



# CITY WALK

## HIGHLIGHTS UTRECHT



**5,3**

**90**

**33**

KILOMETRES

MINUTES

LOCATIONS

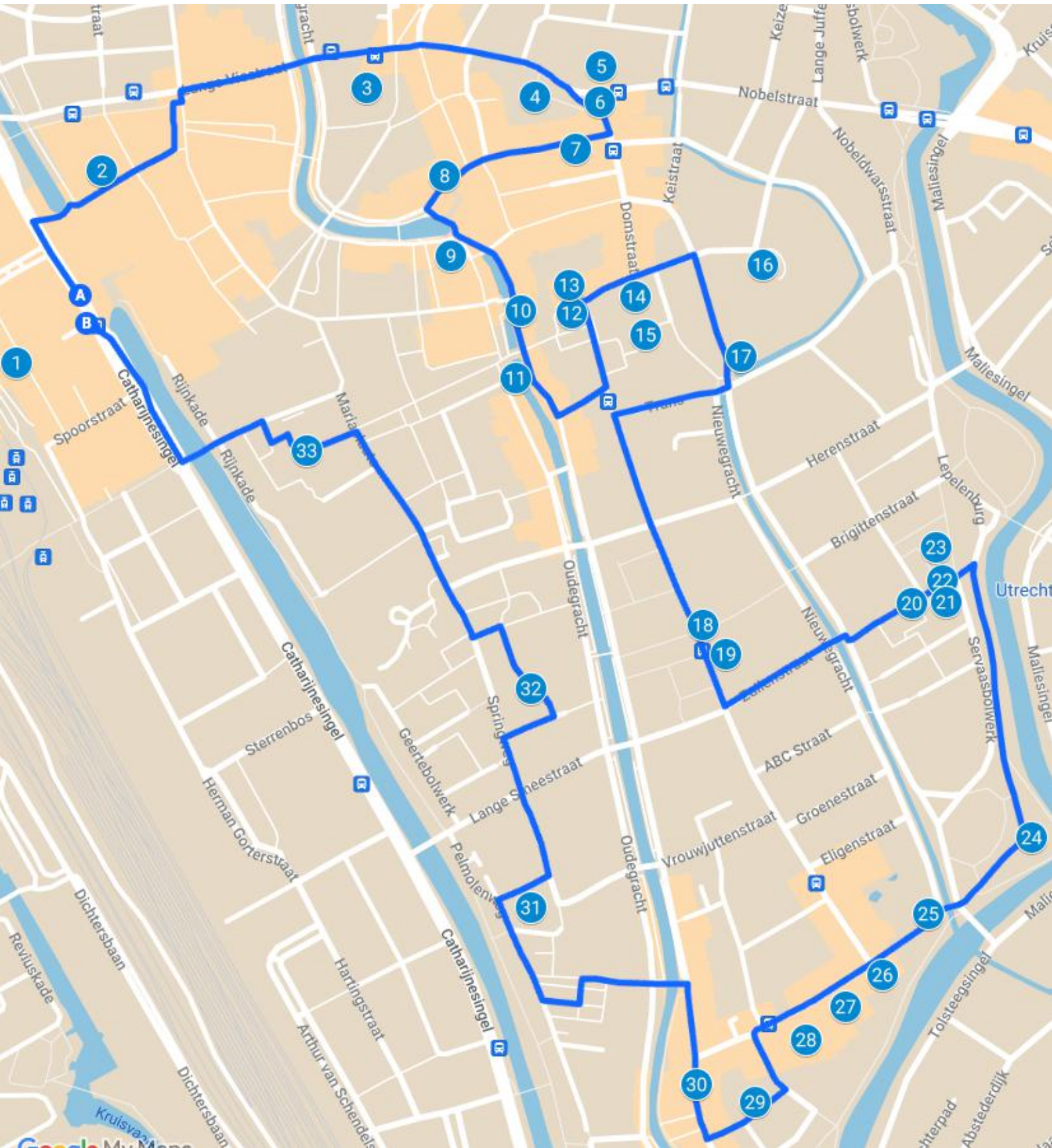
- 1 Central Station Utrecht
- 2 TivoliVredenburg | Vredenburgkade 11
- 3 Post Utrecht | Neude 11
- 4 Buildings university | Lange Jansstraat
- 5 St Janschurch | Janskerkhof 26
- 6 Statue Willibrordus | Janskerkhof
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# CITY WALK

HIGHLIGHTS UTRECHT



# CITY WALK



This city walk through Utrecht starts at Utrecht Central Station.

