



Route description

for your individual Bike & Barge Tour

through North Holland

Dear Cyclist!

We would like to give you a warm welcome to your trip through North Holland.

You will cycle on an outstanding cycle route network through the flat landscape of the Netherlands. The following route descriptions are merely suggestions, of course, you can also plan the daily stages according to your personal wishes and preferences. Before you start cycling, your tour guide will introduce you to each stage of the day and inform you about local conditions.

We recommend that you download the app „**Fietsknoop**“ prior to your journey. When you start the app, you find it set in the Dutch language. Open the **main menu** and navigate to **Mijn instellingen**. Find **Taal instellingen** and choose your **own language**. After closing the screen, Fietsknoop changes its language.

Please mind the mooring places and/or your boat departure times which will be announced by your tour manager. Please note that in case of last minute changes times and places can differ from those indicated here.

Practical information on our unguided, individual journeys by bike and boat through Holland:

Anyone who would like to explore the Netherlands by bicycle is in good company because also the Dutchmen travel mostly using their own muscle power on two wheels. That is why the country`s cycleways feel comfortable for cyclists, exceeding often the width of footpaths and occasionally even of roads.

The large numbers of separate, compulsory **cycle paths (FIETSPAD, FIETSPADEN)**, marked with a round blue sign with a white bicycle in the middle, make Holland a paradise for cyclists.



If you encounter such a blue sign with white bicycle, then you have to use the cycle path. In some cases, bicycle lanes are marked with a white bike symbol on the road surface. They are usually separated from the other lanes by either a continuous or a dashed white line. All cyclists are required to use these dedicated cycle paths: so, if such cycle path is available, you must not ride on the road!

There are also so-called “optional“cycle paths, **FIETSPAD or RIJWIELPAD**, marked with small signs with white lettering on black background. It is recommended that cyclists use these optional cycle paths, whereas motor cycles and other motorised vehicles are not allowed.

The **road signposting** is outstanding:

The ANWB, the sister organization of the General German Automobile Association is responsible for this.

On cycling maps these signposts are referred to as so-called **junctions (Jnct)**.

In many places there are also small white signs with a red bicycle indicating special cycle routes.

On small back roads you will find route markers, approx. 50 cm high, also called “toadstools” because of their shape.



When you cycle into a large town, taking a look at the map is often useful: at the entrance of many towns and cities, you will find large city plans. Just In case you get lost, orientate yourselves following the small signs with the letters VVV (pronounced: VeeVeeVee), which lead you directly to the local tourist agency VVV, where they will be glad to help you.

Some of the most important general traffic rules are:

- always ride on the right and overtake on the left
- fast moving traffic has always right of way over slow moving traffic, except on major roads and on right - of - way crossings
- Straight ahead traffic has always priority over turning traffic on the same road
- Fast moving traffic from right has always priority over traffic approaching from left

Cyclists must also obey the following rules:

- Cyclists may only ride two-abreast if it does not obstruct other traffic
- Cyclists are not allowed on motorways and dual carriageways
- Cycling on pavement is essentially not permitted (it is best to dismount)
- Cycle lights must be turned on during twilight and night hours
- Changes of direction must be indicated by a clearly extended arm
- Young children have to be carried in a bicycle child seat with sufficient support for hands, back and feet

Note: For safety reasons we also recommend that adults wear a cycle helmet.

Street names, towns, localities and junctions (Jnct) are printed in bold.

Nobody is perfect. Distances may change from day to day because of construction work etc.

In addition the junction system is sometimes subject to changes at short notice. It is possible that the description deviates from the local conditions after printing.

In such case, we would kindly like to ask you to inform us so that we can optimise our map material for subsequent journeys. We would be very grateful for your suggestions.

We wish you a relaxing week and a happy combined bike/boat journey.

Street names, towns, localities and junctions (Jnct) are printed in bold.

The red framed numbers - such as **1** - refer to the corresponding map in the separate map book.

Please use the tour description together with the route maps.

2nd Day: Hoorn - Enkhuizen, approx. 20 - 26 km **1**

You should take the time to make an extended walk round Hoorn.

The cycle path goes eastward on the **Grote Oost- and Kleine Oost** streets followed by the **Zuiderzee-boulevard/Schellinkhousterdijk**. A green area and the dyke lies to the right of this route.

At its end you decide whether to take the path through the polder land (**A-Route - red**) or along the dyke by the sea (**B-Route - purple**) or as mix of both (**C-Route - orange**):

A-Route, approx. 20 km (shown as a red line on the map)

The journey through the polder land follows the straight **Provinciale Weg (S9) and Lageweg (N506)** towards **Jncts 63 → 65 → 66 and 11**.

