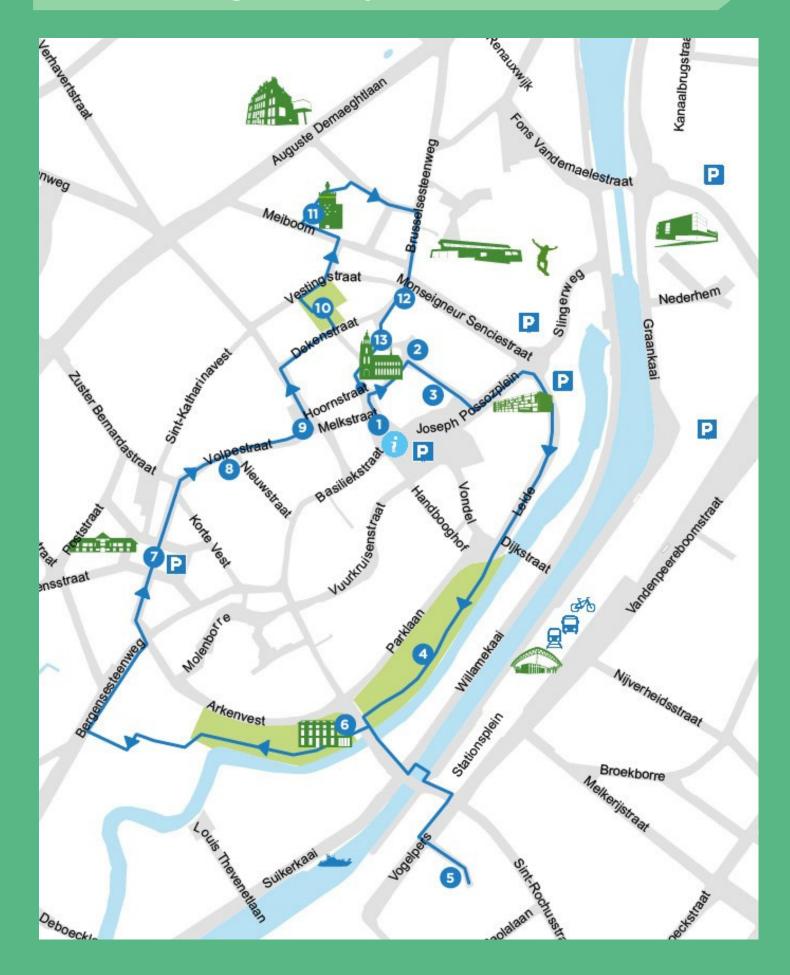


3.5 km



Walking route city center of Halle



There's an abundance of sights to discover in the heart of Halle!

Take a leisurely stroll through the car-free shopping streets and admire the stunning monuments and picturesque spots along the way. Or, simply relax and soak up the atmosphere on one of the delightful terraces overlooking the Grand Place.

Welcome to the charming center of Halle!

The Grand Place (1) truly serves as the beating heart of the city, featuring the towering Gothic Saint Martin's Basilica with its revered black miraculous image of Our Lady, and the historic town hall complete with a convenient tourism office. Take in the charming atmosphere while relaxing at one of the diverse terraces that adorn the square, where you can admire the statue of the renowned cellist and composer Adrien François Servais (1807-1866), located at the center.

Initially, the market was simply part of the main street between Brussels and Bergen. In 1616, the historic town hall was built with its ornate Renaissance facade.

Faced with our backs the front of the historic town hall, we turn right into Cardinal Cardijnstraat. Cardijn grew up in Halle and he was the founder and driving force behind the Kajotters movement. We stroll between the Old Post Office (2) and the former Old Jesuit College (3), which now houses the Campus Servais of the Halle Academy of Fine Arts, and arrive at the Cultural Center 't Vondel. We leave 't Vondel on our right and walk behind the old fire station, now a youth center "De Kazerne," and the buildings of the HH college along the Senne path to Albert Park.

Albert Park (4) is home to several memorials, including those dedicated to Albert I, the Halle Congo pioneers, fallen soldiers from various wars, and Leopold II. Exiting the park, we turn left onto Basiliekstraat, which takes us over the Brussels-Charleroi canal. On Suikerkaai, we find the starting point for boat trips from Kanaaltochten Brabant. To our left, we can see the renovated train station building in the distance, but we turn right onto Vogelpers and then onto Servaislaan, where we come across the completely restored Villa Servais (5).

We then walk back across the canal towards the library (6), where we follow the walking path along the Zenne river behind the library in Elisabeth Park. As we exit the park, we reach the Groebegrachtstraat, which we follow until we reach Bergensesteenweg. Here, we descend towards the center on the right-hand side. On the left, we approach the Regional Products Center (Poststraat 3A), where we can sample all the delicious local products.

Continuing on, we turn into Louis Theunckensstraat, which leads us to Oudstrijdersplein (7), the former Lion Square, where the new town hall is located. From here, we continue walking via Minderbroedersstraat until we reach Volpestraat, where we find the Paterskerk (8). Part of this building is set to become a cultural destination in the future.

Although the car-free Basiliekstraat is accessible by turning right onto Nieuwstraat, we continue along Volpestraat. In Beestenmarkt (9). we come across the statue of the little Vaantjesboer, which is a reference to the nickname of the people of Halle. They are called 'vaantjesboeren' due to their selling of pilgrimage flags. Walking down the picturesque Hoornstraatje, also known as 'the fisherman's street,' we get a stunning view of the basilica.

Between Deken Street and Vesting Street lies the Mariahof (10), a calm spot with a charming wayside chapel. It's an ideal place to listen to the carillon's melodic tunes. Stroll through the Mariahof and exit onto Vesting Street, turning right. On the right-hand side of Onderwijsstraat, you'll spot the Meiboom, and inside it, on your left, lies den AST (11). This restored malt house has been converted into a regional museum that houses an interactive exhibition, and it's definitely worth a visit.

Pass through the courtyard of the malt house, and take a right to descend towards Brusselsesteenweg. From there, turn right and walk towards the imposing Basilica. At the intersection with Monseigneur Senciestraat, you'll encounter the monastery (12), whose facade features a commemorative plaque honoring the heroes of the Boerenkrijg. Keep following Brusselsesteenweg until you come across the first left-hand intersection, where you'll turn into Klinkaert.

The small door across from Klinkaert (13) leads to the Basilica's treasury, where you can admire the Basilica's treasures on open basilica days. Finally, we arrive back at the Grote Markt..





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