

In general

Welcome

Good morning/ afternoon

Name

Job: (guide)

Organisation:

Info about Gilde

Intro Amersfoort

I like to welcome you all in Amersfoort

We are a group of 60 volunteers.

Guided tours

Different walking tours in the historic city centre.

Is there anything you are especially interested in?

Please feel free to ask, if you have any questions.

I'm not a native speaker.

Please let me know if you don't understand something.

Is there somebody who is in charge of the group?

Please mind the traffic.

We have no pedestrian centre in the town.

Amersfoort is a provincial town, formerly fortified and boasting a number of mediaeval houses and a mediaeval gate, the Koppelpoort (where we are standing now in front of at the moment).

The town is still expanding to 160.000 inhabitants in the next 5 years (suburbs). In the historic centre live about 4000 inhabitants.

We shall walk through the historic centre. This walk will last about ... hours.

Tijdsaanduiding

About .. years ago

In the middle of the .. century

About 1700

In the middle of the .. century

Halfway through the .. century

At the beginning/end of ...

At the turn of the .. century

B.C. (before Christ)

A.D.

A.C. (after Christ)

Showing places of interest

Behind

In front of

Next to

On your right ...

On your left ...up ahead

In the distance

If you look up you will notice ...

Off the north

Look to the east

We are now coming up to ...

You may have noticed ...

Take a good look at ...

I'd like to point out ...

Keep your eyes open for ...

Engaging your audience

Please gather round.

Can everyone hear me?

Can you hear me at the back?

Has anyone heard of ...

Does anyone here know (how long, old,..)

Moving along

Please follow me.

Let's go/move on to ...

Please if you would come this way

Pay attention to the traffic.

Draw attention to the view

Answering questions

Do you have a question, sir?

Is there something I can help you with?

I'll try my best to answer your questions.

I'm afraid I don't have the answer to that.

Sorry, I don't know.

That's an interesting question.

I wish I knew the answer

That is a tough (difficult) question.

I'll have to ask someone about that.

Pardon my English; I don't quite understand your question.

I'm not sure but I can find out for you.

Amersfoort Boulder (De Kei)

Boulder-city
Symbol of the city
Glacial boulder dragged from Leusden, a village outside Amersfoort, into the town; 1661; 400 people
Useless work
A bet between 2 land-owners
Esquire Everard Meyster
400 boulder-draggers, rewarded with beer and crackers
The story embarrassed the inhabitants buried the boulder in 1672, out of shame
Found in 1903
Placed in a prominent spot as a monument

Apple market

Excavation (= opgraving)
Archaeologists dig up a foundation of a wall and a bank of a ditch.
Twisted branches (foundation)
Pattern of waves in the pavement

Bollenburg

Orphans
Spinning and weaving
Making ribbons

Brewery 'the Three Rings'

Important large-scale industry
About 350 (home-)breweries in the town
Brewer's guild
Dates from 1626
Used water from the canal and sources

Bridge of the witches

In earlier days witches were thrown into the water to check whether they would float, in which case they were condemned.
White house: café, frequented by singers from the church for a quick drink during the sermon

Canals

Singel = circular canal
It encircles the town.
't Zand: canal filled with sand
Rare plants

Sewer pipe (= riool)
a lock (= sluis)
Sculpture of an undertaker

Catholic Church St. Franciscus Xaverius

Neo-classical building

Chapel St. Agatha (St. Aagten)

Convent
Lays
Double church
Ground floor
All kinds of purpose
Drapery
Warehouse (tobacco, peat (= turf)
1950 restoration
cultural events

Chapel house of the Brotherhood or Our Lady

Façade Dutch Brick gothic
15th/16th century: Amersfoort an important pilgrimage place, due to the find of a statue of virgin Mary, which would perform many miracles.
People came to be cured from diseases
(Kranke leden = ill body parts)
Niche used to hold a depiction of Our Lady

Court (De Hof)

Market square
Square of court
Butter market
Church altered and enlarged.
Tower original next to the church, now inside
Church consecrated in 13th century
Lightening conductor
The gaper
Pills
Pharmacy
Windy alley (=Windsteeg)
A naturel well

Court of almshouses 'Armen de Poth'

Old court with alms houses and chapel
Old and poor people rent for a small amount
Chapel built in 1507

Dedicated to St. Rochus, protector
against the black plague
Bakery

Cultural Heritage Agency

Immediately beside the historic centre
of Amersfoort and next to the
Koppelpoort
New building of future shape
Ministry of Education, Culture and
Science
Centre of expertise on archeology,
monuments and historic buildings and
the cultural landscape
Designed by a Spanish architect: Juan
Navarro Baldeweg.
Eye-catching building
Slightly tilted glass facade
The tilt has the effect of reflecting the
light and reducing the visual impact of
the massive edifice.

