

Experience Aachen

Aachen, where emperors were crowned, ideas thrive, and students shape the future in a city steeped in history and innovation.

There's so much more to discover!

The places mentioned are for your inspiration only — we're not connected to them and have no guarantee on the services they provide.



Overview

- History
 - Highlights
 - Only in Aachen
 - Activities
 - Eating & Drinking
 - Events in Aachen
- August 26th 2025



Our Aachen Guide

City Plan – Aachen

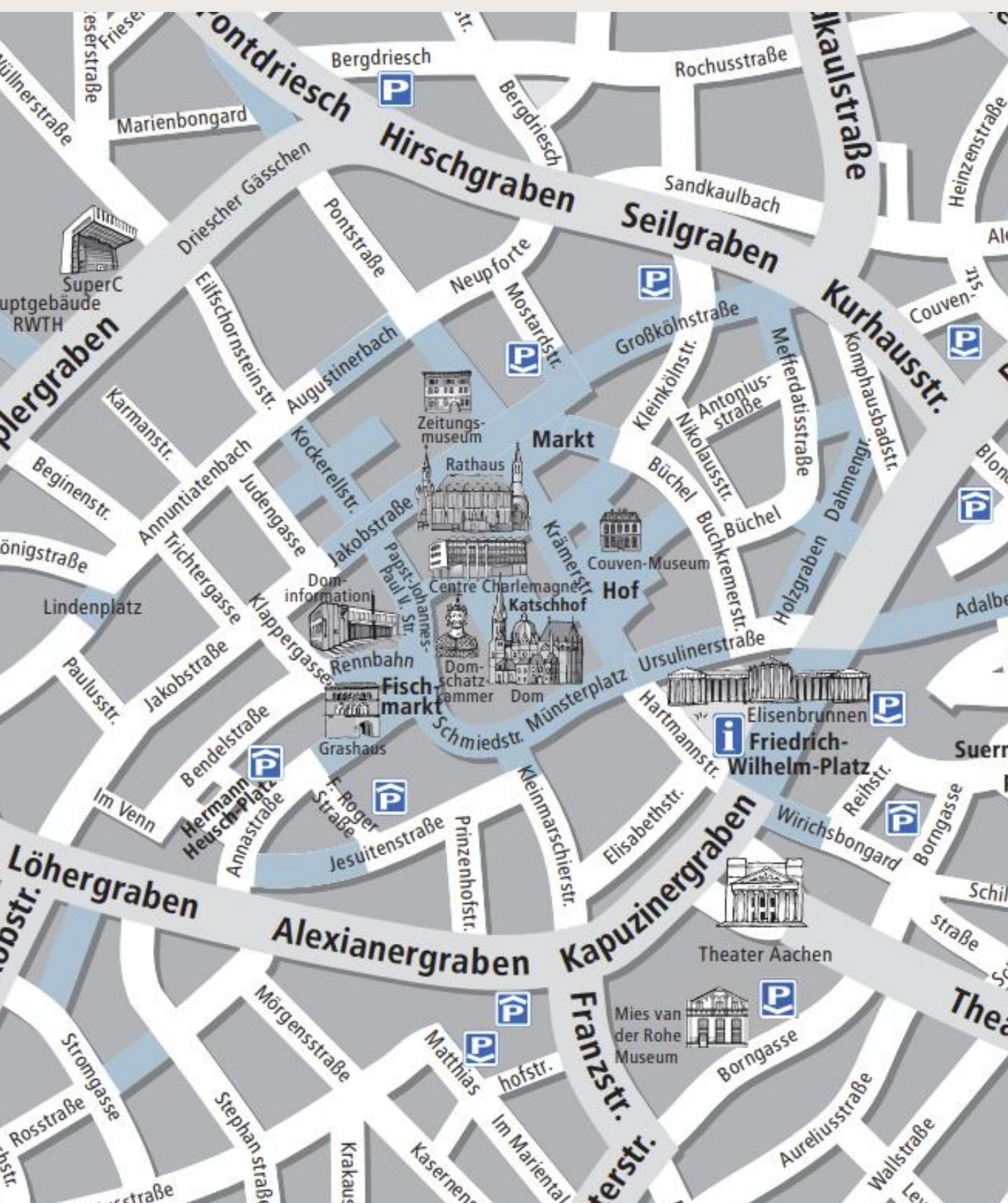


By clicking on the location icons on the map, you can directly access the addresses.

