City guide Nijmegen
Including historic town walk
Welcome to Nijmegen

Welcome to Nijmegen, the oldest town in the Netherlands!

Travel back in time with us. Learn more about the lives of the Romans and Batavians in Nijmegen and let the exciting legend of Mariken van Nieumeghen take you to the Middle Ages, until you finally reach the present where you can go shopping in one of the attractive little specialist shops or modern shopping centres in town. And of course at the end of the day you will descend on a terrace, for example in one of the outdoor cafés along the busy Waal. Here, you can relish the memory of all the things you have seen and done that day. This should be easy as Nijmegen has the highest concentration of outdoor cafés in the Netherlands. Too wet or cold for a drink in a pavement café? Relax and enjoy the memory of your day in Nijmegen in one of the many cosy cafés.

For lovers of culture, Nijmegen is the right place. Its places of interest and museums are definitely worth visiting. And walkers and cyclists will find what they are looking for in the Nijmegen area.

We wish you a beautiful walk of discovery!

CONTENTS
Culture & History in Nijmegen 1
Historic town walk 2
Museums in Nijmegen 17
Shopping in Nijmegen 19
Going out in Nijmegen 21
Discover the Nijmegen area 25

Tip: discover more special locations via arnhemnijmegenregion.com
Historic town walk

Station

Special building
Cinema
Hotel
Car park
Parking
Bicycle shed
Bicycle shed, covered
Pedestrian precinct; closed off to all (car) traffic
One-way street
Nijmegen’s rich cultural history goes back two thousand years, when the Romans settled here and Nijmegen grew to become the largest town of the Netherlands. Several centuries later, the Emperor Charlemagne, chose the Valkhof as the site to build his palace and it became one of the most important places in his empire. The centuries that followed saw a succession of monarchs, dukes and emperors, also choosing Nijmegen as their residence. Because of it’s strategic location, the town has often been at the centre of conflicts. Most recently during the Second World War, when the Allies bombed Nijmegen by mistake. Besides the hundreds of civilians who died, most of the town centre was totally destroyed. Thanks to careful rebuilding, Nijmegen has managed to retain it’s attractive, lively character. The town enjoys an easy southern, relaxed atmosphere. If you like to step back into the past, there is plenty here for you to enjoy in the rich cultural and historical variety which Nijmegen has to offer.

Exciting History and Liberation Route Europe

Nijmegen’s rich history goes back two thousand years, its marks still displayed across town. Important locations from the period of Roman rule 🏛️, the Middle ages 🕚 and the Second World War ⌛️ have been the inspiration for audio and video stories. These exciting stories can be downloaded free of charge from excitinghistory.com 🏛️ ⌛️ or liberationroute.com 🕚.
For a long time, the town was confined within it’s own defensive walls. It was only in 1874 that the town walls were demolished to make way for urban expansion. Following the course of the former town canals, a series of grand, wide avenues was laid out, the hub of which was the Keizer Karelplein. In the middle of this busy roundabout you will see a bronze statue of Charlemagne on his eternally rearing horse.

You are now in the lovely town park. The great variety of tree species (more than 150!) and it’s undulating nature make it unique in the Netherlands. Part of the old town wall has been preserved here, and gives a good idea of the impressive defensive fortifications which once encircled the town. From right to left, you can see: the never completed St. Jacobstoren (Tower of St. James) from 1525, the Rondeel (Round Tower) from 1527 and the imposing Kruittoren (Gun Powder Tower) from 1425.

"Leaving the VVV Tourist Information Centre through the main entrance, you will see four sculptures (Nassausingel) representing the four seasons. On your left, diagonally across from Nassausingel, lies Kronenburgerpark. Cross Nassausingel and continue towards this park."

Walk through the park in the direction of the lake, keeping the lake to your right. At the end lies Joris Ivensplein. The sculpture on this square is a monument to the internationally renowned film maker Joris Ivens, born in Nijmegen.
The Lange Hezelstraat was an important thoroughfare even back in Roman times. In the Middle Ages, it became one of the main trading routes in the region, and can rightly be called the oldest shopping street of the Netherlands. As one of the first Dutch towns, Nijmegen had stone houses built along this street back in the 13th century. The buildings at numbers 50 to 52 reveal their medieval origins. Most of the remaining facades, on the other hand, are fairly new and date from 1900. It is in the upper storeys of these buildings that you can discover how rich and varied the architecture really is in the Lange Hezelstraat. That is also why the Lange Hezelstraat is part of the protected townscape.

