



The  
Maastricht  
city guide  
with TEFAF

2026

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## DEAR VISITOR

We are delighted to welcome you to the enchanting medieval city of Maastricht, home to TEFAF for nearly four decades. TEFAF is an unparalleled experience, where collectors and art lovers can explore rigorously vetted masterpieces spanning art, antiques, and design. More than 270 of the world's leading experts present works of extraordinary historical significance and beauty, representing over 7,000 years of art history—from ancient treasures to contemporary creations.

TEFAF and Maastricht share a rich, evolving relationship that continues to inspire visitors from across the globe. Founded as an annual gathering for art dealers, TEFAF has grown into an internationally renowned fair that celebrates the diversity of cultures and the vibrant spirit of this European crossroads. Like the city itself, TEFAF thrives on innovation, tradition, and a passion for art.

Whether you are joining us for the first time or are a devoted TEFAF enthusiast, your visit promises a remarkable journey of discovery. Maastricht's dynamic cultural scene, paired with the world-class offerings of TEFAF, makes the city an unmissable destination for art collectors and travelers alike.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the city of Maastricht, the MECC, and the many businesses and partners whose dedication and support make TEFAF such a unique and memorable experience. Special thanks to AXA XL,

TEFAF's global lead partner for their continued steadfast support. We wish you an inspiring and unforgettable TEFAF Maastricht 2026!

### The TEFAF Executive Committee

Alessandra di Castro, Stuart Lochhead,  
Hidde van Seggelen, Paul Smeets, Boris Vervoordt



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## ART AS A REMEDY

My first visit to TEFAF is etched in my memory.

Stepping out of a grey world of rain-soaked concrete and rushing traffic, I entered a completely different universe. An opulent paradise adorned with Old Masters and other treasures. It was a beacon of tranquillity and taste.

I saw beautiful stands, soft lighting, muted colours and fine food. I met countless kind people with expertise and a love for their profession. I spoke to art dealers with deep respect for history and age, gallery owners presenting contemporary artists and connoisseurs of African art. And in between them all: enthusiasts, admirers, viewers and buyers. People who revere brilliance and beauty.

This is precisely what TEFAF and Maastricht have in common.

Both share a love for history and a passion for living well, combined with an open outlook on the present and the world around us.

Anyone who follows the news will be aware that the world is currently experiencing turbulent times. A lot is happening in politics and economics, as well as in the arts and heritage sector. Archaeological sites have been destroyed in both Ukraine and Gaza. "Everything of value is vulnerable," wrote the Dutch poet Lucebert. Sadly, that is absolutely true.

We must cherish and protect that which is vulnerable, and teach our children to appreciate art and craftsmanship. After all, creativity and beauty are our only remedies for ugliness and destruction.

Enjoy your stay at this oasis called TEFAF. And enjoy Maastricht!

**Wim Hillenaar**

Mayor of Maastricht

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R—O



## THE CITY, THE TABLEAU

Anyone who enters the city during TEFAF Maastricht notices it immediately: this is where art does not end at the doors of our convention centre, the MECC.

In these weeks, Maastricht is a living tableau, a still life — a city in which centuries of craftsmanship, international encounters and contemporary creativity come together. Just like on the art fair floor, it is all about attention, about eye for detail, and about the understanding that true quality takes time.

TEFAF brings collectors, experts and enthusiasts from all over the world together. But those who are willing to look a little further will discover that the same values are deeply embedded in the city itself: in the monuments along the river Meuse, in studios and galleries, in music, gastronomy and the rhythm of everyday life.

Here, art is not merely a backdrop, but a way of looking at daily life. Limburg, in the heart of Europe, is a region with the deepest roots and an open mind. On the one hand, we cherish our heritage; on the other, we are never afraid of innovation. Perhaps that is the true strength of this region: a place where past and future do not stand in each other's way, but mutually reinforce one another. I warmly invite you, during your stay, not only to admire art, but also to experience the city — and perhaps even the province. Walk, taste, listen. Let Limburg and Maastricht become part of your TEFAF memories.

**Emile Roemer**

Governor / King's Commissioner in the Province of Limburg

# Practical Information

Maastricht

## SHOP OPENING HOURS

Monday 12:00 - 18:00  
 Tuesday Friday 10:00 - 18:00\*  
 Saturday 10:00 - 18:00  
 Sunday 12:00 - 17:00  
 \*Thursday until 21:00

## EMERGENCIES

In case of an emergency, dial 112.

## AIRPORTS

**Maastricht Aachen Airport** 10 km,  
 20 minutes from Maastricht. Direct flights  
 to several cities in Southern Europe  
 A popular airport for private jets.  
 Airport Operations:

Vliegveldweg 90, Maastricht Airport (NL)  
 +31 (0)43 3589750 [operations@mhs.nl](mailto:operations@mhs.nl)

### Eindhoven Airport

100 km/60 minutes from Maastricht.

### Amsterdam Schiphol Airport

220 km/2 hours and 30  
 minutes from Maastricht.

### Düsseldorf Airport

100 km/1 hour and 10  
 minutes from Maastricht.

### Cologne-Bonn Airport

100 km/1 hour and 10  
 minutes from Maastricht.

### Frankfurt Am Main Airport

280 km/3 hours from Maastricht.

### Brussels Zaventem Airport

100 km/1 hour from Maastricht.

### Brussels South – Charleroi Airport

120 km/1 hours and 10  
 minutes from Maastricht.

## TRAIN

Maastricht-Centraal for the city  
 and Maastricht-Randwyck for  
 MECC-TEFAF. Information on Dutch  
 train- and bus schedules: [www.9292.nl](http://www.9292.nl).  
 Information on national and international  
 train schedules: [www.ns.nl](http://www.ns.nl) and  
[www.nsinternational.nl](http://www.nsinternational.nl).

## TAXI SERVICES

Taxi Frenske +31 (0)43 3636362  
[www.taxi-frenske.nl](http://www.taxi-frenske.nl)  
 Taxi Airport Services Maestax  
 +31 (0)43 3650600 [www.maestax.nl](http://www.maestax.nl)

## BUS SERVICES

Jacobsbus +31 (0)43 6013877  
[www.jacobs-travel.com](http://www.jacobs-travel.com)

# Fair Information

## GENERAL ADMISSION TICKET PRICES

Online tickets  
 €80 Entrance ticket weekend  
 (valid once between 14 - 19 March)  
 €52,50 Entrance ticket weekdays  
 (valid once between 16 - 19 March)  
 €175 Multiple entrance ticket  
 (valid 14 - 19 March)  
 €25 Student  
 (valid once between 16-19 March)  
 €22 Accompanied children, age 12 - 18  
 (valid once between 14 - 19 March)  
 Free - Accompanied child under age 12

Tickets purchased at the MECC

€85 Entrance ticket weekend  
 (valid once between 14 - 19 March)  
 €57,50 Entrance ticket weekdays  
 (valid once between 16 - 19 March)  
 €180 Multiple entrance ticket  
 (valid 14 - 19 March)  
 €30 Student  
 (valid once between 16 - 19 March)  
 €22 Accompanied child, age 12 - 18  
 (valid once between 14 - 19 March)  
 Free Accompanied child under age 12  
 Please note that all sales include VAT

## LEAD PARTNER

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## MAASTRICHT EMBRACES TEFAF

There will be a range of cultural  
 events and special activities in Maastricht  
 during TEFAF. For more information,  
 please contact the Maastricht Store  
 on +31 (0)43 3252121 or visit  
[www.MaastrichtxTEFAF.com](http://www.MaastrichtxTEFAF.com)

## VENUE

Maastricht Exhibition  
 and Congress Centre (MECC)  
 Forum 100  
 6229 GV Maastricht  
 +31 (0)43 3838383  
[www.mecc.nl](http://www.mecc.nl)

## THE FAIR IS ORGANIZED BY

The European Fine  
 Art Foundation (TEFAF)  
 +31 (0)20 303 6400  
[info@tefaf.com](mailto:info@tefaf.com)  
[www.tefaf.com](http://www.tefaf.com)

## OPENING HOURS

March 14 - 19  
 Every day 11AM - 7PM

## CLOAKROOM POLICY

Please be aware of the strict  
 cloakroom policy: coats, umbrellas,  
 large bags and suitcases are not  
 allowed to enter the fair (cloakroom  
 and lockers available).

# TEFAF Maastricht HIGHLIGHTS

A small selection of the pieces  
of art at TEFAF Maastricht 2026



**Antonacci**  
**Lapicciarella Fine Art**  
*A scene from Goethe's Faust*  
Theodor Matthias  
Von Holst

**Galerie Perrin**  
*Femme de profil*  
Odilon Redon

**M.S. Rau**  
*Jeune fille au chien*  
Berthe Morisot

**Gallery 19C**  
*Landscape factories*  
(*Paysage usines*)  
Claude Monet



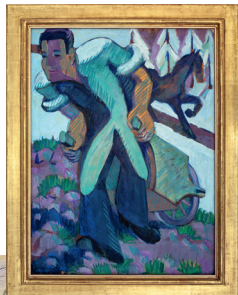
**Larkin Erdmann**  
*Bouquets et céramique*  
*sur une commode*  
Paul Gauguin

**Peter Harrington**  
*A jewelled binding for the*  
*first Kelmscott Press edition of*  
*The Poems of William Shakespeare*  
Sangorski & Sutcliffe

**SANTI**  
*Lotus Earrings*  
Krishna Choudhary

**Margot McKinney**  
*Bloem collier*  
Margot McKinney





**Ludorff**  
Frühling  
Hermann Max Pechstein

**Galerie Boquet**  
Portrait of Pablo Picasso  
Dora Maar

**Pierre Marie Giraud**  
Untitled  
Yuki Hayama

**Galerie Henze & Ketterer**  
Bauer einen Schubkarren  
ziehend (Peasant Pulling  
a Wheelbarrow)  
Ernst Ludwig Kirchner

**Galerie Nathalie Obadia**  
We Will Keep Cool  
(Theatre Cornwall)  
Laure Prouvost

**Galerie Lelong**  
Kreuz mit diagonalen Fingern  
Arnulf Rainer

**Pelgrims de Bigard**  
Return from the Flight into Egypt  
Jacob Jordaens

**Matthiesen Gallery**  
La cueillette des oranges  
Louis Gauffier

**Fondantico di Tiziana Sassoli**  
The Expedition of the Argonauts  
Gaetano Gandolfi

**Rob Smeets Gallery**  
The Virgin Reading  
Guido Cagnacci

**Koopman Rare Art**  
The Janssen Candlesticks  
Paul De Lameric







**PAB /AGUIAR-BRANCO**

*Large ceremonial salver*

**Galerie Nicolas Bourriaud**

*Madame Lion as Queen of Sheba  
Emile-Antoine Bourdelle*

**Galerie Malaquais**

*Donkey Foal  
Jane Poupelet*

**Kunstammer Georg Laue**

*Wax portrait in relief of Hieronymus  
Baumgartner the Younger (1538-1602),  
Town Councillor in Nuremberg  
Matthäus Carl*

**Agnews Works on Paper**

*River Landscape in Norrland  
Helmer Osslund*

**Van Herck - Eykelberg**

*Lady with Pince-nez  
Léon Spilliaert*

**Stephen Ongpin Fine Art**

*Volcano (Le Vésuve:  
Souvenir de Naples)  
Edgar Degas*

**Kunsthandlung**

**Helmut H. Rumbler**  
*Self-Portrait Frowning  
Rembrandt  
Harmenszoon van Rijn*

**Galerie Cybele**

*Ptah Sokar Osiris*





# Art & Icons walk with TEFAF

Maastricht has a rich history, which is embellished by innumerable art treasures and architectural gems. The Arts & Icons Walk with TEFAF will take you along a number of well-known as well as lesser-known works of art and unique locations. Although you can start this walk at any of the points of interest in this brochure, it officially starts – how else – at MECC Maastricht, TEFAF's venue.

## VERTICAL ELEMENTS

Forum 100

Five vertical elements, executed in bronze, have been erected in front of the entrance to the Maastricht Exhibition & Conference Centre. This work by Piet Killaars dates from 1988.

## PROVINCIAL

### GOVERNMENT BUILDING

Treaty of Maastricht, Limburglaan 10

The Provincial Government Building houses a permanent exhibition about The Treaty of Maastricht (1992), one of the most significant treaties in the history of Europe. [www.limburg.nl](http://www.limburg.nl)

## STARS OF EUROPE

Avenue Ceramique 300

Stars of Europe was commissioned in 2001 in honour of the ten-year anniversary of the Treaty of Maastricht.

