



# VA

|kunst & cultuur

# VrijeAcademie

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**VA**VrijeAcademie

Photo: Amsterdam City Archive, approx. 1965

Event Venue



A unique canalside experience, from intimate dinners to large-scale festivities.



Meet in style at the Vrije Academie.





## Welcome

Welcome to the Vrije Academie, a beautiful event venue in the heart of Amsterdam. This listed canal house has a rich history and authentic appearance. The property was thoroughly renovated and renamed Huis Vasari in 2021. With four lecture rooms, a studio, exhibition space, (museum) shop and café, it is now home to the Vrije Academie; the largest arts and cultural education organisation for adults in the Netherlands.

The venue plays host to our own programme, but that's not the only trick up this beautiful building's sleeve. All rooms are for rent, allowing everyone to discover this gem on the Herengracht for themselves! How about a meeting in the authentic 17<sup>th</sup>-century kitchen or a celebratory dinner under Jacob de Wit's original ceiling paintings? We have the perfect space for every party, for every need and for every wish.

“Vingboons’ buildings  
combine palatial elegance  
with tranquil simplicity.”

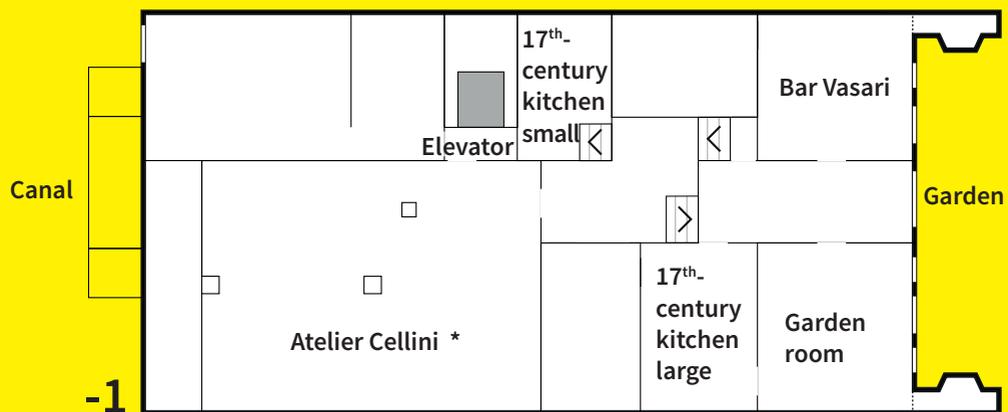
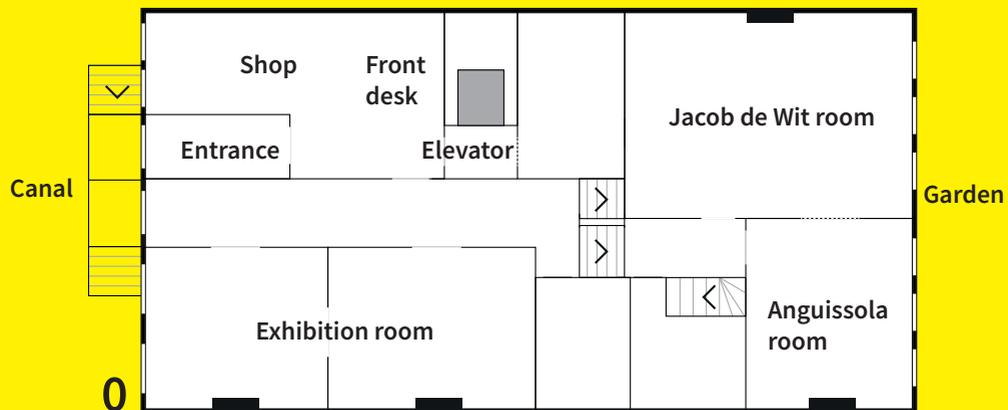
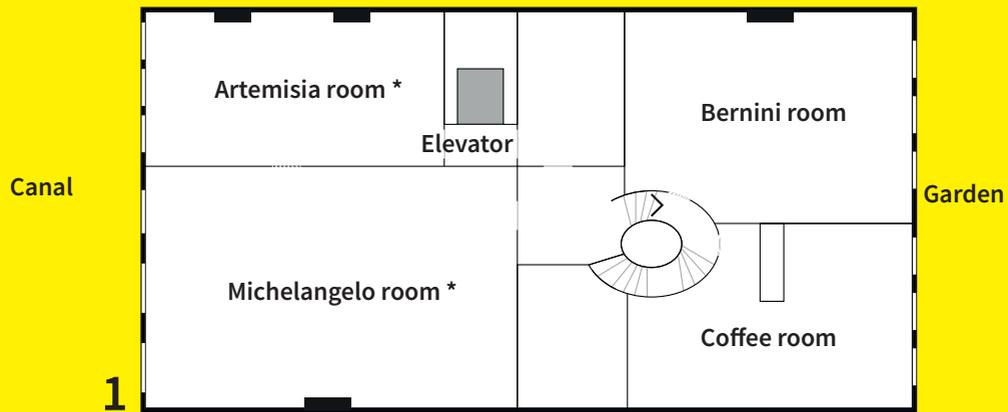
Akkerym Doevendans, Head of Programming at Vrije Academie



