

# Cycling Europe

## HOLLAND: BIKE & BARGE 2020

### Historic Holland & Lakes of IJssel

Semi-Guided/Guided Cycling Tour, 8 days/ 7 nights



This tour leads you through a region that is one of the most loved among local cyclists. The flat terrain in the 125 km long IJssel valley makes this a perfect tour for those who love to cycle leisurely along many winding trails in a diverse area. Cycle through the central region of the Netherlands, a region shaped over millennia by the numerous rivers and streams that crisscross the area.

Ride through the Rhine valley and its very beautiful tributary the IJssel River. Cross the so-called border lakes region of Holland and visit fascinating cities and villages such as Amsterdam, Arnhem, Deventer, Zutphen, Kampen,

Hardenwijk and Elburg. The natural beauty of the region is sure to impress as will the Hanseatic towns of the region that flourished during the Middle Ages when the IJssel was one of the most important trade routes in Europe. Another attraction is the "border lakes" of the IJssel, which lie between the "old" land of many beautiful harbour towns and the "new" land of the Flevoland, which was once the bottom of the IJssel lake before the land was reclaimed in 1932.





## ITINERARY

Shorter and longer cycling options are offered each day. *Travel by boat is in Italics.* Cycling tours are optional – if you want to take a day off cycling, you can relax on board while the boat cruises to the next town.

### **Day 1 (Sat): Boarding in Amsterdam from 1.00pm - *travel Amsterdam – Wijk bij Duurstede by boat***

The crew will welcome you on board is between 1.00pm and 2.00pm in Amsterdam. At approximately 2.00pm De Nassau will leave Amsterdam, and cruise on the Amsterdam-Rhine Canal to Wijk bij Duurstede on the Rhine, where you will spend your first night.

(If you arrive early you can leave your bags on the boat from 11a.m. The barge docks close to the Amsterdam Central railway station – approximately 10 -12 minutes walk, or 5 min. by taxi)

### **Day 2 (Sun): *Wijk bij Duurstede – Wageningen by boat* | **Cycling Wageningen – Arnhem (Approx. 35 or 44 km)****

While you are enjoying breakfast, sail to Wageningen. Begin your cycle tour here and bike through the picturesque river valley of the Lower Rhine. Along the way you will visit the protected nature reserve “De Blauwe Kamer” (the Blue Chamber), followed by the woods and moorlands of Veluwe National Park. The 5400 hectare park is home to many plant and animal species and, importantly, the Kröller-Müller Museum, the largest private Van Gogh collection in the world. Late in the day you pedal through the suburbs and past lovely parks such as Sonsbeek and Zijpendaal to Arnhem, where you spend the night.



### **Day 3 (Mon): *Arnhem – Doesburg by boat* | **Cycle Doesburg - Zutphen -Deventer (Approx. 45 or 55 km)****

Today leave Arnhem on De Nassau and begin your cycle tour in the small town of Doesburg. Cycle along the IJssel River to Bronkhorst, proud to be recognised as the smallest town in Holland. Guests will have two choices today – a shorter tour along the riverbank to Zutphen; or a longer trip via Vorden passing country houses, castles and rural estates. Both options end in Deventer, a city known for its delicious spicy gingerbread. This evening you have the option of a short guided walking of the city.



#### **Day 4 (Tue): Deventer-Wijhe by boat | Wijhe – Kampen (Approx. 40 or 56 km)**

During breakfast, your boat will take you to Wijhe to begin your bike ride to Hattem. The 800-year-old town of Hattem has a rich history that is still clearly visible today. Guests have the opportunity to partake in a longer bicycle trip through east Veluwe area. From Zwolle you continue to Kampen. This evening enjoy an optional guided walking tour of this interesting Hanseatic town, the largest in the Netherlands.

#### **Day 5 (Wed): Cycle Kampen – Elburg– Harderwijk (Approx. 48 km)**

From Kampen, cycle along the Border Lakes to the fishing harbour of Elburg. Here swimming, boating, surfing and fishing are favourite summertime activities. From Elburg the cycling tour continues through the woods and moorlands of the Veluwe to lovely Harderwijk, where the night will be spent in its old fishing harbour. In the 1500s Harderwijk boasted the largest fish market in the Zuiderzee region. Today it is still a lovely old city very much worth exploring.

