

THE ACADEMY
OF URBANISM

Event programme

AoU Congress: Healthy Urban Living

11 - 13 June 2025,
Utrecht

This programme is subject to adjustment, and will be updated regularly.
Version: 09/06/2025

Click underlined names for speaker bios.

Tickets and more information at theaou.org/utrecht

In partnership with:



Gemeente Utrecht

Sponsored by:



BDP.



Lands Improvement



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.

[Click here for tour details and registration form.](#)

Venue:

Various locations

Choice of:

Amersfoort: Vathorst cycling tour

Amersfoort: Langs Eem en Spoor walking tour

Amersfoort: DMI Ecosystem workshop

Utrecht: Architecture through the Ages walking tour

Utrecht: Wharves and Canals walking tour

Utrecht Underground: Life on the Street walking tour

Utrecht: Street Poetry walking tour

13:00 - 14:00

Lunch / Registration

Venue:

Stadskantoor / Kinepolis Jaarbeurs

14:00 - 15:30

Utrecht: The Story So Far

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

Bart van der Vossen, Director of City Development, Utrecht

Welcome to Utrecht

Tess Broekmans, Professor of Urban Design, TU Delft

National Context and Perspective

Rutger Dijksterhuis, Alderman for Spatial Planning, Amersfoort
Regional Planning Perspective

DAY 1 PROGRAMME CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE

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

14:00 - 15:30

Utrecht: The story so far (continued)

Speakers include:

Mariëlle Beenackers, Assistant Professor, Erasmus University Medical Center

What is Healthy Urban Living?

Panel discussion

15:30 - 16:00

Coffee Break

16:00 - 17:00

Utrecht: City Voices

Speakers include:

Eelco Eerenberg, Deputy Mayor for Spatial Development, Education and Public Health

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 PROGRAMME STARTS ON NEXT PAGE

DAY 2 - DELIVERY & LEADERSHIP: THURSDAY 12 JUNE

8:00 - 9:00

Registration & refreshments

Venue:

Leeuwenbergh

9:00 - 10:30

Delivering Healthy Places: International City Case Studies

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

Speakers include:

Marcus Horning, Director of Planning, Malmö Sustainability

Ben Wilson, Divisional Director of Development & Regeneration, Glasgow City Council

Ignacio Jáuregui Real, Architect, Málaga City Urban Planning Office

Panel discussion

10:30 - 11:00

Coffee Break

11:00 - 12:15

Delivering Healthy Places: International Project Case Studies

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

DAY 2 PROGRAMME CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE

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

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

14:00 - 17:30

Learning Visits and Workshops

Hands on learning from sites, case studies, and projects across the city. Learning visits / workshops marked with an asterisk are available on both Thursday and Friday.*

Click here for full details on Thursday learning visits / workshops and the registration form.

Venue:

Various locations, departing from Leeuwenbergh

Choice of:

City of Literature*

Learning Visit

Walking tour

Leidsche Rijn: Learning from the Vinex Approach*

Learning Visit

Cycle to location

Utrecht's Cycle Infrastructure*

Learning Visit

Cycle tour

The Utrecht Barcode

Workshop

Approx 10 min walk to venue

An Inclusive Transport System

Workshop

Approx 10 min walk to venue

Wisselspoor and Werkspoor: Redeveloping with Creative Industries

On Site Workshop

Cycle to location

DAY 2 PROGRAMME CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE

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

14:00 - 17:30

Choice of:

Learning Visits and Workshops (continued)

Beurskwartier & Wonderwoods: Delivering Effective Shared Services

On Site Workshop

Approx 30 min walk to workshop venue

Hollandse Waterlinie: Growth with UNESCO World Heritage Sites

On Site Workshop

Approx 30 mins to workshop venue by public transport

Cartesius: Blue Zones and Healthy Communities*

On Site Workshop

Cycle to location

17:30 - 19:00

Thursday night reception

Catching up after the 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 - IMAGINATION: FRIDAY 13 JUNE

10:00 - 13:00

Learning Visits and Workshops

Hands on learning from sites, case studies, and projects across the city. Learning visits / workshops marked with an asterisk are available on both Thursday and Friday.*

[Click here for full details on Friday learning visits / workshops and the registration form.](#)

Venue:

Various locations, meeting points may vary

Choice of:

City of Literature*

Learning Visit

Walking tour

DAY 3 PROGRAMME CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE

DAY 3 - IMAGINATION: FRIDAY 13 JUNE (CONTINUED)

10:00 - 13:00

Choice of:

Learning Visits and Workshops

Leidsche Rijn: Learning from the Vinex Approach*

Learning Visit

Cycle to location

Utrecht's Cycle Infrastructure*

Learning Visit

Cycle tour

Planning for Shared Mobility

Workshop

Approx 10 min walk to afternoon venue

An Inclusive Housing Market

Workshop

Approx 10 min walk to afternoon venue

Futureproof Urbanism: Rijnenburg

Workshop

Approx 30 min walk to afternoon venue

Tackling Mobility Poverty

Workshop

Approx 10 min walk to afternoon venue

Overvecht: Bridging Inequality

On Site Workshop

Cycle to location

De Kwekerij: Building Community

On Site Workshop

Cycle to location

Cartesius: Blue Zones and Healthy Communities*

On Site Workshop

Cycle to location

13:00 - 14:00

Venue:

Lunch Break

Leeuwenbergh

DAY 3 PROGRAMME CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE

DAY 3 - IMAGINATION: FRIDAY 13 JUNE (CONTINUED)

14:00 - 15:00

Imagining Future Urbanism

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

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

Future Urbanism: International Case Studies

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 (+ informal dinner)

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