## Special history

Huis Vasari is a listed building with a rich history. It was originally built in the 17<sup>th</sup> century to the design of Amsterdam architect Philips Vingboons, commissioned by Jacob Cromhout. The two joined properties were therefore known as the Cromhouthuizen. Jacob's grandson commissioned then unknown painter Jacob de Wit (1695-1754) to decorate the residence. His ceiling paintings can still be seen in their original state in the historic Jacob de Wit room. Of all the ceiling paintings made by Jacob de Wit, these are the earliest.

Until 2019, the double canal house was home to the Biblical Museum, before Stadsherstel, Amsterdam's body for Urban Regeneration, took possession of the property. A thorough renovation followed, in which original features such as the staircase - perhaps the finest staircase in Amsterdam - the two 17<sup>th</sup>-century kitchens and Jacob de Wit's ceilings were preserved. Now, as the home of the Vrije Academie, this multipurpose canal house hosts a dynamic programme consisting of lectures, workshops, courses and off-sites.



\* Wheelchair accessible

## Plan

The Vrije Academie is home to several meeting rooms, a workshop studio and multiple small break-out rooms, suitable for groups of 4 to 120 people. The property also features its own café: Bar Vasari. The large rooms all feature a theatre layout as standard and are furnished with audiovisual equipment. All rooms can be converted to suit your needs. An unguarded cloakroom is also available.

The building, with a maximum capacity of 500 people, can also be rented in its entirety.

The property is not fully wheelchair accessible.

The default layouts can be converted upon request:



Theatre layout



Reception / Walking dinner



Dinner with round tables



Dinner with long tables / Meeting setup



Classroom layout



## Jacob de Wit room

Historic room with impressive ceiling paintings by Jacob de Wit, with ten canvases with mythological scenes adorning the ceiling. This is the perfect venue for any big celebration, exuding the style and elegance of a classic ballroom.

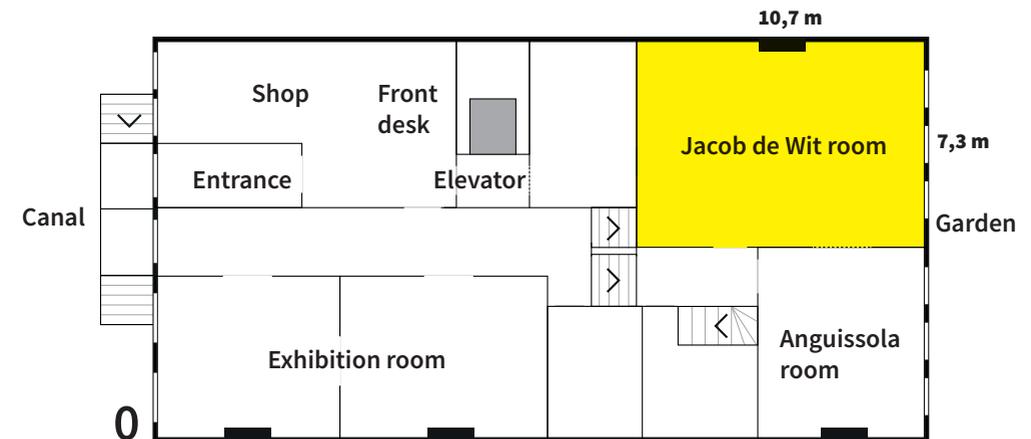
The room has an intimate feel, but can seat up to 60 people for a celebratory dinner. For a lecture or presentation, 60 people can be comfortably seated in a theatre layout. The room is equipped with two large television screens, which can be used for presentations. All equipment is connected to the speakers.