## BONNEFANTEN

Avenue Ceramique 250

The Bonnefanten museum rises to greet you along the Meuse. Designed by the famous Italian architect Aldo Rossi, the museum is composed of three separate structures, of which the central one gives way to a cylindrical building. [www.bonnefanten.nl](http://www.bonnefanten.nl)

## CENTRE CÉRAMIQUE

Avenue Ceramique 50

Maastricht's iconic public library was completed in 1999. The architect of this building, which was beloved by both locals and tourists from the outset, was Jo Coenen. Centre Céramique is partly redesigned and transformed into a museum dedicated to Maastricht's multifaceted history. [www.centreceramique.nl](http://www.centreceramique.nl)

## HELPOORT MUSEUM

Sint Bernardusstraat 24b

The Helpoort (Hell's Gate) is the oldest city gate in the Netherlands, and the only one still standing in Maastricht. It was built in April 1229 subject to the consent of Henry I, Duke of Brabant. [www.vestingmuseummaastricht.nl](http://www.vestingmuseummaastricht.nl)

## LIMBURG REGIONAL HISTORIC

### CENTRE 'CRACK IN THE WALL'

Sint Pieterstraat 7

It is simply impossible to ignore the gigantic 'crack in the wall' in the listed building that houses the Limburg Regional Historic Centre. [www.rhcl.nl](http://www.rhcl.nl)

## STATUE OF D'ARTAGNAN

Aldenhofpark 4-5

D'Artagnan met his death at Maastricht's Tongeren Gate on 25 June 1673 during a bloody battle between the French and Staatse (Government) troops. A bronze statue was erected in 1977 to mark the spot where this legendary captain of the musketeers was killed. The statue was designed by sculptor Alexander Taratynov.

## PASSAGEWAY OF WISDOM

Grote Looierstraat 17

Artist Borek Sipek (1949-2016) was commissioned by the Art and Heritage Committee of Maastricht University to create this Passageway to Wisdom.

## MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

De Bosquetplein 7

The Natural History Museum of Maastricht is located in the former Convent of the Grey Franciscan Sisters in the Jekerkwartier district. The museum is renowned for a collection of fossils that is unique in the Netherlands. [www.nhmmaastricht.nl](http://www.nhmmaastricht.nl)

## JAN VAN EYCK ACADEMY

Academieplein 1

The Jan van Eyck Academy is an international post-academic institute for the visual arts. The institute is located in a listed building designed by architect Frits Peutz and was built between 1958 and 1961. [www.janvaneyck.nl](http://www.janvaneyck.nl)

## MUSEUM OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Vrijthof 18

Fotomuseum aan het Vrijthof is a privately owned photography museum located in the centre of Maastricht. The museum is housed in what was formerly known as the Spanish Government Building. The museum boasts a special TEFAF room, a gift from the art fair bearing the same name. [www.fotomuseumaanhetvrijthof.nl](http://www.fotomuseumaanhetvrijthof.nl)

## TREASURY OF SAINT SERVATIUS

Basilica Saint Servatius  
Keizer Karelplein 3

The shrine of St. Servatius (also called the 'Noodkist') contains the relics of the Netherlands' first bishop. It is an exceptionally fine example of the Maasland goldsmiths' art. [www.sintservaas.nl](http://www.sintservaas.nl)

## THEATRE AAN HET VRIJTHOF

Vrijthof 47

From a palatine (non-defendable royal residence) to a convent to a city palace to a theatre: that is the history of this prominent building on Vrijthof square in a nutshell. [www.theateraanhetvrijthof.nl](http://www.theateraanhetvrijthof.nl)

## MARRES, HOUSE OF CONTEMPORARY CULTURE

Capucijnenstraat 98

Housed in a historic residential building in the centre of Maastricht, the mission of Marres is to explore contemporary art in the broadest sense of the word. [www.marres.org](http://www.marres.org)

## DOMINICANEN BOOKSHOP

Dominicanenkerkstraat 1

The unique Dominican Bookshop has been housed in the age-old Dominican church ever since the autumn of 2006. [www.libris.nl/dominicanen](http://www.libris.nl/dominicanen)

## THE SPHINX PASSAGE

Sphinxcour

The Sphinxpassage is a 120-metre-long covered tiled passageway that runs from the Eiffel Building to the Pathé cinema. Nearly 30,000 tiles bring to life the history of Sphinx together with words, images, and objects. [www.sphinxkwartier.nl](http://www.sphinxkwartier.nl)

## BUREAU EUROPA

Boschstraat 9

Bureau Europa is a platform for architecture and design that organizes exhibitions as well as lectures, workshops, city tours, and innumerable activities focusing on architecture, urban development, and design. [www.bureau-europa.nl](http://www.bureau-europa.nl)

## MUZIEKGIETERIJ

Boschstraat 5

Muziekgieterij is one of the Netherlands' youngest pop music venues. Founded in 2004, this venue has grown into one of the foremost cultural hotspots of Maastricht and the Euregion in less than two decades. [www.muziekgieterij.nl](http://www.muziekgieterij.nl)

## LUMIÈRE CINEMA

Bassin 88

The Lumière cinema has been housed in this beautiful building in the Sphinx quarter. The listed building was built in 1910 to serve as the power plant for the old Sphinx factories. [www.lumiere.nl](http://www.lumiere.nl)

## STATUE OF MINCKELERS

Markt square

Maastricht-born Jan Pieter Minckelers was the inventor of gas lighting. A statue created by Bart van Hove was erected in memory of him on Markt square.

## CITY HALL

Markt square 78

The City Hall on Markt square was constructed between 1659 and 1664 under the guidance of master architect Pieter Post. Its tower dates from 1684 and contains a carillon with 49 bells that is still regularly played.

## HET DINGHUIS

Kleine Staat 1

The Maastricht Store is located in the Dinghuis, a building that carries a long history with it. The building dates from 1470. [www.visitmaastricht.com](http://www.visitmaastricht.com)

## ONZE LIEVE VROUWE BASILIEK

OLV Plein 7

In the 5th century, a church had been already erected on the spot where the Basilica of Our Lady stands today. This was probably the oldest Christian church in the Netherlands. The basilica is a splendid example of Roman architecture and contains various works of art of an exceptional quality.

## ROMAN CELLAR, HOTEL DERLON

OLV Plein 6

The Derlon Hotel is located on Onze Lieve Vrouweplein. In this cosy museum cellar, Maastricht in the Roman Era lies literally at your feet, thanks to the extensive collection of archaeological artefacts on display here.

## AMAZON ON HORSEBACK

Op de Thermen

A small man who makes big statues, artist Arthur Spronken (1930-2018) is considered the founding father of the Limburg sculptors.

## MESTREECHTER GEIS

Het Bat

This character of the archetypical resident of Maastricht has been captured in the bronze statue Mestreechter Geis, as a certain nonchalance, Weltschmerz, or laissez-faire. The statue was made by the Haarlem-born artist Mari Andriessen.

## SAINT SERVATIUS BRIDGE

The oldest bridge in the Netherlands may have been rebuilt several times, as well as renovated, bombed, and even blown up but its very core has always been preserved.

## S.A.C. (SPACE FOR ART & CULTURE)

Rechtstraat 59 & 80 Maastricht  
S.A.C. (Space for Art & Culture) is a young, contemporary art platform for visual art in the heart of Maastricht. Operating from art spaces at the Rechtstraat, S.A.C. develops a cohesive, curatorially driven programme in which contemporary art is presented as a living practice: visible, experiential and in dialogue with its urban surroundings. [www.sac-maastricht.nl](http://www.sac-maastricht.nl)

## MAASTRICHT RAILWAY STATION

Stationsplein 27

The Maastricht Railway Station was restored to its former glory at the end of 2021 after a renovation that lasted two and a half year. It was designed by George van Heukelom and opened in 1916.



## Other major events in Maastricht region

The art fair TEFAF, one of the largest international events in the Maastricht and the border region. It attracts tens of thousands of visitors from all over the world, which is evident in the hotels, restaurants, shops, museums and other cultural institutions. But Maastricht hosts several other mega-events every year that draw huge crowds.

### André Rieu

Every summer, world-famous violinist and orchestra leader André Rieu stages around twelve open-air concerts on the Vrijthof, right in the heart of Maastricht. Over the course of three weeks, some 150,000 visitors travel to the city, from South America to Australia. During the Christmas season, André Rieu and his Johan Strauss Orchestra also perform a number of indoor Christmas concerts at MECC Maastricht, welcoming 12,000 visitors each evening.



### Jumping Indoor Maastricht

Each autumn, MECC Maastricht becomes the stage for the international equestrian world during Jumping Indoor Maastricht. Thousands of horse enthusiasts from the Netherlands and abroad gather for four days of thrilling competitions and unforgettable moments around the arena.



### Interclassics

The InterClassics fair has grown into one of the largest classic-car exhibitions in Europe. Over the course of five days, the event attracts more than 40,000 visitors, particularly from the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, Luxembourg and France.

# Chapeau/ Maastricht Region

This year, the Chapeau / Maastricht Region booth in TEFAF's business area (stand # 921) shows the city and the region in a futuristic image, as we expect the area will be in about ten years. The Chapeau/Maastricht Region stand is a meeting place initiated by Chapeau Magazine, the Municipality of Maastricht, the Province of Limburg, Maastricht University, MECC Maastricht, and a number of other partners from the region. Its aim is to strengthen the link between TEFAF and the Maastricht-Limburg region.

The stand is located in the Expo Foyer upstairs, directly accessible from the fair on the ground floor. The entire Foyer will be furnished as business lounges and restaurants, complete with a spacious, central terrace.

And just like years gone by, the stand will feature a small TV studio to film the daily programme 'TEFAF TV by Chapeau'. The programme will be broadcast live at hotels in Maastricht as well as online at [www.tefafnews.com](http://www.tefafnews.com) and [www.chapeaumagazine.com](http://www.chapeaumagazine.com).

Partners: Auréus Group, Chapeau Magazine, Gemeente Maastricht, Maastricht Marketing, Maastricht University, MECC Maastricht, Nova Eycke, Provincie Limburg, TEFAF Friends Maastricht, The M.

The development of the stand took place on behalf of Maastricht Marketing, and the design was carried out by Zuiderlicht.





Bitches Brew.



Four times Two: half a century of art from the collection.



Heritage Unlocked.

Atelier Les Deux Garçons.



Emerging Artists Unveiled.

# Maastricht City Program 2026

During the 39th edition of The European Fine Art Fair (TEFAF) there is a wide range of exhibitions, concerts and special events on offer for the attending collectors, dealers, visitors and inhabitants. It is the perfect opportunity to experience the rich and diverse cultural life in Maastricht and the region. Hereby a selection of cultural highlights, exhibitions and special events worth attending and a visit during your stay in Maastricht for TEFAF. For more information and a complete calendar of events visit [www.MaastrichtxTEFAF.com](http://www.MaastrichtxTEFAF.com)

## EXHIBITIONS

### Four times Two: half a century of art from the collection

#### Bonrefanten Museum

Until 14th June 2026

Four times Two showcases half a century of art from the collection (1965 – 2015). In each room, works by four different artists are displayed. Their works are very diverse. It is up to the visitor to make the connection and discover what unites the artworks with each other and with the viewer. As a suggestion or hint, each room has a title.

### Bitches Brew

#### Bonrefanten Museum

Until 6th September 2026

After more than ten years, Keetje Mans, Tanja Ritterbex, and Aline Thomassen return to the Bonrefantenmuseum. Trained in Limburg, these three influential artists have long shaped contemporary figurative painting in the Netherlands, and the museum has followed and collected their work for years. Bitches Brew is not a group show but a triptych: three solo practices in dialogue.



My Circus, Ellen von Unwerth

### My Circus – Ellen von Unwerth Photography Museum at the Vrijthof

Until 13th September 2026

The Photo Museum at the Vrijthof in Maastricht presents a sensational exhibition by the world-famous German fashion and art photographer Ellen von Unwerth, who lives in Paris. The exhibition My Circus features 160 iconic photos of models and pop artists, focusing on femininity, playfulness, eroticism, and fashion. The stylish images were created for fashion brands, magazines, and her own inspiring VON magazine and books.

## Porous Grounds, Sacred Codes

Marres, House for Contemporary Culture

Until 17th May 2026

Porous Grounds, Sacred Codes is a large-scale exhibition project that takes the visitor on a powerful and inspiring journey through themes of collectivity, diaspora, and cultural identity. The exhibition occupies the entire house of Marres. Porous Grounds, Sacred Codes is developed in close collaboration with the renowned Senegalese art institute RAW Material Company (Dakar).

