

# HOW DOES AbelLife WORK?



To see more, to hear more and to experience more with the digital routes of AbelLife. All routes are available in the free AbelLife app which you can download in the Appstores of Apple or Android. In the app, you choose and buy the routes of your choice.

## 100% offline

- No additional telecomcosts
- No problems with your reach
- Economical battery

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An edition of 'Stichting Achterhoek Toerisme' in cooperation with AbelLife.

Liberation  
ROUTE  
EUROPE



provincie  
GELDERLAND

ACHTERHOEK

ACHTERHOEK  
TOERISME



# Routes in the ACHTERHOEK.

€ 8,95



11 LIBERATION ROUTES FOR YOUR SMARTPHONE



LIBERATION TRAILS  
PAST  
impressive  
stories

BOUNDLESS BLISS

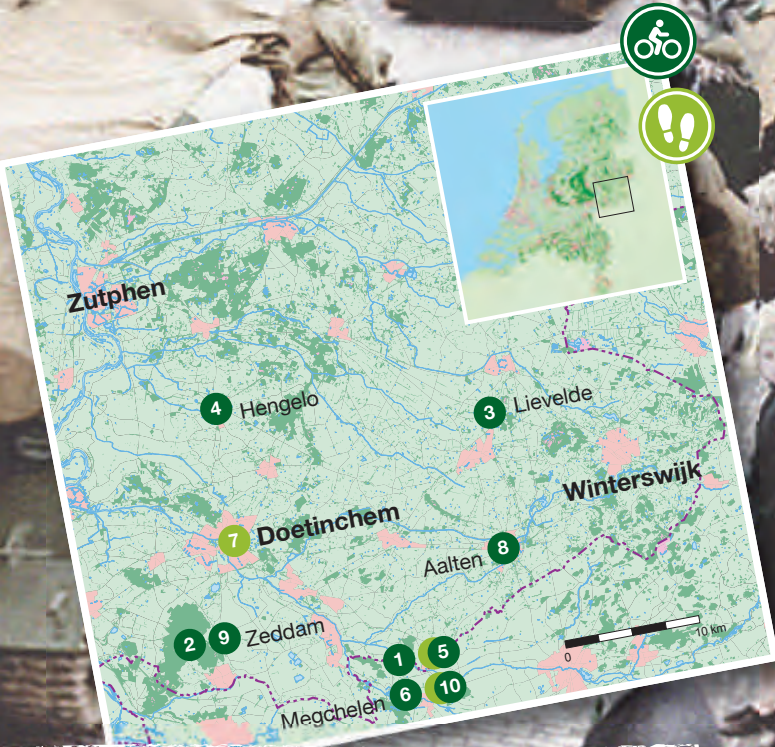


ACHTERHOEK



## Routes for your Smartphone

Go to [www.AbelLife.co.uk](http://www.AbelLife.co.uk). Create your account and activate your voucher code. Download the free AbleLife app in the Appstore. Go to Settings in the app and link your account.



# Welcome

From idea to conviction. From conviction to a deep-rooted belief. That was how National Socialism developed between 1933 and 1945. At the same time, however, this belief gets enormously out of hand. Hitler uses Nazism as a legitimization for heinous crimes. Large groups of innocent people are brutally oppressed and murdered. The consequences are far-reaching worldwide.

In the Achterhoek, too, the Second World War has left indelible traces, each with its own story, sometimes big, sometimes small. The leading parts are played by the victims and heroes of that time. You get acquainted with the people and their stories in these 11 impressive routes. Lest we forget... and that we keep learning from the past.

### Vouchercode:

Please find your voucher code in the German section on page 3.