'Elbow' church (Church of the Assumption of Virgin Mary)

Clandestine church Built in 1820
Blazing fire in 2007
Heavily damaged; art was lost
Restored entirely

Flethite museum

Founded in 1880
Located in three original wall-houses
Named after the area around
Amersfoort in 800: Flethite
Neo-renaissance facade 1907
(extension)
Exhibition of the local history of
Amersfoort from Middleages up until
about 1800.
Scale-model of the town (= maquette)
Part of the wall houses of the town.
The town has remained its mediaeval
character.

Fulling-mill

Located next to the Koppelgate:
a water-mill
Produced 'worsted fabric'.
This required much water and also
urine.

Havik

Small inland harbour

People cross the river Eem
The beginning of Amersfoort
Amer = water rich area
Foort = high point where you can cross
the river
Swamp (= moeras)
Rinsing jetty (= spoelsteiger)
Stepping gable
Solar-overhang
Establishing a settlement
Trade-route from Deventer and
Kampen to Utrecht and Amsterdam
Crossing the water
Broken wheels
Blacksmith
Carpenter
Café

House with the purple windows

Constructed by Benjamin Cohen
around 1780.
In 1787 governor Prince William and
his wife Wilhelmina van Pruisen found
temporary accommodation here.
Purple windows: discoloured;
influenced by sunlight

Kamperbinnen gate

Innergate
Out of line in relation to the wall
houses
Not much of the original gate remained
Plan to demolish it completely
Partially preserved
Middle part (span with arch) rebuilt
Restored in 1930

Koppelpoort

Roughly translated as ...
Koppel-gate, named after the area
outside of the wall.
Important monument of the town
combined and- and watergate
separate passages for cars and boats
part of the second citywall
defensive belt
battlement (= weergang)
2 treadmills
guards
Extension (= uitbouw; machicolis):
boiling oil or pitch was thrown on
attackers
Winch/windlass (= windas)

Spindle (= as)
Ropes/cables (= touwen/kabels)
Pulley (= katrol)
A still functioning gate (= nog steeds in gebruik)
Holes for scaffolding
Shield (= plaquette): Europa Nostra Award
Gate restored with respect for the old building materials and the plants in the wall
For security (to defend inhabitants against the enemy; rioters, trouble-makers)
Controls the water flow in the canals
To lower and to raise the gate
Makes it possible to sluice water out of the canals
A huge wooden door; lowered; close off the town
Door connected with thick ropes to a winch
By walking in the treadmills, an 11 meters long winch (an oak-tree from about 1300) is turned.
Iron pins hold it in place
Criminal; prisoner
Check on having knives with you
Each person who was invited for dinner had a spoon and a knife with him.
Guild
Rioters (= raddraaiers)
The blade of a knife
A saying in dutch: over de schreef gaan (= to go over the line; to exceed the bounds)
To pay a fine (= boete)
Slate; slater (= lei; leidekker)
Parapet walk (= weergang)

Demonstration

Opened and closed every day by the appointed Raddraaiers (wheel-turners)
Criminals, brought from prison in the Thieves tower to the Koppelpoort.
Walking in the wheels.
6 adults, 3 on the right, 3 on the left.

Certificate

A proof that you are a 'raddraaiër' from now.

Sign-board

A sign-board of the guild of the porters, who loaded and unloaded the ships.

Instrument for measuring knives

This hanged originally outside at the entrance of the gate. Check on having knives with you.

Each person who was invited for dinner had a spoon and a knife with him.

Blade of the knife.

To pay a fine if someone was wounded.

Holes for scaffolding

To put in beams with planks.

Machicoulis

Wooden extension: machicoulis
Intended to harass aggressors with hot oil or smouldering malt, when they approached the gate to closely.

Stadswapen

Arms of Amersfoort. Originally the arms of Saint George.

Public park

Romantic landscape-park (English style)

Several streams flow together

Town rampart

Invention of gunpowder

Walls fortified with sand

19th century: unemployed people at work to break down the walls

Mandate territory (trust territory)

Fell outside the city authorities jurisdiction and was called immunity or trust territory

Immunity: protection for criminals, no taxes, no civil duties, like guarding on the walls

Former churchyard

(Mandaatshuisje) 'Under the lime-tree'

Façade: typical example of northern Gothic

Inhabited by the canons of the St.

George's church

Statue of St, George; the patron saint of Amersfoort

Men's hall at the St. Peter's Hospice

Chapel
Men's and women's ward
Guesthouse for the elderly people
Board and lodging
Contagious diseases
Non-contagious diseases
Worship
Chamber-pot
To empty out
housemaid
Plaque victims
22 small cupboard-beds
sleeping in a alcove
wooden box for clothes
unique in Europe
broken down in 1900

Merchant's-Houses

Textile-industry
Tobacco-industry
Facade
bell-, stepped gable
shutters
shell-shaped ornament
stained glass
leaded Windows
sash-windows (=schuiframen)

Mondrian House

Located in the house where Piet Mondriaan (1872 – 1944) was born.
A former school
Now permanent exhibition about Mondriaan's work.