2 In **De Hout** at **Jnct 46** you decide whether or not to take the shorter route to **Enkhuizen** via **Jncts 47 → 28 → 12** in direction to **Jnct 30**.

OR

2 You turn left (i.e. to the north) along the **Houterweg** to **Jnct 48**. There you turn right in the direction of **Lutjebroek** to **Jncts 27 and 30** in **Enkhuizen**.

If you wish to **make a short diversion through the town** proceed after **Jnct 27** to **Jnct 26** and then to **Jnct 30** (about 5 km).

1 B-Route, approx. 26 km (shown as a purple line on the map)

If you choose the route **along the sea** you must **turn right at the beginning of the dyke** and follow the signs to **Jnct 62** to **Schellinkhout**.

The name of the road remains the same, i.e. **Schellinkhouterdijk**.

Follow the path along the dyke with the **Markermeer** on the right and the **polder land** to the left below you.

Tip: Remember to bring your swimwear when the weather is fine!

And it is worth turning off to take a look at the small settlements here. You will often be tempted by a sign reading "Koffie met Appelgebak" (Coffee with Apple Pastry).

Passing through **Jncts 80 → 67 → 09 → 10** **2** → **47** (as of here you are again on the **red A-Route**) → **28** → **12** you arrive at **Enkhuizen** at **Jnct 30**.

If you wish to make a short diversion through the town proceed after **Jnct 28 → 27 → 26** to **Jnct 30** (about 5 km).

Tip: It is worth turning off before the entrance to the town to look at the naviduct.

To do this, at Jnct 12 follow the signs to Lelystad. After about 1 km you find yourself on the dyke and can inspect the installation opened in 2003.

The ship moors opposite the railway station and can be seen from a long distance.

During the daily briefing, you will be informed about the exact mooring place.

1 Route C, approx. 21 km (orange cycle route on the map)

On this **varied tour**, you can choose whether to cycle first on the **Provinciale Weg to Jnct 63**

OR

Take a short detour and cycle alongside **on the dyke to Jnct 62**, here **turn to Jnct 63**.

From **Jnct 63**, follow the signposts for **Jnct 64 and 81**.

Tip: Here you will find a beautiful windmill, a worthwhile place for a break.

2 Follow now the signposts for **Jnct 82 → 83 → 49 → 48**

(as of here you are again on the **red A-Route**)

Tip: At Jnct 48, there is a café, where you have the possibility for a rest.

Afterwards, follow **Jnct 27 and 30** towards **Enkhuizen**.

Enkhuizen is a pretty harbour town on the shore of Lake IJssel, appreciated by many visitors for its well preserved historic centre and its attractive position on the waterside. The Dromedaris Tower, relic of the fortifications and a former lighthouse, is the town's landmark. Make sure you do not miss a visit to one of the many nice, typical cafés located right by the canals.

Tip: The Zuiderzeemuseum is well worth a visit. For further information about the visit, please refer directly to your on-board tourguide.

3rd Day: Lemmer - Tjeukemeer - Delfstrahuizen - Munnekeburen - Lemmer, approx. 32 - 42 km 3

While you have breakfast on board, the ship leaves Enkhuizen and sails over the lake IJssel to Lemmer (subject to good weather).

Lemmer is a small town on the Lake IJssel with a historic Old Town and beautiful gable houses. Once the Netherlands' largest fishing harbour, the importance of fishing vanished with the building of a closure dyke. Today Lemmer is one of Friesland's most popular water harbour towns and one of the centres of the province of Friesland.

Tip: Today you have the opportunity to visit world's largest steam-powered pumping station still in operation, Woudagemaal. For further information about the visit, please refer directly to your on-board tourguide.

Today you can choose between two cycle routes:

The first part of the tour to Jnct 60 is identical.

A-Route (shown as a red line on the map)

Leave the harbour and **turn right** onto a street called **Tramhaven**. **Turn left onto Prinsessekade**, then **turn right onto Nieuwedijk**, and cross the bridge to reach **Jnct 51 → 50**.

Leave the town eastwards, and then pass under the motorway to **Jnct 49**.

(Mind out: the sign is at the first fork, and it is turned over)

Continue first onto **Pasveer road and Westeind**, and then continue onto **Beukelaan** until you reach **Oosterzee-Buren Jnct 48**.

Then you cross the **N 924** at **Jnct 58** (here you can inform yourself at the Jnct-Board). You now ride on a **crushed seashell cycle path** (looks like a footpath) to **Tjeukemeer** passing **Jncts 59 and 60**.

