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## *Dutch Water Landscapes*

### UNIQUE ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY.

Nowhere else in the world will you find such a well-preserved and extensive defense system that makes such ingenious use of water. The Netherlands have always been inextricably linked to water, having adapted the landscape and built dykes for centuries. That is why water has always been an ally too, by deliberately flooding the land to keep opponents at bay – too deep to wade through, too shallow to use boats – turned the West into an island of sorts, easily defensible, when danger loomed. Today this green waterline with its walled towns, forts, castles, bunkers and stunning nature is a fabulous area to explore by bike.

*Easy*



9 Days / 8 Nights



Self-guided Tour

**To the online version**



# Itinerary

DAY

1

## *Arrival in Utrecht/Bunnik*

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DAY

2

## *Utrecht/Bunnik – Wijk bij Duurstede/Beusichem*

| approx. 55 km

From Utrecht you cycle along Fort Rijnauwen to Fort Vechten in Bunnik, where you can immerse yourself in the New Dutch Waterline at the Waterline Museum. The tour continues via Fort Jutphaas through historic Vreeswijk with its three beautiful locks. Then you cycle via Schalkwijk island, an open-air museum for lovers of cultural history and nature: Fort Werk aan de Korte Uitweg houses a fantastic tea garden, the impressive Fort Honswijk and the trenches of Werk aan de Groeneweg. Your cycle holiday ends in Wijk bij Duurstede, a small town with a grand history.

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DAY

3

## *Wijk bij Duurstede/Beusichem – Asperen*

| approx. 55 km

From Wijk bij Duurstede you cycle through the river landscape of Lek to historic Culemborg, passing Werk aan het Spoel. The route continues along Fort Everdingen, the beautiful local harbour, and the Duits&Lauret brewery invite you to take a break. The route continues via the Diefdijklinie with many bunkers. Then you proceed along Fort Asperen, a cultural island on the river Linge. Between the orchards lie beautiful villages such as Acquoy with its leaning tower, Beesd featuring the windmills of liberty and the lordship of Marienwaerd. Visit the owl and animal park De Paay and the Geofort with its interactive science centre. You can cross the river Linger at numerous points and thus shorten the route. Your tour ends today in Leerdam. The glass city of the Netherlands since 1765 and known for the national glass museum and the Leerdamer cheese. You spend the night in Asperen.

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DAY

4

## *Asperen – Gorinchem*

| approx. 55 km

From Asperen you cycle in the Waal river landscape. The Bommelerwaard at Brakel and Poederloijen between the Waal and Afgedamde Maas forms the South-Eastern end of the New Dutch Waterline. The brasserie in Battery Poederloijen's converted guardhouse is perfect for a stopover. One of the highlights is Loevestein Castle, which is beautifully situated on the river – in the middle of nature. The castle has an important history as a medieval castle, fortress and prison. You cycle further along the beautiful fortified little town of Woudrichem and pass Fort Altena. Your day ends in Gorinchem, one of the most beautiful fortresses in the Netherlands with the city ramparts, imposing cannons and windmills. The city centre offers many cafés on the old market square.

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DAY  
5*Gorinchem – Woerden* | approx. 55 km

Today you cycle through part of the Old Dutch Water Line, which saved Holland from the war against the Spanish and French about 350 years ago. You cycle through Nieuwpoort, one of the smaller fortified towns in the Netherlands, built around 1200. Then you proceed through Schoonhoven, known for its nickname: The Silver City. The next stop is picturesque Oudewater with the well-known witch's scales, which attracts visitors from all over the world. The tour ends in historic Woerden, known for the cheese market on Saturday mornings (Apr-Aug). Walk amongst the old fortress walls and enjoy the canals and taste the local products.

DAY  
6*Woerden – Abcoude/Weesp* | approx. 60 km

After a delicious breakfast at your hotel, you get back on your bike for a fabulous tour. The route takes you along the old Roman border and past Fort Wierickerschans and Bodegraven. You cycle through a typical Dutch landscape with flat pastures and grazing cows, lake areas and white water. In Abcoude admire the Fort Abcoude, one of the historic churches and discover Piet Mondriaan, who painted this pieces here for years.

DAY  
7*Abcoude/Weesp – Oud Loosdrecht* | approx. 55 km

You start with a tour along the river Gein and today you discover the kings, lords of the castle, poets and writers, who have lived in the Muiderslot for centuries. The medieval castle with a moat, ramparts and bulwarks formed an important part of the New Dutch Water Line. Before that you come along Fort Nigtevecht, a breathtaking, peaceful place situated in the middle of nature. The route continues to the next highlight, Naarden Fortress, built in the 17th century. The city stands out with special monuments, shops, antique shops, galleries, gastronomy and museums. An absolute recommendation is the Dutch Fortress Museum. The cycle tour ends with a nice route along the river Vecht across the Loosdrechtse Plassen (lakes).

DAY  
8*Oud Loosdrecht – Utrecht/Bunnik* | approx. 35 km

Today you continue along the Loosdrechtse Plassen to Loenen aan de Vecht, one of the most charming villages in the Netherlands with 144 imperial monuments. From here you cycle along the river Vecht to Breukelen, which is known for its historical open spaces along the river.

The meandering river Vecht takes you to Maarssen and the surroundings of Utrecht. There you find Fort Aan de Klop, where you can enjoy local produce on the terrace of the bombproof guardhouse. After the fort you cycle over the dyke along the Klopvaart, a flood channel for the New Dutch Water Line to Fort de Gagel and Fort Ruigenhoek. These forts are located in a beautiful Dutch polder landscape that is part of the Vechtplassen area.

DAY  
9

## *Departure or extra days*

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# Tour character

The route is very well signposted, mostly flat, with little traffic and even car-free in parts. The cities themselves are perfect for exploring by bike.



# Prices and events

*Place of arrival: Utrecht/Bunnik*

## Season 1

01.04.2023 - 22.09.2023 |

Arrival daily

### Dutch water landscapes, Cat. A, 9 days, NL-WLRUU-09A

Base price 929.00

Surcharge single room 289.00

### Dutch water landscapes, Cat. A, 9 days, NL-HWRUU-9B

Base price 839.00

Surcharge single room 289.00

Category A: 3\*\*\* and 4\*\*\*\* hotels

Category B: 3\*\*\* hotels

# Additional nights

*Place of arrival: Utrecht/Bunnik*

## Season 1

Apr 1, 2023 - Sep 22, 2023 |

Arrival daily

### Utrecht/Bunnik

Double room p. P. 69.00

Surcharge single room 29.00

### Utrecht/Bunnik

Double room p. P. 69.00

Surcharge single room 29.00

# Our rental bikes

*Filter*

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**Electric bike incl. rental bike insurance**

27500

**8-gears unisex**

14900

**8-gears men bike**

14900

Prices per person in EUR

# Services and infos

## Leistungen

### Included:

- Accommodation as already mentioned
- Breakfast
- Luggage transfer (one piece of luggage max. 20kg per person)
- Detailed documentation 1x per room (DE, EN, NL)
- GPS-data available
- Service-hotline

### Optional:

- For rental bike incl. rental bike insurance

## Infos

### Arrival / Parking / Departure:

- Utrecht train station
- Airport Amsterdam
- Hotel parking in Utrecht (cat. A), approx. EUR 30 per week, in Bunnik (cat. B) free of charge

### Things to note:

- Tourist tax, if due, is not included in the price!
- Further important information according to the package travel law can be found [here!](#)




# Contact & booking

Do you still have questions about the tour? We are happy to help and look forward to your inquiry.



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**Book now**

