



South Holland – Boat and Bike

'A gentle tour taking in Holland's unique countryside and visiting historic towns and cities'



Wending – classic style

- Accommodation on comfortable barge – all cabins with private facilities – **WENDING**
- All meals included – breakfast, dinner, packed lunches
- Easy cycling on flat cycle tracks and minor roads – max 25 miles per day
- Time to explore historic cities of Delft, Leiden, Haarlem, and Amsterdam
- Flexibility – cycle with guide or on your own, or stay on board!
- See the famous Keukenhof Gardens in bloom on Spring dates
- Extra nights option in Amsterdam



3 bed cabin, Wending

Spend time exploring magnificent Delft, world famous for its pottery of course, but a beautiful town whose centre of tree-lined canals, stylish houses and public buildings has remained largely unchanged since the 17th century. Leiden and Haarlem also have well-preserved centres, reminding us of their illustrious past.

The countryside is typically Dutch with large areas of reclaimed land dotted with windmills. You will reach the coast at Katwijk, a small resort with a long sandy beach. Between here and Haarlem is the famed bulb-growing area which bursts into colour in Spring. Tour dates in April and early May will include a full non-cycling day when you can visit the Keukenhof Gardens by public transport to witness the unforgettable displays of flowers.

This tour is an excellent introduction to the best that Holland has to offer – unique countryside and fascinating towns and cities with rich histories.

ITINERARY

7 nights: Arr ✈ Amsterdam

- Day 1 Amsterdam – Vianen**
Arrive in Amsterdam's Oosterdock (close to Central Station) by 16.00. Barge sails south to Vianen, a small fortified town on the River Lek.
- Day 2 Vianen – Gouda ■ Cycling 25m; 40km**
Cycle tracks take you along waterways through the countryside to Gouda, famous for its cheese and cheese market held in the enormous square around the Stadhuis.
- Day 3 Gouda – Delft ■ Cycling 22m; 35km**
Cycle past Kinderdijk where you can see the famous 19 windmills used to drain the surrounding land until the 1950's. Embark in Rotterdam and sail with the barge to Delft with its wonderful old centre made famous by Vermeer's fine paintings.
- Day 4 Delft – Leiden ■ Cycling 25m; 40km**
We cycle towards The Hague through a large park and past the Royal Huis ten Bosch Palace. A ride through dunes leads you to the coast and the wide beach at Katwijk. Following the Rhine we arrive in Leiden, birthplace of Rembrandt, and a fine, historic town.
- Day 5 Leiden ■ Rest Day**
Try the optional circular tour (19m; 30km) around the Kagerplassen, an area of lakes near Leiden, or perhaps take a stroll around Leiden. In April and May you could visit the incredible flower displays in the world famous Keukenhof Gardens, a few miles to the north.
- Day 6 Leiden – Haarlem ■ Cycling 23m; 37km**
Cycle through the dunes to the beach, and then to Haarlem, a lively city with many attractions and beautiful buildings. The boat is moored in the city centre close to St.Bavo's Church, where Mozart numbers amongst the many organ players of the past.
- Day 7 Haarlem – Amsterdam ■ Cycling 25m; 40km**
The boat takes you to Spaarndam and from here you cycle to Zaanse Schans, a remarkable collection of wooden houses, warehouses and windmills seemingly transported from the 17th or 18th century but where people live and work today. Time this evening to explore Amsterdam.
- Day 8 Amsterdam**
After breakfast make your way to your chosen departure point.



Windmill, waterway and tulips – where else?



Haarlem



Dutch coast



Delft Market Square & Town Hall

TOUR & TRAVEL INFORMATION

Terrain

The terrain is flat. The itinerary uses mainly cycle tracks and small country roads with little traffic.

Daily Mileage

19–25m (30–40km)



Climate

As this tour is in Holland weather patterns are similar to those of the UK.

Travel Information

Flights to Amsterdam: Available from a wide variety of carriers.

Train to Amsterdam: Eurostar from London St.Pancras, Ebbsfleet, or Ashford to Brussels, transfer to Amsterdam train.

Transfer Information

Amsterdam: By train between Schipol Airport and Amsterdam Central station. Walk for 15 mins or short taxi ride to Oosterdock.

"The easiest of transfers – very easy cycling."

PRICES

Prices are per person and exclude flights. Included are bed & breakfast, packed lunches, and evening meal for 7 nights, bike hire, ferry fares, and the services of a tour leader. Prices are per person and are based on the occupancy of cabins as shown. Child prices are valid where a child 11 years or younger (at departure date) is occupying a cabin with at least one adult.

	ALL DATES
ADULT	
Single	£ 919
Twin	£ 749
3-berth	£ 699
CHILD (11 or younger)	£ 529

DEPARTURE DATES 2010

The boat for all departure dates is the Wending. There are 10 twin and 2 triple cabins, all with private facilities, and an attractive saloon on the upper deck.

Apr: Saturday 24

May: Saturday 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Jun: Saturday 5, 12, 19, 26

Jul: Saturday 3, 31

Aug: Saturday 28

Sep: Saturday 11, 18, 25