

Discover Ghent SPIN Walking Tour
(About an hour, 4 km)
From “het pand” to “Bar Mirwaar”

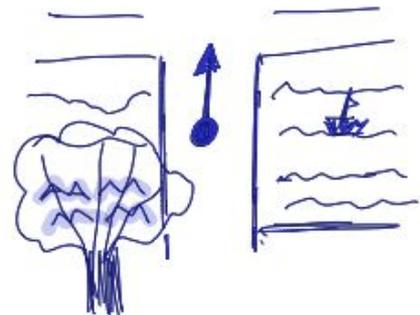
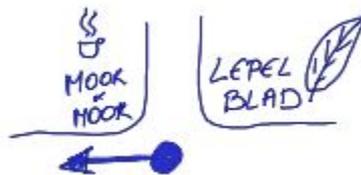
Navigation technique convention: “follow straight until otherwise indicated”. The circle mark is where you are, the arrow indicates the direction you need to follow. Some waypoints/landmarks will be indicated with circles along the way.

There are five questions along the way, which answers give you a letter from a word. At the end of the tour, you may submit a small piece of paper to me (Sarah) with your teams’ name and the word, and perhaps you win a little something during the dinner.

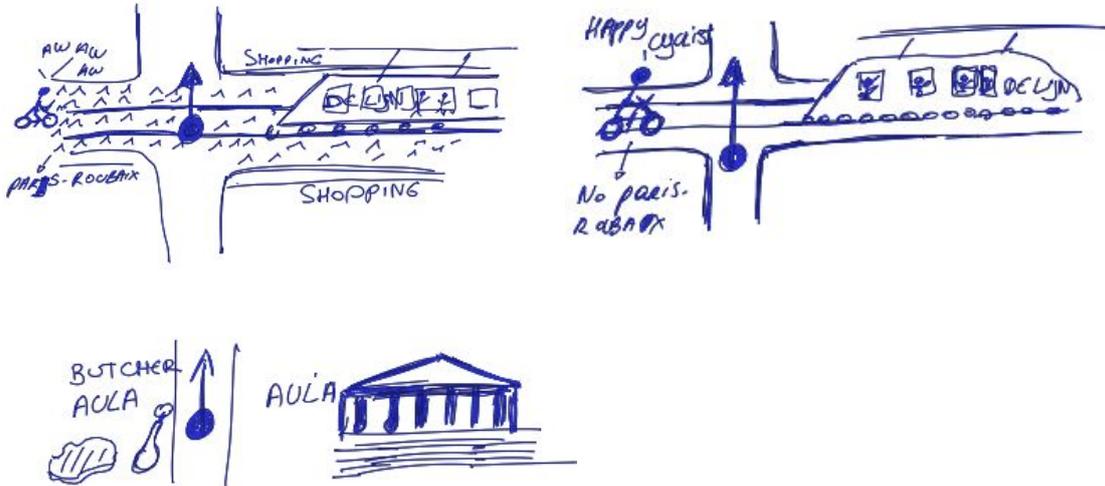
In the first part of this tour, you are an academic pur sang and will take the same steps the “Togati” take every year on the “Dies Natalis”, the birthday of Ghent University. We are a bit over 200 years old (est. 1817) and a classical university with all disciplines represented. The room where we have the conference typically serves as the start of the “Togati Tour”, where someone reads the order (of importance) in which you need to walk (names and titles), the regular professors are not individually named and only come at the very end of the procession, they walk grouped per faculty. The colors of the Toga represent the different faculties. Can you guess what the color of the Engineering faculty is?