# Schatters without LUCK

The Night of Broken Glass

Distance: 52 km | Start: Megchelen, Oranjeplein 1



Catering  
on the way

- Have you got a moment? Inside, the past revives by hundreds of historic photos on the wall. At the outdoor café, you are in the present. Slowly, German village life passes by. **Hoteloppeladler.de** in Haldern.
- Is it time for lunch? A marvellous place in Rees (Germany) with a fascinating view of the Rhine. The homemade pastry makes you long for more. **Opdepoort.de**
- Dream away on the jetty of the Millingermeer. A fine view, delicious coffee. **Strandbadmillingermeer.de**

The persecution of the Jews starts during the night and early morning of 10 December 1938. All over Germany, Jews are assaulted, synagogues are set fire to and Jewish shops and businesses are destroyed. Jewish houses, schools, cemeteries and hospitals, too, are targets. That night, known in history as 'Kristallnacht' (Crystal Night) marks the actual beginning of the persecution of the Jews in Europe.

# NAMES THAT ARE remembered

About heroes and victims

Distance: 33 km | Start: Zeddam, Kerkweg 36 (P Brinks Pannenkoeken)



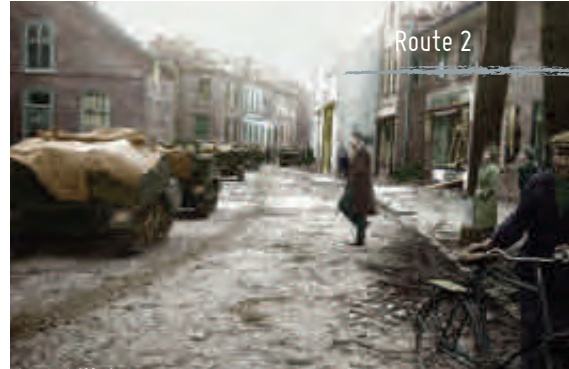
Human lives pass by, but names are remembered. Fewer and fewer people live to tell the stories. How it really was, their lives during the war. A life full of fear, injustice and insecurity.

This cycling tour passes by the farmsteads of the war-heroes, past monuments on which the names of the victims are written, past places where people made the difference.



Catering  
on the way

- That is what we call a sheltered outdoor café. A Canadian gun before the door. **Grandcafedesnor.nl** in 's Heerenberg.
- On a wooden platform... on the pond... in the middle of the woods. Fresh mint tea, cool wine and crusty rolls. **Peeske.nl**
- At the end a well-deserved meal? **Brinkspannenkoeken.nl** in Zeddam.





# A leap INTO THE dark

Surviving

**Distance:** 56 km | **Start:** Lievelede, AVOG's Crash museum, Europaweg 34



Catering  
on the way

- A cool drink in the shade of an old tree. A fairy-tale setting. **Rest-berenschot.nl** in Winterswijk
- Yummy, follow your nose... Fragrant coffee or is it going to be "bitterballen" (kind of meatballs) after all. Come and sit down. There is always room on the marketplace in Aalten.
- A cosy outdoor café but sitting indoors is certainly no punishment! **Markantlichtenvoorde.com**



During the war, some 6,500 planes crashed in the Netherlands, 400 of them in the Achterhoek. The crew has already left the plane in terror: a tense leap into the dark. First the free fall, then floatingly looking for a seemingly safe landing-place. But then surviving really starts...

# Five LONG years

When returning home becomes an obsession



**Distance:** 53 km | **Start:** Hengelo (Gld), Museum 1940-1945, Marktstraat 6



Catering  
on the way

Five long years at war. How miserable that is. And how isolated does it feel, being so far away from home. For instance, because you must flee, go into hiding or are deported. You only have two priorities: surviving and returning home. That also goes for the soldiers who voluntarily take part in the war. Especially, when their mission does not turn out as planned.



- Time for lunch? An authentic village café, popular with 'Pieterpadlopers'. **Proathuusvorden.nl**
- In Baak the village pub is still opposite the church. **Debierkaai.nl**
- Father and Son Jansen. Two generations of hospitality. Delicious fresh juices and fine coffee. **Eetcafejansenjansen.nl** in Hengelo Gld.
- What you see is what you get: authentic, brown café serving meals. **Hotelheezen.nl** in Steenderen.



