

## **Weekend Trip to Maastricht Friday October 14th to Sunday October 16th 2022**

### **Itinerary**

#### **Important information.**

- This is one of a series of documents relating to the RPS/Viewfinders weekend trip to Maastricht planned for October 2022. These documents are as follows:
  - o Notes.
    - General notes concerning the trip.
  - o Accommodation information.
    - Details of a (small) number of hotels in the city centre of Maastricht. There is no personal link to any of these hotels. Participants are free to choose any accommodation they wish.
  - o Itinerary (this document).
    - The proposed itinerary for the weekend. Times shown in this document are approximate and are likely to change.
  - o Extra information.
    - Extra information about the city and some of the sights and places of interest we may see or visit on our trip.
  - o Participants.
    - Names and contact details of participants, as well as any special notes or requests.
  
- All times shown for the planned walk are approximate, and are very likely to change as the day progresses.
  
- None of the proposed activities are obligatory, participants are free to make their own plans as and whenever they wish.
  
- In this document, extra information for certain points of interest along the route can be found in the Extra Information document. This is signalled by the reference "EI#xx" where the xx is replaced by a number. For example, EI#24. These references are highlighted in **red**.

## Itinerary

### Friday October 14<sup>th</sup> (afternoon – evening)

Sunrise:	07:58	Sunset:	18:47
Twilight end:	19:20		
Moonrise:	13:23	Moonset:	20:49

- Any participants who wish to arrive on Friday October 14<sup>th</sup> are more than welcome.
- After checking in to the hotel, we can meet up in the late afternoon, say 16:00, for a drink.
- As most of the hotels on the list are located around the city's main train station, I propose that we meet in front of the station on Friday evening, and Saturday and Sunday mornings.
- We could then already begin with a blue-hour shoot, from 18:15 to 19:30, in a yet-to-be-decided location, one that we will not cover at the same time on the Saturday evening. Possibilities are:
  - o the recently redeveloped, post-industrial area called the "Sphinxkwartier". Here, we can stay in the area for dinner (the arthouse cinema [Lumière](#) has a great restaurant) or head back into town (500m) where there are plenty of possibilities to suit all tastes and budgets (see Map 2).
  - o the eastern side of town (the side of the train station), primarily around the Plein 1992 and the Hoge Brug but we can later cross the bridge and head into the city park and the city's mediaeval wall (although parts of this are currently still being restored after having collapsed in 2018). There are plenty of cafés and restaurants located in town for a drink and/or dinner (see Map 3).
- Participants who may arrive later on Friday evening are always more than welcome to join. I will keep my phone switched on so people can call me if they wish. My phone number is shown at the foot of each page of this document.

## Saturday October 15<sup>th</sup>

Sunrise:	08:00	Sunset:	18:45
Twilight end:	19:18		
Moonrise:	14:27	Moonset:	21:30

- 10:00 Meet and greet outside the main train station. Those who arrive early may want to use their time to photograph the station and a few of the buildings located in this area. Of course, stations are a great location for street photography too (EI#01).
- 10:15 Once everyone is assembled, we will head off down the main street, the Stationsstraat, towards the river and the town centre. On our way we will pass the Maria Statue (EI#02) in the centre of the crossroads, and after approximately 25m, on our left, is the building of the former cinema, Cinema Palace (EI#03). We continue straight ahead down this street, the Stationsstraat, notice along the way the wide variety of, and very ornate, building styles in the houses that we pass.
- On the wall of number 22, on our right-hand side, we find the plaque commemorating the American soldier William Greentree (EI#04). On the same side but a bit further along, on the corner we see the Maussen department store building (EI#05).
- After about 150m, we arrive at the junction of the Rechtstraat. To our right is the Saint Martinus church (EI#06) and although our route turns here to the left, if anyone feels like walking towards the church it's no problem.
- We turn left and walk into the Rechtstraat (EI#07), at the end of which we arrive at the Hoogbrugstraat (EI#08). We can take a few minutes here just to look around, most notably at the Saint Gillis Hospitaal (EI#09). We continue our walk in the direction of Plein 1992 (EI#10).
- 10:45 We can spend a while here on Plein 1992, there are plenty of interesting things to see, and because of the shops and cultural activities there are always plenty of people. Check out the Bordenhal (EI#11), the library Centre Céramique (EI#12), the Siza Towers (EI#13) and La Fortezza (EI#14). A short distance away ( $\pm 10$  min. walk) but not on our route are the Stars structure and the Bonnefanten Museum. If you feel like a coffee there are a couple of nice cafés here.
- 11:15 We now cross the Hoge Brug (EI#15), remembering to walk on the right-hand side and not on the (red) bike lane! At the end of the bridge, on our left, we see the point where the river Jeker (EI#16) joins the Maas. We arrive at the Stadspark (EI#17) and directly opposite us is a remnant of the city's mediaeval wall (EI#18).
- We can take a short while here to explore, not forgetting to walk past the Pesthuis (EI#19), the Helpoort (EI#20), the D'n Hiemel (EI#21), the Vijf Koppen (although access to the top of the wall here is currently blocked due to restoration work) (EI#22) and the Pater Vinck Tower (EI#23). Walking through the Helpoort, on the right-hand side there is a set of steps that lead you up onto the wall itself.
- 11:45 We re-assemble in front of the Helpoort and now leave the park and follow the road (Vijfkoppen) with the Pesthuis on our right. We cross over the Jeker. At the T-junction we head straight on down the pedestrian path, through another area of the park. The Jeker river is on our right-hand side and there is a lock. After about 100m there is a small footbridge across the river and we cross here.

