

MAEK × Helpende Handjes

At the **MAEK Hotel Antwerp Central - Handwritten Collection**, we believe every place has a soul and every story deserves to be told.

Here in Antwerp, this story touched our hearts deeply, and we would love to share it with you.

A Cookie With a Cause – Helpende Handjes

Just outside the city, Tamara and Sven created something extraordinary: **Helpende Handjes** (Helping Hands), a local non-profit that empowers children and young adults with **special needs who have no place in the traditional school system**.

Their dream? A welcoming, purpose-filled bakery which is not open to the public, but built **as a daytime sanctuary where the children can learn, bake, grow, and shine**. Every cookie is made with care, each batch filled with joy, patience, and pride.

This baking workshop is not just about baking, it is about **belonging**. It is a place where young people who have been left out finally have a chance to be included, to contribute, to be seen, and to be celebrated.

Why We Chose Helpende Handjes?

At MAEK, we cherish stories told from the heart and this one felt like ours.

Their work is grounded in **local love, honest craftsmanship and human connection**. Just like us, they believe in the beauty of small details and the impact of small gestures.

That is why we are proud to support Helpende Handjes with ongoing donation.

We have chosen to invite our guests, if they feel inspired, to do the same.

A Small Gift, A Big Impact

If this story speaks to you, we warmly invite you to join us in helping bring this inclusive baking workshop to life.

Your contribution helps build a place where joy is baked daily, and every child feels like they matter.

You can donate using the link below.

<https://payconiq.com/merchant/1/617812b007ca3c0006436ff4>

Thank you for being part of our story and theirs.

MAEK Hotel Antwerp Central – Handwritten Collection