## Cuppens & Cuppens in remix '26

S.A.C. (Space for Art and Culture)

11th March - 17th May 2026

Cuppens & Cuppens in Remix '26 is an immersive exhibition by Ri-Jeanne Cuppens and Noëlle Cuppens, in which the artists revisit and recombine existing works from their oeuvre within a new spatial context. The exhibition space at S.A.C. '26 is conceived as a total installation, where space, illusion and scale are decisive elements in the visitor's experience. Works from different periods are brought together and repositioned, creating new relationships between scale, perspective and materiality.

## Atelier Les Deux Garçons

Artichoke Art Gallery

11th March - 17th May 2026

In this new exhibition, the artists transform the atelier into a place of temporary refuge, offering animals and nature a protected space for pause and recovery. By suspending time, they invite reflection on humanity's responsibility to care for, protect, and pass on what is essential to life on earth.



## MUSIC

### Jazz Night

Various bars & cafés

Saturday 14th and

Sunday 15th March, 16.00 - 02.00

Enjoy a wide range of music in various styles: jazz, funk, pop, rhythm & blues and French chansons. In total more than 20 concerts and street bands. Performing musicians and bands include: The Basily Gipsy Band, Marc Huynen, Jo Dideren and Guests, Peter Hermesdorf, The Suzets, Geert Roelofs, Orquesta Tipica Conjunto, Bart Oostindie, Trio 2 CV, Johan de Haan, and the Feurthstreet Lumber Factory Jazzband. Admission to all concerts is free. Organized by Jekerjazz Maastricht, Jazz Night is supported by the city of Maastricht.

### Chamber Music Festival

Conservatorium Maastricht

16th - 22nd March 2026

The Chamber Music Festival offers a vibrant exploration of classical music in all its forms. Hosted at Conservatorium Maastricht, the festival brings together students and internationally renowned artists for a week of concerts, master classes, lectures, and more. Spread across several days, each event highlights a different facet of chamber music, from intimate performances to inspiring educational sessions.



## La Bohème by The National Opera of Ukraine, Odessa

Theater aan het Vrijthof

17th March 2026, 19.30

*La Bohème* is widely regarded as Puccini's masterpiece. The Flemish director Jean-François D'hondt gives the classic a fresh, contemporary interpretation. The story revolves around the doomed love of the young poet Rodolfo for Mimì, a seamstress suffering from a deadly illness. Amid the impoverished Parisian artistic community, they try to hold on to their love, but fate gradually drives them apart. The opera effortlessly balances romance and tragedy, enhanced by some of the most beautiful arias in opera history: *Che gelida manina*, *Mi chiamano Mimì*, *O soave fanciulla*, and *Musetta's waltz*.



Harvest.

## EVENTS

### Harvest

Bureau Europa and various locations

14th March - 18th April 2026

Harvest is a multi-day art and design manifestation in Maastricht, where the city functions as a stage, laboratory and meeting place. Artists and designers from contemporary art, design and cross-disciplinary practices present their work throughout the city, including public spaces, cultural institutions and unexpected locations.

### Maastricht Antiquarian

Book & Print Fair

Sint Janskerk

13th - 15th March 2026

The annual Maastricht Antiquarian Book and Print fair provides a wide range of books, charts and prints, and is a veritable candy store for collectors and lovers of antiquarian books and prints.



Le baiser - Robert\_Doisneau.

## Emerging Artists Unveiled

### Various locations

8th March – 15th April 2026

During TEFAF various Maastricht locations offer a platform to local artists aged 30 and under. This creates an opportunity for young talent to present themselves to the general public for the first time – from Maastricht residents to visitors to the prestigious art fair. By making art visible in prominent locations throughout the city, TEFAF stakeholders are treated to an artistic urban experience during their stay in Maastricht.

## Heritage Unlocked

### Historic city centre & Randwyck

17th March, 19.00 – 21.00

During Heritage Unlocked 2026 the visitors and inhabitants can join tours given by official guides to visit the art collection and historic buildings of Maastricht University, which celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. One departs from the Dinghuis and one from the MECC.

## Art in the shop window

### Various shops in Maastricht

9th – 19th March 2026

More than 50 shops in the center of Maastricht will decorate their windows artfully in the run up to and during TEFAF. Take a stroll and admire the displays. For more information and a map of the participating retailers visit [MaastrichtxTEFAF.com](https://MaastrichtxTEFAF.com)

## REGION

### Robert Doisneau - Instants Donnés

#### La Boverie (Liège)

Until 19th April 2026

At the La Boverie museum in Liège, an impressive retrospective can be seen, dedicated to Robert Doisneau, one of the greatest masters of twentieth-century photography. Almost 400 photos, from his early work in the 1930s to the end of his career, showcase the richness and sensitivity of his view of the world.

### Giorgio Andreotta Calò

#### Kasteel Wijlre Estate, Hedge House

15th March 2026 – 23rd August 2026

With his first museum solo exhibition in the Netherlands, Giorgio Andreotta Calò (IT, 1979) transforms the Hedge House into an immersive installation. He approaches the building designed by Wiel Arets as a living entity and presents existing and new sculptures within a coherent ecosystem of light, matter, and time. The exhibition is inspired by the powerful relationship of the estate with water, an element that both gives and takes life, as the flooding of the Hedge House in 2021 painfully demonstrated.



Minne Kersten.

### Minne Kersten – Solo show

#### Kasteel Wijlre Estate, Coach House

15th March – 23rd August 2026

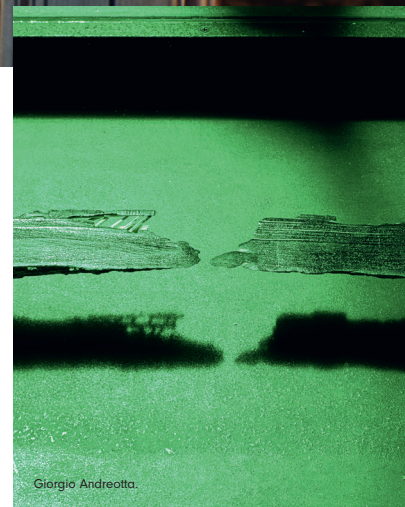
Minne Kersten (NL, 1993) presents recent and new paintings, sculptures, and film works in the Coach House, partly inspired by the site, including the Castle. In her often enigmatic work, she explores the genius loci: the spirit of a place where memory, absence, and transformation intertwine.

### Family Goltzius

#### Limburgs Museum (Venlo)

Until 31st May 2026

In the 16th century, the Goltzius family, originally from Venlo, grew into one of the most renowned artist families in Europe. Their innovative and beloved work can be found everywhere: from living rooms to royal palaces. In Family Goltzius – Masters from Venlo, the Limburg Museum brings together the full story of the family for the first time. See how generations of the Goltzius family inspire each other, how they collaborate, and how their talent spreads throughout Europe.



Giorgio Andreotta.

### Schrit\_tmacher Festival

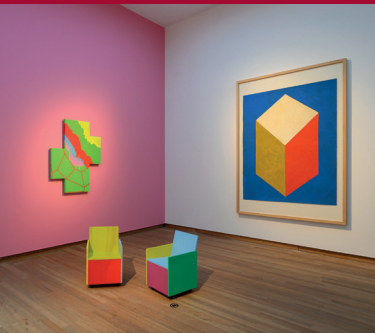
#### Euregio

Until 29th March 2026

From 24 February to 29 March 2026, the Euregio will once again serve as the setting for international contemporary dance. The schrit\_tmacher Festival connects the Netherlands, Germany and Belgium in a cross-border programme full of leading companies and surprising creators. An invitation to meet, exchange and move.

## Must sees in Bonnefanten

A stone's throw from TEFAF is the Netherlands' most exciting art museum: Bonnefanten. In Aldo Rossi's iconic building, you will find magnificent collections of Old Masters, medieval wood carvings and Maastricht silver, as well as stunningly cutting-edge contemporary art. In high-profile temporary exhibitions, the museum presents top art by extraordinary international artists. And of course there is a nice museum café and an amazingly surprising museum shop.



Exhibition overview *Four times Two*.  
Photo Peter Cox

symbolism that connect these artworks with each other and with us, across time and cultural differences.

UNTIL 06.09.2026

### ***Bitches Brew*: 3 artists, 3 solo exhibitions**

Keetje Mans, Tanja Ritterbex, Aline Thomassen are three pioneers of figurative painting in the Netherlands. Bonnefanten has been following these three artists for years. Today, about ten years after their last major exhibition at the museum, they are back to show where they currently stand in their practice. Mans, Ritterbex, and Thomassen cannot be easily placed in a box. These idiosyncratic artists all work with their own styles and themes. All three are unapologetically themselves. They paint what they have to say.

UNTIL 14.06.2026

### ***Four times Two*: connection, unity and contrasts**

The exhibition *Four times Two* covers half a century of art from the Bonnefanten Collection, 1965-2015. Each room combines the work of four different artists. The diversity of the works raises the question of what these artworks have in common. You are invited to search for underlying ideas, emotions, messages or



Robin de Puy, *Portrait Bitches Brew* (Tanja Ritterbex, Keetje Mans, Aline Thomassen), 2025

12.03. — 07.06.2026

### ***Duologue*: old stories, new meaning**

Five exceptional works from the Old Masters collection are brought together with contemporary counterparts. Similarities that transcend time give the works new meaning. Engage in dialogue, let your imagination run wild, find the connections, and build bridges between the past and the present.

UNTIL 17.05.2026

### ***Intermezzo***

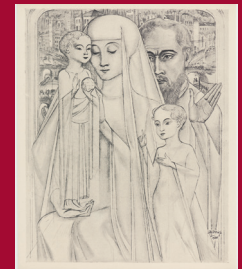
We took a few artworks out of storage. These are works that we would like to show, but which do not always fit in with the current exhibitions. They are, for example, "loners" that do not fit in well with the rest of the collection. However, they are still objects of considerable museum quality. Some works have never been displayed in our museum or have not been displayed for a long time. Others, such as those by James Ensor and Carel Willink, are often on loan to national and international museums.

More information: [www.bonnefanten.nl](http://www.bonnefanten.nl)



Anonymous, *portrait of a girl* (Maria Theresia Francisca Walbruga), ca. 1790.  
Collection Bonnefanten,  
long-term loan LGOG

Jan Toorop, *The Holy Family*,  
1920. Collection Bonnefanten



**BONNEFANTEN**

There is more  
than meets the eye.



## Maastricht University: 50 years of urban development

**Maastricht University (UM) proudly celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. Numbers alone cannot express the economic importance and social impact the university has had. Today, Maastricht University has six faculties hosting around 23,000 students and employs more than 5,000 people. Over the five decades of its existence, more than 100,000 students have earned a bachelor's or master's degree from the university, and nearly 8,000 obtained a PhD. But that's far from the whole story!**



©Philip Driessen

### Preservation of historic buildings

What would the city of Maastricht look like without a university? What would have become of the dozens of listed buildings, for example, once used as monasteries, churches or abbeys but largely without purpose as the importance of the Catholic Church started to wane?

No one can say for sure, but the fact is that the university has saved many of these buildings from demolition. Take the former monastery and court building on Minderbroedersberg, for example, which currently serves as

a base for the Executive Board and administrative support services of the university. Or the Jesuit monastery on Tongersestraat, where the Faculty of Economy found its initial home. The University Library on Grote Looiersstraat was once used as a workhouse and a military hospital. Sint Janskerk church on Vrijthof square now serves as a backdrop for graduation ceremonies, and the former Hof van Tilly mansion on Grote Gracht has gone on to house the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. The Nieuwenhof convent and orphanage on Zwingelpot hosts the University College, and a less historic but equally notable building — the former Provinciehuis on Bouillonstraat, known as Gouvernement in the local dialect — is where the Faculty of Law is based today. And what about the abandoned nineteenth-century Tapijn barracks on the southern edge of the city, which has been transformed into a state-of-the-art campus complex with the School of Economics and Business as the big draw?