On our left we find the Leeuwenmolen (EI#24).

12:00

We walk past the watermill and under the building, exiting on to the road we now turn left along the Sint Pietersstraat. The road bends off to the left but we will walk straight ahead along the Nieuwenhofstraat. A remnant of the city wall is on our left and after about 150m there is a set of steps that will take us up onto the wall.

We walk along the top of the wall for about 75m then take the steps down in to the Heksenstraat. We follow the road and arrive at the Music School (Conservatorium). This building is, in my opinion, a big pile of ugly but has one saving grace: it usually has the most beautiful sounds coming from within. We turn left here, keeping the Music School on our right and head into the Bonnefantenstraat. The river is on our right and we can see the gardens of the Natural History Museum.

At the end of the street, it joins the Looiersgracht on the right. It was at this point that Charles de Batz de Castelmoré was shot and killed (EI#25). There is a small plaque commemorating him on the wall. Also here is a small square called the Ezelmarkt (Donkey Market) with a statue of a donkey (EI#26).

Walking to the end of the road we turn right and follow the (busy) road up around to the left. This is the Bouillonstraat. After about 100m we turn left into the Sint Servaasklooster, note the small one storey building on the right (EI#27).

13:00

Continue walking along the Sint Servaasklooster until, about halfway, we reach the square by the churches. There are two separate churches here, directly next to each other. The first, with the red tower, is the Sint Jan's church (EI#28). Next to it, is the Sint Servaas basilica (EI#29). We walk between the two churches and arrive at the Vrijthof (EI#30). On this busy square we find a couple of notably interesting buildings: the Spanish Government (EI#31) and the Hoofdwacht (EI#32).

This is also the ideal moment to pause for lunch. There are plenty of cafés located here, ideal for a coffee or tea and a bite to eat. To give everyone enough time to take photos, make visits and re-charge their energy levels, I propose we take a break here.

14:30

Meet at the colourful statues. Fully re-charged we head off for our afternoon walk.

We cross the Vrijthof, passing the De Perroen (EI#33) on its north-east corner and walk down the Helmstraat (McDonalds restaurant is on our left-hand side). After about 15m we see the Dominican church - bookstore on the right (EI#34).

Continuing down the road, at the end we turn right. After a short distance we arrive on the Markt (Market) (EI#35). We will now enjoy a short pause here to enjoy Maastricht's central market place, notably the Stadhuis (City Hall) (EI#36), the Minckeleers statue (EI#37), the Mooswief statue (EI#38), and the modern shopping and office development, Mosae Forum (EI#39). If you walk down to the river, you will see the beautiful, and iconic, Sint Servaas bridge (EI#40).

15:30

This is now the end of the official programme for today.

18:30

Meet on the Markt (Market) for a "blue-hour" photo session. The ideal spot to start our evening and our photo shoot, we can start by heading towards the river before doubling back to the market and the Vrijthof.

20:00

Meet up again in front of the Stadhuis and head off for dinner.

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## Sunday October 16<sup>th</sup>

Sunrise:	08:01	Sunset:	18:43
Twilight end:	19:16		
Moonrise:	15:21	Moonset:	22:22

10:00 Meet outside the main train station.

10:15 We are heading off to the newest-old part of town, the recently re-developed Boschstraatkwartier (Boschstraat quarter) and the inner harbour, De Bassin. Depending on how we all feel, we can either walk ( $\pm 20$  minutes) or take the bus. If we're taking the bus then we head to the bus station at the train station – with our backs facing the main entrance the bus station is to our right. All busses leaving from platform B go in our direction, and it's only one stop. We alight at the Mosae Forum bus stop.

If we're walking, then we walk past the bus station then at the crossroads turn left into the Sint Martinuslaan. After 150m we reach another crossroads where we turn right, this takes us over the bridge crossing the Maas. Once we've crossed the river, we follow the road around to the right. This is where the bus stop is located.

After passing the bus stop, we walk along the road that runs parallel to the river, in the direction of the industrial buildings.

