

# USE-IT

TOURIST INFO FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

## WHEN TO COME TO LEUVEN



### !!! WARNING !!!

Don't come on weekends during the school year! For some reason, all the students go home to their mothers for the weekend. Then things become really really quiet, unless you're lucky enough to find local house parties in places like Rumba, Silo and Der Machine. But basically, Leuven remains a student party town, so come during the week if you want to dance on the table.

### 16 - 19 FEBRUARY 2012

#### KULTURAMA FESTIVAL

Everyone who has something to do with art, culture or music participates in the Kulturama festival. Confirmed acts for this year include Amiina (Sigur Ros' string quartet), The Undertones, James Blake, Lindstrom and Biosphere. David Shrigley expo at the M museum and Cinema Zed will host a jazz movie festival at the same time. Concerts are all over the city and the streets are full of art as well.

Prices and tickets // [www.kulturama.be](http://www.kulturama.be)

### 4 - 11 MAY 2012

#### DOCVILLE FESTIVAL

Documentary festival with local and international documentaries projected all over town. Together with the Short Movie festival in December, it has put us on the map in the movie world. **Programmation, prices and tickets // [www.docville.be](http://www.docville.be)**

### 6 - 13 - 20 - 27 JULY 2012

#### BELEUVENISSEN OPEN-AIR MUSIC

No need to come to this one all the way from the States or the Far East, but if you happen to be around on a Friday in July, you'll enjoy the easy-going jazz, world music or blues in open air on one of the Leuven squares: Beleuvenissen. And it's free, so why not? **Free // [www.beleuvenissen.be](http://www.beleuvenissen.be)**

### 5 AUGUST 2012

#### BARKEEPER RACE

You already smell it when you step out of the train and the wind comes from the right direction: Leuven is the beer capital of the country. It's Stella beer ferment that you smell. Anyway, we take beer seriously. For the yearly barkeeper race, every self-respecting bar selects the best barkeeper, who runs against the others with a plate full of shaking beers, trying to keep the glasses full while racing against time. You can imagine how it ends: broken glass and beer in the gutter. Good local fun, with snacks served outside.

Free // [hapjetapie.leuveninscene.be](http://hapjetapie.leuveninscene.be)

### AUGUST 2012

(exact date to be confirmed)

#### MARKTROCK MUSIC FESTIVAL

This rock festival lands wham-bam in the middle of the historical centre, on an old market square surrounded by bars. The line up includes big Belgian names like K's Choice, and young promising talent like The Arquettes and Marble Sounds. The most important thing is the afterparty though. By then, people usually have had enough Stella and the whole square jumps like crazy. Marktrock used to be our pride in the old days when it was long-haired and crazy, but now that it's gotten big, many locals leave town to avoid it.

Free // [www.marktrock.be](http://www.marktrock.be) //line up to be confirmed

### END OF SEPTEMBER 2012

(exact date to be confirmed)

#### FRESH STUDENT MEAT!

"What's that sound, grandma?" "That's the students coming, my love." On around 35.000 old bikes, the new boys and girls invade the streets. It's a good time to check out the bar life, especially in the Tiensestraat. You recognize the first-year students because they look a bit paler than the rest after midnight. Official student welcome party with free concerts and DJ sets on the Ladeuzeplein on the 28th. 29th: party on the Oude Markt ('the longest bar in Europe'). **Free // programmation: [www.studentenwelkom.be](http://www.studentenwelkom.be)**

### 7 - 11 NOVEMBER 2012

#### PLAYGROUND FESTIVAL

If you're into cutting edge visual arts, international theatre, or performance art, you may want to consider coming to Leuven. STUK arts centre opens all its 9 rooms and halls to international artists. They mix and shake those artists until something fresh comes out. Visual artists are introduced to choreographers and video artists are tricked into making a theatre play. So you definitely see unique performances.

Prices online // [www.playgroundfestival.be](http://www.playgroundfestival.be)

### 1 - 8 DECEMBER 2012

#### SHORT MOVIE FESTIVAL

Short movies in a long festival. Don't worry: about 60% of the movies are from other countries and subtitled in English. Leuven's short film festival has built up quite a reputation, and you will always meet a lot of the young directors. Different programmes for fiction, documentary, experimental movies, animation and music videos.

Prices online // [www.kortfilmfestival.be](http://www.kortfilmfestival.be)