



**EUROPEAN
CULTURAL HERITAGE
SUMMIT 2025
BRUSSELS
12-15 OCTOBER**



EUROPA
NOSTRA
HERITAGE
AGORA



Co-funded by
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EUROPEAN CULTURAL HERITAGE SUMMIT 2025

ORGANISED BY

[Europa Nostra](#) in the frame of the projects [Europa Nostra Heritage Agora](#), [European Heritage Hub](#) and [European Heritage Awards](#)
co-funded by the European Union

WITH THE SUPPORT OF

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IN COLLABORATION WITH

[Europa Nostra Belgium](#)
[European Heritage Hub consortium](#)

WITH THANKS TO

[City of Brussels](#)
[National Lottery of Belgium](#)
[Urban Brussels](#)
[Flagey](#)
[KBR - Royal Library of Belgium](#)
[Royal Museums of Fine Arts of Belgium](#)
[House of European History](#)
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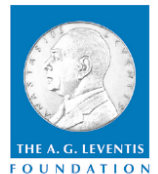
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Hub

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HOUSE OF
EUROPEAN
HISTORY



European Union
Youth Orchestra



EUROPEAN CULTURAL HERITAGE SUMMIT 2025

The [European Cultural Heritage Summit 2025](#), the largest cultural heritage event in Europe, is taking place from 12 to 15 October in Brussels, Belgium. Organised by [Europa Nostra](#) and co-funded by the European Union, the Brussels Summit will gather high-level representatives from EU Institutions, policymakers, heritage professionals and volunteers, civil society actors and other stakeholders from across Europe and beyond.

Holding this year's European Cultural Heritage Summit in Brussels has a particular significance at a time when the European Commission is about to publish the EU's very first [Culture Compass for Europe](#) and when EU Institutions and Member States are discussing the EU's next [Multiannual Financial Framework \(MFF\)](#). This is why the Summit is held under the motto "Heritage Matters for Europe"!

Focusing on the pivotal themes of Europe's key values, starting with peace, democracy and solidarity, the Brussels Summit will highlight the political, societal, economic and environmental relevance of cultural heritage for the future of Europe and its citizens. It will celebrate the extraordinary achievements of the winners of the European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards 2025, while underscoring the crucial role of cities and civil society in safeguarding Europe's rich and diverse cultural heritage.

We look forward to welcoming our members and partners, the representatives of the EU Institutions, national governments and local/regional authorities as well as heritage enthusiasts and supporters at our Summit in Brussels.



Grand-Place with the Town Hall of Brussels

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SUMMIT PROGRAMME

SUNDAY, 12 OCTOBER 2025

EUROPEAN HERITAGE EXCELLENCE DAY 2025

14:00 – 19:00

- Royal Museums of Fine Arts of Belgium (Auditorium 490), *Place du Musée / Museumplein*, Brussels

13:30 – 14:00 Registration and welcome coffee

For all registered participants

The European Heritage Excellence Day will showcase the very best heritage practices and the most inspiring heritage champions that contribute to shaping a more beautiful, cohesive, sustainable and democratic Europe. Coming from 24 countries across the continent, the 30 [winners of the European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards 2025](#) will present their exemplary achievements, outline the challenges they overcame, and share experiences about the success and impact of their initiatives.

The Excellence Day is jointly organised by [Europa Nostra](#) and the [European Commission](#) with the support of the [Creative Europe](#) Programme of the European Union.

The Excellence Day Programme Booklet can be read and downloaded [here](#).



Winners of the Awards 2025. © Radoszek Arts / Europa Nostra



SUMMIT PROGRAMME

MONDAY, 13 OCTOBER 2025

EUROPA NOSTRA GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2025

10:00 – 12:30

- KBR - Royal Library of Belgium, entrance via *Boulevard de l'Empereur 2 / Keizerslaan*, Brussels

09:30 – 10:00 Registration and welcome coffee

For Europa Nostra Members and Associates

During our General Assembly, several (re-) appointments to the Council and other governing bodies of Europa Nostra will be made. Members will also handle relevant statutory matters, including the approval of the Annual Report 2024.



KBR - Royal Library of Belgium / CC BY-SA 4.0

GUIDED VISIT TO THE HOUSE OF EUROPEAN HISTORY

14:30 – 15:30

- House of European History, *Rue Belliard 135 / Belliardstraat*, Brussels

For all registered participants

14:20 Assemble (security check)

SUMMIT PROGRAMME

MONDAY, 13 OCTOBER 2025

EUROPEAN HERITAGE AWARDS CEREMONY 2025

20:00 – 22:00

Followed by a festive reception

- Maison de la Radio – Flagey (Studio 4), Place Sainte Croix / Heilig Kruisplein, Brussels

For all registered participants and invited guests

Doors will open at 19:15. All attendees must arrive as early as possible and not later than 19:30.

