

12. The Chapel of Seven Sorrows

Chapel at Riel 14, Eindhoven (Stratum)

THE HAPPY SPOT

The 'Our Beloved Lady of Seven Sorrows' chapel is maintained by the neighborhood and was rebuilt by the residents in 2008. Do you recognize the Seven Sorrows of Mary in the tiles? In the 13th century, Riel was a hamlet in the village 'Zesgehuchten'. Sitting on the bench beside the chapel, it seems that time has stood still. Beautiful farms under tall trees, it looks like a postcard.

WHAT MAKES US HAPPY HERE?

This place exudes harmony, beauty and peaceful tranquility. Walk away your grief and melancholy here, and breathe in a simpler life. *'En langs het tuinpad van mijn vader zag ik de hoge bomen staan. Ik was een kind en wist niet beter dan dat het nooit voorbij zou gaan'*. (lyrics by songwriter Wim Sonneveld – 'And along my father's garden path, I saw the tall trees standing. I was a child then, and believed that things would never change.')

THE HAPPINESS TIPS

- From the bench, you can see a date inscribed on the exterior of the house. In that year, a major fire raged through the area and new farms had to be built. **What year** was a turning point in your life? What positive strengths have resulted from it?
- The revenues generated from the farm leases in Riel were used to fund **the Geefhuis (charity organization)** in Den Bosch. The Geefhuis provided care for poor people in the city. Volunteers from the neighborhood built this chapel. What do you occasionally give to others? What volunteer work could you do?
- For whom are you **grateful** in your life? At address number 14, you can pick up a small candle. Burn that candle in gratitude for the special people in your life.

EVEN MORE HAPPINESS

The chapel is situated in the nature reserve 'Gijzenrooische Zegge'. A little further along, there is a sign with walking trails. Stroll along ancient fields which are still cultivated without fertilizers. The herbs in the fields attract beautiful butterflies, such as the Orange Tip butterfly. Enjoy the poppies, cornflowers and partridges. You might even see a yellowhammer bird.

GOLDEN HAPPINESS TIP

Along with your little candle, you can also pick up your golden happiness tip from the residents at address number 14.