## A warm BLANKET

Remembering and commemorating

Distance: 21 km | Start: Megchelen, Oranjeplein 1



Catering  
on the way

- Your feet up or rather in the water? On the bank of lake Millinger.
- How a small village can be great! The solidarity can still be felt. **Jantervoert.nl** in Megchelen.

**Strandbadmillingermeer.de**

Survivors and rescuers, relatives and schoolkids. Each year, since 2009, dozens of people have walked the route which the forced labourers covered between Rees (Germany) and Megchelen in 1945. In doing so, they commemorate together in silence but also listen to each other's long-suppressed stories. This warm blanket of solidarity between then and now, between Germany and the Netherlands softens the pain of the past horrors.

This commemorative route takes place on every second Sunday in March. With the app you can take the walk whenever you want to..



## Fatal RESISTANCE

Sometimes things turn out differently

Distance: 53 km | Start: Megchelen, Oranjeplein 1



Catering  
on the way

During the years of occupation, resistance increased. The underground movement commits assaults on Nazis and collaborators. They raid distribution centres, help persons in hiding and spread uncensored news. Looking back, that sounds easy, but their actions were often incredibly suspenseful. A lot of courage was needed and you had to be prepared to lay down your life. Or perhaps even worse, the lives of other innocent people.

- A great atmosphere and great taste in the 'Schaftlokaal' of the 'Drucultuurfabriek' in Uift. **Drucultuurfabriek.nl**
- There is always something going on at the farm of Groot Nibbelink in Varsseveld. **Koffieboerderij.nl**
- Choose you seat: near the water, in the flower meadow or in the shade of the orchard. There is a country shop. For opening hours check **Vitaverde.nl** in Megchelen.





## Unexpected FINALE

Resistance in the town centre

**Distance:** 2 km | **Start:** Doetinchem, Burgemeester van Nispenstraat 2



Catering  
on the way

- There is always a cosy atmosphere in this special restaurant, situated in the same building as the 'Stadsmuseum'.  
**Hetborghuis.nl**
- Really reposing is not necessary during this walk. But how can you resist all those inviting outdoor cafes on the way? For instance, on the Simonsplein.

Have a look at the pre-war scale model in the 'Stadsmuseum'. Do you recognize the houses, buildings, streets and stories from the app? The admission ticket also treats you to a nice cup of coffee in 'Het Borghuis'.



It looks as if Doetinchem survives the war reasonably unscathed. The fine merchant

houses, the attractive shops and the monumental church are showing off in the early spring sun of 1945. But then all goes wrong. On 19, 21 and 23 March the town is hit from the air. The Germans? No, the Allies! Fate or strategy?



**Distance:** 34 km | **Start:** Aalten, Markt 12



Catering  
on the way

Even before the war, Jewish people from Germany are welcome here. And when in 1940 war really breaks out, Aalten's population increases even faster, even out of proportion. Where in the rest of the Netherlands an average of 5 percent of the population goes into hiding, in Aalten that is 4 times as many: From every five inhabitants, one is in hiding.

- Even after 70 years they are still hospitable in Aalten. You are more than welcome at the outdoor cafes and in the pubs on the 'Markt'.
- A slight detour: Quite a lot of passion at Henk and Josien te Lindert's, passion for the age-old farmstead, for the garden and for your cup of tea. But they also serve other drinks of course! **Theetuinrensink.nl**

## WITH THANKS TO Uncle Jan

An explosive population



# *In love* DURING the war

Mixed feelings

**Distance:** 55 km | **Start:** Zeddum, Kerkweg 36 (P Brinks Pannenkoeken)



Catering  
on the way

- If you just stay normal long enough, you will automatically become special.  
**Degoudenkarperhummelo.nl**
- Plenty of outdoor cafes in the reconstructed centre of Doetinchem. An Italian ice cream? A cool glass of Chardonnay is also possible. You are almost at the end of this route.