On [this page](#) you'll find a link to the Google Maps list we prepared, containing all mentioned venues, including those not shown on this map or not prominently highlighted due to space constraints.

Our Aachen Guide

City Plan



<https://www.aachen-tourismus.de/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Din-A4-Stadtplan.pdf>

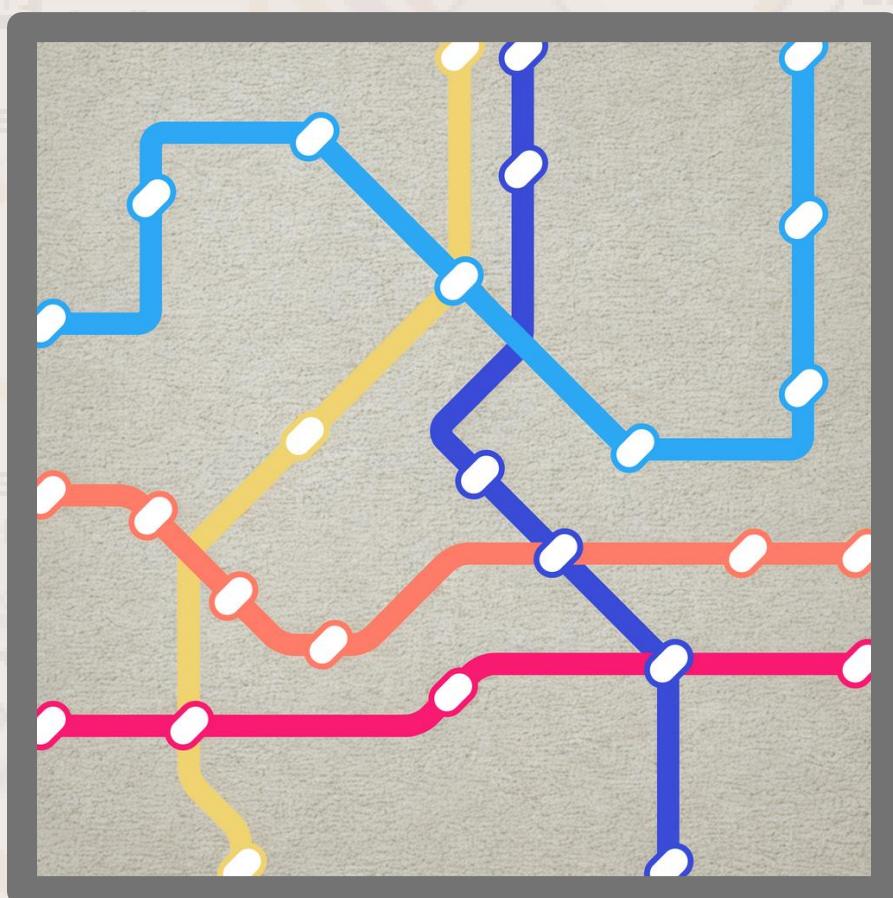
For more information, please click:

- [Aachen City Plan](#) ↗
- [Aachen Small City Tour](#) ↗

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Bus Plan

Click on the symbol for the
bus network plan of Aachen



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<https://pixabay.com/photos/monument-the-emperor-karl-aachen-509392/>

