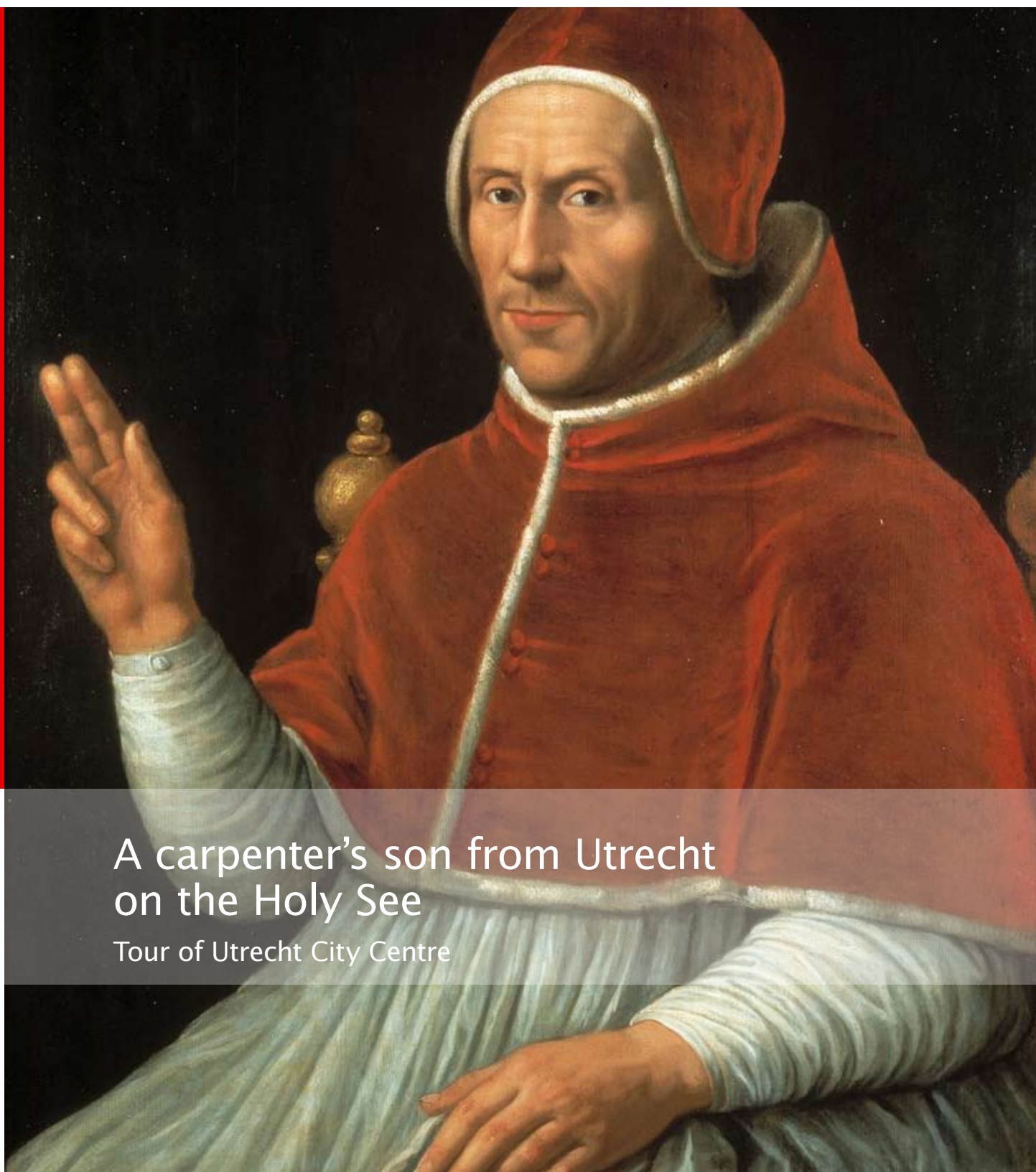


Pope Adrian VI



A carpenter's son from Utrecht
on the Holy See

Tour of Utrecht City Centre

The life of Utrecht-born Adriaan Florisz. (1459-1523), son of a carpenter, could now, many centuries later, easily be turned into an intriguing and exciting film script. It would be a film full of personal drama, but also a film in which there are great parts for important people from that era like Emperor Charles V, King Francis I of France, Martin Luther and Desiderius Erasmus. And of course for Adrian of Utrecht himself who was elected Pope in 1522. The places where Adrian's life unfolded, were also the backdrop of a thrilling scene, like for instance the busy Oudegracht in late-medieval Utrecht where he grew up as a child, the university town Louvain where he became one of the most eminent professors, and the court of governess Margaret of Austria in Mechelen where he stayed regularly as of 1507 as tutor of the young Charles V. By order of this young monarch he travelled to Spain in 1515 with the important task to organise the succession of Charles. It was also in Spain where Adrian, seven years later, on 22 January 1522, learned that he had been elected Pope. This led him to Rome, several months later, where a heavy and difficult task was waiting for him as Adrian VI.



Although Adrian left Utrecht at a young age, he would always be connected to this city. Despite his absence, he can still be regarded as one of the most influential clerics of Utrecht in those days, with an extensive network that went all the way up to the highest circles. Adrian always had the wish to return to Utrecht. This is why he had a house built on the grounds of the immunity of St. Peter. Unfortunately, he did not live to see this astonishing late-Gothic house, which would be named Paushuizen (Pope's House) in 1522 and is still actually there.

This tour will take you along various places in Utrecht that are connected to Pope Adrian VI. You will see the house where he was born and the house that he had built at the Kromme Nieuwegracht. But you will also come across the medieval churches, some of which are no longer there, to which he was connected. The various museums along the route offer you the opportunity to take a more closer look at the life and times of Adrian of Utrecht.

