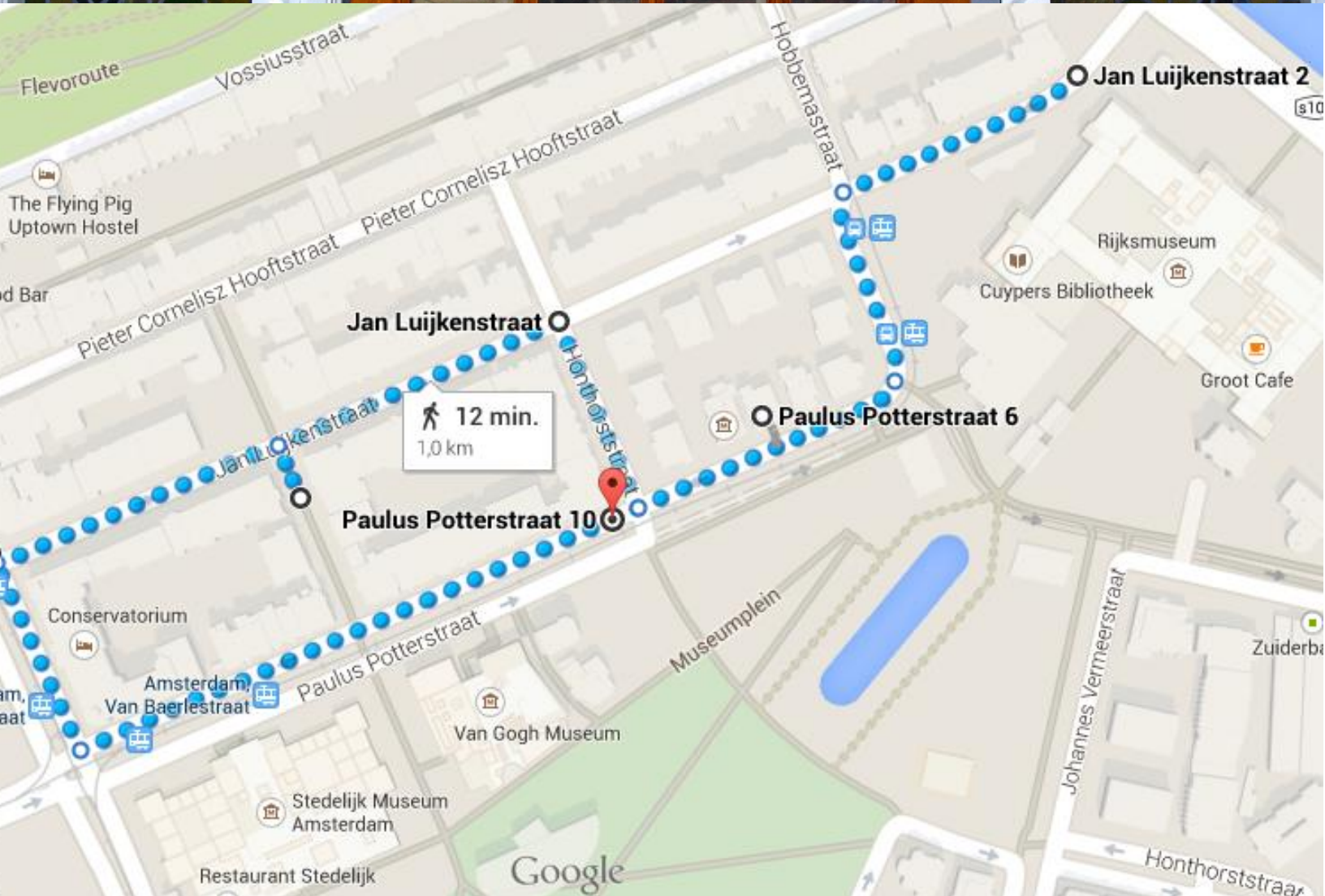


# Art Nouveau Tour

## Museumkwartier



## Did You know..

*Art nouveau (the "new art") was a widely influential, but relatively short-lived movement that emerged in the final decade of the 19th century and was already beginning to decline a decade later. This movement was aimed at creating design more appropriate to the modern age. The movement is characterized by organic, flowing lines - forms resembling the stems and blossoms of plants – and the use of symbolism.*