History

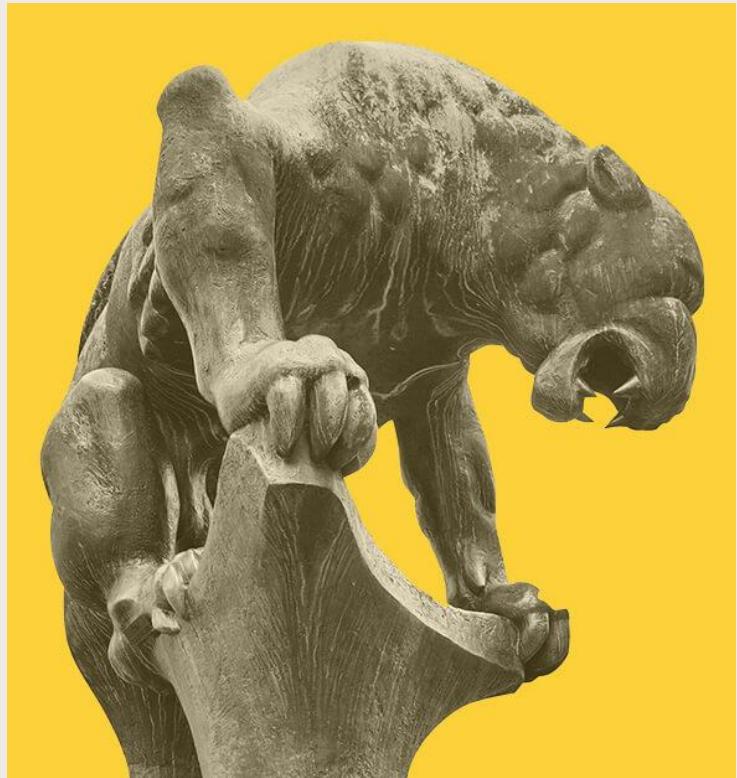
- Aachen began as a Roman spa town around 1st century AD, known for its hot springs, which the Romans used for bathing and healing.
- In the 8th century, Charlemagne chose Aachen as his main residence and political center of the Carolingian Empire. He built the famous Palatine Chapel (now Aachen Cathedral).
- From 936 to 1531, Aachen was the coronation site for 30 German kings, making it a center of medieval imperial power.
- A devastating fire swept through Aachen in 1656, destroying much of the old city, including many timber-framed houses. In the following years Aachen transformed into one of the most modern spa resorts in Europe.
- The city suffered heavy damage in World War II but was rebuilt and became the first German city captured by Allied forces in 1944.
- Today, Aachen is a vibrant city with a multicultural atmosphere and a large student population, home to around 262,700 residents (as of late 2024).

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The Legend of the Bahkauv

Aachen's Mythical Creature

- Bahkauv is a legendary creature said to have lived in the Kolbert, the sewage canal of Aachen's thermal springs.
- It looked like a shaggy calf with bear-like paws, sharp teeth, glowing eyes, and a scaly tail that dragged on the ground



<https://oecherwoerter.de/bahkauv/>

- During the day, people only heard the rattling chains from underground, but at night it attacked drunken men.
- It would jump on their backs and force them to carry it home; it was impossible to shake off.
- When the victim prayed, Bahkauv got heavier; when they cursed, it got lighter – showing its demonic nature.
- After reaching the person's home, it jumped off and disappeared.
- Bahkauv never harmed anyone and never attacked women or children.
- You can find the Bahkauv statue in Aachen city center, specifically at the Bahkauvplatz, near Büchel Street.

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<https://www.rwth-aachen.de/cms/root/wir/kontakt-anreise/~cxndn/kontakt/>

RWTH Aachen University

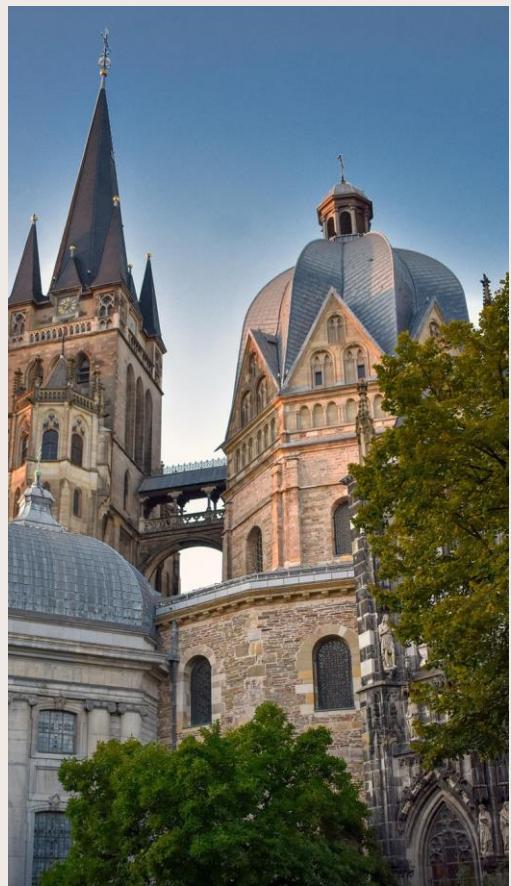
- Founded in 1870 as a response to Germany's need for technical education during the industrial age.
- It quickly grew and became a full technical university with the right to award doctorates.
- Hugo Junkers, aviation pioneer and founder of Lufthansa, taught and researched here.
- Women were first admitted in 1909
- After heavy damage in WWII, teaching restarted in 1946, and the university kept growing.
- It is a leader in innovation and start-ups, and part of Germany's Excellence Initiative since 2008.
 - Currently 44.892 students enrolled
 - with 15.270 international students from 137 countries
 - 10.306 employees
 - 9 faculties, 260 institutes

