

Event programme AoU Congress: Healthy Urban Living 11 - 13 June 2025, Utrecht

*This programme is subject to adjustment, and will be updated regularly.
Version: 30/05/2025*

Click underlined names for speaker bios.

Tickets and more information at theaou.org/utrecht

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Bright ideas. Sustainable change.



DAY 1 - BIG PICTURE: WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE

10:00 - 13:00

Introductory tours

An opportunity to get to know the city of Utrecht ahead of the Congress programme, or learn from neighbouring Amersfoort, the 2023 European City of the Year Urbanism Award winner

Venue:

Various locations

Choice of:

Amersfoort: Vathorst cycling tour

Amersfoort: Langs Eem en Spoor walking tour

Amersfoort: DMI Ecosystem workshop

Utrecht: Architecture walking tour

Utrecht: Wharves and Canals walking tour

Utrecht: Domsquare walking tour

Utrecht: Housing / Homelessness walking tour

Utrecht: Street Poetry walking tour

13:00 - 14:00

Congress Registration

Venue:

Kinepolis Jaarbeurs

14:00 - 15:30

Utrecht: The story so far / Session 1

Setting the scene for Congress 2025 and our theme of 'Healthy Urban Living' with a mix of local and national voices

Speakers include:

Andreas Markides, AoU Chair

Welcome to Congress

Tess Broekmans, Professor of Urban Design, TU Delft

National Context and Perspective

Rutger Dijksterhuis, Alderman for Spatial Planning, Amersfoort

Regional Planning Perspective

Mariëlle Beenackers, Assistant Professor, Erasmus University Medical Center

What is Healthy Urban Living?

Panel discussion

15:30 - 16:00

Coffee Break

DAY 1 PROGRAMME CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE

DAY 1 - BIG PICTURE: WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE (CONTINUED)

16:00 - 17:00

Utrecht: The story so far / Session 2

Speakers include:

Donica Buisman, Founder and Director, RAUM
Utrecht's Community & Cultural Story

Fabienne Plieger, City Ambassador, Utrecht Thirty030
Utrecht's Youth Story

Esther Agricola, North West Regional Director, BPD
Utrecht's Business & Development Story

Panel discussion

17:00 - 17:45

Keynote Address

*Exploring the future health of our places through the lens of
Carolyn's research into food and the city*

Speaker:

Carolyn Steel, Architect and Author, Sitopia and Hungry City
What is the Future Health of our Places?

17:45 - 19:00

Welcome to Utrecht reception

*A chance for Congress participants to connect over a drink and a
bite to eat*

Venue:

Speys restaurant, Kinopolis Jaarbeurs



DAY 2 - DELIVERY & LEADERSHIP: THURSDAY 12 JUNE

8:00 - 9:00

Registration & refreshments

Venue:

Leeuwenbergh

9:00 - 10:30

What delivering healthy places involves / Session 1

*Focusing on delivering 'Healthy Urban Living', hearing international
perspectives of practical work and inspiring leadership*

DAY 2 PROGRAMME CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE

DAY 2 - DELIVERY & LEADERSHIP: THURSDAY 12 JUNE (CONTINUED)

9:00 - 10:30

What delivering healthy places involves (continued)

Speakers include:

Nekane Arzallus Iturriza, Councillor for Sustainable Urbanism, San Sebastián/Donostia
Age Friendly Cities

Marcus Horning, Director of Planning, Malmö
Sustainability
Panel discussion

10:30 - 11:00

Coffee Break

11:00 - 12:15

What delivering healthy places involves / Session 2

Speakers include:

Kevin McGeough, Head of Strategy & Placemaking, Ebbsfleet Development Corporation
New Towns

Cedric Ryckaert, Klimaatspeelplats
Education and Sustainability

Daniel Casas Valle, Founder, Urban Dynamics and Founder, The Future Design of Streets
Rethinking Transport
Panel discussion

12:15 - 13:00

Keynote Address

The Former Mayor of Helsinki will bring his experience focusing on digitalisation, sustainability, and the improvement of city services

Speaker:

Jan Vapaavuori, Former Mayor of Helsinki

13:00 - 14:00

Lunch Break

DAY 2 PROGRAMME CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE

DAY 2 - DELIVERY & LEADERSHIP: THURSDAY 12 JUNE (CONTINUED)

14:00 - 17:30

Learning Visits and Workshops

Hands on learning from sites, case studies, and projects across the city. Full details at theaou.org/tours

Venue:

Various locations, departing from Leeuwenbergh

Choice of:

City of Literature

Learning Visit

Leidsche Rijn: Learning from the Vinex Approach

Learning Visit

Utrecht's Cycle Infrastructure

Learning Visit

The Utrecht Barcode

Workshop

Wisselspoor and Werkspoor: Redeveloping with Creative Industries

On Site Workshop

Beurskwartier & Wonderwoods: Delivering Effective Shared Services

On Site Workshop

Hollandse Waterlinie: Growth with UNESCO World Heritage Sites

On Site Workshop

Cartesius: Blue Zones and Healthy Communities

On Site Workshop

17:30 - 19:00

Thursday night reception

Catching up after an afternoon of hands on visits and workshops, with drinks and canapes at the 500 year-old residence of the only Dutch pope.

Venue:

Paushuize (Pope's House)



DAY 3 PROGRAMME STARTS ON NEXT PAGE

DAY 3 - IMAGINATION: FRIDAY 13 JUNE

10:00 - 13:00

Learning Visits and Workshops

Hands on learning from sites, case studies, and projects across the city. Full details at theaou.org/tours

Venue:

Various locations, meeting points may vary

Choice of:

City of Literature

Learning Visit

Leidsche Rijn: Learning from the Vinex Approach

Learning Visit

Utrecht's Cycle Infrastructure

Learning Visit

Planning for Shared Mobility

Workshop

An Inclusive Housing Market

Workshop

Futureproof Urbanism: Rijnenburg

Workshop

Tackling Mobility Poverty

Workshop

Overvecht: Bridging Inequality

On Site Workshop

De Kwekerij: Building Community

On Site Workshop

Cartesius: Blue Zones and Healthy Communities

On Site Workshop

13:00 - 14:00

Lunch Break

Venue:

Leeuwenbergh

14:00 - 15:00

Imagining a healthy future for our places / Session 1

Imagining the future of 'Healthy Urban Living' and what more we need to, bringing a mix of international perspectives, this time with a project focus

Venue:

Leeuwenbergh

DAY 3 PROGRAMME CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE

DAY 3 - IMAGINATION: FRIDAY 13 JUNE (CONTINUED)

14:00 - 15:00

Imagining a healthy future for our places (continued)

Keynote Address

Delivered by the City of Vienna Endowed Professor of the Circular Economy, asking: how do you feel about moving in fog?

Speaker:

Karin Huber-Heim, City of Vienna Endowed Professor of the Circular Economy

15:00 - 15:30

Coffee Break

15:30 - 17:45

Imagining a healthy future for our places / Session 2

Speakers include:

Ana Gallego, Lead Urban Designer + Researcher, IAAC Urban Sciences Lab

Social Wellbeing and Space

Matthew Burnett, Co-founder, Make Room and Architect + Urban Strategist, Gehl

Richard Nordier, Lifestyle and Uses Researcher, Urbalyon
Lyon's Public Space for Teenagers

Panel discussion

18:00 - 22:00

Congress Closing Party

Commemorating another year of great learning from a great place at the landmark and repurposed Winkel van Sinkel

Venue:

Winkel van Sinkel



END OF CONGRESS PROGRAMME

BOOK TICKETS