- Red (P)
- Magenta (M)
- Yellow (T)
- Green (K)
- Orange (R)
- Light Blue (S)
- Cyan (D)
- Dark Blue (B)



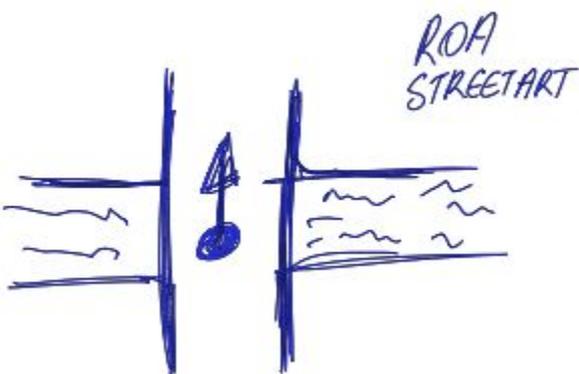
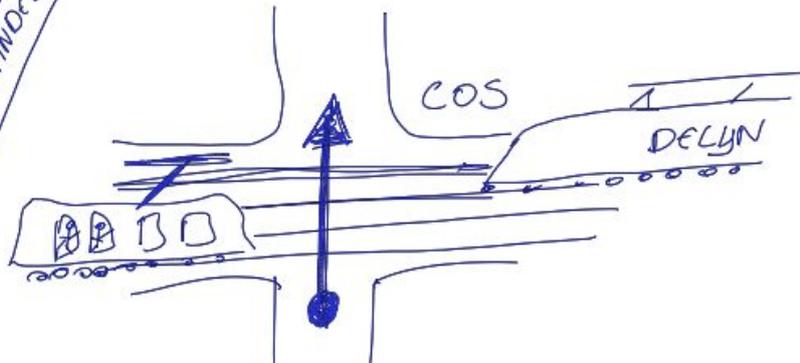
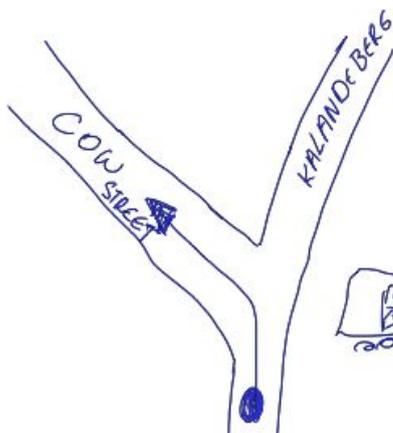
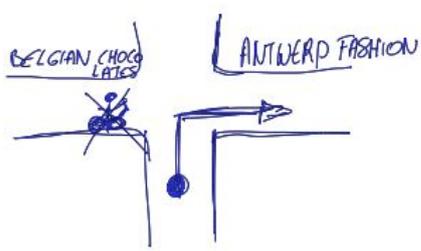
The blue birds is an art installation, also known as “*Les oiseaux de Mr. Maeterlinck*”. It is inspired by the famous fairy tale “*L’Oiseau Bleu*” of the Ghent Nobel Prize winner Maurice Maeterlinck and is about the quest for happiness symbolized by a blue bird.



The Aula is a neoclassical temple built in 1826 for the University, and was inspired by the Pantheon. In Belgium, the building is famous for an art installation of Jan Fabre a few years ago. By wrapping the pillars in 630 kg of raw ham, he supported the statement: “de benen van de rede ontveld” (the revelation of the legs of reason, first image). Not only the art installation was controversial, the artist was recently accused of sexual harassment by 20 dancers in his dancing company Troubleyn. Every year the Togati end their tour in the Aula, where a formal ceremony takes place and the honorary doctorates of UGent are awarded.



The last letter of the latin phrase written on top of the Aula is the second letter you need for your word.



What do Paris and Ghent have in common? You are standing onto it. Gustave Eiffel designed this beautiful bridge as well as the Eiffel Tower.

Here, you can also spot the artwork of a famous graffiti street artist. ROA is from Ghent and his work is well known around European capitals and is exhibited in the MOCA (LA).

Two of his famous Ghent pieces are shown

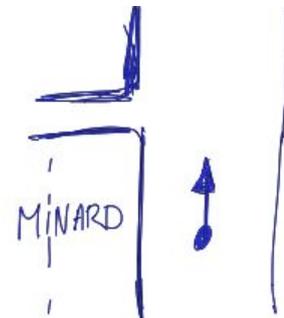
in the pictures below.

Can you spot one of his works from on top of the bridge?

