





### TOUR ITINERARY



Europe / Holland

# **Holland Bike Tour**

Tulips, Windmills, Beer, and Cheese

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- In April and May, explore the town of Lisse when tulips are in bloom at Keukenhof, the world's largest flower garden
- Admire iconic Dutch windmills, then visit a working one to find out how they function
- Indulge in epicurean experiences, including a Gouda cheesemaking demonstration, dinner in the home of a Utrecht local, and a Michelin-starred meal
- Listen to a local historian's lesser-known accounts of WWII-era Holland
- Visit a botter shipyard to see how artisans craft and maintain these traditional fishing vessels











#### ARRIVAL + DEPARTURE

#### **Arrival Details**

- Airport City: Amsterdam, Holland
- Pick-Up Location: Zwolle Train Station
- © Pick-Up Time:

#### **Departure Details**

- Airport City: Amsterdam, Holland
- **Drop-Off Location**: Gouda Train Station
- © Drop-Off Time: 12:00 pm

**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.





## Tour By Day



## Welcome to the Netherlands

Meet our guides at the Zwolle train station where the adventure begins. Our bikes are waiting for us in Elburg, a scenic nearby town surrounded by 13th-century fortifications. Enjoy a light lunch of bitterballen and local delicacies before a bike fitting and safety talk, then cycle from the town gates into the countryside. Quiet, scenic bike paths and forest roads lead us to our first hotel: the Relais and Châteaux property Hotel Landgoede Het Roode Koper. Hear from a local historian how the people of this area risked their lives to hide Jewish citizens during WWII. Tonight, an elegant dinner sets the tone for the incredible week ahead.

Meals: Lunch / Dinner

**Destinations**: Elburg, Vierhouten

**Accomplished**: 20 miles / 32 km, elevation gain: 423 feet / 129 meters **Longer Option**: 29 miles / 47 km, elevation gain: 617 feet / 188 meters

**Accommodations: Het Roode Koper** 



# Off to Spakenburg for Shipyards and Clogs

Today we head southeast towards the bustling city of Utrecht. Our route begins in the countryside and takes us along the Zeedijk sea dike to the scenic seaport of Spakenburg, a historic fishing village since the Middle Ages. After lunch, a local welcomes us to his *botter* shipyard to see how artisans craft and maintain these traditional fishing vessels. Cycle or shuttle to our hotel for some downtime before one of our favorite local dining experiences.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

**Destinations**: Ermelo, Spakenburg, Utrechtse Heuvelrug, Utrecht **Accomplished**: 24 miles / 39 km, elevation gain: 620 feet / 189 meters **Longer Option:** 47 miles / 76 km, elevation gain: 840 feet / 256 meters

**Accommodations: Grand Hotel Karel V Utrecht** 

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Today we head north along Utrecht's waterways and through the countryside dotted with tidy villages and brick castles. We pause at a working windmill and take a look inside to better understand how these ubiquitous structures keep the locals' feet dry by pumping water away from the lowlands. Continue pedaling along the Rijn back towards Utrecht and enjoy lunch next to the canal. Utrecht offers all the appeal of Amsterdam, but remains relatively under the radar—see what we love about this city as you spend the rest of the day exploring cobbled streets and canals before regrouping for dinner and a *biertje* tasting at a local brewery.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

**Destinations**: Utrecht, Maarssenbroek, Loosdrecht

**Accomplished**: 27 miles / 43 km, elevation gain: 420 feet / 128 meters **Longer Option**: 38 miles / 61 km, elevation gain: 617 feet / 188 meters

**Accommodations: Grand Hotel Karel V Utrecht** 



## Utrecht to Gouda

Cycle past Kasteel de Haar, one of the most beautiful castles in Holland, on our way to the town of Gouda, a city made famous for smoking pipes and stunning 15th-century Gothic architecture—but mostly for its cheese. Spin along verdant country lanes and pique your appetite for cheese with a tasting at a local cheese aging warehouse. After a short ride down the road, the main course is lunch at bistro in Oudewader. Ride the rest of the way or transfer to our next hotel, the luxurious Relais & Châteaux Weeshuis Gouda, and spend the rest of the afternoon at your leisure. Your guides can suggest a few of their favorite restaurants in town for dinner on your own.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch

**Destinations**: Oudewater, Gouda

**Accomplished**: 22 miles / 36 km, elevation gain: 364 feet / 111 meters **Longer Option**: 30 miles / 49 km, elevation gain: 407 feet / 124 meters

**Accommodations: Weeshuis Gouda** 

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# **Tulips in Bloom**

Prepare for one of the most colorful rides of your life in the tulip capital of the world. After a short transfer to Lisse, the day kicks off with a visit to Keukenhof Gardens and a private tour of these expansive flower fields accompanied by an official Keukenhof guide. We'll pedal through fields of tulips to a hearty lunch on the canal, then ride the rest of the way back to Gouda. Tonight, toast to our wonderful week together and enjoy a final celebratory dinner at our hotel's Michelin-starred restaurant.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Lisse, Gouda

**Accomplished**: 11 miles / 17 km, elevation gain: 204 feet / 62 meters **Longer Option:** 29 miles / 47 km, elevation gain: 446 feet / 136 meters

Accommodations: Weeshuis Gouda



## Goodbye Holland!

Today we'll bid the Netherlands *dag* as we say goodbye to this beautiful country after a long, leisurely breakfast. Your guides will transfer you to the Gouda train station, where they will see you off.

Meals: Breakfast

