

Bike & Boat: Northern Tour of Holland

8 days, € 804



Introduction



During this fascinating cycling cruise on board the ships **De Willemstad** or **De Holland** or **Arkona** you will discover the best of what the beautiful Provinces of North-Holland and Friesland offer. Explore flat “polder” landscapes – a polder is a low-lying tract of land enclosed by embankments – the North Sea coast, towering sand dunes, long sandy beaches, historic windmills, the island of Texel and the many picturesque harbor towns along the coast of IJsselmeer Lake. It is without doubt a tour not to be missed!

In collaboration with:
Boat Bike Tours.

Day to Day

Day 1 **Amsterdam | Amsterdam – Zaandam**

Embarkation and check-in between 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. in Amsterdam. Take the opportunity to go shopping, to explore downtown Amsterdam, to make a canal cruise or to visit a museum. At 5 p.m. welcome drink and safety instructions, dinner and first briefing on board. During dinner short cruise to Zaandam.

Day 2 **Zaandam – Zaanse Schans – Alkmaar (44 km/27 mi.)**

44 km

The first cycling trip of this tour takes you via small villages through the beautiful flat and green polder landscape. The first stop is at the Zaanse Schans open air museum (free entry) with its traditional Old Dutch wooden houses, windmills and the cheese- and clog factory. After this visit you will cycle through the “Land of Leeghwater”, a green polder area between Amsterdam, Alkmaar and Hoorn. Stroll through the former whaler’s village De Rijp and pass by the windmills of Schermerhorn. Your ship will be waiting for you near the historical city center of Alkmaar.

Day 3 **Dune tour: round trip from/to Alkmaar (33 km/20 mi. or 40 km/25 mi.) | Alkm**

40 km

Today you can discover the beautiful North-Holland Dune reserve. This is a 5.300 hectare large forest- and dune area with its unique landscapes. In these dunes the drinking water for almost the whole province of North-Holland is gained. After a visit to the beach and artists village Bergen you will return to Alkmaar where you can visit the wonderful city center. In the afternoon the ship will sail over the North-Holland Canal to the navy harbor of Den Helder.



- Day 4 Ferry to North Sea island of Texel: cycling round trips from 't Horntje (34 51 km**
After breakfast you'll take a 20-minute ferry ride (ticket included) from Den Helder to the isle of Texel, where you can make beautiful cycling tours on the largest of the Dutch North Sea Isles. Ride through meadows, nature parks and dunes to small villages and have the opportunity for a stop and some bathing at the sandy North Sea beach, or visit the "Ecomare" seal sanctuary. In the late afternoon you will return by ferry to Den Helder.
- Day 5 Den Helder – Stavoren | Southwest Friesland: round trip from/to Stavoren (4 55 km**
The vessel will cross the large inland lake IJsselmeer to sail to Stavoren in the Province of Friesland. You can opt for a shorter or longer cycling tour: discover the nature area of Gaasterland or explore a part of the wide lake district, that Friesland is well-known for. You can also combine both options. Night in the small harbor of Stavoren, one of the famous traditional 11 cities of Friesland.
- Day 6 Stavoren – Medemblik | Medemblik – Hoorn – Enkhuizen (39 km/23.4 mi. or 51 51 km**
The ship will cross the IJsselmeer again during breakfast. Take the short cycling trip from Medemblik along the IJsselmeer coast directly to Enkhuizen, where you can spend the afternoon. Enkhuizen is an old city with many centuries of maritime tradition. The "herring city" boasts a beautiful old harbor, a historical old town centre and the very interesting Zuiderzeemuseum. If you prefer a longer cycling tour, ride from Medemblik to the former Dutch East India Company town of Hoorn, in the 17th century one of the world's leading harbors. Enjoy your lunch break and make a short stroll in the old city centre. Continue by bicycle to Enkhuizen via some picturesque rural villages. In the evening you can join a short city walk.
- Day 7 Enkhuizen – Volendam | Volendam – Waterland – Amsterdam (28 km/16.8 mi. or 50 50 km**
During breakfast the ship will sail to Volendam. Your final day of cycling will lead you through the beautiful area of Waterland, with its hundreds of small lakes and tiny canals. Near Volendam you will have the opportunity to visit a cheese farm. Recommended (extra cycling miles) is a tour to the former island of Marken, to continue through the water shaped region of Waterland back to the Dutch capital city of Amsterdam. The afternoon and evening are yours to enjoy everything Amsterdam has to offer. If you didn't go for a canal cruise on the first day, you can do so today.
- Day 8 Amsterdam: end of the tour**
End of your tour: Disembarkation after breakfast until 9.30 a.m..