*In the Netherlands, art nouveau was soon followed by new movements such as Art Deco and the Amsterdamse School which emerged shortly after in the 1920's. The latter was even started by former employees of the important art nouveau architect Eduard Cuypers.*

## Walk the Walk in about 25 minutes

This walk will take about 25 minutes without breaks, but it is best to combine it with a lunch at one of the museums or a look inside one of the hotels. This walk starts at the Jan Luijkenstraat number 2, opposite of



the Rijksmuseum. "*Het huis*" as it was called, was built by Eduard Cuypers around 1899. He was a cousin of the famous architect Pierre Cuypers, who designed the Rijksmuseum. Edward was inspired by art nouveau, looking

to build something modern. This is visible in the fencing with flowing lines, asymmetric structure of the building and arched windows.

Walk further down the *Jan Luijkenstraat* until you get to the intersection of the *Hobbemastraat* and the *Jan Luijkenstraat*. We will go left here into



the *Hobbemastraat*, but first take a few steps into the *Jan Luijkenstraat* to look at number 28. The light yellow house on your right was designed by architect Gerrit van Arkel in 1897. The

art nouveau design is evident with organic forms in the decoration of the stained-glass windows, iron fence on the front doors and small round windows in the left "tower".

At your left you see the beautiful 'terrazzo-fries' of three dancing women by Putti on the sidewall of the villa on *Hobbemastraat* number 12. "*Lizzy Cottage*" as the Villa is called, was designed by Adriaan Willem Weissman around 1901 for Engelbertus van Essen, the brother



**Tip: Enjoy a coffee in the garden**

*It might still be a little too early in the tour, but if you feel like a short break, here is a tip! On a sunny day I enjoy a coffee in the garden of the Rijksmuseum. There is a small "garden house" where you can buy coffee, tea and lemonade. There are very comfortable chairs in the garden around the fountain and you might even be entertained by people trying to run over it! You get there by walking from the Museumsquare towards the Rijksmuseum. On the right side of the passenger path that leads to the entrance of the museum, you can enter the garden.*

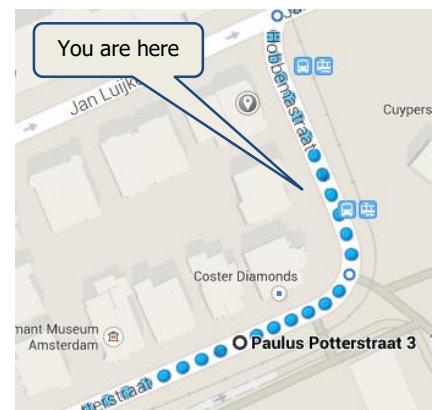
*If you are less fortunate and it is not so sunny or raining, you can enter the Rijksmuseum to have a cup of coffee there. You do not need to pay for your entrance to get into the café.*

of the famous painter Jan van Essen. At the moment of writing this tour, the house is owned by the owner of G-star. The picture on the front corbel shows "putti with guirlandes".



Left of Lizzy Cottage, on the *Hobbemastraat*, you see the striking double-villa designed by Evert Breman in 1902. Breman also designed the double villa on the *Honthorststraat* number 5-7 that we will see further on in this tour. The art nouveau influence is clearly visible in the curved façade and stained-glass. The glass in the front door shows curved stalks and leaves ending in flowers. Number 14 was sold in 2014 for a stunning 3.4 million euros, according to the local newspaper!

We move on around the corner where the *Hobbemastraat* continues into the *Paulus Potterstraat*. You will see the Museumsquare on your left, and the Coster Diamond Museum on your right. You can take a free tour at the museum so you can have a look inside if you want. This way you can admire the inside of this impressive building.



The third villa on your right is number 6, which was built in 1902. The villa was commissioned by J.E. Vita Israël and possibly designed by Abraham Salm. Have a closer look at the extraordinary decorated fencing

on the front door and in front of the windows on the ground floor.



