

visit  
**32**  
MONUMENTS  
in Leiden

# Living Heritage

## Heritage open days Leiden

english guide

9/10  
sept  
2023



## VISIT 32 MONUMENTS IN LEIDEN /

During the weekend of 9 -10 September 2023, 32 monumental buildings in Leiden open their doors to the public. This is a unique opportunity to visit old places rich in history, ancient homes and university buildings. Many monuments host small exhibitions, as well as performances by choirs from Leiden. This year's theme is 'Living Heritage'. From historical crafts used to restore buildings to religious heritage, from vibrant clubs and societies to academic traditions and customs: discover how Leiden's heritage is alive and kicking.

In this brochure you will find an overview of all the monuments that are open to the public, tips for your visit, and a map of the city indicating where the monuments are located.

Enjoy monumental Leiden!

# Living Heritage



Photo's: Aad Hoogendoorn and Miranda Goddijn

## OPENING HOURS /

The opening hours are Saturday from 12 noon until 5 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., unless stated otherwise in the list of monuments.

## INFORMATION /

The central information point during the Heritage Days can be found in Leiden City Hall (main entrance on Stadhuisplein 1). [www.omdleiden.nl](http://www.omdleiden.nl) offers an overview of all monuments and their locations (website is in Dutch).

## VISITING HISTORICAL BUILDINGS /

Not all buildings that are open to the public were designed for large numbers of visitors. You may have to wait to visit certain buildings. The organisation requests your understanding and cooperation. Visiting the monuments is at your own risk. Please follow the instructions of staff members.

## ACCESSIBILITY /

Unfortunately not all buildings are accessible to wheelchair users. Accessible buildings are indicated by this icon . When in doubt, please contact the information point at Leiden City Hall.

## PARKING IN LEIDEN /

If you come to Leiden by car, you can use one of several car parks. See [www.visitleiden.nl/en/plan-your-visit/to-leiden/accessibility](http://www.visitleiden.nl/en/plan-your-visit/to-leiden/accessibility)

## PUBLIC TRANSPORT /

Up-to-date information via [www.9292.nl](http://www.9292.nl) or telephone 0900 9292 (€ 1,- /p.m., max € 20)



Diaconaal centrum De Bakkerij. Photo: Sjoerd de Jong



**SAT** Open on Saturday from 12 noon to 5 p.m.

**SUN** Open on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Different opening hours

(±) (Partially) wheelchair accessible

Not wheelchair accessible

Limited access, please take waiting time into account

Refreshments available

Music in heritage building

Kids activities/fun for children

Additional activity

Toilets

Wheelchair Toilet












Visiting the buildings is at your own risk. Each child should be accompanied by an adult.





The numbers of the monuments correspond to the numbers on the map at the back of this brochure.

Please note that our volunteers are trained to give information in Dutch, but feel free to ask for information in English.

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|--|---|
| <p><b>01 CITY HALL (INFORMATIEPUNT)</b><br/>Stadhuisplein 1, main entrance</p> | <p><b>OPEN / SAT SUN</b> 10 am-5 pm      </p> <p>The City Hall is the heart of the city. It's decorated with reliefs depicting activities and events that are typical of Leiden. For example, the handing out of herring and white bread to celebrate the end of the siege of Leiden on 3 October 1574, a tradition that has continued to this day.</p> |
| <p><b>02 REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT BUILDING</b><br/>Breestraat 59</p>          | <p><b>OPEN / SAT SUN</b> </p> <p>Building from 1598 with impressive painted ceiling; it used to be the seat of the regional water management board. This institution was founded in the thirteenth century and is still responsible for water management.</p>   |
| <p><b>03 HOUSE under renovation</b><br/>Apothekersdijk 15</p>                  | <p><b>OPEN / SAT</b> </p> <p>This house was built in the early 17th century and is currently being restored. Its façade tilted dangerously, so it was taken apart and rebuilt brick by brick!</p>   |
| <p><b>04 WINDMILL DE PUT</b><br/>Park de Put 11</p>                            | <p><b>OPEN / SAT</b> </p> <p>This windmill is a reconstruction of a mill from Rembrandt's time. If the wind is blowing from the right direction, the miller will show you how grain is ground to flour.</p>   |
| <p><b>05 JAPAN MUSEUM SIEBOLDHUIS</b><br/>Rapenburg 19</p>                     | <p><b>OPEN / SAT SUN</b> 10 am-5 pm     </p> <p>In the 19th century, the German physician Von Siebold lived in this stately building. He is famous for immersing himself in Japanese culture and collecting Japanese plants and ethnographic objects. Nowadays, the building houses the Japan Museum.</p>   |
| <p><b>06 ARS AEMULA NATURAE</b><br/>Pieterskerkgracht 9 - 9a</p>               | <p><b>OPEN / SAT SUN</b> </p> <p>This unique monumental building houses artists' society Ars Aemula Naturae, founded in 1799 and still going strong. Join a drawing class on the spot.</p>  |
| <p><b>07 GRAVENSTEEN</b><br/>Entrance: Pieterskerkhof 6</p>                    | <p><b>OPEN / SAT SUN</b> </p> <p>First built as the Count's fortified residence, this building later served as Leiden's municipal prison. Nowadays it is used by the university as office space.</p>  |

