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PRESS RELEASE

Brussels, 18 November 2021 – **In line with the new measures announced by the COVID-19 Committee on Wednesday 17 November, the City of Brussels and the organizers have announced that Winter Wonders will follow the Covid Safe Ticket (CST) protocol. As well as mandatory mask-wearing throughout the route and several other measures, wristbands will be required to eat and drink, make purchases and enjoy the event's attractions. Wristbands can be obtained from a dozen points dotted along the route on presentation of a valid CST QR code and ID.**

Wristbands will be mandatory for all visitors aged 16 or over and valid for one day at Winter Wonders (open from 12:00 to 22:00 daily). Every day, visitors will need to pick up a new wristband on arrival from one of the collection points. The chalets issuing wristbands will be open from 11:00 to 21:00 daily.

Masks must be worn by everyone aged 10 or over throughout the Winter Wonders route and streets connecting the various parts of the event. A detailed map will be released shortly.

Christmas market traders and operators must also wear masks and regularly disinfect their hands.

The other measures in place are:

- Hand sanitizer stations will be available at several locations along the route.
- Signs indicating the health and safety measures to follow will be placed throughout the event.
- Specific signs will provide information on collecting wristbands.
- Floor markings will facilitate the organization of queues and indicate the direction of travel for the public (with arrows and lanes), who will be asked to keep right.
- Pre-recorded messages will be played regularly to reiterate the main health and safety measures.
- At the ice rink, limited to 200 people over 800 sq. m, Covid Safe Tickets will be checked for everyone aged 16 and over. The health and safety rules will be regularly repeated by tannoy and displayed at several places. The entrances and exits will be separated and a direction of skating must be followed.
- As for outdoor seating areas, outdoor hospitality guidelines and limitations on numbers will apply. 'Social bubbles' must be maintained.

The Winter Wonders route has also been extended this year to keep visitor flows moving.

The City of Brussels and the organizers are in constant contact with the relevant authorities and will adapt to their requirements at all times.

Contact: City of Brussels

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