

75 years of freedom municipality of 's-Hertogenbosch

's-Hertogenbosch prepares for 75 years of freedom, in October 2019. For more than a week – from Thursday 17 October up to and including Sunday 27 October - we will commemorate the struggle for freedom and celebrate our freedom. For our British guests, the focus is on Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 October 2019. The outline programme is complete. That programme has been developed jointly by all residential areas and the municipality of 's-Hertogenbosch. Geffen also joins in on the basis of the historic liberation battle. From now on, we will keep you posted about all activities on our homepage. The full programme will be published in September 2019.

Joint programme

A program schedule has been developed that optimally links up with the liberation dates of 1944 by the 53rd Welsh Division. Vinkel will kick-off (Sunday 20 October), followed by Geffen (Monday 21 October), Nuland (Tuesday 22 October), Rosmalen (Wednesday 23 October) and 's-Hertogenbosch, combined with Empel en Engelen/Bokhoven (Thursday 24 up to and including Sunday 27 October).

Outline programme

Thursday 17 October, crowd warmer

Before we together start commemorating and celebrating for a week, we will put everything in the right historic perspective. An evening for citizens, where the historic perspective is described accurately, but also contemplating what that freedom brought us. It will revolve around personal stories, interspersed with music and images.

Sunday 20 October, from Vinkel to 's-Hertogenbosch

In the morning, a memorial service will be held at the church OLV Rozenkranskerk. The official start will be in the afternoon (at the EVVC site) from where a full-dress Liberation Parade will march from Vinkel to 's-Hertogenbosch. The parade – along Geffen - Nuland - Rosmalen and 's-Hertogenbosch - will focus on aspects such as the war generation, some historical vehicles and music. The parade ends at Parade Square in 's-Hertogenbosch where the official liberation concert will be performed by the Royal Netherlands Army Fanfare "Bereden Wapens"

Monday 21 October Geffen

In Geffen, during their Liberation Day, the emphasis will be on the liberation bonfire, a festive liberation concert, contributions by primary school pupils of groups 6, 7 and 8 and a walking route with personal stories on site.

Tuesday 22 October Nuland

The Nuland Liberation Day revolves around the liberation bonfire, a war walk through the primary school, a specific exhibition in De Meent, a commemoration and Silent Walk at the war memorial and a festive liberation evening. On Sunday 20 October, in Nuland there will also be a liberation concert by the Nuland musical associations.

Wednesday 23 October Rosmalen

Rosmalen takes three days for the commemorations and celebrations at the Gildeplein, starting on their Liberation Day, 23 October, with an evening walk to iconic war venues and a Liberation and Music Evening. On 24 October, there will be an afternoon and evening with a fitting theme in the framework of 75 years of freedom and Friday 25 October will see the Liberation Celebration featuring Full Stage Collection.

Thursday 24 October Empel and 's-Hertogenbosch

Empel joins the activities on 24 October with, during the day, attention for primary schools with suitable presentations, including movies. Later, there will be a festive evening concert by Exempel, with movie and song.

On 24 October, at the 's-Hertogenbosch J BAC there will be a diary presentation about the then 's-Hertogenbosch teenager Bets Reines and the opening of an exhibition of war drawings by Herman Moerkerk.

Friday 25 October Engelen / Bokhoven and 's-Hertogenbosch

On this day, in Engelen/Bokhoven a lecture will be held for primary schools and interested people. In the afternoon, there is a commemoration accompanied by musical groups. In 's-Hertogen bosch, the exhibition Royal Welsh and Welsh Art will open at Museum Slager. In addition, the Liberation Concerts will be performed by the band Marinierskapel 75 years, as well as by the Mixed Choir and the Male Choir from Brecon, Wales, both at the Theater aan de Parade.

Saturday 26 October, 's-Hertogenbosch

In the morning, the special memorial service is held at St John's Cathedral. After that, a parade or static show will be staged in the city and the afternoon is reserved for the official commemoration ceremony at the Welsh Division Memorial.

Sunday 27 October 's-Hertogenbosch

At the War Cemetery in Uden – where 103 British boys lie buried who died in the battle of 's-Hertogenbosch – wreaths will be laid. That same day, there is a rugby match between 's-Hertogenbosch (The Dukes) and Wales. At the end of the afternoon there will also be a grand finale (beating retreat ceremony) in the 's-Hertogenbosch inner city.