### Urban or rural?

Using the élan and resources of a university to breathe life into an ancient city might seem like an obvious choice. That said, the Rijksuniversiteit Limburg, as it was initially called, could equally have been located on the outskirts of the city. In Randwyck, to be precise, where a completely new complex was to emerge in the rural landscape, with the Faculty of Medicine leading the way and setting the pace. In principle, that decision had been taken as far back as 1972, with the full support of Sjeng Tans — one of the university's earliest pioneers and backers — but some of the new institution's early recruits successfully put a stop to it. The eventual conclusion was that a Randwyck campus would be too isolated from the city centre, and could even pose a threat to the city centre if students were to stay on campus with all the facilities they need. In the end, barely one-seventh of the 236 hectares set aside for the university found a use: the site where the university hospital now stands, and the Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences, where students can train to become GPs, among other things. Randwyck has also become home to the relatively new Faculty of Science and Engineering over the past few years. The striking Gouvernement aan de Maas building, which partly extends over the River Meuse, and the MECC convention centre occupy the lion's share of the remaining space.



### Art and heritage

Restoring listed buildings and giving them a new purpose is not where the story ends. Maastricht University values the quality of its study and working environment and furnishes its buildings with respect for the original architecture. The Art and Heritage Committee monitors the university's cultural heritage, providing opportunities for artists from home and abroad.

The Maastricht University library has several interesting heritage collections, including the extensive Jesuit collection acquired when the university was founded in 1976. This collection serves as the basis for the humanities aspect of today's University Library and offers a resource for research and teaching at a large number of faculties. Other special collections include those of Pierre Kemp and Charles Eyck.

Students and employees probably barely notice them anymore, but unsuspecting visitors are guaranteed to be taken aback by the array of art objects in the various buildings. Regular exhibitions are held showcasing the university's 'own' heritage collection, but the Arts and Heritage

Committee also focuses on tracking down 'hidden' heritage collections and commissions its own art. The committee deliberately offers space to artists from a range of different countries, emphasising Maastricht University's international character. Great examples include the murals by Heerlen-born artist Hadassah Emmerich in the Student Support Centre, a mural by British artist Vanessa Hodginskon in the EdLab at Tapijn, and the tapestry by Argentinian artist Guido Yannitto in the Vrijthof lounge. You can find out more about the extensive collection and initiatives here: <https://www.kec-um.nl/kunst/kunstcollectie>

### **PBL: a revolutionary educational innovation**

However young Maastricht University may be at 'just' 50 years of age; in several fields, it is a global leader in research. It plays a leading role in healthcare, including in regenerative medicine and the fight against Alzheimer's. It is a pioneer in terms of examining the complex challenges of today's Europe, such as democra-

tic resilience, migration and climate policy, and it leads the way in helping entrepreneurs to apply their theories in order to optimise their business.

On top of that, the Netherlands' youngest university is also fully committed to a revolutionary innovation in academic education: Problem-based Learning. The traditional breakdown into many different subjects has largely been jettisoned. Professors and lecturers still give lectures, of course, but working on real issues in small groups led by a tutor has become the norm. One new development in this context is the skills lab, where Medicine students can practise actions such as taking blood pressure, administering first aid and giving injections. All in all, PBL has now become the norm at Maastricht University, which goes some way toward explaining its appeal to both students and staff. Over half of students at UM are not from the Netherlands, and 40 per cent of academic staff are foreign nationals too, hailing from all corners of the world.

If there's anywhere where the university's international character takes centre stage, it is at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASoS), founded in 1994 as one of its six faculties. FASoS focuses on cultural and social sciences, combining different disciplines such as history, political science, sociology, literary and cultural studies, anthro-

pology and philosophy. About 77% of the students and a large part of the staff come from abroad, and all educational programmes are taught entirely in English.

In UM's vast educational offer – 27 bachelor programmes and over 70 master programmes – one master stands out in particular: the Executive Master in Cultural Leadership, organised in collaboration with the Royal Academy of Arts in London. Students on this course are trained to develop leadership and business skills for careers in culture and the creative sector.

### **The Einstein Telescope**

Five decades on, the university has utterly transformed Limburg's capital city and put it firmly on the map. So is consolidation now the name of the game? The answer is loud and clear: not at all. Maastricht University continues to develop and has set its sights on growth, in partnership with the business community, government and civil society organisations. UM is one of the founding fathers of the Brightlands Campuses that have delivered yet another boost for the Limburg economy in the fields of health, food, sustainability and circularity. What's more, the university is one of the main catalysts behind the Einstein Telescope project: an initiative to build an instrument capable of measuring gravitational waves, which scientists hope to use to fathom the secrets of black holes and the creation of the universe, among other things. The



©Philip Driessen

telescope will consist of a system of tubes in a triangle measuring 10 kilometres along each side, and will be built underground. In 2027, a decision will be made on where to invest the billions Europe has set aside for the project: in Italy, in Germany, or in the region just south of Maastricht, between Liège and Aachen. With its ET Pathfinder project – a testbed for laser interferometry to measure gravitational waves – UM is paving the way for the real telescope. Scientists from around the world are already working in and on the scale model, situated near the Faculty of Science and Engineering, as we speak. Eager to take a peek behind the facades of the university's premises and explore these listed buildings and their special works of art? You can do so as part of a guided tour, bookable on: [www.exploremaastricht.nl/rondleiding/priverondleiding-arts-heritage](http://www.exploremaastricht.nl/rondleiding/priverondleiding-arts-heritage).



©Philip Driessen

# WYCK/ CÉRAMIQUE

Wyck encompasses the area between the train station and the river Meuse, and is not officially part of the city centre. However, over the last decades it has developed significantly and is seen as a kind of “little Paris”. The construction of the large streets, Wilhelminasingel and Stationsstraat, followed the French and Walloon example, wide avenues to evoke grandeur. Exclusive shops, fashionable hotels and trendy restaurants and bars seamlessly complement authentic specialised shops and small-scale delicatessens. Wyck is vibrant, thanks in particular to the increased number of fine gastronomic venues. Compared to the commercial streets in the centre, Wyck also offers ample residences, making for a lively community ambiance. The main artery is the Stationsstraat, which turns into the Wycker Brugstraat as one approaches the Meuse. Don't forget to venture down quieter side streets as they are definitely worth a stroll. Look up and discover the many beautiful historic facades and facing bricks. For shopping and browsing the go-to street is the Rechtstraat. For convenience, the new Céramique district is allotted to Wyck, an area where the ceramics industry was formerly located. This section is not characterised by narrow, authentic streets, but rather by modern, architectural highlights, including the remarkable Bonnefanten Museum designed by Aldo Rossi. The past and the present come together beautifully in this neighbourhood. The Centre Céramique, developed by architect Jo Coenen, offers a thriving location for the arts, a public library, and a meeting place for lectures, events, or simply good coffee.



## RESTAURANTS

### STUDIO

Cosy Michelin-starred restaurant. Patron-cuisinier Gilbert von Berg likes to experiment with out-of-the-ordinary cooking techniques, such as fermentation, creating pronounced flavours. Wycker Grachtstraat 24, +31 (0)6 46027252 [www.studio.restaurant](http://www.studio.restaurant)

### BELUGA LOVES YOU

Michelin star restaurant by Servais Tielman. Contemporary kitchen using pure and local ingredients in a modern interior. Plein 1992 12, +31 (0)43 3213364 [www.belugalovesyou.com](http://www.belugalovesyou.com)

### MEDITERRANEO

Most famous Italian restaurant in Maastricht. After patron Pino passed away, the kitchen staff trained by him is continuing in his style. Rechtstraat 73, +31 (0)43 3255037 [www.ristorante-mediterraneo.nl](http://www.ristorante-mediterraneo.nl)

### HARRY'S

Elegant and stylish bistro serving a classic French brasserie cuisine with an international twist, at reasonable prices. Also open on Sundays for Sunday Brunch. Large selection of good and affordable wines. Wycker Brugstraat 2, +31 (0)43-3281366 [www.harrysmaastricht.com](http://www.harrysmaastricht.com)

### FOUNDERS BAR

The stylish hotel bar of Hotel Beaumont. Both traditional and on trend, with an unconventional, but very complete selection of drinks and pairing appetizers. Lage Barakken 10, +31(0) 43 207 2452 [www.foundersbarmaastricht.com](http://www.foundersbarmaastricht.com)

### BOUCHON D'EN FACE

Lyonnais-style bistro, offering classic dishes such as canard à l'orange. Enjoyable prices and a casual yet intimate atmosphere. Wycker Brugstraat 54, +31 (0)43 3116438 [www.bouchondenface.nl](http://www.bouchondenface.nl)

### NOON

A trendy hideout near the Meuse river with a great view of the city. Menu full of unique and tasteful dishes, cocktails and gin-tonics. Attractive wine list. Griend 7, +31 (0)43 8200008 [www.noonmaastricht.nl](http://www.noonmaastricht.nl)

### 'T PAKHOES

Cosy, family-run restaurant with a chef who loves time-honoured dishes. Offers a wine list of classic French wines. Waterpoort 4-6, +31 (0)43 3257000 [www.pakhoes.nl](http://www.pakhoes.nl)

## HARICOT

Restaurant run by the passionate young chef Mathijs van der Boon. He serves a style of cooking that is 'simply truly delicious,' presented in a warm, cosy French-inspired setting. Rechtstraat 88a, +31 (0)43 3272233  
[www.haricotmaastricht.nl](http://www.haricotmaastricht.nl)

## LES DEUX

Fairly new restaurant in Wyck that combines French flavours and local ingredients. A place where you will feel at home, serving only a la carte. Hoogbrugstraat 9, +31 (0)43 372 2857  
[www.lesdeuxmaastricht.nl](http://www.lesdeuxmaastricht.nl)

## ONGLET

Trendy speakeasy bar – restaurant that used to be a butcher's workplace. Onglet serves refined dishes in which the more special cuts of meat get to play the leading part. Wycker Brugstraat 27, +31 (0)43 8528847  
[www.onglet.nl](http://www.onglet.nl)

## SIJEK KOOKPUNT

Homely restaurant serving Italian cuisine. Nice value for money. Hoogbrugstraat 15, +31 (0)43 3541934  
[www.sjiekookpunt.nl](http://www.sjiekookpunt.nl)

## WEN-CHOW

An authentic and original Chinese restaurant opposite the main railway station. Spoorweglaan 5, +31 (0)43 3214540  
[www.wenchow.nl](http://www.wenchow.nl)

## STAZIONE M

New Italian restaurant opposite the station. Serves authentic Italian dishes without too much fuss at a reasonable price. Spoorweglaan 2, +31 (0)43 327 2828  
[www.stazione-m.nl](http://www.stazione-m.nl)

## PAS DE L'O

One of Maastricht's few wine bars, it opened its doors in the summer of 2025. Here you can sample a wide selection of mainly European wines, ranging from thirty to one hundred and thirty euros per bottle. Rechtstraat 76, +31 (0)6 41 42 39 48  
[www.pasdelo.nl](http://www.pasdelo.nl)

## JEF GASTROBAR

Cosy yet cosmopolitan, a delightful setting in which to enjoy elegant, flavourful dishes paired with matching wines. Rechtstraat 42, +31 (0)43 8554559  
[www.jefgastrobar.nl](http://www.jefgastrobar.nl)

## BIKKE MAASTRICHT

Restaurant-bar driven by its love for Scandinavian lifestyle and food. Resulting in a whole host of bold flavours for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Hoogbrugstraat 43a, +31 (0)43 7009775  
[www.bikkemaastricht.nl](http://www.bikkemaastricht.nl)

## FIGO MAASTRICHT

Trendy, contemporary Italian restaurant, owned by the same proprietors as BIKKE. Serves classic Italian cuisine with the necessary modern influences. Hoogbrugstraat 66-68, +31 (0)43 700 9777  
[www.figomaastricht.nl](http://www.figomaastricht.nl)

## TABKEAW

Traditional Thai kitchen, awarded with a Bib Gourmand by Michelin. Rechtstraat 102, +31(0)43 325 9712  
[www.tabkeaw.nl](http://www.tabkeaw.nl)

## HOTELS

### CROWNE PLAZA

International hotel right beside the Meuse river. Ruitertij 1, +31 (0)43 3509191  
[www.crowneplazamaastricht.com](http://www.crowneplazamaastricht.com)

### AMRÂTH GRAND HOTEL

#### DE L'EMPEREUR

Historical hotel located in a national monument, located opposite the central railway station. Stationsstraat 2, +31 (0)43 3213838  
[www.amrathhotelempereur.nl](http://www.amrathhotelempereur.nl)

### HOTEL BEAUMONT

Located in the centre of Wyck, where timeless design and modern amenities meet history stretching back over a hundred years. Lage Barakken 10, +31 (0)43 3254433  
[www.beaumontmaastricht.com](http://www.beaumontmaastricht.com)