## Sometimes very subtle..

*Art nouveau in Amsterdam is often not very explicit but rather subtle and combined with other art styles. This might also be why Amsterdam is not known for its art nouveau architecture like Paris or Brussels.*

*Nonetheless, when you look at details on the buildings, the influence of the movement is still visible. Look for plant-derived details in the fences on balconies and windows. Also look at the arches in the façades, the stained-glass windows, and decorated front doors. These details show the passion for craftsmanship and the drive to create a work of art.*



The iron material, whiplash curves and shapes are inspired by nature and are typical influences from the art nouveau movement.

The villa on the corner of the *Paulus Potterstraat* and the *Honthorststraat* is called "Villa Roelvink". This villa stems from 1899 and shows the transition from art nouveau to the Berlagiaanse style. It was designed by A.L. van Gendt & Zonen and was built as a residence for sir A. Roelvink, president of the Twentsche Bank.



Continue in the *Honthorststraat* where you will see a complex built by Roelof Kuiper on your left. Roelof was a young architect looking for an alternative for the Dutch neorenaissance. He combined art nouveau decoration, visible in the arching windows, coloured and glazed bricks and stained-glass windows, with realism. Turn to the other side of the *Honthorststraat* and the art nouveau influence is less subtle. The

magnificent villa at numbers 5 and 7 was built by E. Breman in 1902. As mentioned, this is the same architect who built the villa on the *Paulus Potterstraat*. Do you see any resemblance?



The villa has a detailed decorated fence both around the premises and on the balcony. Also take a closer look at the front door and the decorations in the stained-glass windows above it!

Further down the street you will get to the intersection with the *Jan Luijkenstraat*, turn left here. On your right you see the impressive building of the *Bildenberg hotel Jan Luyken*. This building was designed by P. van de Vliet in 1899 and was originally a residence before it became  
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## The Jan Luijkenstraat

*Jan Luyken was a poet and a painter from the 17<sup>th</sup> century who was born and raised in Amsterdam as son of a teacher.*

*The Jan Luijkenstraat is said to be one of the most beautiful streets of Amsterdam. It is green in spring and summer because of the approximately 80 trees lining up next to the street. Most trees are *Robinia pseudoacacia*'s, with some additional *Gleditsia triacantholt*. The street houses over 7 hotels, which is not surprising since it is situated in walking distance to both the shopping street P.C. Hoofdstraat and the main museums.*

*The buildings on- and around the Jan Luijkenstraat were all built around 1900, the same time art nouveau was flourishing in Europe. This is why it's also home to the cities richest variety of art nouveau decorated front doors.*



a hotel. It has a remarkable entrance with mosaic tile artwork on your left and right when you enter the door. The same goes for the building on the left of the hotel, nr. 60 – 62. Also, don't forget to look up to see the decorated balcony on the second floor.



On the other side of the street you see *Hotel Aalders* (nr. 13-15). This hotel was designed by J.J. van Noppen in 1903. Take a good look at the details on the entrances and remember to look up because the façade has stunning art nouveau decoration. Also, the iron fences around the balcony, made out of intersperse curved lines resembling the stems of plants should not be overlooked. Back to the other side of the street, (yes this part of the tour is going to be busy),



numbers 64-66 are worth your undivided attention. They were built by L. Kok in 1092 and the entrances of these buildings are breathtaking! If you have the time, come back at night because if you are lucky the light in the hallway is on and the effect this has on the on the stained-glass windows around the front door is stunning! The same goes

for numbers 68-72, which were built in 1903 by J. Herman. They have the same detail in the entrance and beautiful elongated, curvy lines in the window frames of the corbels.



Time to go back to the other side of the street. Numbers 21- 27 were built by Foeke Kuipers, the brother of Roelof Kuipers, in 1903. The design was authorized by Eduard Cuypers, the architect of the *Jan Luykenstraat 2*, who was chairman of the commission for architecture-supervision at that time. Take a closer look at the iron fences on the balconies, the whiplash shape of the windows in the corbels and again the front doors. There is a great amount of detail evident in these structures if you look close enough.



