



Guidebook

**5th International Gathering
18-21 June 2026 - Brussels**

**NO
BA** NETWORK
OF
BOLIVIAN
ADOPTEES

Introduction to the guidebook

Dear reader, welcome to the Guidebook. This document introduces the Network of Bolivian Adoptees and the International Gatherings we host, with a closer look at the 5th International Gathering in Brussels, our community guidelines, and frequently asked questions. If any questions remain after reading, feel free to reach out to us by direct message or email. Jallalla!

Event location

Sounds Resist - [Google Maps](#)
Tulpstraat 28 /Rue de la Tulipe 28,
1050 Elsene/Ixelles
Belgium

Organizers

Atamhi Cawayu (Belgium), Vicente Mollestad (Norway),
Teresa Norman (Sweden), Dominik Schroeteler (Germany)

Feel free to follow us on social media

- **Website:** <https://www.bolivianadoptees.com/>
- **Instagram:** [@bolivianadoptees](#)
- **Closed Facebook group:** [Network of Bolivian Adoptees](#)
- **Closed Whatsapp group:** [Bolivian Adoptees](#)
- **Linktree NOBA:** <https://linktr.ee/bolivianadoptees>
- **YouTube (podcast):** [@bolivianadoptees](#)
- **Spotify (podcast):** [Network of Bolivian Adoptees](#)



Introduction to Network of Bolivian Adoptees

The Network of Bolivian Adoptees (NOBA) was founded in November 2017. NOBA aims to provide a space exclusively for Bolivian adoptees, where we stimulate the exchange of experiences, information, and knowledge with regards to adoption and Bolivia. Today, we count more than 350 members from different countries across the world. We organise both virtual and in-person activities, and use our closed Facebook and WhatsApp groups as spaces to chat, connect, and share.

Since the creation of our virtual platform on Facebook, we have organised various International Gatherings (see next section), compiled a book titled Communal Histories of Displacement and Adoption (2022), and released our podcast Returning to Bolivia in 2025 (Spotify/YouTube). We create these resources not only for ourselves as a community, but also so that our wider circle of partners, friends, family, and children can gain insight into the diverse experiences of being adopted from Bolivia.



Introduction to the International Gatherings

Since 2019 the Network of Bolivian Adoptees organizes International Gatherings (IGs). The International Gathering is a low-threshold event created for and by Bolivian adoptees. It is a space to meet each other in person, share our stories, and explore what connects us. The program brings together different kinds of activities, from introduction games and adoptee presentations to panel discussions and moments to discover Bolivian culture and food. At the heart of the Gathering are the themes that bring us together: adoption, displacement, and our connection to Bolivia. Each edition usually welcomes between 40 and 50 participants from various European countries. For an overview of our previous International Gatherings and their programs, [please visit our website](#).

Gathering 1, 2019 - Brussels, Belgium



Gathering 2, 2020 - Stockholm, Sweden



Gathering 3, 2022 - Bergamo, Italy



Gathering 4, 2023 - Cologne, Germany



Registration information

Registration form: <https://forms.gle/N24xqZMZ3496wSQ69>

In order to cover the costs of organising this event, we ask all participants to contribute a small participation fee. This fee helps us cover the venue, logistics, and a sandwich lunch on Friday and Saturday. Please note that all dinners, as well as any additional Bolivian lunches or snacks, are not included in the participation fee.

This year we will be using a Young Condor, Early Condor, Standard Condor, and Golden Condor system.

1. **Young Condor:** 30 EUR (exclusively for people until 25 years old)
2. **Early Condor:** 40 EUR (for registrations until 30 April 2026)
3. **Standard Condor:** 50 EUR (from registrations from 1 May 2026)
4. **Golden Condor:** Young/Early Condor/Normal Condor + Donation*

*If you give a donation of >50 EUR you will receive a special gift from Bolivia.

Community guidelines



Here are some of the key aspects we believe are important for our international gatherings. We in the core team will do our best to uphold these guidelines, and severe negligence can lead to a ban from participating in this and/or future gatherings. The safety and wellbeing of our participants will always come first. If an incident occurs outside the knowledge of the organisers, please don't hesitate to come to us so we can help prevent escalation and take appropriate action. Above all, we are here to create a fun, positive and inclusive space for everyone.

