



Meet in the heart of Brussels for the Brussels Comic Strip Festival

- Save the date -

On 19 and 20 September 2026, the BD Comic Strip Festival, usually held at Tour & Taxis, is moving into the city centre with a refreshed format. The event will offer a more compact edition, with a programme of activities at the Bourse and in the surrounding area.

Calling all fans of speech bubbles, comic panels and heroes of every kind: the ninth art invites you to join the fun on Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 September 2026!

At a time when the organisation of large-scale events needs to be rethought, the BD Comic Strip Festival is taking a break in 2026. Traders from Brussels' pedestrian zone — led by comic bookshops Brûsel and MultiBD, the Riches Claires library and Palace cinema — immediately rallied to ensure that this Brussels cultural fixture could still go ahead.

With support from Brussels Major Events, visit.brussels and Entreprendre Bruxelles, among others, and working alongside cultural organisations and comics professionals, they have devised a more compact edition of the festival. For the occasion, it returns to its original name, Brussels Comic Strip Festival (Fête de la BD in French), in a format tailored to current constraints and firmly rooted in the historic city centre.

"I am delighted to give my full support to the partnership proposal put forward by the brand-new association of traders in the pedestrian zone! This event shows just how vibrant Brussels city centre is, both commercially and culturally. The many partnerships we have been able to put in place so quickly, both with the City's Culture Department and with all the stakeholders involved, demonstrate our determination to support inspiring events that make a real impact!" says Didier Wauters, Alderman for Commerce of the City of Brussels.

Throughout the weekend, authors, publishers, booksellers, artists and enthusiasts will take over the Bourse and several venues across the city centre. On the programme: talks, signings, discoveries, exhibitions and activities for all ages. Get your pencils ready!

Brussels, capital of comics for a weekend

The Bourse will become the main meeting point for this new edition. It will host major Belgian and European publishing houses, specialist bookshops and authors, as well as an area dedicated to independent and alternative comics.

Visitors will be able to discover the latest releases, take part in signing sessions, attend talks and explore the full diversity of contemporary graphic storytelling.

Children and families will also be given special attention, with workshops, readings, activities and opportunities to meet children's authors.

Comics take over the city centre

Beyond the Bourse, comics will spill into Brussels' streets, shops and cultural institutions. Exhibitions, screenings, guided tours, urban trails, installations and activities will turn the city centre into a giant playground dedicated to the ninth art.

The traders of the pedestrian zone, who are behind this new momentum, will be fully involved in the celebrations, notably by organising a street sale on Saturday 19 September. On Sunday 20 September, Car-Free Sunday will make it easy to enjoy the Fête de la BD on foot, by bike and on public transport. It is a way of taking the event beyond cultural venues, bringing the city centre to life and creating a genuine route through Brussels.

The Atomium Awards are back

The Atomium Awards, traditionally associated with the BD Comic Strip Festival, will also go ahead. They will be presented over the weekend of 19 and 20 September 2026, continuing one of the event's signature highlights and celebrating the richness of comics creation.

The full programme, guest authors and key highlights of this edition will be unveiled at a press conference on **Wednesday 2 September 2026**.

Brussels Comic Strip Festival 2026

Saturday, September 19, and Sunday, September 20, 2026, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

At the Beurs and in downtown Brussels

Full program available on the website starting September 2: www.lepietonnier.be

INVITATION TO THE PRESS CONFERENCE

The full program will be announced on September 2, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. during the press conference at The Café Beurs (80, Anspach).

Please confirm your attendance at the press conference via cabinet.d.wauters@brucity.be

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**An initiative of the association of traders in the pedestrian zone, with the support of
Entreprendre Bruxelles, Brussels Major Events and visit.brussels**