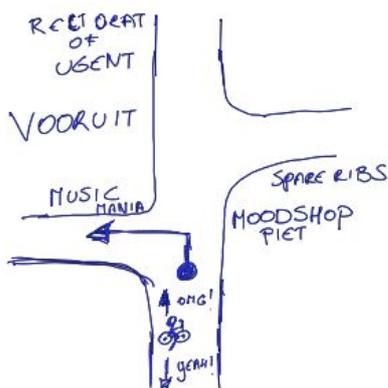
- Cow (C)
- Crow (R)
- Dog (G)
- Horse (S)



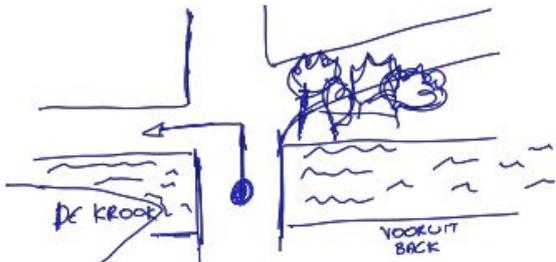
Continue a bit further down the road where you will see the Minard schouwburg on your left side. You will also see the statue of Romain Deconinck, a famous Belgian actor, which my kids cannot pass without taking a picture or selfie (three of the many pictures are shown)



Up the hill you will see the Vooruit, built in the early 1900's by a socialist cooperative. It has a collection of concert halls and meeting spaces, has a very popular cafe. Given that behind the building, the rectorat of our university is located, you might even see our rector for his coffee break.



Continue your walk and soon you will hit “De Krook”, our brand new city library built by a Catalan architect bureau (opened in 2017). The top floor hosts IMEC, who connect basic science with chip technologies and use de Krook as a tryout place for user-experience etc. If the building is still open, you may enter without registering and have a walk on the ground floor, where you will see an IMEC installation on your right side, and you have a beautiful view on the water and the city from the cafe at the back of the building.



Continue your walk using the walking directions below:

<https://www.google.com/maps/dir/51.0480203,3.7287701/51.0516256,3.728566/51.0525833,3.7295317/51.0536758,3.7254545/51.0547009,3.7257013/51.0550516,3.7243066/51.0560092,3.7248538/51.0558406,3.7253151/51.0568114,3.7253115/@51.052333,3.7224184,16z/data=!4m2!4m1!3e2>



Along your route, you will see a stretch of the river that has just been reopened “Reep”, in the past they filled this part of the river to build a parking lot, and the castle of Gerard The Devil next to it.

The first of three big towers you’ll see is the St-Bavo Cathedral which hosts the very famous 15th century alterpiece by the Van Eyck brothers (Early flemish painters). You can see the painting during opening hours and when you buy an extra ticket. You may enter the church on any other open time, and also see a “free” replica on the side of the church. What is the name of this painting?

- The Mystic Lamb (O)
- The Mystic Angel (A)
- The Mystic Christ (E)

The next tower is the tallest Belfry of Belgium with next to it the “St-Niklaas” Church. You’ll continue your walk along the city hall (and wooden city hall structure), and via the little Graffiti art street (Werregarrestreet, where anyone can do Graffiti legally) towards the “Vrijdagmarkt” square.

Walk towards the statue of Jacob van Artevelde (1290-1345) in the middle of the Vrijdagmarkt. Artevelde points towards London to emphasize the strong connections to it, during the 14th century. His trade with cotton and wool turned Ghent into a city of 60k inhabitants and a surface of 640 ha, which made it the second largest city at the time, and bigger than Paris.



For the last question, you’ll need to have a look at the trades which are depicted on the statue (facing him). What is the trade depicted in the 7th panel from the left in the above figure:

- Baker (T)
- Mason (S)
- Smith (L)
- Brewer (P)
- Ship builder (K)

Jacob is also pointing you to the right walking direction to continue this tour.