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| <p><b>08 PIETERSKERK LEIDEN</b><br/>Entrance: Kloksteeg 16 en<br/>Pieterskerkhof 1a</p> | <p><b>OPEN / SAT SUN</b> </p> <p>The Pieterskerk Leiden is a church that contains two organs. One of these includes pipes that date back to the 15th century! This weekend you can find out more about organs and organ-building here.</p>   |
| <p><b>09 BOTANICAL GARDENS</b><br/>Ingang: Rapenburg 71</p>                             | <p><b>OPEN / SAT SUN</b> 9 am-6 pm      </p> <p>The oldest botanical garden in the Netherlands is a green oasis in the middle of Leiden. Here, you'll find out more about the crafts of beekeeping and botanical drawing.</p>  |
| <p><b>10 ACADEMY BUILDING</b><br/>Rapenburg 73</p>                                      | <p><b>OPEN / SAT SUN</b> </p> <p>The oldest and most beautiful building of Leiden University. It's home to many traditions of the university, such as PhD ceremonies and the 'Zweetkamertje', where Leiden University graduates write their signatures on the walls.</p>   |
| <p><b>11 Former COACH HOUSE under renovation</b><br/>Nonnensteeg 14</p>                 | <p><b>OPEN / SAT SUN</b> </p> <p>A coach house was a building where horse-drawn coaches or carriages were kept. This coach house belonged to a house located on the posh Rapenburg canal.</p>  |
| <p><b>12 OLD OBSERVATORY</b><br/>Only accessible via 5e Binnenvestgracht</p>            | <p><b>OPEN / SAT SUN</b> </p> <p>This astronomical observatory was built in 1861. From the start, international contacts were of crucial importance for the observatory. Its most famous international visitor was Albert Einstein.</p>  |
| <p><b>13 Former POLICE STATION</b><br/>Zonneveldstraat 10</p>                           | <p><b>OPEN / SAT SUN</b> </p> <p>When this police station was opened in 1927, its modern architectural style attracted lots of criticism. In front of the building, there is a monument in the form of two stone suitcases. It commemorates Jews from Leiden who were deported in 1943.</p>  |
| <p><b>14 CORNER HOUSE before renovation</b><br/>Hogewoerd 132</p>                       | <p><b>OPEN / SAT SUN</b> </p> <p>This 17th-century house contains a unique feature: a so-called 'pothuis', an extension of the kitchen, situated partly above and partly below street level. Such extensions used to be common in Leiden, but nowadays only four of them remain!</p>   |
| <p><b>15 Former JEWISH ORPHANAGE</b><br/>Roodenburgerstraat 1a</p>                      | <p><b>OPEN / SAT SUN</b> </p> <p>From 1929 to 1943, this building housed Jewish children. In 1943, all children and staff were deported to the Nazi death camps. Only two survived. In commemoration, an artwork (the stone suitcases), a plaque, and little brass plates in the pavement (Stolpersteine) have been installed.</p> |
| <p><b>16 HISTORIC CEMETERY GROENESTEEG</b><br/>Groenesteeg 126</p>                      | <p><b>OPEN / SUN</b> </p> <p>This cemetery was opened in 1813 and contains the graves of many prominent citizens of Leiden. Nowadays, volunteers keep the memory of the people buried here alive, online and through lectures and guided walks.</p>  |
| <p><b>17 PLAYGROUND ONS EILAND</b><br/>Kortenaerstraat 61</p>                           | <p><b>OPEN / SAT SUN</b> </p> <p>This playground was founded by residents of the Zeeheldenbuurt neighbourhood in the 1940s. It was expanded several times and is still used enthusiastically to this day.</p>  |

