

**FREUDE.
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BONN.**

Beethoven Walking Tour

In the footsteps of Ludwig van Beethoven



Ludwig van Beethoven

Bonn**i**nformation

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Welcome to Bonn, city of Beethoven!

Bonn is the birthplace of the world-famous composer Ludwig van Beethoven, who remains the city's most famous son. Ludwig van Beethoven was born in December 1770. In 2020, celebrations will be held to commemorate the 250th anniversary of his birth.

The Beethoven walking tour was installed in cooperation between the city of Bonn and numerous cultural and business partners. The roundtrip guides the visitor to 16 points of interests around Bonn, all of which played a role in the musical genius's life during his time in Bonn.

Points of interest 1 to 14 are all located in the city centre and can be reached easily on foot. Points 15 and 16 are outside the centre and can be visited easily by public transport (tram or underground).

1 Beethoven House

Bonngasse 20

Ludwig van Beethoven, baptized on 17 December 1770, was born in the rear building at no. 20 Bonngasse. The second of seven children of court tenor Johann van Beethoven and his wife Maria Magdalena (née Keverich), he spent the first three years of his life here.



2 Chamber Music Hall

Bonngasse 20

To mark its 100th anniversary in 1989, the Beethoven House Society opened the “Chamber Music Hall Hermann J. Abs”, famous for its acoustics and intimate atmosphere by architect Thomas van den Valentyn. The building, which was endowed by the association’s patrons, now also houses its collection and library.

3 Former Rheingasse 24

Rheingasse 24

Once the house of master baker Gottfried Fischer, it was also home to Ludwig van Beethoven’s identically named grandfather. Nikolaus Johann, the brother of the young Ludwig, was born here in 1776. Except for two short interruptions, the family lived here until mid May 1787.

4 St. Remigius Parish Church

Brüdergasse

After receiving his first organ lessons in the Franciscan Church (no longer standing) the ten year old Ludwig van Beethoven played the organ at the 6 a.m. morning service in the Minorite Church, today church of the Catholic Chaplaincy Bonn. The organ’s keyboard is now kept in the Beethoven House.

5 Main University Building

Regina-Pacis-Weg

The “Bönnschen Ballstücke“ (Works on a ball in Bonn),



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painted by court artist François Rousseau, depict the court theatre, which was built around 1750. The orchestra of the electoral princes is shown divided into two sections. Beethoven's identically named grandfather, his father Johann and Ludwig himself all worked here as musicians.

6 Palace Church

An der Schlosskirche

The composer Christian Gottlob Neefe gave Ludwig van Beethoven organ tuition in the new palace church, which was nearly fully completed in 1779. At 14, Ludwig was already being paid a proper wage as a “court organist to the electoral princes of Cologne”, making this church his first place of work.

7 Former Zehrgarten

Markt 11/Altes Rathaus

Ludwig van Beethoven enjoyed mixing with other court musicians and students in widow Koch's renowned “Zehrgarten”. He particularly admired her daughter Babette. In the adjoining bookshop, he became familiar with the literature of the Age of Enlightenment.

8 Former Breuningsches Haus

Remigiusstraße/Münsterplatz

Here stood formerly the house of Privy Councillor von Breuning of the German Order of Knights, who lost his life in the fire at the electoral prince's palace in 1777. His widow Helene and her four children offered the security of family life to the “often obstinate” young Ludwig van Beethoven.

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9 Monastery School

Münsterplatz

After attending the private school in the Rathausgasse run by the teacher Mr Ropertz, Ludwig van Beethoven visited the public Latin school run by St. Cassius Minster. The boy's classes for grammar, rhetoric and logic were held in the chapter house on the south side of the cloisters at Bonn Minster. Later the young Beethoven also played the Minster organ.

10 Beethoven-Denkmal

Münsterplatz

The memorial, created by Ernst Hähnel, was donated by people from "circles interested in music" and mainly sponsored by Franz Liszt, to mark Beethoven's 75th birthday. The inauguration of the memorial in 1845 was attended by the Prussian King Friedrich Wilhelm IV, Queen Victoria of England and Alexander von Humboldt. In addition, a three-day music festival was held in Beethoven's honour - the first "Beethovenfest".

11 No. 6 Dreieck

Dreieck 6

Then known as No. 210 Dreieck, this was the second house to be lived in by Ludwig van Beethoven's family. In April 1774, his brother Kaspar Anton Karl was born here in the parish of St. Gangolf. Kaspar also became a musician and followed Ludwig to Vienna in 1794.



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12 “Beethon“ Sculpture

in front of the Beethovenhalle

In 1986 the Düsseldorf-based sculptor Klaus Kammerichs created “Beethon“, a visually stunning concrete bust based on the best-known portrait of Beethoven, painted in 1819 by Karl Josef Stieler. The name of the bust is a play on the German word “Be-ton“, meaning concrete. The sculpture has since become synonymous with the Beethoven city of Bonn.

13 Beethoven Hall

Wachsbleiche

Opened in September 1959, the new Beethoven Hall (Beethovenhalle), designed by architect Siegfried Wolske, has seen Bonn become a fixture in the calendar of the world’s leading music festivals. Paul Hindemith gave the inaugural performance with his own composition “No-bilissima Visione”. Today’s Beethoven Hall is the third one since 1845.