Our Aachen Guide

Highlights

The Aachen Cathedral

The Aachen Cathedral is one of Germany's most iconic landmarks and a true treasure of European history. Built by Charlemagne around 800 AD, it was the first structure in Germany to be named a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Its stunning octagonal chapel, medieval mosaics, and centuries-old relics make it a must-see for visitors. For over 600 years, it was the coronation site of German kings and remains a symbol of imperial grandeur and spiritual significance.



<https://pixabay.com/photos/aachen-cathedral-architecture-5840490/>

The Aachen Town Hall

The Aachen Town Hall stands proudly in the heart of the old city, right on the site of Charlemagne's former palace. Built in the 14th century, this Gothic masterpiece has witnessed centuries of imperial history. Inside its grand halls, German kings celebrated their coronation banquets, and today, the building still hosts prestigious events like the Charlemagne Prize ceremony. With its richly decorated façade, soaring towers, and stunning frescoes inside the Coronation Hall, the Rathaus is a must-visit for anyone exploring Aachen's vibrant past.



<https://pixabay.com/images/search/aachen/>

Our Aachen Guide

Highlights



Pressebild der Stadt Aachen

Elisenbrunnen

The Elisenbrunnen is Aachen's most famous spa fountain, where warm sulphur springs flow. Built in 1827, the elegant neoclassical structure is a popular meeting spot and symbol of the city's spa tradition. Don't miss the chance to feel the warm water and take in the relaxing atmosphere.

Hof

The Hof is the charming square nestled between Aachen Cathedral and the Town Hall. Once part of Charlemagne's palace complex, it's now a lively spot filled with cafés and music events. The Hof is the perfect place to pause and soak in Aachen's unique atmosphere.



<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=127238438>

Marktplatz

The Marktplatz is the bustling heart of Aachen's old town, right in front of the historic Town Hall. Whether you're shopping for local goods or just enjoying the view, the Marktplatz is the perfect place to experience Aachen's lively charm.



<https://www.aachen-tourismus.de/aachen-entdecken/details/poi/marktplatz/>

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Only in Aachen

CHIO Aachen



<https://www.chioaachen.de>

Karlspreis



Karlspreismedaille / © Cristian Gennari/Romano Siciliani

CHIO Aachen (Concours Hippique International Officiel) is Germany's official international equestrian tournament and one of the oldest and most prestigious in the world. It has been held in Aachen since 1924 and attracts elite riders from across the globe. With its deep tradition and royal flair, the event has become a cultural highlight for the region. The tournament celebrates both sporting excellence and festive atmosphere every summer.

The International Charlemagne Prize of Aachen was established in 1950 as a response to the devastation of World War II. It honors those who have made exceptional contributions to the unification and peaceful development of Europe. Named after Charlemagne who ruled a vast empire from Aachen and is often called the "Father of Europe" the prize reflects the city's symbolic role in European history. The award ceremony held in the Aachen Town Hall.