### Capacity:

Theatre 60 pax  
 Reception 100 pax  
 Dinner with round tables 50 pax  
 Dinner with long tables 60 pax

### Audiovisual equipment:

2 LCD screens  
 Laptop  
 Speakers  
 Wireless headset  
 Mixer





## Anguissola room

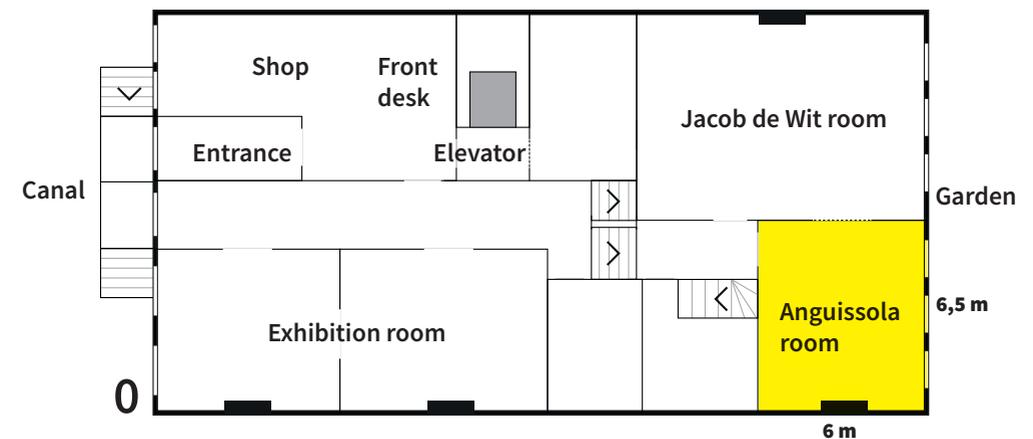
A stylish meeting room right next to the Jacob de Wit room. As a result, these two adjacent halls can easily be used together. The Anguissola room is set up in a meeting layout as standard, with a generous table that seats 14. It is the ideal setting for interactive meeting or brainstorming sessions.

This room does not feature audiovisual equipment as standard. The Anguissola room is also suitable for intimate dinners. In this stylish room, boasting an authentic fireplace and well-preserved mirror, small groups can dine in different styles.

### Capacity:

Meeting setup 14 pax

Dinner 16 pax





## Michelangelo room

The largest room in the building, blessed with ample natural light and a liberal feel. This versatile room can be used for countless different purposes; a business reception, conference, lecture, presentation or even a walking dinner.

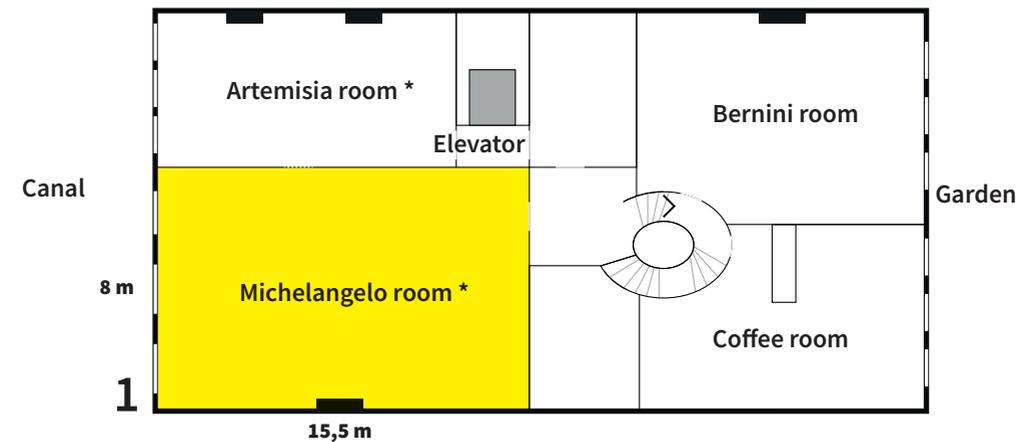
The room can easily be combined with the adjacent Artemisia room thanks to the connecting door. There is a coffee room on the same floor, which can be used as an ideal base for a break, small-scale drinks reception or a buffet. The room is equipped with a projector and a screen.