14 Alter Friedhof, grave of Beethoven’s mother

Bornheimer Straße

Ludwig van Beethoven’s mother, Maria Magdalena (née Keverich), was born in 1746 and died in Bonn on 17 July 1787. All trace of her grave was lost until it was rediscovered in 1932. The Beethoven House Society erected a new gravestone in her memory in 1970. (The grave is located 80 metres along the right-hand footpath).



15 Ballhaus “La Redoute“, Bad Godesberg

Kurfürstenallee 1

In 1792, Joseph Haydn spent some time in the Redoute on his journey back to Vienna from London. Here, Ludwig van Beethoven presented him with one of his two “Kaiserkantaten”. Beethoven’s friend Franz Gerhard Wegeler recorded that Haydn was full of praise for the piece and encouraged the young composer to continue and intensify his studies.

16 Lippesches Palais, Beuel-Oberkassel

Königswinterer Straße 705

According to the memories of master baker Gottfried Fischer, it was around 1780 that Ludwig van Beethoven often spent some time at the palace in Oberkassel at the invitation of a certain “Mr von Menizar”, who must have been its owner Abraham Edler von Meinertzhagen. The palace later took the name of the Princes of Lippe.

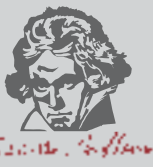
Co-operation partners: Beethoven House, Beethovenfest Bonn, Beethoven Orchestra Bonn, Bürger für Beethoven

Tip: If using public transport to points 15 and 16, the “Bonn Regio WelcomeCard“ is an ideal ticket. It provides 24 hours of free travel on local public transport including free entrance to many cultural venues and further reductions. The “Bonn Regio WelcomeCard“ is available at Bonn-Information, in selected hotels and in the local transport authority’s ticket machines (Stadtwerke Bonn - SWB).



16

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Beethoven-Rundgang

1 Beethoven-Haus
Der am 17. Dezember 1770 getaufte Ludwig van Beethoven wurde im Hinterhaus der Bongasse 20 geboren. Er war das zweite von sieben Kindern des Hoftenors Johann van Beethoven und seiner Ehefrau Maria Magdalena, geborene Keverich. Er verbrachte hier seine ersten vier Lebensjahre.

Die Publikation "Themenpark „Beethoven-Rundgang“ enthält die in der Broschüre, Wanderkarte 1 und in Beethoven-Haus, Bongasse 20, angegebenen Routenführung (Broschüre vorhanden).

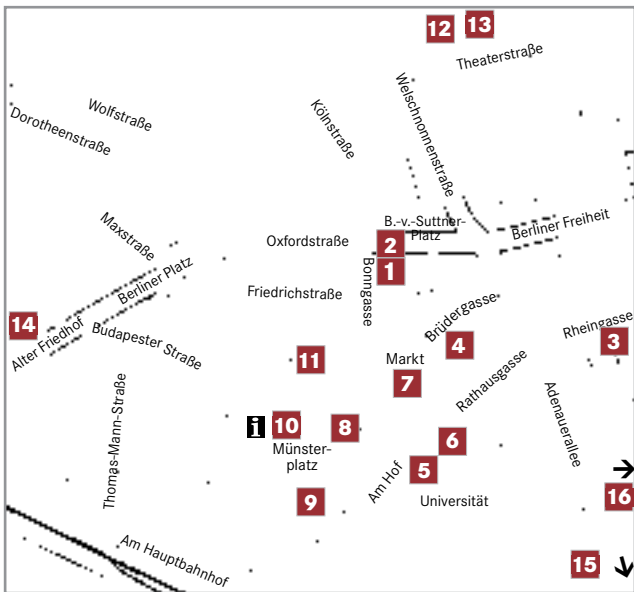


Beethoven Walk

1 Beethoven House
Ludwig van Beethoven, baptized on 17 December 1770, was born in the rear building at no. 20 Bongasse. The second of seven children of court tenor Johann van Beethoven and his wife Maria Magdalena (née Keverich), he spent the first four years of his life here.

A leaflet on the Beethoven Walk is available at Bonn Information, Wanderkarte 1 and at Beethoven-Haus, Bongasse 20. Brochure available (Broschüre vorhanden).

- 2 Kammermusikhaus
- 3 Rheinische Musikgesellschaft
- 4 Philosophische Universität
- 5 Münsterstraße
- 6 Bräutigam-Delegation
- 7 Rheinische Musikgesellschaft
- 8 Rheinische Musikgesellschaft
- 9 Museum, Kapitolhaus
- 10 Alter Friedhof, Grab der Mutter
- 11 Rathaus „Le Velours“, Café Dörmeling
- 12 Lagerhaus Finken, Brauerei-Steinhaus
- 13 Theaterstraße
- 14 Alter Friedhof
- 15 Universität
- 16 Am Hauptbahnhof



Bonn i nformation

Tourist advice, guided coach and walking tours, tour guide service, Bonn souvenirs, event programme, ticket service, theatre and concert tickets



Windeckstraße 1/nearby Münsterplatz, 53111 Bonn
Telephone: +49 228 - 77 50 00
bonninformation@bonn.de
www.bonn.de/@beethoven-walk
Opening hours:
Mondays – Fridays 10 am – 6 pm
Saturdays 10 am – 4 pm
Sundays and public holidays 10 am – 2 pm



Tram: 16, 18, 61, 62, 63, 66
Stop: Bonn Hauptbahnhof (main railway station)

