



Krook



Castle of the Counts



Vrijdagmarkt



Ghent Altarpiece

© Sint-Baafsabdij Ghent, www.abdijbaafs.be, foto: Martin Conzozzi

visitgent

TOURIST OFFICE  
VISITGENT

St.-Veerleplein 5  
9000 Gent  
Opposite the castle of the counts

+32 9 266 56 60  
visitgent.be

Open:  
7/7 — 0: visitgent.be/info  
(Closed on 25/12 & 1/1)

Experience Ghent to the full  
citycardgent.be

Do you have a tip or a fun fact about Ghent?  
Tell us via [visitgent.be/feedback](https://visitgent.be/feedback)

VU Mieke Hullebroeck - Algemeen Directeur - Stadhuis - Bôtermarkt 1 - 9000 Gent - 2024

## See :

Is this your first time in our city? This basic walk (— 4 km / 1 hour) will take you to the highlights of Ghent. When will you come back?

- 1 Old Fish Market** This building is situated on the spot where the Lys and Lieve rivers split up. Here you will find the tourist information office of Ghent.
- 2 Castle Of The Counts** The pride of Ghent, that could only be taken by one army: students protesting against rising beer prices.
- 3 Great Butchers' Hall** This is where meat was sold, but it was a product reserved for the wealthy. The entrails were sold to the poor in the small adjoining shops, called "penshuisjes".
- 5 Lena, Nestor & Luna** Brussels has 1, Ghent has 3! In Kraanlei you can find a bronze Manneke Pis, accompanied by 2 Girls Pis: Lena & Luna. Legends abound.
- 6 House of Alijn** At the very place where the Alijn family once founded a hospital, you can now find a museum about daily life in the 20th century.
- 14 Big Cannon** This Big Cannon has a rather sad history. It may look powerful but in reality, it has never been fired.
- 15 Vrijdagmarkt** The inhabitants of Ghent come to the market here on Fridays, hence the name "Vrijdagmarkt". Jacob Van Artevelde keeps an eye on everything from his pedestal.
- 20 St James' Church** The first wooden church was built here as early as in 1093. The current one is a stop on the pilgrimage road to Compostela.
- 22 Graslei & Korenlei** Starting in the 11th century, trade was booming here on the banks of the river Lys. This became the city's most important port.
- 23 St Michael's Bridge** This stone bridge crossing the Lys river is the most popular spot in Ghent for photographers and romantic souls.
- 24 St Michael's Church** This Gothic church houses work by Anthony Van Dyck. And the tower? It was never built. A scale model is displayed at STAM.
- 25 St Nicholas' Church** This church in Scheldt Gothic style seems to guard Korenmarkt. Can you find the two works of art on the square?
- 26 Roeland Bell** The alarm bell from 1314 used to hang in the Belfry. Today it has the painting "De Maagd" (the Virgin) by Michaël Borremans for company.
- 27 City Pavilion** The citizens of Ghent have mockingly named this contemporary pavilion "the sheepfold". It is the setting for many of the city's events.
- 28 Masons' Guild Hall** The sculptures by Walter De Buck on the stepped gable were supposed to turn with the wind, but they were too heavy.
- 30 Belfry** An impressive piece of UNESCO world heritage in the heart of the city. The dragon on top of the tower is the symbol of Ghent.
- 31 Town Hall** The city's political heart. Partly in late Gothic, partly in Renaissance style. Do you see the striking drain-pipe?
- 32 Royal Dutch Theatre** This theatre is home to the company NTGent. The view from the balcony of the Foyer is sublime.
- 33 St Bavo's Cathedral & Ghent Altarpiece** This 10th-century cathedral has housed the world-famous Ghent Altarpiece for 6 centuries.
- 34 Achtersikkel** Surprising little square behind Sint-Baafsplein square. A well used to be a symbol of wealth.
- 35 Castle of Gerald The Devil** The name and the impressive walls appeal to the imagination. The purpose of the 13th-century castle was to protect the Portus Ganda port.
- 36 Reep & Bisdomplein** De Reep is a stretch of the river Scheldt in Ghent that was made visible again. Its banks are a great place to relax.
- 41 University Auditorium** This auditorium of Ghent University dates back to 1826. It has become a symbol throughout the history of Belgium.
- 44 Old Law Courts** The old courthouse in neo-classical style looks majestic on the waterfront. From here you can admire magical sunsets.
- 46 Kouter** Stately mansions and shops surround the square. It is the setting for the colourful weekly flower market on Sundays.
- 48 St Barbara's Church** This Jesuit church was used as a bicycle parking facility for the students of the nearby school. It is currently being restored.
- 49 Krook** This is not just a municipal library, it's also a meeting place. The designers were awarded the "Nobel Prize for Architecture".
- 51 Vooruit** 150 years ago this was the home base of the socialist movement. Today it's a vibrant cultural centre, Arts Centre 'VIERNULVIJVER'.

