

Civitates orbis terrarvm Humanistman

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Public Domain

<https://humanistman.com/>

Google Map: <https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1QRwAOBJWikHGOFMwuTU-ZkYsZr5z9gs&usp=sharing>

Excel Spreadsheet: <https://humanistman.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Civitates-orbis-terrarvm-Humanistman.xlsx>

Introduction

The 1500s in Europe seems an important time in human history. I came across the city maps produced by https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Georg_Braun **Georg Braun** and the many talented people who helped produced these detailed city maps in the **Civitates orbis terrarvm** e.g. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frans_Hogenberg **Frans Hogenberg**

Many universities and libraries have versions these books and many are available in the **public domain for research purposes**. I created a database and checked and linked many maps from many sources and try to geocode every map as well as providing alternate names. Many versions exist and it is not immediately clear which dates apply to the maps or the date of first and subsequent printings. Some maps appear only on some versions and not on others so it was difficult to check and double check each map. I will have made errors on my database but I have data matched with many of my databases to do some cross checking.

The main document which helped me organize my database was:

Mapping the towns of Europe: The European towns in Braun & Hogenberg's Town Atlas, 1572-1617

Cartographie des villes d'Europe: Les villes européennes dans l'Atlas des Villes de Braun et Hogenberg, 1572-1617

Peter van der Krogt

p. 371-398

<https://doi.org/10.4000/belgeo.11877> <https://journals.openedition.org/belgeo/11877>

Data sources

Heidelberg University has an excellent digital collection which I use in many links.

1. Volume 1 <https://digi.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/diglit/braun1593bd1/>
2. Volume 2 <https://digi.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/diglit/braun1593bd2/>
3. Volume 3 <https://digi.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/diglit/braun1593bd3/>

4. Volume 4 <https://digi.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/diglit/braun1594bd4/>
5. Volume 5 <https://digi.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/diglit/braun1599bd5/>
6. Volume 6 <https://digi.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/diglit/braun1618bd6/>

The USA library of Congress has the collection organized into 3 datasets
<https://www.loc.gov/item/2008627031/>

1. Volumes 1 and 2 <https://www.loc.gov/resource/g3200m.gct00128a>
2. Volumes 3 and 4 <https://www.loc.gov/resource/g3200m.gct00128b>
3. Volumes 5 and 6 <https://www.loc.gov/resource/g3200m.gct00128c>

Utrecht University also has some maps online <https://www.uu.nl/en/special-collections/collections/maps-and-atlases>

<https://www.uu.nl/en/special-collections/collections/maps-and-atlases/town-plans/town-atlas-by-braun-hogenberg>

- Volume 1 <https://objects.library.uu.nl/reader/index.php?obj=1874-357397&lan=en#page//56/59/88/56598856355747173674421691955164215407.jpg/mode/1up>
- Volume 4 <https://objects.library.uu.nl/reader/index.php?obj=1874-357877&lan=en#page//20/83/39/20833922520735455653777218536718239167.jpg/mode/1up>

A much larger collection of maps is available the **David Rumsey** collection
<https://www.davidrumsey.com/> which I mainly used to double check some of the maps.
https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/view/search?q=city%3D*+LIMIT%3ARUMSEY%7E8%7E1&showAll=where&os=0&pgs=250&res=1&cic=RUMSEY%7E8%7E1

There are many other collections in the **Internet Archive** e.g.
<https://archive.org/details/civitatesorbiste00brau/>

Data Issues

Dates not on prints, Author not on prints, Latin translation required.

Ingolstadt 1.40b, Innsbruck 1.40b - appear in different versions

I created new lines for Hainaut (heraldic garden) 3.23, Nobilis Hannoniae comitatvs description 3.23, Denmark 4.25 Denmark 4.25, Costumes of Dithmarsch 5.37 Dithmarsch 5.37, Stade 1.23d, 5.40 Stade 5.40

I could not work out what was going on with Stade - i had trouble finding a version with 1.23d.

Selected Observations

Later versions show more information including events like battles, celebrations, massacres, Gallows in the distance, ships and shipping, surrounding countryside, animals, standards, emblems, people, clothes, people in activities. Some show both city plans and side and context views.

Map 5.10a,b,c shows a travel route across and old roman bridge through the marshes.

Los Palacios 5.10a , **Las Alcantarillas 5.10b** - [1598] Spain,Andalusia, Lat/Long(37.09689,-5.861292),
Las Cabezas de San Juan 5.10c <https://digi.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/diglit/braun1599bd5/0053>

