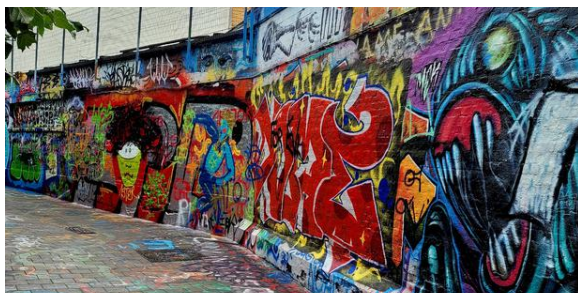




CITY WALK

HIGHLIGHTS GENT



4,6

KILOMETRES

80

MINUTES

31

LOCATIONS

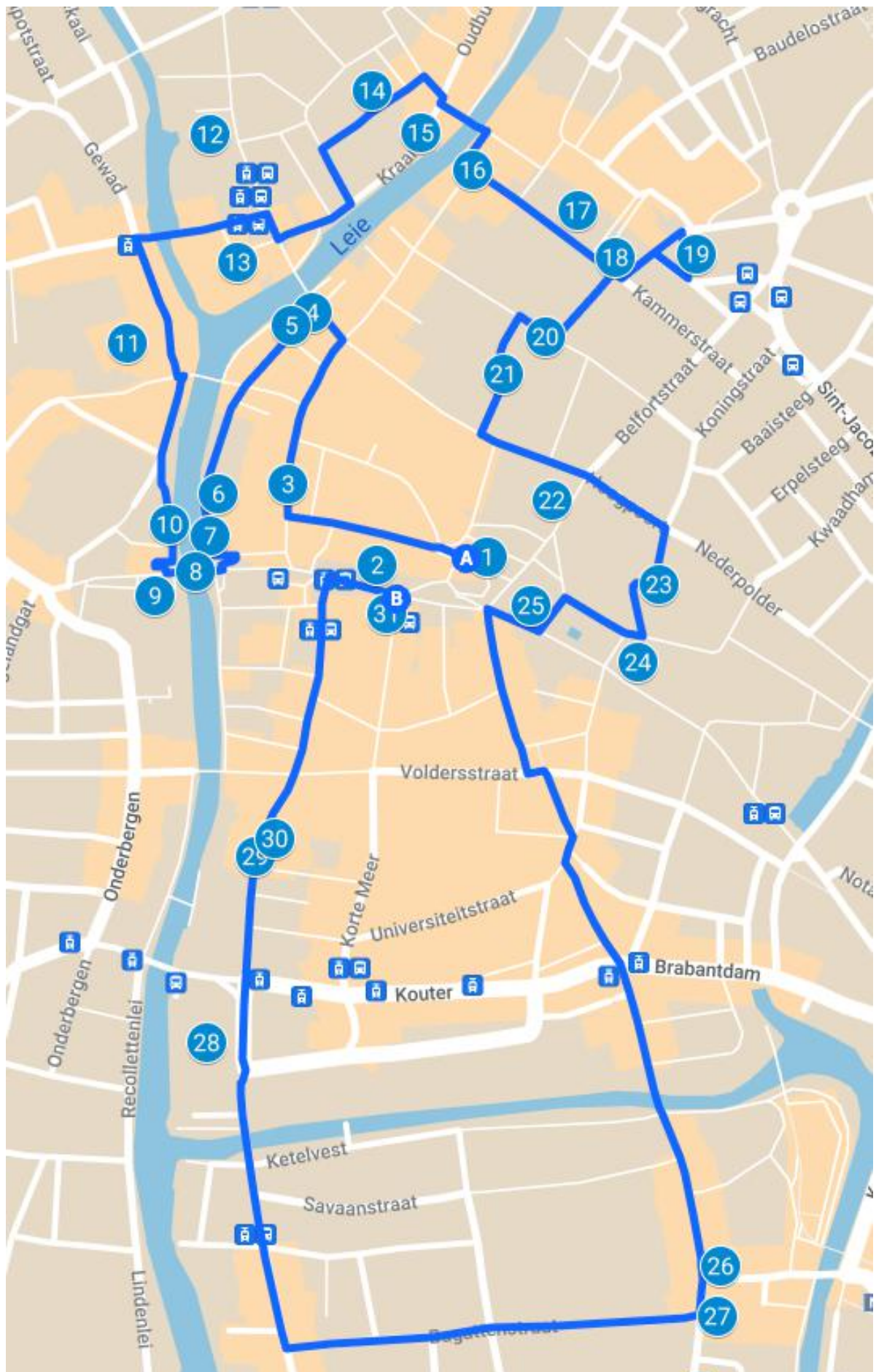
- 1 Stadshal | Poeljemarkt
- 2 Sint Niklaaschurch | Korenmarkt
- 3 Former postal building | Korenmarkt
- 4 't Galgenhuisje | Groentenmarkt
- 5 Groot Vleeshuis | Groentenmarkt 7
- 6 Gildehuis der Vrije Schippers | Graslei 14
- 7 Graslei
- 8 St Michielsbridge
- 9 Sint Michielschurch | Sint Michielsplein 4
- 10 Korenlei
- 11 Designmuseum Gent | Jan Breydelstraat 5
- 12 Gravensteen | Sint-Veerleplein 11
- 13 Old fish market | Sint-Veerleplein 5
- 14 Patershol
- 15 Huis van Alijn | Kraanlei 65