## Do :

Ghent is a lively city. We advise you to not only discover the many sights, but to immerse yourself completely in the city's atmosphere. That's why we suggest 5 activities.

- Have a taste of Ghent 3**  
Cuberdons, Tienteyn mustard or "Mulentrekker" candy. Taste the typical Ghent delicacies on the lively Groentenmarkt square.
- Experience the greatest mystery 33**  
The Adoration of the Mystic Lamb is recognised worldwide as one of the most influential paintings. It is an absolute must-see on your citytrip.
- Just take the lift 30**  
It's not necessary to work yourself into a sweat. The Ghent Belfry has a lift. This is unique! Enjoy the breathtaking view.
- Discover world heritage 11 30 39**  
Ghent features three monuments that are on the list of UNESCO world heritage sites. Visit at least one!
- Daydream on the river banks 9 22 36 38 49**  
These spots are popular among photographers, couples or friends. They are ideal to relax for a while.



Reep



Graffiti street

## Discover :

Do you feel like discovering more of Ghent after the basic walk? In that case, we suggest 5 shorter walks. Choose one and set off for another discovery!

- For romantics 2 km – 35 min — — —**  
From the Donkere Poort (Dark Gate) to the Bridge of Imperial Pleasures, the entire Prinsenhof district breathes the heritage of the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V. You will also pass Lievekaai, the favourite spot of lovers in Ghent.
- For epicureans 500 meters – 7.5 min ★★★★★**  
Patershol used to be the poorest and most dangerous district of Ghent. Today, it's the most enjoyable and gastronomic neighbourhood! Lose yourself in the narrow pedestrian alleys and enjoy the mix of restaurants, authentic pubs and trendy bars.
- For creative minds 500 meters – 7.5 min ★★★★★**  
Do you feel like expressing your creativity? The Werregarenstraat – called graffiti street by the locals – is your canvas. Beginners and experienced artists alike are free to create a work of graffiti art. There's only 1 rule: respect the works that are better than yours. [visitgent.be/streetart](https://visitgent.be/streetart)
- For artists 3,5 km – 45 min ★★★★★**  
A neighbourhood where art lovers belong and students come home to. Don't forget to look up! The bronze sculpture "The man who measures the clouds" by Jan Fabre (on the roof of S.M.A.K.) does the impossible.

gent:



ENGLISH

[visitgent.be](https://visitgent.be)



Ghent might just be the best European city you've never thought of visiting

LONELY PLANET



Lievekaai & Sint-Antonijskaai

**For water rats 3 km – 40 min ★★★★★**

Ganda, as Ghent was originally called, came about on the confluence of the Lys and Scheldt rivers. This site has been converted into a marina, Portus Ganda. Real water rats will enjoy themselves in the beautiful Art Deco Van Eyck swimming pool.

