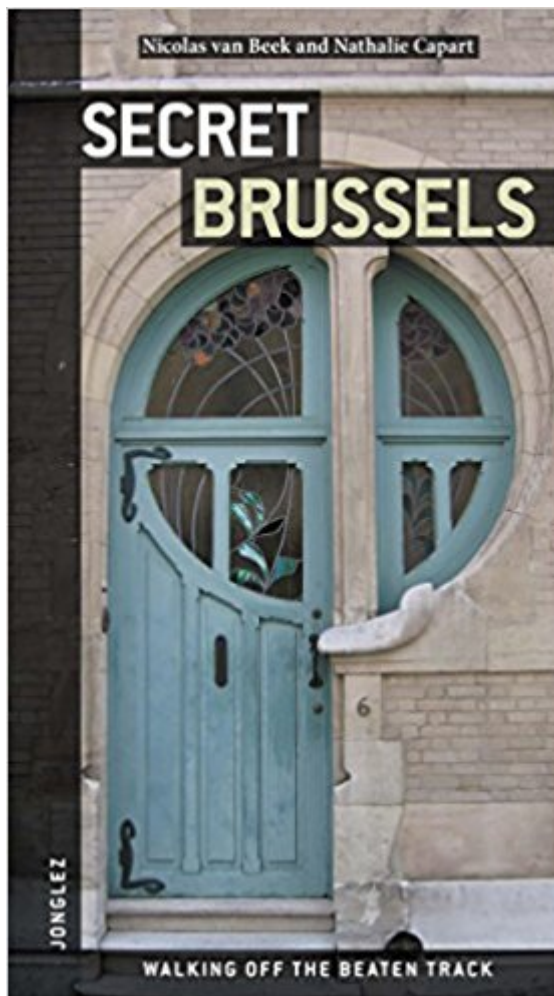




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Secret Brussels



Synopsis

À "love hotel" where you can say a prayer, a reconstituted section of the Senne river at Saint-Géry, an extraordinary private museum devoted to plastic, a farm with sheep, goats and turkeys at place de l'Yser, Masonic secrets in the Parc de Bruxelles, a hotel overlooking the Grand-Place, a surrealistic trip in a lift, a homage to the military pigeon, potholing at Koekelberg basilica, a swimming pool with a panoramic view of the city, a scandalous pavilion in the Parc du Cinquantaire, an immense vegetable garden at Uccle, an 19th century artist's studio at Schaerbeek, a camping ground in the heart of the Belgian capital, a forgotten garden-city at Forest. One doesn't fall in love with Brussels at first sight. But it contrast to cliché of grey streets and soulless buildings, it is full of surprising features and curious sights that will amaze residents as well as visitors who thought they knew all there is to know about this city.

Book Information

Series: Secret

Paperback: 253 pages

Publisher: Jonglez Publishing; First edition (January 1, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 2915807086

ISBN-13: 978-2915807080

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 4 x 7.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #3,360,959 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #84 in Books > Travel > Europe > Belgium > Brussels #244 in Books > Travel > Europe > Belgium > General #645 in Books > Travel > Europe > Netherlands > General

Customer Reviews

Secret Brussels has one of those titles that appears to be trying to fool you. If yo buy me, it suggests, you will know what lurks in the city's underbelly, what was heretofore "secret". And, as it turns out, this little book does indeed reveal hidden treasures. The Museum of Free-masonry, for instance, sits unmarked on Rue de Laeken and you ll likely be the only visitor, guided about by an amiable curator. If you ask tactfully , it notes, you might be able to see the temple at the back, only open to freemasons. The book is full of such comments. "Ask politely", "stay unobtrusive" because

much of what it leads you to aren't tourist destinations. The inner façade of the Maison du Spectacle la Bellone, for instance, is beautiful and accessible during business hours but is usually only seen by theatre-goers. Among the more than 200 listings, you'll also discover the sci-fi lift at the Museum of Modern Art, tours of Brussels' sewers by actual sewer workers, where to find entrances to the labyrinth of trails in the rambling Cite Forest-Vert and how to successfully manage the toilets at the Belga Queen. Lisa Bradshaw The Bulletin July 6 2006 --The Bulletin

Secret BrusselsI enjoyed discovering the secrets of Brussels in this book and would offer it to someone who would be spending sometime in Brussels and not just a few days as I will. These are the places you wish to see after having done all the regular famous sights that should not be missed

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