After about 200 metres, turn left (Begijnenstraat).

We are now walking into the Lower Town. The fact that the terms Upper en Lower Town refer to differences in elevation, will hardly be apparent to you here, but you will soon find out that it is. The Medieval atmosphere of the town is almost tangible in the Begijnenstraat. On your left you will see the former ‘Arme Borgeren Kinderen Weeshuis’ (Poor Citizen Children's Orphanage). It dates back to the 16th century, gaining its present form in 1644. In 1817 it changed its name to the Protestant Children’s Orphanage. The building opposite the orphanage is the former Reformed Church.

In the new facade of no. 30 is an original plaque depicting a beer barrel, a reminder of the time when there were many breweries in the Lower Town.

Turn right at the end of the road (Oude Haven / Lage Markt).

The name refers to the harbour which used to be contained within the town walls on this spot. The harbour was filled in at the same time the town walls were demolished. If you cross the road and look back at the row of facades, you will see that several of the old merchant houses have been preserved.

The Oude Haven turns into the Lage Markt (Lower Market) and we go back even further in time. Most of the houses here have their origins way back in the 16th century. On your left, fifty metres further on, you will see the St.Anthonispoort. This is the only town gate of Nijmegen which still remains. Opposite the St. Anthonispoort you see Huize Olifant.
On the left is the former Jewish Synagogue from 1756. One of its cantors was Isaac Presburg, whom we will come across later on our walk. The synagogue is built in an unobtrusive style, because in those days it was not permitted for a Jewish religious building to be recognisable as such. Beside the synagogue on the left is the Jewish School in oriental style dating from 1873. Since 1913 the building has been used for various other purposes. Today the building is used as a synagogue again.

In the square is a monument to the Jews of Nijmegen who lost their lives during the Second World War.

Turn right (Priemstraat) at Huize Olifant. Here you see the Stevenskerk prominently in view. Then walk towards a little square (Kitty de Wijzeplaats).

When you reach the square, turn left (Nonnenstraat).

On the left are the massive walls of the Stevenskerk. The building of this church started in 1254, and renovation and extension work continued until well into the 16th century. If you walk round the church you will therefore recognise several architectural styles. The church and the tower were badly damaged in the Second World War. Both the interior and exterior of the Stevenskerk are splendid monuments of the town.

Turn back and cross Kitty de Wijzeplaats. Continue straight ahead towards the Ganzenheuvel. After about 50 metres, turn left up the stairs towards St. Stevenskerkhof.

Along your left are the massive walls of the Stevenskerk. The building of this church started in 1254, and renovation and extension work continued until well into the 16th century. If you walk round the church you will therefore recognise several architectural styles. The church and the tower were badly damaged in the Second World War. Both the interior and exterior of the Stevenskerk are splendid monuments of the town.
You are welcome to visit the church during opening hours.

You will also see a memorial to the civilian casualties in the Second World War and pass the sculpture of Moenen. This is the devil in the famous mediaeval miracle play Mariken van Nieumeghen. Mariken was seduced by Moenen and lived with him in sin for seven years. She repented on the Grote Markt. And after her punishment of seven years in a convent she was forgiven for her sins and lived a virtuous and pious life from then on. Moenen sits, symbolically, with his back to the church. In front of you, you will see the beautiful late Gothic entrance to the church.

Take a look inside the Stevenskerk and feel this magnificent medieval monument’s serene atmosphere. Hear the sounds of the famous König organ or pay a visit to the Holy Sepulchre chapel. You are also more than welcome to take in an exhibition or attend a concert or lecture in the Stevenskerk.

Current opening hours and the programme of events are available at: www.stevenskerk.nl
Next to Moenen is the Latin School. This predecessor of the grammar school was founded in 1546 by the Apostolic Church of Cologne. Boys from wealthy families received instruction here. The Catholic influence disappeared quickly, however, when it was taken over by the town council, and later by the Protestants in 1591. Reminders of the Apostolic founders, however, can be seen in the statues of the twelve apostles, the text of the Ten Commandments between the windows and the statues of the four Church Fathers above the entrance. You will also see, under the eaves, sculpted skulls and crossbones which point to the original purpose on this spot: “the Churchyard.”