The building at numbers 29-33 is home to Hotel van Gogh these days. It was built in 1902 and designed by the architect H. Bonda. The structure of the building was influenced by the work of Berlage, who was his teacher and mentor. The art nouveau influence is evident in the mosaic tile artwork next to the entrances and in the decoration of the front doors and facade. Take a look at the woodcarving on the two doors and the stained-glass decorations on windows above them. During the day they are hidden in the shade but at night the flowers are illuminated by the hallway light.



The current entrance of the hotel is on the *van de Veldestraat*. Take a look into this crossing street that is named after the great Henry van de Velde, who had a profound role in the art nouveau movement across Europe. The mosaic tile artwork on the wall, across the hotel entrance, dates from 1902. Further down the street small decorations, like is shown here on the left, require a closer look to be



discovered but are worth your time.



Continuing on the *Jan Luykenstraat*, notice the mosaic tile artwork at the entrance of number 39. Number 37 – 49 were built in 1903 by Foeke Kuipers, who also designed numbers 21- 27. Can you see his signature in the shape of the balconies, windows and front doors? Again don't forget to look up, the architect has placed small creatures on the façade of number 49, next to the rain pipe.

## The conservatorium hotel

*At the end of the Jan Luijkenstraat you will see the Conservatorium hotel on your left hand. Take a look inside this historic building with recently restored Art Nouveau tiles in the stairwells. You can also enjoy a coffee in the lobby.*

*The building dates from 1901 and was designed by D.E.C Knuttel. At that time, the location was at the very periphery of the city. The building was designed to house the headquarter of the Dutch savings bank RPS, later the Postgiro bank. After the bank left in 1985 it was used by the Sweelink conservatory until 2008. When they moved to the Oosterdoekiland, the building was renovated by architect André van Stigt and made suitable for a hotel.*



On the other side of the street, numbers 92-96 are worth your attention. They were built by the architect J.J. Noppen in 1902, who also designed



the building of hotel Aalders at number 13. The building was intended as a residence, but it was used by a domestic science

school from 1904 until 1907. Today it is used as an office space, which has led to some alterations in the entrance. Still, it has a remarkable façade with great details and flowing shapes.

We are now at the end of the Jan Luijkenstraat. Take a left to the Van Baerlestraat where you will have the Conservatorium hotel on your left and the Stedelijk museum in front of you. There is a big sunny terrace at the Stedelijk museum where you can enjoy lunch. You can also lunch like the locals do on a sunny day; get some food at the Albert Heijn a bit further down the street and have a sandwich on the grass of the museum square.

The tour continues at the *Paulus Potterstraat* numbers 40-42, which were built by Herman Baanders in 1902. Baanders was the son of an architect and was a pupil of Pierre Cuypers. He mainly designed factories and churches but he also designed villas and residences for the rich owners of these factories. His work is known for the Amsterdamse School influence that emerged shortly after in the 1920's, but in his earlier work you see subtle art nouveau influences in the details on the façade and windows.

**Roelof, Tjeerd and Foeke  
Kuipers**

*The three brothers Kuipers moved with their parents from Friesland to Amsterdam around 1880. Being sons of a wood worker and constructor, they were inspired to become architects. All three have been very successful in their profession and all three have made their mark on the architecture of Amsterdam.*



We move on to *Paulus Potterstraat* number 10, which is part of the large complex that continues on the *Honthorststraat* around the corner. The entire complex was designed by Roelof Kuipers in 1900. Take a distant look at the stained-glass window which has a peacock as the epitome of art nouveau style. Also notice the flowers on the windows a bit higher. Walk via the *Honthorststraat* to the *Jan Luijkenstraat* to see this complex as a whole and recognize the intersperse pattern of the tiles and consistent color.

**The end and more..**

You are at the Museum square again and we are at the end of this tour. If you are not tired yet, take a look at one of the four(!) museums around this square or indulge yourself with some high end shopping on the *P.C Hoofdstraat*. If you prefer to sit after a long walk, the concert building is also a good choice! We hope you have enjoyed the tour, and if you would like to see more of Amsterdam's art nouveau, go to our website at [www.artnouveauamsterdam.com](http://www.artnouveauamsterdam.com).