10:45 This is the Boschstraatkwartier (EI#41) and De Bassin (EI#42) area. It used to be the heart of Maastricht's ceramics industry. The last factory closed here in the 1960s and for many years the surrounding area lay abandoned and forgotten. It has recently been renovated to a modern area with cinemas, offices, shops and accommodation, while preserving the industrial heritage. There are still one or two areas to be re-developed as we shall see, and there is still one very active factory located here: the SAPPI factory and it makes paper.

Our exploration of the area starts at the Landbouw Belang building (EI#43). Here we can find an eclectic mix of old industry and modern-day graffiti, and everything in between.

Once we leave this area, we head back to the road (there is a gate at the back of the building that is sometimes open, sometimes closed – if it's open we can go through the gate). On the road, we head off down to the harbour and follow the path around and under the bridge. We now arrive at Lumière, the city's arthouse cinema (EI#44). There is a possibility to have a short break here or simply wander around.

11:15 We're now going to leave the harbour area, head back up to the road and to the large white building in front of us. This is the Sphinx building (EI#45). In the passage that runs through the centre of the building, there is an interesting display of the history of the area, and what was once produced here.

11:45 Time for a coffee? We can maybe head up into the Sphinx building and take the lift to its rooftop bar, Bold, that offers a great panorama over the city.