→ **Inclusive space:** The International Gathering aims to be a respectful and inclusive space. We therefore do not accept any form of discrimination or exclusion such as sexism, racism, homophobia, transphobia, ableism, or any other form of exclusion.

→ **Respect everyone's story:** The adoptee experience is a very diverse experience. We therefore ask to be respectful and considerate of fellow adoptees and their experiences. Every perspective on adoption is valid.

→ **Let others speak:** Be aware of the space you occupy and the space you can give to others. Partners and significant others are welcome, but please give Bolivian adoptees the space to share their experiences and lead the conversation.

→ **Communication and Language:** As we come from many different countries and speak different languages, we encourage everyone to communicate in English so that the majority can take part in the conversation. We understand that not everyone is equally comfortable with English but we kindly ask everyone to make an effort to include others in conversations, whether through translation and patience.

→ **Participate at your own pace:** We understand that this International Gathering can be new and overwhelming for some participants. You can decide how active you want to be in activities and discussions. If you want to be there, and just listen, that is also fine.

→ **Be on time and present:** Be mindful of the effort organisers and presenters have put into this event. Please be on time, be present, and pay attention during the activities throughout the gathering.

→ **Zero tolerance for aggression:** Any form of verbal, physical, or emotional aggression is not tolerated. If a conflict arises, please reach out to the Core Team so we can help prevent escalation.



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Can I bring someone to the gathering?

The gathering is exclusive for Bolivian adoptees. However, we do make an exception for partners and/or children of Bolivian adoptees. Please note that partners will have to pay the full participation fee, while children do not have to pay a participation fee.

Are my children welcome at the gathering?

The gathering is oriented towards an adult audience but you can bring your child(ren). They do not have to pay a participation fee and are your responsibility as we do not have the resources to provide supervision. If they are in attendance please let us know their name and age.

Where is my participation fee/donation going to?

Organising an international gathering requires financial resources to rent the venue, provide food, drinks, and snacks during the gathering, decoration, printing, and cultural activities (such as dance groups, etc.). For this reason, it is important to work with participation fees and donations to cover all the costs. In case there are funds left over, these will go towards the organisation of the next gathering or other NOBA projects.

Can I bring my own snacks and beverages into the event space?

Personal snacks are permitted, and you may bring your own water bottle. We will also provide water, tea, and coffee throughout the gathering, free of charge.

Will there be breakfast or lunch?

Breakfast will not be provided. On Friday and Saturday, we will provide a Belgian-style sandwich lunch for all participants, with a variety of options including vegetarian or vegan choices.

I made a mistake on the registration form, what do I do now?

Let us know and fill in the registration form again correctly and we will work with the newest filled in form

I can't find my question here

You can contact us at our Bolivian Adoptees email: bolivianadoptees@gmail.com or you can send a personal message to one of the organizers.

Preliminary programme



Thursday 18/06/2026	12:00 Chocolate museum (optional) 14:00 Games in Brussels (outdoor) 15:30 City tour Brussels 18:00 Welcome dinner (Belgian restaurant) 20:00 have drinks (optional)	
Friday 19/06/2026	9:00 Doors open/ registration 9:30 Welcome + introduction 10:00 Meet and Greet 11:00: Conversation Panel "Information about our pasts" 12:30 Lunch	13:30 Session Language and Heritage 14:45: Break 15:00 Piano performance by Clara 15:30 Session Reparation 17:30 END DAY 1 19:00: Bolivian dinner (TBA)
Saturday 20/06/2026	9:00 Doors open 9:30 wrap up Day 1 10:00 Session Social and Political History of Bolivia 11:00 Oral histories: NOBA the PODCAST 12:00 Lunch	13:00 Individual Presentations 15:00 Salteña break 15:30 TBA 17:00 Reflective moment 18:00 End 19:00: Belgian dinner (TBA)
Sunday 21/06/2026	9:30 Doors will be open 10:00 Welcome 10:00 Bolivian Cultural Programme (TBA) 12:30 Wrapping up + goodbye lunch 14:00 End	



Practical information: How to get to Brussels?

