

Holland's Old Towns Tour

8 days, € 940



Introduction



The delightful towns you will visit on this bicycle holiday are Utrecht, Gouda, Den Haag, Delft, Schiedam and Rotterdam. In the beautiful town of Delft, find out what links Delft to world famous painter Johannes Vermeer (1632-1675); or go and see how Delft Blue ceramics are made. You'll visit Gouda's pleasant town centre, relatively untouched by time, known for its cheese market, candle making, the fairytale town hall and the attractive canals.

Day to Day

Day 1 **Arrival in Utrecht/Bunnik**

Arrival in Utrecht. Utrecht lies in the very centre of the Netherlands, near woodland and the small River Kromme Rijn. Big city Centre Utrecht is not far away and has shops galore, museums and a friendly night life. For availability reasons it's possible you will stay in Bunnik instead of Utrecht.

If you want you can also start and finish this tour in Amsterdam.

Day 2 **Utrecht/Bunnik - Amsterdam**

62 km

Idyllic scenery today as you cycle to Amsterdam on the banks of the lovely River Vecht. Characteristic for this area are the many stately homes and summerhouses built by rich Amsterdam merchants in the 17th and 18th Centuries. At the end of the day, Amsterdam awaits! Everyone has their own reasons for loving this remarkable city. What will yours be?

Day 3 **Amsterdam - Zandvoort/ Noordwijkerhout**

32 km

You will love the elegant city of Haarlem, voted best city for shopping. Remember to look up at the façades of historical buildings and see if you can spot the pretty stepped gables. Our bike route then continues through Zuid-Kennemerland, a colourful area rich in natural beauty. In well known beach resort Zandvoort you will stay the night by the sea. For logistic reasons it's possible you will overnight in Noordwijkerhout instead of Zandvoort. The cycling distance will then be 51 km and the next day 41 km.



Day 4 Zandvoort/ Noordwijkerhout - Den Haag**45 km**

Today you will cycle through the Dune and Bulb Region. The windswept dunes not only protect the hinterland from the sea, but also harbour many species of dune flora and fauna. April is your best bet for visiting colourful bulb fields (daffodils, hyacinths and tulips) just behind the dunes. On the coast, check out the resorts and beaches. Once you reach Scheveningen you are almost on your destination of today, The Hague. You will be spoilt for choice of things to do.

Day 5 Den Haag - Rotterdam**45 km**

Follow the River Schie to Delft. Delft has a historical town centre with beautiful buildings and canals. Inextricably linked to Delft are Delftware (blue and white pottery); the royal family Van Oranje-Nassau; and Johannes Vermeer, the painter. Continuing on your way, you will reach the town of Schiedam, renowned for its gin (jenever). Here is where you can find out all about the history and production of this juniper berry flavoured liquor. As the sun sets over Rotterdams modern skyline and Europes biggest port, why not go to trendy Oude Haven (Old Harbour) for an evening out? From the top of Euromast tower enjoy great views of the city and surroundings.

Day 6 Rotterdam - Gouda/Bodegraven**58 km**

Modern Rotterdam offers architecture, art, port tours, a maritime museum and shops galore. The re-developed inner-city harbours are hotspots. Get your camera out for the windmills at serene Kinderdijk, a UNESCO world heritage site. The alternative route is 45 km, you will cycle directly from Kinderdijk to Gouda.

Day 7 Gouda/Bodegraven - Utrecht/Bunnik**50 km**

Woods, stately homes, parks, rivers, polders, lakes and marshy fens make todays scenery. Opt to stop off at a cheese dairy or visit De Haar Castle. At the end of the day, explore the heart of the lively city of Utrecht. Discover the pretty Museum Quarter and admire the beautiful canal Oude Gracht. Its wharves are unique to Utrecht and make a pleasant setting for waterside cafes.

Day 8 Return Home

After breakfast in your hotel, you will return home.



Prices, Data, Booking

Starting dates:

Daily from April 1 till September 22.

Please note: a minimum stay of 2 nights in a row is required in the hotel in Amsterdam on the following dates (and a higher price will be charged):

March 29th, 30th and 31st 2024

April 20th 2024

April 26th and 27th 2024

May 9, 10th and 11th 2024

May 17th, 18th and 19th 2024

Price pp		€
Double room, breakfast		935.00
Single room, breakfast		1,320.00
Extra night double room, breakfast only		80.00
Extra night double room, breakfast only Amsterdam		100.00
Upgrades pp/night		€
Hotel Mitland, Utrecht		40.00
Westcord Art Hotel, Amsterdam		10.00
Surcharge per person		€
Stay in Amsterdam on Saturday		25.00
Rental bike		€
Child bike		77.00
Hybrid		91.00
E-bike		189.00
Extra services		€
Bike Breakdown pass	€ 4.00 x 7	28.00
Child seat	€ 5.00 x 7	35.00
Bike theft insurance	€ 3.00 x 7	21.00
E-bike theft insurance	€ 6.00 x 7	42.00
Extra luggage	€ 5.00 x 7	35.00
Tag-along bike	€ 6.00 x 7	42.00
Child trailer	€ 17.50 x 7	122.50
Bike helmet	per piece	10.00
SGR	per piece	5.00

Starting point:

Utrecht, Bunnik or Amsterdam



Accommodation

The hotels and the B&B on this trip have been carefully selected for their location, atmosphere and/or unique services. All rooms are en-suite. A list of the accommodation we work with appears below. If a certain accommodation is unable to confirm due to lack of availability, we will try to request a comparable alternative if possible. When selecting the accommodation, we try to take into account as much as possible a safe and closed bicycle shed. However, we cannot do this with all of them guarantee and this partly depends on the number of bicycles of other guests.



Hotel Mitland ** (Utrecht)**

www.mitland.nl



Westcord Art Hotel */**** (Amsterdam)**

www.westcordhotels.nl/hotel/art-hotel



NH Hotel Zandvoort ** (Zandvoort)**

www.nh-hotels.nl/hotel/nh-zandvoort



Best Western Hotel Den Haag * (Den Haag)**

www.bestwesterndenhaag.nl



ss Rotterdam ** (Rotterdam)**

www.ssrotterdam.com

Best Western Hotel Gouda ** (Gouda)**

www.bestwesterngouda.nl



Practical Info



7 Nights included



3/4 Star Hotels



Breakfast included



Detailed roadbooks with maps and tourist information



The possibility of renting our bikes



7-days a week service-hotline



Luggage transport to your next hotel



CS Utrecht



Parking possibilities at the hotel



GPS-tracks available



Any ferry crossings are not included

Arrival info



Nearest Airport is Amsterdam Airport Schiphol (AMS)



The train from Schiphol to Utrecht departs 4 times per hour. Travel time is about 30 minutes. A single ticket costs approx €10- per person excl. bicycle.

For timetables and tickets, go to www.ns.nl/en. For bus details, how to reach the hotel, check: www.9292.nl/en.

