



INVITATION

Reunion of Members of the Oxford and Cambridge University Alumni in Benelux and the Rhineland in Luxembourg, 6th – 8th May, 2022

On behalf of the Oxford University Society and the Cambridge Society of Luxembourg, we are pleased to invite alumni of Oxford and Cambridge Universities in Belgium, the Netherlands, the Rhineland and neighbouring regions as well as our own members here in Luxembourg, to come together over the weekend from the evening of Friday, 6th May to Sunday 8th May, 2022 in Luxembourg for an interesting programme of cultural and social events and activities.

The purpose of the weekend is to enable members of our associations to meet together in a congenial atmosphere to experience the many and varied attractions that Luxembourg has to offer, as well as to enjoy a number of high-quality social functions.

Attached to this document is the Booking Form for the weekend and full details for booking hotel accommodation.

The Programme

In the package of material which has been put together you will find several **maps** that will help you to identify the location of the various activities and events on offer. Luxembourg has a fairly compact centre and an excellent public transport system including a modern tram which is entirely free of charge so it is easy to move about.

Friday 6th May

The weekend's activities start at 19:30 with a **Brazilian Dinner and Dancing** at **Maria Bonita restaurant in the Rives de Clausen**, which was formerly occupied by the Mousel Brewery but has been recently redeveloped as one Luxembourg's most lively social areas with many bars and restaurants. We anticipate that there will be opportunities for those who want to receive instruction in salsa and samba!

If required, transport will be available at the end of the evening back to the hotels.

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Saturday 7th May

On the Saturday morning “shepherds” will assemble the participants staying in the hotels on the Kirchberg (the Novotel, the Melia and Mama Shelter) at 09:00 and guide them on foot and via the tram to the **Cercle Cité at the Place d’Armes**. **Between 09:30 and 12:00** we will have talks from three highly respected and experienced former or current officials about the institutions of the European Union which have their seat in Luxembourg, i.e. **the European Court of Justice (Ian Forrester, QC, former Judge in the General Court), the European Court of Auditors (Geoffrey Simpson, Director of Audit Quality and Audit Methodology), and the European Investment Bank/European Investment Fund (Francis Carpenter, former Secretary General of the EIB and CEO of the EIF)**. The meeting will be chaired by **Catherine Léglu, Vice-rector for academic affairs of the University of Luxembourg** who is a member of both of our Societies.

We are very grateful to **Clifford Chance** for sponsoring this event.

In the **afternoon** there are **optional activities**: One option is **Visits to the Grand-Duke Jean Museum of Modern Art (MUDAM), designed by Chinese-American architect Ieoh Ming Pe, and the Dräi Eechelen Museum of the history of the fortress of Luxembourg, and the fortifications of Luxembourg, between 13:30 and 15:30**. Participants who choose this will return after the talks at the Cercle Cité on foot and via the tram to the **Place de l’Europe, Kirchberg** where they will have a light lunch at the **Table de Belvedere Restaurant between 12:30 and 13:30**.

The second **option** for the afternoon is to take a **Tour of the city centre and fortifications of the City Luxembourg between 14:00 and 16:00, followed by a Visit to the Luxembourg Chamber of Deputies and Talk by Dan Schmit, a member of the OUSL and on the staff of the Chamber, from 16:00 to 16:45**.

Those who wish to do this could also go to the Table de Belvedere Restaurant for the light lunch – we will propose to start the tour of the City centre from there– but may prefer to stay in the centre for a lunch at one of the many restaurants and cafés there and meet the walk in the centre. This walk will suit those who cannot join the City tour on Sunday.

In the early evening there is a further activity from **18:00 to 19:00: Organ Recital of Baroque Music by Alan Wirth, organist, at the Église St. Michel**. The church is the oldest extant religious site in Luxembourg, its origins date from 987 and it has a very fine organ. This will be sponsored by the Cambridge and the Oxford Societies in Luxembourg.

You will need to plan your afternoon carefully to make sure that you have time to return to your hotel to change for the **black-tie Gala Dinner** at the **Cercle Münster in the Grund!** For example, if you want to attend the organ recital, you will need to change for dinner beforehand.

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The **Cercle Münster** is an exclusive private club serving the business community in Luxembourg situated in buildings from the 18th century, in a style that it describes as “resolutely British”. It is renowned for its gastronomy and wines, and is a superb setting for our **Gala Dinner, which will start at 19:30**. The Guest Speaker will be **Martine Reicherts, President of the Fonds National de la Recherche, Chair of St Paul and former European Commissioner and Director General of the Commission**. She will speak on “Innovation in Luxembourg”.