Monnikendam watergate

Watergate
Water from various streams enter the town
Monk's dam
Monastery
Incorporated into the attractive scenery of the public garden
Section reconstructed in the 20th century

Observant Monastery

Monastery dates from 1472.
[Convent = for women]

Old Catholic Church 'Joris op 't Zand'

St. Joris church; 1928
Remains of the legendary statue of the Virgin Mary

Our Lady Churchyard (Lievevrouwe kerkhof)

The Netherlands have been cadastral determined.
Central point for land-registry, when mapping the country
Reference-point of the Dutch cadastral service.
Coordinate system
In the pavement the contour of the former church (until 1787)

Pond opposite R.C.E building

Pond with sitting benches
Art objects
Reflects the building and the clouds
Reminds of the canal around the town-rampart

Spui

Hoist-beam
Bell-gable
Shutters
Ware-house
Gargoyles (= waterspuwers)
Tablet: The story of Elia
Brook Cherith
Ravens brought him bread and flesh in the morning and he drank from the brook. God, who protected Elia, will also protect the people who live in the house.
'God will never deserve you.'

Spui lock gate

Lock gate: about 1400. Meant for shipping and for regulating the water-level in the canals.

Stoney-weir

A weir with two slides.
To regulate the water level in the town.
Dates from 1911.
Named after the English inventor Stoney.

St. George's Church

Listed building

Originates from a chapel near the court of the magistrates of Amersfoort

The oldest part is the tower: 13th century
Iconoclastic riots (= beeldenstorm)
Baptismal font
Stained-glass windows
Leaded windows
Pulpit (= kansel)
Canons (= kanunniken)
Minster (= kapittelkerk)
Cruciform church
Trust territory (= mandaatsgebied)
Rood-loft (= oxaal)
nave (= schip v.d. kerk)
A three-naved hall

Synagogue

Built in 1726.
Still used for Jewish services
Orientation: South-east: Jerusalem
'For my house shall be a house of prayer for all people'.
Star of David

Tablet Braun and Hogenberg

Tablet model of the town with street-lay-out.
Short history:
The settlement that went on to become the town of Amersfoort grew up on an area of higher ground surrounded by lower-lying land. At some places a bit swampy.
Streams (brooks) from the south and the east converged here to become the river Amer (Amersfoort) which then flowed into the Zuidersea.
Located in the centre of the Netherlands.
Attractive combination of shipping-route and other trade routes.
Became important settlement for commercial purposes.
A magnet to merchants and craftsmen.

Amersfoort received in 1259 the privilege of a city.
Walling the city to protect it from hostilities.
Only one century later a new city wall with gates.

City centre has been well retained.
Ground plan unchanged
Appointed as a conservation area.
Patterns of streets and canals have changed a little since the Middle-ages.
City includes about 350 listed buildings and monuments

'The end of the world'

Former hospice and convent (St. Joseph)
Complete privacy
Monastic rules
Nuns watched people passing by through peepholes

Thieves tower

Dates: 13th/14th century.
Since 1554 to the 19th century: municipal prison.
Underpass in 1942
Rather surprising sight in the city.

Tinnenburg

Important wall house
Attached to Watergate
Idea how thick the wall was

Tower of Our Lady

To climb 346 stairs to reach the top
Small tower peaking up from the corner symbolises Jesus, held up by his mother Mary.
Construction started in 1446, finished about 1470.
Front door with pictures of episodes from Mary's life and refugees and pilgrims
Church; later on storage place for gun-powder
Demolished by explosion in 1787
100 bells, seven of which are tolling-bells.
Bell-ringer
Klepel = clapper
A clock chimes or strikes
The clock strikes 10
A bell rings or sounds

Town clerk's house and Thieves' tower

Named after a town clerk who lived here in 1776
Renaissance ornament
Entrance gate and windows
Servant's entrance
Servant's quarter

Town-wall

Battlement (= kantelen)
16th century: building ramparts and bastions
17th and 18th century: state of disrepair
19th century: demolished; public park

Wall houses

Wall demolished in the 15th century
Valuable bricks used in wall-houses
Built in a line following the course of the former wall
Private-homes
Foundation
Recycling the bricks
More or less built in a circle
The first defence wall
Listed monuments in bad condition;
Demolished
Restoration
Redecorated (inside)
Private homes
Johan van Oldenbarnevelt beheaded

Waterlijn rondvaart

Mooring place (= aanlegsteiger)
To moor a boat

Ware-houses

Hoist-beam (= hijsbalk)
Beer, wine, groceries, tobacco

White House

The little house in the foreground used to be a tavern.
Nickname: the 'little church',
It is said that the choir of the Elleboog church killed their time drinking beer during the sermons of the priest.

Zyklus (Der)

Norbert Radermacher; creator

Design in form of a circle.

Wall-houses: also in a circle.

Central point: De Hof

7 bronze, lozenge-shaped reliefs denote the cycle of the days of the week and the corresponding heavenly bodies.

This central point is also a place in the pavement: a 7-point star on which are written the days of the week.