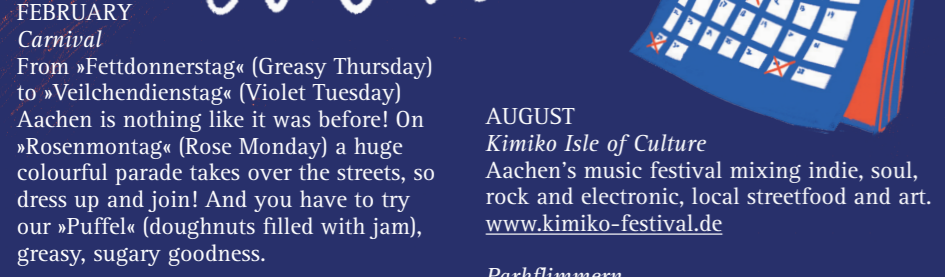


events



FEBRUARY
Carnival
 From »Fett donnerstag« (Greasy Thursday) to »Veilchendenstag« (Violet Tuesday) Aachen is nothing like it was before! On »Rosmontag« (Rose Monday) a huge colourful parade takes over the streets, so dress up and join! And you have to try our »Puffel« (doughnuts filled with jam), greasy, sugary goodness.

FEBRUARY/MARCH
Schrittmacher Generation 2
 A dance festival hosting international companies for brilliant modern performances. Generation 2 hosts productions and workshops for a younger audience. www.schrittmacherfestival.de

APRIL
Oecher Bend
 Twice a year, in spring and summer, the Bend, a huge funfair opens its doors. If you can make it on the last day you'll get to enjoy some impressive fireworks.

MAY
»Tanz in den Mai«
 To celebrate the beginning of spring, there are lots of parties on the last day of April. Another tradition is the »Maibaum stellen«: boys (in leap years it's the girls turn) set up birch trees, decorated with colourful ribbons, outside the windows of their lovers.

Vintage funfair
 Get thrown back to the »once upon a time« on the vintage funfair in Kornelimumster, a little town outside of Aachen (there are shuttles on the weekend).

Vive l'Europe!
 The Karlspreis (International Charlemagne Prize) of Aachen is the oldest prize awarded every year for work done in the service of European unification. www.karlspreis.de

JUNE
Lothringair
 A streetstyle festival buzzing with art, dance performances, exhibitions and live music: jazz, soul, indie and rock. www.lothringair.de

JULY
Leselust am Lousberg
 A little open air festival of literature in the Lousberg park at the Belvedere pillars with lectures by local authors. (in German) www.literaturbuero-emr.de

Chio
 The World Equestrian Festival in Aachen! World-class sport meets up for a renowned show of dressage, jumping, eventing, driving and vaulting in Soers. www.chioaachen.de

AUGUST
Kimiko Isle of Culture
 Aachen's music festival mixing indie, soul, rock and electronic, local streetfood and art. www.kimiko-festival.de

Parkflimmern
 Cinema in the open air, at Kennedypark after dawn. (in German)

SEPTEMBER
Arts and Crafts Market
 Handmade jewellery, pottery, textiles, stationery – go have a browse around the market.

September Special
 Soul, funk, rock, pop, electronic, indie... A weekend that turns the whole city centre into a free open air festival. www.aachenseptemberspecial.de

Lightshow
 The people of Aachen get to see their beloved cathedral in a new light, at a spectacular 3D light show on Katschhof: Der Dom Leuchtet.

OCTOBER
Südstraßenfest
 A quirky little open air festival in Südstraße inviting local as well as international bands.

hello designer tour
 Dive into the local creative industry! Hello Designer Tour is a decentral design festival taking place in the whole Euregio, across the borders of Holland and Belgium. www.hellogdesignertour.eu

NOVEMBER
Handmade Circus
 Local Designers sell their stuff, have a browse and a chat. (Aula Carolina, in January and November) www.handmadecircus.de

DECEMBER
Christmas Market
 Some may say the Aachen christmas market ist the most beautiful ever. Anyway, it's a good place to do some festive christmas shopping and to warm your freezing fingers on a cup of glühwein. Just watch out for pick-pockets. www.aachenweihnachtsmarkt.de

Fleamarket, Lebenshilfe
 Prepare yourself for the best vintage shopping experience! Proceeds from the event will go to charity.