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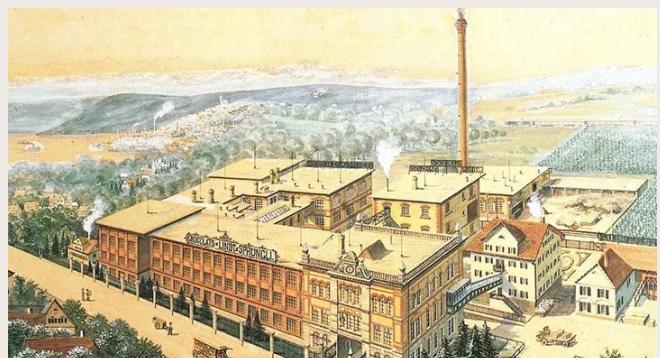
Sweets from Aachen

Aachener Printen



<https://nationalgeographic.de/geschichte-und-kultur/2019/12/steinhart-duftend-lecker-kulturgut-aachener-printen/>

Lindt Factory Outlet



<https://www.lindt.de/worksverkauf-aachen>

Aachener Printen are a traditional type of spiced pastry that originated in the 19th century in Aachen. Unlike typical gingerbread, Printen are firmer in texture and made with a distinctive mix of herbs and spices, reflecting the city's history as a center of early pharmacy and trade. Originally sold by pharmacists for their supposed healing properties, they later became a sweet treat known across Germany. Today, Printen are an iconic symbol of Aachen.

The Lindt chocolate factory in Aachen dates back to the late 19th century and became part of the Lindt & Sprüngli group in the 20th century. While Lindt's headquarters are in Switzerland, the Aachen site is one of its largest and most historic production facilities in Europe. The adjoining factory outlet offers a direct connection to the source, where visitors can explore a wide selection of fine chocolates, including seasonal and exclusive products. It's a sweet reminder of Aachen's industrial past.

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Sweets from Aachen



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Activities



<https://www.aachen-tourismus.de/aachen-entdecken/shopping/>

- Aachen for Art & Culture Lovers



- Aachen for Nature Seekers



- Aachen for Shoppers & Local Finds



- Aachen for Wellness & Relaxation



Our Aachen Guide

Aachen for Art & Culture Lovers



<https://www.aachen-tourismus.de/aachen-entdecken/details/poi/ludwig-forum-fuer-internationale-kunst/>

Ludwig Forum for International Art

Housed in a former umbrella factory, the Ludwig Forum is Aachen's center for modern and contemporary art. It features a collection of international artworks from the 1960s onward, including pieces from Pop Art, Fluxus, and contemporary photography. The museum regularly hosts temporary exhibitions, performances, and workshops, making it a lively space for artistic exploration.



<https://www.aachen-tourismus.de/aachen-entdecken/details/poi/suermondt-ludwig-museum/>

Suermondt-Ludwig-Museum

This museum showcases European art from the Middle Ages to the early 20th century. Highlights include pieces by Dürer, Rembrandt, and Cranach, as well as a remarkable collection of medieval sculpture and stained glass. The building itself, a former city palace, adds to the museum's charm and historical atmosphere.

Our Aachen Guide

Aachen for Art & Culture Lovers



<https://www.aachen-tourismus.de/aachen-entdecken/details/poi/couven-museum/>

Couven Museum

Step into 18th- and 19th-century bourgeois life in this beautifully restored townhouse in Aachen's historic old town. The Couven Museum features a series of fully furnished period rooms, showcasing styles from Rococo to Empire and Biedermeier. Visitors can admire antique furniture, porcelain, silverware, and decorative arts that reflect Aachen's wealthy merchant culture. One highlight is the reconstruction of a historic pharmacy, reminding visitors of the city's important role in early European medicine. The museum offers a charming glimpse into domestic elegance and social life in pre-modern Aachen.

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Aachen for Nature Seekers

Vennbahnweg

Once a historic railway line, the Vennbahn is now one of Europe's most beautiful cross-border cycling routes. The path leads through peaceful landscapes and forests, connecting Germany and Belgium — ideal for long bike rides or tranquil walks.



Vennbahnweg © rcfotostock - Fotolia.com

Dreiländereck (Three-Country Point)

Tucked away in a lush forest just outside Aachen lies one of Europe's most unique landmarks: the Dreiländereck, where Germany, Belgium, and the Netherlands meet. This peaceful border triangle offers scenic hiking and biking trails that wind through dense woodlands, quiet meadows, and gentle hills. Whether you're seeking a cross-border picnic, fresh mountain air, or a quiet moment among the trees, Dreiländereck offers a truly special escape into nature.



