



BRUSSELS
invest & export

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GLOBAL GATEWAY TO KEY MARKETS

A staggering 60% of EU purchasing power lies within a mere 500 km (300 miles) of Brussels. The city is at the heart of Europe not just politically, but physically as well. Getting products and services to market from Brussels could not be any easier, as the city is a hub of well connected roads and modern rail infrastructure.

Other important financial and political centres are easily accessed. Brussels is at the centre of an ever-expanding European high-speed rail network: Paris is less than 1½ hours away, London, Cologne and Amsterdam just two. Frankfurt is a mere hour by plane and almost every EU Member State can be reached within three hours or less.

Direct flights also connect the city to multiple destinations in North America, Asia, the Middle East and Africa.

Blue chip companies realise the strategic importance of building their pan-European networks from here. Many, like Colgate, General Electric, Levi Strauss, Sony and Toyota, have their EMEA headquarters or sales subsidiaries in Brussels. The beauty of Brussels is that companies with little or no presence in other European markets can develop and run their businesses from one central location.



Brussels in brief

- 60% of European purchasing power within a 500 km radius.
- 5th largest inland port in Europe. Nearby port of Antwerp is the 2nd largest port in Europe.
- Brussels Airport: 180 passenger destinations and 80 cargo destinations; daily non-stop flights to the US; daily flights to China and India.
- 4 research parks and 30 industrial zones.
- Europe has a single market: no customs duties, freedom of movement, trade and exchange.

"Lying at the heart of Europe, Brussels is a vibrant and important global financial centre in transaction processing. Euroclear's decision to establish itself in Belgium is based on the country's stable political environment and labour force, with an influx of first-rate graduates."

Ignace R. Combes, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Euroclear

According to the 2011 European Cities Monitor survey, conducted by Cushman & Wakefield, Brussels remains one of the leading cities in which to do business today. Brussels' major strengths are the availability of qualified staff, easy access to key markets, the quality of telecommunications, favourable business climate in terms of tax policies and availability of financial incentives, as well as excellent national and international transport links.

Cushman & Wakefield, European Cities Monitor 2011

Location

- 1 London
- 2 Paris

3	Frankfurt
4	Amsterdam
5	Berlin
6	Brussels
7	Madrid
8	Barcelona
9	Munich
10	Zurich