### LEONARDO BOUTIQUE HOTEL

#### MAASTRICHT CITY CENTER

Trendy design hotel with over a hundred unique and luxurious rooms. Stationsstraat 40, +31 (0)43 328 2525  
[www.leonardo-hotels.com](http://www.leonardo-hotels.com)

### TOWNHOUSE DESIGNHOTEL

Designhotel Maastricht. Unique and modern boutique hotel where you experience authentic Limburg hospitality and 'gezelligheid' (conviviality and cosiness). Sint Maartenslaan 5, +31 (0)43 323 30 90  
[www.townhousehotels.nl](http://www.townhousehotels.nl)

## THE DUTCH

You'll feel as if you've been transported back to the 1980s with this hotel concept. Wilhelminasingel 60, +31 (0)43 3281369  
[www.hotellthedutch.com](http://www.hotellthedutch.com)

## KABOOM

Trendy design hotel right opposite the central railway station with a delightful patio on the first floor. Stationsplein 1, +31 (0)43 325 3340  
[www.kaboomhotel.nl](http://www.kaboomhotel.nl)

## SHOPS

### MAX

With a collection that changes weekly, MAX aims to surprise its customers with stylish designs by mainly French and Italian designers. Hoogbrugstraat 69, +31 (0)43 3644729  
[www.maxmaastricht.nl](http://www.maxmaastricht.nl)

### LEON MARTENS

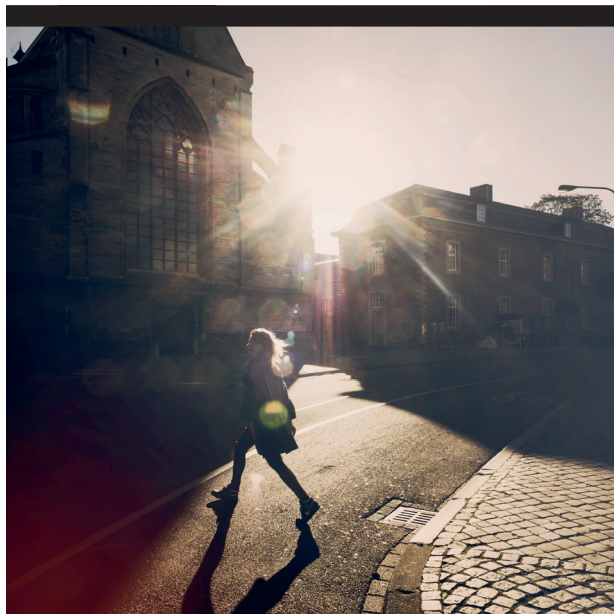
Fine Jewellery and Watches (est. 1907) is known as a leading jeweller in the Benelux. It is much loved by TEFAF regulars for its brilliant collection, craftsmanship, sense of style, and Limburgian hospitality. Brands include Rolex, Patek Philippe, Breguet, Jaeger-leCoultre, Chantecler and Pomellato. Stationsstraat 39-41, +31 (0)43 3256363  
[www.leonmartens.com](http://www.leonmartens.com)

### MESTRINI OPTIEK

Once you step inside Mestrini, you won't be leaving without a pair of new glasses. Inside this beautiful baroque building you'll find exclusive and handmade eyewear by Chrome Hearts, Celine, Dior, Dita, Jacques Marie Mage, Lindberg, Tom Ford, Hoffmann, and more. Stationsstraat 58, +31 (0)43 7112216  
[www.mestrini.nl](http://www.mestrini.nl)

# JEKER QUARTER

Because the Jekerkwartier is the oldest part of Maastricht, it's not surprising that remains from ancient fortification are found here. Over two thousand years ago, the first settlement next to the Meuse was built. In the basement of Hotel Derlon, located on the quaint Onze Lieve Vrouweplein square, you can still view these early Roman-era structures. On small streets, such as the Tafelstraat, you'll feel as if you're stepping back in time. In contrast, savour the majesty of the stately Grote Looierstraat, where many tanners once had workshops. Small shops, galleries, charming cafés and restaurants define the atmosphere here. The Koestraat, for example, has in recent years become one of the liveliest streets in town. Even in winter, people enjoy dinner and drinks on the outdoor terrace.



## RESTAURANTS

### AU COIN DES BONS ENFANTS

Run by two young, very enthusiastic entrepreneurs. The chef serves a French kitchen where vigorous sauces are the central element. Awarded with a Michelin star in 2023.  
 Ezelmarkt 4, +31 (0)43 3212359  
[www.aucoin.nl](http://www.aucoin.nl)

### WINE RESTAURANT MES AMIS

This restaurant sets itself apart with its great selection of merely local wines and dishes based on local ingredients.  
 Tongersestraat 5, +31 (0)43 3257866  
[www.mesamis.nl](http://www.mesamis.nl)

### WY.

Cosy fine dining restaurant and wine bar run by a young couple who are passionate about gastronomy and wine.  
 Tongersestraat 23, +31 (0)43850 0623  
[www.wyinmaastricht.nl](http://www.wyinmaastricht.nl)

### CAFÉ SJIEK

Maastricht's first bistrobar – and still the most original. Hotspot to enjoy the simple yet good quality food and great wines at attractive prices, but also a great place to meet up with friends. Awarded a Bib Gourmand in 2023.  
 Sint Pieterstraat 13, +31 (0)43-3210158  
[www.cafesjiek.nl](http://www.cafesjiek.nl)

### BISTRO LE VIRAGE

A popular restaurant where classic French flavours are blended with contemporary influences, with everything crafted in-house. Above the restaurant, you'll find a small hotel. Located near Onze Lieve Vrouweplein square.  
 Cortenstraat 2, +31 (0)43 321 6608  
[www.bistrolevirage.nl](http://www.bistrolevirage.nl)

### LE FERNAND

Popular bistro bar serving exclusively French dishes and wines.  
 Stenenbrug 6, +31 (0)43 8528952  
[www.lefernand.nl](http://www.lefernand.nl)

### TOUS

New restaurant-bar by the same owner as Le Fernand. 1960s/1970s interior with a restaurant and bar area. Busy every evening since opening. The menu and wine list feature only French, Italian, and Spanish flavors.  
 Sint Pieterstraat 8a, +31 (0)43 200 3183  
[www.tousmaastricht.nl](http://www.tousmaastricht.nl)

### BAR BEURRE

Trendy spot with a traditional twist. Run by two young entrepreneurs with a bold, idiosyncratic approach to French cuisine.  
 Sint Pieterstraat 54, +31 (0)43 204 1548  
[www.barbeurre.nl](http://www.barbeurre.nl)

## HOTELS

### HOTEL BOTTICELLI

Small and romantic hotel inspired by the style of the Italian Renaissance, situated close to Vrijthof square.  
 Papenstraat 11, +31 (0)43 3526300  
[www.hotelbotticelli.nl](http://www.hotelbotticelli.nl)

### BOUTIQUE HOTEL SINT JACOB

Charming boutique hotel situated in a historic house in the heart of the city.  
 Sint Jacobstraat 6, +31 (0)43 2030040  
[www.boutiquehotelsintjacob.nl](http://www.boutiquehotelsintjacob.nl)

### CHAMBRES D'HÔTES REKKO

A lovely small hotel in the charming Jekerkwartier district. Pleasant B&B rooms.  
 Kleine Looiersstraat 8, +31 (0)43 3251841  
[www.chambre-rekko.nl](http://www.chambre-rekko.nl)

#### ZENDEN DESIGN HOTEL

Boutique hotel with a pristine white interior. Swimming pool and gym available. Several good restaurants are located in the same street.

Sint Bernardusstraat 5, +31 (0)43 3212211  
[www.zenden.nl](http://www.zenden.nl)

#### HOTEL LES CHARMES

Romantic boutique hotel in the historic city center of Maastricht with spacious bedrooms.

Lenculenstraat 18, +31 (0)43 3212521  
[www.lescharmes.net](http://www.lescharmes.net)

#### HOTEL AU QUARTIER

Renovated town house in the heart of Maastricht's Quartier Latin.

Kapoenstraat 32, +31 (0)43 3258088  
[www.aquartier.nl](http://www.aquartier.nl)

#### SHOPS

##### ADRIAAN DE SMAAKMAKER

Large assortment of traditionally made mustards, jams, chutneys, dressings, vinegars, mayonnaises, and more. Handcrafted with local ingredients.

Sint Pieterstraat 36, +31 (0)43 325 8865  
[www.adriaandesmaakmaker.nl](http://www.adriaandesmaakmaker.nl)

##### BOEKHANDEL DE TRIBUNE

Best literary bookshop in the Netherlands; over more than 30 years a cultural rendezvous point with a collection of literature and poetry. Kapoenstraat 8-10, +31 (0)43 325 1978  
[www.detribune.nl](http://www.detribune.nl)

##### LE MARAIS DEUX & KOFFIE

Concept store with a vast collection of apparel, accessories and shoes for men and women. Physically connected to the funky coffee bar KOFFIE by Joost & Maartje.

Maastrichter Heidenstraat 6, +31(0)6 25396972, [www.lemaraisdeux.com](http://www.lemaraisdeux.com)

##### SNACKERS ANTIQUES & FINE ART

Art dealer specialised in in religious art and antiques. Delivery service inside and outside Europe

Sint Pieterstraat 19 & 21a, +31(0)6 81 92 51 06  
[www.snackersantiques.com](http://www.snackersantiques.com)

##### MANU FACTU

Vast collection of handmade, original and durable items, run by artistic women.

Sint Pieterstraat 20, +31 (0)43 311 8939  
[www.manufactu.nl](http://www.manufactu.nl)

##### TORO INTERIOR DESIGN

Exceptional collection of exclusive English interior.

Sint Pieterstraat 26, +31(0)43 325 1557  
[www.torodesign.nl](http://www.torodesign.nl)

##### ARTEUX ART & DESIGN

Specialised in inventing, designing, and creating special art and design objects.

Sint Pieterstraat 28, +31(0)43 326 0490  
[www.arteaux.nl](http://www.arteaux.nl)

# The magazine with everything you need to know about TEFAF and the good life in the Maastricht region.

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# STOKSTRAAT QUARTER

The Onze Lieve Vrouweplein square reminds visitors of France. The Basilica of Our Lady is the dominant landmark here. Many locals, religious or otherwise, enter the Chapel of Our Lady to light a candle. The church itself showcases wonderful art, and even has a separate treasury, highlighted by religious art. The OLV square leads to the Stokstraatkwartier, named after the Stokstraat. In industrial times, this street was notorious for social upheavals, poverty and prostitution. After an extensive overhaul, it is now the poshest shopping street in town. Proprietors on surrounding streets have responded in kind. This area contributes to Maastricht's success as a destination for both shopping and nightlife. Especially on the weekends, the area teems with people, not only from the surrounding villages, but also visitors from the rest of the Netherlands and neighbouring countries.

