

MATCH

Ad hoc group for the modeling and assessment of contributions of climate change

13th to 14th March 2006, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium

Practical Information

Venue:	Institut d'Astronomie et de Géophysique Georges Lemaître, Université catholique de Louvain (UCL-ASTR, www.climate.be)
Address:	2, Chemin du Cyclotron (Bâtiment Marc d'Hemptinne, tour B, 4 ^{ème} étage) B-1348 Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium
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About Louvain la Neuve and Université Catholique de Louvain (UCL),

The Université catholique de Louvain is an historic university, founded in 1425 (by the pope, hence its name). Following the linguistic separation of Belgium during the 1960s, the french-speaking part of UCL moved from the flemish-speaking city of Leuven to a new town, Louvain la Neuve, conveniently situated about 30km SE of Brussels. Louvain-la-Neuve retains some of the spirit of the old city, designed for pedestrians with a maze of mixed-use narrow streets and places, an interesting vision for sustainable development.

About the Institut d'Astronomie et de Géophysique Georges Lemaître (ASTR)

Our institute, once famous for its contribution to the theory of the "Big Bang", is now dedicated to climate research (see www.climate.be).

Within ASTR, Dr Ben Matthews, working in the group of Prof Jean-Pascal van Ypersele (IPCC WG2 Vice-Chair), has contributed to the ACCC/MATCH process for several years. During 2005-6 he has been joined in this work by Christiano Pires de Campos from IVIG, Rio, Brazil. Together we welcome MATCH to UCL-ASTR.

About the region

Louvain la Neuve is in the centre of Brabant-Wallon, a french-speaking region just south of Brussels, the capital of Europe. 30Km further to the SE is the old city of Namur in the Meuse valley, beyond which are the forests and hills of the Ardennes. 25Km to the NE is the old city of Leuven, renowned for its medieval architecture.

How to get to UCL-ASTR, Louvain la Neuve

Everywhere in UCL is within a few minutes walk from the station, see map enclosed, and also www.astr.ucl.ac.be/index.php?page=AboutTheInstituteMap

Do not hesitate to ask (contact info above) for further information.

By Train:

Louvain la Neuve is easily accessible by train from Brussels (or Namur).

Our station “Louvain-la-Neuve Université” is on a branch from Ottignies, on the main line Brussels => Namur => Luxembourg, see map enclosed (beware that Leuven is also called “Louvain” in French, but is on a different line!).

Trains are regular throughout the day, the table shows the minutes past each hour

<i>Brussels-Airport</i>	04	17		48	32
<i>Brussels-Nord (arr)</i>	18	33		02	51
	IR-I (Mon-Fri only)	IC-J	L	IC-M	CR (slow)
Brussels-Midi/Zuid (Thalys, ICE, Eurostar)	22	36		06	48
Brussels-Central	26	40		10	52
Brussels-Nord (connection from airport)	31	45		15	57
Brussels-Schuman (Euro-Commission)	39	53		23	05
Brussels-Luxembourg (Euro-Parliament)	42	57		27	08
Ottignies (arr)	07	14		44	38
Ottignies (dep)	09	=>	21	=>	51
Louvain la Neuve Université (arr)	15		27		57
<i>Equivalent return train leaves LLN: (dep)</i>	45		33		03

The direct IR-I is the most convenient but runs only on weekdays, the others run daily. The last connection from the airport is 2248, then CR dep Nord 2311 arr LLN 2359. The destination of IC J is Namur/Luxembourg, of IC M it is Liers or Dinant. A single ticket from airport to Louvain la Neuve costs 5.80€

International Train Connections:

High-speed international trains to Brussels-Midi/Zuid come from London (Eurostar, 2h20, from £29), Paris (Thalys/TGV, 1h20, from 45€), Köln (Thalys/ICE, 2h18, from 26€), and Frankfurt (ICE, 3h30, from 71€). Prices are one-way, the cheapest when booked online well in advance, see www.sncb.be, www.eurostar.com, www.bahn.de, voyages.sncf.com. Some Thalys and Eurostar tickets are valid to any Belgian station. From Köln/Frankfurt it may be faster/cheaper to change in Liège, then go to Ottignies via Namur. There is a night train from Berlin to Brussels. From Basel, Strasbourg, Luxembourg, change in Namur.

Airports:

Brussels National Airport (www.brusselsairport.be) is the principal airport of Belgium. It is located at Zaventem, to the NE of Brussels, from here it is about 35km SE to Louvain la Neuve. You can take a train to LLN changing at Brussels-North, see the schedule above.

Some low-cost carriers fly instead to Charleroi Airport (“Brussels South”, www.charleroi-airport.com). This is at Gosselies, to the N of Charleroi, from here it is also about 35km NE to Louvain la Neuve. A shuttle bus “line 68” (see www.infotec.be) goes to the station Charleroi Sud, from where trains to Ottignies take 41 minutes, leaving at 57 minutes past each hour on weekdays (but only odd hours at the weekend). At Ottignies (arr hh38), change for Louvain la Neuve as above.

By Road:

Louvain la Neuve is situated near to the autoroute E411/A4 between Brussels and Namur. From the airport head south around the ring R0, turn left onto E411, then take exit 8a, just after Wavre. The centre of the town is all pedestrianised, with car-parking hidden

underneath, there is a charge for this. Our institute has free parking (see map and www.climate.be).

Hotels suggested for the MATCH meeting

(note: these are only suggestions, participants are responsible for their own hotel arrangements)

In Louvain-la-Neuve (most convenient, recommended)

(see map attached, also www.astr.ucl.ac.be/index.php?page=AboutTheInstituteMap)

	<i>Price</i>	<i>Breakfast</i>	<i>Distance</i>	<i>Observation</i>
Le Relais Tel: +32-(0)10/48.65.65 Fax: +32-(0)10/48.65.50 email: relais@relais.ucl.ac.be www.relais.ucl.ac.be	Single with shower 49 €	included	2' walk to train station 10' walk to ASTR	Convenient, quite small rooms. Rooms reserved for MATCH participants at special "UCL price" (10 on Sunday, 20 on Monday, 7 on Tuesday).
Mercure Hotel Tel: +32-(0)10/45.07.51 Fax: +32-(0)10/45.09.11 email: H2200@accor.com www.mercure.com	Single with bath 76 €	included	10' walk to train station 20' walk to ASTR	More luxurious, further to walk. Rooms reserved for MATCH participants at special "UCL price".

Near Louvain-la-Neuve (less convenient, but possible by taxi)

	<i>Price</i>	<i>Breakfast</i>	<i>Distance</i>
Novotel Wavre "Bruxelles Est" www.novotel.com	115€	14€	20' by taxi, otherwise 4' walk to station Bierges-Walibi, +23' train to LLN, +10' walk to ASTR
Chateau de Limelette www.chateau-de-limelette.be	175€+	included	20' by taxi, or 3.5km walk to ASTR across forest!

Brussels, European Quarter, (close to train for Louvain la Neuve)

(these are examples convenient for train to LLN, there are many hotels in the European quarter)

	<i>Price</i>	<i>Breakfast</i>	<i>Distance</i>
Eurovillage www.eurovillage.be	105€	16€	5' walk to station Bruxelles-Schuman (by EU Commission) or Bruxelles Luxembourg (by EU Parliament), + 30-35' train to LLN, +10' walk to ASTR
Hotel Leopold www.hotel-leopold.be	104 - 161€	?	
Hotel Charlemagne www.charlemagnehotelbrussels.com	127€	included	