Utrecht Central Station is the most important junction of the railway lines in the Netherlands and, partly because of this, it is the largest station in the Netherlands in terms of surface area and passenger numbers. The Hoog Catharijne shopping center in Utrecht is strategically located between the old city center and the Central Station. You will find more than 110 shops and 30 restaurants. It is the only shopping center where you can sail under with your boat since the opening of the Singel in September 2020!



Walk in front of the station via the Catharijne Esplanade to Hollandse Toren. Here you walk along the back of Tivoli Vredenburg.

TivoliVredenburg is a music building and pop venue that opened in 2014. It originated from a merger of Muziekcentrum Vredenburg and Tivoli Oudegracht and comprises five concert halls, a café and a restaurant. It was built on the site of the former Muziekcentrum Vredenburg, which has been demolished except for the Symphony Hall. The route passes behind the building. So walk around it if you want to see the entire building.



Continue walking over the Hollandse Toren. Turn right via Vredenburg Viaducht into Lange Viestraat. Cross the bridge and continue via Potterstraat. Here you walk past Post Utrecht.



The former post office on the Neude served as the last independently active post office until October 28, 2011. The post office was closed on that date, but most of the building remained in use as a telephone exchange until December 31, 2015. The building dates from 1924 and was designed by Joseph Crowel. Since 2020, the impressive building has a brand new function with the new central library, cozy shops, a fresh market, catering and a handy bicycle shed.

# CITY WALK



Continue walking through Potterstraat and continue along Neude and Lange Jansstraat. In the Lange Jansstraat you walk past the university buildings. Opposite it you will find the St Janskerk and the equestrian statue of St Willibrordus. Walk a little further, turn right into Minnebroederstraat and you will stand in front of the St Willibrord Church.

Here you will find the Faculty of Law, Economics, Governance and Organization of the University of Utrecht.



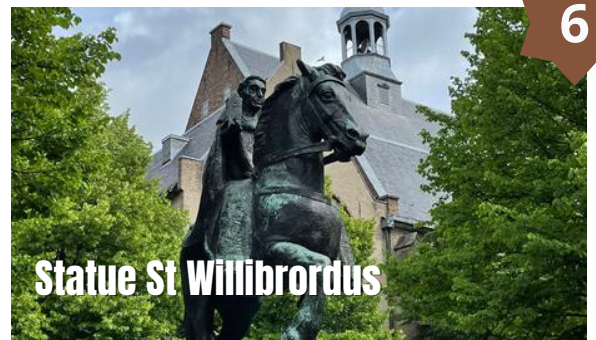
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St Janschurch was founded shortly after 1040 and dedicated to John the Baptist. The church was originally largely identical to the equally old St Peter's Church and to the no longer existing church of the Paulus Abbey. The churches were founded as part of an alleged church cross, of which the St Janskerk formed the northern tip.

The equestrian statue of Saint Willibrordus is a bronze statue and is the first of four life-size equestrian statues made by Termote. The statue can be found on the Janskerkhof in Utrecht. The plans for the statue were drawn up in February 1939. Just as the full-size plaster model was ready, the Second World War broke out. After World War II, the three-and-a-half-meter-tall model was cast in bronze and unveiled on November 7, 1947.



6

7



The Sint-Willibrordkerk is a Roman Catholic church in neo-Gothic style. The predecessors of the current church were a seventeenth-century hidden church on the Dorstige Hartsteeg, and from 1842 the provisional Silokerk on the Herenstraat. The church is owned by the Sint Willibrordus Foundation, which was founded by Father Winand Kotte A.A. was founded. While most neo-Gothic monuments were stripped of their rich inventory, renovated or demolished in the 1960s and 1970s, the interior of the Sint-Willibrordkerk has been preserved almost intact. The church was designated a national monument in 1976.

# CITY WALK



Continue walking through Minnebroederstraat and continue to the Ganzenmarkt. On the Ganzenmarkt you pass the Kikker theater.

Theater Kikker is a theater on the Ganzenmarkt and has two halls in which a mixture of contemporary theater and modern dance is performed. Frog works a lot with volunteers.



8



At the end of the Ganzenmarkt, turn left via the town hall bridge to the Vismarkt. At the town hall bridge you pass the Miffy Museum. A little further on the Vismarkt you will find Lofen Palace on your left.



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The Miffy Museum is a museum dedicated to the work of author Dick Bruna in the Dutch city of Utrecht. The museum is part of the Central Museum. In the themed rooms of the Miffy Museum, toddlers and preschoolers discover the world around them step by step. Dick Bruna's picture books are the inspiration for these worlds. There is the doctor, the traffic circle, the zoo, you name it. Children really step into the world of Miffy and her friends here.

