

## 7<sup>th</sup> GGI EasyMeet

Luxembourg  
12-14 March 2010

### General Information on Luxembourg

Luxembourg, officially the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, is a small, landlocked country in western Europe, bordered by Belgium, France, and Germany. Luxembourg has a population of under half a million people in an area of approximately 2,586 km<sup>2</sup>.

Luxembourg is a parliamentary representative democracy with a constitutional monarch; it is ruled by a Grand Duke. It is the world's only remaining sovereign Grand Duchy. The country has a highly developed economy, with the highest Gross Domestic Product per capita in the world as per IMF and WB. Its historic and strategic importance dates back to its founding as a Roman era fortress site and Frankish count's castle site in the Early Middle Ages. It was an important bastion along the Spanish Road when Spain was the principal European power influencing the whole western hemisphere and beyond in the 16th–17th centuries.

Luxembourg is a founding member of the European Union, NATO, OECD, the United Nations, Benelux, and the Western European Union, reflecting the political consensus in favor of economic, political, and military integration. The city of Luxembourg, the capital and largest city, is the seat of several institutions and agencies of the European Union.

Luxembourg lies on the cultural divide between Romance Europe and Germanic Europe, borrowing customs from each of the distinct traditions. Luxembourg is a trilingual country; German, French and Luxembourgish are official languages. Although a secular state, Luxembourg is predominantly Roman Catholic.

### Climate

Luxembourg has a marine west coast climate, marked by high precipitation, particularly in late summer.

By mid-March, it still might be quite cold, with sometimes snow showers. Don't forget to bring your raincoat and an umbrella!

### Currency

The official currency unit of Luxembourg is the Euro. Lots of automatic bank terminals are accessible 24 hours a day.



## Local Time

Luxembourg Time is GMT +1.

## Hotel Information:

### **Hotel Sofitel Luxembourg Le Grand Ducal**

40 boulevard d'Avranches

1160 Luxembourg, Luxembourg

Phone: +352 248 771 / Fax: +352 264 802 23

E-mail: [H5555-re@sofitel.com](mailto:H5555-re@sofitel.com)

Website: <http://www.sofitel.com/gb/hotel-5555-sofitel-luxembourg-le-grand-ducal/nearby.shtml>

The Sofitel Luxembourg Le Grand Ducal, overlooks the centrally located Pétrusse Valley and the historic quarter of the city. It is the ideal place for immersing yourself in the delightful charm of Luxembourg, while enjoying first class hospitality and facilities during your stay.

## Location and access

The hotel is conveniently situated in the historic city centre, 10 min from the airport, close to the railway station served by TGV services, in close proximity to Luxembourg's many banks and international institutions.

Via the highways, take exit No.6 for Luxembourg Gare, follow directions for Centre and then follow the signs for Sofitel. From the railway station, take the first right (Rue du Fort Neipperg) then take the second right (Rue Bender) and then directly on the left (Rue du Laboratoire) next turn left in to Avenue Charles de Gaulle. At the traffic lights turn right, the hotel is on your right.

Airport: Findel International Airport

Railway Station: Gare de Luxembourg

## Services / Facilities

- WiFi wireless Internet access
- Dry cleaning / Ironing
- Porter
- Pet allowed
- Babysitting on request
- Valet parking (free at the hotel)
- Fitness centre
- WiFi wireless Internet access
- Copy/print service available
- Fax machine
- Internet connectivity

## Transport

Luxembourg has efficient road, rail and air transport facilities and services. The road network has been significantly modernized in recent years with 147 km of motorways connecting the capital to adjacent countries. The advent of the high-speed TGV link to Paris has led to renovation of the city's railway station while a new passenger terminal at Luxembourg Airport has recently been opened. There are plans to introduce trams in the capital and light-rail lines in adjacent areas within the next few years.

### Taxis

Rates:

Pick-up charge: € 2.47  
€ 1.02 per km / € 2,03 per km (return trip incl.)  
Waiting: € 0.33 per minute  
Night rate: + 10-35 %.

*Benelux Taxis*  
Phone +352 40 38 40 / Fax +352 49 31 93

*City Taxis Centrale*  
Phone +352 48 00 58 / Fax +352 40 47 14

*Taxis Colux*  
Phone +352 48 22 33 / Fax +352 40 26 96

*Inter-Taxis*  
Phone +352 40 52 52-1 / Fax +352 40 48 88

### Public Transport

Practically every locality has train or bus connections.

Tickets:

- network ticket costing € 4.00 (valid for an unlimited number of trips) for one day from punching until 8 AM the next day. The 5-tickets-leaflet costs € 16.00.
- for small trips you can buy "short distance" tickets at € 1.50 € each, valid for two hours. You will have a 10 tickets-pack for € 12.00.

Departure and arrival hours of public transport are found at the bus stops and at the stations.

<http://www.cfl.lu> , (timetables for national and international trains)

<http://www.transports.lu> (Ministère des Transports)

<http://www.tgv.lu> (TGV train station Luxembourg)