- 116 Dulle Griet | Grootkanonplein
- 17 Vrijdagmarkt
- 18 Het Toreken | Vrijdagmarkt 33
- 19 St Jacobschurch
- 20 Hof van Rijnove | Onderstraat 22
- 21 Graffitistreet | Werregarenstraat
- 22 Townhall | Botermarkt 1
- 23 Achtersikkel | Biezekapelstraat
- 24 Sint-Baafscathedraal | Sint-Baafsplein
- 25 Belfort van Gent | Sint-Baafsplein
- 26 Wintercircus | Lammerstraat 13
- 27 Vooruit | Sint-Pietersnieuwstraat 23
- 28 Courthouse | Koophandelsplein 23
- 29 Huis Arnold Vander Haeghen | Veldstraat 82
- 30 Hotel d'Hane- Steenhuyse | Veldstraat 55
- 31 Metselaarshuis | Sint-Niklaasstraat 2



CITY WALK

HIGHLIGHTS GENT



CITY WALK



This city walk starts at the Stadshal in Gent at the Poeljemarkt.

The multipurpose, open city hall is an architectural masterpiece by Robbrecht & Daem / Marie-José Van Hee architects. Particularly striking are the roof structure and the use of glass, wood and concrete. There is room for concerts, dance performances and markets.



Walk from the Poeljemarkt to Little Turkey. You then walk past the Sint-Niklaas Church. Then turn right and walk past the former postal building on Korenmarkt.

The Sint-Niklaaschurch is a good example of Scheldt Gothic. The tower is 76 meters high. Originally, a Romanesque church from around 1100 stood on this site. A first building burned down in 1120, a second was demolished after 1200. From the 12th century, the Sint-Niklaaschurch was further built up and renovated in pieces. From the 16th century, the history of the church has been determined by neglect, decay and mutilation. The real turning point came in 1960 when it was decided to carry out a thorough restoration. The church was only partially reopened in 1992. The next part followed in 2010 and the restoration is expected to be completed in 2022.



3



In 1909 there was a busy intersection of access roads to the city here. Here the postilions and the first horse-drawn trams stopped. It was therefore the place where the post office was built. The property has different architectural styles and is lavishly decorated. It now serves as a shopping center 'De Post' and luxury hotel '1898 The Post'. Pay particular attention to the beautiful, 52 meter high tower clock.



Walk across the Korenmarkt and continue your way through Kortemunt. Before the Kortemunt turns into the Langemunt, turn left to the Groentenmarkt. Walk around the market and in the right corner you will find 't Galgenhuis. A short distance to the left is the Groot Vleeshuis.

CITY WALK

Next to the Groot Vleeshuis you will find the smallest pub in Gent: 't Galgenhuisje. This used to be one of the tripe houses. The innards used to be sold in the rumen houses, which were not traded in the market hall for reasons of hygiene.



5



In this fifteenth-century hall, meat used to be centrally inspected and traded. It was a covered marketplace. Founded because home sales of meat were prohibited in the Middle Ages.



Leave the Groentenmarkt to the Pensmarkt and then continue along the Graslei. At the graslei you pass the Gildehuis der Vrije Schippers.

The Gildehuis der Vrije Schippers is one of the best preserved and oldest buildings in the old port of Ghent. The building has had a monument status since 1943. It has a rich history. From the middle of the 16th to the second half of the 17th century it belonged to the Guild of Free Skippers. After that it changed owners and functions a number of times. On the first floor you can see the motto of Emperor Charles "Plus oultre" (ever further) and the coats of arms of the areas he ruled.