There are multiple ways to get to Brussels: by car, bus, train, or plane. We briefly summarise how to go to Brussels' city center using different modes of transport.

→ if you arrive by PLANE

There are two airports near Brussels city:

1. **Brussels Airport (BRU)**, located in Zaventem (about 12 km from the city center). From here, you can take a direct train to one of Brussels' main stations (Brussels-North, Brussels-Central, or Brussels-Midi/Zuid). The train ride takes around 15 to 20 minutes and runs frequently throughout the day. More info: [SNCB/NMBS](#).
2. **Brussels South Charleroi Airport (CRL)**, located in Charleroi (about 55 km from Brussels). This airport is mainly used by low-cost airlines. From the airport, a shuttle bus runs every 15 to 30 minutes to Brussels-Midi/Zuid station. The ride takes around 1 hour. More info: [Flibco shuttle](#).

→ if you arrive by TRAIN/PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Belgian train transportation is operated by SNCB/NMBS. When using the trains, we recommend the NMBS app. Brussels has three main international train stations:

- **Brussels-Midi/Zuid (Brussel-Zuid)**: the main international hub, served by Eurostar, Thalys/Eurostar Red, ICE, and TGV.
- **Brussels-Central (Brussel-Centraal)**: closest to the historic city center.
- **Brussels-North (Brussel-Noord)**: well connected to the business district.

→ if you arrive by CAR

Most hotels offer parking spaces (sometimes for a fee). You can find parking information on the websites of the hotels. Please note that Brussels has a Low Emission Zone (LEZ): vehicles need to be registered in advance, and some older vehicles are not allowed to enter the city. More info: [Brussels LEZ](#).

→ if you arrive by BUS

If you want to travel by bus, FlixBus offers connections from many European cities to Brussels. The main FlixBus stop in Brussels is Brussels-North (Brussel-Noord) station, which is well connected to the rest of the city by metro, train, tram, and bus.

Practical information: How to get to the event location?

Address event location:

Sounds Resist

**Tulpstraat 28 /Rue de la Tulipe 28,
1050 Elsene/Ixelles Belgium**

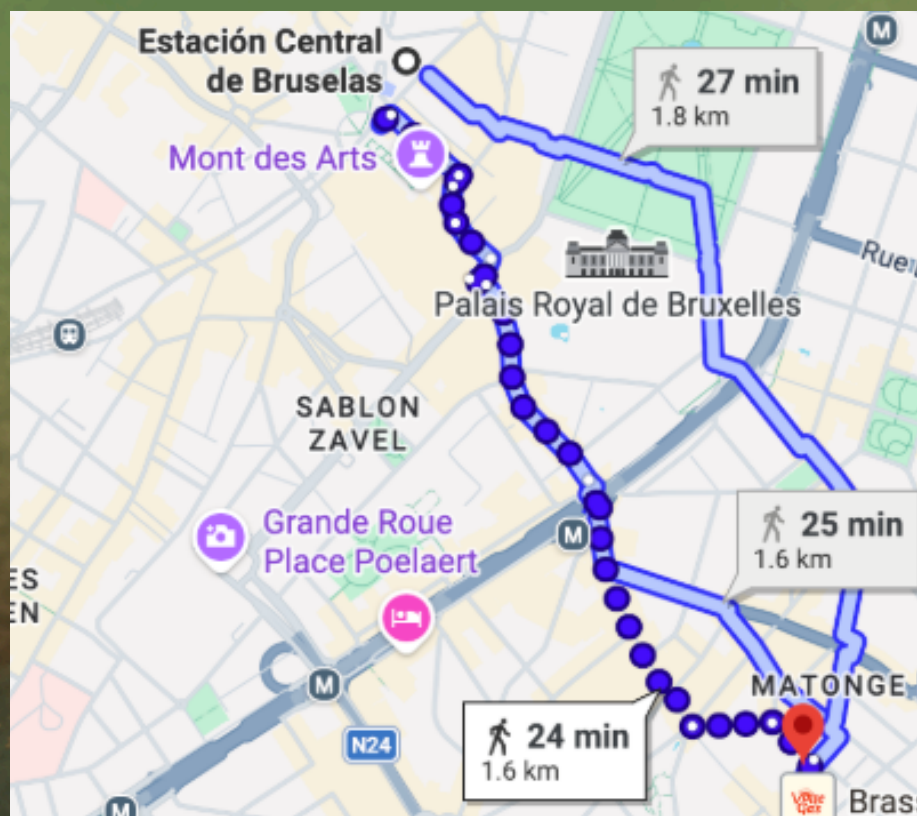
The public transport system in Brussels is operated by STIB/MIVB (metro, tram, and bus). The event location is well connected and easy to reach from anywhere in the city.

