

HIGHLIGHTS BREDA



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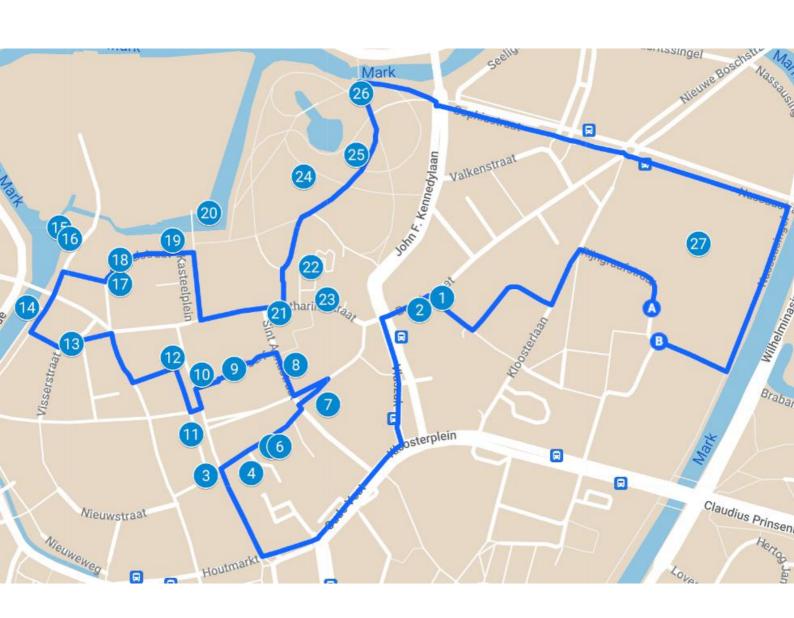
24 City park Valkenberg

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This route starts at the Rijngraafstraat. Exit this and turn left onto Kloosterlaan. Go right to the Poort van Schoenmakers and at the end turn right to the Pasbaan. On the corner with the Boschstraat you will find Brouwerij de Beyerd.

Brouwerij De Beyerd was founded in 2004. The official opening took place on June 9, 2004 with the launch of Drie Hoefijzers Klassiek. This beer was originally brewed in the Breda brewery of the same name. The recipe was adopted by the founders of the De Beyerd brewery: Piet de Jongh and his sons Mikel and Orson.





Turn left onto Boschstraat and walk past the Stedelijk Museum Breda.

In the Urban Museum Breda you can discover the art and history of Breda and the surrounding area. In addition to an overview of his rich collection, the museum shows changing exhibitions. The museum was opened in the spring of 2017. Project space NEXT is intended for collaboration with partners from the city. The surprising versatility makes the museum attractive to a broad and national audience.





Turn left to Vlaszak and at the end turn right to Kloosterplein. Continue walking along Oude Vest and turn right at Halstraat. On the left you will find the statue of Saint Juttemis in the Ridderstraat. In Halstraat you walk past St. Anthony's Cathedral, Huis Hersbeeck and Huis Ocrum.



In the early 1900s Carnival was banned by the Catholic Church. When residents of Breda asked the Church when their beloved party would return, they always received the same answer: "With Sint Juttemis." Saint Jutte does not exist, and therefore there is no holiday or mass with this name. In the past, a mass was always held on the name day of a Saint, hence the name Sint Juttemis. Fortunately, the carnival party was reintroduced in 1936. In honor of the 55th anniversary of the Breda carnival, the statue of Sinte – with an 'e', because it is a woman – Juttemis was donated to the residents of Breda in 1991. It is slightly to the left of the route in the Ridderstraat.



In 1836, the St Antonius Cathedral was the first Catholic church to be officially built after the clandestine period. It was also the first bishop's church of the new Breda diocese. The seat of the bishop of Breda returned to the Antoniuskerk in 2001, after an absence of 32 years. It regained the status of a cathedral.





In the St Janstraat there are two distinguished court houses, of which house Hersbeeck is number 16. A restaurant is now located here. The representatives of the Council of State used the Huis Hersbeeck when they were on business trips in the city. King Louis Napoleon also stayed there.

Huis Ocrum is located at number 18 in St Janstraat. Center for the Arts Nieuwe Veste is located here. This house, like house Hersbeeck, was used in 1667 as a residence for the English envoys who took part in the peace negotiations for the Peace of Breda. From 1848 to 1952, Ocrum House was a Roman orphanage. This can still be seen in the cobblestones that have been applied to the nineteenth century facade of the building.





