward society.

In more detail, ING has drawn up a Human Rights Declaration in which it lays down certain principles of fundamental importance for its entire staff. Some of these principles were incorporated into the United Nations Global Pact which ING signed in December 2006.

With regard to the environment, the Group has been carbon-neutral since 2007. This means reducing – or eliminating – carbon emissions by purchasing renewable energy and offsetting residual emissions through tropical reforestation projects. ING has launched various initiatives and projects in the area of social commitment.

The various entities which make up the ING Group in Belgium contribute to a Corporate Fund held by the Belgian King Baudouin Foundation.

As part of the global ING Chances for Children project (launched in 2005 in close cooperation with UNICEF), thousands of children from third-world countries have been able to access schooling thanks to its recurrent fundraising activities. This initiative is also reflected in Belgium by the Homework Aid project in selected schools.

## **Contact Information**

**ING Expat Contact Center: +32 (0)2 464/66.64, [expat@ing.be](mailto:expat@ing.be), [www.ing.be/expat](http://www.ing.be/expat)**

---



# Community News

## Boston University Culture Night



Everyone is invited to attend Boston University's sixth Annual Culture Night in Brussels on Saturday, November 17, at BU's Brussels campus [Boulevard du Triomphe 174, 1160 Brussels (Auderghem)] starting at 8:00 p.m. Meet BU students, alumni, and staff while enjoying the work of local artists, photographers, and musicians.

This year's event celebrates Boston University's 40th anniversary in Brussels. Refreshments will be served. **The event is free of charge, but you must sign up at [www.bu.edu/brussels/culture](http://www.bu.edu/brussels/culture) to reserve.** Business attire requested.

### Become a Beyonder at Our Exclusive Vlerick Expat Event!

**What?** Vlerick Expat Event

**When?** 30 November 2012, from 6 pm-10 pm

**Where?** ING, Rue du Trône/Troonstraat 1, 1000 Brussels

**For whom?** Expatriates, their partners and corporate mobility managers

**How much?** Free entrance for registered participants

**Keynote speech?** Prof. Dr. Herman Van den Broeck:

Are you a Beyonder? Or are you confined to the mediocrity in which most leaders become bogged down?

Most leaders only make a difference to their company. A few make a difference to the world. We call them "Beyonders".

Join us as Prof Dr Herman Van den Broeck, Professor and Partner at Vlerick Business School and an expert in change management, outlines the knowledge and insights that will inspire you to master change and become a true Beyonder.

Our fourth Vlerick Expat Event for expatriates, accompanying spouses and international mobility managers will take place this year on Friday 30 November at ING Brussels from 6 pm.

**You will have the opportunity to network with likeminded people from diverse backgrounds, meet with Vlerick training experts and discover how you can give your career an extra fuel injection during your stay in Belgium.**

./..

./..

**Programme:**

- 6 pm - 6.30 pm: Welcome
- 6.30 pm: Introduction by Walter Van Dyck, Director Executive Education, Vlerick Business School
- 6.35 pm - 7.35 pm: Keynote Address by Prof Dr Herman Van den Broeck and Q&A: Are you a Beyonder? Or are you confined to the mediocrity in which most leaders become bogged down?
- 7.35 pm - 10 pm: International Buffet & Networking

Do you know other expats who may be interested in this event? Feel free to forward them this invitation.

For more information and to register, please visit

<http://www.vlerick.com/expatevent>

I look forward to meeting you on 30 November!

Yours sincerely,

Walter Van Dyck  
Director Executive Education

The Vlerick Expat Event is in partnership with:  
ING Belgium, Motio Personal Coaching, De Rand, expatica.com, Abra Relocation & JCI 'the heart of Europe'

**Out & About in Belgium®**  
with Nancy Kapstein  
November 2012

**Special Events**  
**Nocturnes des Musées Bruxellois / Nocturnes van de Brusselse Musea / Brussels Museums Late Night Coverings**  
Combinaut through Thursday, December 7  
Various museums across Brussels

Every Thursday evening the museums, just a stone's throw away, will stay open late for you to visit and enjoy the rest of our evening atmosphere. Guided tours, talks, workshops, and musical activities will be available, with entrance tickets required in some cases. This year's programme is in the spotlight, in a special set of four trade fairs in the various museums' exhibition halls.

**La Nuit des Pubivores / De Nacht der Reclamevreters / The Night of the Ad Eaters**  
Friday, November 2 and Saturday, November 3  
Tuesday, December 11 and Wednesday, December 12, 1340 Brussels (D'Onofrio)

If you're someone who eagerly reads the commercial press, you'll love this event. The night of the ad eaters is the only Brussels commercialism festival back again this year, screening the most and least famous ads from across the globe.

The dinner speaks to those over 180 who from most of the 18 countries, Dishes, drinks, and guests will be made on request of creative people, commercial director, and artists endeavor to fill the big stage. Creative people respect a lot of creative and memorabilia, with a few banned commercial items in the past.

[www.adeaters.com](http://www.adeaters.com)  
Tickets €20, dinner starts at 7:00 p.m.

**Téâtre Artisan Art**  
Friday, November 9 through Sunday, November 11  
Theater 4, Theater 5, Theater 6, Theater 7, Theater 8

Five craftsmen and artists will bring you all over Belgium will be based on the Tour 5. There is a Middle East this month for the 10th edition of Artisan. It's a Brussels event that includes more than 200 artists, artists, makers, producers, visual artists, designers, calligraphers, bookbinders, glass artists, painters, designers, craft and restaurateurs, and furniture, vinyl and other art workers who show off their talents and demonstrate their skills.

[www.artisanart.com](http://www.artisanart.com)  
Open 10:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Admission €4.50, €6.50 (children & students), +12 free

## Out & About in Belgium with Nancy Kapstein

Out & About November 2012 is now available.

**The American Club of Brussels**  
c/o Renaissance Brussels Hotel  
Rue du Parnasse 19  
B-1050 Brussels  
Tel: 02/219.58.08  
[info@americanclubbrussels.org](mailto:info@americanclubbrussels.org)  
[www.americanclubbrussels.org](http://www.americanclubbrussels.org)

**The American Club of Brussels** is one of the oldest American clubs in Europe, founded in 1921 to foster Belgian-American relations. Although our members comprise more than 20 other nationalities from all walks of life, the ACB retains its American flavor. Some of us are long-time residents in Belgium. Many of us are newcomers. We all enjoy ourselves and the club's wide variety of social and cultural activities.

The ACB is a great way to expand your circle of friends and to discover more of the delights of Belgium. Try us.