

Dear (Erasmus) student

Everything you need to know about accommodation in Ghent is to be found in these pages. Please read the information below carefully, in order to be well prepared for a pleasant stay.

Your accommodation can be arranged by the accommodation service of SOVOARTE.
However, Sovoarte also offers more!

SOVOARTE (social services Arteveldehogeschool) offers you a wide range of student services so that every student is able to study and develop him/herself 'carefree' and in the best circumstances. You are always welcome at the SOVOARTE support centres with all your questions, requirements and wishes. The staff guarantees information, advice and assistance for all possible aspects of student life: practical information, financial questions, emotional and relationship problems, social-legal topics, sports and cultural activities, etc...

If you wish the accommodation service to look for a room or studio for you, or if you have specific questions concerning accommodation, please contact :

Elena Beellaert, Service Accommodation SOVOARTE, Kortrijksepoortstraat 254, B-9000 Gent; BELGIUM.

TEL: + 32 9 269 60 61; gsm: + 32 478 222 516; e-mail: elena.beellaert@sovoarte.be

The opening hours are : Monday: from 14.00 till 18.30

Tuesday: by appointment!

Wednesday: from 08.00 till 12.00

Thursday: from 11.00 till 16.30

Friday: closed

ATTENTION: SOVOARTE is closed during the weekends (every Saturday and Sunday) and the holidays: Autumn holidays, Christmas holidays, Spring holidays, Easter holidays and Summer holidays.

If you arrive in Ghent during the collective holidays, or on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, then you are responsible for accommodation yourself. Information about hotels in Ghent is to be found on www.gent.be. Information about youth hostels is to be found on: www.ghent-hostel.com

The accommodation service and the international coordinator of your department can be contacted again the next working day.

1. What can you expect from a room or studio?

- A room in Eendrachtstraat 106, 9000 Ghent

The room is fully furnished: a bed and mattress, wardrobe, desk and desk chair, book case. There is a wash basin in the room with hot and cold water. A duvet and pillow can be used, but need to be arranged in advance (contact Elena). Sheets are not available and should be brought by the student him/herself. The room is about 12 square metres. The decoration is standard (rather old-fashioned) and not luxurious. The building has 8 student rooms, a single kitchen (to be shared by all students) with the necessary kitchen tools. There is 1 shower and there are 2 toilets, to be shared by all students. The rental fee is € 210 (or € 220 for a larger room) per month. The costs for the use of water, electricity and heating are included. There is no internet!

- A room in Papegaaistraat 19-23, 9000 Ghent

The room is furnished: a bed and mattress, wardrobe, desk and desk chair. There is a toilet and a wash basin in the room with hot and cold water. A duvet and pillow can be used, but need to be arranged in advance (contact Elena). Sheets are not available and should be brought by the student him/herself. The room is about 12 square metres. The decoration is rather modern, but not luxurious. The building has 3 student rooms and 5 studios, a small kitchen (to be shared by all students) with the necessary kitchen tools. There is 1 shower, to be shared by all students. The rental fee is € 190 per month. The costs for the use of water, electricity and heating are included. There is no internet!

- A studio in Papegaaistraat 19-23, 9000 Ghent

The studio is furnished: a bed and mattress, wardrobe, desk and desk chair. There is a kitchenette and a small bathroom (toilet and wash basin with hot and cold water, shower). A duvet and pillow can be used, but need to be arranged in advance (contact Elena). Sheets are not available and should be brought by the student him/herself. The room is about 19 square metres. The decoration is rather modern, but not luxurious. The building has 3 student rooms and 5 studios, a small kitchen (to be shared by all students) with the necessary kitchen tools. There is 1 shower, to be shared by all students.

The rental fee is € 275 per month. The costs for the use of water, electricity and heating are included. There is no internet!

- A room in Lange Boomgaardstraat 70, 9000 Ghent

The room is furnished: a bed and mattress, wardrobe, desk and desk chair. There is a wash basin in the room with hot and cold water. A duvet and pillow can be used, but need to be arranged in advance (contact Elena). Sheets are not available and should be brought by the student him/herself. The room is about 12 square metres. The decoration is standard (rather old-fashioned) and not luxurious. The building has 5 student rooms and 1 studio, a single kitchen (to be shared by all students) with the necessary kitchen tools. There is 1 shower and 1 toilet (in the small inneryard), to be shared by all students. There is room in the inner yard to park your bike. The rental fee is € 190 per month. The costs for the use of water, electricity and heating are included. There is no internet!

- a studio in Lange Boomgaardstraat 70, 9000 Ghent

The studio is furnished: a bed and mattress, wardrobe, desk and desk chair. There is a kitchenette (supplied with the necessary kitchen tools) and a small bathroom (wash basin with hot and cold water, shower). A duvet and pillow can be used, but need to be arranged in advance (contact Elena). Sheets are not available and should be brought by the student him/herself. The room is about 20 square metres. The decoration is rather old-fashioned, and not luxurious. The building has 5 student rooms and 1 studio, a small kitchen (to be shared by all students). There is 1 shower and 1 toilet (toilet in the small inneryard), to be shared by all students. There is room in the inner yard to park your bike. The rental fee is € 245 per month. The costs for the use of water, electricity and heating are included. There is no internet!

