

PRESS RELEASE



Brussels for All : An essential leading card for accessibility of touristic places

This summer, on the occasion of the yearly holidays, the Minister, member of the Brussels Frenchspeaking government in charge of the Help for the Disabled, the Minister-President of the Brussels Regional government in charge of Tourism, the CEO of visit.brussels, Patrick BONTINCK, the VGC (Vlaamse Gemeenschapscommissie), 'Les Œuvres du Soir' and the CEO of the association AMT Concept – Access and Mobility for All - Miguel GEREZ, have presented the new tourist 2016 "Brussels for All ". This trilingual guide offers a diagnosis of accessibility of touristic infrastructures to persons with reduced mobility (PRM) searching for information regarding their stay in Brussels. The places in Brussels have been visited by Access-I (www.access-i.be).

The guide « Brussels for All » is a complete tool with practical informations regarding accessibility of hotels, restaurants, shopping centres and centres for leisure. This guide is also a tool for agencies and tour operators, service providers, transportation or lodging.

For ten years now the association AMT concept contributes with the guide «Brussels for All» and his website to the development of the « tourism for all ». « *The paper edition is a resource guide that is complemented by the website. It offers simple and concise information regarding accessibility with links to the website with useful details and photos.* » says Miguel Gerez, CEO of the association AMT Concept. AMT Concept provides recommendations to reduce behavioural barriers as well as architectural ones which inhibit disabled tourists to travel in full safety.

The Brussels Minister in charge of the Help for the Disabled notices that « It is very essential to continue this work to make Brussels a more inclusive place. I hope that this edition will allow persons with reduced mobility to fully enjoy the various activities in Brussels. »

Although significant improvements have been carried out the last few years in Brussels, the accessibility of touristic places is far from established especially in public transport, public buildings, shops, restaurants, centers for leisure.

For any kind of travel, people need exhaustive information on the state of the infrastructure. A step, a badly calculated door width, a wrongly placed plant can be sources of dependence and weariness for disabled travelers or their assistants.

*For several years visit.brussels, the agency for communication and tourism of the Brussels Capital Region develops a touristic offer adapted to the disabled. There is a part of the website of visit.brussels dedicated to the persons with reduced mobility : visit.brussels/forall. That is why we wanted to support this paper edition of the guide « Brussels for All », explained **Patrick Bontinck**, CEO of visit.brussels.*

Need more information ?



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