Maastricht University

Finding a room in Maastricht
Useful tips and warnings

Finding a room in Maastricht can be challenging, especially during certain periods of the year. The availability of student accommodation is often limited around July and August, as well as in December and January. That is why we advise you to start your search well in advance of the start of your academic year. If you plan to start your studies in September, we recommend starting as early as May. If you are starting in February, it is best to begin your search in October.

Finding accommodation before your studies begin will not only help you avoid housing difficulties once the academic year has started but will also give you the opportunity to settle in and enjoy Maastricht before your studies get underway.

If you don't succeed in finding accommodation before the start of your academic year, we ask you to reconsider coming to Maastricht until you have secured a place to stay. Please know that UM cannot help you because we don't offer student accommodation.

Many of the tips and warnings in this flyer correlate with our website. Please scan the QR code below for easy access to the online information.

SCAN ME

To help you prepare for your search, we have put together some useful tips and important warnings below.

1. mymaastricht.nl
This platform offers detailed information on everything you need to arrange before and after coming to Maastricht as a student, including tips for your housing search.



2. Fraud/scams
Every year, Maastricht Police receive many reports about housing-related scams and fraudulent activities. Don’t get scammed! Wooninfo.nl offers tips.

3. Rental contracts and red flags
Rental contracts are subject to Dutch law. Overall, they provide good protection for students. However, Dutch law is complicated and foreign students are easy targets for fraudulent activities. These may include illegal additional costs like mediation or administration fees. Learn more about red flags of rental contracts on mymaastricht.nl > housing.

Good to know: the Rental Team South Limburg (in Dutch: *Huurteam Zuid-Limburg*) offers a free service to check your contract before signing. They can also help you out - free of charge - with any other legal issues you may have with your landlord.

4. Hospi Housing

Staying with a host or guest family will provide you with a soft landing in town and is the perfect way to get in touch with the local culture and language. You'll have your own private room and shared facilities, like a kitchen and bathroom.

Hospi Housing works together with the Maastricht municipality (*gemeente*) and Maastricht University, and has a big network of verified hosts and guest families. They can help you get in touch and provide you with all the advice you need! You can register and apply for free at hospihousing.com.



5. Nearby towns and cities

Many towns and cities close to Maastricht are home to UM students and staff. Most are within easy commuting distance.

Towns like Lanaken, for example, are just across the border and easily reachable by bike. Other nearby cities like Heerlen and Sittard have excellent train or bus connections with direct routes to Maastricht.

With an OV-chipkaart and discounts available, public transport doesn't have to be all that expensive. Of course, if you consider a location outside Maastricht, make sure to check your commute and public transport beforehand.

6. Maastricht Housing

There are many organisations offering student accommodation in Maastricht. You will find the most comprehensive search engine on the Maastricht Housing website. This platform offers rooms that are available through private landlords, housing corporations and the UM Guesthouse.

7. Facebook

A lot of students in Maastricht advertise rooms on Facebook. This is a popular way to find shared accommodation, particularly if you're looking for a room in a student house. There are plenty of pages on housing but you may want to try the following Facebook groups first:

- Rooms / Kamer / Zimmer in Maastricht
- Flat Hunting Maastricht

8. Alternative popular platforms

- Pararius.nl - Rentals - Rental apartments in the Netherlands
- Kamernet.nl/en - Rent a room, apartment or studio

9. Uni View

Uni View is a professional property viewing service for students and internationals moving to the Netherlands. They connect you with local representatives who provide live online viewings of potential homes. This way you can make sure the housing is what it appears to be and you are not getting scammed.

Good luck finding a nice place to stay!

Maastrichthousing.com
The portal for student housing in Maastricht.

Photo page 1: Jonathan Vos
Photo page 2: Harry Heuts