

# WALK WITH REMBRANDT

## 1 Rijksmuseum

Before us is the Rijksmuseum. If you have never been inside, it's well worth a visit. The Rijksmuseum houses the most comprehensive and representative overview of Rembrandt's paintings, etchings and drawings, and they will all be on display there at the *All the Rembrandts* exhibition, which runs until 10 June 2019.

## 1 Museumstraat

## 2 City Archives

Key artefacts from Rembrandt's personal life can be found here at the City Archives, behind the massive doors of the former Treasury bank vaults. At the Rembrandt Privé exhibition (running until 7 April 2019) you'll get to know Rembrandt the man through personal stories.

## 32 Vijzelstraat

## 3 Home of the Six family

This is the home of the Six family, which has owned Rembrandt's portrait of Jan Six since he painted it in 1654 – it is sometimes loaned out to museums. Jan Six was an Amsterdam regent and a friend of Rembrandt's.

## 218 Amstel

## 4 Blauwbrug

The Blauwbrug, or Blue Bridge, was given its name when it was built of timber and painted blue. We are now right where Rembrandt once stood, peacefully drawing. Unfortunately, this spot is not as tranquil as it was then, so watch out for cyclists as you cross the street.

## Blauwbrug

## 5 Suyckerbakery

In Rembrandt's day, the site where the city hall and music theatre building now stands was a picturesque neighbourhood inhabited by growing numbers of immigrants, particularly Portuguese Jews. Rembrandt and his wife Saskia lived here from 1637 to 1639 in a house quaintly named Suyckerbakery, or Sugar Bakery.

## 22 Waterlooplein

## 6 Rembrandt House

In 1639, Rembrandt purchased the upmarket home that is known today as the Rembrandt House. It's actually quite surprising that he decided to buy this house rather than a canal-side residence, which would have been more fashionable at the time. Despite the house having been on the market for a couple of years, he paid 13,000 guilders for it – an enormous amount back then. Nowadays this house is a museum – read more about it on the back of this map.

## 4 Jodenbreestraat

## 7 Staalhof

This corner was once the site of Staalhof, the centre of the textile industry. It was here that the sampling officials inspected the fabrics, using small samples of the material. Rembrandt's *'The Sampling Officials'* was the artist's only regents group portrait, a popular painting genre of the day.

## Corner of Staalstraat and Groenburgwal

## 8 City Guard

Amsterdam's city guard's club house once stood here. In 1642, the members of this civil militia commissioned Rembrandt to portray them as a group. The result was the artist's most celebrated masterpiece *'The Night Watch'*, which is on permanent display in the Rijksmuseum.