- 18 SHIPYARD STALLINGA** **OPEN / SAT SUN**   
Admiraal Banckertweg 19  
Built in 1922, this shipyard still builds new ships and maintains and restores historic ships.
- 19 HERENGRACHTKERK** **OPEN / SAT SUN**   
Herengracht 70  
This church was built in 1878 in the eclectic style that was popular at the time: it has elements of the Gothic style but also Classicism. To this day, it is used by a vibrant congregation.
- 20 HOOGLANDSE KERK** **OPEN / SAT SUN**   
Nieuwstraat 26c  
Originally built in the 14th century, this church is nowadays used by an active congregation and also hosts many events by the city by various organisations, clubs and societies.
- 21 HEILIGE GEEST- OF ARME WEES- EN KINDERHUIS** **OPEN / SAT**   
Hooglandse Kerkgracht 17  
This huge monumental building used to be an orphanage from 1583 to 1961. At present, it is used by several organisations dedicated to children and children's rights.
- 22 DIACONAAL CENTRUM DE BAKKERIJ** **OPEN / SAT**   
Oude Rijn 44  
This building has been a centre for charitable activities led by churches for six centuries. It contains ovens where bread was baked for Leiden's poor. Today, it provides space for organisations supporting the homeless, refugees and many other causes.
- 23 MONUMENT before renovation** **OPEN / SAT**   
Haarlemmerstraat 165  
Since it was first built in the 15th century, this building was used as a place for evaluating the quality of textiles and as a soup kitchen for Leiden's poor, among other things. It is currently being renovated and the different phases of its history are clearly visible inside.
- 24 HOUSE with decorated corridor** **OPEN / SAT SUN**   
Oude Singel 118  
This 17th-century house has a lavish interior with marble floors and stucco reliefs. Its owner, Daniel van Eijs, owned four plantations in what is now Guyana, where 126 enslaved people were forced to work.
- 25 AMBACHTSPLEIN** **OPEN / SAT SUN**   
Langegracht 70 c en d  
Traditional craft market with stone carving, beer-brewing, metal-working, making stained-glass windows, and ceramics.
- 26 LEIDSE SCHOUWBURG (theatre)** **OPEN / SUN**   
Oude Vest 43  
This theatre, originally built in the 18th century, is the oldest theatre in the Netherlands that is still actually used as a theatre.
- 27 RIJKSMUSEUM BOERHAAVE** **OPEN / SAT SUN**   
Lange Sint Agnietenstraat 10  
This centuries-old building used to be a convent and was later used as a hospital. It now houses Rijksmuseum Boerhaave, which has an exhibition on Antoni van Leeuwenhoek, the inventor of the microscope.
- 28 HARTEBRUGKERK** **OPEN / SAT SUN**   
Haarlemmerstraat 110  
This Roman Catholic church from 1836, is a place for ceremonies such as baptism, the Eucharist, confession, marriage, and funerals. Everyone is welcome to attend Mass at 11.15 a.m.

- 29 KEGELHUIS** **OPEN / SAT**   
2e Binnenvestgracht 19  
This bowling alley from 1898 is in tip-top condition and still used by a gentlemen's society.
- 30 VOLKSPARK DE LEIDSE HOUT** **OPEN / SAT SUN**   
Ingang Houtlaan 100  
'People's park' De Leidse Hout was opened in 1931. Look out for the bandstand in the middle of the park, where free concerts are given.
- 31 SAWMILL DE HEESTERBOOM** **OPEN / SAT SUN**   
Haagweg 79  
19th-century sawmill that is still used to saw tree trunks into planks.
- 32 PLAYGROUND WESTERKWARTIER** **OPEN / SAT SUN** 11am-5 pm   
Ten Katestraat 10a  
This playground was founded in 1928. The playground and the adjacent community centre are buzzing with activity to this day.



Herengrachtkerk. Photo: Maarten Boersema

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS /

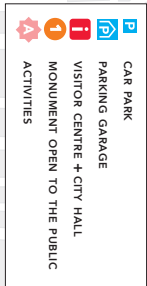
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
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