7



In the eleventh century there was a lot of trade here. The Leie was then the port of the city. There are still a number of stately guild houses on the water that served as a warehouse, weigh house or post office at the time. At Graslei 12 you will find the toll house, the smallest building on the Graslei. Now you will find many cozy terraces along the water where you can enjoy tasty drinks and dishes.

CITY WALK



Take the Sint-Michielsbridge to cross the Leie and walk back on the other side via the Korenlei. On the left you pass St. Michael's Church.

Until the twentieth century, there was a flat, wooden swing bridge here that could allow shipping traffic to pass. In 1905 it was replaced by the beautiful stone bridge that still stands today. From this bridge you have a beautiful view over the old Graslei and Korenlei. You can also see the three Ghent towers in one line from the bridge.



8

9



The construction of this church in late Gothic style was started in 1440 and was not finished until 1825. Of the Romanesque church, which arose here around the end of the 11th century, there are no clear remains. The 13th century was very disastrous, with several fires. In 1440 it was decided to build a completely new church.

From the 11th century, the Korenlei was a kind of jetty to quickly transport goods (mainly grain) to the warehouses or to pick up goods. Ghent was in possession of the so-called grain pile right, which meant that the grain that came from the north of France had to go through Ghent. The grain could not be traded immediately, but had to lie on the grain depot for two weeks first. Several buildings on the Korenlei are reminders of these activities.



10



Walk all the way to the end of Korenlei and continue via Jan Breydelstraat. Here you will find the Design Museum Gent.

CITY WALK

11



The Design Museum has an extensive collection of design from Belgium and other countries. The museum complex consists of an 18th century mansion and a modern wing. The museum is one of the 20 most visited museums in Belgium.



Walk out of Jan Breydelstraat and turn right at the end to cross the Leie again. You arrive at Rekelingestraat. You pass Gravensteen on the left and the old fish market on the right.

The Gravensteen is a fortified moated castle with an almost intact defense system. The first fortifications were already built in the ninth century. A large stone keep followed in the eleventh century. The Gravensteen has changed over time. The Gravensteen is open for visitors almost every day. It shows nicely how a medieval fortress is built. The weapons museum and court museum show you special objects, including a real guillotine. In addition, you have a beautiful view of the city from the Gravensteen.



12

13



Fishmongers sold their wares here from the late Middle Ages until the 1960s. It is one of the oldest markets in Ghent, which originally took place on the Groentenmarkt, but found its new home on Sint-Veerleplein at the end of the seventeenth century. Opposite the Gravensteen you will find the monumental gateway to the Oude Vismijn. Neptune keeps an eye on the Scheldt (man) and the Leie (woman).



Turn left via Geldmunt to Kraanlei. Take the second street on the left. This is Hertogstraat. Then take the first right to Corduwaniestraat. Behind this you will find the Patershol district. Continue walking and at the end turn right to Rodekoningstraat. Before you go straight into Zuivelbrugstraat, you will find Alijn's House on your right on Kraanlei.

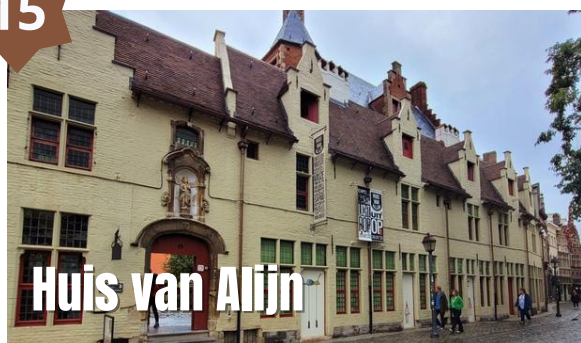
CITY WALK

The Patershol is an ancient neighborhood with a street pattern that dates back to the Middle Ages. When Ghent became an industrial city in the nineteenth century, Patershol blossomed into a working-class neighborhood with small workers' houses. Later the industry moved to the suburbs and the neighborhood became somewhat run-down. In the 1970s, Patershol was transformed into the hip neighborhood of Ghent. You will find all kinds of nice restaurants and cozy cafes.



14

15



The House of Alijn is a museum located in the former Children of Alijn Hospital. The museum shows everyday life in the twentieth century. You are guided through the past century by decade. The further you get to the end of that era, the more often you will see objects that remind you of your childhood or later life. This creates a feast of recognition for adult visitors.



