



CITY WALK

HIGHLIGHTS SITTARD



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2,3

KILOMETRES

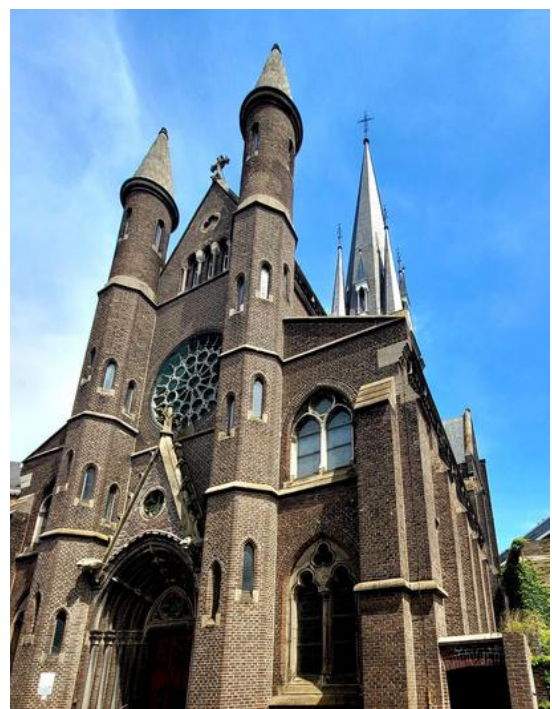
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MINUTES