Walk out of the St Jansstraat and continue straight through the Veemarktstraat. Here you will find the Bishop's Palace of Breda. Then go back a bit and turn into Sint Annastraat. In this street you will pass the Willem Merkstuin.



This building was built in the early fifteenth century as a court house by Hendrik Montens. He had the building rebuilt in Gothic style and embellished after the great city fire in 1534. In 1724 the building was renovated. In 1859 the building was purchased by the Diocese of Breda as a residence for the bishop. This gave it the title "Bishop's Palace". It is the only court house in Breda that is still fully used as a residence. The Gothic staircase from the sixteenth century can still be found in the palace. The palace also has a large garden.

In 1984 Ir. Willem Merkx farewell as mayor of Breda. It was his wish to turn the vacant lot behind the patrician houses on Catharinastraat into a beautiful garden. This sculpture garden was presented to him by the people of Breda as a parting gift. The garden is accessible free of charge between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.





Take the first left to the Stadserf. Here you walk past the statue of the Turfschipper. At the end of the Stadserf turn left. Breda Town Hall is still on the right.



This statue depicts Adriaan van Bergen, owner of the famous peat ship with which Prince Maurits was able to conquer Breda from the Spaniards in 1590 during the Eighty Years' War. The ship, loaded with 75 soldiers under a false floor, departed on March 2 that year from a place outside Breda. In the night of 3 to 4 March, the soldiers left the ship and took Breda Castle. In 1904 a statue of the peat shipper was unveiled in his hometown of Leur. In 1925 it was placed in its current place.

The old town hall is located on the Grote Markt in the center of Breda. This historic building has a staircase at the front. The first town hall was built in the 13th century when Breda received city rights. In 1534 it collapsed due to fire. The facade was built in the 18th century. These used to be four houses. During the renovation of 1766–1768, one facade was added, making it appear to be a whole from the outside.





Walk onto the Grote Markt and admire "Het Witte Lam" on the left on the Grote Markt. Go to the right and walk to the Big church of Breda.



The building at Grote Markt no. 19 was called 'Het Lam' or 'Het Witte Lam'. Prince Philip Willem, son of Willem van Oranje, gave permission in 1614 to house the Vleeshal here. Meat was only allowed to be sold in this place. The beautiful image of Saint George and the dragon in the facade refers to the cross and arch guild of St. George, which was established here from the 17th century.

Construction of the Big church started in 1410 and was completed in 1547. The 97 meter high tower was already finished in 1509. Its construction took forty years. The Nassaus and especially Hendrik III contributed a lot to the construction of the church. This originally Catholic Onze Lieve Vrouwekerk passed into Reformed hands after the iconoclasm and has since been called the Grote Kerk.





Walk past theBig church and turn right into Torenstraat. At the end of the Torenstraat, turn left to the Havermarkt.





The Havermarkt is the entertainment center of Breda. Contrary to what the name suggests, grains were not traded here but on the Grote Markt. Farmers from the surrounding area did sell their vegetables, eggs and butter here. In the seventeenth century there was also a leather market here. The old names of this square: Groenmarkt, Botermarkt and Korenmarkt actually tell more about its former functions.



Walk through the Havermarkt to the Visserstraat. Turn immediately right on Visserstraat to Potkanstraat. Turn right at the end and you are in the harbor. If you continue straight ahead, you will have a view of the Spanjaardsqat and the Duiventoren.

In 1367 there was already a fish market here. Sea fish was traded there because Breda then had an open connection to the sea via the river Mark. There were many breweries in this part of the harbor until the sixteenth century. The water quality was bad and drinking beer was a lot healthier. In the early 1960s, the harbor was filled in (with a one-vote majority in the city council) to make way for the first underground parking garage in the Netherlands. Fortunately, the historic harbor was restored in 2007.





The Spanjaardsgat is a water gate that lies between the two defense towers Granaattoren and the Duiventoren of Breda Castle. The water gate can normally only be seen from the outside, but on guided tours of the castle grounds also from the inside.

On the side of the Spanjaardsgat are two defense towers, built by Count Hendrik III. The tower on the left is called 'grenade tower.' Because homing pigeons for Willem van Oranje were kept in the right tower, it was given the name 'Duiventoren'. The towers now serve as chapels and the Duiventoren also houses the information center of the Netherlands Defense Academy, of which the KMA is a part.





Walk across the Haven and go straight ahead to the Kraanstraat. Keep right to stay on Kraanstraat. At the end, turn left into Cingelstraat. Here you pass the Synagogue on your right and Huis Brecht on your left. At the end of the Cingelstraat you walk past the Queen Wilhelmina Pavilion and you see the Castle of Breda.



