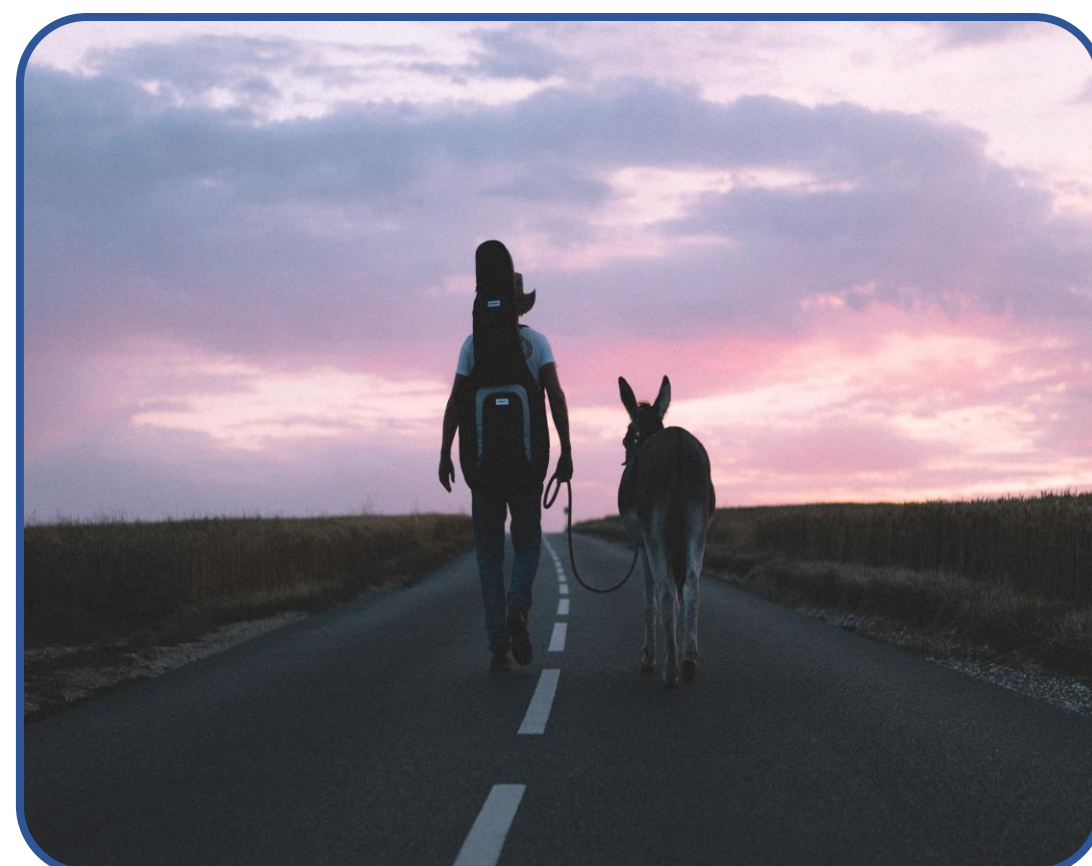




Cultural route  
of the Council of Europe  
Itinéraire culturel  
du Conseil de l'Europe



# Saint Martin of Tours Route



## "Bonne Route" on the Saint Martin Route with Tjerk

### Summary

In 2017, Dutch theatre artist Tjerk Ridder symbolically set off from Tours on a journey on foot between Paris and Utrecht with his donkey "Lodewijk", following the Via sancti Martini through France, Belgium and the Netherlands. His socio-cultural pilgrimage continued in the Netherlands in 2018, between the towns of Utrecht and Gröningen. With the logistical help of the Saint Martin Cultural Centre - Netherlands (Utrecht), a documentary film was produced about Tjerk's journey, a book about his experience "Bonne Route" was published and a musical play "Bonne Route" was presented on Europe Day and on World Peace Day on 21 September 2022. "Bonne Route" is being performed in many cities in the Netherlands and the Flemish Region. On 11 November 2022, to mark St Martin's Day and the close of the "Utrecht 900 Jaar Stadsrecht" celebration year, Tjerk took part in a cultural steel band performance with the steel drums of the (French-Dutch) island of St Martin. In 2023, he will continue the "Bonne Route" project on the island of Saint-Martin (West Indies).

**More information:** <https://www.zeistermagazine.nl/bonneroute>

### Main objectives

To bring to everyone, and to young people in particular, a message of encouragement to keep faith in humanity, to be open to others and to unexpected encounters.

### Fields of action

- Co-operation in research and development
- Enhancement of memory, history and European heritage
- Cultural and educational exchanges for young Europeans
- Contemporary cultural and artistic practice
- Cultural tourism and sustainable cultural development

### Type of Best practice

Exhibition

### Contact information

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### Date and Venue

July 2017 - present  
France (Tours, Paris), Belgium (Bevern) Netherlands (Utrecht)

### General Assembly Meeting

22 April 2023  
Taviano, Italy