Possible illustration of Adrian as a priest. It was painted by Francesco Ubertini circa 1525.



From the Korte Nieuwstraat the nave of the Gothic Dom, which had been completed in 1517, could be seen. In order to guarantee the right of way for the chapter lords of Oldminster, the nave was not connected to the tower. There was, however, a chapel bridge that connected the tower and the nave. In 1674 the nave of the Domkerk (Dom church) would be destroyed during a tornado. Painting by Folpert van Ouwen Allen from 1655.

Start tour

At the centre of power: Domplein (Dom square)

Domkerk (Dom church)

1 Construction of the Gothic Domkerk started in 1253 on the place of its 11th century predecessor. In order to be able to continue using the church during construction, which would ultimately take up more than 250 years, the old Roman church was demolished and replaced gradually. In the year Adrian was born, choir, transept and the tower of the new church had already been built.

But the Roman nave of the old Domkerk was still erect. From 1472 onwards the old nave was demolished, after which, at around 1480, construction of the Gothic nave started. When Adrian visited Utrecht in 1497 as an important theologian and held a sermon at the Domkerk, construction of the nave was already going on, but it

was all but finished. This was completely different 17 years later in 1514 when Adrian came to Utrecht for the very last time. In 1512 the construction of the nave was already in such an advanced state that the roof could be put in place. The seven meter high bishop's lodge had by then also been built. The bishop's lodge connected the church with the Domtoren. In 1517, the year in which Adrian's new house at the Kromme Nieuwegracht was built, construction of the nave definitely came to a standstill. Adrian was, incidentally, not only a regular guest at the Domkerk. As of 1495 he also was canon of the Dom chapter.



Reconstruction of the St. Salvator church of the chapter of Oldminster, of which Adrian became provost in 1514. The church was demolished shortly after the reformation of 1580.

Domtoren (Dom tower)

Perhaps as a child, Adrian might have looked up in admiration to the 112.5 meter high Domtoren, but it remains to be seen if he was still looking at it in admiration during his later visits to the city.

In Zwolle, where at a very young age he attended the renowned municipal school, he came in contact with the ideas of the Brothers of the Common Life. The source of inspiration of this brotherhood, Geert Grote, had been speaking quite negatively about the tower in 1374. Grote compared the Domtoren with the tower of Babel and was of the opinion that the money that was used building it, had better been used to give to the sick and the poor. Such a high tower would only lead to boastfulness, vanity and haughtiness. Words that the later Pope Adrian VI himself could have said. And this is not so strange considering the fact that Adrian's years in Zwolle determined most of what he thought and how he acted during the remainder of his life.

Rather provost than Pope

St. Salvator

In Adrian's day there was another big church next to the Domkerk: the St. Salvator, also called Oldminster. Construction of this church dates back to as far as the 8th century. The church was to be demolished shortly after the reformation (1580). Today, the black outlines of the church can be seen in the pavement of the Domplein. Just like the other chapter churches in Utrecht, the Oldminster had a college of canons. They were amongst the most eminent clergy in the Netherlands. In 1514 Adrian was appointed provost, the highest position within the chapter. On 2 June of that year he personally came to Utrecht to take the oath. Three days later he would devote the high mass during the festivities of the patron St. Boniface. With Adrian as provost, the canons of Oldminster had a very influential man in their midst, who at that particular time was one of the councillors of Charles V. For many people in Utrecht he was therefore the central figure to get in touch with the Habsburg court. Although Utrecht at that time was still governed

by its own independent bishop, the influence of the Habsburg court was also very strong: the bishop at that time was Philip of Burgundy, the last bastard child of Philip the Good and therefore distant family of Charles V.

When in 1522 it came out that Adrian had been elected Pope, the canons of Oldminster were very proud. To celebrate the fact that the new Pope came from their chapter, they invited their neighbours for a drink, rang the church bells and gave bread and grain to the poor. In the years following Adrian VI's passing in 1523, he became the figurehead of the chapter, and was almost equal to a saint.

At several places inside the church, illustrations in his memory were put in place, like for instance on the side shutters of the high altar and in the stained windows of the southern transept. On the outside, above the western entrance of the church, Adrian of Utrecht's coat of arms was placed, so that everyone who entered the church could see that such an important man had belonged to this college. In 1549, during the Joyous Entry of the then new monarch Philip II, son of Charles V, the canons of Oldminster had, besides the holy Frederick, also painted Adrian of Utrecht on their triumphal arch. And that is remarkable because these triumphal arches often only carry illustrations of holy founders of the churches.

Route:

Go through the wooded door to the Pandhof (courtyard) of the Domkerk. This door is to the right of the main entrance of the church. Turn left immediately and then go right. You walk across the Courtyard to the exit at Achter de Dom. There, turn to your right. At Pausdam you will see Paushuizen (Pope's House) at your left hand side (Kromme Nieuwegracht 49). (If the door to the Pandhof is closed, walk to the Korte Nieuwstraat, there you turn left onto the Trans. This street leads to Pausdam.)

A house to dream about: Paushuizen (Pope's House)

2 In 1515 Adrian was sent on a secret mission to Spain to secure the claims of Charles V on the Spanish throne. This was necessary because King of the time, Ferdinand II of Aragon, preferred Ferdinand, Charles's younger brother. Adrian's mission was successful and so, after the death of Ferdinand of Aragon on 23 January 1516, he and the influential cardinal Ximenes de Cisneros temporarily took over the interests of Charles V. In March 1516 Charles proclaimed himself King of Spain, but it was not until a year later that he actually went to the country. During the three years that followed, Adrian and Charles V would be travelling through Spain together.



