

NIJMEGEN CITY GUIDE - THINGS TO SEE AND DO



See inside for details about getting around, sightseeing, shopping, nightlife and more

Welcome to Nijmegen

Nijmegen, also historically known as Nimeguen is a city in the south east of the Netherlands in the Gelderland province. Located on the Waal river, this municipality is close to the border of Germany and the towns of Kleve, Goch and Emmerich.

Considered to be the oldest city in the Netherlands, Nijmegen celebrated 2000 years of existence in 2005 and has seen some form of civilisation since the Roman period. First mentioned in the 1st century BC, it was originally a military camp for the Romans and then developed into a city with many different influences from the Frankish Kingdom, to the Holy Roman Emperor's.

Steeped in ancient history, full of wonderful museums, marvellous architecture and beautiful natural land, Nijmegen is a true gem in on the borders of the Netherlands.

Shopping

Visit Nijmegen and experience the pleasant atmosphere and beautiful old shopping streets of this city's centre. You will find great stores to suit all tastes and budgets.



Luxury fashion shops, artistic boutiques and large department stores – Nijmegen has something to offer for every style and every budget.

Discover the historic city of Nijmegen and enjoy the perfect shopping opportunities it offers.

With its many welcoming, historic streets, Nijmegen is one of the better shopping cities in Holland. It also boasts the oldest shopping street in Holland - Lange Hezelstraat

Every budget

The best known shopping streets featuring the large chain stores and big brands are **Molenstraat**, **Marikenstraat** and **Burchtstraat**. Recommended are **Lange Hezelstraat** and **Stikke Hezelstraat** for smaller boutiques and great galleries. If you are looking for great design, go to **Houstraat** or **Van Welderenstraat**.

Lange Hezelstraat is the oldest dedicated shopping streets in the Netherlands and one of the central shopping areas in Nijmegen. Spanning from the northern edge of the Kronenburgerpark, to the small square at the intersection between Ganzenheuvel and Houtstraat, the street is lined with many different shops and restaurants.

You can find anything from vintage clothes stores, to record stores and liquor parlours, and the old architecture of the buildings also adds an extra depth to the character of the street.

For an enjoyable bit of retail therapy in a charming setting, Lange Hezelstraat is a true gem.

Things to do in Nijmegen



Africa Museum - Postweg 6, Berg en Dal

Discover multifaceted Africa, from its art and its culture to its history and architecture. In the open-air section of the Africa Museum, you'd almost think you were in Africa itself!

- Discover splendid ancient and modern African art.
- Feast your eyes on the various styles of African architecture in the open-air museum.
- Visit one of the temporary exhibitions or shows

The Africa Museum is a wonderful museum for an exotic experience. It is an extraordinary location to enjoy a unique collection of traditional and modern African art. You will discover the many traditions and customs of several African peoples.



The open-air museum shows you how the various African peoples in different countries live. Stroll through a Dogon village in Mali or a farmyard in Ghana. See the mongulu of the Baka pygmies in the Cameroon and the raised huts from Benin. There are also frequent music, dance and theatre performances at the open-air museum.

In addition to its many permanent exhibits the Africa museum also organises wonderful temporary exhibitions, of the work of African artists for instance. Furthermore it offers workshops and lectures that will interest anyone who wants to learn more about African culture.

River Waal boat cruise

What better way to explore the beautiful river Waal than by taking a leisurely boat tour on its waters?

Boat tours generally depart from the small docks near Valkhof castle and there are numerous operators who have a variety of different boats and tours.

Sail past the stunning countryside of Nijmegen and eastern Netherlands and under the immense bridges that span this mighty river.

Most of the tours will typically last for a minimum of 75 minutes and there are special tours available where you can enjoy a meal on the water or even delicious Dutch pancakes.





Grote Markt

Continuing the tradition of European market squares, it sits in the centre of the town not far from the river Waal.

As a central point in the city the Grote Markt offers the perfect location to explore Nijmegen from and also enjoy the local atmosphere.

On this square you will find the impressive Stevenskerk, together with a host of local shops, restaurants and cafes.