For exact times and dates please check up online.

www.use-it.travel



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Aachen Design & Editing Andrea Ihl Lara Liske

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31 Westpark
 On hot days students will crowd the park, sippin' on bottled beer and sizzling away with their portable BBQs.

32 Smooth Times
 [open Tue-Sun]
 Just next to Westpark, *smooth* is a very laid-back café run by Karin, serving fresh, healthy and homemade delicacies like grilled sandwiches, smoothie bowls, juices and (sometimes even vegan) self-made cakes.

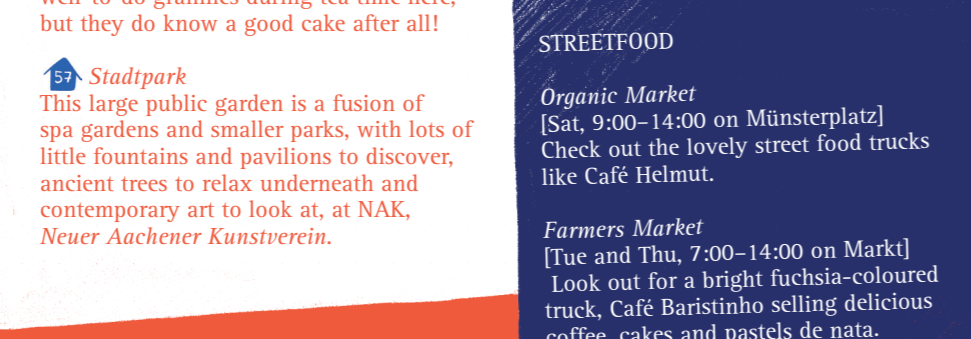
33 Oh sunny Days
 There's a lido at *hangeweiher* (which is very busy on hot days) and a park with a pond next door. Buy yourself a popsicle, rent a pedal boat and observe the ducks and the joggers.

34 Hammock with a View
 You'll get a great view on the city from the top of *Lousberg*, and even better, you can lie down and relax while enjoying the panorama. The perfect place for a romantic date by the way.

35 Shabby Chic
 [open Wed-Sat]
Hotel Europa is a quirky bar celebrating the styles of the sixties, seventies and eighties, hosting indie parties and live gigs from time to time.

36 A real Treat
 [open every day]
Café Lammerskötter is the perfect place for a luxurious breakfast. A café right in the middle of the Burtscheid neighbourhood, well-known for its exquisite cakes. It could happen that you're mostly surrounded by well-to-do grannies during tea time here, but they do know a good cake after all!

37 Stadtpark
 This large public garden is a fusion of spa gardens and smaller parks, with lots of little fountains and pavilions to discover, ancient trees to relax underneath and contemporary art to look at, at NAK, *Neuer Aachener Kunstverein*.



STREETFOOD

Organic Market
 [Sat, 9:00-14:00 on Münsterplatz]
 Check out the lovely street food trucks like Café Helmut.

Farmers Market
 [Tue and Thu, 7:00-14:00 on Markt]
 Look out for a bright fuchsia-coloured truck, Café Baristinho selling delicious coffee, cakes and pastels de nata.



tourist office
 Friedrich-Wilhelm-Platz at Eisenbrunnen
 Mon-Fri 10:00-18:00
 Sat 10:00-15:00
www.aachen-tourismus.de

general opening times
 Museums are usually closed on Mondays
 Shops are generally closed on Sundays
Supermarkets: Mon-Sat 8:00-20:00/22:00
Shops: Mon-Sat 10:00-20:00

German people usually eat around 12:00-15:00 and 18:00-21:00 in the evening.
 Bars usually close at 2:00 or 3:00/5:00 on the weekend.

transportation
 Your boots are made for walking. Aachen is a fairly small city, you can easily walk around. You'll be surprised how quickly you can crosswalk from one side of the city to the other.