If required, transport will be arranged to get participants back to your hotels after the Dinner.

Sunday 8th May

In the morning we will assemble after breakfast at **10:00 at the North West corner of Place d’Armes (by the Monument Dicks et Lentz) for a Guided City Promenade of Luxembourg**. During the two-hour tour, you will learn all about the history and legends of Luxembourg, while admiring the sites and fortifications of the city. The visit will include stops at: Dicks et Lentz Monument, Grand Ducal Palace, Chamber of Deputies, Saint Michel Church, Casemates du Bock, the passerelle and the Golden Lady. The tour ends conveniently in time for you to catch the bus for the visit to the Mosel vineyards which leaves from the door of the Cathedral at 12:15. Those who opted to attend the tour on Saturday may take the opportunity to have a more leisurely morning and meet us directly at the Cathedral to catch the bus to the vineyards.

After the City Promenade, or instead of it, you have the possibility to take a bus **from Luxembourg at 12:15 down to the Mosel vineyards to perhaps the finest Luxembourg vineyard “Château Pauqué” in Grevenmacher where owner Abi Duhr will lead us in a tasting of his remarkable wines from 13:00**. “Abi Duhr rightly has his reputation as the *enfant terrible* of Luxembourg wines - and for good reason. Not for him the conventional, conservative and traditional winemaking of his neighbours, he is always prepared to push to the limit to gain that extra bit of quality out of all his wines » (*from a blog by Dragan Unic, a Chef/sommelier in Sweden*). A simple buffet will be served at the Château. **Please note that numbers are restricted to 30 for this visit.**

We will return to Luxembourg after the tasting at 15:45 to ensure that all participants are back at their hotels by 16:30.

For those looking for something to do on Sunday evening have a look at <https://www.visitluxembourg.com/en/whats-on>. Members of the two Host societies may be happy to help, informally, to arrange things to do.

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Monday 9th May

We have not arranged any activities for Monday, 9th May which is Europe Day in Luxembourg and a Bank Holiday. Should you wish to stay to the Monday, we can, however, provide links to “Esch2022” which is the programme organized by the Luxembourg authorities for Esch-sur-Alzette, the second city of Luxembourg and European Capital of Culture 2022. Esch has also the main campus of the University of Luxembourg at Belval, the former site of a major steelworks where the industrial culture of the site is preserved by the spectacular restored blast furnace which can be visited.

The hotels have agreed to apply the same rates should you wish to extend your stay to the Monday.

Hotels

We have negotiated special prices and terms with five hotels in Luxembourg. These are:

Novotel-Kirchberg, 6 rue du Fort Niedergrünwald, L-2015 Luxembourg
Melia Kirchberg, 1 Park Dräi Eechelen (10 Rue Fort Thuengen), L-1499 Luxembourg
Mama Shelter Luxembourg-Kirchberg, 2 rue du Fort Niedergruenewald, L-1616 Luxembourg
Grand-Hotel Cravat, 29 boulevard F.D. Roosevelt, L-2450 Luxembourg
Hotel Le Royal, 12 boulevard Royal, L-2449 Luxembourg

The Novotel, Melia and Mama Shelter are “over the Red Bridge” on the Kirchberg, the Grand-Hotel Cravat and Le Royal are in the centre of town.

Attached to this invitation is a sheet which sets out the offers of the five hotels, their prices for their rooms and booking terms and conditions, and various links that you can use to obtain more information about the hotels. The Novotel, Mama Shelter and Grand-Hotel Cravat have special booking forms which are also included here, the Melia has created a dedicated web page for our bookings the link to which is included, and for Le Royal participants simply contact their normal booking service with the mention “Oxbridge-Benelux-2022”.

Participants are responsible for contacting the hotels and making your bookings directly using the special forms, etc. provided, and subsequently settling all bills. The Oxford University Society of Luxembourg and the Cambridge Society of Luxembourg accepts no responsibility for hotel bookings or payments.

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How to Book Activities and Events for the Weekend

Also attached to this invitation is the Booking Form for the weekend which lists all the activities and events with, where applicable, their cost. The form contains all the necessary instructions.

Covid

We sincerely hope that the decline in the Covid-19 pandemic will continue between now and the beginning of May. Of course, all the activities in the programme will be subject to the Covid rules and procedures in place in Luxembourg at the time of the Reunion.

We and our Members are looking forward very much to welcoming you to Luxembourg.

With our best wishes

David Clark
Chair, Oxford University Society
of Luxembourg.

John Speed
Secretary, Cambridge Society of Luxembourg

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