Jnct 60 is in the heart of **Echtenerbrug** (Orientation points: the church and the bus stop).

Tip: It is worth taking a break in the café that is only 250 m away down the street, towards the bridge.

On reaching Jnct 60 you have two options:

B-Route, approx. 42 km (purple line on the map to Jnct 28)

For the longer route, cycle over the bridge via **Jnct 61 → 62** and **73 → 81** right through the magnificent polder landscape.

At **Jnct 81** take the **hand-cranked ferry** (please note - it carries no more than 7 persons and bicycles). Use the crank only either on land or on the ferry.

Having reached the other side, continue via **Jnct 02 → 34 → 35 to Jnct 28**. Continue following the **red line on the map** to **Jnct 30 → 26 → 71 → 67 → 37 → 66 → 49 → 50** and **51** back to the starting point.

C-Route, about. 32 km (orange line in the map up to Jnct 28)

To take the shorter route at **Jnct 60**, ride via **Jnct 63** und **72 towards Munnekeburen**, and then on to **Jnct 28** → following the **red line on the map** to **Jnct 30 → 26 → 71 → 67 → 37 → 66 → 49 → 50** and **51** back to the starting point.

4th Day: Lemmer – Sondeler Leijn See – Mokkebank – Stavoren, approx. 33 - 48 km

4 A-Route, approx. 33 km (shown as a red line on the map)

To leave the harbour, turn left onto **Plattedijk**.

After about **4 km**, you reach once again **Woudagemaal** (steam-powered pumping station).

From here, the **cycle path** runs alongside the **N 359**, over the **Prinses Margrietkanal**, bends gently to the right and after about **1 km**, leaves the road at **Jnct 46**.

Your route continues to **Sondeler Leien Lake, Jnct 45**.

Tip: Sondeler Leien is a bird sanctuary with a small observation facility.

Go on towards **Jnct 25** and then to **Nijemirdum**.

Mind out: Here the place names are already bi-lingual, i.e. in Friesian and Dutch.

5 Pass by the **bell tower/cemetery** and at **Jnct 24** turn right to **Oudemirdum, Jnct 22**

Continue via **Jnct 16**.

A sign shows the way towards **Rijs** to **Jnct 17** (*here even half of the stretch of today is done*).

In the town centre of **Rijs** there is **Jnct 17**, ride straight ahead to **Jnct 14** and turn left towards **Jnct 15**. Your route takes you through a forest.

After leaving the wood you reach **Jnct 15** and **Mirnsers Klif**. Then turn right towards **Mirns**.

Proceed inland towards **Bakhuizen** to **Jnct 06**.

Tip: On your left hand you will see the Mokkebank (nature area).

Here you can overlook the bird sanctuary area from a Vogelkijkhut (observation hut).

Carry on towards **Laaxum** to **Jnct 05**.

When the Zuiderzee was still connected directly to the North Sea, this small harbour was a seaharbour. The few inhabitants of Laaxum are proud to be residents of the world's "smallest seaharbour".

After about **2 km**, you will need to change gear as the route leads uphill.

Tip: About 10 m above the NAP ("Neuer Amsterdamer Peil" or "Amsterdam Ordnance Datum") there is the Roode Klif - a rock monument to the Friesian Freedom Battles from the 14th century.

Arrival at **Jnct 04**. Looking north, you might already see the masts of the sailing ships in **Stavoren**.

Continue cycling for **approx. 5 km** to reach **Jnct 98** in **Stavoren**.

Mind out: do not continue to Jnct 98. The ship is behind the VVV in the port of Stavoren. Afterwards crossing to the North Sea island Texel.

4 B-Route, approx. 48 km (shown as a purple line on the map)

Follow the description for the main route (shown as red line on the map) to leave the harbour, **turn left along the Plattedijk** until **Jnct 46**, and then follow the signposts for **Jnct 45**.

Shortly after **Jnct 45**, turn right onto street **Deledijk** towards **Jnct 44** in **Sloten**.

Tip: A short detour to the historic old town is well worth the effort. At Jnct 44, just turn right to reach the village of Sloten.

After **Jnct 44**, turn left onto a street called **Lytse Jerden** and take a large left bend towards **Jnct 32**, then continue into the **village of Balk** towards **Jnct 68 →29 and 33 in the village Harich**.

6 Via **Jnct 34** you will reach **Jnct 35**.

At **Jnct 35**, turn right onto **Bokkeleane** street. Cycle into the **hamlet of Oudega Jnct 80**.