### Capacity:

Theatre 100 pax  
 Reception 120 pax  
 Walking dinner 120 pax

### Audiovisual equipment:

Beamer  
 Screen  
 Laptop  
 Speakers  
 Wireless headset





## Artemisia room

The smallest lecture room, arranged as standard in a classroom-style layout for 25 people, making this space ideal for meetings. The room can also easily accommodate 50 people in a theatre layout.

The room can easily be combined with the adjacent Michelangelo room thanks to the connecting door. There is a coffee room on the same floor, which can be used as an ideal base for a break, small-scale drinks reception or a buffet. The room is equipped with a projector and a screen.

### Capacity:

Theatre 50 pax

Classroom layout 25 pax

### Audiovisual equipment:

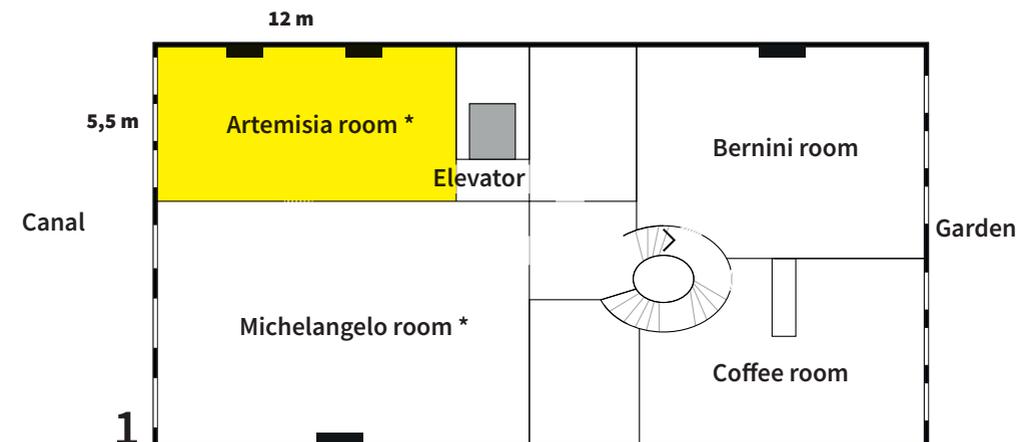
Beamer

Screen

Laptop

Speakers

Wireless headset



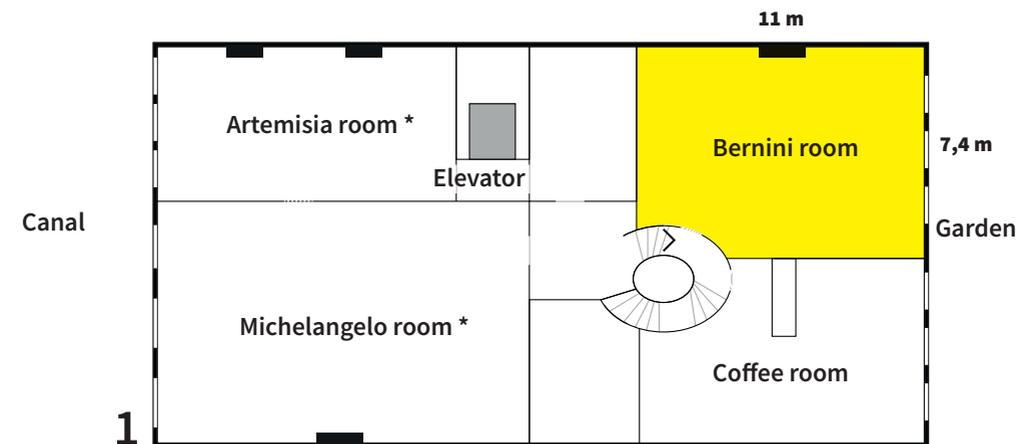


## Bernini room

A sleek, stylish venue for lectures and presentations. The room is equipped with two television screens. All equipment is connected to the speakers. The neighbouring coffee room is an ideal base for a break, small-scale drinks reception or a buffet.