17

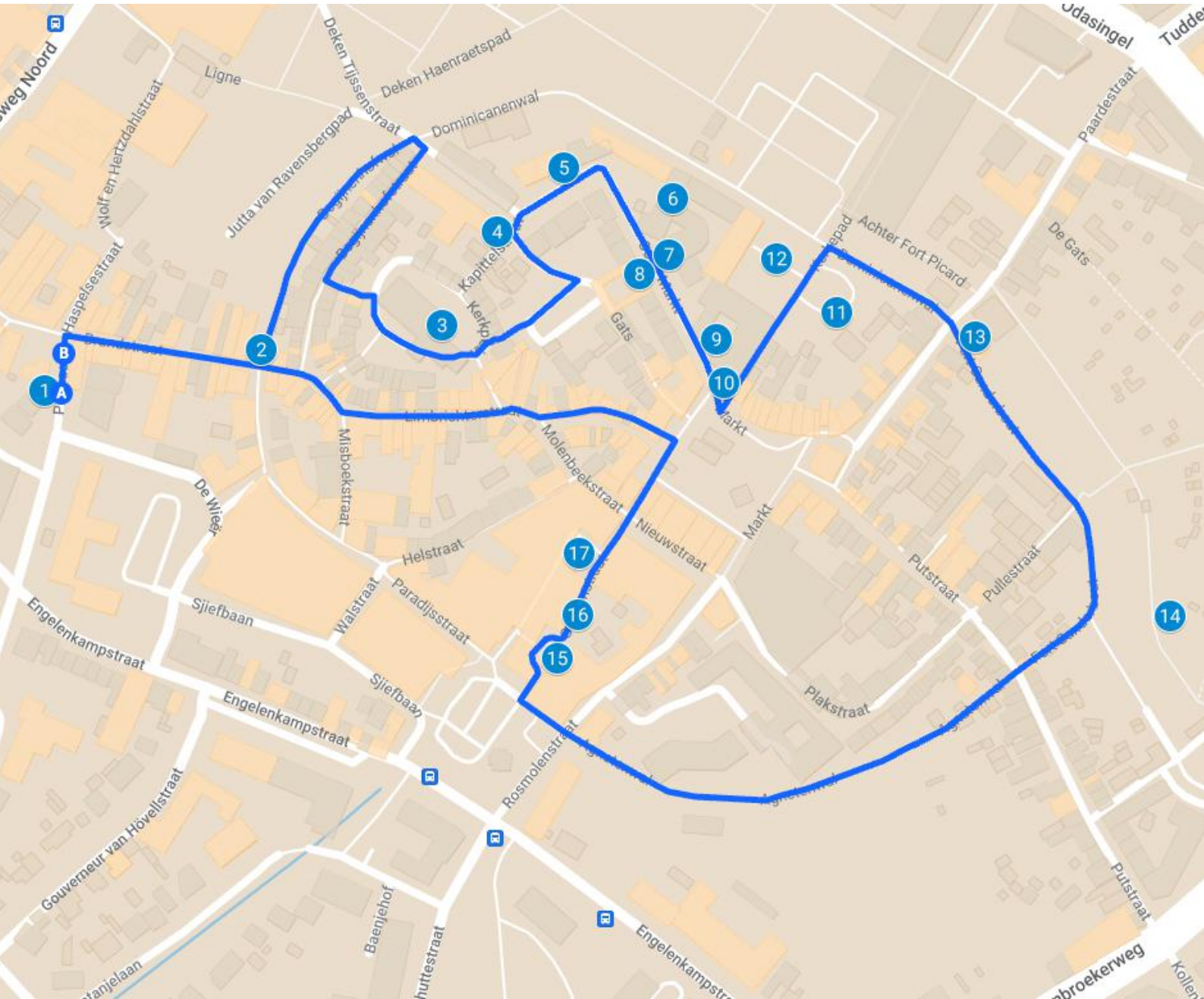
LOCATIONS

- 1 Casa Mia Sittard | Parklaan 3
- 2 Sculpture Zefke Mols
- 3 St Petruschurch | Kerkplein 4
- 4 Heritage center De Domijnen | Kapittelstraat 6
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- 6 Huis op de Berg and Ursulinenconvent | Oude markt 5
- 7 Basiliek van Onze-Lieve-Vrouw van het Heilig Hart | Oude Markt 23
- 8 Mariapark, resting place for Pilgrims | Oude Markt 14k
- 9 Dominicanen monastery | Oude Markt 25
- 10 Sint Michielschurch | Markt 24
- 11 Jardin d'Isabelle | Kerkepad 1



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HIGHLIGHTS SITTARD



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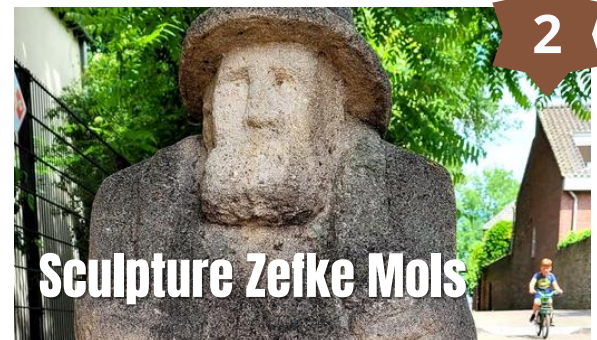
The starting point of this city walk through Sittard is at Casa Mia at Parklaan 3 in Sittard.

Casa Mia is the smallest castle in the Netherlands. It has a rich history and is a municipal monument. The neo-Gothic castle-like structure was built in 1903 by wine merchant Joseph Nicolas Rutten in his garden for his second wife Anna Henriette Janssen. After the death of Joseph she married a French Count, so that the castle was inhabited by noble family. Around 1927, Prince Hendrick, husband of Queen Wilhelmina, regularly stayed with the Countess as a guest. Today it is a B&B.



Turn right from Parklaan to Brandstraat. Turn left at the Begijnenhofwal. Here you pass the sculpture of Zefke Mols.

Before you walk up the Begijnhofwal, you will see the sculpture of Zefke Mols. Anton Pieter Joseph Mols, popularly known as Zefke Mols, was a characteristic urban type who roamed the city to collect medals. He is best known for a song that troubadour Jochem Erens wrote about him: "Auwte Zefke Mols, auwte, groats en verschlete, Ein van oos shtadspropete. whole day in Zitterd roundj".



Walk out of the Begijnenhofwal. At the end you turn right and immediately right again. Walk back via the Begijnenhofstraat. At Koninginnegetske you turn left to Kerkplein. The Petruskerk or Grote Kerk is located on the Kerkplein.

3



The church tower of the St. Petrus Church is the highest in Limburg at 83 meters. In this ancient tower with a striking spire, there is a chime of 50 bells. The spire had to endure it several times. In 1677 it was set on fire by the French and in 1857 it was struck by lightning. In the current tower, you can see a statue of Peter, the patron saint of the church, at a height of about eight meters. You will also see some restoration memorial stones.

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Walk around the church and leave Kerkplein via Onger 't Bäögske to Gats. Keep left to stay on Gats. At the end you walk past the Domijnen heritage centre. At the heritage center, turn right to Kloosterplein. Here you will find the Jo Erenshuis.

At Kapittelstraat 6 you will find the entrance to the former city school. This modern glass entrance now leads to the De Domijnen heritage museum. In the different parts of this museum you will find the history of Sittard and the region. In the courtyard of the museum you will find a statue of Toon Hermans.



5



On the monastery square you will find the statue of the famous Sittard troubadour Jochem Erens in the middle of a number of old buildings. Behind it is the Jochem Erenshuis. Sittard music companies now use this former school as a rehearsal room.



At the end of the Kloosterplein, follow the road to the right to the Oude Markt. Here you pass the Ursuline Convent and then past the Basilica of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart and opposite the Maria Park.

In the corner of the square is the "House on the Mountain" with its marl bands, built on the foundation of the old castle built by steward Maes. The former Ursuline convent has been built around Huis op de Berg. The Ursulines expanded the building considerably with a boarding house and a completely new wing on the western side.