In 1507 Adrian was appointed tutor of Charles V (1500-1558) by Maximilian of Austria. As of 1509 Adrian would be taken up by court life completely. In 1515 Adrian was to go to Spain to secure the succession of Charles. This portrait of Charles V is of circa 1540.

In the meantime, Adrian apparently thought about Utrecht quite often because on 25 January 1517 he bought a house on the grounds of the immunity of Sint-Pieter (St. Peter). Although initially he was quite pleased with it – according to his own words the house to him was 'dearer than all other houses in Utrecht' – , he had it demolished shortly after purchasing it. He then had a new house built, a little more towards the street, in late-Gothic style with alternating layers of brick and natural stone, which even went all the way up to the pinnacles and the chimney. Initially, the front of the house was facing the Pieterskerk (St. Peter's church) and could not be reached from the Kromme Nieuwegracht and Achter St. Pieter. The beautiful southern side front boasted a Salvator sculpture that referred to the chapter of St. Salvator, or Oldminster, of which Adrian had been provost since 1514. In fact, this sculpture revealed at one single glance Adrian's deepest wish. He had, as he wrote several years later in a letter to a friend when he had already been elected Pope, much rather served God as a provost of Oldminster then enjoyed all the dignity as Pope, cardinal and bishop.



Adrian would not live to visit the new house that had now been named Paushuize by the city. The house was inherited by his friend cardinal Willem van Enckenvoirt, who had supported him during his time in Rome. But Van Enckenvoirt would never stay in the house, which he, together with the position of provost of Oldminster, had taken over from Adrian. In his turn, he sold the house off to his cousin Michiel. After the reformation of 1580, Paushuize became private property, and in the years to come it would undergo many changes. It was extended in 1633 with an eastern wing and for the first time a gate and bridge to the Kromme Nieuwegracht were constructed. The in Louis XIV style constructed balcony at Achter St. Pieter dates back to 1714, when an entrance was made on the Achter St. Pieter-side.

Paushuize has had many remarkable owners, like chef and pastry cook Willem Gravelaar, who turned it into a posh hotel in 1795. One of his guests was Hortense de Beauharnais, the wife of King Louis Napoleon. In 1807 Louis bought Paushuize, so he could stay there until his palace at the Wittevrouwentraat in Utrecht would be ready. The people of Utrecht apparently were very pleased about that, because on the day the King came to the city, many citizens went out to greet him. Louis, however, entered the city gates incognito, and while the people and notables were still waiting for him, he was already inside one of the rooms of the house smoking his pipe with the equerry.

As of 1814, Paushuize was used as working space and residence of the governor of the province of Utrecht. Nowadays the house is used as a representative space for the Royal Commissioner and the provincial government.

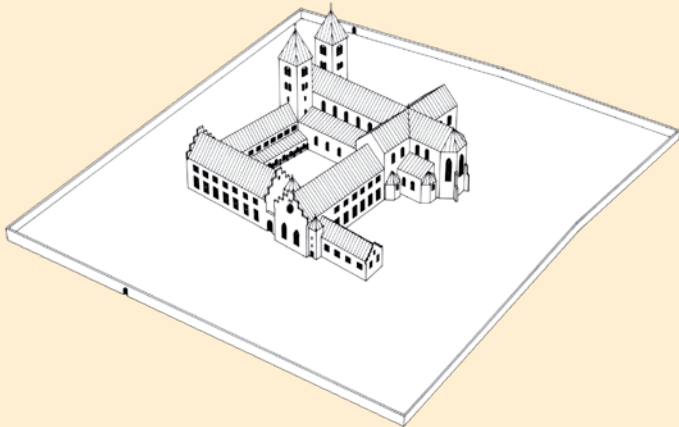
Although Pope Adrian VI never saw the house, there has been a Pope that visited it when John Paul II came to Utrecht in 1985.

Route:

Leaving Pausdam, go to the right side of the Nieuwegracht. After approximately 50 meters to your right you will find the Hofpoort. Enter the Hofpoort. At the end of the alley you will see part of the 11th century Paulusabdij (Abbey of St. Paul's) on your left.

Churches, monasteries and convents

In Adrian's day, about one third of the city of Utrecht was in the possession of churches, monasteries and convents. One of them was the Paulusabdij which dates back to 1050 and which was located south of the St. Salvator. Although at first sight little is left of the old monastery, it appeared during a renovation in the 1950s that the southern wall of the transept of the abbey church is still there. The inside of this wall can be seen from the alley.



^ Reconstruction of the converted Paulusabdij (Abbey of St. Paul) after a great city fire in 1253.

< When Adrian and Charles V were in Spain together in 1517, Adrian had a new house built in Utrecht, which was given the name Paushuize (Pope's House) in 1522. The drawing was made by Jan de Beijer circa 1745.

Route:

Go back to the Hofpoort and turn right onto the Nieuwe-gracht op. Enter the first street on your right, the Hamburgerstraat. After approximately 50 meters you will see a square on your right featuring restaurant and brasserie De Rechtbank and Het Utrechts Archief.