All attendees will be asked to show your ticket at the entrance. Dress code: festive.

The [winners of the European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards 2025](#) will be celebrated at a high-profile event at Flagey, an iconic Art Deco building in Brussels. The European Heritage Awards Ceremony will be co-hosted by European Commissioner for Intergenerational Fairness, Youth, Culture and Sport, Glenn Micallef, and the Executive President of Europa Nostra, Prof. Dr. Hermann Parzinger. The event will be attended by other distinguished guests, including the First Vice-President of the European Parliament, Sabine Verheyen, on behalf of the President of the European Parliament, Roberta Metsola.



Flagey © Pascale Vanschoonbeek / Shutterstock



[illegible]

The Ceremony will be livestreamed via the [Europa Nostra website](#).



SUMMIT PROGRAMME

TUESDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2025

EUROPEAN HERITAGE HUB FORUM 2025

“Heritage Matters for Europe’s Cities and Citizens”

11:00 – 18:00

- Town Hall of Brussels, *Grand-Place / Grote Markt*, entrance via the Lion Staircase on the *Grand-Place*, Brussels

10:30 – 11:00 Registration and welcome coffee

For all registered participants

The European Heritage Hub Forum “Heritage Matters for Europe’s Cities and Citizens” will offer a timely and inclusive space for participants to reflect on how European policy can better support community-rooted heritage, civic participation, democracy and cultural rights across Europe. Held in the framework of the EU-funded [European Heritage Hub](#) Preparatory Action, the Hub Forum is organised by project leader [Europa Nostra](#) in cooperation with the Hub consortium of partners, and with the support of the [European Commission](#) and the [City of Brussels](#).

This high-level strategic policy dialogue will gather civil society organisations, municipalities, representatives from EU institutions, experts and heritage professionals. Participants will be given the opportunity to discuss the European policies shaping the future of our shared heritage, and more broadly, the role heritage should play in European democracy and inclusivity.

The Forum comes at a crucial moment for the future of European heritage policy, at a time when the European Commission is nearing the completion of its [Culture Compass for Europe](#) and negotiations have kicked off for the 2028–2034 [Multiannual Financial Framework \(MFF\)](#).

The event will build on the momentum of previous Hub Forums, such as in [Budva, Montenegro](#), which underscored heritage and culture as promoters of social inclusion, sustainable development, and regional cooperation, especially in EU neighbouring countries, in [Venice, Italy](#), which focused on the green transformation and climate action, and in [Bucharest, Romania](#), which highlighted the need to promote a responsible and human-centred digital transformation.



European
Heritage
Hub

European Heritage Hub Forum

**Heritage Matters
for Europe's Cities
and Citizens**

14 October 2025 | 10:30 Brussels Town Hall



Image: La Grand Place, with the historic
Town Hall of Brussels © Catarina Belova /
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Key objectives of the Forum

- Highlight the vital role of local and regional authorities, in partnership with civil society, for heritage policymaking at the European level;
- Ensure the Culture Compass is responsive to the realities and needs of local communities and civil society;
- Align its priorities with the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), particularly in terms of also providing direct access to EU funding for local heritage and civil society actors in the field of cultural heritage.

The Hub Forum Programme Booklet can be read and downloaded [here](#).

A recording of the Hub Forum will be published on the [Hub website](#) after the event.

SUMMIT PROGRAMME

WEDNESDAY, 15 OCTOBER 2025

EUROPEAN HERITAGE POLICY AGORA 2025

“The Europeans: Shared Cultural Roots and Values”

including Europa Nostra Lecture by Orlando Figes & Dialogue with MEPs

09:30 – 13:30

- Zweig Visitor Centre, European Parliament, Ardenne-Belliard / Rue d'Ardenne, Brussels

09:00 – 09:30 Registration and welcome coffee

For all registered participants. A list with the names of all participants and their ID numbers was submitted to the European Parliament. Last-minute registration is not possible.

Plan time for security check.

Organised in the framework of the EU-funded [Agora](#) project, and co-hosted with the European Parliament, this event will offer a most inspiring platform to (re)discover and celebrate Europe’s shared cultural roots and values. This year’s European Heritage Policy Agora will bring together historians, policymakers, civil society and cultural leaders to explore how Europe’s rich and diverse heritage can foster unity amid diversity and address contemporary challenges.