## Legend

- 1 OLD FISH MARKET & TOURIST OFFICE
- 2 CASTLE OF THE COUNTS
- 3 GREAT BUTCHERS' HALL
- 4 DESIGN MUSEUM GENT
- 5 LENA, NESTOR & LUNA
- 6 HOUSE OF ALIJN
- 7 PATERSHOL
- 8 KUNSTHAL GENT
- 9 LIEVEKAAI & ST-ANTONIUSKAAI
- 10 PRINSENHOF
- 11 OLD ST ELIZABETH BEGUINAGE
- 12 DR. GUISLAIN MUSEUM
- 13 CARMELITE CHURCH
- 14 BIG CANNON
- 15 VRIJDAGMARKT
- 16 ONS HUIS
- 17 TOREKEN
- 18 THE WORLD OF KINA: THE GARDEN
- 19 MUSEUM OF INDUSTRY
- 20 ST JAMES' CHURCH
- 21 GRAFFITI STREET
- 22 GRASLEI & KORENLEI
- 23 ST MICHAEL'S BRIDGE
- 24 ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH
- 25 ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH
- 26 "DE MAAGD" BY M. BORREMANS & ROELAND BELL
- 27 CITY PAVILION
- 28 MASONS' GUILD HALL
- 29 PAND
- 30 BELFRY
- 31 TOWN HALL
- 32 ROYAL DUTCH THEATRE (NTGENT)
- 33 ST BAVO'S CATHEDRAL & GHENT ALTARPIECE
- 34 ACHTERSIKKEL
- 35 CASTLE OF GERALD THE DEVIL
- 36 REEP
- 37 VAN EYCK SWIMMING POOL
- 38 PORTUS GANDA
- 39 GREAT ST ELIZABETH BEGUINAGE
- 40 ST BAVO'S ABBEY
- 41 UNIVERSITY AUDITORIUM
- 42 HOTEL D'HANE-STEENHUYSE
- 43 ARNOLD VANDER HAEGHEN HOUSE
- 44 OLD LAW COURTS
- 45 ROYAL OPERA
- 46 HANDELSBEURS
- 47 HOTEL FALLIGAN
- 48 ST BARBARA'S CHURCH
- 49 KROOK
- 50 ST ANNE'S CHURCH
- 51 VOORUIT
- 52 SMALL BEGUINAGE OUR LADY TER HOYEN
- 53 BOOKTOWER
- 54 MUSIC CENTRE DE BIJLOKE
- 55 STAM (GHENT CITY MUSEUM)
- 56 ST PETER'S CHURCH
- 57 ST PETER'S ABBEY AND GARDEN
- 58 THE WORLD OF KINA: THE HOUSE
- 59 FOUNTAIN C. DE KERCHOVE
- 60 S.M.A.K. (MUNICIPAL MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART)
- 61 MSK (MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS)
- 62 ZEBRA STRAAT
- 63 GUM (GHENT UNIVERSITY MUSEUM)

## Practical

- TOURIST OFFICE
- STARTING POINT FOR BOAT TRIP
- BIKE RENTAL
- RAILWAY STATION
- TRAM 1: GENT FLANDERS EXPO - GENTBRUGGE
- TRAM 2: EVERGEM/ WONDELGEM - MELLE
- TRAM 3: ZWIJNAARDE - MOSCOU
- TRAM 4: UZ - LANGE STEENSTRAAT

## City walks

- BASIC WALK  
4 km - 1 hour
- FOR ROMANTICS  
2 km - 35 min
- FOR EPICUREANS  
500 m - 7.5 min
- FOR CREATIVE MINDS  
500 m - 7.5 min
- FOR WATER RATS  
3 km - 40 min
- FOR ARTISTS  
3.5 km - 45 min

## Good to know

### Tram and bus

A De Lijn ticket is valid for both bus and tram. A € 2.50 ticket is valid for 60 minutes, a day pass costs € 7.50, a three day pass € 15 and a 10-trip pass costs € 17\*. Buy your ticket in advance in the "Lijnwinkel" (ticket shop) or download the "De Lijn" app for more advantageous rates.

\* prices subject to change.

### Train

Won't you stay in Ghent overnight? Too bad! The last train for Brussels leaves around 11.30 pm and the last train for Bruges leaves around midnight. Check [belgiantrain.be](http://belgiantrain.be) for the exact schedule. Don't forget to buy your ticket in advance in the railway station.

### Shopping

Most shops close at 6 pm. Most shops are closed on Sundays and public holidays, except the first Sunday of every month. For more shopping fun: [visitgent.be/shopping](http://visitgent.be/shopping).

### Eat & Drink

Most restaurants serve food until 10 pm. Can't you wait to satisfy your hunger? Find your favourites at [visitgent.be/eat-drink](http://visitgent.be/eat-drink). Vegetarians will find something to their taste at [visitgent.be/veggie](http://visitgent.be/veggie).

### Calendar

Ghent is trendy and never dull! An exhibition, concert or festival? Discover lively Ghent and opening hours at [visitgent.be/calendar](http://visitgent.be/calendar).

### For groups

Are you looking for a restaurant, guide or place to stay? At [visitgent.be/groups](http://visitgent.be/groups) you will find everything you need to plan your ideal group trip.

### Ghent, accessible city

Ghent wants to be accessible to everyone. Are you visiting our city in a wheelchair or is your mobility reduced? Take a look at [visitgent.be/accessible](http://visitgent.be/accessible).

Low emission zone Ghent:  
Register via [www.lez.gent](http://www.lez.gent) and avoid being fined

