





### TOUR ITINERARY



Europe / Holland

# **Holland Family Bike Tour**

Gentle Bike Lanes and Gouda Cheese

### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Discover charming Dutch culture as you learn to make *stroopwafels*, play classic Dutch lawn games, and paint your own *klomp*
- Gentle cycling follows car-free bike paths, country lanes, and classic polders
- Paddle a kayak down the canals of Utrecht
- Visit a working windmill and learn how these iconic structures keep Dutch cities dry
- Dine with our local friend and chef at her home in Utrecht











### ARRIVAL + DEPARTURE

### **Arrival Details**

- Airport City:
  - Amsterdam
- Pick-Up Location:

Woerden Train Station

Pick-Up Time:

11:00 am

### **Departure Details**

- \_ Airport City:
- **7** Amsterdam
- Drop-Off Location: Utrecht Train Station
- Drop-Off Time:
- 10:00 am

**NOTE:** DuVine provides group transfers to and from the tour from the pick-up and drop-off locations stated on the itinerary. In the event your train, flight, or other travel falls outside the arrival or departure times or locations, you may be responsible for extra costs incurred in arranging a separate transfer.

### **Emergency Assistance**

For urgent assistance on your way to tour or while on tour, please always contact your guides first. You may also contact the Boston office during business hours at +1 617 776 4441 or emergency@duvine.com.

#### **Travelers Take Note**

If traveling in the spring, we suggest packing weather-appropriate gear in case of rain showers.

#### **Younger Travelers**

- This itinerary is designed with children age 7 and older in mind. The itinerary can be customized for your family's needs. For safety reasons, children must be at least 7 years old to ride their own bike.
- E-bikes are only available to ages 14 and older
- Trailers and tag-along bikes are available for younger children
- Safety triangles are provided to all children on tour



### Tour By Day



## **Welcome to Cheese Country**

Meet your guides at the Woerden train station for a quick transfer to the lakeside village of Zuideinde. The adventure begins with lunch—perhaps you'll taste your first *bitterballen* or Dutch pancake—followed by bike fitting and safety talk. We'll set off on our first ride, following bike lanes through beautiful landscapes that look the same as when painters captured them in the Dutch Golden Age. Upon arriving in Woerden, check into our boutique hotel for a taste of genuine Dutch hospitality. After a stroll through the charming main square, we'll head to a nearby town for dinner at a cozy local restaurant.

Meals: Lunch / Dinner

**Destinations**: De Hoef, Woerden

**Accomplished**: 13 miles / 21 km, elevation gain: 170 feet / 52 meters

**Accommodations: Stadshotel Woerden** 



# Having a Goed Time in Gouda

This morning, we'll have a typical Dutch breakfast of *wentelteefjes* (French toast)—perfect fuel for a day of riding! We're headed to the city of Gouda: synonymous with its cheese, of course, but also known for tasty, sweet *stroopwafels* and stunning 15th-century Gothic architecture. Cycle on verdant country lanes and typical Dutch *polders* (dike-enclosed lowlands), followed by a snack stop in a picturesque town along the route. Once we roll into Gouda, switch gears for a scavenger hunt that feels like a game of real-life Pac-Man in the city's labyrinthine streets. Lunch is served at a favorite local restaurant before we head back to the hotel—either by van or on the bike, if you're interested in some extra miles. For dinner, we'll head to our guides' favorite restaurant in Woerden, a city sandwiched between Amsterdam and Utrecht, then make *stroopwafels* for dessert.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Oudewater, Gouda, Woerden

**Accomplished**: 16 miles / 26 km, elevation gain: 276 feet / 84 meters **Longer Option**: 32 miles / 51 km, elevation gain: 456 feet / 139 meters

**Accommodations: Stadshotel Woerden** 

### TOUR ITINERARY



Leave the countryside behind and wave to cows, ducks, and sheep as we cycle north to the vibrant city of Utrecht. Head to Kasteel de Haar, one of the most beautiful castles in Holland. The first buildings on this site were recorded in 1391, but in more modern times an extensive renovation was funded by the Rothschild family—their wealth has afforded painstaking detail and splendor that's visible in every aspect of the castle's architecture. Our next stop is a local goat farm, where we'll feed the goats and enjoy a picnic on the grounds. Afterward, join a workshop to paint our own *klomps* (traditional wooden shoes), then pedal the last eight miles back into the center of Utrecht to check into our hotel. This evening we dine together in Utrecht.

**Meals**: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner **Destinations**: Woerden, Utrecht

Accomplished: 15 miles / 24 km, elevation gain: 335 feet / 102 meters

**Accommodations: Grand Hotel Karel V** 



### **Dutch Canals**

Today we'll trade our bikes for a kayak and paddle through Utrecht's iconic canals for a unique view from the water. These famous waterways were man-made during the Golden Age to accommodate trade ships and transport, and we'll follow them all the way to Fort Rhijnauwen. Built to defend Utrecht against attacks, the fort could once accommodate up to 540 soldiers and 105 canons! Our last stop is lunch at a waterfront restaurant serving delicious crepes in a charming garden setting. Tonight, we'll head back to Utrecht where you're free to find a restaurant that appeals to your family for dinner.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch Destinations: Bunnik, Vroeg

**Accomplished**: 4 miles / 7 km kayaking

Optional Ride: 9 miles / 15 km, elevation gain: 148 feet / 45 meters

Accommodations: Grand Hotel Karel V

### TOUR ITINERARY



Our ride today will take us north, weaving alongside Utrecht's many waterways and through the quaint villages that freckle the countryside. We'll stop at a working windmill where our friend Joop shows us around inside and explains how these ubiquitous structures keep the locals' feet dry by pumping water away from the lowlands. If you're ready to keep pedaling, head back to Utrecht beside the Rijn river and enjoy lunch at a casual (but delicious!) local spot. Something truly special is planned for our final evening: our friend and local chef Laura will prepare a scrumptious meal in her home. As we say in Dutch, *Smakelijk eten*!

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

**Destinations**: Utrecht, Maarssenbroek, Loosdrecht

**Accomplished**: 16 miles / 25 km, elevation gain: 338 feet / 103 meters **Longer Option**: 28 miles / 45 km, elevation gain: 600 feet / 183 meters

**Accommodations: Grand Hotel Karel V** 



# Vaarwel, Holland!

Following a leisurely breakfast, we bid the Netherlands *dag* and say goodbye to this beautiful country. Your guides will transfer you to the train station in Utrecht and see you off to wherever your travels may take you!

Meals: Breakfast