Trails of a medieval monastery: the Paulusabdij (Abbey of St. Paul's)

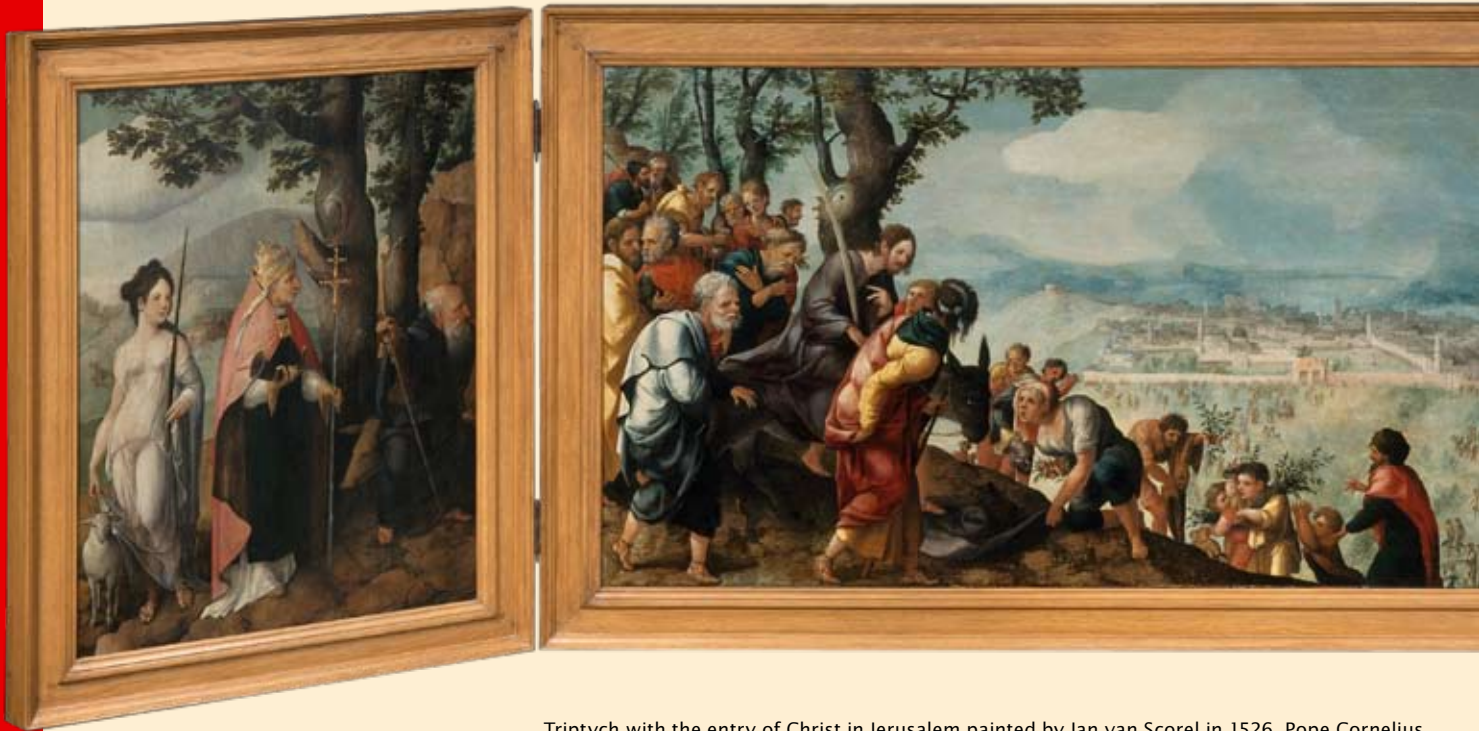
3 The Paulusabdij, which was built in 1050, was closed down shortly after the reformation of 1580 and soon after that it was put into use as Court of Utrecht, the provincial court. The abbey church was taken into use as of 1595 by the chapter of Oldminster, which by now had turned Protestant. The chapter's own St. Salvator church had been demolished in 1587. In 1707, however, the church of the Paulusabdij would also be demolished for most part. In the 19th century, the abbey buildings were converted into the present building located on the corner of the Hamburgerstraat and the Korte Nieuwstraat. With that, all traces of the old abbey seemed to be erased, but during a renovation in the 1950s part of the church wall appeared again. During recent architectural research important remains from the abbey's past were discovered, such as a 13th century pointed arch and an underground

Adrian VI and Luther

The publication on 31 October 1517 of the statements of the German theologist Martin Luther against the trade in indulgences is regarded as the beginning of Protestantism. Two years later the theological faculties of Louvain and Cologne were the first to condemn Luther's statements. In 1520 Luther's books were even thrown on the stake in Louvain. In the same year Luther was excommunicated by Pope Leo X for the first time. Leo's successor Adrian VI also regarded the fight against Lutheranism as one of his most important tasks, but in a completely different manner than his predecessor. Adrian realised that the roots of the reformation could be found in the abuses that had oozed down from the higher ecclesiastical circles. According to him, the recovery of the church could only take place if it, beginning with the Roman Curia, was reformed. He therefore immediately announced regulations against the indulgences trade, the selling of ecclesiastical offices and the wealth of the papal court. Adrian VI himself led an ascetic life just like he had been used to since his education by the Brothers of the Common Life. At the Reichstag in Nuremberg in January 1523 he had a text read in which he exposed the severe abuses in the Roman Curia and the evil that had spread out through the church. This way he tried to frustrate Luther, but this appeared not to be so easy. To make matters worse, Adrian's words were regarded as treason by the Roman Catholics and this made his isolation in the German Empire only greater.

Martin Luther. Painting by Lucas Cranach from 1532.





Triptych with the entry of Christ in Jerusalem painted by Jan van Scorel in 1526. Pope Cornelius, who is depicted on the left shutter with a horn, has got the facial features of Adrian VI.

passage from the 15th century. These remarkable findings are now part of the museological setting of the visitor centre of Het Utrechts Archief, which opened its doors in 2008.

Het Utrechts Archief

(Opening hours: Tue. through Sa. from 10.00 to 17.00 hrs. Free entrance.)

