

USE-IT

TOURIST INFO FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

WHEN TO COME TO ANTWERP



APRIL / MAY 2012

FASHION STOCK SALES

same thing as in April

26 MAY - 1 JULY 2012

SINKSENFLOOR FAIR

One of the largest carnivals in Belgium. You know the drill: cheap entertainment, boxcars and arcade games, eating fat sweet food (like the local 'smoutebollen') and being sick afterwards in the spinning attractions. Definitely not the most tasteful event in Antwerp, but a good way to get an idea what the Antwerp Joe Average looks like when he's having fun.

JULY & AUGUST 2012

SUMMER OF ANTWERP

CONCERTS, MOVIES, PARTIES

For more than a month, there's music, movies, stunts and parties all over Antwerp's hidden corners, like an industrial site in the harbor where everybody watches the sunset (and nothing else) from a wooden stage. Usually there's some pretty impressive street theatre as well, like the giant elephant or the princess of Royal Deluxe. In the first three weeks of August, a big screen is set up near the river and some temporary sand-dunes are spread out under a large hangar – open at the sides to allow the breeze to blow through. Just bring a bottle of wine and an oversized beach-towel. No cinema will ever beat this. But watch out: the 'Summer' is so popular that the bigger concerts and acts are sold out in no time. Never mind if you don't get to those, because you can always catch free jazz or tango on a little square. Prices vary, but movies and outdoor concerts are usually free.

www.zomervanantwerpen.be

JULY & AUGUST 2012

OPEN AIR CONCERTS RIVIERENHOF

In a big park on the outskirts of town we have an open-air amphitheatre with a stage surrounded by a fountain. We just use it in summer, and international acts are invited to play. Quite some big names passed here over the last few years: Manu Chao, Dinosaur Jr., The Pogues, Joss Stone, Coco Rosie, Sinead O'Connor and Midlake. Free exotic partybands on Friday.

www.openluchttheater.be

AUGUST 2012

(exact date not confirmed yet)

LINKERWOOFER FESTIVAL

Linkerwoofer, on the river's left bank is a typical Belgian festival with lots of Belgian bands, affordable drinks and a good vibe. There's two things that sets Linkerwoofer apart from other festivals, though: 1) the magnificent view on the city, right from the festival terrain. 2) it's for free. Yippie!

6 AUGUST - 12 AUGUST 2012

ANTWERP PRIDE

Antwerp has a proud gay community. There's gay bars, bookshops, clubs, ... all over the city. But the Antwerp Pride is not your regular gay parade, with booming music and purple feathers though. One weekend in June we just do that little extra: a guided hysterical city bus tour, underwear- or even goldenshowerparties, free photo-shoots, gender-transformation theatre, erotic art exhibitions and pink friday at the fair...

www.antwerppride.com

1 SEPTEMBER 2012

LAUNDRY DAY FESTIVAL

The Laundry Day Festival started as a small street festival that didn't even have a stage. Today it's a giant electronic music festival that has 13 stages, 135 artists (Basement Jaxx are the biggest name) and over 60.000 visitors each year. It all may be a little less cosy these days, but that also means that there's just more people having fun at the same time.

www.laundryday.be

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2012

FASHION STOCK SALES

Crazy for Dries van Noten and Veronique Branquinho but always short on cash? We know the routine! The stylish but poor might want to know that stocksales are organised twice a year spread over the North of town. In order to create some space in their warehouses, Antwerp's most famous designers sell their leftover stock at reduced prices: you might walk out fully dressed for the money normally spent on underwear (fashionable underwear, that is). Dates and locations per designer:

www.ffi.be/en/mod_news