

TRAVEL AROUND WITH EMPRESS ZOË

PART 1

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PATRICK HERBOTS

Titel: Travel around with empress Zoë – Part 1
Auteur: Patrick Herbots
ISBN: 9789403742878
NUR: 402
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Niets uit deze publicatie mag zonder schriftelijke toestemming
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ZOË IS MY NAME. I AM THE EMPRESS OF
ALL DOGS, YOU BETTER REMEMBER THIS.



Passing through Antwerp in my carriage.
Are you sure you want to do this?
Because I don't wake up unless you say YES, loud and clear.
I want to hear it ...
Louder.
Alright then, let's go.
Zoë

FOLLOW ME ...



So, you really want to join me on a tour around Antwerp?

Before we begin, we need to stretch a little...

I'm ready now. Are you?

Alright then. Let's go, folks.

I'll be your guide.

But don't forget: I'm not just any guide, I'm an Empress.

And I'm doing this tour from my carriage... while my daddy drives.

Zoë

DAY 1

PICTURE NR 1



Let's begin our tour in Lier. It's on the outskirts of Antwerp, but you can easily get there by bike, following the River Nete. Oh my God! It's absolutely stunning. Feels just like Heaven. You've got to try it for yourself.

And now, a touch of culture—although I'll admit, it's not really my thing. I much prefer food and delightful smells... like, well, poop and such.

Behind me, you'll see what they call the Zimmer Tower (or De Zimmertoren in Dutch). It was built in the early 15th century, around the time my great-great-great-great-great-grandfather Zoë was born—or something like that.

Please forgive my math—I can only count to ten. After all, I'm a dog, and numbers aren't exactly our strong suit.

Luckily, my daddy handles all the bills, so I don't have to worry about money or math too much.

Zoë

DAY 1
PICTURE NR 2



This is the Albert Canal (Het Albertkanaal in Dutch). You can cycle for hours along both sides, it's that long and peaceful. Sometimes I get a bit tired, so I take a nap while my daddy keeps pedaling. Honestly, it feels just like dozing off on a train. And now, a little culture, just for you. I know humans enjoy that sort of thing, and I want to prove that I'm a well-educated dog. I've picked up some manners... and I've learned how to blend in with your species. The Albert Canal is named after King Albert I of Belgium. It links Antwerp with Liège and connects the Meuse River with the Scheldt. That's about all I remember from the stories I've overheard. I do have a great memory, just not for history. Ask me where I buried my bones in the garden or under the bed, and I'll tell you exactly. Zoë

DAY 1
PICTURE NR 3



It was getting late, and I almost drifted off in my carriage, but just for you, I stayed awake for a nice photo.

In the background, you can see the Port Authority Building (Het Havenhuis in Dutch). It was built long before I was born, sometime between 2009 and 2016, by the brilliant Iraqi-British architect Zaha Hadid.

Oh! I almost forgot to mention. I was born on December 6th, 2021, the day Sinterklaas comes to Belgium. That makes me just over two years old. Write it down in your agenda, folks!

And don't forget to send me a bone for my birthday.

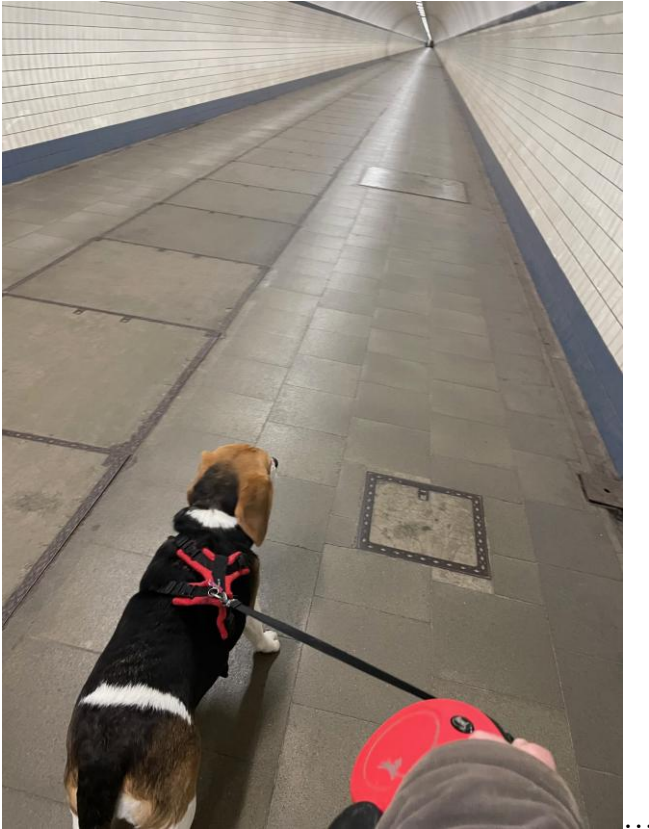
I'll be very grateful—and if you ever pass by my house in Wilrijk, you'll get a big lick from me in return.

DAY 1
PICTURE NR 4



Now this is my kind of art, wall drawings. I absolutely love them. To show my respect for the artist, I leave my own little ‘signature’—a mark of admiration, you could say. Humans might not be able to read it, but any dog visiting this open-air gallery will know I’ve been here. And believe me, they know. Just like I can tell plenty of dogs came before me. I don’t know their names, but when we meet, we talk about it. Sometimes, we don’t quite agree on the artistic quality. That’s when humans think we’re fighting, but we’re not. We’re just having a passionate debate. We discuss, we argue, we make our points.

DAY 1
PICTURE NR 5



This is the Pedestrian Tunnel (De Voetgangerstunnel in Dutch). Have you tried the authentic wooden escalators? They're beautiful, truly a piece of history. Of course, I'm carried down by my daddy, but once we're in the tunnel, I walk. Yes, even an Empress walks now and then. If you follow the tunnel all the way to the end, you'll be treated to a stunning view of the Antwerp skyline. So trust me—it's worth the stroll. And just to be clear, I don't walk because I have to. I walk out of respect ... for the name of this tunnel. Zoë