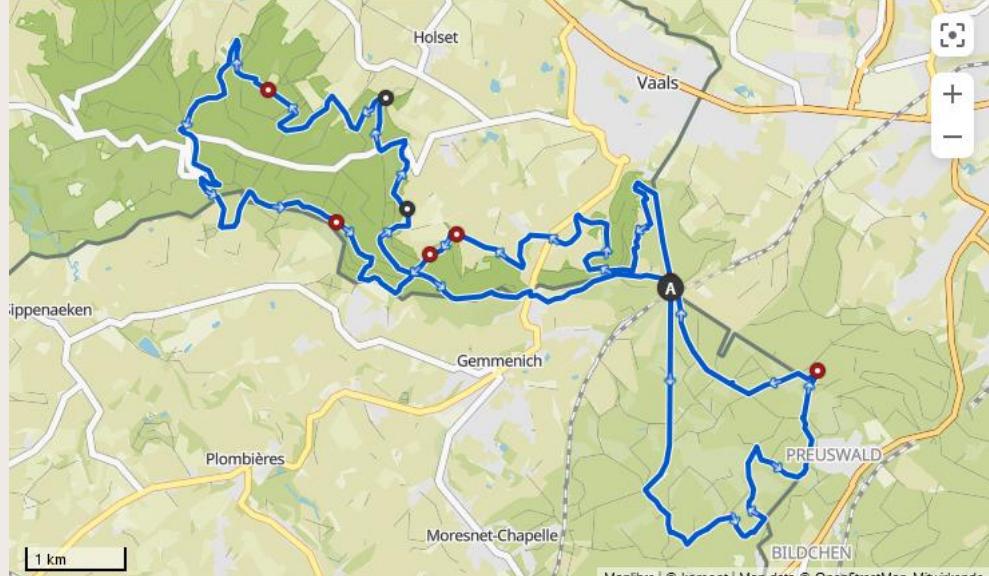
<https://www.aachen-tourismus.de/aachen-entdecken/details/poi/dreilaendereck/>

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Aachen for Nature Seekers

Jogging routes

Doing some sport before or after CoRDI – some inspirations for jogging routes around Aachen.



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Aachen for Nature Seekers

Frankenberger Viertel & Park

Frankenberger Viertel is one of Aachen's most charming and vibrant neighborhoods, known for its elegant Wilhelminian-era buildings, creative spirit, and lively local cafés. But beyond its architectural charm lies Frankenberger Park, a peaceful green space that locals love. At the center of the park stands the Frankenberger Burg, a castle-like villa that gives the area its fairytale character. The park is a favorite for relaxed strolls, quiet reading under trees, and small community events. It offers a perfect blend of urban life and green escape, ideal for nature seekers who enjoy history, culture, and serenity all in one place.



<https://burtscheid.com/sehenswuerdigkeiten/burg-frankenbergs.html>



<https://www.aachen-tourismus.de/aachen-entdecken/details/poi/lousberg/>

Lousberg

Lousberg is Aachen's iconic hill and one of the oldest public parks in Europe. With scenic walking paths, lush greenery, and panoramic views over the city, it's a perfect spot for hiking, picnics, or simply unwinding in nature — right next to the old town.

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[https://nobis-printen.de/unsere-traditionsbaeckerei/geschichte/#iLightbox\[gallery_image_1\]/2](https://nobis-printen.de/unsere-traditionsbaeckerei/geschichte/#iLightbox[gallery_image_1]/2)

Aachen for Shoppers & Local Finds

Nobis Printen

Founded in 1858 by master baker Johannes Michael Nobis, Nobis Printen has grown from a small bakery on Aachen's Pontstraße into one of the city's most iconic family businesses. Now in its fourth generation, the company is still family-run and dedicated to the art of baking traditional Aachener Printen, a spiced pastry, rooted in local history. Over the decades, Nobis expanded to over 40 bakeries and cafés in the region, known for their fresh breads, sweet pastries, and signature crisp Printen. With a deep respect for craft, quality, and heritage, Nobis continues to shape Aachen's identity.