Het Utrechts Archief at the Hamburgerstraat has a permanent exposition about 2000 years of Utrecht history. The exposition highlights historical people, including Adrian VI, who can be seen together with original archive treasures. There is a papal bull on display which belonged to Adrian VI and also on show at the film theatre is historical footage of various films, dating back to 1906.

Route:

Leaving the Hamburgerstraat, turn left to the Lange Nieuwstraat. After approximately 100 meters you see the Museum Catharijneconvent at your left.

Museum Catharijneconvent

(Opening hours: Tue. through Fri. from 10.00 – 17.00 hrs. Sa. and Sun. and holidays from 11.00 – 17.00 hrs.)

4 Museum Catharijneconvent has a permanent exhibition about the history of Christendom in the Netherlands. The museum also has a large collection of medieval paintings and sculptures and an impressive collection of medieval artefacts. The Utrecht rooms pay attention to the position of Utrecht as medieval Capital of Culture. The museum is located in one of the best kept late-medieval monastery buildings in Utrecht, which was built in 1468. So Adrian was nine years old when, not far from where he was born, construction of this Carmelite monastery began...

Route:

Via the entrance of Museum Catharijneconvent you can walk to the Nieuwegracht. There you turn right onto the Nieuwegracht. At the end of the Nieuwegracht you will see on your left a hill with on top bastion Zonnenburg. If you want to visit the bastion then take a left turn.



Jan van Scorel

Priest, diplomat, engineer and painter Jan van Scorel (School 1495 - Utrecht 1562) was appointed by Adrian VI in 1522 as director of the Vatican's art collection where he succeeded Rafael who had died in 1520. Due to his stay in Rome, Jan van Scorel had every opportunity to see both the antique sculptures in the city and the modern Italian Renaissance art of artists like Rafael and Michelangelo. During his stay in Rome, Jan van Scorel painted two paintings of Adrian VI, which, sadly, both got lost. The Centraal Museum does have in its collection a 17th century copy of one of those paintings. After Adrian's death, Jan van Scorel went back to Utrecht where he lived together with Herman van Lokhorst, who had been a good friend of Adrian's since they were children. In assignment of Herman, Jan van Scorel in 1526 painted the Triptych with the entrance of Christ in Jerusalem. The painting clearly shows influences of both the classical antiquity and the Italian Renaissance. The triptych was placed as a retable close to the memorial stone of the Van Lokhorst family at the Domkerk. Presently, it is in the possession of the Centraal Museum.



Museum Sonnenborgh

(Opening hours Tue. through Fri. 11.00 – 17.00 hrs and Sundays and holidays 13.00 to 17.00 hrs.)

5 Zonnenburg is one of the four bastions which by order of Emperor Charles V were built during the mid 16th century. During architectural research in 2000, it appeared that the defences are still largely in their original state. This probably makes it the only bastion from the period of Charles V that is still more or less in tact. Since a couple of years Museum Sonnenborgh is located in the bastion, with exhibitions about the history of remarkable building and about the observatory which also is located there since mid 19th century.

Route:

If you decide not to go the bastion, you should then turn right from the Nieuwegracht into the Agnietenstraat. After approximately 100 meters you can see the Centraal Museum on your left. (If the Museum Catharijneconvent is closed, continue further south along the Lange Nieuwstraat. At the end of this street you turn right into the Agnietenstraat. A little further on you will find the Centraal Museum on your left.)

Centraal Museum

(Opening hours Tue. through Sun. 11.00 – 17.00 hrs.)

6 The Centraal Museum has been located in the 16th century Agnieten monastery at the Nicolaikerkhof since 1921. In the 20th century a neo-Gothic wing was added to the building. Besides city history, and modern and applied art, the Centraal Museum also has in its collection great Utrecht masterpieces such as renowned paintings 16th century artist Jan van Scorel, who was a friend and contemporary of Adrian VI.

Route:

From the Centraal Museum continue to the Agnietenstraat. Here you will go straight ahead into the Nicolaasstraat. At the end of this street turn right to the Twijnstraat, which, after approximately 50 meters runs into the Oudegracht. Turn after about 50 meters left to the Geertebrug.

Festivities on the Geertebrug

7 When the people of Utrecht learned that Adrian had been elected Pope, spontaneous celebrations broke out. On the bridges across the city, huge bonfires were lighted. Those who had created the most spectacular fire were rewarded by the city council with free beer. First prize went to the Bakkerbrug, but four other bridges, including the Geertebrug, got a special mentioning.



It is quite possible that the young Adrian, who lived at the Oudegracht, attended the Geertekerk. In the 15th century, the Geertekerk was one of the four parish churches in town. It is to be believed that he, together with Herman van Lokhorst, also went to the Geerteschool. Drawing by A. Rademaker from 1724.



The Oudegracht in 1759. Left – where the arrow points down – is the birthplace of Adrian of Utrecht. Drawing J. Versteegh.

And to emphasize this, the city council decided that these four bridges should get 'each another barrel of beer'.

Route:

Go across the Geerteburg and straight into the Geertestraat. Turn right at the end. On your left you can see the Geertekerk.

School and church

8 Of many of the clergy of the Utrecht chapters we do not know where they went to school. One exception is Herman van Lokhorst who went to the Latin school near the Geertekerk. It is expected that Adrian, who lived close to Herman's parental home, also attended the Geerteschool. Herman and Adrian, who would also go to the municipal school in Zwolle together, remained friends for the rest of their lives. We do not know where Adrian was baptised and where he went to church as a child. Presumably it was the Geertekerk which was one of the four parish churches in Utrecht during the 15th century, and which was not far from Adrian's birthplace.