**Capacity:**  
Theatre 60 pax

**Audiovisual equipment:**  
2 LCD screens  
Laptop  
Speakers  
Wireless headset  
Mixer





## Atelier Cellini

Atelier Cellini is the property's studio, perfect for workshops, meetings and brainstorming sessions. It can also be used as a break-out room together with one of the other rooms. The room has a large movable television screen.

### Capacity:

Classroom layout 20 pax

Reception 40 pax

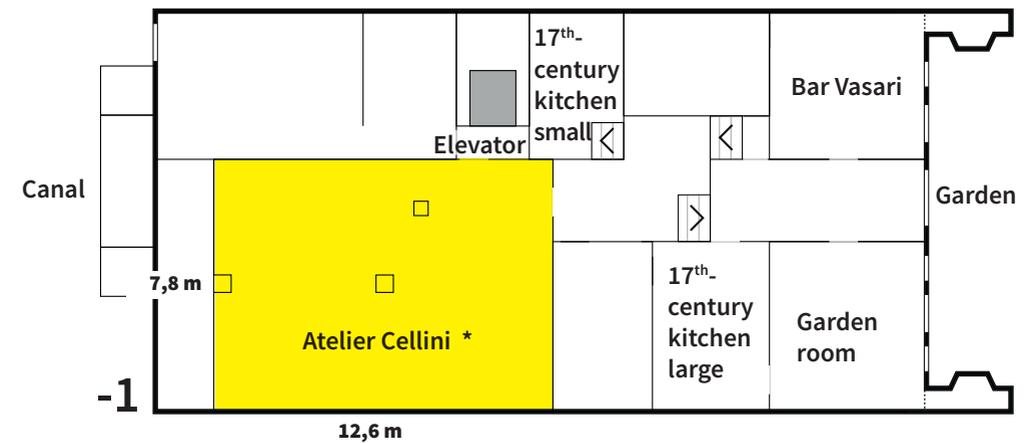
Walking dinner 40 pax

### Audiovisual equipment:

1 LCD screen

Laptop

Mini Sonos





## 17<sup>th</sup>-century kitchens

How about hosting a dinner or meeting in an authentic 17<sup>th</sup> century kitchen? The Vrije Academie boasts not one, but two of these characterful kitchens, with the small one being the oldest kitchen in Amsterdam! Stepping into these rooms means stepping straight back into the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

The rooms can be used, jointly or separately, for a celebratory dinner, meeting, brainstorming session or as a break-out room in combination with another room.

### Capacity 17<sup>th</sup>-century kitchen large:

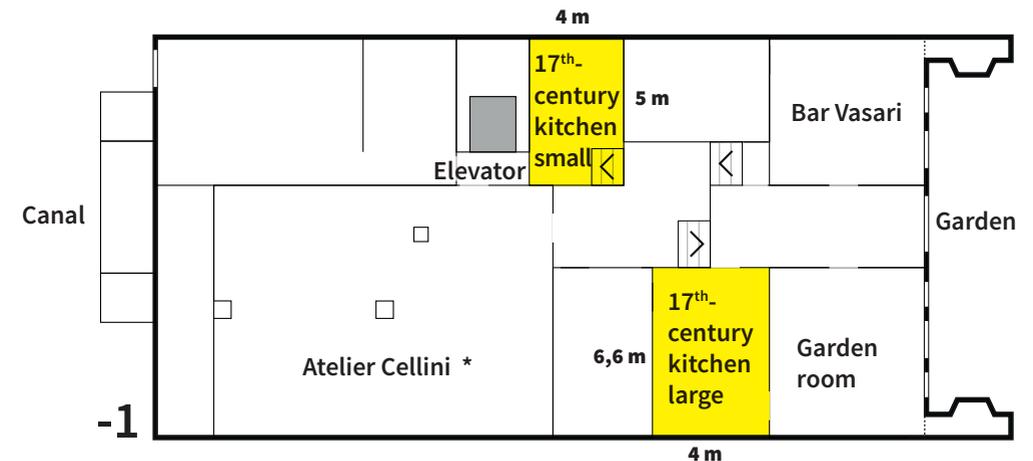
Dinner 8 pax

Meeting setup 8 pax

### Capacity 17<sup>th</sup>-century kitchen small:

Dinner 4 pax

Meeting setup 4 pax





## Garden room & Bar Vasari

Imagining a dinner with garden views under a beautifully ornate ceiling? The Garden room is just the venue you are looking for. More casual layouts, such as standing drinks receptions, are also possible. The Garden room can be closed off to create a more intimate atmosphere for a small gathering.