At Cingelstraat 2 you will find the former synagogue, home and school of the Jewish community in Breda.

The House of Brecht is one of the most important and oldest court houses in Breda. It was built around 1490. It is one of the few stone buildings to survive the great city fire of 1534. It is now used as the library of the Royal Military Academy.



The Queen Wilhelmina Pavilion is a national monument and is located right in front of Breda Castle. It belongs to the Royal Military Academy (KMA). The building dates from 1867 and was originally an HBS. In 1901 it became part of the Royal Military Academy. From that time on, the building has had numerous uses, including the library of the KMA and a publishing house of military regulations.





There was already a castle on this site at the end of the twelfth century. About 200 years later it was converted into a real castle with towers and a moat. Over the years, the castle has been renovated a lot, but Henry III of Nassau brought the greatest changes in the sixteenth century. He brought over the architect Tomasso Vincidor from Italy, a pupil of the famous Rafael. He converted the castle into the first Renaissance palace in Northern Europe.



Turn right on Kasteelplein and turn left on Catherinastraat. At number 20 you pass a monumental building. Walk a little further for the Begijnhof and the Walloon Church. Then walk back and get on the hiking trail which is about opposite number 20. You are now walking through Stadspark Valkenberg. In the city park is the statue "the Flight / the Trek".

At Catharinastraat 20 there is a court house where representatives of the States of Holland, Zeeland and West Friesland stayed when they were present in 1667 at the negotiations for the Treaty of Breda, in the Castle of Breda. When the Treaty of Breda was concluded, a great party was held in the city and fountains were set up in front of this house, from which wine spouted.



The history of the Begijnhof goes back more than 750 years. Until 1531, the court was closer to Breda Castle, but Hendrik III van Nassau needed that land for the expansion of his castle. He gave the pious women a piece of land in the Valkenberg. In return, he promised the beguines that the court would always hold the protection of the Nassaus. The last beguine died in 1990. Only unmarried ladies still live on the court. You can see how the beguines lived and worked in the Begijnhofmuseum at number 29. In the 1960s, the Begijnhof was expanded with a second almshouse. You'll find it on the back right.





The Waalse church dates from the 15th century and is located close to the Begijnhof in the center. It is a national monument. The church was founded in 1440 and donated to the Beguines a century later. Previously, the name was the Wendelinuskapel, a chapel dedicated to Saint Wendelinus, who protected against the plague. In 1590, Catholic Breda was conquered by Prince Maurits, which brought about major changes in the city. The chapel was taken from the Beguines and turned into a Walloon Church.

Park Valkenberg is located on the transit route to Breda Central Station, behind Breda Castle. The park used to be the garden of the castle. The park owes its name to a falcon house from which the castle residents and their guests went falcon hunting. The little flowerbed with the statue of Hercules, a replica by the way, is reminiscent of the seventeenth century, when the park was laid out in the French style. At that time there were no less than seventeen statues.





De Vlucht (originally called De Trek) was made by the Breda artist Hein Koreman and unveiled in 1955. It is a reminder of Devlucht uit Breda; the evacuation of residents of the city on May 12, 1940 in connection with possible war violence. It has had its current location in Valkenberg Park since 1999, where it played a role in the annual Remembrance Day on 4 May.



Walk out of the park at the Nassau Barony Monument. Turn right here and walk through the Sophiastraat. Go straight on at the roundabout and you will now walk past the former dome prison. At the end of the street turn right and the first street right again. You are now back at the starting point of your walk.

The Nassau Monument or Barony Monument was festively unveiled in 1906. It recalls the arrival of the German count Engelbrecht van Nassau in the Netherlands. Through his marriage to Johanna, he laid the foundations for the House of Orange Nassau, our Dutch Royal Family. On the three reliefs you can see how he and his wife, the eleven-year-old Johanna van Polanen from Breda, were inaugurated as Lord and Lady of Breda.





FutureDome is the new concept in the dome prison in Breda. It was built between 1882 and 1886 by Johan Frederik Metzelaar. He previously also designed the comparable prison in Arnhem. The building was designed according to the panopticum principle. Guards could keep a constant eye on the detainees from the center of the circular complex.

Until 2014, the location was a penitentiary institution. The COA then used the location for the temporary housing of asylum seekers. They were transferred at the end of 2016 and since then small companies/pioneers have found their place in the building to work together on the future of Breda.