Turn left onto the **street Ige Galamawei** towards **Jnct 09**. Continue straight on into the **hamlet of Himmelum** to **Jnct 08**. *Mind out:* at Jnct 09, there is no signpost for Jnct 08.

Pass Jnct 8, and reach the **Jnct 2 and 3**.

Continue cycling the bike path **to Skarl** and **Jnct 04**. From here on, it is about 5 km to **Jnct 98** in **Stavoren**. *Mind out:* You will not pass Jnct 98). The ship is behind the VVV in the port of Stavoren. Afterwards crossing to the North Sea island Texel.

6 Variant C-Route, (shown as an orange line on the map)

After **Jnct 35** turn left towards **Jnct 19** und cycle via **Jnct 18 →17 →14 →15 →06 →05** towards **Jnct 04**.

Looking North you probably see the masts of the sailing ships in Stavoren.

From here on, it is about 5 km to **Jnct 98** in **Stavoren**.

Mind out: You will not pass Jnct 98.

The ship is behind the VVV in the port of Stavoren. Afterwards crossing to the North Sea island Texel.

5th Day: Circular cycle tour of the island of Texel, up to 70 km

On the island of Texel, the ship will be moored in **Oudeschild**. Today can be spent at leisure. You can ride directly to any of the many excursion locations or visit them during a circular tour.

The island metropolis **Den Burg** is just as inviting as the many small villages spread all over the island.

Tip: Rent a TUK TUK for an Adventure Trip on Texel (car driver's licence required, minimum age is 24 years). Also interesting: Visit to the Texel brewery in Schilderweg 214. For further information, refer to your on-board tourguide.

Here are some route suggestions:

7 Thijsseroute - South Texel (approx. 29 km)

Jnct 38 → Oudeschild-Harbour → 39 → 40 → 25 → 01 → 06 → 08 → 09 → 10 → 11 → 05 → 15 → 16 → 17 → Ecomare (16 → 48) → 50 → 51 → 42 → 39 → Den Burg → 38.

8 Eijerlandroute (approx. 40 km)

Jnct 38 → Oudeschild-Harbour → 37 → 59 → 57 → 53 → 36 → 35 → 34 → 32 → 31 → 29 → 28 → 27 → 22 → 21 → 20 → 17 → Ecomare (16 → 48) → 50 → 51 → 42 → 39 → Den Burg → 38.

9 Middle Route - This is a shorter route option that still offers the whole range of the landscape's variety (approx. 32 km)

Jnct 38 → Oudeschild-Harbour → 37 → 36 → 35 → 64 → 67 → 27 → De Slufter → 22 → 21 → 20 → 17 → Ecomare (16 → 48) → 50 → 51 → 42 → 39 → Den Burg → 38.

Dunes Route (70 km) – not shown in the map

Route around the whole island up to the lighthouse in the north.

Tip: Choose the route according to wind direction.

To the west – **De Koog**

To the north – **To the Lighthouse**

To the east – **Oosterend**

To the south – **Den Hoorn**

In the early evening crossing to Den Helder.

During the daily briefing, you will be informed about the exact mooring place.

Please note: In case the ship cannot land in Texel harbour due to bad weather, the tour management will be pleased to offer an alternative programme.

6th Day: Den Helder - Alkmaar, approx. 27 - 57 km **10**

In **Den Helder** you will find your way following the signposts “Fähre Texel“ / ferry to Texel

First cycle onto **Zuidstraat** towards the **city centre**.

At the **first traffic light** turn right onto **Weststraat** and continue onto **Molenplein** (bus station).

At the **next traffic light**, **turn left** and cycle to the other side up **onto the dyke**.

On the **waterside** keep left.

Keep close to the **water's edge (approx. 5 km)** until you see the **lighthouse**. You reach **Jnct 05**.

The best reference point is the **Nordzeeroute** (North Sea Route) or **LF1a**.

Carry on through the dunes to **Jnct 08 → 94**.

To your left you will see the polder land with the towns of **De Zandlooper** and **Julianadorp**.

Proceed uphill through the dunes via **11 Jnct 12 → 26 to Callantsoog**.

By now you will have cycled 18 km and will be able to see the vast tulip fields.

Tip: You can get off your bicycles at one of the beaches, and have a bath in the sea or take a walk along the beach.

After another **3 km** you pass the **Dutch Energy Research Centre** and you will soon reach **Sint Martenszee → Jnct 31 → 37**.

You have now been cycling for 25 km. Decide whether to carry on or rejoin the ship around noon and end the tour with a boat ride.

