



Belgian Office, Taipei

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PRESS RELEASE

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WORKING HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Travel and work in Belgium for up to one year

Imagine working during a few months as a guide for Chinese speaking tourists in Bruges, in a café in Brussels or in a science park near Mons, improving your foreign language skills and touring during a year through Belgium and beyond....

All this can now become true as the Taipei Representative Office in Brussels and the Belgian Office Taipei have signed a Working Holiday Program (WHP) agreement, which will come into effect on the 29th of March.

Similar agreements exist already with Canada, New Zealand and Australia, but Taiwanese young people (between 18 and 30) will be the first in Asia to benefit from such a program in Belgium. A limit of 200 applicants either way has been set.

The WHP allows young people to have an extended holiday (up to 1 year), and supplement their funds with short-term employment, for which no work permit shall be needed. The focus of the agreement is however the extended holiday, and the total work portion of the stay may not exceed six months.

The WHP offers a good opportunity to travel in Belgium, but also within all 25 Schengen countries of the EU. Belgium is indeed ideally located at the heart of Europe and is home to a variety of cultures and languages. By car or by train, Paris, London and Amsterdam are only a few hours away. An extended network of flights carries you from the various Belgian airports to all major cities in Europe in less than 3 hours.

More information on Belgium is available on www.visitbelgium.be

What are the eligibility criteria of the Working Holiday applicant?

To be eligible for the WHP, you must (non exhaustive list):

- ☞ be a holder of a Taiwanese passport that includes your personal identification number and that is valid for 15 months at the moment of the application
- ☞ be between the ages of 18 and 30 (inclusive)
- ☞ have the equivalent of 2.500 € to help cover your expenses during the first 3 months of your stay
- ☞ have not participated in the program before
- ☞ speak one of Belgian's national languages (French, Dutch, German) or English
- ☞ travel without dependent family members

More information about the Working Holiday Program is available on the Belgian Office's website: www.beltrade.org.tw

Applications will be treated by the **Belgian Office, Taipei.**

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