

## Finding a room in Maastricht

### Is there a housing shortage for students?

That depends on the time of year you start your search. In general, the supply of available student rooms in Maastricht can be very limited around July and August, and December and January.

We strongly advise you to find accommodation in or around the city of Maastricht before the start of the academic year. So start your search as early as possible, even in May (if you start your studies in September) or October (if you start in February). To ensure that you don't run into housing issues once the academic year has started.

Besides, it is much better if you have sorted out your accommodation early. This way, you can experience and enjoy the city before your studies begin.

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

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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.



## 9 useful tips and warnings

### 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](http://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. Quality mark Easy Living (in Dutch: *Prettig Wonen*)

On the website of Maastricht Housing you can find some housing labelled with the *Prettig Wonen* quality mark. This label guarantees affordable, safe and good quality housing.

#### 7. 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.



#### 8. 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
- Maastricht Student Rooms
- Maastricht Room Search
- Flat Hunting Maastricht

#### 9. Alternative popular platforms

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

**Good luck finding a nice place to stay!**

# Maastrichthousing.com

The portal for student and staff housing in Maastricht.