Feel free to walk a little further round the Stevenskerk.

This picturesque row of houses north of the church probably used to provide living quarters for the canons, clergy who were attached to the church. These houses too were totally derelict forty years ago, and were used as little more than warehouses. Around 1970 they were totally restored in their original style.
Pass under the ‘Kerkboog’ (Church Arch) and into the Grote Markt.

Note especially the difference in building styles between the building above the Kerkboog (entrance to the Church yard) and the entrance itself. The Kerkboog dates from 1542 and contains many Gothic elements, such as natural stone pillars, a cross vault and sculpted heads. The building above is barely half a century older, but looks totally different. In the top gable one can recognise playful classical elements. With this dramatic shift from Gothic to Dutch Renaissance style, in no more than half a century the Middle Ages were left behind for good. It is no coincidence that this shift took place at the same time as the ‘liberation’ from Spanish domination during the Eighty Years’ War.

In the Middle Ages, the Laeckenhal (Cloth Hall) extended over the full width of the row of houses. This room was 54 metres long and formed the centre of the textile trade and the Guild’s meeting place. The ground floor was open to the market place and thus formed a kind of gallery with pillars. The gallery was only enclosed in 1542. A few natural stone pillars of the former gallery are still visible in the facade.

Walk a little further into the Grote Markt. There are various cafés and restaurants.

The Waaggebouw (Weigh-house) on the Grote Markt dates from 1612 and is another fine example of Dutch Renaissance style. The official weighing scales hung on the right of the building, and this was where all the market wares were weighed. The tradesmen with their wagons came in through the large door and left the building through a similar door at the rear. On the left was the official Vleeshuis (Meat Hall). Here the animals were slaughtered and sold on the spot. The unsold meat – by now not smelling particularly pleasant – had to be removed after two days. It was sold to the less well-off outside the town gates.

In the middle of the Grote Markt you will see Mariken ☞, separated from Moenen and contemplating her sins. The alley a bit further down is called Vijfringengas. This refers to the rings which Mariken had to wear round her neck as a punishment. Only when she had been forgiven did they fall off. The five rings can be seen on the post which bars the alley.
We continue in the direction of the Café ‘In De Blaauwe Hand’. This is the oldest café of Nijmegen. The name is connected with the Laeckenhal (Cloth Hall). The indigo pigment which the cloth dyers used, was particularly difficult to wash off their hands. They would go to the café after a hard day’s work, their hands still stained blue, and so giving it its name “In the Blue Hand”.

**Turn into the narrow street (Achter de Hoofdwacht) to the left of the Waaggebouw**

We serve more than 25 boutique beers, bottled as well as draught! Of course a good Nijmegen beer drawn from the wood and brewed by De Hemel is available too!

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At the end of the narrow street you will find yourself in a car park in the Korenmarkt. On your left you will see the Commanderie van St. Jan.

The original building dates from 1196 and takes its name from the monastic order of the Knights of St. John, who occupied it from 1214 onwards. This legendary order of Knights devoted their lives to the care of the sick from the time of the Crusades. The building was badly damaged during the Second World War and in the 1970’s stripped of all its later additions and completely reconstructed. The Commanderie van St. Jan houses several companies such as Brouwerijmuseum De Hemel and Restaurant Plaats1.

When you reach the Commanderie, turn right (Pepergas) towards Grotestraat.

Please note: Grotestraat has a considerable difference in elevation. If you have difficulty walking, you may prefer to stay in the Upper Town and walk to Valkhofpark via Burchtstraat (see street map).