Leaving the Geertekerk, walk to the Springweg. Turn right after approximately 50 meters to the Lange Smeestraat. On the Oudegracht turn left to the left side of the canal. After about 30 meters you will reach the Brandsteeg.

Adrian's parental home

9 Adrian Florisz. was born on 2 March 1459 on the corner of the Oudegracht and the Brandsteeg. Father Floris Boeienz. came from a well-to-do family of carpenters and contractors. All we know about his mother is that her name was Geertruid. The house that stood here at the time of Adrian's birth was demolished at the beginning of the 20th century, after which the Pope Adrian school for girls was built here. As a boy, Adrian probably played at and around the Oudegracht, where it was always busy in those days. Late medieval Utrecht had developed into a lively market town. The many arched bridges were used as a marketplace. In order to have sufficient room to display the products, wider bridges were built. Many of the bridges are named after the products that were sold there, like the Bezemburg (brooms), the Broodbrug (bread) and the Huidenbrug (hides). Also the nearby Smeeburg, which was located close to Adrian's parental home, was used as a market bridge. For this reasons it is so exceptionally wide. In Adrian's day, there used to be a grainmarket on both sides of the Oudegracht. As a child he will probably have seen the many men carrying sacks and corn. These men carried the big and heavy sacks of grain into the cellars and the warehouses. He also will have watched the shipmasters, who, with careful precision, had to manoeuvre their barges between the moored grainboats.



In the 18th century a 'Pope's room' in his parental home was furnished with paintings that depicted Adrian's life. Nowadays the paintings are on display in Paushuize.

Adrian VI and Erasmus

At the time of Adrian's election as Pope, humanist Desiderius Erasmus was known because of his publications of writers from the early history of Christendom. His edition of the Greek New Testament, however, had caused a great uproar under many theologians. Following that, Erasmus had found protection from Pope Leo X, but when he died intrigues started again. This time he tried to gain support from Adrian VI, the new Pope of whom he expected a lot. Erasmus and Adrian knew each other from Louvain, where Adrian had offered him a professorship in Louvain but which Erasmus had declined. He did, however, attend several of Adrian's classes in 1502. At the time of Adrian's papal reign, matters, however, were quite different and the two men desperately needed each other. Erasmus was still looking for protection from the Pope and Adrian wanted Erasmus to involve himself in the struggle with Luther by writing a powerful article against Luther's.

But Erasmus declined and he did not go to Rome either, as Adrian would have liked. He did, however, warn the Pope not to act too harshly against the Lutherans because this would only interfere with the return of former Lutherans. But in the meantime the gap between the Protestants and the Catholic church had become so huge that a moderate attitude was no longer realistic. Although Erasmus did understand some of Luther's grievances and also endorsed them, he rejected his teachings and his sometimes reckless way of handling things. He was, however, not prepared wholeheartedly to take the side of the Catholics either. And so Adrian VI and Erasmus kept dodging the question. They wanted to and they did not. This game between the two of them clearly comes forward in the six letters that Adrian VI and Erasmus wrote to each other between August 1522 and March 1523.

Desiderius Erasmus. Painting by Hans Holbein from 1523.



Route:

Enter the Brandsteeg. Turn right after 20 meters. Continue along the footpath. You are now walking on the former grounds of the 13th century Regulierenklooster (Regular monastery). The white plastered house on your left is what is left of the monastery. The sleeping quarters and the dining room were located there. After approximately 40 meters take a left turn. Go through the gate to the Springweg. Also the buildings, of which the gate is part, belonged to the monastery. Here, the infirmary and the workplaces could be found. Take a right turn to the Springweg. After 80 meters you can see on your left the monastery of the Knights of the Teutonic Order, where now Grand Hotel Charles V is located.

Tutor of Charles V

10 Six years after the birth of Charles V on 24 February 1500 in Ghent, his father Philip the Fair died. His mother Johanna of Aragon, who was nicknamed The Mad, was not fit to raise her children. Charles therefore grew up at the court of his aunt Margaret of Austria in Mechelen. One year after the death of his father, Emperor Maximilian, Charles's grandfather, appointed Adrian as one of the tutors of his grandson. Although Adrian stayed on as professor at the University until 1515, he was completely taken up by life at court as of 1509. Soon he was held in high regard there and as of 1512 he was also allowed to call himself councillor of Charles. They trusted Adrian so much that in 1515 he was sent to Spain in order to secure the succession of Charles. However, when Adrian became Pope in 1522, he did not obviously take the side of Charles V. Adrian VI loathed the continuous battle between his former pupil Charles and Francis I, the King of France. The Pope did whatever he could to bring them closer together so that the two could fight off the advancing Turks together. After the fall of Rhodes on 21 December 1522, collaboration between the Christian monarchs only became more pressing. When the belligerent plans of Francis I became too obvious, Adrian's only option was to enter into a pact with Charles V and Henry VIII of England against France. But the disappointment about that took its toll. Shortly after the proclamation of the pact on 5 August 1523 Adrian fell ill and became bedridden. Several weeks later, on 14 September 1523, he died.

Charles V, who had become Emperor in 1519, took over all secular power in Utrecht in 1528. Negotiations in Rome were carried by Adrian's former confidant Willem van Enkenvoirt. During a visit to Utrecht in 1546, the new leader stayed at the monastery building of the Knights of the Teutonic Order. The name of the present five-star hotel refers to this prominent visit.



∨ Adrian also had been canon of St. Marie since 1511. In 1636 Pieter Saenredam made a drawing of the choir and transept of the 11th century Mariakerk (Maria church) from the northeast.