On June 2, 1122, Utrecht received city rights from Emperor Hendrik V in his palace 'Lofen'. The remains of this palace are located in cellars under buildings between Domplein and Vismarkt and are not or hardly accessible. Until now. Stadsherstel Utrecht recently acquired part of the cellars containing the remains of the former basement (ground floor) of the former imperial palace. Subsequently, DOMunder was asked to make the cellars with these remains accessible to everyone. On June 2, 2022, the 900th anniversary of Utrecht, Lofen Palace reopened its doors.



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Continue walking through the Vismarkt and continue through Lichte Gaard and then Donkere Gaard. Here you walk past the Warf cellars.

# CITY WALK

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Wharf cellars

The Oudegracht in Utrecht and its wharves are unique in the world. When Utrecht receives city rights and a defensive wall in 1122, the construction of a sailing route straight through the city is also started: the Oudegracht. Due to the connection with the Vecht (north) and the Vaartsche Rijn (south), the Oudegracht started to function as an elongated harbour. During the digging, the released soil was thrown onto the banks, raising the street a lot higher than the canal. The lower mooring quays were connected by tunnels under the street, directly connected to the storage cellars of the canal houses. Merchandise could easily be dragged to the houses in this way.

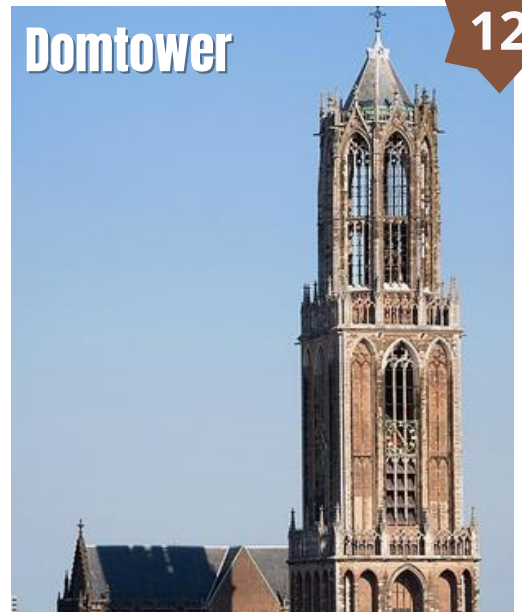


Turn left at Wed and then left again to Domplein. Here you will find the Dom Tower, DOMunder, the Dom Church and the courtyard of the Dom Church.

The iconic Domtower is the symbol of Utrecht and with its 112 meters the highest church tower in the Netherlands. On June 26, 1321, the first stone of the Domtoren was laid and after more than 60 years of construction, construction was completed in 1382. In 1674 a devastating tornado raged through Utrecht and the church and the tower were separated for good. The tower then became a place where gay men met in secret. It was not until 200 years later, in 1826, that the remains of the collapsed central nave were removed and the current Domplein was created.

Domtower

12



13



DOMunder

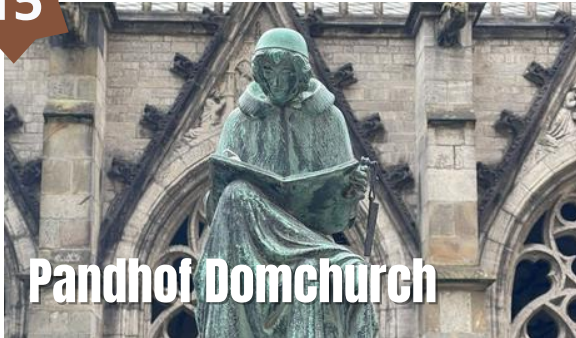
DOMunder is a historical attraction under the Domplein in Utrecht for young and old with unique underground excavations. DOMunder takes you through the eventful history of 2000 years of Domplein, Utrecht, the Netherlands and Europe. Everything you see in DOMunder was actually found under the Domplein.

# CITY WALK

The monumental, Gothic Dom Church is located in the middle of the historic Domkwartier. The Domkerk is located next to the Domtoren. They used to be connected, but a tornado in 1674 made a hole between the tower and the church. The church was built from 1254 as a continuation of the Romanesque cathedral of the Roman Catholic diocese of Utrecht and was dedicated to Saint Martin. The church has been Protestant since 1580.