After crossing the Leie, turn right to Grootkanonplein. Here you will find Dulle Griet.

Dulle Griet (evil woman) is the nickname of the impressive wrought iron cannon that stands on this site. The gun weighs 12500 kg. The gun never fired. The barrel of the gun was permanently closed after it was used too often as a garbage can or sleeping place.



16



Continue your way via Grootkanonplein. You will then arrive at the Vrijdagmarkt. Toreken is located at the Friday market.

CITY WALK

17



One of the oldest squares in the city is the Vrijdagmarkt. Nowadays, parties are mainly organized on the square. In the past, many executions and executions were held on this square. On the square you will find a statue of Jacob van Artevelde, a hero from the Hundred Years War.

The Toreken is the oldest building on the Vrijdagmarkt. It is a fifteenth-century guildhall in Gothic style with a characteristic stepped gable and a pointed turret. You can still see the old market clock hanging from the tower. The building houses the Poetry Center, a museum about Flemish and Dutch poetry.

18



Walk through Sint Jacobs to admire the Sint-Jacobskerk. Then leave the Vrijdagmarkt via Serpentstraat. At the end, turn right and you will be at the Hof van Rijnhove.

19



The core of this Romanesque church dates from the period after 1120. It is the oldest Romanesque church in Belgium with a double western tower. The octagonal crossing tower and the renovation of the choir took place around the middle of the 13th century, in the Scheldt Gothic style. A fire around 1400 destroyed the southern of the two western towers. Although it was rebuilt with a stone spire, its face has since lost its symmetry. In the 15th century, the church was expanded with side chapels for the guilds.

CITY WALK

The Hof van Rijnhove is a medieval stone in the Onderstraat, one of the oldest streets in the city. The oldest traces of a building on this site date back to the tenth century. The oldest part of the current building dates from the thirteenth century. A large part of the medieval garden has been preserved. In 1949 the building was listed as a protected monument and entered the list of medieval stones. In 1976 a start was made with restoration.



20



Walk a short distance and turn left onto Werregarenstraat. This street is also known as the graffiti street of Gent.

21



The car-free Werregarenstraat in the center has been transformed into a tolerance zone for graffiti. This ensures expressive colorful art that together form a fascinating attraction in Ghent. Definitely worth a walk through during your visit to Ghent.



Walk through Grafittistreet and turn left to Hoogpoort. You pass the Gent town hall on your right.

The town hall of Ghent consists of two parts with completely different architectural styles. The facade on the Hoogpoort side shows the flamboyant Late Gothic style from the early sixteenth century. The facade on the Botermarkt was built in Renaissance style at the end of the same century and has a completely different look. In this part, the various columns and pilasters come to the fore, inspired by the Italian palaces.



22

CITY WALK



Continue across Hoogpoort and turn right at Biezekapelstraat. Walk all the way through and you will pass the Achtersikkel. At the end of Biezekapelstraat you arrive at St. Bavo's Cathedral. On the other side of Sint Baafsplein you will find the Belfry of Gent.

23



Achtersikkel

Less than fifty meters away from the busy Sint-Baafsplein is an oasis of peace: the Achtersikkel. De Achtersikkel is named after the wealthy van der Sickelen family, who owned the buildings around the beautiful courtyard for a long time. The brick corner tower belongs to the oldest part. The high round tower is made of sand-lime brick and finished with an octagonal stone belvedere in Renaissance style. The private well is proof of the wealth of the time, few could afford such luxury.

St Bavo's Cathedral is a medieval church. The cathedral is originally Gothic, but has other elements due to later additions. The main reason to take a look at St Bavo's Cathedral is the presence of the Ghent Altarpiece from 1432. This religious polyptych was made by Hubert and Jan van Eyck. The altarpiece, painted on twelve wooden panels, has recently undergone a major restoration.