In order to do so, you must ride a **further 1 km inland to Jnct 38, pass an old bridge, turn left .**

After approx 300 m board the ship at **Sint Martensvlotbrug** (please inform yourself in advance about sailing time and location of the ship's mooring place. For exact information, refer to the on-board guide).

For all, who wants to continue cycling:

At **Jnct 37**, there is a **roundabout** → **turn right** through the dune landscape onto **Burgemeester Breebartweg** towards **Jnct 33**. (The **Burgemeester Breebartweg** is the beginning of the next tour leg, which leads through the dunes).

Follow the signs of the bicycle route **LF1a**.

After **approx. 500 m**, there will be another signpost for **Jnct 33**, → here **turn left**.
Cycle downhill onto a crushed seashell path.

There will be a signpost for **Jnpt 39**, follow this one.

*Tip: Shortly before Jnct 33, there is a Flood Control Information Centre.
Here you can have a short break.*

12 Afterwards, cycle up onto the dyke until you reach **Jnct 20**.

At this point (see also the viewing table) you can choose between two different routes through the dunes:

Those, who are in a hurry, can take the short route via Bergen to **Alkmaar: Jncts 21 → 47 → 48 → 49**
(red line on the map).

The more gentle riders can travel through **Bergen aan Zee: Jncts 46 → 08 → 07 → 49**, a route leading directly to the sea (purple line on the map).

From **Jnct 49** follow the signs to **Jnct 71** and leave **Bergen**.

At the **roundabout keep left**.

You will pass through a **green area** and will see the **Alkmaar golf course** on the left.

Further on, you pass under a road **on the outskirts of Alkmaar**.

After another **450 m**, you reach a main road (**Helderseweg**), which runs parallel to the **Noordhollandskanaal** (North Holland Canal).

Turn right there, **before** the Kanaal, and ride beside the road (**the canal is on your left side**) and **parallel to the canal** into the **town center**. *Mind out: you will not reach Jnct 71.*

You arrive automatically at the **Kanaalkade**, where you will see the ship. During the daily briefing, you will be informed about the exact mooring place. The ship remains moored overnight in **Alkmaar**.

7th Day: Wormerveer - Amsterdam, approx. 30 km **13**

Tip: After breakfast you have the opportunity to visit the Waagplein in the old town. Every summer on Fridays (approx. end of March until end of Sept - subject to correction) the famous Alkmaar cheese market is held between 10.00 and 13.00. The local farmers have brought their cheese here for 600 years. A special favourite in June is the first May Gouda.

Towards midday: continue by boat on the Noordhollandkanaal through the polderland to the south until you reach the Alkmaardermeer at Akerslot (if there is no cheese market, departure from Alkmaar by boat in the early morning). By ship you leave the Alkmaardermeer. After passing the small towns of West- and Oostknollendam, you will find yourself in the river Zaan.

You leave the ship with your bicycle at **Wormerveer**.

Mind out: High traffic!

Depending on the mooring place, you might have to cross the **Zaanbrug bridge**.

Ride **along the canal** to **Jnct 92**, follow then the signs to **Jnct 94** and you will arrive at the **Museum Village of Zaanse Schans at Jnct 73**. Here you will have plenty of time to walk around and meander through the village.

From **Jnct 73** the route continues to **Amsterdam** via **Leeghwaterweg** towards **Jnct 50**.

Mind out: Turn right immediately after the motorway.

Along the highway you proceed to **Jnct 74**.

Then you cycle **along the railway line**. You turn right onto **Stationsstraat, Jnct 12** and proceed through the village to **Jnct 17**. Here the local recreation area of Amsterdam **Het Twiske** begins.

Tip: Use the well-constructed paths to enjoy the last comfortable ride before immersing yourself in the lively city of Amsterdam.

Proceed to **Jnct 16** in **Oostzaan** and **Jnct 19 → 20** in **Landsmeer** **14**. At **Jnct 20** turn right onto **Dorpstraat**, then left onto **Van Beekstraat** to **Jnct 04**. Finally ride towards **Kanaaldijk Jnct 36**.

At **Jnct 36** turn right, then cycle **alongside the canal** right into the **city centre of Amsterdam**. Follow the signs to **Centrum / Centraal Station**. The signposts for the cycle track **LF7a** will help.

Follow the **Noordhollandschkanaaldijk**.

Take the **free ferry (IJveer)** to the **train station (Centraal)**.

You arrive at the **back of the station** and continue cycling to the ship's mooring place **near the train station (Centraal)**.

During the daily briefing, you will be informed about the exact mooring place.

Tip: Experience Amsterdam on a canal cruise. Contact your tour guide for more information.



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