Zweig Visitor Centre © European Union 2022 – Source: EP



Featuring a Europa Nostra Annual Lecture* by the renowned British historian Orlando Figes, an expert panel discussion with Members of the European Parliament, and a screening of the documentary *“Une saga de l’Europe culturelle, au cœur du XIXe siècle”*** (ARTE TV, Bel Air Média, Centre Européen de Musique, and Centre d’Études d’Europe Hispanique), the Policy Agora will highlight the vital role of culture and history in shaping European identity and strengthening the European project.



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Join this flagship event and engage in the conversation on how cultural heritage can build much-needed bridges between Europe’s citizens — across borders and generations.

The Agora Programme Booklet can be read and downloaded [here](#).

** The Europa Nostra Lecture Programme was created in 2023 at the initiative and thanks to the generous donation of Dr Peter Collins, Diamond Member of Europa Nostra from Oxford (UK), in memory of his late wife Margot Collins, who was a long-standing member and supporter of Europa Nostra.*

*** The documentary “Une saga de l’Europe culturelle, au cœur du XIXe siècle” will be shown in French (without subtitles).*



BRUSSELS SUMMIT

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Map of Brussels

An interactive map of Brussels with the main venues can be found [here](#).

Registration and Access Badge

We kindly ask you to wear your access badge at all events. You can pick up your badge at the venues prior to the events: Excellence Day (12/10), General Assembly (13/10) and Hub Forum (14/10). You do not need to wear the badge during the Awards Ceremony. All participants who registered until 3 October will receive a digital entrance ticket for the Awards Ceremony. Delegates who registered after 3 October, will need to get their access badge printed on-site. Please note that there will be security checks for the visit at the House of European History (13/10) and the Policy Agora & Lecture at the Zweig Centre (15/10). For the Policy Agora & Lecture, personal data and ID numbers of all participants had to be delivered to the European Parliament for security check. Last-minute registration is not possible.

Getting to Brussels

Brussels Airport (Zaventem) is the primary international gateway to the city, located approximately 12 kilometres from the city centre. The Airport Line (bus 12 or 21) provides a direct and efficient connection to the European Quarter and central Brussels. Trains from the airport to Brussels Central Station run frequently and take around 20 minutes. Taxis and ride-sharing services are also readily available at the arrival's terminal.

Brussels is reachable by train with direct connections from many European cities including Paris, London, Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Cologne, Frankfurt, Strasbourg, Geneva and Zurich. More information [here](#).

Public Transport

Brussels boasts an integrated and reliable public transport network operated by [STIB/MIVB](#), encompassing metro, tram, and bus services. Services typically run from 06:00 to midnight. Visitors can pay for their journey directly on board using contactless bank cards, smartphones, or smartwatches via Apple Pay, Google Pay, Fitbit Pay, or Garmin Pay.

For those planning multiple journeys, the Brupass offers unlimited travel across STIB, TEC, De Lijn, and SNCB services within the Brussels Capital Region. Tickets can be loaded onto a MoBIB card or purchased in paper form at metro stations and kiosks. Most local taxis accept cards. [Bolt](#) and [Uber](#) operate in Brussels. Make sure you have the app downloaded on your phone with a working credit card associated to your account.

Note: Strike on 14 October

Several disruptions are expected on 14 October for a national strike in Belgium, with probable impact on public transport and flights. According to the latest information, there will not be any departing flights from Brussels airport on 14 October. If you booked a flight on 14 October, please check with your airline. For public transport, please consult the website of [NMBS/SNCB](#) and [De Lijn](#) for the latest information regarding their services.

Dining in Brussels

Brussels is a gastronomic haven, offering everything from traditional Belgian fare to innovative international cuisine. For the Summit attendees seeking memorable dining experiences, we recommend:

- [The Brasserie](#) – A quintessential Belgian brasserie offering classic dishes with a contemporary twist. (€€)
- [Les Brigittines](#) – Located between the Sablon and Marolles districts, this Art Nouveau brasserie occupies a former post office and is a tribute to La Belle Époque. (€€€)
- [Brasserie Surréaliste](#) – Located in a restored 1932 Art Deco banana warehouse in the Dansaert district, this surreal venue combines Belgian cuisine, craft beer, and avant-garde décor. (€€€)
- [La Porteuse d'Eau](#) – A brasserie in a 1903 Art Nouveau building, serving traditional Belgian fare. (€€)
- [Belga Queen](#) – A majestic former bank turned restaurant, serving Belgian classics and seafood in a grand Art Deco setting. (€€€)
- [Barracuda](#) – A stylish venue known for its refined Italian dishes and elegant atmosphere. (€€)
- [The Eight Rooftop](#) – Located atop the JAM Hotel, this rooftop restaurant provides panoramic views of the city alongside a creative menu. (€€)
- [Le Conteur](#) – A vibrant eatery blending Middle Eastern flavours with European culinary techniques in a convivial setting. (€€€)