On the site of the building at number 33 was the former home of Isaac Presburg, cantor at the Synagogue in Nonnenstraat. His daughter Henriëtte married the German Heinrich Marx in 1814. Their son Karl became world-famous. Another daughter of Isaac, Sophie, married Leon Philips in 1820. Their son Philip, together with grandson Gerard, founded the light bulb factory, Philips in 1891. Marxism and the multinational Philips have therefore, strangely enough, the same Nijmegen roots! Below the Grotestraat you will see a new water protection system, built in 2009. This enables one to close the Lower Town when the river floods. In times past, and even as late as the 1990’s, quay walls filled with horse manure would be used to keep the water out; an age-old tried and tested construction still doing a great job.
The name Steenstraat (Stone Street) is a reminder of its ancient origins. Two of the old buildings on this street are the Brouwershuis (Brewers’ House) and the Besiendershuis (Toll Master’s House). The Brouwershuis dates from the 16th century, although the step gable displays the date 1621. The Besiendershuis from 1500 is also adorned with step gables. Around the turn of the century the Steenstraat was not nearly as elegant as these two houses might suggest. It was a noisy affair with brothels, disreputable lodging houses and pubs.

In the 1980’s, the Waalkade was given a considerable face-lift and put firmly back on the tourist map. This is evident in all the bars, restaurants and outdoor cafés in the area. A little further on, in the window of the Holland Casino Nijmegen the remains of a Roman underfloor heating system are displayed. This house probably belonged to a small settlement from the late Roman period (3rd – 4th centuries).

Tip: Have a rest and a drink in one of the quayside outdoor cafés. In the years to come, a number of large building projects north of the river will dramatically change the face of Nijmegen. For more information go to the information centre ‘Nijmegen omarmt de Waal’ which is located at the Waalkade.
To the rear of the Holland Casino Nijmegen, a Roman wall several metres long has been discovered, dating from the same period. A small section of it is still visible. Further down the Waalkade, in the direction of the Waal Bridge and between some grand 17th century houses, lies the Stratemakerstoren, once part of the mediaeval walls.

The niches in the subterranean passages reveal where guns had to defend the nearby town gate against the Spaniards. Currently closed for alterations, the tower has been a museum since 1995. As of 2016 it will house De Bastei, a nature and cultural-historical museum. Nationaal Fietsmuseum Velorama is situated next to the tower.
You are now standing on the most famous and important piece of ground in Nijmegen: the Valkhof. Here the Romans founded the Oppidum Batavorum (‘the capital of the Batavians’) which was set on fire in about 70 AD by the Batavian Rebel Julius Civilis. In the late Roman period (3rd–4th centuries) military reinforcements were stationed here. At the end of the 8th century Emperor Charlemagne built a ‘palts’ (palace), which grew to become one of his most important residences. Even the Normans occupied the Valkhof during one winter. Later Emperors of the Holy Roman Empire too could regularly be found at the Valkhof. Emperor Frederick Barbarossa expanded the fortress considerably in 1155. This fortress stood for many centuries, but was demolished in 1796. The protesting citizens of Nijmegen managed however to persuade them to spare the two chapels.

Part of the St. Nicolaaskapel, also called Valkhofkapel, dates from 1030 and is therefore one of the oldest existing stone buildings in the Netherlands. It is also a rare example of Byzantine architecture in northwest Europe. Normally churches in this region have a cross form. Byzantine churches however usually have a square, round or polygonal floor plan.

**Saint Nicolas Chapel**

Saint Nicolas Chapel

Climb the broad stairs (Veerpoorttrappen). At the top, turn left into Valkhofpark via a flight of steps.

**SAINT NICOLAS CHAPEL IN NIJMEGEN (ca. 1030)**

The oldest stone building in the Netherlands, which is still used for the same function.

- Guided Tour and Viewing
- Marriage
- Recital
- Exhibition

info@valkhof.nl
Cross the park towards the ruin.

The St. Maartenskapel (or the Barbarossa ruin) on the right, was built in 1155 and was attached to the fortress. If you look from here in the direction of the St. Nicolaaskapel and allow your imagination to fill in the intervening area of the former fortress, you will have some idea as to just how large it was. On your right-hand side, and to the right of the two benches, was the donjon, a residential tower of the fortress, a good thirty metres high.

All that actually remains of the St. Maartenskapel is the semicircular apses and a smaller part of the choir. In the interior wall are a number of arches on which an intervening floor was supported. This was the dividing line between a relatively low Lower church and a high Upper church. Old material was used for this chapel too, such as the Roman marble corner pillars, and the capitals resting on them which date from the time of Charlemagne. The Valkhof too saw much fighting action during the Second World War. The occupying German forces had put up fortifications to defend the Waal Bridge. But as if by a miracle, the two chapels were left unscathed during the fighting.

