**HIGHLIGHTS**

1. **TOWER CLOCKMAKER MICHIELS**
   On the Korenmarkt you will find the clockmaker Michiels, at the De Clippel house at number 6.

   Edward Michiels bought the house in 1890, where he ran the construction company for tower clocks and carillons which he had founded in 1861. By using electricity, it became one of the most advanced tower clocks workshops in Belgium.

   The tower clockmaking workshop is in the yard at the rear of the building. Many mechanical tower clocks and carillons were repaired here, and even today the workshop is used to restore old mechanisms and make modern, electronically controlled tower clocks. The tower clock workshop is protected as industrial heritage.

2. **SINTE-METTETUIN (ST MARTIN’S GARDEN)**
   This city garden forms a green link between the Bruul and IJzerenleen. Take a stroll around this hidden spot in the city and experience the peace and quiet of the garden to the full. And admire the ‘Adèle Colson’ carillon pavilion, which moved into the Sinte-Mettetuin in 2018. The pavilion houses the Carillon School’s chamber carillon. More than four years were spent working on this instrument with 50 bronze bells.

   Oh, and did you know that the carillon pavilion is named after Adèle Colson, the world’s first female carillonneur? She graduated from the Mechelen Carillon School in 1929.
GROTE MARKT
Ever since the installation of a new keyboard for the old carillon of St Rumbold’s Tower in 1946, throwing the bells on the Grote Markt has been a Mechelen tradition. Twenty large bells run down a cable from the tower to the town hall. Along the way, this bell releases 20 smaller bells. These contain numbers, one of which is the winning number. Are you the winner? Then you get to take a bronze Mechelen bell home!

JEF DENYNPLEIN
The whole space was originally called Melaan. Half of it was renamed Jef Denynplein in 1962 to celebrate the 100th birthday of the famous Mechelen carillonneur Jef Denyn. In the first half of the 20th century, the square was also a popular spot to listen to Denyn’s Monday evening carillon concerts.

ST RUMBOLD’S TOWER
If you hear bells, there’s a good chance that the sound comes from St Rumbold’s Tower, which along with the Onze Lieve Vrouwestoren in Amersfoort, is one of only two towers in the world with two carillons. The historic carillon has 49 bells and was cast over a period of five centuries by twelve different bell-founders. This carillon is still considered worldwide to be the prototype for all existing and new carillons, thanks to Jef Denyn’s technical improvements.

This historic carillon can still be heard. Every seven and a half minutes - popularly known as ‘t Mechels Halfke - you can hear the melody played by the automatic cylinder movement. The newer concert carillon was installed in the tower in 1981. The installation of the carillon was a great spectacle. A gigantic crane, taller than St Rumbold’s Tower itself, lifted the 18 heaviest bells into the tower from above. In total, the new carillon has 49 bells. The instrument weighs 40 tons, making this carillon not only the heaviest in Belgium, but also one of the heaviest in Europe.

THE HEAVY METAL ROUTE
A PASSION FOR THE CARILLON

PRINCIPAL CONTENT

STARTING PLACE
Tourist information office: Visit Mechelen, Schepenhuis Vleeshouwersstraat 6, 2800 Mechelen

ROUTE AND ACCESSIBILITY
Alternative route for wheelchair users: Instead of going down ’t Plein to the Dyle path, stay on Onze-Lieve-Vrouwestraat. Follow it to the end and turn left. Then cross the Fonteinbrug. From here you can pick up the main route again.

LENGTH
Main route: 3.5 km
Accessible route: 3.5 km

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COLOPHON
In collaboration with: the Royal Carillon School Jef Denyn and Stadsgidsen Mechelen, text: VisitMechelen, layout: VisitMechelen, printer: Coloma, map: OpenStreetMap, Elke Feusels, photos: De Beeldbakkerij and Stad Mechelen, publisher: Björn Siffer, VVV Mechelen vzw, Vleeshouwersstraat 6, 2800 Mechelen - D/2022/10717/37