<https://www.plumskaffee.de/de/ueber-uns/>

Plums Kaffee

Established in 1820, Plums Kaffee proudly holds the title of Germany's very first coffee roastery. Hidden in the heart of Aachen's old town, this historic café is more than just a place to enjoy a cup — it's where Germany's coffee culture began. The Plums family has been roasting beans with care and tradition for over two centuries, offering visitors a truly authentic experience. Inside, you'll find a charming mix of antique décor, the aroma of fresh coffee, and a quiet courtyard that feels like a hidden sanctuary.

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Aachen for Shoppers & Local Finds



<https://www.korrbayer.de/>

Korb Bayer

Nestled in Aachen's historic Körbergasse, Korb Bayer has been a family-run shop for handcrafted baskets and brushes since 1865. The street itself has been home to basketmakers since the Middle Ages, and Korb Bayer proudly continues this centuries-old craft tradition. The shop offers a wide variety of baskets and bags made from natural materials, as well as one of the city's most extensive selections of high-quality brushes. For those looking to experience genuine local craftsmanship, Korb Bayer is a timeless gem in the heart of Aachen.



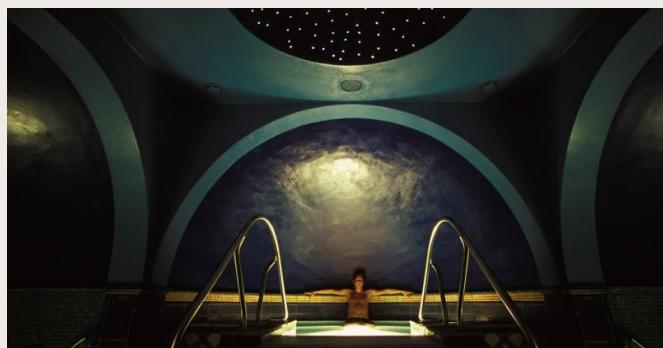
<https://www.facebook.com/p/Mayersche-Buchhandlung-100075848030883/>

Mayersche Book Store

Founded in 1817, Mayersche Buchhandlung is more than just a bookstore; it's an Aachen institution. Located near the city center, this grand multi-story shop invites visitors to browse thousands of books, relax in cozy reading corners, and enjoy a quiet moment in the in-house café. With its rich literary tradition and elegant interior, Mayersche combines modern retail with the charm of old-world book culture. Whether you're looking for German literature, international titles, or a unique gift, this is a must-visit spot for curious minds and book lovers alike.

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Aachen for Wellness & Relaxation



<https://www.hilpert.eu/carolus-thermen-bad-aachen/>



<https://www.ardex.de/ardex/newspress/news-details/die-heilkraft-des-aachener-thermalwassers-nutzen-entspanntes-baden-in-den-thermen-gesichert-mit-loesungen-von-ardex>

Carolus Thermen

Carolus Thermen offers a luxurious spa experience built on the city's ancient thermal heritage. Fed by natural hot springs once used by the Romans, the spa features a variety of indoor and outdoor pools, whirlpools, and relaxation areas surrounded by tranquil architecture.

Visitors can explore themed saunas, saltwater steam baths, and wellness treatments that restore body and mind.



<https://carolus-thermen.de/>



<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=127695131>



<https://carolus-thermen.de/>

Whether you're enjoying the view from the thermal outdoor pool, meditating in the quiet zones, or indulging in a massage or hammam ritual; Carolus Thermen is the perfect place to unwind. With its elegant design, calming atmosphere, and deep historical roots, this modern spa connects centuries of healing tradition with today's need for rest and balance. A must-visit for anyone seeking peace, wellness, and a moment of pure serenity in Aachen.

Our Aachen Guide



<https://www.aachen-tourismus.de/genuss-und-ausgehen/restaurants-und-cafes/>

Eating & Drinking

- Café & Patisserie 
- Upscale Dining 
- Casual Dining 
- Bar & Nightlife 



© Jacob Lund - Fotolia.com

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Café & Patisserie

Aachener Café-Haus



Pontstraße 39,
52062 Aachen

Krämerstr. 11
52062 Aachen

Café Kittel



Café Dom



Buchkremer-
straße 6,
52062 Aachen

Schmiedstraße 20,
52062 Aachen

Leni Liebt Kaffee



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Upscale Dining

La Bécasse



Hanbrucher Strasse 1
52064 Aachen

CAFÉlysée



Hartmannstraße 12-14,
52062 Aachen

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Casual Dining – International