## SHOPS

### KIKI NIESTEN

The average TEF AF visitor knows where to find Kiki Niesten. With fantastic collections that feature brands like Prada, Valentino, Celine, and Alaïa, Kiki manages to surprise and delight fashion-lovers and art enthusiasts alike. Stokstraat 28-32, +31 (0)43 3216432  
[www.kikiniesten.nl](http://www.kikiniesten.nl)

### KIKI VOOR IEDEREEN

The second store of Maastricht's fashion icon Kiki Niesten, featuring an accessible, approachable collection. Stokstraat 29, [www.kikivooriiedereen.nl](http://www.kikivooriiedereen.nl)

### JULIUS BOUTIQUE

Interesting boutique selling high-end shoes, shirts and accessories for real gentlemen. Here you'll find both their own brand and several other brands. Maastrichter Smedenstraat 4, +31 (0)43 3255518, [www.julius-boutique.com](http://www.julius-boutique.com)

### WEEKEND MAX MARA MAASTRICHT

The second Max Mara shop in Maastricht showcases the Italian brand's Weekend line. Maastrichter Smedenstraat 23, +31 (0)43 327 2472

### NICOLE EXCLUSIEVE DAMESMODE

The product range of Nicole's exclusive womenswear includes collections by Elisabetta Franchi, Moschino, Armani and Rinascimento. Stokstraat 46, +31 (0)43 3218840, [schins.nl](http://schins.nl)

### PL-LINE

PL-Line carries a wide range of luxury fashion brands for both men and women. Bredestraat 7-9, +31 (0)43 3250853  
[www.pl-line.com](http://www.pl-line.com)

## RESTAURANTS

### RESTAURANT ROZEMARIJN

Near the Onze Lieve Vrouweplein square, this friendly restaurant provides light and delicious cuisine and serves wonderful wines. Havenstraat 19, +31 (0)43 4506505  
[www.restaurant-rozemarijn.nl](http://www.restaurant-rozemarijn.nl)

### VINO&FRIENDS

A trendy Italian gastropub in the centre of the city. Italian dishes and 350 different wines. Plankstraat 6, +31 (0)43 3218456  
[www.vinoandfriends.nl](http://www.vinoandfriends.nl)

### BRANDSØN

Snazzy restaurant. Serving a cuisine combining the classic basis with his kitchen team's international roots. Het Bat 2, +31 (0)43 2012620  
[www.brandsonmaastricht.nl](http://www.brandsonmaastricht.nl)

## HOTELS

### DERLON HOTEL MAASTRICHT

Located on Onze Lieve Vrouweplein square, where Maastricht feels a little like Paris. This hotel, over 150 years old, is built on top of Roman remains. Recently acquired by Pierre Rieu (son of world-famous violinist André Rieu), who will completely renovate the hotel in 2026. Onze Lieve Vrouweplein 6, +31 (0)43 3216770, [www.derlon.com](http://www.derlon.com)

### DARQ

Boutique hotel and chocolate and coffee café in the heart of Maastricht. Here, you can immerse yourself in a world of delicious chocolate. Maastrichter Smedenstraat 2 +31 (0)43 7855558, [www.darqmaastricht.com](http://www.darqmaastricht.com)

#### 7 FOR ALL MANKIND

A high-end jeans brand located in an elegant townhouse in the heart of Maastricht. You can also find dresses, jackets, and polo shirts. Stokstraat 17, +31 (0)43 3255831 [www.7forallmankind.nl](http://www.7forallmankind.nl)

#### CASUALCHIC BY HAROLD

Boutique featuring collections from authentic Italian ateliers, personally discovered by owner Harold van Wissen through forty years of experience and visits to their houses. For the sophisticated, modern man. Stokstraat 20, +31 (0)6 11323293 [www.casualchic.nu](http://www.casualchic.nu)

#### LIU JO

The Italian Liu Jo is well-known for its elegant and glamorous womenswear and childrenswear. Lui Jo collections include unique print-on-print, faux fur and shiny metallic items. Stokstraat 31, +31 (0)43 3211985 [www.liujo.com](http://www.liujo.com)

#### SARAH PACINI

An Italian fashion brand known for its unique combination of creativity and limitless possibilities. Sarah Pacini carries women's fashion, accessories, sunglasses, and shoes. Stokstraat 34, +31 (0)43 3263772 [www.sarahpacini.com](http://www.sarahpacini.com)

#### NN07 AND SKETCH.

In this futuristic and simplistic store you're welcome to explore a great collection of the Scandinavian brand No Nationality as well as Golden Goose, Isabel Marant, Coperni, Marni, Halfboy, Morobé, Maison Margiela. Stokstraat 35, +31 (0)438 55 21 86 [www.sketch-store.com](http://www.sketch-store.com)

#### DONSJE

Luxury Dutch children's brand, originally known for its adorable shoes with little ears. It has evolved into a complete, minimalist yet charming collection for babies and children. Stokstraat 41-45, +31 (0)43 3030652 [www.donsje.com](http://www.donsje.com)

#### PAUW

A carefully curated collection of women's and men's fashion brands, among which their own brand as well. Havenstraat 3, +31 (0)43 3255701 [www.pauw.com](http://www.pauw.com)

#### SCHINS ATELIER

In addition to high-quality lammy coats en leather, you can also find brands such as Peserico, Gran Sasso and Fabiana Filippi. Maastrichter Smedenstraat 15, +31 (0)43 3215607, [www.schinsatelier.com](http://www.schinsatelier.com)

#### NIKKIE

Women's fashion by Dutch designer Nikkie Plessen. NIKKIE's style can best be described as strong and elegant but with a distinctive touch. Stokstraat 3, +31(0)43 3212244 [www.nbrands.com](http://www.nbrands.com)

#### NATAN

The famous Belgian fashion brand known for its luxury couture, elegant designs and royal style. Plankstraat 10, +31 (0)43 3100622

#### LE MARAIS

Exclusive fashion boutique featuring brands like Closed, No Man's Land, Zenggi, Hartford, Bellerose, and more. Morenstraat 11, +31 (0)43 3251156 [www.lemarais.nl](http://www.lemarais.nl)

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## Tefaf & the city



Heleven Boutique, certified gemmologist.  
High luxury jewellery, with a special in store exhibition.

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Opening hours during Tefaf:  
Monday - saturday: 10:00 - 17:30  
Sunday: 13:00 - 17:00





# SPHINX QUARTER

The Industrial Revolution arrived in Maastricht with the Sphinxkwartier, once dominated by ceramics factories. The industrialist Petrus Regout developed Maastricht as the first industrial city of the Netherlands. Though industrialisation brought wealth and prosperity, particularly for the Regout family, there were labour and social problems, too. Working conditions in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries were poor, as was the pay.

The ceramics factories eventually shut down. After a quiet period, the district reinvented itself as a magnet for creatives and students. It boasts a music venue, several cinemas, restaurants, and even a sky bar on the top floor of the old factory. The district includes the historic inner harbour, 't Bassin, with its host of inviting restaurants. From here, you can walk along the splendid, broad Boschstraat to the market square, the heart of the city. The Boschstraat not only offers an increasing number of successful bars and restaurants, but also trendy small shops. Almost at the end, where the fish market is held on Fridays, you'll find the relatively small church of St Matthew; the interior is a little gem. Unfortunately, visiting is only possible during mass. One of the great things about taking in Maastricht's grandeur and international appeal is manageability. The city is compact: the areas of interest are within walking distance of each other.

## RESTAURANTS

### NOVO NEW DINING

An established name in Maastricht and far beyond. Creative and very reasonably priced dishes with an unmistakable, contemporary flair.

Aan de Brikkenbouw 4f, +31(0)43 204 1169  
[www.novo-dining.com](http://www.novo-dining.com)

## HOTELS

### HOTEL MABI

Trendy hotel located inside an old, renovated cinema near the Markt square.

Kleine Gracht 24, +31 (0)43 3514444  
[www.hotelmabi.nl](http://www.hotelmabi.nl)

### FITZ ROY - URBAN HOTEL, BAR AND GARDEN

This trendy hotel is an oasis of green tranquility at a unique location right in the heart of the city.

Boschstraat 70, +31 (0)43 3030700  
[www.fitz-roy.nl](http://www.fitz-roy.nl)

### HOTEL MONASTÈRE

Paris chic meets vintage Maastricht, located in a former monastery in the Sphinxkwartier district.

Boschstraat 71, +31 (0)20 5 150 453  
[www.hotelmonastere.com](http://www.hotelmonastere.com)

### HOTEL MAISON MAASTRICHT

Opened in the fall of 2023, the five-star Hotel Maison Maastricht breathes new life into a 19th-century monumental building.

Boschstraat 76, +31 (0)43 200 3143  
[www.hotelmaisonmaastricht.com](http://www.hotelmaisonmaastricht.com)

## SHOPS

### BLANCHE DAEL

Roasting company, coffee café and shop by the famous Maastricht coffee brand Blanche Dael. Experience, taste and purchase something to take home.

Aan de Brikkebouw 10  
 Shop: Wolfstraat 28, +31 (0)43 321 3475  
[www.blanchedael.nl](http://www.blanchedael.nl)

### KUNSTUILEEN

#### MAASTRICHT SPHINXKWARTIER

Gallery of the well-known art library concept with extensive collection of works by a variety of national and international artists.

Boschstraat 87, +31(0)43 321 33 11  
 (Wyck: Rechtstraat 50)  
[www.kunstuileenmaastricht.nl](http://www.kunstuileenmaastricht.nl)

### ISKANDER

Small-scale and quaint interior shop with a unique collection of fabrics.

Boschstraat 65, +31(0)43 325 7883

### LOODS 5

Furniture department store for all your needs: a mix of accessories, furniture and eye-catching items by over a hundred suppliers.

Sphinxcour 5, +31(0)88 655 0555  
[www.loods5.nl](http://www.loods5.nl)



# CITY CENTRE

The City Centre may be a bit vague when applied to Maastricht, because one could definitely include the Jekerkwartier and the Stokstraatkwartier. However, these districts like to set themselves apart. Consequently, the City Centre consists of the busiest shopping streets, including the Maastrichter Brugstraat and the Kleine and the Grote Staat. These streets are home to many of the larger retail chains. Unlike Wÿck, this area is not a blend of shops, restaurants and residences. However, bars and restaurants are within easy reach since the Grote Staat leads to the Vrijthof, the most famous of the city's squares. It's a splendid square, bordered by the grand iconic churches of Saint Servatius and Saint John. In addition, there is the Theater aan het Vrijthof, the Fotomuseum aan het Vrijthof, and the Main Guard building. The east side of the square is lined by grand cafés and their attractive, carefully decorated terraces. Many tourists come here to relax, eat and drink. The square has gained more renown internationally thanks to the annual open air-concerts by André Rieu, Maastricht's most famous citizen. On stages worldwide, he boasts of his city, and – with some bravado – calls the Vrijthof the most wonderful square in the world. But it worked! Every July, tens of thousands of fans from across the globe come to Maastricht to experience his concerts. The City Centre completes its array of shops with the modern shopping areas Mosae Forum and Entre Deux. Arguably the country's most beautiful bookshop is located in the Dominican Church.

## RESTAURANTS

### TOUT À FAIT

Restaurant by Bart Ausems serving an intriguing, contemporary cuisine. Opened in 1999, holding a Michelinstart since 2002.

Sint Bernardusstraat 16-18,  
+31 (0)43 3500405, [www.toutafait.nl](http://www.toutafait.nl)

### ENIGMA

New restaurant run by a young couple who like to surprise guests with unconventional flavour combinations and preparations using every part of the ingredients. Offers wine and beer pairings in an informal setting.

Sint Bernardusstraat 20,  
[www.restaurantenigma.nl](http://www.restaurantenigma.nl)

### IL GIARDINO

A popular place with a friendly, family-like ambiance. Serves Italian food at reasonable prices.

Onze Lieve vrouweplein 15,  
+31 (0)43 3256229, [www.ilgiardino.nl](http://www.ilgiardino.nl)

### RESTAURANT 55

Set in a baroque-style interior, the restaurant's dynamic young team prepares French dishes at a reasonable price.

Heggenstraat 3a, +31 (0)43 3251762  
[www.restaurant55.nl](http://www.restaurant55.nl)

### LE BON VIVANT

Dutch cuisine served in this hidden vaulted cellar. Time and again chef Björn Dijkstra is able to set the right tone in terms of flavour.

Capucijnestraat 91, +31 (0)43 321 0816  
[www.lebonvivant.nl](http://www.lebonvivant.nl)

### SPENCER'S

Restaurant formula at the Kruisherhotel. Accessible eclectic bistro with a French orientated menu with a regional twist and local ingredients.

Kruisherengang 19-23, +31 (0)43 3292020  
[www.oostwegelcollection.nl](http://www.oostwegelcollection.nl)

### LUSTER

Mediterranean bistro at the Vrijthof square. Popular and accessible formula where shared dining dishes play the key role. Extensive menu for drinks and cocktail.

Vrijthof 10, +31 (0)43 321 9956  
[www.luster.nl](http://www.luster.nl)

### BAR NOLA

A new bar in a charming street, offering approachable dining (and drinks) in meticulously crafted surroundings. Featuring delights for lunch, aperitifs, dinner and digestifs.

Platielstraat 17-19, +31 (0)6 52 043083  
[www.barnola.nl](http://www.barnola.nl)

### SOMEWHERE IN THE MIDDLE

Classic cocktail bar, recently opened. Serving both traditional cocktails and innovative, personal flavours.

Vrijthof 8, [www.somewhereinthemiddle.nl](http://www.somewhereinthemiddle.nl)

## HOTELS

### KRUISHERENHOTEL

Five star design hotel with historic details dating from the fifteenth-century monastery in which it is situated. All hotel rooms will be completely renovated in phases this year.