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The Pandhof van de Dom is the cloister garden of the Dom Church. This hidden garden is sandwiched between the Dom Church and the Academy Building, and is a wonderfully idyllic spot full of flowers and herbs. The Pandhof is one of the most beautiful inner gardens in the Netherlands and from here you have a beautiful view of the Dom tower and church. The Pandhof of the Domkerk dates from 1390-1440 and was restored at the end of the 19th century. The garden has recently been redecorated. The garden is enclosed by a cloister from the 15th century. The garden is free to visit and accessible through the gate on the Domplein.

Walk around the Dom Church and leave the Dom Square via Voetiusstraat. Walk straight ahead for a short distance if you want to see St. Peter's Church. Then walk back and enter Achter Sint Pieter. This turns into Pausdam at the end. You pass Paushuize here.

The Pieterschurch is one of the oldest churches in the Dutch city of Utrecht. The church was originally dedicated to Saint Peter. Peter is considered the first pope for Catholics. Jesus is said to have given Peter the keys to Heaven's gate. The apostle is therefore depicted with keys as attributes. The apostle with the keys can be seen in various places in St Peter's Church. At the back of the church is a masonry, painted tomb from the 13th century.



# CITY WALK

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Paushuize, built at the beginning of the sixteenth century, is an important monumental building. The building was built in 1517 for the only Dutch pope ever. For a long time, the Paushuize served as the official residence of the governor and the King's Commissioner in the province of Utrecht. Paushuize was thoroughly renovated in 2010-2011. Paushuize is currently used as a meeting/conference center and wedding venue.

Turn right on the Pausdam. You are now walking on the Trans. Walk to the end and turn left at the end of Korte Nieuwstraat. Continue your way through Lange Nieuwstraat. In the Lange Nieuwstraat you will find the small Vleeshuis and Museum Catharijneconvent close together.

The small meat house was built in 1443 as one of the city's public slaughterhouses. Before 1433, the slaughterhouse was located next to the current town hall. However, the butchers guild was abolished in 1433 because its members meddled too much in politics with long knives. It was not until 1443 that new slaughterhouses were added, namely on the Voorstraat and here. The small meat house was restored in 1939.



19



Museum Catharijneconvent is a national museum for religious art in Utrecht. The museum is located in the former convent of the Catharijneconvent, which was probably dedicated to Catherine of Alexandria as early as the 12th century. The monastery building is built against St Catherine's Cathedral. The museum arises from various collections.

After the Catherijneconvent, turn left onto the Zuilenstraat. Go via the bridge over the Nieuwegracht to the Schalkwijkstraat. Here you will pass Kameren van Kampen, Gasthuis Leeuwenbergh, a fire engine house and Bruntenhof.



# CITY WALK

In 1574, Jan van Campen renovated his house, four large and nine smaller rooms attached to the Leeuwenbergh guest house. The nine rooms still exist. In 1645, during the construction of the Nieuwe Kamp, a part was demolished and replaced, of which 1 house still exists. The row was restored in 1988.



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21



The Leeuwenbergh Gasthuis is a national monumental building on the Servaasbolwerk. A pest house was built in 1567 near the eastern city wall with money from the estate of Agnes van Leeuwenberch. In 1678 it was almost rebuilt after a fire. In 1794 it was converted into military barracks. From 1845 to 1930 it was a university building and since then a church building. Restored in 1881, 1930 and 1977.

This fire extinguisher house of the voluntary fire brigade dates from around 1860. In the time when there was no motorized transport, it was considered important to distribute extinguishing agents across the city, so that they could be used quickly in the event of a fire. This is one of the two remaining fire extinguishers in Utrecht. The other is on the Burgemeester Reigerstraat.



22

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The Bruntenhof is a picturesque Roman Catholic court from 1621 for the poor or sick people. In 1621, lawyer Frederik Brunt ordered the construction of 15 one-room houses in the yard of his house Klein Lepenburg. The cottages were intended for poor widows and, in addition to free living space, the women were also provided with food and fuel. The houses were thoroughly restored between 1979 and 1981, but a lot of old details - such as the box bed - have been preserved.

Incidentally, money is still distributed here four times a year to poor or sick elderly people on the basis of a will dating from 1742.

# CITY WALK



Turn right to Zonnenburg and walk along this path until you reach the Sonnenborgh Museum and the Observatory.

Sonnenborgh is a stronghold and public observatory. It was named a "Historic site" by the European Physical Society in 2021. Between 1544 and 1558, Emperor Charles V had four stone bulwarks built on the inner side of the Stadsbuitengracht to defend the city of Utrecht. Sonnenborgh is one of them. Today there is a museum here where far away comes closer. Go on a journey through the universe and the monumental and scientific heritage.