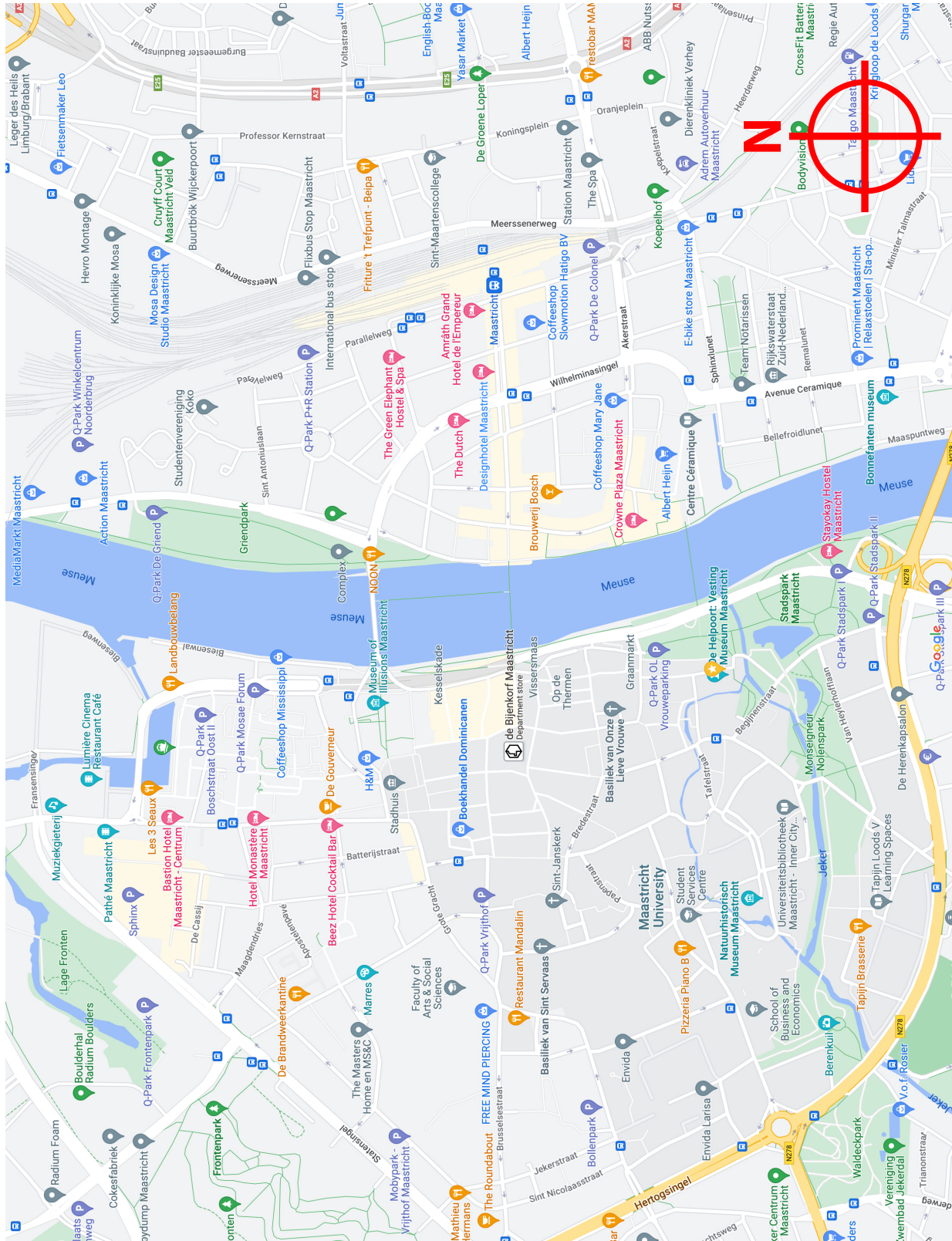
## Sunday afternoon

- 13:00      If we have the time, energy and desire, we can head off to the photo museum, [Fotomuseum aan het Vrijthof](#) for a visit. It is located on the city's main square, 't Vrijthof. The exhibition is entitled "Back Home", and shows the SOMFY Photography Award winners.
- 14:00      Our weekend draws to a close. For those still around and who wish to, we can grab one last drink at the museum café, Café Soiron.

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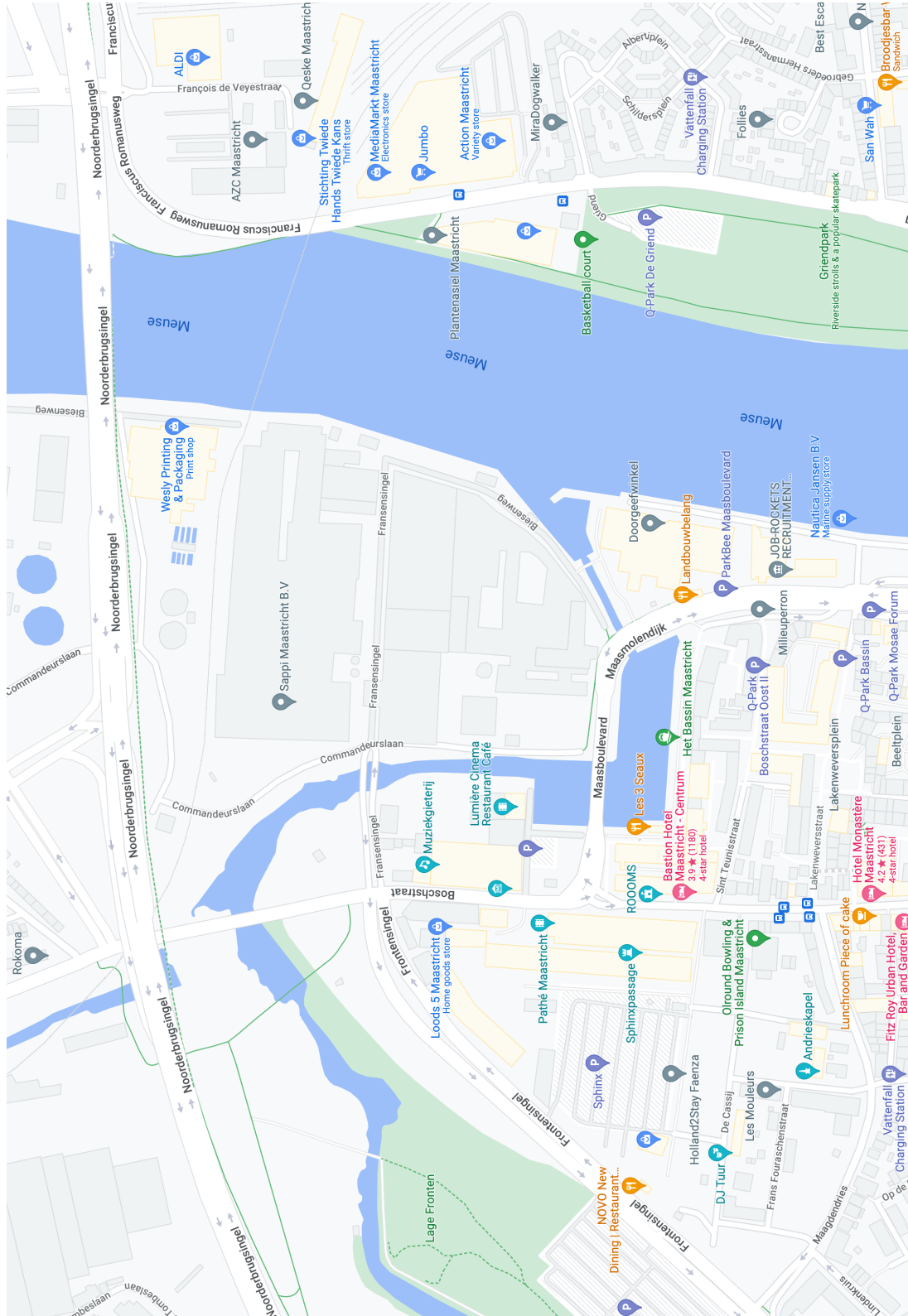
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Map 1: Maastricht





## Map 2: Sphinxkwartier.



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Map 3: Plein 1992, Hoge Brug & Stadspark.