Kruisherengang 19-23, +31 (0)43 3292020  
[www.kruisherhotel.nl](http://www.kruisherhotel.nl)

#### **AMRÂTH HOTEL DUCASQUE**

Classic, comfortable hotel near Vrijthof square..  
Helmstraat 14, +31 (0)43 3214343  
www.amrathhotelducasque.nl

#### **BOUTIQUE HOTEL LE THEATRE**

Hotel on Vrijthof square next to the theatre. Lovely rooms decorated in the French style with a great view, located in the heart of the city.  
Vrijthof 50, +31 (0)43 303 0280  
www.letheatre.nl

#### **HOTEL BRASSERIE BRITANNIQUE**

Hotel on Vrijthof square, boasting several trendy suites. Located above a restaurant with terrace.  
Vrijthof 6, +31 (0)43 3218691  
www.britannique.nl

#### **MAISON HAAS HUSTINX**

Boutique hotel in a beautiful old building on Vrijthof square. Luxurious interior, unique rooms and a spa located underneath the Vrijthof square.  
Vrijthof 20, +31 (0)43 8524353  
www.haashustinx.nl

#### **COUSINS BOUTIQUE HOTEL**

Intimate boutique hotel in a quiet part in the center of the vibrant city.  
Capucijnengang 12, +31 (0)43 700 9722  
www.cousinsboutiquehotel.com

### S H O P S

#### **MATINIQUE**

Scandinavian designed apparel: loose-fitting, stylish, casual, and perfect for all occasions.  
Wolfstraat 6, +31 (0)43 2089440  
www.mantiquemaastricht.nl

#### **MARC CAIN**

Marc Cain is a declaration of love to all women, with an extensive collection of women's clothing and accessories that sets high demands in terms of quality and design.  
Plankstraat 25, +31 (0)43 3254465

#### **KYMYKA**

A mecca for bag enthusiasts and shoe aficionados, with Louboutin's famous red-soled high heels as their key item.  
Minckelersstraat 7, +31 (0)43 3261770  
www.kymyka.com

#### **K-ATELIER/K-STORE**

Italian style fashion for men. With the best Italian labels and also on request 100 % handmade suits.  
Bredestraat 35, +31 (0)43 3111165  
www.kateliermaastricht.nl

#### **DE BIJENKORF**

A luxury department store that carries fashion, leather goods, cosmetics, home accessories, gifts, and more.  
Achter het Vleeshuis 26, +31 (0)88 2454488,  
www.debijenkorf.nl

#### **MAX MARA MAASTRICHT**

MaxMara is a luxury Italian fashion house that includes 9 lines. The MaxMara womenswear line is still the core of the company.  
Bredestraat 2, +31 (0)43 350 0840  
www.modemaastricht.nl

#### **KALKMAN - RECORD STORE & ART GALLEY**

A unique vinyl record & art space. Founded by Hubert Kalkman in 2014 as an eclectic shop with art, antiques and records. It is now run as an art and record dealership on one corner of the Hondstraat. On the opposite corner the team runs a gallery space.  
Hondstraat 2a, +31(0)65426 5443  
www.hubertkalkman.com

#### **CUBE28**

Interior studio with a collection of distinct home accessories and eyecatchers, and a selection of furniture. The place to be for tailor-made interior advice.  
Minckelersstraat 28, +31 (0)43 3520661  
www.cube28.nl

#### **ARTICHOQUE ART GALLERY**

A fixture among Maastricht's galleries. The gallery mainly represents artists who have a connection with the city. The result is a diverse range of artworks.  
Bredestraat 4, +31 (0)6 48 157 309  
www.artichoque.nl

#### **SCHAAP EN CITROEN**

This is your luxurious destination for jewellery and watches, offering renowned brands such as Rolex, Pomellato, Cartier, Messkika, Omega, Royal Asscher, and Breitling. Discover timeless elegance and exceptional craftsmanship, curated to elevate every special moment in your life.  
Maastrichter Brugstraat 35,  
+31 (0)43 205 8159, www.schaapcitroen.nl

#### **FALKE**

Quality and design are the main principles of the famous brand Falke, offering a great choice of knitted legwear, body wear, and fine hosiery.  
Maastrichter Brugstraat 28,  
+31 (0)43 2200181, www.falke.com

#### **BOEKHANDEL DOMINICANEN**

"The fairest bookshop of the world, a bookshop made in heaven". This bookstore holds the biggest stock of books in English in Maastricht, stored in an old Dominican church.  
Dominicanerkerkstraat 1,  
+31 (0)43 4100010  
www.boekhandeldominicanen.nl

#### **ZARA**

The famous Spanish fashion house opened a new boutique in Maastricht in 2025. This new location is considered the most beautiful in the Netherlands and is a real eye-catcher in the city's main shopping street.  
Grote Staat 5-15,  
www.zara.com



# ST. PIETER & REGION

For those seeking a relaxed atmosphere, it's best to go southward to St. Pieter, a residential district that borders a magnificent nature area. The shops and restaurants here are frequented by locals, and the mostly quiet streets boast wonderful houses. Though the atmosphere is sedate, the lively centre is very close. On the outskirts of this neighbourhood lies the St. Pietersberg, from which you'll have a magnificent view of the city. You can also walk further south toward the former Enci cement factory, where you'll have splendid panoramic views over the Meuse. Cargo vessels and pleasure boats take the passage onto the Albert Canal or go through the impressive locks at Ternaaien toward Liège. Belgium is literally next door and the language changes to French. Even so, the Maastricht dialect contains many words influenced by the 'neighbours'. One of Maastricht's unique attractions is its proximity to the rolling hills of the countryside. You can reach these in no time. And, if you didn't know better, you'd think you entered another country.

## RESTAURANTS

### RANTRÉE

A great place on the outskirts of the city with a stunning view of the city and the Belgian border.

Het Wilhelmus 30L, +31 (0)43 3215140  
www.rantree.nl

### CHÂTEAU NEERCANNE

Set in a classic and grand building and boasting a spectacular wine cellar, Château Neercanne serves modern French cuisine and offers excellent service. Awarded one Michelin star in 2023.

Von Dopfflaan 10, +31 (0)43 3251359  
www.chateauhotels.nl

### L'AUBERGE

The lunch restaurant at Château Neercanne serves a very local menu containing many ingredients from their own vegetable garden.

Von Dopfflaan 10, +31 (0)43 325 1359  
www.oostwegelcollection.nl

### PRIX DE ROME

Popular restaurant just outside the city centre with a nice atmosphere and a good French cuisine. Awarded a Bib Gourmand in 2023.

Susserweg 1, +31 (0)43 8080233  
www.prix-de-rome.nl

### SOFA

Situated at the edge of a marina, this modern restaurant offers contemporary dishes in a peaceful setting.

Hoge Weerd 6, +31 (0)43 3671337  
www.sofamaastricht.nl

## HOTELS

### CHÂTEAU NEERCANNE

The long awaited suites at the Château Neercanne estate, on the border of Maastricht and Kanne. Seven luxurious hotel suites with unique style and special view.

Von Dopfflaan 10, +31 (0)43 325 1359  
www.oostwegelcollection.nl

### DORMIO HOTEL DE PRINS VAN ORANJE

Hotel in a luxury holiday villa park with a panoramic gastro-restaurant on the top floor. Located outside the city centre near the golf course.

Het Wilhelmus 1, +31 (0)85 013 4040  
www.dormio.nl

### NH MAASTRICHT

Maastricht's biggest hotel, located right next to the MECC where TEFAP takes places. Perfect for business and leisure stays.

Forum 110, +31 (0)43 3838281  
www.nh-hotels.com

### HOTEL VAN DER VALK

Large and modern hotel with extensive facilities, close to the MECC, on the other side of the highway.

Nijverheidsweg 35, +31 (0)43 387 3500  
www.hotelvandervalkmaastricht.nl

### BUITENPLAATS VAESHARTELT

Comfortable luxury in a seventeenth-century castle, surrounded by nature on the edge of Maastricht.

Weert 9, +31 (0)43 3690200  
www.vaeshartelt.nl

## HOTELS & RESTAURANTS

IN LIMBURG & BORDER REGION

### VAN OYS MAASTRICHT RETREAT

A brand new five-star superior hotel just outside the city of Maastricht. Five minutes by car to MECC Maastricht. A beautiful location with a medieval castle, a charming farmhouse and a big new building on the same spot, in green surroundings.

Kasteellaan 1, Eijsden +31(0)43 2400040,  
[www.vanoys.com](http://www.vanoys.com)

### RESTAURANT CREATE

At Van Oys Maastricht Retreat, the well-known 2-star Michelin chef Guido Braecken is giving flavour to restaurant Create, an exclusive gastronomic restaurant where the best culinary quality will be combined with a luxurious and warm atmosphere. On the same site, you can also visit the excellent brasserie Maes, with a 'cuisine du terroir'.

Kasteellaan 1, Eijsden +31(0)43 2400040,  
[www.vanoys.com](http://www.vanoys.com)

### BRUT172

Run by famous Michelin-starred chef Hans van Wolde, bringing the flavours of nature to life in combinations that are sure to wow. Awarded two Michelin stars. Reijmerstokkerdorpstraat 143, Reijmerstok  
[www.brut172.com](http://www.brut172.com)

### ATELIER

A high quality restaurant in a contemporary style, with tables situated around the kitchen. Earned one Michelin star. Fantastic wine list.

Markt 9, Gulpen, +31 (0)43 4504490  
[www.restaurantatelier.nl](http://www.restaurantatelier.nl)

### HOTEL KASTEEL TERWORM

Lovely restaurant in a small lovely castle. Offers an international cuisine and a nice wine list. The hotel lets you experience tranquility, luxury, and relaxation.

Terworm 5, Heerlen, +31 (0)45 4001111  
[www.terworm.nl](http://www.terworm.nl)

### SLENAKER VALLEI,

#### BOUTIQUE HOTEL & RESTAURANT

Charming restaurant in one of the most beautiful villages in the hills of Limburg. Carefully curated dishes of high quality and prepared with local ingredients.

Dorpsstraat 1, Slenaken  
+31(0)6 13 23 57 89

### LES SALONS

Situated in the magnificent and luxurious country estate Château St. Gerlach. The kitchen uses many products from its own vegetable and herb garden.

Joseph Corneli Allée 1, Valkenburg  
+31 (0)43 6088888, [www.chateauhotels.nl](http://www.chateauhotels.nl)

### AMBROZIJN

Located in an old church, where chef Sven Nijenhuis combines French cuisine with new cooking techniques.

Plenkertstraat 45, +31 (0)43 2003068  
[www.restaurantambrozijn.nl](http://www.restaurantambrozijn.nl)

### DE LEUF

Great Michelin star restaurant in a modern, renovated farmhouse. Creative and slightly exotic cuisine with Asian influences and a good wine list.

Dalstraat 2, Ubachsberg  
+31 (0)45 5750226, [www.deleuf.nl](http://www.deleuf.nl)

### DA VINCI

Restaurant at the marina with cuisine awarded with a Michelin star and created by the best female chef in the Netherlands, Margo Reuten. Her partner Petro Kools serves outstanding wines.

Havenstraat 27, Maasbracht  
+31 (0)475 465979,  
[www.restaurantdavinci.nl](http://www.restaurantdavinci.nl)

### ONE

A great restaurant with a regular and a green Michelin star. Creative cuisine, focused on local and home grown ingredients, by Edwin Soumang. Bethany DeLong serves great wines from all over the world.

ECl 17, Roermond, +31 (0)475 600262  
[www.restaurantone.nl](http://www.restaurantone.nl)

### DAMIANZ

Situated in Hotel Arresthuis \*\*\*\*\* Restaurant located in a former holding facility. Passionate chef Jeroen van Ganswinkel runs a top quality kitchen. Polartstraat 7, Roermond +31 (0)475 870870,  
[www.damianz.nl](http://www.damianz.nl)

### RURA

Youthful passion in an intimate setting in the heart of Roermond. Creative dishes and wine selection.

Luijfelstraat 32, Roermond  
+31 (0)475 700 111, [ruraroermond.nl](http://ruraroermond.nl)

### HET GERECHT

Charming, homelike restaurant, named after the court which once was located here. Surprising, unconventional combinations of flavours.

Heilige Geeststraat 27, Roermond  
+31 (0)475 315 389, [www.bijhetgerecht.nl](http://www.bijhetgerecht.nl)

### LA SOURCE

The fine dining restaurant at La Butte aux Bois is returning to its roots under the leadership of new chef Ralph Hermans. Classic foundations with contemporary influences.

Paalsteenlaan 90, Lanaken (B)  
+32 (0)89-739770, [www.labutteauxbois.be](http://www.labutteauxbois.be)

### DORMIO WIJNHOTEL VALKENBURG

Located right across from Valkenburg's train station, transformed into a wine hotel a few years back.

