



## Henk's favourite Dutch tour:

Eastern part of the Netherlands: Gelderse IJSSEL  
Bike and Barge with MS Merlijn  
May 19<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> 2019



### Highlights:

Amsterdam - Wijk bij Duurstede, five Hanseatic cities: Doesburg, Deventer, Zutphen, Hattem and Kampen, and the Veluwe. Biking along the most beautiful river in the Netherlands: IJssel.

### Tour description:

#### **Day 1 - Sunday - Amsterdam - Wijk bij Duurstede**

**4PM** check in, the Merlijn will be docked in Amsterdam, at the Veemkade, approx. 25 minutes' walk from the Central Station. Public transport stops nearby.

**5PM** we start sailing to Wijk bij Duurstede, where we will arrive approx. 8PM.

During the cruise we offer you a welcome drink, information on the ship and the tour as well as a sailing dinner. After docking you can stroll through the very charming city of Wijk bij Duurstede (Neighbourhood of Duurstede translated).

Duurstede is the name of the nearby castle/ruin, where the bishop of Utrecht used to live. Wijk bij Duurstede is located at the place where Dorestad used to be, an important trade settlement, that was pillaged around 850 by the Vikings. This city has the only drive-through wind mill in the world. We will spend the night here.



#### **Day 2 - Monday - Wijk bij Duurstede - Amerongen - Arnhem**

Sailing breakfast while we cruise to Amerongen, where the bike-fitting and your bike tour will start.



Amerongen



Arnhem

You will bike through the Betuwe, situated between the Waal and Rhine/Lek rivers, surrounding the Linge stream, and famous for its fruit production. The tour ends in Arnhem, the capital of the province Gelderland. Tonight you will enjoy your dinner at your own expense in one of the many restaurants in Arnhem, and before or after dinner you will have time to stroll a little more through the centre. Of course your tour guide will show you the city as well as a couple of restaurants.

### Day 3 - Tuesday - Arnhem - Deventer



While you enjoy your breakfast we cruise the beautiful river IJssel downstream and take you to Doesburg. This is one of the seven Hanseatic cities on the river IJssel. Here your bike tour starts along the sparkling river, described by many a person as the most beautiful river of the Netherlands, *and certainly by Capitan Henk*. This week you will visit the mediaeval cities of Kampen, Hattem, Deventer, Zutphen and Doesburg all of them beautiful gems. Tonight you will enjoy your dinner at your own expense in one of the many restaurants in Deventer, and before or after dinner you will have time to stroll a little more through the centre. Of course your tour guide will show you the city as well as a couple of restaurants.



Zutphen

The river landscape is beautiful, from the dikes you will have a marvelous view. Tonight we stay in Deventer, after dinner you will visit this mediaeval city on a city walk with your guide.



#### Day 4 - Wednesday - Deventer - Hattem - Kampen

After breakfast your bike tour starts and the ride will be from Deventer to Hattem.



Another very charming Hanseatic city. After your visit you will board the Merlijn and together we sail to the city of Kampen, where we will stay overnight. A city stroll will be offered through this ancient city after dinner.



#### Day 5 - Thursday - Kampen - Roggebotsluis - Harderwijk - Spakenburg

Sailing breakfast while we cruise the Roggebotsluis, where your bike tour starts. Across the water you will see the eastern part of Flevoland, one of the new Dutch provinces. Your bike tour takes you to the Veluwe, and you will visit Elburg, a charming fishermen's village. The Veluwe features many different landscapes including woodland, heath, some small lakes and Europe's largest sand drifts. Your tour ends in Harderwijk, another charming mediaeval city, on the Veluwemeer (Veluwe lake).



Here you will board the Merlijn and together we will sail to the city of Spakenburg, here we will stay overnight. Spakenburg is situated south on the IJsselmeer, and it is one of the few places left in the Netherlands where some women still wear local traditional clothes.



### **Day 6 - Friday - Spakenburg - Amsterdam**

Your last biking day starts in Spakenburg, after you have enjoyed your breakfast. You will bike along the Gooimeer (Gooi lake) and through the beautiful Gooi, where impressive houses are to be seen, and reach the Merlijn who is already waiting for you in Amsterdam. After dinner your guide will take you on a walking tour through Amsterdam.

### **Day 7 - Saturday - Departure from Amsterdam**

Disembarkation at 9am, after breakfast.

#### **Included:**

- 6 nights' accommodation on board the Merlijn, in a double room, with private bathroom, climate control, safe, hairdryer
- Full board - except one dinner, starting with dinner on Saturday, Day 1 and ending with breakfast on Friday Day 7, packed lunch during your bike tours
- Daily cleaning of the rooms
- Service of staff
- Supply of bedding, towels, facial tissues, soap
- Porterage of luggage
- Unlimited coffee, tea and hot chocolate during the trip on board and potable ice water throughout the meals
- Harbour fees
- Use of a 24-speed cycle, incl. use of helmet, towel, bike bag and a personal water bottle
- Services of a tour guide

#### **Not included:**

- Drinks other than mentioned
- Entrance fees
- One dinner
- Outward and inward journey
- Gratuities
- Insurances

### **Rate p.p. in a double room € 1.450**

We reserve to ourselves the right of changing schedule and/or program. If -part of - the route is not navigable the captain is entitled to change the schedule for safety reasons. Changes in schedule and program do not give you the right on free cancellation.

**Payment:** 20% of the price at the time of reservation  
80% 1 month prior to starting cruise date