



Route description

The route starts in Standdaarbuiten. Free car parking is available on the Markt. Turn left into the Molenstraat at the crossing Markt/Havenstraat/Molenstraat and follow the route to cycle nodes **13**, **33** and **31**. Thereafter in the direction of node **07**.

Just before the A17 viaduct, turn left onto the cycle path next to the motor highway in the direction of Zevenbergen/Dordrecht, this is called the Galgepad. At the crossing with the Oude Kerkstraat, turn left. You are now on the route from node **13** to **12**. Thereafter go to node **32** and **34**. Then you get to the village Noordhoek.

At node **34** follow the route to nodes **36**, **14** and, in the centre of Zevenbergen, node **07**. From this node go to node **41** and pass **must see 5** at the round-about. Continue the route to node **35**. At the T-crossing Markdijk/General Allenweg (General Allen was Commander Timberwolf Division), turn right.

At the next crossing, Zuidrand, turn left over the bridge and left again onto the Huizersdijk.

Continue your trip along the Huizersdijk and the Markdijk. At the T-crossing Markdijk and Merenswegje, you get on the route to node **13**. After about 500 meters, at the T-crossing Molendijk/Markdijk, turn right onto the Markdijk. Later, this road is named Groeneweg. At the end, just before motor highway A17, turn left onto the Langeweg Zuid.

Continue the route along the Langeweg Zuid and turn left at the Tweede Kruisweg. At the end, turn right onto the Molendijk and you are now back on the route to node **13**. At this node go into the direction of node **12** and just past the fire-station turn right into the Timberwolfstraat.

Turn left before the church and you are back on the Markt and at the end of this cycle route.

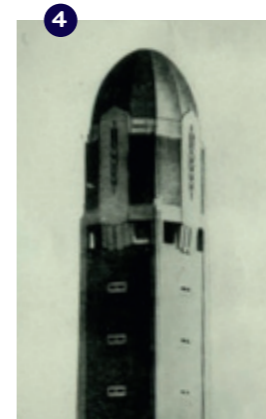
This cycle route was compiled with the aid of Willem van Dranen, on behalf of the local historical societies in the Moerdijk municipality.

*Publisher: Visit Moerdijk (Tourist Bureau) 2022
Design: ik-ook
Pictures: Visit Moerdijk*

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Timberwolf cycle route



On the trail of the Allied liberators of north-west Brabant.

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About this route

This cycle route is in remembrance of the liberation of north-west Brabant in November 1944. The area is more or less identical to the current Moerdijk municipality. The route is named after the nickname of the American 104th Infantry Division that in the Second World War liberated a large part of the middle of the Brabant Westhoek, the north-western corner of the province of North-Brabant.

The village Noordhoek liberated

The civilians in Noordhoek must have had mortal fears early November 1944. It was as if the world exploded; such a lot of war pandemonium came over them. The often primitive hiding-places were totally unsuited to shelter from bombardments. After the liberation of Noordhoek, the village was nearly in complete ruins. As soon as Noordhoek was liberated, the Americans had to get the provincial road between Klundert and Zevenbergen in their hands. That was made difficult by a German counter-offensive just north of the road. The Allied artillery cleared that opposition and then the way to the wide river Hollands Diep was open. Because the Polish and Canadian troops hadn't progressed far enough to the north, a regiment of the Timberwolf division was tasked to take the area to the river Hollands Diep.

The town Zevenbergen in 1944

The centre of Zevenbergen was attacked by German aircraft in May 1940 which caused a lot of damage. In Autumn 1944, the blowing up of church towers and heavy artillery fire inflicted more severe damage.

The village Standdaarbuiten in 1944

At the end of October 1944, the village of Standdaarbuiten was at the frontline between the Germans and the Allied forces. The village was severely damaged by German and Allied artillery fire. On the 3rd of November the village was liberated, but twenty civilians and hundreds of soldiers did not live to see the liberation.

More info? Check www.visitmoerdijk.nl

Must see

This is what you will see!

1. The 'Schans'

Across the bridge is the hamlet the 'Schans'. The soldiers of the 415th Regiment of the Timberwolf Division came to this point on 30 October 1944. Then, it was only an open area of bare fields. The houses on the dyke provided some cover, as they were partly built into the dyke. After the Germans destroyed the bridge over the river Dintel between Standdaarbuiten and the 'Schans', the Americans started clearing the area south of the river Dintel of German forces.

2. Crossing the Dintel

Between the cycle nodes **31** and **28** were two crossings over the river Dintel for the Allied forces in autumn 1944. A third crossing was further to the east. Just past the former sugar factory St. Antoine (a big white building north of the St. Antoinedijk) was the western crossing over the Dintel. The south side of the Dintel provided some cover, but the bare fields at the other side of the river gave no shelter.

The crossing was made with dinghies and a hastily built footbridge, approximately where the motor highway A17 is today.

3. St. Joseph Church Noordhoek

The St. Joseph Church in the village of Noordhoek withstood the war reasonably. The building and the adjacent rectory were hiding places for the civilians during the liberation of the village in November 1944. On the cemetery is a separate little monument in remembrance of Noordhoek's children killed during the war. Just across from the church is Café Noordhoek with a stone tablet above the entrance in remembrance of the destruction during the liberation and the rebuilding after the war.

4. Water tower

On the 25th November 1943, a Messerschmitt with pilot Walter Huhnke flew from eastern direction into the water tower of Zevenbergen. The pilot was killed instantaneously.



Crossing the river Dintel

Former Sugar factory St Antoine
St. Antoinedijk 13
Oud Gastel



Timberwolf mosaic

Place of remembrance for fallen US soldiers
Timberwolfstraat 5
Standdaarbuiten
www.104infdiv.org, in index click 'Monuments'

5. Crashed RAF bombers

North-west of the current round-about a Boulton Paul Defiant (a light bomber) of the RAF crash-landed in a field. South-east of the round-about, at the location of the glass houses, a Wellington bomber crashed in October 1942. The aircraft was from the Polish 300 Squadron. The whole crew was killed-in-action. For more information on the bombers see the remembrance panel next to the round-about.

6. Crash landing Dutch fighter

South-west of where you are now, a Fokker G-1 of the Dutch Army Air Force crash-landed on the 10th May 1940, the first day of the German invasion into Holland. Both crew members survived; see the remembrance panel.

7. Crashed Norwegian Spitfire

On 3rd November 1944 a Spitfire from the Norwegian 332 Squadron crashed into the drainage canal Oostvliet. The pilot was killed-in-action. See also the remembrance panel.

8. Timberwolf mosaic

Next to the entrance of the multi-functional centre 'De Standaard' is a mosaic in remembrance of the 278 killed and hundreds of wounded soldiers of the Timberwolf Division. The mosaic consists of three finger-like prongs and within it, the badge of the

Division. The three 'fingers' represent the routes of the three Regiments of the 104th Infantry Division of the US Army. The ball above in the mosaic represents the evil that held Standdaarbuiten in a stranglehold and that was crushed by the liberating 'fingers'.