Walk further out of Zonnenburg, take the bridge and continue through Agnietenstraat. In this street you will pass successively: a former regent's house, the foundation of Renswoude, the Central Museum and the Nicolai Church.

25



At the end of the Nieuwegracht is a mysterious corner house. The text on the plaque above the door of the building refers to Maria van Pallaes and her foundation in the seventeenth century. The house dates from 1651. In the seventeenth century twelve houses in the Agnietenstraat were designated as free housing for the poor. The building on the corner of Agnietenstraat and Nieuwegracht was intended for the regents of the foundation.

The Fundatie van Renswoude is an impressive monumental building in the Museum Quarter in the center of Utrecht. The foundation building on Agnietenstraat was built in 1761 and was originally built as a boarding school for orphan boys. The building is one of the highlights of the Rococo period in the Netherlands. The style rooms in this national monument can be rented for meetings of various kinds.



# CITY WALK

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The Central Museum has an extensive collection of old and modern art, fashion, applied art and the Miffy museum and the Rietveld Schröder House are also part of the Centraal Museum.

The Nicolaïchurch is a church, which is also popularly referred to as the Nicolaaskerk or the Klaaskerk, not to be confused with the Sint-Nicolaaskerk. It is used by the Protestant Church in the Netherlands. The church was built in the early twelfth century as the second parish church of Utrecht (the first was the Buurkerk, later the Jacobikerk and the Geertekerk followed). The patron saint was Saint Nicholas, which indicates that this was, among other things, the church of fishermen and boatmen. The parish covered a large area that even included the villages of De Bilt and Vechten.



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➤ After the Nicolaïkerk, turn left into Nicolaasdwarsstraat and immediately turn right again into Doelenstraat. You then walk past the Doelenhofje. At the end of Doelenstraat, turn right onto the LF4 Midden-Nederlandroute and continue to Twijnstraat.

29



The Doelenhofje was initially a beguinage, later it became a monastery. When you enter the courtyard, you will see a covered colonnade on the right. It was used by monastics to go across the street. That's where their church was. Later the buildings became a prison and retirement home. Today it is home to several small businesses.

# STADSWANDELING

30



The Twijnstraat is one of the oldest shopping streets in Utrecht in the middle of the Museum Quarter at the end of the Oudegracht. Because the street looks so characteristic and has a wide range of specialty shops, boutiques and restaurants, it is a popular part of Domstad for many Utrecht residents.



Walk through the Twijnstraat, turn left over the Vollersbridge and walk through the Lange Rozendaal. Turn right onto the Pelmolenweg. Here you walk past the Geertechurch.

In the Middle Ages, the Geertechurch was one of the four parish churches in Utrecht, the smallest and the youngest, dedicated to Saint Gertrude van Nijvel. The first building was built on a site outside the ramparts, but between 1248 and 1259 the church was transferred within the city walls. Since then many renovations have taken place: the choir and transept date from the fourteenth century, the nave aisles from around 1400. The tower is probably the oldest preserved part from the thirteenth century.



31



Walk around the Geertekerk and turn left via the Geertekerkhof to the Springweg. Take the second right to the Brandstraat and immediately left again through the Regulierenkloostertuin.

32



Between the Zwaansteeg and the Brandstraat in Utrecht you will find a small park, the garden of the former Regulierenklooster. This monastery dates back to the Middle Ages. When the last monks left the building, around 1580, the monastery became a Burgerweeshuis. In 1925 the orphanage moved to the Nieuwegracht. In the park you will find a number of stones. These stones come from a 19th century church that was in ruins after the bombing of Rotterdam on 14 May 1940. In the 1950s, the city of Utrecht could use these stones to build houses and restore buildings, including the Dom Tower. These pillars remained and were placed in the garden of the former Regulierenklooster.

# CITY WALK



Turn left to Zwaansteeg and immediately right to Springweg. Continue to Mariaplaats. On the left you will find the Pandhof of Sinte Marie.

Between the buildings of the conservatory lies the courtyard of the former Maria Church. The 11th century Mariakerk was one of the five collegiate churches in Utrecht, and was one of the most impressive Romanesque buildings in the Netherlands. During the siege of Vredenburg Castle in 1576, however, the deterioration begins, and because of the abolition of the chapter in 1811, the church is finally demolished in stages. Today only the cloister remains standing. The court or open space, together with the surrounding buildings of the 11th century cloister, is referred to as Pandhof Sinte Marie. In the beautiful garden is a beautiful flower, herb and butterfly garden.



**Pandhof Sinte Marie**



Walk via the Mariaplaats and cross the bridge to the Catherijnesingel. Turn right here. You are now back at the central station, the end of this walk.



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