Leave the Valkhof by the bridge in the direction of Museum Het Valkhof.

Architect-designed Museum Het Valkhof houses one of the leading collections of Roman artefacts and implements in this country. Outside the museum is a Roman column for the gods, a contemporary monument based on the fragments of stone found here on the plain in 1980. The original obelisk dating from 17 AD. Due to this, it was proven that Nijmegen is the oldest city in the Netherlands.

Written on the ten sides of the granite column are texts referring to the past, quotes about the town through the ages. The column also serves as a Roman sundial. Based on the column, the shadow of the bronze tortoise on the top of the column slowly moves around the square. It’s four feet represent the four directions of the wind, it’s shell protection.
You are now walking over the old town wall, which dates from the 15th century. In the 16th century, though, this system of defense was already out of date. The invention of gunpowder meant that the walls were vulnerable and had to be strengthened on the town side with a thick earth embankment. That is what you are now walking on. A little further along you will see a part of the massive walls which still survived and a vaulted arch of the casemates.

At the beginning of the town wall you see a kiosk on your right-hand side. This used to be a tram house and dates from 1911. It is one of the few reminders of Nijmegen’s tram days. The Nijmegen tram became especially famous because of line no. 2, which travelled via Beek to Berg en Dal, covering a difference in elevation of some eighty metres. Just before and after the War, this so-called ‘Mountain Railway’ was a national tourist attraction. Continue on, and you will see right in the centre of the traffic intersection a statue of the Emperor Trajan. This Roman Emperor granted Nijmegen official market rights around the year 104 AD. This made Nijmegen the very first town on Dutch soil. He also gave his family name (Ulpius) to the town, which from that moment was then called Ulpia Noviomagus. Ulpia Noviomagus was situated a few hundred metres west of what is now the town centre.
The original 15th century Wall Tower was replaced in the middle of the Golden Age (around 1650) by this tower in Renaissance style. From the balcony-the name says it Belvedere – you have a magnificent view of the town and countryside around. At the foot of the Belvédère you see a German cannon which was left behind after the Second World War, still aiming towards the intensely fought-over Waal Bridge. The Waal Bridge dates from 1936. A few years after it had been opened, however, it was sunk by the Dutch army because of the impending threat of war. It was rebuilt during the War, and miraculously remained intact during the liberation by the Allies (Operation Market Garden) in 1944, later with thanks to the resistance fighter Jan van Hoof the bridge was not blown up.

The town hall on your left dates in it's present form from 1554. Then it was regarded as a very modern building with a striking number of elements from the early Renaissance. For example, we see ‘classical’ sculptures of the emperors who made Nijmegen great. On large medallions are allegorical representations of the virtues. The entrance door is richly ornamented with wood carvings. Next to the town hall is a second gateway. This is the Gedeputeerdenpoort (Gate of the Deputies) from 1663, which gives access to the meeting rooms for the deputies of the region Gelre. The gate is clearly intended to impress, and particularly to show a distinctive contrast with it’s ‘town’ neighbour. The town hall, escaped the city bombing, but was however set on fire after the liberation. It was heavily restored during the 1950’s.

"Keep to your left in the direction of Belvédère 16 ."

"Turn right (St. Jorisstraat), and keep museum Het Valkhof on your right. You are now walking along St. Jorisstraat. Its continuation is called Burchtstraat. Walk some way along Burchtstraat until you see the Town Hall on your left."
Walk back a little, then turn right into the two-level shopping street.

Marikenstraat and Moenenstraat are thé new shopping streets in Nijmegen. The natural difference in elevation in the town centre has created two levels in Marikenstraat, which joins Mariënburgplein. The Mariënburgkapel (Mariënburg Chapel) in this square houses the Huis van de Nijmeegse Geschiedenis. Mariënburg was created after an extensive facelift in 2000, its main features the buildings tilting forwards, with protruding walls, coloured fronts and unusual windows. This extensive reconstruction in the town centre attracts international attention.