The architecture creates a historical atmosphere, and the cafes and outdoor seating provide a place to relax and watch the world go by.

MuZIEum - Ziekerstraat 6B, 6511 LH Nijmegen

A truly fine museum that offers something completely different, MuZIEum is a fun-filled and interesting sight in the heart of Nijmegen.



Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be blind and what challenges a blind person has to face on a daily basis? MuZIEum offers precisely that – The chance to gain a new understanding and perspective on life and see what a life without sight is like. You will be blindfolded and undertake a series of challenges and activities without sight – How does this feel? How do your other senses compensate?

For a true life-changing and humbling experience, the MuZIEum is a wonderful attraction in the centre of Nijmegen.

National Liberation Museum - Wylerbaan 4, 6561 KR Groesbeek

Located on the actual spot where paratroopers from the 82nd US Airborne division landed during World War II in operation Market Garden, this museum is dedicated to this period of the war and the operations that took place.



On the outskirts of the quiet town of Groesbeek you will find this interesting museum. Inside you will find many exhibits on the exploits of the British, American, Canadian and Polish troops and come to understand what life was like in occupied Holland.

With something for everyone, the educational value here is evident for both the old and young.



Velorama National Bicycle Museum - Waalkade 107

This unusual museum offers something different in terms of historical value – A detailed look at the history of the bicycle.

Situated close to the river and the Waalkade promenade, it is right next to the beautiful Valkhofpark.

If you are looking for a fun-filled and quirky museum, this is the place to be – Inside is a fabulous display of bicycles ranging from trikes from the 1800's, to the bizarre penny farthing and even folding bikes used in WW2 during operation market garden.

Eating out

In Nijmegen's historic city centre, you are certain to find a restaurant to suit your tastes. A restaurant where the kitchen staff pour their passion into every dish and the waiters and waitresses are cordial and welcoming. The available cuisines range from world cooking to local dishes and everything in-between.

We have shown three of the best below.



1. De Firma - Lage Markt 47

This beautifully located restaurant will surprise you with home-made dishes featuring seasonal and organic ingredients.

De Firma serves small dishes inspired by the best 'street food' from all around the world. Perfect for sharing a dinner together!



2. De Nijmeegse Boot - Waalkade 100

The Boat of Nijmegen: as this restaurant's name suggests, this is your opportunity to dine aboard a ship, with a view of the river Waal.

The restaurant refers to itself as a café with a kitchen, but the courses it serves are of first-rate quality.



3. Frank's Food & Grill - Hertogstraat 21

The ideal restaurant for meat lovers! Frank's Food & Grill serves the greatest steaks in Nijmegen.

The atmosphere is pleasant and relaxed: no pretentiousness, it's all about the flavour!

Fast Food Options! Like every place across the globe Nijmegen has many, many fast food joints, here's some of the best.

Cafeteria Vuurens: Smetiusstraat 16. A great and authentic place to have a 'frietje'. They are well known around town for cutting their own friet from potatoes, as opposed to the factory cut potatoes most places use. Give 'em a try.

Hanek Cafeteria- Kebab Shop. Arend Noorduijnstraat 34. They serve very good Kapsalon XL take away! the price is not high and the food delicious!

Groenen Cafeteria-Pizzeria: Platenmakersstraat 1. On Monday, all pizzas are only 5 euros, the pizzas are very tasty. Vegetarian pizza is a must!

Nightlife

Nijmegen has a lively nightlife. Countless cosy pubs, hip bars and pubs – there is something to do for everyone until the early hours of the morning. And if you like to take a gamble, Nijmegen naturally also has an excellent casino.

- Nijmegen has it all! Terraces, cafés and trendy clubs.
- Would you like to enjoy a beer or do you prefer to dance the night away?
- Place your bets at the Holland Casino.

Downtown Nijmegen and the neighbourhoods just next to it is swarming with pubs and cafés. Some notable ones:



Samson, Houtstraat 4.

In the 1950s, the building on the Houtstraat became the location where the current café receives its guests.

