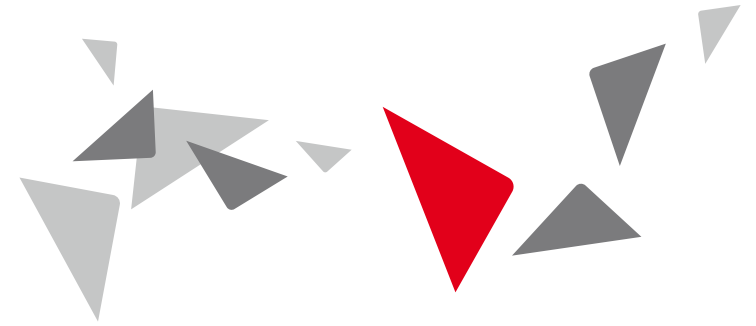




UTRECHT EXPERIENCE THE HEART OF HOLLAND!

The City of Utrecht, with its inextricable combination of rich past and dynamic present, is a truly unique place. This 2000 year old city teems with a wide range of interesting museums and cultural events with programmes full of theatre, dance, art and more. Stroll down the quaint streets and along the canals in the Utrecht Museum Quarter and sample the pleasant, intimate atmosphere for which Utrecht is famous. 65,000 students represent the character of this lively city of creative young people. Welcome to Utrecht!



ACCESSIBLE & COMPACT

Utrecht is conveniently located in the heart of the Netherlands on a crossroad of rails, roads and waterways.

- By plane: there is a direct train connection to Utrecht (30 minutes) from Amsterdam Airport Schiphol.
- By train: the Utrecht main railway station is a European train junction, where international trains from all over Europe arrive daily: www.nshighspeed.nl.
- By car: Utrecht is located 40 km southeast of Amsterdam, 125 km from Antwerp and 175 km from Brussels.

Within Utrecht you can travel on the modern and efficient public transport system or you can stroll around the city by foot as everything is located within short distances.

A RICH PAST

This city's rich history began about twenty centuries ago. In 47 A.D. the Romans built a fortress as part of reinforcements along the Rhine where the Cathedral square (Domplein) is situated today. In the 7th century, when the English missionary Willibrord set himself up in that old fort, a town began to develop. Utrecht then started to grow into an important city with considerable ecclesiastical power. On church feast days, churches, monasteries, convents and abbeys were full. Many traces of these buildings can be seen throughout the city.

FACTS & FIGURES OF THE CITY OF UTRECHT

HISTORY

- Around 47 AD, the Romans built the Traiectum castellum (fortress).
- Willibrord redesigned the old castellum as a mission and converted the Netherlands (from 695 AD).
- In the medieval hey-days, Utrecht is a religious and mercantile bastion and remains the largest and main city until the 16th century.
- Union of Utrecht, 1579; foundation for the Dutch Republic. Peace Treaty of Utrecht, 1713

FAMOUS UTRECHT PEOPLE AND ICONS

- Dom tower; highest church tower of the Netherlands
- Medieval harbour complex with canals, wharves and wharf cellars through the city (to be nominated as UNESCO World Heritage site)
- Adriaan Florenszoon Boeyens; the only Dutch pope ever (Rome, 1522).
- Gerrit Rietveld and Rietveld Schröder house (UNESCO World Heritage)
- Dick Bruna and Miffy
- Anton Geesink (Olympic judo champion, 1964);
- Marco van Basten (FIFA World player of the year 1992)
- Wesley Sneijder (Inter Milan football player, winner of Champions League 2010)



INTERNATIONAL EVENTS 2013-2018

- 375 years Utrecht University, 2011
- 300 years Peace Treaty of Utrecht, 2013
- European Youth Olympic Festival, 2013
- European Capital of Culture, 2018 (ambition)

PEACE TREATY OF UTRECHT

On 11 April 1713, the Peace Treaty of Utrecht was made, an important moment in the history of Europe. Over one year, in the Utrecht city hall, diplomats from all over Europe negotiated the peace that would end a series of destructive wars. All kinds of festivities took place in the city that contributed to the high spirits and a successful diplomatic process. In 2013, the 300th anniversary of the Peace Treaty is celebrated with exuberance! www.vredevanutrecht.nl

TREASURE TROVE OF CULTURE

On a cultural level, Utrecht has some truly great attractions. Utrecht is also proud of its unique Museum Quarter, where historic sights, museums and cultural institutions are to be found.



A SELECTION OF UTRECHT ATTRACTIONS:

DOM TOWER

The Dom tower, over 600 years old and the highest medieval tower in the Netherlands, is naturally the symbol of Utrecht. At 112 metres, it soars above the Cathedral square, and high above the city. When the 465 steps are climbed accompanied by a tour guide, the effort is rewarded by a fantastic view over the city.

CENTRAL MUSEUM

The Central Museum was created in 1838 and is thus the oldest municipal museum in the Netherlands, which becomes apparent upon entering: this is a true labyrinth! Mainly accommodated in a former medieval monastery, it consists of a number of buildings around a large courtyard. Wander through the numerous passages and stairwells and be surprised by the varied collection of old, modern and applied art as well as fashion and city history collections.

THE RIETVELD SCHRÖDERHUIS

Visit the Rietveld Schröderhuis. Constructed in 1924 by furniture maker and architect Gerrit Rietveld, this is the only building that was ever realised according to the architectonic principles of the 'De Stijl' artistic trend. Utrecht is internationally known as the city where furniture maker and architect Gerrit Rietveld (1888-1964) lived and worked all his life.

TRAJECTUM LUMEN

An exploratory expedition in the dark which takes in artistically highlighted locations in the magnificent Utrecht city centre. From the centrally located Vredenburg, a light trail in the ground leads to works of art by renowned light artists who bring to life the present and past of the city.

UTRECHT FROM THE WATER

The outdoor cafés at the wharf, intriguing consoles and the beautiful canalside houses all invite you to explore the canals. An exploratory expedition by tour boat, pedal boat, canoe or motorboat.

DICK BRUNA HUIS

There is just one Utrecht creation more famous than the Rietveld chair: Miffy, the little rabbit Dick Bruna created in 1955. The Dick Bruna Huis is a museum for the young and old and has Dick Bruna's work permanently on display.

MODERN ARCHITECTURE

The Uithof university premises sets the tone in the area of high-profile modern architecture in the Netherlands like the prize-winning Educatorium by Rem Koolhaas/OMA, the Minnaert building by Neutelings Riedijk Architecten and the University library of Utrecht by van Wiel Arets Architects & Associates.

FESTIVALS

Utrecht teems with cultural festivals all year round with a programme full of theatre, dance, music, films, workshops, etc. on large and small stages, squares and in parks.



HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

The community of Utrecht has a wide range of classified hotel accommodations that offer approximately 1,400 rooms, 55% of these accommodations are located in the city centre. Within a range of 15 kilometres sufficient good hotels are available.

CATEGORY	APPROXIMATE NO OF ROOMS	PRICE INDICATION BASED ON A STANDARD ROOM
5 star	121	€ 140 - 225
4-star	853	€ 100 - 200
3-star	211	€ 90 - 140
2 star	74	€ 60 - 120
Non classified (B&B/hostels etc)	103	€ 35 - 75
Total	1,362	

Based on Best Available Rates 2010