Buses: Most of the buses stop at Bushof and/or Eisenbrunnen, except the circular lines 3, 13A/B. There are touristy hop-on-hop-off buses and buses to Maastricht (NL) starting from Eisenbrunnen as well.
The »Aseag Mobil« app is very handy for getting around.
Fares: one-day-ticket 7,60€, 3-day-ticket 15,10€, ticket for a week 23€



38 Poetry Slam – Satz nach Vorn
 [on the first Friday of a month]
 The beloved poetry slam at *Raststaette*. So beloved though that you have to queue two hours in advance. But it's totally worth it! (The slammers usually perform in German)

39 It's all about the Stimmung!
 [www.gravieranstalt-aachen.de]
Gravieranstalt is a space for music and art, a platform for renowned as well as upcoming artists, painters, sculptors, street artists, photographers as well as writers, comedians and local musicians... Check out their facebook page to see what's on!

40 Stachelbeerbaiser
 [open every day]
Bäckerei Mehlkopf is a very traditional bakery selling incredibly good cakes. Try their »Stachelbeerbaiser« (gooseberry cake topped with meringue), it's the best in town!

41 Galerie Freitag 18.30
 [open Thu-Sat, www.freitag1830.de]
 An art gallery that used to open just on Fridays at 18:30. It has expanded ever since and is now a vivid space for frequently changing exhibitions and events.

42 Thermal Bath
 [open every day, from 12€ for 2,5hours]
 Relax at *Carolus Thermen* and enjoy a luxurious spa treatment. It's not cheap but you get to relax in a pool of warm thermal water from Aachen's mineral springs, the Turkish bath, a number of whirlpools and the outdoor beach-area: the perfect pampering after an exhausting day.

43 laz3rkatze
 [open Tue-Sat]
Laserkatze is a laser-manufacturer, a young start-up producing some special goodies, individual gifts like key-rings, cake toppers and decorative signs... if you can cut it by laser, Laserkatze does it.

44 Cantona
 [open Tue-Sun]
Die Bar Cantona is an artsy yet down-to-earth bar, selling a good variety of beer, wine and great food, combining the best of Italian, French, German, Latino and Luxembourg cuisine (try their »Knuddels«). You'll be lucky to get a seat in the beautiful backyard in summer.

45 Lunch Luxury
 [open Tue-Sat]
Mundart is quite a fancy place for dinner. But you can have a taste of their fine creations on a more affordable lunch menu (soup and main for 11€). Bon appétit!



46 Contemporary Art
 [open Tue-Sun, 6€/3€ free on Thursdays]
Ludwig Forum is a museum for contemporary art, hosting a large renowned permanent exhibition with works by Gerhard Richter, Georg Baselitz, Andy Warhol and Nancy Graves, and different temporary ones.

47 Down down the Rabbit Hole
 [www.musikbunkeraachen.bigcartel.com]
Musikbunker is a real special venue, a former bunker hosting gigs of funk, rock, alternative, metal, electro, indie and raving techno parties. It really feels like a bunker down there: no chance for any signal on your phone. The only thing to do is dance!

48 naaargh Frankenstein!
 Actually the *Frankenberg* district really isn't scary at all, with all its lavishly decorated wilhelminian style houses from the late 19th century, the little green park in the centre and a lovely castle on a hill.