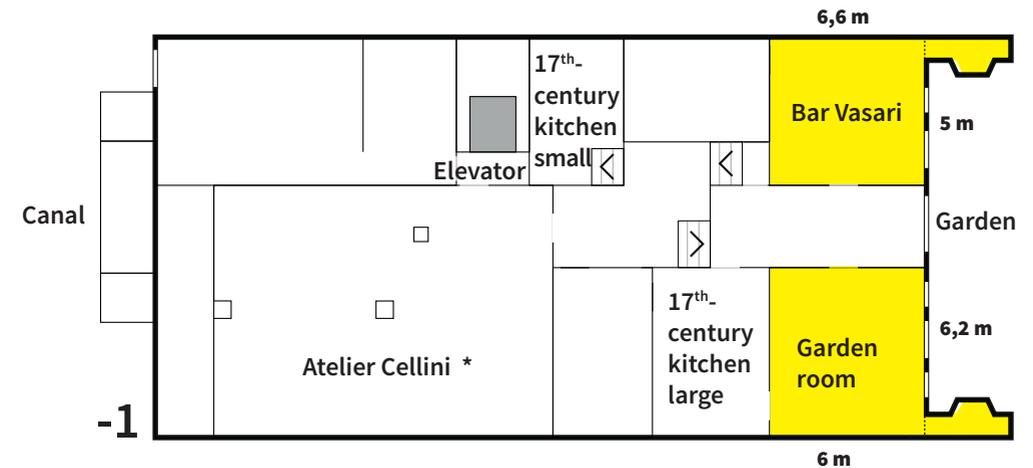
The adjacent Bar Vasari can only be rented together with the Garden Room and is the ideal base for aperitifs or drinks! Bar Vasari is decorated in the style of the iconic Mid-Century Milanese espresso bar. The marble exudes sheer luxury and goes perfectly with the garden to create a tranquil oasis in the heart of Amsterdam.

Both rooms have a small adjoining sunroom.

### Capacity:

Dinner 24 pax

Reception 65 pax





## Rental Rates

Rooms	sqm	LxWxH	1 daypart
Jacob de Wit room	78 sqm	10,7x7,3x5,1	€1475
Michelangelo room	113 sqm	15,5x8x3,5	€950
Bernini room	81 sqm	11x7,4x3,3	€ 750
Artemisia room	66 sqm	12x5,5x3,5	€ 550
Anguissola room	39 sqm	6,5x6x4,6	€ 450
Atelier Cellini	98 sqm	12,6x7,8x2,6	€ 800
Garden Room	37 sqm	6,2x6x2,6	€ 1475
Bar Vasari	33 sqm	Only together with Garden room	
17 <sup>th</sup> -century kitchen large	27 sqm	6,6x4,2x3	€ 450
17 <sup>th</sup> -century kitchen small	20 sqm	5x4x2,5	€ 400
Entire building (excluding exhibition space and shop)			€9500

### Dayparts:

9:00-13:00

13:00-18:00

18:00-23:00

All rates are exclusive of VAT, catering and other facilities. All rooms include cleaning and a receptionist during rented dayparts as standard. Listed rates are subject to price changes.

## Catering

The Vrije Academie has a selection of catering partners who will make your event unforgettable. From coffee and refreshments, to dressed drinks or served dinner. Whatever your needs and wishes, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us to discuss your options.



## Contact

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Website: [www.vrijeacademie.nl](http://www.vrijeacademie.nl)

## Getting here

The Vrije Academie is located in the centre of Amsterdam, at Herengracht 368. Accessibility by public transportation is excellent. There is limited street parking. We recommend using Q-park Kalverstraat, Singel 451C.

© 2024  
Styling: Richard van Walraven,  
GEWOON eten en meer...  
Photography: Wouter Vellekoop,  
Anne Reitsma Photography, Kubilay  
Altinta, JVD Photography.  
Design: osingadesign bno.



A tranquil oasis amidst Amsterdam's 9 Straatjes.



The perfect venue for any event.



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