



TWINNING TRIP TO GÖTTINGEN

THURSDAY 21 – THURSDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2023

Cheltenham Twinning Association is organising a trip to our German twin town of Göttingen, to coincide with the Göttingen Gänseliesel Fest (Goose Girl Festival). Such a visit was cancelled in 2021 and we are delighted to be able to offer another chance to visit this wonderful half-timbered town near the Harz mountains. <https://www.goettingen-tourismus.de/>

The package includes travel by Marchants coach, Channel crossing, use of coach in Göttingen for local excursions and enroute bed and breakfast accommodation at the hotels below:

- Overnight at **Mercure Antwerp City Centre** – a 4* central hotel located in the Diamond District opposite the romantic English style city park in the heart of Antwerp city. This modern hotel offers spacious and comfortable rooms with free WiFi throughout, a 24 hour fitness gym, a lounge bar and a restaurant, serving a mix of international and regional dishes for dinner. Buffet breakfast is included in the price. <https://all.accor.com/hotel/B661/index.en.shtml>
- Overnight on return at **Novotel Leuven Centrum** – a 4* hotel located just a 15 minute walk away from the beautiful historical city centre. The modern and spacious rooms have a double bed and sofa bed for those wishing a twin room. All rooms have air conditioning, TV, WiFi and minibar. The hotels Gourmet bar offers local and international cuisine. Buffet breakfast is included. <https://all.accor.com/hotel/3153/index.en.shtml?>

The cost of this 8 day trip will be a maximum of £500 per person sharing a twin / double room based on a minimum of 30 people. If there are substantially more people, the price will reduce. The single room supplement is £104 per person for the enroute overnight hotels.

If you wish to stay in a hotel in Göttingen this would be an additional cost, payable in Göttingen.

Family Accommodation in Göttingen - we would like to encourage an immersive experience of staying with people who you already know and would ask you to contact your friends. Alternatively, it is hoped that a number of families from the Göttingen Twinning Association will offer guest accommodation in their homes.

Hotel Accommodation in Göttingen - If you prefer a hotel stay, 10 double rooms and 5 single rooms have been reserved for our group at the Hotel Rennschuh, Kasseler Landstr 93 www.rennschuh.de This hotel is 1.8 miles from the town centre and on a regular bus service into the town. The hotel has a good restaurant as well as an indoor pool and sauna. The driver and coach will be here, so there is the advantage of being able to get on / off the coach for trips etc at hotel.

Cost : *Single room 62 euros per night x 5 nights = 310 euros (Approx £275);
Double/twin room 82 euros per night per room x 5 nights = 410 euros (Approx £360 per room - £180 pp).
Breakfasts included. Payment to be made directly to hotel either on arrival in Göttingen or departure.*

There are a number of more central hotels however these are more expensive and you could be the only one from the group staying there.

Should you wish to make your own way to Göttingen, you are more than welcome to join in with the programme once there, but do let us know.

DRAFT ITINERARY (as of March 2023)

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| Thursday 21 September | Depart Cheltenham Channel crossing Overnight and time in Antwerp Mercure Antwerp City Centre Hotel https://all.accor.com/hotel/B661/index.en.shtml |
| Friday 22 September | Journey on to Göttingen Accommodation at hotel or with host families |
| Saturday 23 September | In Göttingen – tour of the town; Reception, |
| Sunday 24 September | In Göttingen – Goose Girl Festival, local exploring, with host families |
| Monday 25 September | Day trip by coach |
| Tuesday 26 September | Half day trip or a walk will be organised with Göttingen Twinning Association plus a social |
| Wednesday 27 Sept | Depart Göttingen and overnight in Leuven, Novotel Leuven Centrum https://all.accor.com/hotel/3153/index.en.shtml |
| Thursday 28 September | Morning in Leuven or other Belgian town Late afternoon channel crossing 10pm approx arrive in Cheltenham |

More events and excursions will be organised for the group whilst in Göttingen and use of the coach in Göttingen is included in the price although entrance or other fees would have to be paid for. We also hope to organise a couple of events with members of the Göttingen Twinning Association.

If you are interested in joining this trip to Göttingen, a non-refundable deposit of £100 per person, is requested to secure your place, together with the completed booking form, by the end of May.

The deposit is non-returnable, unless filled from a waiting list, however the Twinning Association will refund the deposit if cancelled due to insufficient numbers.

Preferably please pay online to the Cheltenham Twinning Association account at Metro Bank.

Cheltenham Twinning Association

Sort Code : 23 05 80

Account No : 37075221

Ref : Gottingen

NB : Metro Bank advises that if your bank comes up with the message of not recognising the account, to scroll down past this message and there will be a Continue button, and that should let you continue with the process. Metro assures this is all safe and secure.

If you are unable to pay online, please send a cheque payable to Cheltenham Twinning Association, for attention of Annette Wight at the address below.

Full payment will be required some 8 weeks prior to departure (mid July).

All travellers must be in possession of a valid passport, with 6 months until expiry date.

Insurance cover must be arranged individually and cover any covid cancellations or delayed return due to covid. Each traveller is responsible for themselves in this situation, but assistance would be given.

All enquiries and correspondence regarding this trip should be directed to:-

Annette Wight, Twinning Officer, Cheltenham Borough Council, Municipal Offices,

Promenade, Cheltenham, Glos GL50 1PP

Email Annette.wight@cheltenham.gov.uk Tel 01242 264311.