Café Samson has developed over the years into a cafe 'classique'. No matter what time you visit, you will be served at the table by waiters who are still waiters in a cafe as a café should be.

As well as a great choice of different beers, the menu and the wines have also been given their own place.

The café continues in a tradition of timeless craftsmanship, resulting in a listing in the top 100 café in the Netherlands!



In De Blaauwe Hand, Grote Markt.

The oldest pub in Nijmegen. Very, very picturesque. It is located in one of the oldest buildings in the city.

Originally this building formed with the houses next to one building, namely the Cloth Hall. This Cloth Hall or Gewandthuis was built around 1320.

The space in which Café In de Blaauwe Hand is now established came into being in 1542 and since then served as a liquor room that was probably frequented by the clothers. It was therefore popularly known as "blue hand".

In 2000, the city's oldest café was very thoroughly and beautifully restored so that it can also join in the sixth century of its existence and hopefully for a long time thereafter.

In the café you can enjoy a great historic ambiance, good service and a variety of high-quality drinks and food.

Furthermore, they have a beautiful shaded terrace where, provided the temperature allows it, it is a nice place with a view of beautiful historic houses and the Sint-Stevenskerk.



Café Camelot Grote Markt 37

At Camelot they love specialty beer. As a member of the Hertog Jan Vriendenkring they serve very tasty lager, but in addition, they have eight different specialty beers on tap, four of which change regularly.

Also, there is a fixed assortment of over 30 bottle beers in their fridges, which they supplement with a dozen of changing specialty beers. So there is always something new to taste!

Plus - Every Tuesday night at 21:00, you can enjoy acoustic performances at Café Camelot in an intimate living room setting. Every week there are new singer-songwriters and bands to enjoy, Entrance to Camelot Live is free.



If you are looking for more lively entertainment and perhaps some dancing, Nijmegen has a rich variety of clubs. These are found primarily on Molenstraat.

NDRGRND Molenstraat 99a. One of few venues in Nijmegen if you're into alternative music, be it indie, hip hop or alternative dance. Rarely crowded before 2 am, yet fills up quickly after that. Hang your coat for one euro!

Malle Babbe Molenstraat 79. This café is the permanent place of entertainment for many young Nijmegen residents, both students and young workers. On Sunday you can have a nice drink and enjoy good music in café Malle Babbe.

On Monday the famous Bar contest is at the door. On Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, the DJ at Malle Babbe opens the buttons fully and the pub is transformed into a first-class party event!



Doornroosje Stationsplein 11

In the summer of 1968, young hippies regularly gathered in a furpainted farmhouse at the Sint Jacobslaan in Nijmegen. The municipality of Nijmegen recognised the need for its own space and decided in 1969 that they could use the empty St. Antonius School on the Verlengde Groenestraat.

Until the renovation of the school building was completed, the young people went to a former police station. In August 1970 the doors of the Kreatief Activiteiten Centrum opened and Doornroosje continued for more than 40 years at this location. It became known as one of the first places in the Netherlands where hash and weed were openly available.

Doornroosje gradually provided room for new movements, such as the punk movement in the first half of the 80s. Many bands performed here often before they broke through (inter) nationally. Including Pink Floyd, Pixies, Joy Division, Nick Cave, Sonic Youth, Green Day, Beck, The Fall, Radiohead, Editors, Mumford & Sons and more.

From the end of the 80s, dance was increasingly being programmed. Among others, Daft Punk, Speedy J, DJ Tiësto, Jeff Mills, Dave Clarke, Laurent Garnier and Acid Junkies played there.

The club evening Planet Rose took place for the first time in 1995, making it the longest running club evening in the Netherlands.



Getting There

You have a choice of ways to get there, you can either fly into Weeze which is 11 miles away, Dusseldorf (38 miles) Eindhoven (44 miles) or Schipol (104 miles) and then have a local coach take you to/from your accommodation and to/from your matches during your stay OR a coach will pick up your group at your home base and stay with you for the duration of your tour. Ferry travel from Dover-Calais is included if you choose to travel by coach. We can take you by another ferry route if you wish, ask us for a costing.