- a studio Keizer Karelstraat 218, 9000 Ghent

The studio is furnished: a bed and mattress, wardrobe, desk and desk chair. There is a kitchenette (supplied with the necessary kitchen tools) and a small bathroom (wash basin with hot and cold water, shower and toilet). A duvet and pillow can be used, but need to be arranged in advance (contact Elena). Sheets are not available and should be brought by the student him/herself. The room is about 20-35 square metres. The decoration is modern, but not luxurious. The building has 7 studios, of which 2 studios can house 2 persons. The rental fee is € 280 per month for a single studio, and € 310 or 360 for a duplex studio. The costs for the use of water, electricity and heating are included. There is no internet!

- A room in Houtbriel 13, 9000 Ghent

Large, renovated house in the city centre, owned by a Belgian couple. The owners live on the first floor and the students live on the second floor. This floor has two large bedrooms, a bathroom and a kitchen. Each of these rooms is furnished and meets basic requirements, bed linen is also provided. The students, although living with the owners, are completely independent and have total privacy. The rental fee is € 255 per month. The costs for the use of water, electricity and heating are included. There is no internet!

- A room in studenthome de la Salle, Sint-Michielsstraat 13, 9000 Gent

Large, old building that houses 140 students of all nationalities. The rooms are furnished and rather old-fashioned. Sheets and blankets are available. The showers and toilets, as well as the kitchen are to be found in the corridors and are to be shared by all students of the same corridor. There is internet in every room. The rental fee is € 190 per month. This includes breakfast, as well as the costs of the use of water, electricity and heating.

PHOTOGRAPHS

2. A room is only for 1 student!

Because of the insurance policy and for your own safety, rooms are NOT to be shared. A room or studio is only fit for one single person. Only exception: the 2 studios in Keizer Karelstraat, as mentioned above.

3. You prefer your accommodation to be arranged by SOVOARTE. What do you have to do? What is the procedure we use?

- You apply by filling out the housing form (fill in fully and readable!). It is of extreme importance that the date and hour of arrival and departure are mentioned correctly.

You also mention what type of room/studio you would like to rent.

REMARK: if the rooms/studios of SOVOARTE do not meet your requirements, you are responsible for finding alternative accommodation (on the private market) yourself. Please be aware that finding accommodation on the private market is quite difficult, since most owners are not eager to take on tenants that only stay a couple of months.

When completely filled out, the housing form is to be sent to elena.beellaert@sovoarte.be.

- the accommodation service of SOVOARTE sends you an email to confirm your application and will also take care of the booking of the room you selected.

- you deposit the rent guarantee of € 150 + two months rental fee on the bank account of SOVOARTE zvw, Kortrijksepoortstraat 254, B-9000 Gent - BELGIUM, number 737-0123743-14.

ATTENTION: if you rent a room for less than 2 months, you also deposit 2 months of rental fee in advance. If you rent a room for longer than 2 months, you deposit at least 2 months of rental fee in advance.

- the accommodation service will send you a confirmation mail once payment has been received. Your room will only be assured and kept available once payment is done. If payment is done, but you cancel the renting before your arrival, the rental fee of two months (as deposited before) will be withheld as compensation for the lack of occupancy of the room.

- once you have arrived (not on a Friday, Saturday or Sunday or collective holidays), please contact the accommodation service immediately to inform them you have arrived: SOVOARTE, Kortrijksepoortstraat 254, 9000 Gent. During this first meeting with the people from the accommodation service you will be given the rent contract. Please read it carefully and sign if you agree with the conditions mentioned. **You will receive the key to your room/studio only if the contract is signed.**

- In order to pay the monthly rental fees of the following months, you need to sign in with the accommodation service of SOVOARTE at the beginning of every month, Kortrijksepoortstraat 254, 9000 Gent. You can pay the rental fees in cash (you will be given a receipt) or by using credit cards (VISA, MASTERCARD, MAESTRO).

4. You sign the rent contract: your rights and duties!

- You are subjected to the stipulations mentioned in the rent contract. It is in your advantage to read the contract carefully before signing it. For instance: the contract states that you have to pay two months of rental fee, to compensate for the lack of occupancy, in case you leave the room before the end date of the rental period, as indicated in the contract. The contract also clearly mentions you can only pay for the room/studio in full months, and not per week or per day!

- In case of any problems concerning accommodation, you report them immediately to the accommodation service. For instance, if something is damaged or if you have noticed odour nuisance,...

- If you wish to stay longer than you had initially planned or agreed upon in the rent contract, a prolongation of the rent contract is possible if the room is still available and after having made an appointment with the accommodation service of SOVOARTE to discuss this matter.

5. End of the rent contract: how do you get back your rent guarantee?

You contact the accommodation service of SOVOARTE: elena.beellaert@sovoarte.be or 0478 222 516 (mobile phone) or 09 269 60 61 (office). You make an appointment with the accommodation service so the room can be inspected on the day of your departure.

If the room is cleaned, the duvet and pillow are washed and the furniture is not damaged, the rent guarantee will be given to you in cash.

6 Important Remarks

- There is a list with the 'house rules' in every house where the accommodation service offers rooms/studios for rent. The house rules contain the rules to be applied when living in the building. For instance: every house has its own rules concerning the sorting and collection of garbage. Please read these documents carefully and apply the rules indicated.

- Please be aware of the fact that it is not easy, as a foreign student, to do a temporary job or earn some extra money. If you are afraid you will not be able to pay for your room in Ghent, please ask advice from the competent authorities in your home country.