



# Bruges & Western Flanders

LANGUAGE: DUTCH

## Includes ➔

|                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| Bruges (Brugge)..... | 85  |
| Damme.....           | 105 |
| De Haan.....         | 107 |
| Ostend (Oostende)... | 108 |
| Veurne.....          | 115 |
| Poperinge.....       | 118 |
| Ypres (Ieper).....   | 119 |
| Ypres Salient.....   | 123 |
| Kortrijk.....        | 125 |
| Ghent (Gent).....    | 129 |

## Best Places to Eat

- ➔ De Stove (p99)
- ➔ In 't Nieuwe Museum (p100)
- ➔ Restaurant Pegasus (p118)
- ➔ Den Gouden Harynck (p100)
- ➔ House of Eliott (p138)

## Best Places to Stay

- ➔ St-Niklaas B&B (p96)
- ➔ Guesthouse Nuit Blanche (p97)
- ➔ Steenhuyse (p128)
- ➔ Main Street Hotel (p121)
- ➔ Uppelink (p136)

## Why Go?

The smallest of towns in this region feature fabulous medieval city centres, complete with belfries and *begijnhoven*. Bruges and Ghent top the bill, but even lesser-known places such as Oudenaarde and Veurne retain wonderfully picturesque town squares. Ypres and Diksmuide are charming, too, and all the more extraordinary for having been meticulously rebuilt following WWI. Scars and souvenirs of the Great War remain poignant attractions in the surrounding countryside, which also grows hops for some of Belgium's trademark beers. Western Flanders is not a place of spectacular scenery, but Belgians love this region for its extensive sandy beaches, which provide relief from the sombre sight of battlefields.

## Driving Distances

|          |           |          |       |       |
|----------|-----------|----------|-------|-------|
| Kortrijk | 42        |          |       |       |
| Ypres    | 12        | 28       |       |       |
| Ghent    | 92        | 48       | 76    |       |
| Bruges   | 83        | 44       | 57    | 55    |
|          | Poperinge | Kortrijk | Ypres | Ghent |

## Bruges & Western Flanders Highlights

- 1 Exploring the impossibly picturesque canals, cobbled alleys and windmills of beautiful **Bruges** (p85)
- 2 Lingering among salient reminders of WWI around **Ypres** (p121)
- 3 Adorning the **Mystic Lamb** (p133) in Ghent
- 4 Drinking in centuries' old pubs as wonderful Westvlietoren and Pannepot battle it out for best **beer**
- 5 Bunkering down at the WWII sea defences west of **Ostend** (p108)
- 6 Taking a bucolic canal-side cycle ride to **Damme** and beyond (p105)
- 7 Wandering around little **Veurne**, which survived two wars and features a magnificent medieval market square (p115)