The closest stops to Sounds Resist are:

- Tram 81 to "Flagey" (about 7 minutes walking)
- Bus 38, 60, or 71 to "Fernand Cocq" or "Flagey" (about 5 minutes walking)
- Metro line 2 or 6 to "Porte de Namur / Naamsepoort" (about 10 minutes walking)

Tickets and fares:

- Single journey: €2.40 with contactless payment (bank card, smartphone, or smartwatch) or via the STIB app. €2.60 for a paper ticket from a vending machine. Each ticket is valid for 60 minutes, including transfers.
- Daily cap: when paying contactless, the maximum charge per day is €8.50. After 4 rides, all additional journeys that day are free.
- 10-journey ticket (Brupass): €18.90.



Practical information: Where can I sleep?

Every year, we suggest some accommodation options based on location, pricing and close to event location. This year we have three suggestions, but everyone is free to choose the accommodation they prefer. We have suggested accommodations that are close to the location: Sounds Resist. If you choose another accommodation, we recommend finding one near the "Naamsepoort" metrostop, as it will give you a direct connection to the event location (10 minutes to walk).

Hotel & Address:

Latroupe Le Berger

(cheap condor)

[Rue du Berger 24, 1050 Bruxelles, Belgien](#)

(6-7 min walking)

B&B Hotel Brussels Centre Louise

(middle class condor)

[Rue Paul Spaak 15, 1000 Bruxelles, Belgien](#)

(10-12 min walking)

Moxy Brussels City Center

(rich condor)

[Rue du Prince Albert 2, 1050 Bruxelles, Belgien](#)

(3-4 min walking)

Practical information about Brussels

→ How can I pay in Belgium?

As in most Western European countries, in Belgium you can pay with cash, debit, or credit cards. Card payments are widely accepted almost everywhere, including small shops, cafés, and public transport, so it is perfectly possible to get around without using cash at all. That said, some smaller establishments may have a minimum amount (often €5 or €10) for card payments, so carrying a bit of cash on hand can still be useful, but it is not necessary.

→ What can I visit in Brussels?

There are several sightseeing options such as the:

- **Choco-Story Brussels**: Choco-Story Brussels: The Choco-Story Brussels is a popular museum dedicated to the history and craftsmanship of Belgian chocolate. Visitors can learn about the origins of cacao, how chocolate is produced, and the traditions behind Belgium's famous pralines.
- **Cathédrale Saints-Michel-et-Gudule**: one of Brussels' most important religious and historical landmarks. The cathedral combines elements of Romanesque origins with impressive Brabant Gothic architecture and features beautiful stained glass windows, detailed sculptures, and richly decorated chapels. Inside, visitors can admire highlights such as the statues of the apostles, the grand nave, and historic artworks like the stained glass of Charles V.
- **Parc du Cinquantenaire**: a large historic park in Brussels, built in 1880 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Belgium's independence. It features elegant French-style gardens, wide walking paths, and impressive monuments, including a monumental triumphal arch topped with a bronze sculpture.
- **Mont des Arts**: one of the best viewpoints in Brussels and a popular spot for photography. From here, visitors can enjoy a panoramic view over the city, including the skyline and historic buildings stretching toward the Grand Place. The landscaped gardens and symmetrical design also make the area visually appealing for photos.

For more information about Brussels and its attractions, activities, and experiences, visit the [Brussels tourism website](#).

About the organisers

The following contacts are some of the organisers that are attending the International Gathering in Brussels. Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. We are also available at bolivianadoptees@gmail.com

Emergency numbers

Ambulance/Fire brigade: 112

Police: 110



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See you in Brussels!