Obvious relationships suddenly end in wartime. Whom do you trust and whom not? Everybody is judged again. Even partners do not know each other's part in the resistance. Falling in love with someone is part of it, but... also with the enemy? The need for security and hope is greater than ever. How painful is that for families cruelly torn apart?



# A ROOF OVER YOUR head

The reconstruction

**Distance:** 17km | **Start:** Megchelen, Oranjeplein 1



Catering  
on the way

When on 1 April, 1945 the smoke of battle clears, it appears that many houses and farms are damaged beyond repair. With fresh courage, numerous temporary houses are built with the debris at hand. Some houses are a little bit bigger and stronger than other houses. In later years, nearly all those temporary houses have been replaced. Only one tiny one has recently been restored: 'De Moezeköttel'.

In spring and summer, 'de Moezeköttel' is opened daily between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Admission is free.

- That is how it goes on the farm. Everything you eat, drink or buy here is farm-fresh and pure-bred. You taste the passion of farmer's wife Monika in her homemade cakes and pastry. **Maeteling.de** nearby Anholt.
- Big, bigger, grand. The outdoor café is situated in the middle of the water. Ducks swim past. **Schloss-anholt.de**
- Choose you seat: near the water, in the flower meadow or in the shade of the orchard. There is a country shop. For opening hours check **Vitaverde.nl** in Megchelen.



# LIBERATED BUT IN *confusion*

Joy and sorrow

**Distance & Start:** You yourself determine the distance of your drive.



## Distance Car route

It depends on the number of listening stones you call at. If you call at all 8 stones, the distance will be about 100 kilometres.

## From audio spot to audio spot

In the app you see the locations and the addresses of all the listening stones. In the app you can also hear the sound fragments of each stone.

## Start and finish

You choose at which listening stone you start. Then you choose the following stone. In the app you see yourself moving on the map. You use the address of the following stone for your navigation.

A war is not a football match ending with a final whistle. The days before and after the liberation are the most confusing in history. Towns that remained unscathed for five years are bombed heavily during the last few days. Families looking forward to freedom are torn apart at the very last moment.

Eight so-called listening stones in the region tell you about the moments around the Liberation, personal stories linked to special locations and lifelike sounds. You feel the fears, the joy, the anger, the hope, the cares and the sorrows of that time.

# KNOW more, *experience* MORE?



## ONDERDUIKMUSEUM MARKT 12 (route 3 & 8)

In the last year of the occupation, some 2,500 people found a hiding-place in Aalten and the surrounding area. An impressive number for a village with some 13,000 inhabitants.

**Markt12.nl**

## DE MOEZEKÖTTEL (route 1,6 and 10)

Megchelen at the crossing of Asbroek and the Nieuweweg. Many houses and farms were destroyed at the 'liberation bombing'. Everywhere temporary houses were built from the remaining debris. What it looked like?

**Moezekottel.nl**

Know more, experience more

## AVOG'S CRASH MUSEUM (route 7 & 9)

Many crash sites of planes are still unknown and there are still crew members missing. The AVOG (a group of people who search for plane wrecks) does its best to shorten the list of missing soldiers. **Crashmuseum.nl**

## ACHTERHOEKS MUSEUM '40-'45 (route 4)

What did the local pub or the village shop look like during wartime? And what was the street scene like in those days? A must to have a look inside. **Achterhoeksmuseum1940-1945.nl**

## GRENSLANDMUSEUM (route 8)

Dinxperlo (in the Netherlands) and Suderwick (in Germany) could not really do without each other, war or no war. Discover how creative the villagers were and how they got round the rules of the occupier. **Grenslanmuseum.nl**

## STADSMUSEUM DOETINCHEM (route 1,6 & 10)

Until March 1945, a few weeks before the liberation, the centre of Doetinchem looks quite different. How? You can see, hear and feel it frighteningly close.

**Stadsmuseumdoetinchem.nl**