

1. Arrival

Welcome to the city of Leiden! The host of Leiden University, the oldest university in the Netherlands existing since 1575. As you find your way around town, you will discover that the university premises are scattered throughout the city. The large numbers of students who live and study in Leiden give the city a relaxed and vibrant atmosphere.

Take a look at this website for everything you want to know about Leiden:

<https://www.visitleiden.nl/en>

✓ Lipsius

Address: Cleveringaplaats 1

Website (opening hours can be found there):

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/locations/lipsius#tab-1>

2. Transportation

2.1 Public transport

General information regarding public transportation in the Netherlands can be found on this website: <https://www.holland.com/global/tourism/getting-around/information/getting-around-in-the-netherlands/public-transport-in-the-netherlands>

On these websites you can plan your trip online: <https://9292.nl/en/> or <https://www.ns.nl/en/journeyplanner/#/>

General information regarding local and regional public transportation:

- ✓ **Busses:** most busses leave from the bus station in front of Leiden Central Station. Also at the bus station there are timetables to inform you about the departure times of the busses.
- ✓ **Trains:** from Leiden Central Station you can take trains in the direction of for example Amsterdam, Utrecht, The Hague, and Gouda. The website <https://www.ns.nl/en/journeyplanner/#/> allows you to plan your train trip in detail.



Keep in mind that you will need an OV-chipkaart if you want to use the public transport (see: 'OV-chipkaart'). But it is also possible to buy various tickets at the vending machines at the stations or in the NS website/app:

<https://www.ns.nl/en/tickets>. You can also pay directly with your card without buying a ticket beforehand. All information is available here: <https://www.ns.nl/en/travel-information/check-in-check-out/debit-card>

- ✓ More information on OV-chipkaart

<https://9292.nl/en/fares-and-public-transport/ov-chipkaart>

2.2 Bicycle rent

The most convenient and common transportation in and around the city is a bicycle. There are several bike shops in the city where you can rent a bicycle. Here are two examples, but there are many more places where you can rent. Take a look at their websites for prices and additional information.

- ✓ **Oldenburger Fietsspecialist**
Address: Stationsplein 1B-C, 2312 AJ Leiden
Website: <https://www.olden-burger.nl/engels>
- ✓ **Easy Fiets**
Address: Haagweg 8, 2311AA, Leiden
Website: www.easyfiets.nl
- ✓ **OV-fiets (personal OV-chipkaart is needed with a OV-fiets season ticket)**
Website: <https://www.ns.nl/en/door-to-door/ov-fiets>
Actual availability of OV-fiets on Leiden Centraal:
<https://ovfietsbeschikbaar.nl/locatie/ledn002>



2.3 Taxi

In case you need a taxi, you can contact the following taxi companies. Keep in mind that taxis in the Netherlands are often much more expensive than public transport. However, you can also always try to get an Uber, which is often much cheaper.

- ✓ **Taxi Centrale Leiden**
Website: <https://taxicentraleleiden.nl/>
Telephone number: + 31712100210
- ✓ **Taxi Wielkens**
Website: <https://www.wielkens.nl/en/book-a-taxi-online/>
Telephone number: +31715890503



3. Tourist information

3.1 Tourist information center Leiden

The Tourist Information Centre in Leiden at Stationsweg 26, 2312 AV Leiden, can provide you with ideas for trips, walking tours, information on public transport, maps, but you can also buy souvenirs, postcards and much more here.

<https://www.visitleiden.nl/en/plan-your-visit/tourist-information>

3.2 How to spend your free time and weekend

There are many ways how you can spend your free time and weekend in and around the city. Leiden offers a broad variety of options and the Netherlands is a relatively small country in which you can easily travel around and discover many new places. Take a look at these websites for some inspiring ideas and recommendations.

In Leiden: <https://www.visitleiden.nl/en>

Leiden event calendar: <https://www.visitleiden.nl/en/event-calendar>

In the Netherlands: <https://www.holland.com/global/tourism.htm>

To give you a brief idea on what you can do in and around Leiden, several recommendations from a local living and born in Leiden:

- ✓ Go for a walk through the historic city center of Leiden and do not forget to visit some of its hidden treasures called 'hofjes':
<https://www.visitleiden.nl/en/highlights/courtyard-gardens>
- ✓ Visit one of the interesting museums: <https://www.visitleiden.nl/en/culture/museums>
- ✓ Visit the lively weekly Saturday street market along the Nieuwe Rijn:
<https://www.visitleiden.nl/en/what-to-do/shopping>
- ✓ Marvel at the beautiful plants and relax in the botanical garden of Leiden called De Hortus Botanicus <https://www.hortusleiden.nl/en/>
- ✓ Discover the lake district called De Kaag & Braassem next to Leiden:
<https://rondomkaagenbraassem.nl/en/homepage>
- ✓ Go to the beach, eat fresh haring, and walk or cycle through the sand dunes in Katwijk or Noordwijk. Both towns are also easy to reach by bus from Leiden Central Station.
Katwijk: <https://www.vvkatwijk.nl/en>
Noordwijk: <https://www.noordwijk.info/en/discover-noordwijk>
- ✓ Visit other cities close to Leiden such as Delft, Den Haag, Utrecht, Rotterdam and Amsterdam.

3.3 Restaurants and lunch rooms

The city of Leiden hosts many great restaurants and lunch rooms with delicious food. If you feel like going on a small adventure, but at the same time you don't want to get lost, you can go for a walk through streets such as: Kloksteeg, Heresteeg, Nieuwe Rijn, Beestenmarkt, and Noordeinde. In these streets you will find several places where you can get something to eat. For more information take a look at: <https://www.visitleiden.nl/en/what-to-do/food-drinks>

Recommendations from a local living and born in Leiden:

- ✓ Koffiehuis 't Suppiershuysinghe, Gerecht 2, 2311 TC Leiden
- ✓ Restaurant BurgerZaken, Breestraat 123, 2311 CM Leiden
- ✓ Trattoria Italiana City Hall, Stadhuisplein 3, 2311 EJ Leiden
- ✓ Annie's, Hoogstraat 1a, 2312 JA Leiden
- ✓ Café Barrera, Rapenburg 56, 2311 EX Leiden
- ✓ Hortus Grand Café, Rapenburg 73a, 2311 GJ Leiden
- ✓ Café l'Espérance, Kaiserstraat 1, 2311 GN Leiden
- ✓ Bistro Noroc, Pieterskerk-Choorsteeg 4, 2311 TR Leiden
- ✓ Bagels & Beans, Maarsmansteeg 8, 2311 EE Leiden



3.4 Dutch language and culture

In case you wish to learn a bit more about Dutch language and culture we have written down some basic words and phrases for you to practice. In addition, take a look at this website and YouTube channels for more information:

- ✓ Stuff Dutch People Like: <https://stuffdutchpeoplelike.com/>
- ✓ Survival Guide to the Dutch <https://www.youtube.com/user/dutchsurvivalguide>

Acquaintance

- ✓ Hi = Hallo / Hoi / Hi
- ✓ How are you? = Hoe gaat het?
- ✓ I'm good = Met mij gaat het goed
- ✓ Bye! = Doei!
- ✓ See you! = Tot ziens!

Greetings

- ✓ Good morning = Goedemorgen
- ✓ Good afternoon = Goedemiddag
- ✓ Good evening = Goedenavond

(Dis)agreement and politeness

- ✓ Yes = Ja
- ✓ No = Nee
- ✓ Please = Alsjeblieft
- ✓ Thank you = Dankjewel



3.5 Emergency

The emergency telephone number in Europe is **112**

3.6 Map walking route: railway station to Lipsius