Prices, Data, Booking

Prices per person

Tour dates 2025:

Cabin type	For	Season A	Season B	Season C	Season D	Season E
Twin cabin lower deck	2 pax	€ 799, -	€ 899, -	€ 1.049, -	€ 1.199, -	€ 1.299, -
Twin cabin lower deck for single use (max. 4)	1 pax	€ 1.198,50	€ 1.348,50	€ 1.573,50	€ 1.798,50	€ 1.948,50
DWI: Twin cabin upper deck	2 pax	€ 1.049, -	€ 1.149, -	€ 1.299, -	€ 1.449, -	€ 1.549, -
DWI: Single cabin upper deck	1 pax	€ 1.363,70	€ 1.493,70	€ 1.688,70	€ 1.883,70	€ 2.013,70
DWI: Twin cabin upper deck for single use (max. 1)	1 pax	€ 1.573,50	€ 1.723,50	€ 1.948,50	€ 2.173,50	€ 2.323,50
DWI: Suite upper deck	2 pax	€ 1.299, -	€ 1.399, -	€ 1.599, -	€ 1.749, -	€ 1.849, -
ARK: Twin	2 pax	€ 1.199, -	€ 1.299, -	Not available	€ 1.599, -	€ 1.699, -



cabin upper deck						
ARK: Single cabin upper deck	1 pax	€ 1.559, -	€ 1.689, -	Not available	€ 2.079, -	€ 2.209, -

Departures on Saturday: De Willemstad (DWI)
Season A: March 29; April 5; Oct. 4
Season B: April 12; Sept. 27
Season C: April 19; Sept. 20
Season D: April 26; July 5, 12, 19 and 26; August 2, 9 and 16; Sept. 13
Season E: May 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31; June 7, 14, 21 and 28; August 23 and 30; Sept. 6

Departures on Sunday: Arkona (ARK)
Season A: March 30
Season B: April 13
Season D: April 27
Season E: May 11 and 25; June 8



Accommodation

Cycling cruise ship De Willemstad

De Willemstad is the youngest member of the "family", which also includes De Amsterdam, De Holland and De Nassau. The comfortable ship was completely renovated and converted in 2017/2018. There are two tour leaders on board during the tours with this ship. The ship was used for cycling cruises for several years on the Danube river under its previous name Arlene II. Look forward to meeting nice people, riding beautiful bike tours and spending pleasant hours on board.

Description of the cabins

All cabins are 'outside cabins' that are equipped with two single beds, TV, mini safe and individually controlled air conditioning. Each cabin has a bathroom with shower, toilet and hairdryer.

Upper deck: There are 8 suites (approx. 15 m² / 161 sq.ft) with a French balcony and opening floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door, two single beds, set together as a queen size bed and a small seating area.

On the upper deck there are also 13 twin cabins (approx. 10 m² / 108 sq.ft) with two separate single beds; 1 double cabin (approx. 10 m² / 108 sq.ft) with a double bed (140x200 cm) and 2 single cabins (approx. 7 – 8 m² / 75.35 – 86.11 sq.ft). The cabins on the upper deck have a panoramic window that can be opened.

Lower deck: There are 25 twin cabins with two separate single beds and a large window with an upper hinged window that can be opened for ventilation.

Description of the ship

In the salon / bar with large panoramic windows on the upper deck, you can review the day's experiences in a pleasant way while enjoying a beer or a glass of wine. Your physical well-being is taken care of in the tastefully furnished and air-conditioned restaurant on the lower deck. The spacious and partly covered sundeck offers space to let the landscape pass comfortably in a deck chair. The bicycles are stored on the rear part of the sun deck.

Facts about the ship:

Year of construction: 1986, renovation: 2017/2018

Flag: Dutch

Length: 91.35 m / 300 ft

Width: 10.45 m / 34 ft

Draught: 1.45 m / 5 ft

Passengers: 96

Crew: 20

Number of cabins: 48 / 49

Credit and debit cards (with PIN): Visa, Master Card (no cash payment possible)

Currency on board: Euro

Wi-Fi on board (for a fee)

Languages on board: English / German

Cycling cruiseship De Holland

De Holland is a medium-sized cozy river cruise ship, built in 1952 and extended by 16 meters in 2012. In the winter of 2017/2018 the ship has been completely refitted: new marshalling, spacious and more luxurious cabins and a full restyle of the interior. The ship sails under Dutch flag and management and has always been very popular and appropriate for the Northern and the Southern Tours of Holland.

Description of the cabins

The lower deck has 23 twin cabins (10 m² – 108 sq.ft.). Two twin cabins in the front have two separate beds, set next to each other as a hotel style bed (200 x 160 cm – 78 x 62 inches) and an additional fold away bunk bed as optional third bed (only for children). 20 Twin cabins have two separate beds, set next to each other as a hotel style bed (200 x 160 cm – 78 x 62 inches). All lower deck cabins have a window (80 x 40 cm – 31 x 16 inches) that – for safety reasons – cannot be opened.

The upper deck offers nine identical twin cabins (10 m² – 108 sq.ft.) and one suite (13 m² – 140 sq.ft.), all with two separate beds set next to each other as a hotel style bed (200 x 160 cm – 78 x 62 inches). All upper deck cabins and the suite have a "French Balcony" (floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors) instead of a regular window. On previous request, in most cabins beds, normally set as hotel-style beds, can be arranged as two separate single beds. All 33



cabins aboard De Holland have an individual climate control system, digital TV, mini-safe, small wardrobe, hair dryer, 230V sockets and a private bathroom with shower, toilet and basin. The suite has the same amenities as the superior twin cabins but is larger.

