



IS IT SAFE?

Ghent

SOLO TRAVELER SAFETY GUIDE

Is Ghent Safe?

Ghent is a genuinely safe, low-crime city, and solo travelers consistently describe it as comfortable to walk alone, including after dark on weekdays. Belgium overall ranks well on safety indexes, and Ghent's compact historic center, dense with cafés and foot traffic, reinforces that further. The realistic risk is ordinary petty theft in crowded tourist areas, particularly around the Graslei and during the Gentse Feesten festival in July.

NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY AT A GLANCE

Graslei & Korenlei ▣ ▣ ▣ ▣ ▣

Very safe day and night, busy and well-lit along the canal.

Patershol Quarter ▣ ▣ ▣ ▣ ▣

Safe and atmospheric, busy with restaurant traffic into the evening.

Student Quarter ▣ ▣ ▣ ▣ ▣

Safe, lively, and youthful, with good foot traffic at night.

Vrijdagmarkt & surrounds ▣ ▣ ▣ ▣ ▣

Safe; standard awareness during the busiest market hours.

Sint-Pieters Station area (evening) ▣ ▣ ▣ ▣ ▣

Generally safe; ordinary station caution applies at night.

GETTING AROUND SAFELY

- Ghent is genuinely bike-friendly and flat — a rental bike is a safe, popular way for solo travelers to cover the wider city.
- Trams and buses (De Lijn) are safe and efficient for areas beyond easy walking distance.
- The historic core is comfortably walkable at any hour, including a solo evening canal walk.

COMMON SCAMS & HOW TO AVOID THEM

Crowded canal-side pickpocketing

The Graslei gets genuinely dense in peak season and during festivals — standard bag awareness is enough.

Overpriced tourist-menu restaurants near the Graslei

Walk into the Patershol quarter for better value at similar or better quality.

Festival crowd caution (Gentse Feesten, July)

Not a scam specifically, but the ten-day festival brings large crowds and later nights — standard nightlife awareness applies.

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SCAN FOR THE INTERACTIVE MAP