## 26 Nieuwe Doelenstraat

## 9 Trippenhuys

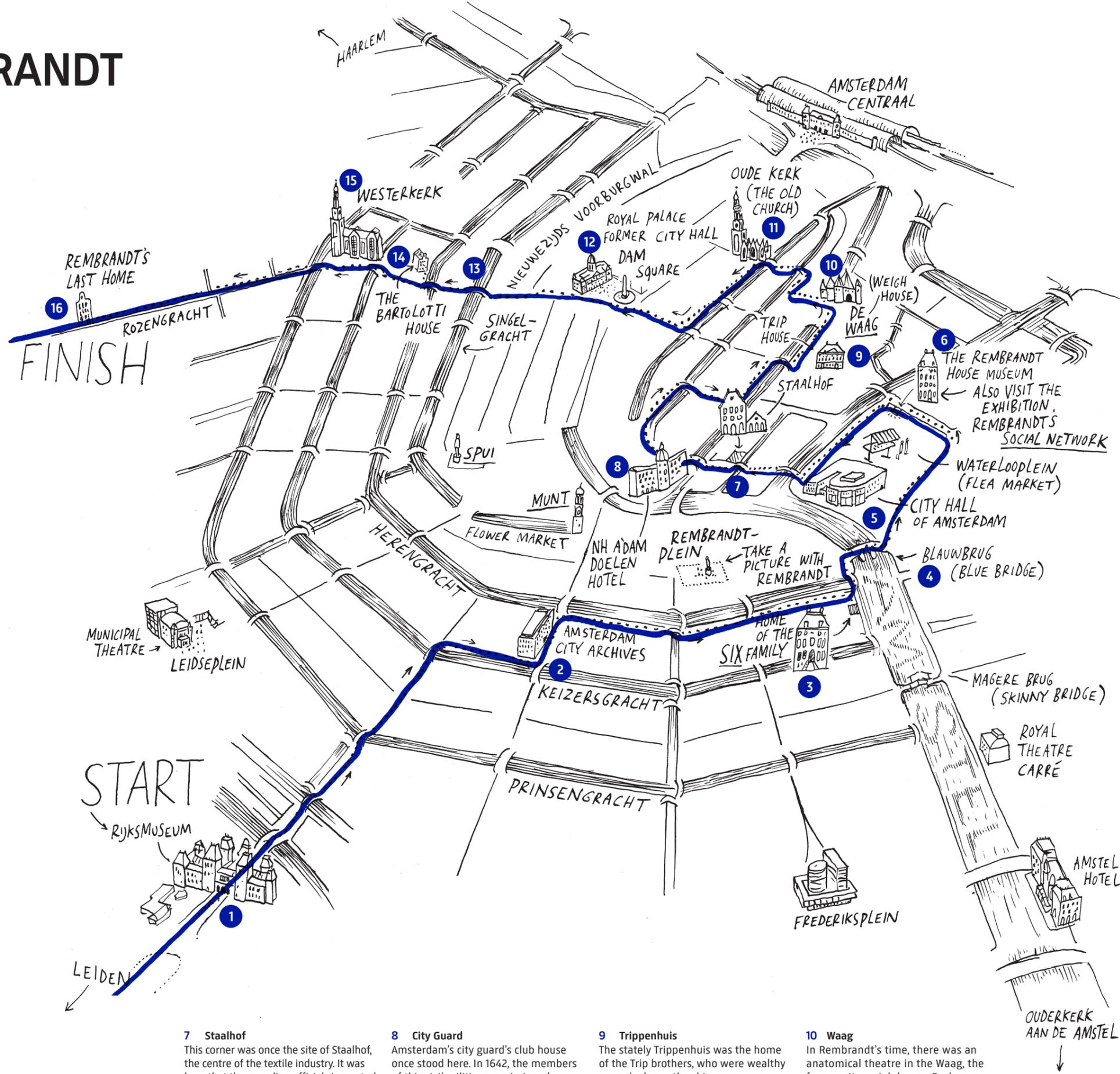
The stately Trippenhuys was the home of the Trip brothers, who were wealthy arms dealers – the chimneys were specially designed to resemble cannons. Sometime around 1661, Rembrandt painted a portrait of their parents, Jacob Trip and Margaretha de Geer.

## 29 Kloveniersburgwal

## 10 Waag

In Rembrandt's time, there was an anatomical theatre in the Waag, the former city weigh house. Each year, the corpse of a criminal was publicly dissected here, and Rembrandt depicted one of these operations in *'The Anatomy Lesson of Dr. Nicolaes Tulp'*.

## 4 Nieuwmarkt



## 16 Rembrandt's Final Residence

This was Rembrandt's last home, and it is the last stop on this walking tour. The Rembrandt family moved to this house after the forced sale of their lavish home. At the time it still stood beside Rozengracht Canal. Hendrickje and Titus ran an art dealership here, with Rembrandt as its only employee. It was in this house that he painted masterpieces such as *'The Jewish Bride'*, and it was here that he died on 4 October 1669, at the age of 63.

## 184 Rozengracht

## 15 Westerkerk Church

Rembrandt's second lover Hendrickje was buried here in the Westerkerk in 1663. She was followed five years later by his son. Just a year after that, Rembrandt himself died. By then, his riches were exhausted and he was given an anonymous burial.

## 281 Prinsengracht

## 14 Bartolotti House

One of Rembrandt's clients, the merchant banker Frederik Rihel, worked here in the Bartolotti House. Rembrandt painted an impressive equestrian portrait of Rihel.

## 170-172 Herengracht

## 13 Canal

It may be difficult to picture it now, but this busy street was once a canal. It was here that Rembrandt drew his *'View of Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal'*, a sketch of houses and trees rendered in swift, looping strokes.

## Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal

## 12 Amsterdam City Hall

Now the Royal Palace, this majestic building was originally built as Amsterdam's City Hall – at that time it was the world's largest secular building. In 1661, Rembrandt painted his largest canvas, *'The Conspiracy of Claudius Civilis'*, measuring a prodigious 5.5 x 5.5 metres, for the city hall. Unfortunately, the painting was rejected and Rembrandt resorted to drastic measures, cropping the painting down to 2 x 3 metres.

## Dam Square

## 11 Oude Kerk

In 1634, Rembrandt gave official notice of his intended marriage to Saskia in the Oude Kerk, or Old Church. She died eight years later, probably of tuberculosis, and was buried here. In 1662, Rembrandt ordered the clearing and sale of the burial site.

## 23 Oudekerksplein

\* ON DISPLAY IN THE RIJKSMUSEUM