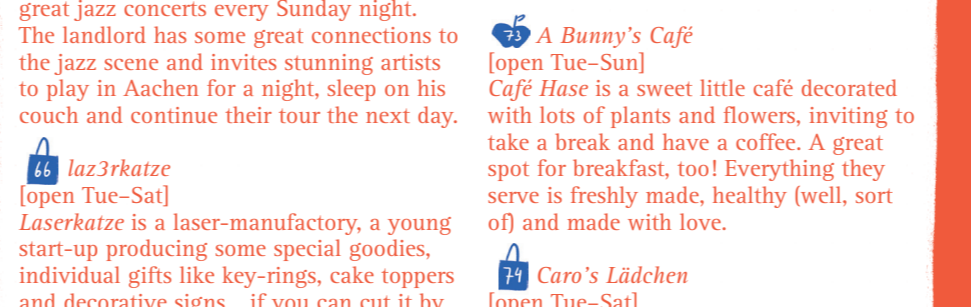
49 ice ice-baby
 [open every day]
Oecher Eistreff in Frankenberg is selling some delicious ice cream flavours like strawberry, chocolate and genuine Madagascar vanilla, all made with organic ingredients and lots of love.

50 Little Things mean a lot
 [open Tue-Sat]
Little Something is a small concept store tucked away in a little side street. The owner shares her love for beautiful things, hygge homeware, stationery and natural cosmetics.

51 A Bunny's Café
 [open Tue-Sun]
Café Hase is a sweet little café decorated with lots of plants and flowers, inviting to take a break and have a coffee. A great spot for breakfast, too! Everything they serve is freshly made, healthy (well, sort of) and made with love.

52 Caro's Lädchen
 [open Tue-Sat]
 In Caro's little shop you'll find products made by local designers, lovely little presents and souvenirs from Aachen, a lot more personal than your odd fridge magnet: postcards illustrated by Lara Bispinck, homemade soaps, lamps made from booze bottles, handcrafted by Caro or custom-made iron-on patches.

53 Cold Favourites
 [open Tue-Sun]
 A little beyond city centre, *Delzepich* has been selling well-loved ice cream for a long time. It's only a little shop selling a few flavours, but on hot summer days people always queue up.



