

Leiden is an old city in south Holland built around connected canals.





It is home to the University at Leiden, one of the oldest in Europe (~ 1575).





We stayed at the De  
Doelen Hotel on a canal  
near the University.





Like other University towns,  
Leiden is a walking and  
cycling city.





Sites around the city  
include, Hooglandse Kerk  
(Highland Church).





Sint Lodewijks  
(St. Louis Church)





# De Valk Windmill





Each location in Leiden  
seems to involve a canal.

















Dining at a local  
Indonesian restaurant.

Sam





The University at Leiden Botanic Garden is also one of the oldest in Europe.





Carolus Clusius (Charles de l'Ecluse - 1526 to 1601) was a professor at the University of Leiden and established the botanic garden (Hortus Botanicus). He is credited with popularizing the tulip and establishing the bulb industry in Holland.





From records left by  
Clusius, his garden  
planting scheme has  
been recreated today.







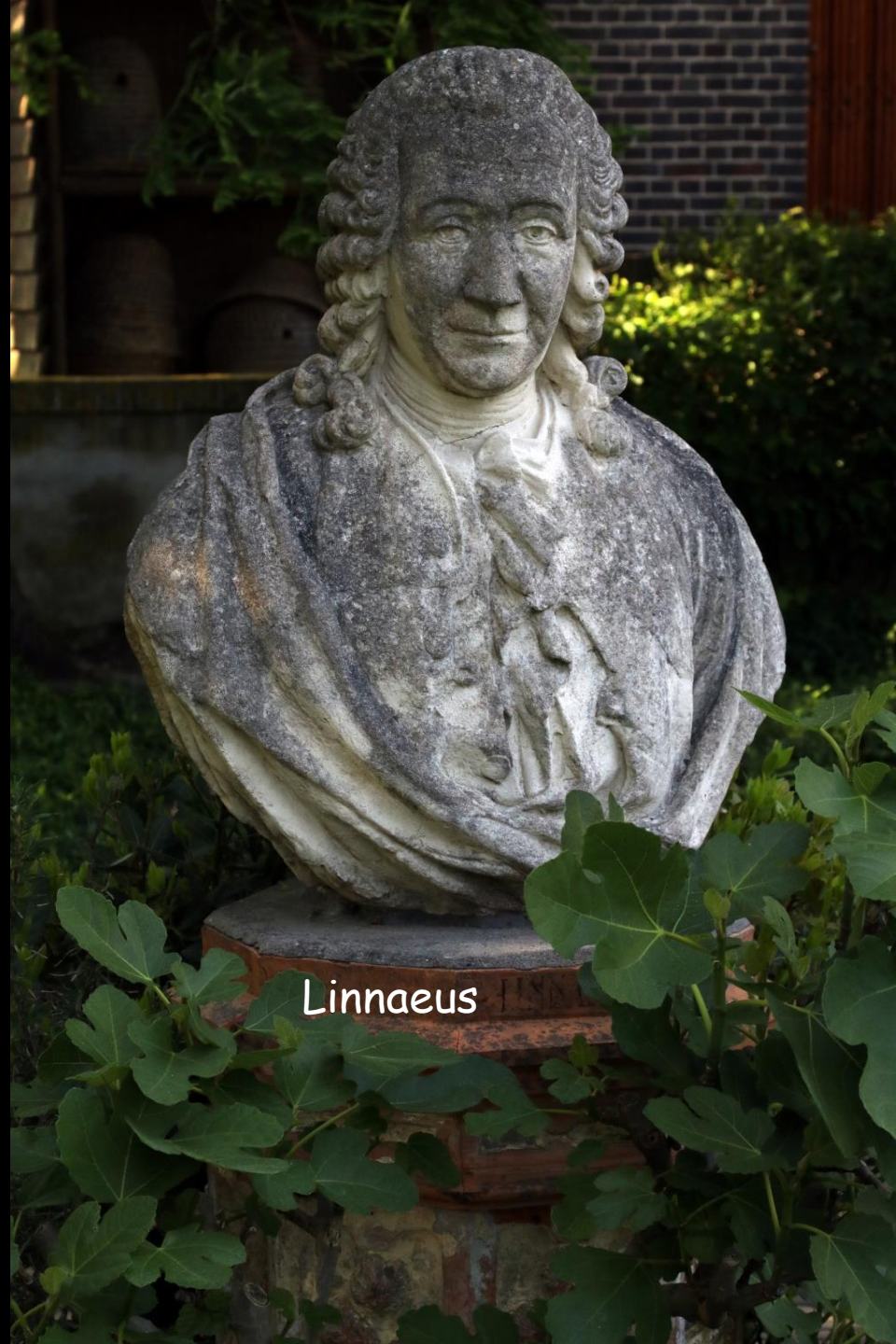


GODT VOET ALLE CREATVREN





Also included in the Leiden Botanic garden is a synoptic garden laid out by plant family according to the Linnaean system.



Linnaeus



Each bed has representative plants for each family and interesting rotating signs - each side in a different language.





# This bed was for the rose family (Rosaceae).





The garden also included a classic European-style orangery. An orangery precedes greenhouses and were used to overwinter tender plants (like oranges) grown in large containers.





One of the plants in  
the large containers  
was African hemp  
(*Sparmannia africana*).





The conservatory  
had a collection of  
and plants  
*Hydnophytum*  
*formicarum*.





Leiden Botanic Garden  
also has a collection of  
tropical ferns.

*Lecanopteris  
lomarioides*





*Thunbergia  
mysorensis*





There is a large modern palm house conservatory.





Two notable plants in the garden are the tuliptree (*Liriodendron*) planted in 1716 and the *Ginkgo* planted in 1759.



*Liriodendron*



*Ginkgo*



The garden also has a collection of Japanese plants related to Philipp von Siebold (1796 - 1866). Siebold collected plants and animals in Japan and sent them back for scientific study in Leiden.



*Hosta sieboldiana* named for Siebold.



*Zelkova serrata* is the largest tree in the Leiden Japanese garden and was introduced by Siebold.