

Hasselt, Limburg, Belgium

The self-styled 'Capital of Taste', Hasselt deals in jenever, street art murals, Europe's largest Japanese garden, and a walkable Flemish city center that rewards the curious.

Docked (Kanaalkom quay, Quartier Bleu) Typical call: 6–8 hrs Euro (€) Dutch/Flemish (English widely spoken)

👉 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Alongside the Kanaalkom quay at Quartier Bleu (linked to the Albert Canal); no tender required

Walk to center: 10–15 min (≈800 m) to Grote Markt — flat, paved

Best For: Jenever tasting, street art, Japanese garden, Belgian cuisine

Don't Miss: Nationaal Jenevermuseum tasting & Japanese Tuin in bloom

Getting around: **Taxi** ✓ €8–10 · **Rideshare** ✓ Uber

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Nationaal Jenevermuseum** — Belgium's national jenever museum occupies a preserved 19th-century distillery.
- **Japanese Tuin (Japanese Garden)** — The largest traditional Japanese garden in Europe, gifted by Hasselt's sister city Itami (Japan).
- **Herkenrode Abbey** — Once the richest women's abbey in the Low Countries, Herkenrode sits just outside the city with restored buildings, an herb garden, and an...
- **Street Art Trail** — Over 80 large-scale murals are spread through Hasselt's streets, making it one of Belgium's top street art cities.
- **Bokrijk Open-Air Museum** — A 15-minute taxi or bus ride from the port, this vast open-air museum recreates Flemish rural life with transplanted historic buildings and live...

BEST WALKS

- **Canal to Grote Markt Loop** 2.5 km · 45 min · Easy · Flat — From the quay walk through Quartier Bleu's modern waterfront, past the Fashion Museum, through the Beguinage garden, and into the Grote Markt.
- **Street Art & Hidden Courtyards** 3 km · 1 hr · Easy · Self-guided — Pick up the free street art map at the Tourism Office and follow the mural trail through Hasselt's lanes.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				DAYLIGHT & MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain	Apr 6:44AM–8:34PM · Jun 5:24AM–9:54PM · Aug 6:26AM–8:58PM · Sep 7:14AM–7:52PM · Oct 8:02AM–6:45PM	
Apr	58°	41°	9d	Euro (€)	
Jun	73°	56°	12d		
Aug	74°	58°	14d		
Sep	69°	53°	10d		
Oct	60°	49°	13d		