↗ AKL

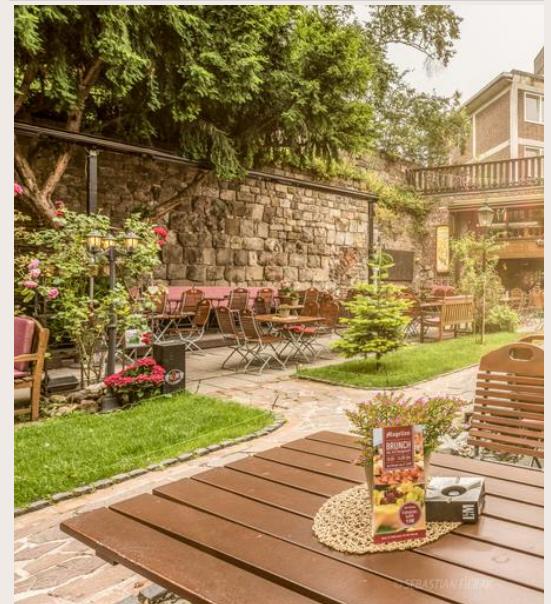
Lebanese Restaurant



Pontstraße 1-3,
52062 Aachen

↗ Magellan

Turkish Restaurant



Pontstraße 78,
52062 Aachen

↗ SURA

Korean Restaurant



Pontstraße 11,
52062 Aachen

↗ Macaroni

Italian Restaurant



Schmiedstraße 24,
52062 Aachen

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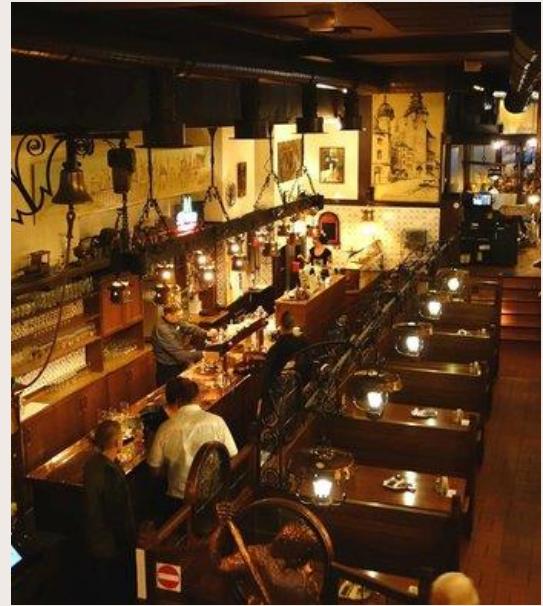
Casual Dining – German

↗ [Postwagen Zum Ratskeller Aachen](#)



Krämerstraße 2,
52062 Aachen

↗ [Aachener Brauhaus](#)



Kapuzinergraben 4,
52062 Aachen

↗ [Hanswurst](#)



Münsterpl. 6,
52062 Aachen

↗ [Zum Goldenen Einhorn](#)



Markt 33,
52062 Aachen

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Bar & Nightlife

↗ Hopfen + Malz



Elisabethstraße 6, 52062
Aachen

↗ DRY – Liquid Supper Bar



Kockerellstraße 15
52062 Aachen

↗ Domkeller



Hof 1,
52062 Aachen

↗ Café Madrid



Pontstraße 149, 52062
Aachen

Events in Aachen

August 26, 2025

Classix Spa Park



Festival/ Open Air

Didn't get a ticket? Then do as the people of Aachen do, simply sit in the part of the Spa Park outside the concert area, take a picnic blanket and provisions with you and listen to the music.

MOTRIP Live

DI. 26.08.2025, 20:00 UHR
MOTRIP
Heimspiel

Nach Hausekommen: Der Aachener Rap- und Hip-Hop-Star lädt mit Freunden zum beseelten Ruf- und Echo-Spiel ein.

Concert

Aachen welcomes home one of its own! On August 26, 2025, celebrated rapper and songwriter MOTRIP will perform an open-air concert at the Kurpark Classix.

Our Aachen Guide

Map

Click on the map to find all of our
picks in Google Maps



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Enjoy !

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