



Boat & Bike Tour North Holland

Alphen-Amsterdam-Purmerend/Edam-Alkmaar-Zaanse Schans-Haarlem-A.

Discover the Northern Province of Holland. Here you will find the typical Dutch landscape of polders, mills, harbours and tulips. The program is a good mix of bike and boat tours with cultural highlights. Experience one of Holland's top tourist attraction "Zaanse Schans", get to know Edam, Alkmaar and Haarlem and the Dutch capital Amsterdam and bike over small dikes and through the most beautiful dune area nearby Alkmaar.

Sat: Alphen a/d Rijn

Embarkation in Alphen a/d Rijn at 16.00 'o clock. Over a cup of coffee the crew will welcome you and our travel program will be introduced. After the first dinner aboard you can walk along the Rhine into the centre of Alphen.

Sun: Alphen-Amsterdam

Our first boat cruise will go through the centre of Alphen, over the Aarkanaal and the beautiful Amstel to Amsterdam. On our way, our cycle tour will start along the picturesque lakes and through the lake area with Amsterdam as today's destination, where the Ali-B2 is already waiting for us. From our berth in the outer canal ring we can make an evening walk along the famous canals into the centre.

Mon: Amsterdam-Purmerend

Just after breakfast our canal tour on board Ali-B2 starts: Enjoy Amsterdam in an unforgettable way, cruising "on the famous canals of Amsterdam" we pass about 10 bridges! At 11 am we arrive at our second mooring in the centre of the Dutch capital. Then leisure time to visit the historic city centre, one of the largest in the world. We advise you to do a city walk of about 3 hours: Amsterdam is by nature a walking city. Nowhere else will you find so many points of interest within a single square kilometre. Or what about visiting a museum in Amsterdam, such as the famous Van Gogh museum, the Rijksmuseum of the Anne Frank House?

After dinner we leave Amsterdam. A short evening cruise takes us to the market town of Purmerend across the Amsterdam port area, through a lock and on the North Holland Canal.

Tue: Purmerend/Edam/Volendam-Alkmaar

In the morning time for strolling over the greatest weekly market of the Netherlands. Today's biking tour is really special: It takes us on old dikes and across the polder Purmer to the harbour and cheese town Edam, situated by the former Zuiderzee now IJsselmeer. Here we take a break to admire many historical houses and buildings with artfully gables and charming canals. Enjoy biking on the dike overlooking the IJsselmeer to the tourist place Volendam known for its traditional costumes. On our way back to the Ali-B2 we visit the village of Monnikendam with its old harbour.

Our evening cruise brings us through two wonderful polders (Beemster and Schermer) in about 2 ½ hours to Alkmaar. Enjoy the view of the town in the setting sun.

During your evening walk get a first impression of Alkmaar, the second centre of the Dutch cheese trade.

Wed: Alkmaar, dunes & North Sea

After breakfast we discover by bike a large dune area of about 1800 hectare with the most beautiful sand beaches of Europe. Our destination is Schoorl aan Zee a popular bathing resort of Holland.

Going back via Bergen aan Zee to Alkmaar we have time for sightseeing: The Weigh House, dating back in its earliest form to the 14th century, the 16th century town-hall, Grote St. Laurens Church and the many courtyards, facades and canals give the town an ambience all of its own.

Thu: Alkmaar-Zaanse Schans/Haarlem

The Ali-b2 brings us over the Alkmaarder Lake and the Zaan river to Zaanse Schans, an open-air museum with typical green wooden houses from the 17 century and 6 mills. Subsequently we barge over the North Sea canal and the Spaarne river to Haarlem (arrival about 3 pm) where we take our bikes to get to know the surrounding.

After dinner we have time for Haarlem. This romantic town invite you for a short visit: Walk to the Market Square (Grote Markt) and have a look around the square itself, one of the most beautiful of its kind in Holland. Come face to face with the late-Gothic Saint Bavo's church (Bavo-kerk), the 13th century town hall, the magnificent Butchers' hall (Vleeshal) built by Lieven de Key and the Fish auction hall (Vishal) and dream back in time.

Or experience the atmosphere of the many historic courts.

Fr: Haarlem-Alphen

We leave the picturesque Haarlem on the Spaarne, whereby countless historical bridges have to open for us and enjoy our last barging trip via the Spaarne river, the „Ring“ canal and a wide lake area back to Alphen where we start to bike. We follow the Braassemermeer route along old church paths, polder dikes and pass some old farms.

We will finish this eventful week with our traditional Captain's Dinner.

Sat: Individual departure after breakfast

Included:

- ✓ Travel on board
- ✓ Accommodation in double cabins (7 nights, incl. bed linen and 2 towels)
- ✓ Full board (7 x breakfast, 5 x lunch, 6 x 3-course dinner; on one day lunch & dinner not included)
- ✓ Tourist information,
- ✓ Tour guide (English-speaking)
- ✓ Bike rent: 7-gears Gazelle bike (comfortable Dutch touring bike with handbrakes, pannier bag)

Not included: Entrance fees, guided sightseeing, drinks.

Date : 7 / 14 Aug 2021

Price per person in twin cabin 745 €

daily cycling distance: 20-30 km

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