24



Sint-Baafscathedral

25



Belfort van Gent

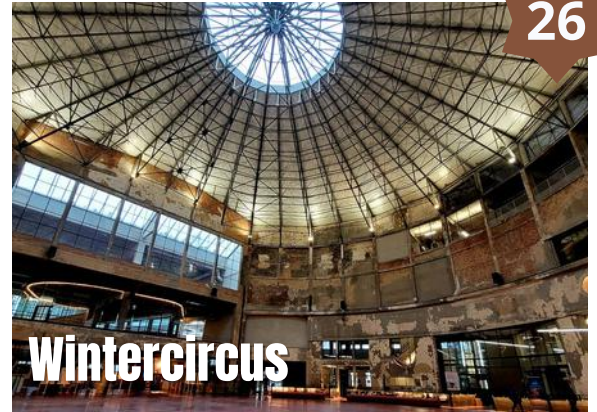
The 95-metre-high belfry was built in the fourteenth century and forms the center of Ghent's famous row of towers. The belfry is built against the cloth hall. The belfry can be visited for a fee. The first part you have to climb a spiral staircase, but then you can take the elevator to the level that offers a beautiful view over the city of Ghent.



Leave Sint Baafsplein on the side of the Belfry and turn left onto Mageleinstraat. We now walk about 600 meters to the next sight. Go straight ahead via Voldersstraat into Kalandestraat. Walk all the way to the end and go via the Kalandeberg to the Koestraat. Walk all the way to the end and continue to Kortedagsteeg. This turns into Walpoortstraat and Sint-Pietersnieuwstraat. Here you will find the Winter Circus and Vooruit.

CITY WALK

In 1885, the so-called 'New Cirkus' was built in Gent. In 1920 the building was ravaged by a fierce fire. Only a few parts survived. These parts were restored when the new circus was built in 1923. Shortly after the Second World War, the Winter Circus was converted into a parking garage. After that, the building was virtually empty. It has been renovated since 2017. The renovated Wintercircus will offer office space to start-up and scale-up companies around a central and covered courtyard. There is also space for a café, a restaurant, a shop and offices for digital innovation companies.



26

27



De Vooruit is a historic hall complex in Ghent that was opened in 1913. The VIERNULVIER arts center offers a stage for various art disciplines. Vooruit was originally the party and arts center of the Ghent labor movement, with a party hall (ballroom), cinema, theater group, and so on. A newspaper under the name Vooruit was also published. After the Second World War, the building fell into disrepair until in 1982 the impetus was given to its current form as an arts center.



At the arts center, turn right onto Bagattenstraat. At the end of this street, turn right to Nederkouter. After about 250 meters you will find the courthouse on your left.

The courthouse was erected from 1836 to 1846 in neoclassical style with Florentine Renaissance elements. In 1926 a huge fire raged that destroyed the entire interior. Only the outer walls remained standing. In 1930 the courthouse was rebuilt. The central part now became a courtyard with spacious, well-lit corridors all around, so that the halls and offices on the inside received more light. The number of usable rooms and classrooms was increased from 58 to 100. In 1995 the building was given monument status. Since 2007, after the move of most services to the new courthouse in the Rabot district, only the Court of Appeal is housed in this building.



28

CITY WALK



Walk past the courthouse and continue via Veldstraat. In the Veldstraat you will find Huis Arnold vander Haeghen and Hotel d'Hane-Steenuyse. Both are definitely worth a visit!

29



Huis Arnold vd Haeghen

The interiors of the House Arnold Vander Haeghen really appeal to the imagination. Top pieces are the unique Chinese salon and the reconstruction of the study of the Ghent Nobel Prize winner for Literature, Maurice Maeterlinck. The inner garden is accessible to the public. You can just walk in every Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The house breathes the atmosphere of the belle epoque. On the ground floor you can visit the vestibule, the dining room, the 18th century Chinese lounge and the Maeterlinck cabinet.

Get to know the majestic home of the noble d'Hane Steenuyse family. Colorful lounges, artful furniture, lavish wallpaper and titillating murals take you back two hundred years in time. With a bit of luck you might even bump into a maid or coachman. Finally, stroll into the beautiful courtyard garden, an oasis of tranquility in the hectic Veldstraat. Every Friday, Saturday and Sunday you can walk in here for free.

30



Hotel d'Hane-Steenuyse



Walk all the way to Veldstraat. At the end you turn right to Catalonia Street. You will find the Metselaarshuis here. This is also the end point of this route.

31



Metselaarshuis

The real Masons' House from the sixteenth century stands on this spot. The real house, because there is an exact copy on the Graslei. It was rebuilt according to the original plans for the World's Fair in 1913. At that moment, the real Masons' House was hidden behind ugly facades and then forgotten. Until it reappeared in 1976 during renovation work.

On top of the stepped gable, six figures dance merrily. Under the building is a thirteenth-century cellar.



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