

Seabird Group 10th International Conference
Provinciaal Hof
Bruges, 27-30 March 2009



FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS



Scope and objectives

The 10th International Seabird Group anniversary meeting will be held in the beautiful city of Bruges (Belgium) from 27 till 30 March 2009. The place of venue for this special anniversary meeting will be the historical 'Provinciaal Hof' in the market square.

Conference format

It promises to be a most interesting conference. Registration and keynote presentations will be in the late afternoon of the Friday. Saturday and Sunday will be dedicated to oral presentations and poster sessions, and on Monday delegates will have the option to join a post-conference excursion.

Language

The official language of the conference is English.

Topics and submission of titles

Given the dynamics of the marine ecosystem, the broad spectrum of research issues, and the wide geographical provenance of delegates at previous meetings, this conference will not be based on preset themes. All original contributions on seabird research and conservation issues are welcome and will be grouped in sessions after submission. In line with the celebration of this 10th meeting, one exception will be made with a preset session on '*Seabird Success Stories*'.

Contributors to the conference are invited to submit a provisional title and a short preliminary outline 10-15 lines of the oral or poster contribution they would like to present, to the conference secretariat (seabirdconf2009@vliz.be) prior to **1 June 2008**, using the enclosed submission form.

Letters of acceptance and instructions for preparation of the final abstracts will be mailed out in mid June.

Posters

The posters will be mounted in the immediate vicinity of the conference area. Several sessions with authors present are planned.

Abstracts

The final abstracts of the oral and poster contributions will be published and distributed to the participants at the start of the symposium. The deadline for submission of the final abstract will be **15 October 2008**.

Venue

The majority of Brugge's sights are concentrated on the Market Square, otherwise known as the Markt, and the nearby Burg, another central city square. Apart from its abundant restaurants and cafés, the Markt is surrounded by stunning examples of ancient architecture including the Provincial Palace

House (Provinciaal Hof), the Market Halls and the Belfry. The Provinciaal Hof is an imposing neo-Gothic building dating from the 19th century and currently housing the headquarters of the West Flanders government. The Market Halls formed the commercial centre of the city between the 13th and 16th centuries, and are now used as an exhibition centre by regional art dealers. The Belfry is the square's primary attraction, standing 84m high and affording magnificent vistas over the city for those with the energy to climb its 366 steps. The lower half of the bell tower was constructed in the 13th century, with the turrets and the octagonal upper section added in the 14th and 15th centuries respectively. The Belfry contains a total of 47 bells, which ring out periodically over the city.

Travel

The city is easily accessible whatever transport mode is chosen, *cf.*
<http://www.winterinbrugge.be/ContentEditor.aspx?lang=en&con=3>

Accommodation

Hotels

An option has been taken on a number of centrally located hotels (*cf.* enclosed hotel booking form). Accommodation is available in all price categories and early booking is highly recommended. The final deadline for reservation is 27 January 2009.

The hotel booking form should be faxed or mailed before **27 January 2009** to:

Toerisme Brugge

Mariastraat 44

PB 744

8000 Brugge

Tel: +32-(0)50-44 46 66 - Fax: +32-(0)50-44 46 45

Toerisme.reserveringen@brugge.be - <http://www.meetinginbrugge.be>

Cheap accommodation

Be aware that Brugge can be crowded with tourists and that especially cheap accommodation should be booked well beforehand on an individual basis. Please note that this cheaper accommodation (*cf.* table below) is not in the immediate vicinity of the venue. For a situation map, click on the following link:
<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?ie=UTF8&hl=en&msa=0&ll=51.213121,3.222771&spn=0.151191,0.31723&z=12&msid=111498929873930759683.00044ae784e604c175f5a>

Bauhaus

<http://www.bauhaus.be/>

Langestraat 133-137

8000 Bruges

Charlie Rockets

<http://www.charlieroockets.com/>

Hoogstraat 19

8000 Bruges

info@charlieroockets.com

Jeugdherberg Europa

<http://www.jeugdherbergen.be/brugge.htm>

Baron Ruzettelaan 143

8310 Brugge

brugge@vjh.be

Herdersbrug

<http://www.vjh.be>

Louis Coiseaukaai 46 - B 8380 Brugge (Dudzele)

T: +32(0)50 59 93 21 / F: +32 (0)50 59 93 49

brugge.dudzele@vjh.be

Social programme

A social programme for participants is planned on Saturday, 28 March. It will offer the opportunity to enjoy the historical city of Brugge, to meet colleagues and to taste the gastronomic qualities of Belgium. Conference dinner (19:30).

Further information

The second announcement with detailed registration information, the provisional programme and info on the post conference excursions on Monday, 30 March 2009, will be mailed out in July 2008. More details will also be available soon on the conference website www.vliz.be/conferences/seabirdconference2009.be which will be updated on a regular basis.

Practical information

Conference secretariat (general queries, abstracts, registration)

Flanders Marine Institute
Seabird Group 10th International Conference
VLIZ – InnovOcean site
Wandelaarkaai 7
8400 Oostende
Belgium
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E-mail: seabirdconf2009@vliz.be
www.vliz.be/conferences/seabirdconference2009.be

Hotel bookings

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Mariastraat 44
PB 744
8000 Brugge
Tel: +32-(0)50-44 46 66 - Fax: +32-(0)50-44 46 45
Toerisme.reserveringen@brugge.be -
<http://www.meetinginbrugge.be>

Venue conference

Provinciaal Hof
Markt 2, 8000 Bruges, Belgium

Committees

Organizing Committee

INBO: Eric Stienen , Wouter Courtens, Marc Van de Walle
VLIZ: Jan Seys, Ingrid Dobbelaere

Organizers



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www.inbo.be



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