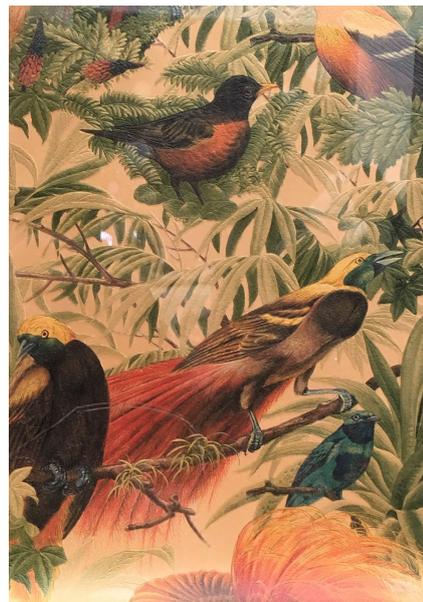


Walk down the street and when you stand in front of the **Dulle Griet** ("Mad Meg", a 15th century **medieval supergun**), with a view towards the water, take a right.

Have a look for for the following mural to point you in the right direction, and work your way over this wooden obstacle



Walk down the street and find the shop whose trademark it is to lift your living room to the next dimension. wouldn't mind the paradise birds.



In proximity of the shop, look for het "Oudburg Manneke". When you face him, continue your route to the right direction. Oudburg is the name of the East-Flanders county the Graaf van Vlaanderen (Boudewijn V) ruled in the 11th century. In the present day, Oudburg is mostly known for its restaurants and hip cocktail bars (Try Jiggers..but perhaps not right now).



At the end of the street, you will find the name of the city area you find yourself in. These are some of the best preserved middle-age streets in the city. Keep the modern drawing on the white wall to your right as you proceed.



Continue your route towards “The four tables”, and pass by the following mural on your way.



When you hit this nice example of inner city gardening, take a left towards the river “Leie” you will see at the end of the street. Stubborn as you are, you don’t follow the driving directions, but take the other way. Now spot this unusual light-work and walk toward it.



Very closeby you will find the following birds. Walk towards them, and then turn around. Do you see Nestor? He is the “Gents Manneken Pis”, and his statue is much older than that of Brussels. Legend goes that it was Boudewijn, the bastard (and precious) son of one of Dukes of Flanders (Filip). He turned into stone as a curse over the Duke after the boy piddled against the wall during a formal procession. Since 2014, he is accompanied by two girls. Keep the statues to your right, and you will hit the tram-tracks, as well as het “Sint-Veerle plein” in front of het Gravensteen.



Do you see the lightpost? It is part of an art installation: Ai Nati Oggi (For Those Born Today). For every baby born in a Ghent hospital, the lights are shortly lit. Perhaps you have the luck to witness it.

Face the view in this picture and take a left, passing by the “Otomat” and hold a quick stop onto the bridge over

the Leie. In your walking direction, on the right you will see “het Vleeshuis”, part of the old meat-packing district. On the left, you see a small street with some bars. In case you want to taste a local delicacy on your walk, you should pass by “bij Pol” aka “t Druppelkot” (see picture).



On the bridge, you have two choices: *short*: After the bridge you should take an immediate right without passing “het Vleeshuis” to walk down a few steps toward the water. Follow the river bed with het vleeshuis on your left and the water to your right. *15 mins longer*: Stop by “t Druppelkot”, order a “Jenever” at the bar: a 5-cl spirit which you drink bottoms up without mixing with soda. There are many choices of “Jenever” on his menu, but if you want to just try one, ask for a regular “graanjenever”. After the jenever, try to follow the directions in as described in “short”. *i.e.*, when exiting the bar, take a left, cross the

tram-tracks and walk down the stairs toward the river. Follow the path along the river with “het vleeshuis” on your left and the water on your right.

Following the water, you will see where the small Lieve river merges with the Leie, and you will walk the steps back onto the bridge (grasbrug) with the best view onto Ghent’s Graslei (the ancient port of Ghent).

Cross the bridge, by taking a right from the walking path you just came from and after the bridge, find take the first street on your right “Jan Breydelstraat”. Follow this romantic street until you hit a crossing. The street you are crossing is called “Burgstraat”, take a left into “Burgstraat” and follow the street until house number 59. This is the address of our dinner location at “Bar Mirwaar”.

What was the word we were looking for?