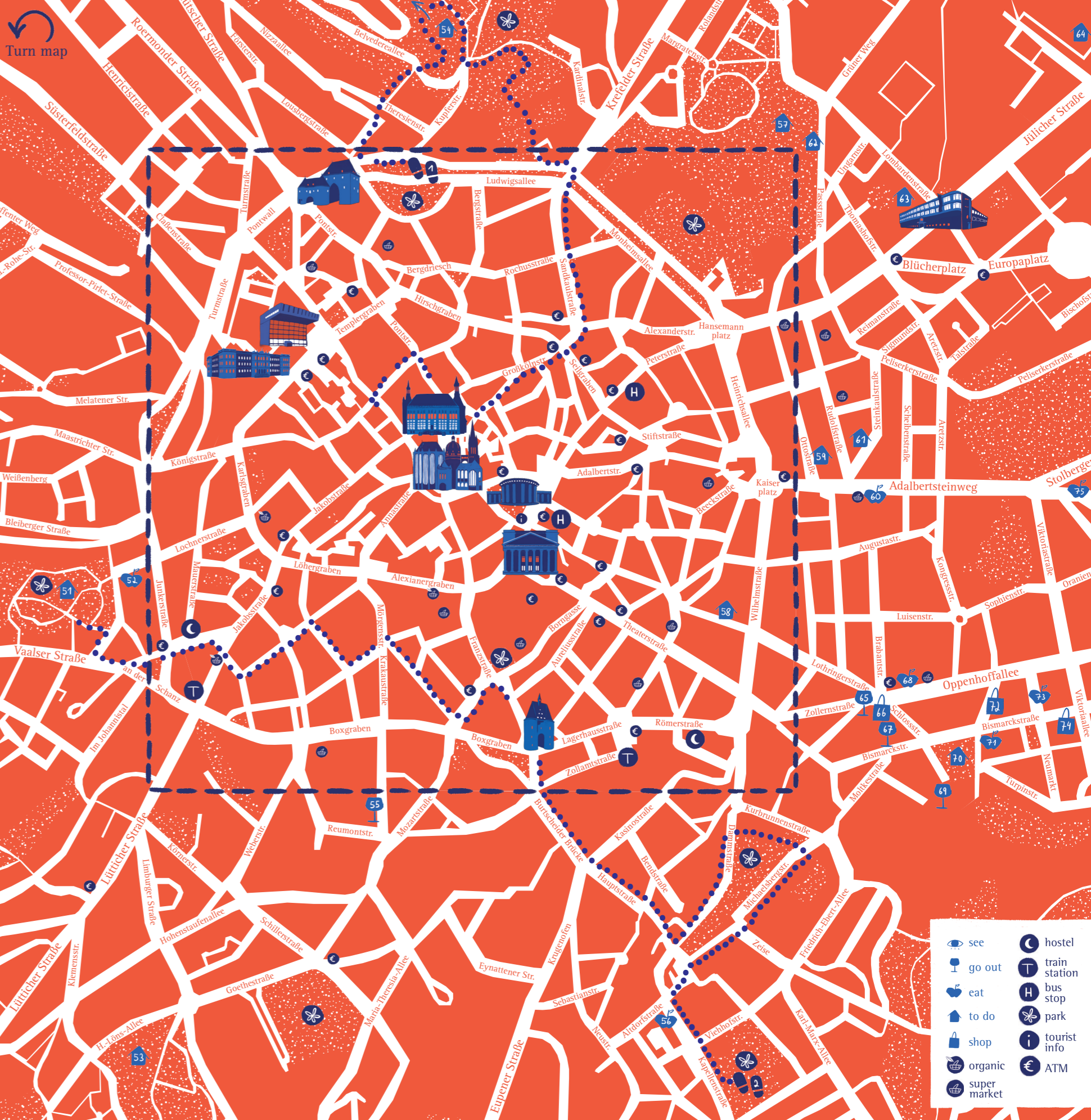
Trains: There is a connection to Cologne, Düsseldorf, Essen, Bochum, Dortmund every thirty minutes leaving from the main station (RE1).
Rent a bike: At Wabe Radstation, Bahnhofstraße 22 (10€ per day+100€ surety) or register for VeloCity Aachen to use a pedelec for 1,50€ every 30 minutes (most stations are near the campus and the city centre)

good deals
free wifi: Around the area of Eisenbrunnen, Münsterplatz and Rathaus
museums: Most museums offer free entry for young people under 21 or a reduced fare for students
theatre: At Mörgens tickets are only 7,00€ for students, High Five Card for 22,50€ at the Aachen theatre for five shows.
food: If you're on a budget, there are lots of super cheap offers for students on Pontstraße.

what's on?
 listen to 99.1 Hochschulradio, the uni's radio [www.hochschulradio-aachen.de]

Movie Beta and Klenkes are free local magazines about everything that's going on (in German) [www.movieaachen.de, www.klenkes.de] Poebel (the common crowd) is a free magazine about local artists.

Something's out there in the mist by the Kolbert, lurking after dusk. The well is popular with the washerwomen for many reasons. Hot springs do you a great favour when cleaning your laundry and – even better – the creature hiding somewhere in there is the reason your husband stopped coming home piss drunk in the middle of the night. Because he heard the rumors and knows better. No one actually knows how it looks, the thing they call Bahkauw. Sharp teeth, claws, piercing eyes and a mighty tail is what people claim they saw. The only thing that we can say for sure is that if you decide to spend the evening with your pals, drinking pint after pint, you will most definitely have a terrifying encounter on your way home. It'll creep up on you, slowly, quietly and then, when you least expect it, it'll jump onto you while screaming horribly and rattling with its chains. The noise will wake the whole neighbourhood and by the time the creature has struck its claws into your back, everyone in town will know about your shameful nightly trips. And to finish this act of utter humiliation, the creature will rid you of all the gold you've got on you. Meanwhile, all women and children are spared by the Bahkauw and some may even appreciate the deed it does for their families.



