

STAINED GLASS in BRUGES

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<u>Sint-Salvator Cathedral</u>, in Bruges, has survived the ravages of time and includes the stained-glass windows depicted in this image by George Reader. It is online via his <u>photostream at Flickr</u>.

Time has stopped, it is said, in the <u>medieval town</u> of <u>Bruges</u> (or, <u>Brugge</u>, as it's known in Flemish). This <u>quaint</u> <u>Belgian city</u>, home to the world's first stock exchange, has retained its charm throughout many centuries. The town's center, (*Grote Markt*), is a World Heritage site.

Known as a "<u>Venice of the North</u>," <u>Bruges' canals</u> once provided a natural connection between the city and the North Sea. Prospering as a result, Bruges became a commercial powerhouse and a <u>trade center</u>. Then, hundreds of years ago, nature removed that direct path to the sea when the <u>Zwin estuary</u> (this is a power-point link) silted over. <u>Without a way</u> to ship their goods, merchants left the city.

As the industrial revolution passed it by, Bruges remained a <u>medieval town</u>. Becoming the poorest city in the country, however, ultimately led to renewed prosperity (from modern tourism). Without enough wealth to rebuild, the people were "stuck with" the past. Today, that is part of the town's allure.

Although not all buildings are from the Middle Ages, new construction maintains its Gothic appearance. <u>Modern</u> <u>and ancient</u> seamlessly blend, combining new (like the <u>Bruges-Zeebrugge Canal</u>, once again <u>connecting city</u> <u>and sea</u>) with old (such as stained-glass windows housed in <u>medieval churches</u>). For example:

• Saint Baselius Chapel (now known as <u>Basilica of the Holy Blood</u>) was built between 1134 and 1157. A relic

(brought to the church in the twelfth or thirteenth century) was an object of veneration for medieval pilgrims.

Today's visitors marvel at the beauty of its interior and <u>colored windows</u>.

• <u>Saint-Saviours Cathedral</u> (also known as Sint Salvatorskathedraal) is even older (although not much is left of its ninth-century beginnings). <u>Its stained-glass windows</u> are from medieval times.

• The <u>Church of Our Lady</u> (known in Flemish as *Onze Lieve Vrouw*) was also started in the twelfth century but wasn't finished until the fourteenth. In addition to <u>beautiful windows</u>, it <u>houses</u> a Michelangelo sculpture (<u>Madonna and Child</u>), donated to the church by fifteenth-century patrons.

In the seventeenth century, Belgium's neighbor to the north - <u>The Netherlands</u> - experienced *its* Golden Age. Dominating world trade helped rich Dutch patrons to commission works of art, including stained-glass windows.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/STAINED-GLASS-in-BRUGES-Stained-Glass-Windows

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/STAINED-GLASS-in-BRUGES-Stained-Glass-Windows

Media Stream















Bruges - Night View of a Medieval City

Photo, online courtesy Krista Brenner. For more of her work, check out <u>this web site</u>. View this asset at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Bruges-Night-View-of-a-Medieval-City

<u>Brugge - Quaint Flemish Town</u> Image online, courtesy the Europe Port Reviews website. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Brugge-Quaint-Flemish-Town</u>

Bruges - Homes Along a Canal

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<u>Bruges - Venice of the North</u> Photo by Mark D. Hammond, online courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

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Bruges - View of the Burgher's Lodge

Image online, courtesy the <u>independent.co.uk</u> website. View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Bruges-View-of-the-Burgher-s-Lodge

Bruges - Scenes from a Medieval Town Scenic Bruges, images online courtesy Ron Reznick Digital Images.net View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Bruges-Scenes-from-a-Medieval-Town

<u>Bruges - Old and New</u> Image online, courtesy the <u>Boston College</u> website. View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Bruges-Old-and-New



Bruges-Zeebrugge Canal - To the North Sea

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons. View this asset at:

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Landsat View of Bruges

Landsat image by Jesse Allen, Earth Observatory, NASA image 17155. View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Landsat-View-of-Bruges

Medieval Church and Stained-Glass Windows

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Bruges - Interior of Medieval Church

Photo online at Tom's Public Gallery, courtesy Picasa Web.

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Bruges - Stained-Glass at the Basilica

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Bruge - View of City and Saint Saviours

Image online, courtesy Wikmedia Commons. View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Bruge-View-of-City-and-Saint-Saviours

<u>Saint Saviours - Medieval Glass</u> Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons. View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Saint-Saviours-Medieval-Glass

Saint Saviours - Priceless Glass

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Bruges - Church of Our Lady

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons. View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Bruges-Church-of-Our-Lady









<u>Bruges - Stained Glass at Our Lady</u> Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons. View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Bruges-Stained-Glass-at-Our-Lady

<u>Bruges - Michelangelo Sculpture</u> Image online, courtesy the <u>citiestalking.com</u> blog site. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Bruges-Michelangelo-Sculpture</u>

Bruges - Michelangelo's Madonna and Child

Image online, courtesy the art-history-images.com website. View this asset at:

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