

Dear students,

You are the number one group of bicycle users in our city. Cycling is healthy, a sustainable way to travel and, the fastest way to get around in the city centre. As a municipality, we welcome and encourage the use of bicycles. But more people cycling can also lead to more nuisance from bicycles. We try to avoid this as much as possible. In this regard, we are also asking for your help! In this letter, you can read what we expect from you as a cyclist.

#posifiets

Be #posifiets! This means cycling in such a way that gives you enjoyment and is not a nuisance to others.

- At home, park your bicycle at the back or inside of the building, and certainly not in narrow passageways designed to prevent fire spreading.
- If you are on the move, then cycle while staying alert to your surroundings, rather than focusing on your phone.
- If it is dark outside, make sure your bicycle lights are on.
- During opening hours in shopping areas, please step off your bicycle and walk through these areas.
- Make sure you put your bike in a bike rack or designated bicycle space to keep the pavement clear.

Being #posifiets brings many advantages. If you would like to know which, then visit www.maastrichtbereikbaar.nl/nl/posifiets/

In addition to fun offers and campaigns, you will also find more information about bicycle parking facilities in the city, where you can hand in your old bike, what to do if you lose your bike, and what rules apply to cyclists in Maastricht.

The most important rules are explained below.

Rules that apply to cyclists

Preventing nuisance

The general municipal bylaw of the Municipality of Maastricht lists rules to prevent nuisance from bicycles. For instance, in Maastricht it is forbidden to park your bicycle outside the bicycle-parking facilities in the central shopping district, Wyck and the train station area. In the rest of the city, you are permitted to park your bicycle outside the bicycle-parking facilities. But please take note...

Parking your bicycle in an inconvenient manner is banned everywhere in the city.

'In an inconvenient manner' means parking bicycles against a monument or memorial. Parking bicycles against a building that obstructs access or views. Parking bicycles in a way that obstructs free movement on a pavement. Or if your parked bicycle hinders boarding or disembarking buses or taxis or at disabled parking spaces. It is also forbidden to park bicycles against lampposts, benches, and rubbish bins.

Using space to the fullest extent

Bicycle parking facilities and public spaces should remain free of bicycles not in use where possible. For example, it is forbidden to park your bicycle in a bicycle parking facility for more than two weeks within the boulevards encircling the centre (the 'singels'). Throughout the city, it is forbidden to leave your bicycle in a neglected state.

Monitoring and enforcement

The Enforcement Team of the Municipality of Maastricht monitors compliance with these rules. Enforcement officers talk to cyclists and label bicycles that are parked incorrectly. The label shows how long you have to correctly park your bike. If you do not do this within the set time, your bike will be removed and put into storage.

If your bicycle has disappeared, then please check www.verlorenofgevonden.nl to see if your bike has been removed by the municipality. If this is the case, then you can collect your bicycle from the bicycle depot at Gerardusweg 39 after filling in a form. You can do so on Mondays between 1:00 PM and 5:00 PM and on Thursdays between 3:30 PM and 4:30 PM. Collecting your bicycle from the bicycle depot costs €25, and it would be a shame to have to spend that!

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Do you have any questions or ideas?

Do you have a good idea on how we can make it easier to get people using bicycles? Or if you have any questions about the rules that apply to cyclists in Maastricht, then please send an e-mail to post@maastricht.nl

Kind regards,