#### **Day 6 (Thu): Cycle Harderwijk –Spakenburg -Huizen (Approx. 45 or 56km)**

Today guests have two cycling choices: a short pedal along the shores of the Border Lakes or a combination of the Lake route and adjacent woodlands. In the afternoon pass through Spakenburg, a fishing village where locals still dress in traditional costume, bound for Huizen where you will overnight.



#### **Day 7 (Fri): Huizen – Naarden – Muiden – Amsterdam (Approx. 35 km)**

From Huizen you will cycle to the beautiful fortress towns of Naarden and Muiden, the later being famous for its historic waterfront castle. From Muiden you will cycle along quiet roads to your final destination, the world famous city of Amsterdam. The afternoon and evening are spent in Amsterdam.

While you are in Amsterdam take the opportunity to visit Anne Frank's home, the Rijks Museum, the Royal Palace of Amsterdam, Dam Square, the very centre and heart of the city or maybe you could go on a canal tour (not included, discounted tickets for canal tour can be purchased at time of booking, or on the boat for €12.50).

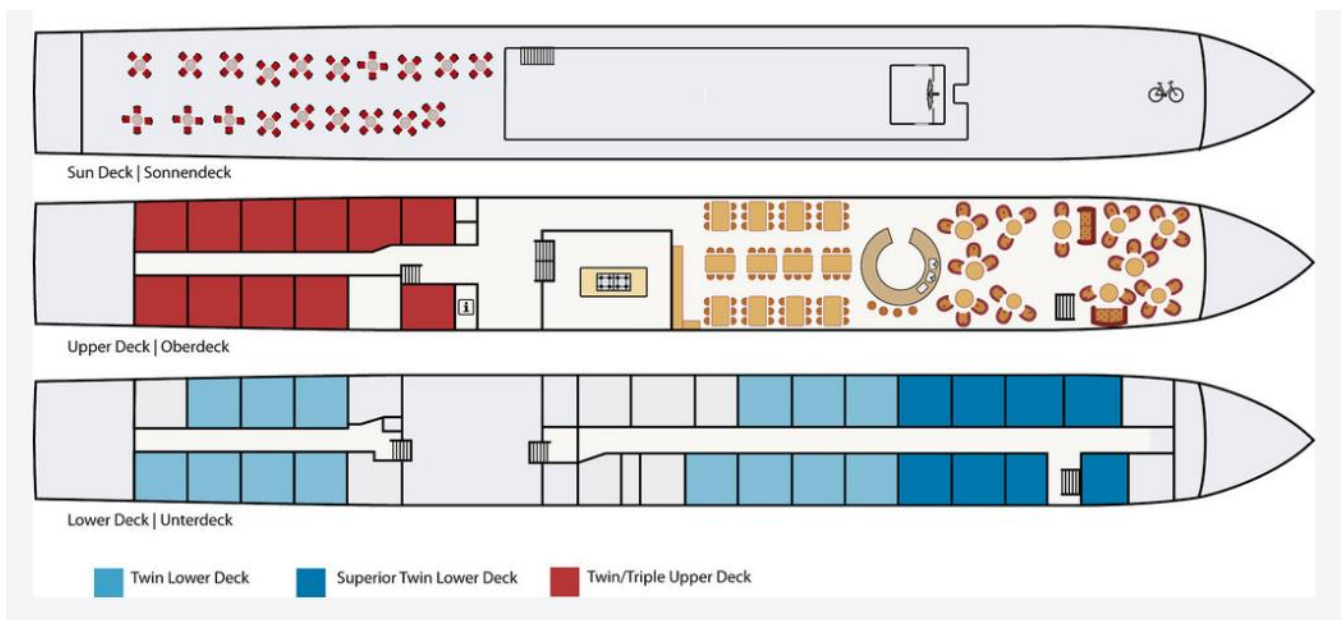
#### **Day 8 (Sat): Tour ends in Amsterdam**

Disembark after breakfast by 9.30 am. The barge usually docks close to the Amsterdam Central railway station – approximately 10-12 minutes walk, or 5 minutes by taxi.