- [Nénu](#) – A modern Vietnamese bistro offering a creative take on traditional dishes in a warm, design space. (€€)
- [9 et Voisins](#) – Relaxed bistro style – casual but charming, with friendly staff and a local feel. Belgian classics like stoemp with sausage, beef stew (carbonnade flamande), and seasonal comfort food. Vegetarian and lactose-free options available. (€)
- [Fin de Siècle](#) – Rustic interior, wooden tables, art on the walls, very popular with locals. No reservations – you line up, but it moves fast. Rustic Belgian dishes like rabbit in Kriek beer, beef stew, and grilled meats. No fries – they serve mashed or roasted potatoes. (€)
- [Le Variétés](#) – Vintage brasserie atmosphere, original décor (wood panelling, retro feel) with open kitchen. They do classic Belgian fare plus house specialties, especially their spit roasted chicken. (€€)
- [Takumi Flagey](#) – Japanese ramen & Asian style dishes. Cozy atmosphere, generous portions, friendly service. (€€)

Explore Brussels

We collected some information to help you organise individual visits to sites that have received the European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards, as well as to other sites of interest. See it [here](#).

For further information on what to see and do in Brussels, including cultural attractions, guided tours, and visitor services, we encourage participants to explore the official tourism website: www.visit.brussels/en/visitors

This resource offers up-to-date recommendations and practical tips to help you make the most of your stay in the Belgian capital.

BRUSSELS SUMMIT

INFORMATION

By registering for the Summit, you agreed to be bound by the terms and conditions set out below.

Disclaimer

You agree that Europa Nostra is not liable to you for any loss, damage, injury or any incidental, indirect, special, consequential or economic loss or damage whether to person or property and whether arising from default, negligence, misconduct or otherwise by Europa Nostra, its employees, partners or contractors in connection with the Summit.

Indemnity

You agree to indemnify Europa Nostra against liability for, or in respect of, any claims, demands, actions, costs, expenses, losses and damages arising out of or in connection with the Summit.

Privacy and Intellectual Property

You acknowledge and agree that, in respect of your attendance at the Brussels Summit:

- You may be photographed, filmed or recorded.
- Europa Nostra can use and disclose your name and image in any material, including promotional material in connection with the Brussels Summit or future events, without prior consent from you or any compensation to you.
- Europa Nostra can use and disclose your personal information for any other purpose in connection with the Brussels Summit.
- Europa Nostra's privacy policy (see www.europanostra.org/privacy-policy) contains further information about how Europa Nostra uses, discloses and stores personal information. It also contains details about how you can access and seek correction of your personal information.
- Europa Nostra is not liable for any views, comments and posts made by Summit delegates and others in connection with the Brussels Summit.



BRUSSELS SUMMIT

ABOUT

EUROPA NOSTRA

[Europa Nostra](#) is the European voice of civil society committed to safeguarding and promoting cultural and natural heritage. It is a pan-European federation of heritage NGOs, supported by a wide network of public bodies, private companies and individuals, covering over 40 countries. It is the most representative heritage network in Europe, maintaining close relations with the European Union, the Council of Europe, UNESCO and other international bodies.

Europa Nostra campaigns to save Europe's endangered monuments, sites and landscapes, in particular through the [7 Most Endangered Programme](#). It celebrates and disseminates excellence through the [European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards](#). Europa Nostra actively contributes to the definition and implementation of European strategies and policies related to heritage, through a participatory dialogue with European Institutions and the coordination of the [European Heritage Alliance](#). It is also a partner of the [New European Bauhaus](#) initiative developed by the European Commission, and a leading European member and supporter of the [Climate Heritage Network](#).

Europa Nostra has led the European consortium selected by the European Commission to run the [European Heritage Hub](#) project since 2023.

CREATIVE EUROPE

[Creative Europe](#) is the European Union's flagship programme to support all cultural and creative sectors, including cultural heritage, enabling them to increase their contribution to Europe's society, economy and living environment. With a budget of €2.4 billion for 2021-2027, it supports organisations in the fields of heritage, performing arts, fine arts, interdisciplinary arts, publishing, film, TV, music and video games as well as tens of thousands of artists, and cultural and audiovisual professionals.



BRUSSELS SUMMIT

BOOKLET

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As part of Europa Nostra's mission to safeguard our built and natural heritage, this booklet was produced exclusively in digital format.

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