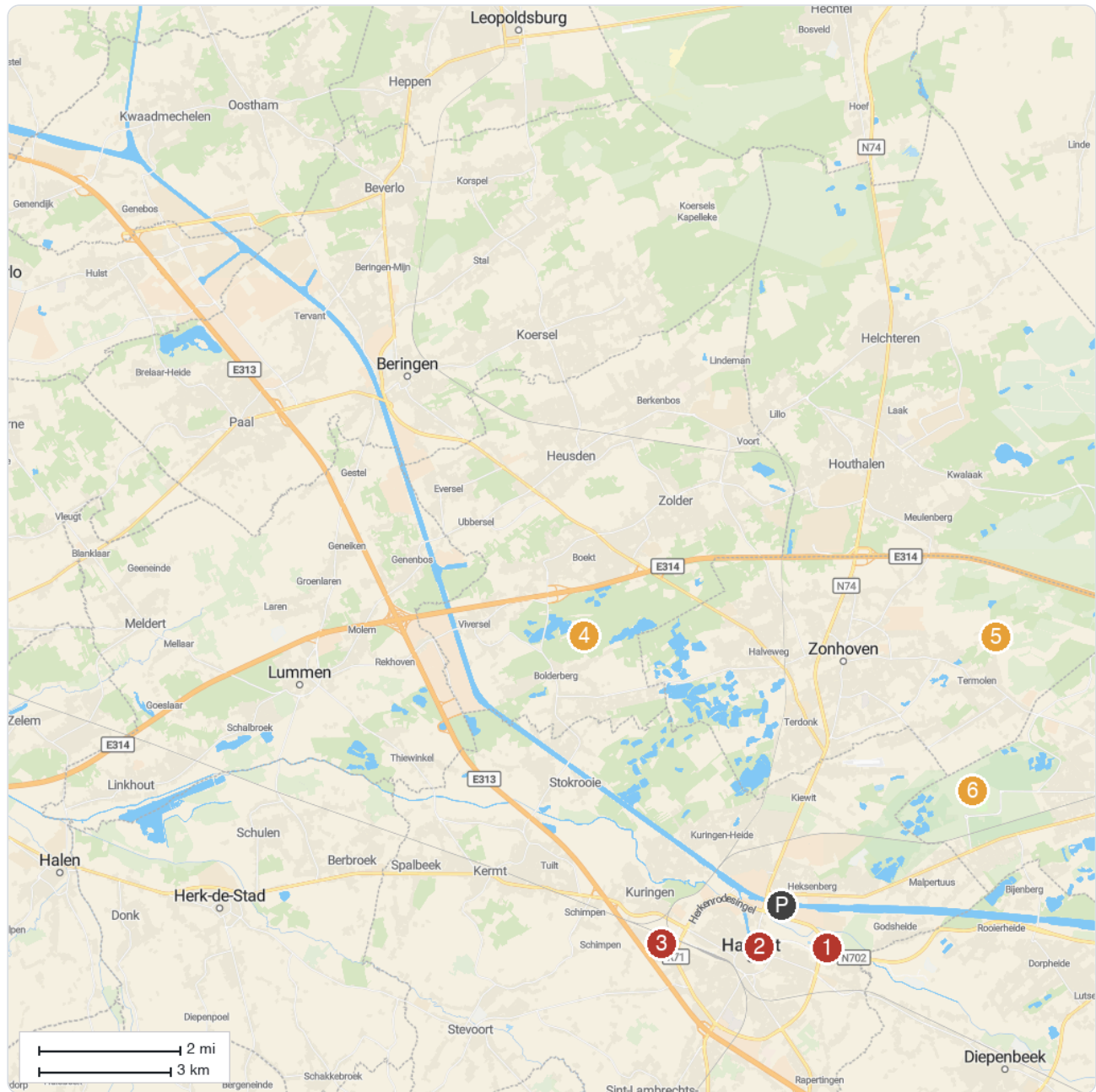
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Try the jenever. Hasselt is the jenever capital of Belgium — the Jenevermuseum tasting is included in entry, and local bars serve dozens of fruit varieties. A small glass is the local 'hello'.
- Japanese Garden is seasonal. It's open April–October only. If your call is outside those months, skip it — but the Beguinage garden offers a peaceful free alternative year-round.
- Sunday closing. Most shops close on Sundays except the first Sunday of the month (Koopzondag). Restaurants and cafés are generally open — plan meals over shopping on other Sundays.
- Rent a bike. Limburg is Belgium's cycling paradise. Bike hire is available near the port and the terrain is flat — ideal for reaching Herkenrode or just cruising the canal paths.
- Buy Hasseltse speculaas. Unlike the thin national variety, Hasselt's own speculaas is thick, soft, and intensely spiced. Grab a bag from a local bakery — they travel well as souvenirs.
- Cards accepted everywhere. Hasselt is cashless-friendly — even small cafés and bakeries take card. No need to hunt for an ATM.

Hasselt, Limburg, Belgium — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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|---------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---|
| 1 Plopsa Indoor Hasselt | Indoor theme park for young children with Studio 100 characters. | 2 Gin Museum Hasselt | Museum dedicated to the history and production of Hasselt gin. |
| 3 Tommelen | Prehistoric burial mounds and archaeological site. | 4 Kluis van Bolderberg | Historic hermitage with a chapel and dwelling. |
| 5 De Holsteen | Geological site with a large sandstone rock and prehistoric carvings. | 6 Bokrijk Open Air Museum | Large open-air museum showcasing historical Flemish buildings and crafts. |
| P Cruise port / terminal | | | |