∧ In 1528 emperor Charles V took over secular power in Utrecht. Shortly after that he had the coat of arms, which the city had installed at the honour of pope Adrian VI, the former tutor of Charles, replaced by his own coat of arms. In 1546 Charles V was a guest at the monastery building of the Knights of the Teutonic Order.

Route:

Continue on the Springweg. After about 70 meters you will reach the Mariaplaats. Cross this diagonally to your left towards the high blue gates. There you will find the monastery corridor of the 11th century Mariakerk (Maria church).

Canon of St. Marie

11 Although Adrian had left Utrecht at a very young age, he still held several ecclesiastical positions that guaranteed part of his income. He was Dom canon (1505-1517 and 1520-1523), provost of Oldminster (1514-1523) and canon of St. Marie (1511-1523). And it was not just for show, because with his extensive network Adrian could arrange some quite important matters with the court of Habsburg. He also mediated regularly in conflicts for the chapters as well as the city council.

Five years after Adrian's passing, Jan van Scorel also became canon of St. Marie in 1528. He lived in various houses on the grounds of the immunity, including what is presently known as Achter Clarenburg 2. In his artist studio in Utrecht, he was to create many of his famous works of art, which clearly show influences of the Italian Renaissance. As mentioned, this was due to Adrian VI who had appointed him in 1522 as director of the Vatican antiquities in Rome. Jan van Scorel died in 1562, after

which in the western gallery of the Mariakerk a memorial stone was erected for him. The monument, which was actually designed by Jan van Scorel himself, was removed in 1712. In the 19th century the Mariakerk was demolished. The only part of the church that has remained is the Pandhof which dates back to the 12th century.

Route:

Go back to the Mariaplaats and turn into the Zadelstraat, into the direction of the Domtoren. After approximately 50 meters, turn left into the Donkerstraat. Then take the first street right, to the Buurkerk.

Festive bread for the poor: the Buurkerk

12 Not only the chapter of Oldminster was in a celebrative mood when Adrian became Pope. The city council also organised a reception and several festivities with bonfires and music. It also gave 3000 loafs of bread to the poor, at places like the Buurkerk (Buurchurch). To show its pride, the city council had Adrian's coat of arms installed in the Buurkerk and in the four gates of the city. When Charles V in 1528 took over power in the city, he replaced the coats of arms of his former tutor by those of his own.



The entry of Adrian VI in Rome on 28 August 1522, as illustrated on this memorial stone at the Santa Maria dell'Anima.



Commemorative medal from 1522 with pope Adrian VI and left his personal coat of arms and right the coat of arms of the city of Utrecht.

The people of Utrecht were also in high spirits. The city council even had to hire 53 'workmen' to make sure the nightly celebrations would not get out of hand. For several nights, musicians played on the Stadhuisbrug at the honour and triumph of Adrian VI.

Also at the honour of Adrian's election, there was a huge procession which went along the inside of the city wall. 'Each good citizen' could 'at the honour of God and all Holy Relics' walk with burning torches at the head of the procession. Besides the relics, the procession also carried an illustration of Adrian.

In Rome, however, they were not all that pleased with this 'barbarian' from the north, who not only wanted to carry through cutbacks but also wanted to thoroughly reform the church. Cardinals, for instance, suddenly were not allowed to have beards anymore. This had been the case for the clergy for some time, but yet, it was all the fashion at the time. The austerity of Adrian VI contrasted sharply with the exuberance of the art and party loving Leo X. It was even said that the barbaric Pope in his palace ate cod and drank beer, which was about the cheapest you could get. In hostile Rome, where Adrian also had to deal with huge secular problems, the Pope from Utrecht must have felt very unhappy and lonely. The inscription on his first memorial stone in the St. Peter mentions 'that there was nothing more that he regarded as unhappy than to rule the world'. And how much he wanted to, his dream to end his days as provost of Oldminster in his beautiful house in Utrecht, would never

become true. And while Adrian VI was buried at St. Peter, Rome was celebrating and hoping that the golden age of Leo X would return. But in Utrecht the canons and the people must have been in deep mourning. Not only was there no longer someone from Utrecht on the Holy See, but with the passing of Adrian they also lost the most influential figure Utrecht had at the time. Perhaps the writing on Adrian's second memorial stone, in the Santa Maria dell'Anima, where Adrian's body was transferred to in 1533, expressed best what the people of Utrecht and in the rest of the Low Countries thought: 'Oh woe, what difference does it make in which time the virtue of even the best man falls!'

Route:

Walk right along the Buurkerk. Then go across to your right. Via the Maartensbrug and the Servetstraat you will reach the Dimplein again.

Adrian of Utrecht in years

1459

Born on 2 March at the Oudegracht in Utrecht.

14??-1476

Latin school in Utrecht and municipal school in Zwolle.

1476

Enlisted on 1 June to the faculty of 'Artes' of the University of Louvain.

1478 -1490

Studies theology and teaches at the faculty of 'Artes' in Louvain. On 30 January he becomes canon of St. Peter in Louvain.

1491

On 18 June promoted doctor. Adrian gradually becomes the leading theologian in Louvain. He acquires several positions like parish priest of the Groot Begijnhof (Great Beguinage) in Louvain and parish priest of Goedereede.

1493

Becomes vice-chancellor of the University of Louvain. (The second time he became vice-chancellor was between 1500-1501)

1497

Dean of St. Peter in Louvain and vice-chancellor at the university.

1502

Desiderius Erasmus arrives in Louvain and attends several of Adrian's lectures.

1505

Canon of the Dom chapter in Utrecht.

1506

Councillor of Margaret of Austria.

1507

Tutor of Charles V.

1509

From now on Adrian is completely taken up by life at court.