When you reach the end of Marikenstraat, continue rightwards towards Koningsplein. Cross the square, then turn left. In the square you see the ‘Bedriegersjjes’ (fountains). Take the second street on your right. Turn left (Bisschop Hamerstraat) towards Keizer Karelplein.

On your left, across the square, lies Concertgebouw De Vereeniging. It was built in 1915 by Oscar Leeuw, who was himself inspired by the famous architect Berlage (well known for many buildings, in particular the Stock Exchange in Amsterdam). The predominantly brick building gives a massive impression, but is fanciful at the same time through the lively variation in form.

Walk to the right along Keizer Karelplein, back to the VVV Tourist Information Centre. You have reached the end of this walk.
Museums in Nijmegen

Nijmegen has a wealth of museums and galleries, often with leading (temporary) collections. Visit one of the following museums:

- **Museum Het Valkhof** houses a magnificent collection of Roman archaeology, ancient and modern art.
- **De Bastei**, a nature and cultural-historical museum. (Opens in the middle of 2016)
- The Waalkade is home to the Nationaal Fietsmuseum VELORAMA, which displays a collection of around 250 historic bicycles.
- The Commanderie van St. Jan houses Museumbrouwerij de Hemel (De Hemel Town Brewery).
- The town of Nijmegen lies in the heart of stunning countryside. More information is available from Natuurmuseum Nijmegen and Bezoekerscentrum de Gelderse Poort. (Relocates to The Bastei in the middle of 2016)
- muZIEum provides a unique way of experiencing the miracle of eyesight and the unknown world of visual impairment. Let a blind guide take you for a walk in pitch-darkness.
- The Museumschip Opoe Sientje is berthed in the Lindenberghaven.
- Information centre ‘Nijmegen omarmt de Waal’ provides visitors with information about projects on both sides of the Waal.
- Art lovers can visit one of the galleries, Galerie Marzee (Lage Markt 3), for example, or Galerie Zeven Zomers, which regularly changes its location.
Coffee house
De Heerlijkheid
During your walk you will pass this unique restaurant in the heart of the old town centre, where atmosphere, warmth and cosiness are considered of paramount importance. De Heerlijkheid is the place to be for coffee and a treat, a tasty lunch or dinner. We also offer a delicious high tea.
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CAPPELLO
HOEDEN – TASSEN – SJAALS
Pleasant outdoor cafes, modern shopping centres and cosy little shops and boutiques, combined with an easy southern, relaxed atmosphere, make Nijmegen an excellent place to spend some time and to go shopping. The town proves that the past and the present can successfully intermingle. For example, you can buy modern design in the oldest shopping street in the Netherlands before having a drink in a trendy lounge café.

Whereas Nijmegen is the oldest town in the Netherlands, Hezelstraat can rightly be called the oldest shopping street in the country. Originally a Roman street and to this day easily recognisable as a mediaeval high street, leading to the Grote Markt, Hezelstraat is home to more than 100 shops. Do not forget to have a look at the newest shopping streets in Nijmegen. Moenenstraat is a new walking route through the town centre. Marikenstraat offers the very latest in fashion, leisure and media.

Major fashion brands are mainly available in Broerstraat and Burchtstraat. Take a stroll through the Lower Town where you will find a rich assortment of curio shops. Here you will find everything, from antiques to cooking utensils, from designer home accessories to beautiful hats and from knickknacks to handmade jewellery. And how about Van Welderenstraat and In de Betouwstraat, ring streets which have won an award for their widest selection of shops? If the weather gods are not well-inclined towards you, you can of course also go shopping in Molenpoort, a covered shopping centre in the heart of the town and home to some 50 shops.
Opening hours and Sunday trading
The shops in Nijmegen town centre are generally open from 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. (Thursdays late night shopping until 9 p.m.) Every first Sunday of the month and on special holidays the town centre shops are open from noon to 5 p.m. Each of these special Sundays has its own theme with fun activities. For more information please visit centrumnijmegen.nl.