Note: The programme may need to be changed due to nautical and weather considerations.

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## DE NASSAU



De Nassau is a medium-sized cosy river ship. In 2018 the cabins and the salon/restaurant in front of the ship have undergone a refit. The ship sails under Dutch flag. De Nassau 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 there are chairs and sun loungers. Here you can relax, have a drink and enjoy the scenery while sailing. Bikes are stored on a separate part of the sun deck.



## Cabins

The lower deck has 22 twin cabins. Fourteen "regular" twin cabins in the middle and back (10 m<sup>2</sup> – 108 sq.ft.) have two single low beds (200 x 80 cm – 78 x 31 inches). One cabin has the possibility for a third bunk bed (above one of the beds). Eight "superior" twin cabins in the front (9,5 – 11,5 m<sup>2</sup> – 102 – 124 sq.ft.) have two separate beds, set next to each other as a hotel style bed (200 x 160 cm – 78 x 62 inches). The difference between twin and superior twin cabins on the lower deck is that the superior twins are the renovated cabins. All lower deck cabins have a small window that can be opened.

Beds in the superior cabins are normally set as hotel-style beds (78 x 62 inches) or, optional, on previous request, can be arranged as 2 separate single beds (78 x 31 inches).

The upper deck offers twelve twin cabins (10 m<sup>2</sup> – 108 sq.ft.), ten cabins with two single low beds and two have a double bed (200 x 140 cm – 78 x 55 inches). Four cabins have the possibility for a third bunk bed (above one of the beds). All upper deck cabins have a window that can be opened.

All 34 cabins aboard De Nassau have an individual climate control system, mini-safe, small wardrobe, hair dryer, 230V sockets and a private bathroom with shower, toilet and basin.

## Facts about the ship

Length: 72 m (236 ft.)  
Width: 8,6 m (28 ft.)  
Crew: 12  
Cabins: 34  
Pass.: 73 (max.)



## 2020 SCHEDULE & COST PER PERSON IN EURO

**Semi Guided** - Saturday departures from Amsterdam:

**Mid Season** – 09,16, 23 & 30 May, 19 September

**Main Season** – Every Saturday 13 June up to and including 05 September (except 20 June & 04 July)

**Early/Late Season** – 18 April, 26 September

**Fully Guided** – Cycle with a Tour leader in a small group (max. 20)

Dates and cost on application.

Cost per person in Euros €:	Mid Season	Main Season	Early/Late Season
Twin Lower Deck	€899	€939	€809
Superior Twin Lower Deck	€999	€1039	€909
Triple Lower Deck	€879	€919	€789
Single lower Deck	€1249	€1289	€1159
Twin Upper Deck	€999	€1039	€909
Triple Upper Deck	€979	€1019	€889

**Bike rental € 80**  
**Electric Bike €180**  
**Helmets €10**

**Limitation of liability (damage) rental bike €10 per week**  
**Limitation of liability (damage) rental E-Bike €25 per week**

**Optional: 1 Hour Amsterdam Canal Tour €13.00**, discounted "open" ticket can be requested at time of booking, or purchased on the boat (usually €18).

#### **INCLUDED IN TOUR COST:**

- 7 nights accommodation in a cabin with ensuite and air conditioning
- Full board (7 breakfasts, 6 picnic lunches for bike tours, 7 three course dinners)
- Welcome drink
- Bed linen and towels (change of towels on request)
- Daily cabin servicing
- Some short guided city walking tours
- Daily semi guided bike tour (independent cycling, tour leader available for questions and emergencies)
- Tour leader (multilingual) will hold daily briefings of the bike tours.
- Printed instructions and detailed maps for daily bike tours - 1 set per cabin
- GPS Tracks
- Waterproof pannier bag
- Coffee and tea on board until 4.00pm
- Wi Fi

#### **NOT INCLUDED:**

- Transfers to/from the docking place in Amsterdam
- Rental bicycle & helmet
- Entrance fees & excursions, fees for ferries
- Drinks on board
- Personal insurance
- Tips (at your discretion).
- Special Dietary requirements on request - surcharges may apply
- Tips for guide and crew (optional, at your discretion)

**Book through**

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