walks

1 of hills and streams
 Start your walk at *Ehrenmal*, Marienturm, a tower of the medieval town wall and walk up Kupferstraße until you get to the statues. Legend has it that the clever market-woman tricked the devil and saved Aachen. Since the devil had been fooled after paying for the construction of the cathedral (see 21) he sought revenge. He carried a huge sack of sand from the north sea to Aachen to bury the city forever. While he was taking a rest he met the market-woman. She told him, recognising his hooves, it still was such a long way to go. Frustrated the devil emptied his sack of sand just outside the city walls: that's the Lousberg (the smart hill) today. On your way up you pass the *Kerstenschwer Pavillon* with its white baroque fences and the *Belvedere Pillars*. They are relics of a once flamboyant restaurant and casino that was a place to see and be seen in the beginning of the 19th century, when the Lousberg was made into a vast park for recreation. Cross the plateau and climb up the stairs to the *overlook:* you'll get an amazing view on the city centre and the stadiums in Soers. On Sundays you can have brunch or tea and cake in the old water tower, the *Drehturm* restaurant, a very exquisite 360-degree-view experience. Walk back down the stairs, turn left and follow the path. Once you get to the statues again, turn left and then right again. Walk around the church and then turn right onto Salvatorstraße. At the end of the road follow the path to the right and walk down the stairs. Cross the street and enter Sandkaulstraße. Wander down the street, pop into one of the *fruit shops* or enjoy a cup of coffee and a piece of cake at *Julius Café*, a lovely little café serving delicious breakfast, snacks and cakes with vegan options, too. Walk through Großkolnstraße into the heart of the city. *Markt* is usually a very busy place, especially on the weekend and on Tuesdays and Thursdays with the farmers market. Wander through Pontstraße, then turn left and follow the little stream next to the pavement.

2 from park to park
 Start your walk at *Ferberpark*, a lovely green spot to relax. Burtscheid once was an autonomous town before being annexed to Aachen – which is still quite present in its structure. On Fridays you can stroll around the little farmers market on Kapellenstraße to buy fresh fruit and veg or some flowers for your love. Walking along Kapellenstraße you come across quite a number of little shops, one of them *Collard's*, selling delicious high-quality cheeses, deli foods and wine. Walk on to the Burtscheider Markt, where *Leni Liebt Kaffee* is a heaven for coffee-lovers. Just opposite is a funny little antiques shop selling jewelry, bags, lamps and quirky old toys and dolls (with very odd opening hours though...). Turn right, walk up Klosterstreppe to get to the *Johann Baptist Church*, fondly called the Burtscheid Cathedral. Turn left again for the second church next door, *St. Michael's*. Walk down the stairs into the park, Kurgarten. Burtscheid is the spa of Aachen, so there will likely be some spa guests having a stroll or a rest in the park. Walk around the park, and up the hill and cross the bridge. From here you get a great view of the city and Kleinmarschierort. Walk down Franzstraße, pop into *Klein* for some traditional Printen or stop at *Großfamm's Genüsse* for Italian biscuits and espresso, a little Italian deli that takes you straight to the mediterranean once you walk through the door. On your way you pass *Last Exit*, a cozy and busy bar, that's got you covered from breakfast to drinks at night! Lovely to sit outside in summer or to cuddle up inside in winter with a freshly brewed tea or luscious hot chocolate. Turn left and walk through the little streets of the Jakob district, a calm and lovable neighbourhood, one of the oldest of Aachen, with a number of small independent cafés and shops like *drei Blüten* (three blossoms), a remarkably beautiful flower shop, a place for romantics and plant lovers. Pass *Jakobskirche* and cross Vaalserstraße to get to *Westpark*, the third green spot on your walk to sit back and relax.

Do you notice the golden metal plates in between the cobble stones in the city centre with Charlemagne's signe »KAROLUS« on them? Wherever you spot three of them you find yourself in front of a historic sight.