Here is a list of the airlines that fly to the various airports:

Dusseldorf/Weeze Airport Only **Ryan air** fly there from Edinburgh.

Dusseldorf International. The following airlines fly there from the UK and Ireland...

Aer Lingus fly there from Dublin. **BA** from London City and London-Heathrow. **easyJet** from London-Gatwick.

EuroWings from Birmingham, Dublin, Edinburgh, Jersey, London-Heathrow, Manchester, Newcastle upon Tyne and Newquay.

Eindhoven **Ryan Air** fly there from Dublin, Edinburgh, London–Stansted and Manchester.

Amsterdam-Schipol **Aer Lingus** fly there from Cork and Dublin. **BA** from London-City, London-Gatwick and London-Heathrow. **EasyJet** from Belfast, Birmingham, Bristol, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Liverpool, London-Gatwick, London-Luton, London-Stansted and Manchester. **Jet2** from Birmingham and Leeds/Bradford. **KLM and KLM City** from Aberdeen, Belfast-City, Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, Cork, Dublin, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Humberside, Inverness, Leeds/Bradford, London-City, London-Heathrow, Manchester, Newcastle Upon Tyne, Norwich and Teeside. **Ryanair** from Dublin.

Know before you go

The voltage on outlets in Holland is 230 volts. Hotels may also have a 110-volt or 120-volt outlet for shavers. Travellers are advised to bring along a power converter and an adapter for round two-prong plugs with side grounding contacts.

The currency in Holland is the euro.

In case of an emergency, you can call 112 (Fire, Rescue, Medical) or 110 (Police). In case you're unsure of how to proceed and it is not a life-threatening emergency, you can call the 116 117 to get advice on what to do next or where to go.

British Consulate General - If you need urgent help (for example, you've been attacked, arrested or someone has died), call the British Consulate General Amsterdam on +31 (0)70 4270 427.

Irish Embassy in Den Haag - In the event of a genuine emergency, you can contact the Embassy at weekends by telephoning +31(0)70 363 0993 and leave a message on the Duty Officer voice mailbox*. This mailbox is monitored regularly, and the Duty Officer at the Embassy will contact you as soon as possible.

* Remember to clearly state: your name, date of birth, details of how the Duty Officer can contact you (e.g. a phone number for you, a friend, or the hotel/hostel where you are staying), and the nature of the problem.

How can I make a phone call from Holland?

There are not many public phones left. You'll find some at key locations in the centre of the city but not many! They accept credit cards and/or phone cards. The latter can be bought at call stores, supermarkets and tobacconists.

You can use the Dutch network with your own mobile telephone. The costs for mobile telephone calls depend on your own service provider. You can also buy a prepaid phone card. These cards are available at various prices at supermarkets, post offices, gas stations, tobacconists and phone shops.

Other than cash how else can I pay?

ATMs widely available. Credit cards accepted in most hotels but not all restaurants. Non-European credit cards are sometimes rejected.

Is tipping mandatory?

The Dutch do tip, but modestly. Hotel porters €1 to €2 Restaurants round up, or 5% to 10% Taxis 5% to 10%

How can you go online and check your e-mails?

Please note there are over 700 public places with Internet access so there will be sure to be somewhere close to wherever you are in Nijmegen!



How can I send a letter or a postcard?

Put your own name and address in the back of the letter ... Then it can always return if there is a problem.

Put the address of the receiver in the front, always with the Post Code. Light letters within The Netherlands need one Dutch postal stamp, heavy ones and international ones need more.

Normal post you put in orange postal boxes in the street. But on which side? If the postal code is regional and fits within the numbers on the left side: put it right. If the postal code is further away (not in the region), you put it in the left side 'other postcodes'

Public holidays in 2022

1st Jan Sat New Year's Day

15th Apr Fri Good Friday

17th Apr Sun Easter Sunday

18th Apr Mon Easter Monday

26th May Thur Ascension Day

5th Jun Sun Whit Sunday

6th Jun Mon Whit Monday

25th Dec Sun Christmas Day

26th Dec Mon 2nd Day of Christmas