Stationsstraat 21, Valkenburg  
+31 (0)43 6013741, [www.wijnhotelvalkenburg.nl](http://www.wijnhotelvalkenburg.nl)

### HOTEL KASTEEL BLOEMENDAL

An island of tranquility in Vaals, the border town in the tri-border area. Located in a fully renovated castle on an immense estate.

Bloemendalstraat 150, Vaals  
+31 (0)43 365 9800, [www.hotelbloemendal.nl](http://www.hotelbloemendal.nl)

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IN LIMBURG & BORDER REGION

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Stadsweide 2, Roermond  
+31 (0)475 351777, [www.mcarthurglen.com](http://www.mcarthurglen.com)

### MAASMECHELEN VILLAGE

Maasmechelen Village has over 100 boutiques, featuring famous fashion and lifestyle brands at up to 60% discount on the recommended retail price all year round.

Zetellaan 100, Maasmechelen (BE)  
+32 89 77 40 00  
[www.thebicestercollection.com](http://www.thebicestercollection.com)

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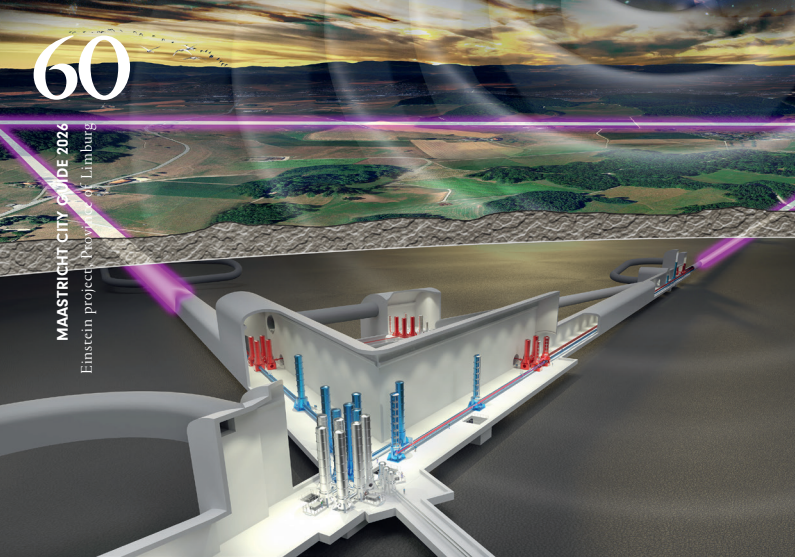
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# Einstein Telescope will strengthen Europe's position as a whole

## Revolutionary science project crucial for future of the Euregio

The final decision on whether the Euregio will be awarded the mega-project of constructing the Einstein Telescope will not be made until mid2027. However, the bid book must already be submitted by the end of 2026. Time to check out some of the key players to get an idea of what the chances are. Will the Euregio indeed be selected, or will the choice fall on the bid from the Italian island of Sardinia, which has brought the German federal state of Saxony on board as a partner? Or will Europe settle on a compromise?

Article Jo Cortenraedt Photography Roel Soetewey, Harry Heuts

Thanks in part to sustained lobbying efforts, the Einstein Telescope project has been included in the coalition agreement of the Jetten government, and Sjoerd Sjoerdsma, CEO of ET NL, sees that as a highly significant signal. "It will further strengthen our position in the lobbying process, and it once again gives us the confidence to work with our partners in Belgium, North RhineWestphalia and soon the federal government of Germany to put forward an exceptionally strong bid." The stakeholders we spoke to are, in fact, unanimous on one point: the Euregio proposal, a joint effort by the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany, is by far the strongest option from both a scientific and technical perspective. It is not only the ideal subsoil, but also the surrounding ecosystem of universities, research institutes, innovative companies and solid infrastructure that makes the Euregio an attractive

location for the Einstein Telescope. The designed triangular configuration will deliver better measurement results than a system with two widely spaced L-shaped arms, as proposed by Sardinia (now in partnership with Saxony).

### CHEFSACHE

But as a former D66 MP, Sjoerdsma knows better than anyone that scientific excellence alone won't decide the outcome. He is realistic enough to recognise that a project of this scale ultimately lands on the desks of Europe's heads of government. "Of course, political considerations come into play, and then it becomes 'Chefsache'. But in the end, it won't just be the scientific merits of our project that are judged. Costs and risks will certainly be weighed as well, and on those fronts, our plan scores significantly better than Italy's. They would have to keep two sites fully operational, which is far more expensive



Sjoerd Sjoerdsma ©Roel Soetewey.



Robbert Dijkgraaf. ©Roel Soetewij

than our single central site. And the socio-economic return in our proposal is also valued considerably higher." His party colleague Robbert Dijkgraaf, Minister of Education and Science in the Rutte IV cabinet and now a professor at the University of Amsterdam, wholeheartedly agrees. "Scientifically, this concept is far more ambitious and far more interesting. On top of that, leading institutes and companies such as RWTH Aachen, KU Leuven and ASML in Eindhoven will all be involved in this project. And with such a prestigious European initiative, literally positioned in the heart of Europe, what more could you want?" Top scientist Dijkgraaf does not immediately see himself as one of the project's front-runners, but he remains closely involved. "This is what I stu-

died for; this is a milestone in physics. Wherever I'm invited to speak at international conferences, I propagate this message and advocate for the Euregio concept. I see myself more as someone pushing from behind than leading at the front."

### LOBBYING

Sjoerdsma spends a great deal of time lobbying in places such as The Hague and Brussels. "A lot of groundwork has already been done in recent years. Every minister who has been involved has responded enthusiastically. You can see that our project enjoys broad support in The Hague, not only from the governing parties." According to Sjoerdsma, the current geopolitical turmoil does not harm the Einstein Telescope project. "In a way, the

project actually comes at exactly the right moment," Sjoerdsma says. "This is precisely the kind of endeavour Europe can be proud of. It shows what we, as cooperating countries, are capable of. And importantly, we are not dependent on the United States for this."

Robbert Dijkgraaf also sees this as a demonstration of Europe's strength. "In this scientific field, we are genuinely ahead, and we should capitalise on that. And although the German federal state of Saxony has now joined the Italian plan, it is still very much possible to involve Saxony in our project. That can help in the deliberations that Germany will ultimately have to undertake at the highest level."

### GERMANY

Ward Vleugels, the honorary consul for Germany in Maastricht, is also investing significant time in lobbying for the Einstein Telescope. He tries to assess German strategic interests. "It may seem contradictory, Saxony initially opting for Sardinia while North Rhine-Westphalia has long been part of our project. But the scientific centre based in Saxony is also following the Euregio proposal and could certainly decide to join it. This project is so important for Europe that I expect the parties ultimately to join forces behind our plan, and Germany will, in one way or another, bring the Italians into that cooperation as well. This is a unique opportunity for close European collaboration. Just look at CERN in Geneva: the innovation spin-off from that particle accelerator has been enormous. The Einstein Telescope will undoubtedly

have a similar effect. It fits in perfectly with Europe's ambition to strengthen its international position. The opportunities are huge, and when that is the case, you simply choose the best technology."

### ECONOMY

Stephan Satijn, Provincial Executive for Economy and Finance in Limburg, certainly recognises the European dimension of the project, but he emphasises its significance for the Euregio in particular. "In terms of economic impact, it will be the new State Mines for Limburg, without the downsides associated with coal extraction. As the Provincial Council, we have been working intensively on this for quite some time and you can feel the enthusiasm growing. I know few themes that are so wholeheartedly supported by both the Flemish and Walloon authorities, by North Rhine-Westphalia, and of course by Limburg, backed by the Dutch government. We expect thousands of additional jobs, not only for engineers and scientists, but also for skilled workers, administrative staff, and even the hospitality sector. It will create an entirely new ecosystem with global visibility. We are seeing more and more impressive companies joining in, such as VDL and ASML, but also smaller, highly specialised firms such as SBE in Eijsden, which has developed a unique welding technique. Limburg has far more innovative companies than many people assume. We already rank among the most innovative regions in the world. The arrival of the Einstein Telescope will open up many new opportunities. You can



already see that with the precursor we've built, the ET Pathfinder here in Maastricht. It is already attracting scientists from all over the world."

## LANDSCAPE

According to Satijn, the project is not only firmly established at the political level. "Wherever I go, I feel genuine engagement, not just polite interest. At universities, universities of applied sciences and vocational colleges in our region, where new programmes are being launched specifically for the Einstein Telescope. But also among local entrepreneurs in the proposed Einstein Telescope area. I visited campsite owners in the Heuvelland who became enthusiastic after a test drilling on their land. They even placed an information board at the drilling site for passers-by. A striking example of involvement. Questions will arise, of course. And concerns about the Heuvelland landscape. However, construction will be carried out with great care, ensuring that the unique Bocage landscape of our Euregio is preserved. Agreements are already being made on both sides of the border. And this project is also an opportunity to protect our beautiful Heuvelland. It is crucial that there are



as few disruptive factors as possible near the Einstein Telescope." The national employers' organisation VNONCW also recognises the economic opportunities. Its General Director Focco Vjselaar calls the project unique for the whole of the Netherlands. "This project creates the essential connections within this border region. Cooperation between the three countries will also automatically eliminate some of the separate regula-

## Noise measurements

In the first few months of 2026, German geophysical research firm Omega Geoservices will conduct magnetic noise measurements in the search area of the Einstein Telescope. Primarily in the Belgian Voer region, and partly in the adjoining cross-border area of Limburg's Heuvelland. These measurements will help determine the structure of the subsurface as well as how background noise behaves underground. The measurements will be performed in two phases: first using equipment above ground, and later through boreholes drilled into the soil.

tions that occasionally still hinder business today. People sometimes say that Aachen looks only to the east and Liège only to the south. Well, thanks to this telescope, they are now also looking towards the Netherlands, because they recognise its innovative nature."

VNONCW is also heavily involved in lobbying for the project. "We do this together with our sister organisations in Belgium and Germany. We raise the issue not only in the government centres of the countries involved, but also elsewhere in Europe, because the final decision will ultimately be made at the European level."

## DATA

There are major economic interests at stake, but what excites Robbert Dijkgraaf the most is the scientific breakthrough the Einstein Telescope will bring. "We actually still know very little about the universe. At least 95% still has yet to be discovered. This project will deliver guaranteed results. We will obtain ten thousand times more data than we have today. It will be the device of the century. We will be able to measure down to 24 decimal places. It won't just be a celebration for all the engineers working on it, but also for the companies contributing their expertise. It will be a factory of  $10 \times 10 \times 10$  kilometres, can you imagine? And all of it underground. Yes, the investment runs into a few billion, but that is relatively inexpensive when you consider that it will serve us for fifty years, using the most advanced technologies. However, we are not there yet, we have to keep beating the drum."

## In search of the Big Bang

The Einstein Telescope will be a measuring instrument unlike anything the world has ever seen. Until now, we have explored the universe using large telescopes that rely on visible light. The Einstein Telescope, however, will be a third-generation gravitational-wave detector, capable of making a thousand times more detections than the existing facilities in the United States, Italy and Japan. Three tunnels, each 10 kilometres long, will be connected in a triangular shape at a depth of 250 to 300 metres. This configuration will allow gravitational waves to be detected in a way never before achieved. The famous physicist Albert Einstein discovered back in 1916 that our universe vibrates every day, caused by black holes or neutron stars orbiting or colliding somewhere in the cosmos. He predicted that distances stretch and contract to an almost immeasurable degree when a gravitational wave of that type passes by. Nearly a century later, in 2015, the American detector LIGO succeeded in measuring this phenomenon for the first time.

The Einstein Telescope will be able to detect these gravitational waves a thousand times more sensitively, using ultra-precise lasers and vibration-isolated mirrors that continuously monitor the length of the three detector arms. If that length changes in a specific pattern, it marks the passage of a gravitational wave. With the Einstein Telescope, researchers will explore, among other things, the birth of black holes, the structure of neutron stars, and the nature of the universe in the moments immediately after the Big Bang. Einstein's theory of relativity will be tested more rigorously than ever before. And with that, new insights into the universe will emerge, which will be of immense importance to international physics and astronomy. Above ground, the Einstein Telescope will be barely visible. The tunnels must be placed deep underground so that vibrations caused by human activity cannot interfere with the measurements. The Euregio border region is exceptionally well suited for this technology thanks to its soft upper soil layers.

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