1511

Canon of St. Marie in Utrecht.

1512

Councillor of Charles V.

1514

Provost of Oldminster in Utrecht.

1515

Travels to Spain to secure the claims of Charles on the throne.

1516

After the death of the Spanish King Ferdinand II on 23 January, Adrian and cardinal Ximenes de Cisneros look after the interests of Charles. On 13 March 1516, Charles proclaims himself King of Spain. On 18 August Adrian is appointed bishop of Tortosa.

1517

Construction of (what later would be) Paushuize in Utrecht. On 1 July Adrian is appointed cardinal.

1520

Charles V leaves Spain after having been in the country for three years. Adrian stays behind as regent.

1522

After eleven voting rounds Adrian is elected Pope on 9 January. On 8 March he accepts, and chooses his own name and becomes Adrian VI. After months of preparation he arrives in Rome on 29 August. On 31 August he is crowned at St. Peter. Adrian strives for reconciliation between the Christian monarchs in order to be able to jointly fight the Turks, but his plan fails. In an attempt to frustrate Martin Luther, Adrian admits at the Reichstag of Neuremburg that the church has made mistakes and that there are abuses inside the Roman Curia. The attempt backfires: the Catholics feel betrayed by the Pope and the Lutherans see it as a confirmation of their right by the Pope.

1523

On 5 August Adrian finally enters into a pact with Charles V and Henry VIII against France. Shortly after that he becomes ill. He dies on 14 September 1523. Initially he is buried at St. Peter, but in 1533, by the agency of Willem van Enckenvoirt, he is moved to a mausoleum at the Santa Maria dell'Anima in Rome.

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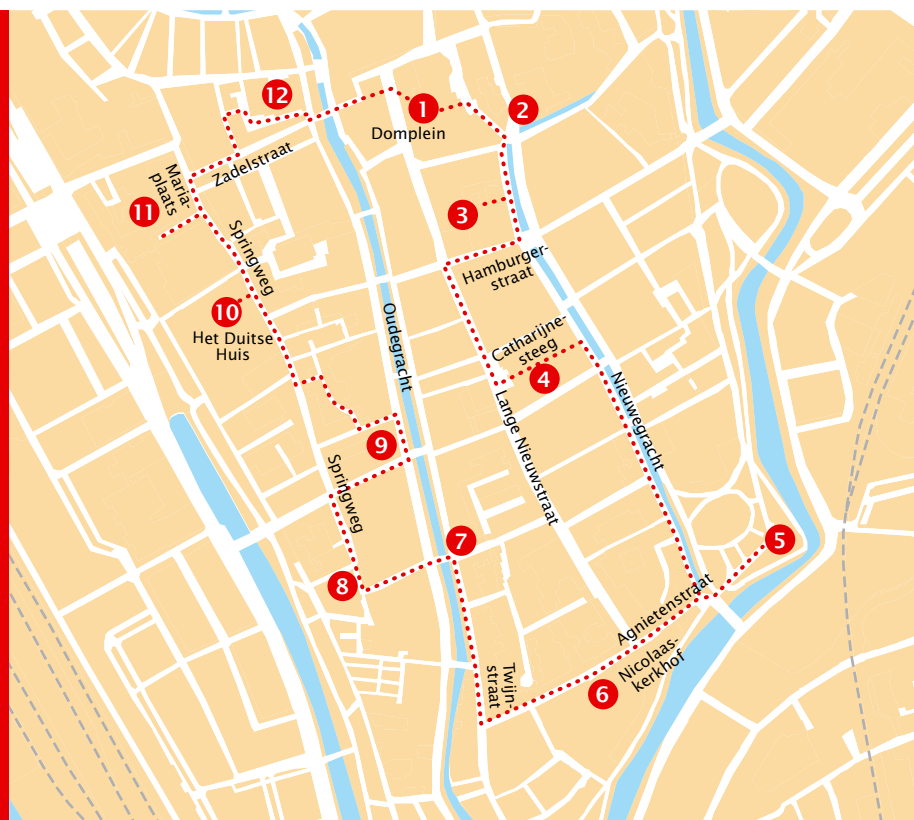
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Legend map

- 1 Domplein
- 2 Paushuize
- 3 Het Utrechts Archief
- 4 Museum Catharijneconvent
- 5 Museum Sonnenborgh
- 6 Centraal Museum
- 7 Geertebrug
- 8 Geertekerkerk
- 9 BirthplaceAdriaan
- 10 Duitse Huis
- 11 Mariakerk
- 12 Buurkerk

Lengte: 3,2 km

Imprint

Publication

Utrecht City Council

StadsOntwikkeling, Stedenbouw en Monumenten
in collaboration with Stadspromotie

Texts

StadsOntwikkeling

René de Kam

Translation

Translate! Text&Translations, Gabriëlla van Karsbergen,
Utrecht

Illustrations

b p k Photo Agency, Berlin: p. 12.

b p k Photo Agency, Berlin/Lutz Braun: p. 7 (below)

b p k Photo Agency, Berlin/Museumslandschaft Hessen,
Kassel: p. 2.

Centraal Museum, Utrecht: cover, p. 3, 5, 8, 14 (right).

Daan Claessen, Cultuurhistorie gemeente Utrecht: p. 4.

Maarten van Deventer, Cultuurhistorie gemeente Utrecht:
p. 14.

Het Utrechts Archief: p. 6, 7, 9 right, 10, 11, 13.

Design

Grif | grafisch ontwerp, Utrecht

Printing

De Groot Drukkerij bv, Goudriaan

Date

July 2009

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Cover:

Pope Adrian VI. 17th century copy after a Jan van Scorel painting.