

Dear student,

If you are looking for accommodation for the fall semester, there are many options.

First of all, we have our own housing, exclusively for students of LUCA and KU Leuven campus Sint-Lucas. It's located on a 5 min walk from the campus: Paleizenstraat 116.

If you want to see the chambers: <https://www.upkot.be/projects/art-upkot/>

If you're interested: please fill in this form: <https://goo.gl/forms/Dn3ofBi8WzY8c1nn1>

You can also contact Brik, our partner organisation.

For short and mid-term housing needs they operate the Van Orley International Student House.

Located in the city centre and with good public transportation connections to all campuses, this is the perfect place for Exchange students to stay.

Interested? Go to brik.be/vanorley and fill in the contact form.

On July 14th they'll send out the call for applications. You'll get a list of available rooms with prices and specifications in your inbox.

More information in the [brochure](#) attached, the [website](#), or welcome@brik.be

If you're in search of a room just for this summer, just contact them, you can book it right away. You can already get a single room at € 23 a day - all inclusive.

You're staying for an academic year? check MyKot.be for available rooms in Brussels.

Other options, **which are not affiliated to the school:**

- www.allekoten.be (English – button in menu on top of the page)
- www.easykot.be
- www.eu-rentals.com

Another option is to rent a flat together with friends or other students. However, the difficulty here is that the contract generally lasts 3 years and that water and electricity are not included in the rent. Check the following website www.appartager.be (in French) to rent a room from people who want to share a flat for some months.

The area the campus is located at, is called "Schaarbeek" (zip code is 1030). A room near the campus is easy, but notice that Schaarbeek is lively during the day but calm in the evening. Evening activities happen mostly in the city centre (1000 Brussel, 15 minutes with the tram from school).

The average price of a normal student room is about 450 euro. It might be difficult to make a reservation for a room from abroad, the owner will need your signature on the contract.

You may prefer to book short term accommodation in order to look for long term accommodation.

This process should take a week in average. You can find an address of a youth hostel on the following websites: <https://www.hostelworld.com> or www.jeugdherbergen.be

If stuvo receives an offer concerning accommodation, it is placed on our Facebook – page: <https://www.facebook.com/stuvo.luca.brussel/>

But please note that stuvo is not responsible for the information mentioned in the post, we do not check the information, we only operate as an intermediary.

Other Facebook – profiles that might be useful in finding accommodation or a roommate:

- <https://www.facebook.com/arch.kuleuven>
- <https://www.facebook.com/sintlucasarchitectuur>
- <https://www.facebook.com/sintlukas.brussel>

- <https://nl-nl.facebook.com/NarafiFoto>
- <https://www.facebook.com/NARAFI-Film-127697770916/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/LUCAinterieurvormgeving/?fref=ts>

The rental agreement:

The rental agreement will specify certain things: the amount of the security deposit, the duration, the rental fee, notice period(s), obligations, rights, prohibitions, etc. A contract is binding, so once it has been signed there is no backing out of it. When you agree to a contract for a specific duration, then that period is binding, which means that, in principle, the contract can't be broken before the end of the rental period.

A Dutch, French and English model of a rental agreement can be viewed at: <http://kotbaas.be/het-brik-modelcontract/>

The deposit:

Keep in mind that you also will be required to pay a deposit of at least one to three months' rent when you start renting the room. Make sure the landlord gives you a receipt! The landlord can request you to open a joint bank account for the deposit, which will be returned to you upon departure if no damage has been ascertained to the room or its furniture. The deposit should never be considered as payment for the rent!

Supplementary costs:

If the cost of heating, electricity, water, etc. is not included in the rent, it should be clearly stated in the contract how these costs will be calculated (a fixed fee is also possible).

Very often a landlord will ask for an advance of approximately € 50.

At the end of the rental period this sum is compared with the real costs by reading the meters and then you either get a refund or may be required to pay extra.

Keep in mind:

- to carefully read the rental agreement before signing;
- to note down all verbal promises;
- to take the meter reading;
- to fill out an inventory;
- that in Brussel you have to pay a province tax of about € 90. The province will send you a taxation letter some time during the academic year.

Pay attention to:

- the duration of the rental agreement;
- the term of notice.

Fire insurance:

Most landlords have a fire insurance polis for the whole building and split the cost amid the tenants by asking a little amount on top of the rent. This should be included in your rental agreement. Otherwise, the landlord can ask you to arrange your own fire insurance policy. If you or your parents have a fire insurance policy in your home country, you can ask to include your room in Belgium in the policy. If you don't have a policy in your home country, you have to visit an insurance broker in Brussels. You don't need to have an official address in Belgium to close the deal. The policy is for at least 1 year and has an average cost of €58.

Health Insurance

With the European Health Insurance Card you are covered in case of hospitalisation. For out – patient costs you need to advance the total sum of the cost at the doctor and at the pharmacy. You can subscribe with a Belgian health insurance fund if you would like to follow the same rules as for residents (you only have to pay 20 – 30% of the total sum of the medical cost).

If you don't have an EHIC – card, you can enrol in a Belgian health insurance fund. At the beginning of the academic year an information session will be held about this issue.

<http://www.bepartena.be/en/expats/education/student/>

You need a Belgian mobile number?

If your mobile phone is NOT SIM – locked, you can buy a SIM – card in Belgium. The three most known operators in Belgium are:

- www.proximus.be
- www.base.be
- www.mobistar.be

If your mobile phone is SIM – locked, you'll need to buy a new mobile phone which is NOT SIM – locked.

It is forbidden to use a mobile phone in Belgium which is not registered or can't be traced to a person.

Public transport in Brussels

MIVB (www.mivb.be) is the company that provides public transport in Brussels, this means tram, metro and bus. For a student 'School Season Ticket' please check the MIVB – website.

At the beginning of the academic year Stuvo will provide information about the possibilities to rent a bike or take a look at <https://brik.be/bike/>

Useful websites and phone numbers

- **about Brussels:** www.bruxelles.irisnet.be (information on language courses!) and www.brusselsinternational.be
- **Doctors in Brussels:** www.bhak.be and <http://www.luca-arts.be/en/health>
- **Guard duty medical consultation night and weekends:** 02 / 242 43 44
- **Guard duty consultation of dentist night and weekends:** 0903 / 39 969
- **Guard duty pharmacies night and weekends:** 0900 / 10 500

Contact information

Student Services

Koningsstraat 328
1030 Brussel

Business hours: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 12.30 - 14.30 @ Paleizenstraat 70

stuvo.brussel@luca-arts.be

Stuvo LUCA will be closed from the 7th of July until the 1th of August

International Office – KU Leuven, Faculty of Architecture

Nele De Meyere

Coordinator International Relations

Paleizenstraat 65

1030 Brussel

02 242 00 00

Nele.demeyere@kuleuven.be

International office – LUCA School of Arts

Wim Aerts

Paleizenstraat 70

1030 Brussel

Wim.aerts@luca-arts.be