Description of the ship

De Holland has a large salon with large panoramic windows on the upper deck that combines the restaurant, bar and a lounge area. Wi-Fi is available. On the partially roofed sun deck, chairs and sun loungers invite for a stay. Here you can relax and have a drink and enjoy the scenery while sailing. Bicycles will be stored on a separate part of the sun deck.

Facts about the ship:

Length: 78,3 m (257 ft.)
Width: 7,3 m (24 ft.)
Crew: 11
Cabins: 33
Pass.: 66 (max.)

Cycling cruisehip Arkona

The Arkona is a very well equipped river cruise ship and was completely refurbished during the winter of 2017/2018. The modern and elegant atmosphere aboard the vessel will make your journey a relaxed experience. In recent years, the vessel has been operated for river cruises in Germany.

Description of the cabins

The lower deck offers space to 33 twin cabins with a window that – for safety reasons – cannot be opened.

The upper deck has 12 twin cabins and two single cabins (11 m² – 135 sq.ft.) with a small double bed (140cm) with floor to ceiling panoramic window of which the upper half can be opened. All comfortable twin cabins (11 m² – 135 sq.ft.) have two separate single beds. One of the separate beds can be turned into a sofa during the day. All 47 cabins aboard the Arkona have an individual climate control system, TV, wardrobe, mini-safe, hair dryer, 230V and 115V sockets and a private bathroom with shower, toilet and basin.

Description of the ship

The Arkona has a restaurant and separate lounge area with bar on the upper deck. Both are spacious and modern with large panoramic windows. Wi-Fi is available. On the partially roofed sun deck, chairs and sun loungers invite for a stay. Here you can relax and have a drink and enjoy the scenery while sailing. Bicycles will be stored on a separate part of the sun deck.



Practical Info

If you have special dietary wishes (vegetarian meals, lactose intolerance or gluten-free diet), then please indicate this when you book your tour. Vegetarian meals are always available, but we need to know in advance; in all other cases we will check the possibilities for the tour of your choice. In some cases, a small fee for preparing special meals will be charged. This mainly applies to lactose or gluten-free meals. Unfortunately, we cannot offer vegan meals. This is because the kitchens in our ships are not large enough to guarantee that the food can be prepared completely vegan. The available space on board is limited, so the chefs cannot store the necessary tools and supplies to prepare vegan food.

Cycling route distances in the travel program are approximate.

On some days you can choose between a longer and a shorter cycling route. Please note that on the shorter routes you may not be able to visit all the highlights mentioned.

If you prefer not to cycle on a particular day, you're welcome to stay on board and relax while the ship cruises to the next landing place.

The tour itinerary and route are subject to possible changes due to nautical, technical or meteorological reasons, or other unforeseen events.

On the arrival day, you can leave your luggage on board the ship from 11.00 am.

Detailed cycling maps, route tips and a GPS app are available for guests who wish to cycle individually and at their own pace. The tour guide is always available via cell phone in case of questions, breakdowns or emergencies.

Included in this tour:

- 8 days/7 nights
- 7 x breakfast
- Packed lunches
- 7 x 3-course dinner
- Coffee and tea on board till 4 PM
- Welcome drink
- Use of bed linen and towels
- Daily cleaning of the cabin
- Climate-controlled cabin
- Daily briefings
- Semi guided cycling tours (guest cycle independently, tour leader also cycles the tour);
- Some short walking tours
- Maps and notes for cycling tours (1 set per cabin)
- GPS tracks
- Use of a waterproof pannier bag
- Biodegradable water bottle
- Ferry ticket to Texel
- Wi-Fi is available in restaurant – data use is not included
- Live music on board
- Carbon offset payment to the non-profit organization Justdiggitt

Not included in this tour:

- Coffee and tea on board after 4 PM
- Drinks
- Bicycle rental or E-bike rental
- Helmet rental
- Personal insurances
- Gratuities (at your discretion)
- Entrance fees and excursions
- Fees for ferries (ferry to Texel included)
- Transfers to/from the docking place



Parking fees

SGR Insolvency protection

SGR Insolvency protection (mandatory consumer contribution SGR insolvency protection guarantee scheme: € 5 per person - will be specified separately on the booking confirmation)

Rental bicycle: € 91 per week

Rental E-Bike: € 245 per week (only on request, limited number available)

Helmets: A helmet can be rented for € 10 per week, only on prior reservation and payment.

Limitation of liability (damage) rental bicycle € 14/week (only bookable in advance)

Limitation of liability (damage) rental e-bike € 28/week (only bookable in advance)

Parking own bicycle: € 14 per week (only a limited number of parking places available: pref. reservation by booking)

Parking + charge station own E-Bike: € 28 per week (only a limited number of parking places available: pref. reservation by booking)

Please click on this link for more information about the rental and own bicycles/E-bikes

Canal cruise Amsterdam: Ticket for a 1-hour canal cruise through Amsterdam – special price for our guests: € 18 (at the ticket desk approx.: € 22). Please book your ticket in advance and you can collect it on board of your ship on the first day of the tour.

Parking in Amsterdam (valet parking): prices and pre-booking on request.