Markets in Nijmegen

- **Grote Markt**: Monday and Saturday from 9 am - 5 pm (4 pm from October to March inclusive).
- **Kelfkensbos**: a vegetable and organic farmer’s market on Monday and Saturday from 9 am - 2 pm (Saturday from 8.30 am).
- **Mariënburgplein**: Saturday from 10 am - 5 pm, a book fair and frequently an art and book fair.
- **Stevenskerk**: the ‘Nijmeegse Lusemert’ (Flea Market) is a very special market, Monday from 9 am - 2 pm.

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Going out in Nijmegen

In the evening, as the sun sets over Nijmegen, the town’s evening and night life bubbles. Top chefs from all over the world welcome you to their delightful restaurants - one long table of cuisines with something to suit all tastes.

From Indian curry to Dutch Pancakes and from Japanese sushi to Italian stone oven pizza, you will find it all in Nijmegen. Have a quick tasty bite or choose an elaborate dinner in one of the top restaurants in Nijmegen. If you fancy tasting a typically Nijmegen delicacy, you should try and find a ‘Nijmegenaartje’ or ‘Marikenbrood’.

In Koningsplein, Mariënburg, Molenstraat and the Grote Markt you can gather in the shadow of historic buildings to enjoy a drink in one of the hundreds of cosy pubs or grand cafés. A different outdoor café for each day of the year, that is absolutely no problem in this town.

A new hot spot west of the town centre is the Honigcomplex. The former Honig factory is a melting pot of young entrepreneurs, various (urban) sports, arts and culture and fun events. You can enjoy excellent food and drinks, shop, make music and have things built here. It’s definitely worth a visit.
Any evening can be a great evening out, due to the enormous variety of theatres and stages. The theatre, concert hall and various smaller theatres and stages all provide a full evening’s entertainment. Beside the larger cinemas, art house LUX shows special film, theatre, dance and music productions.

The Waalboulevard is the ideal place for leisurely strolls or a drink or meal in one of the restaurants overlooking the Waal. Holland Casino Nijmegen is a great opportunity for an evening out. A pleasant meeting place where relaxation and enjoyment is the most important thing. Exactly on the spot where the Romans used to play dice, you can try your luck.
Events
Events for all ages are organised all year, the Four Days Marches being the best-known, but the town is a vibrant place all year. Various events such as the Go Short Film Festival (March), International Tango Festival (March), Music Meeting (May), Marikenloop (May), Roman Festival (June), Gebroeders van Limburgsfestival (a mediaeval festival, August), the Samba Festival (September) and Zevenheuvelenloop (November) reflect the range of events this region has to offer.

Every third week of July Nijmegen is the town in the Netherlands. Hosting the International Four Days Marches, the world’s largest walking event, it attracts approximately 45,000 participants from 46 countries. The Four Days Festival, the largest musical festivities in the Netherlands, are part and parcel of the Four Days Marches!

For a calendar of events go to visitnijmegen.com.
VVV Rijk van Nijmegen
Keizer Karelplein 32h
(Stadsschouwburg / City Theatre)

More information
visitnijmegen.com or download the free VVV App

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Nijmegen lies in the heart of stunning countryside, with on the one hand the river landscape contained by the Maas and Waal, Wijchen, Beuningen, the Ooijpolder and Millingerwaard, and on the other the fascinating hills where Beek-Ubbergen, Berg en Dal, Groesbeek and Plasmolen-Mook are nestled. For a cross-border trip visit Kranenburg by rail bike, along an old rail track.

The Nijmegen area is ideal for cyclists. Go and explore the area via its many cycle routes. The Arnhem Nijmegen region has a cycle route network which makes it easy to map out routes yourself, whatever distance you may choose. Simply endless enjoyment by bicycle! If you fancy a change from cycling, choose a beautiful electric Waalscooter ride (waalscooter.nl). For more information about the cycle route network, cycle packages, routes or downloading maps please visit lekkerfietsen.nl.

The Nijmegen area also boasts many places of interest and museums. Visit one of the following three museums, for example: Nationaal Bevrijdingsmuseum 1944-1945, Afrika Museum or Museumpark Orientalis. Enjoying the area in a more relaxed fashion? There is a wealth of options, such as a day at the Roman baths of Sanadome and a wine tasting at one of the vineyards in the Wine Village of Groesbeek.

Discover the Nijmegen area
Shops are open every first and last Sunday of the month
Always fun activities and events
Monday and Saturday markets