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The church a little further on the left is the former convent chapel that was part of the Ursuline Convent. Due to the growing number of pilgrimages by pilgrims who came to worship Mary here, this church became too small. From 1875 to 1879, the first church in the Netherlands to be given the title of 'basilica' was built: the Basilica of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.

Maria Park is located opposite the Basilica of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. In the years following the construction of the basilica (1875-79), it soon proved to be too small to accommodate the increasing number of pilgrims. That is why it was decided in 1891 to build an annex on the other side of the street, which was called "Maria Park". The building functioned as a reception room, prayer room and resting place for the pilgrims who visited the basilica.



8



Continue your route along the Oude Markt. On the left you pass the Dominican Monastery and the Sint Michielschurch. At the Sint Michielskerk you turn left to the Kerkepad.

9



The Dominican Monastery is a former monastery complex of the Dominican Order and later of the Jesuits and later of the Franciscans. It was built from 1652-1657 and expanded in the eighteenth century. The former Dominican monastery is located in the protected cityscape of Sittard and is a national monument.

The Sint-Michielskerk stands on the site of the former Sint-Catharinagasthuis (approx. 1250). This old guest house was located just outside the city walls and not only offered help to the sick and poor, but also accommodated travelers who stood in front of a closed city gate after sunset. The church was built between 1659 and 1668 in Southern Dutch Baroque style. The visual arts in the church are entirely in the service of the Catholic Reformation.



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By following the Kerkepad you will pass Jardin d'Isabella and Cour Solanus opposite.

11



As a garden, the Jardin d'Isabelle is connected to an unhappy love story by Charles Beltjens. Beltjens was born in 1832 and decided to become a poet after an aborted priestly education. In the garden he found his muse, the daughter of Doctor de Borman Isabelle, sitting on a bench. Unfortunately, the doctor did not see in the young poet a suitable suitor for his daughter, and he forbade love. Resulting in a lot of suffering and strong poems. Sculptor Gjus Roebroek creates the beautiful monument of Beltjens that can be seen in the garden. The bars under the bust and the bluestone text indicate that the poet felt like a captive condor.

The Cour Solanus is located at the original Dominican monastery and the former monastery church. The Dominicans had their pest house and herb garden on this Cour. There was no pharmacy at that time, so the Dominicans grew medicinal plants here. These were not only intended for medicines, but also to make astringents and painkillers in times of war.



12



Go right to the Dominicanenwal. Cross the Paardestraat and this is where the Toon Hermanshuis is located.

13



The Toon Hermans Huis Sittard is located in the middle of the city center, which is surrounded by a rustic rose garden. It is a meeting place for anyone who is involved in any way with cancer. Toon Hermans opened it a few years before his death and gave it his name, actually in honor of his wife Rietje, who also died of cancer. Patients and their loved ones are welcome in the house, they are supervised and all kinds of courses and lectures are given. Since roses are the central theme, the garden was named the Jardin des Roses.

CITY WALK



Continue your route past Fort Sanderbout. After about 170 meters you will pass the remains of Fort Sanderbout. Go around the bend to stay on Fort Sanderbout. Continue your way via the Agnetenwal.

The two embrasures, with the original gun cellar behind them, are a remnant of a bastion: Fort Sanderbout. (In Sittard the bastions were and are called 'fort'). Sittard had three gates, including the Putpoort in the Putstraat. From the nearby Fort Sanderbout, the Putpoort and the east side of the city had to be protected against the enemy.



14



At the end of the Agnetenwal you continue your way through the Temple Square. Go right to the Gruizenstraat. Here you will find Urban farm den Tempel, a few half-timbered houses and the Gruizenchurch..

15



The boxed windows clearly show that 'Den Tempel' is an example of a house in Maasland Renaissance style. The building that is still there today was part of a large complex that used to house a mill, for example.

In the Gruizenstraat you will pass a half-timbered house. Until about 1600 most people lived in such houses. They were originally made of beams, the space between the beams being filled with branches and a mixture of mud and manure. They were well insulated houses for that time, in which it was good to stay in both summer and winter.



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From 1636 the Reformed had a hidden church, which burned down in 1677. The current church was built in 1680-1681. In 1684 the tower was completed, which was increased in 1840. In 1815 the main entrance was placed in the north facade. Restoration followed in 1976-1978. Another restoration was also carried out in 2013 and since then the church has served as a multicultural center, in which church services are occasionally held.



The Gruizenchurch is the last point of interest on this route. To return to the starting point, continue walking through Gruizenstraat and turn left into Limbrichterstraat. Walk all the way down this street until the street changes into the Brandstraat. Go left to the Parklaan and you will be in front of Casa mia again.



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