

Northern Lake IJssel Tour

6 days, € 530



Introduction



Ride your bike on the loveliest and quietest roads and bike tracks a cyclist could possibly hope for. The historical landscape around the former Zuiderzee, the many old fishing and trading towns on its shores all have a story to tell. The diverse and attractive scenery on this tour will never cease to surprise and delight you. As on all our carefree cycle tours, we provide luggage transfer and excellent accommodation.

Please be aware in the months may, june and september the boat between Enkhuizen and Stavoren does not depart on Monday.

In collaboration with:



Day to Day

Day 1 **Arrival in Harderwijk**

Arrival in Harderwijk. This town was once upon a time a bustling Hansa town and a thriving fishing port by the sea - but due to the Zuiderzee becoming closed off from the sea it's now on a lake overlooking a polder! The picturesque city center still counts around hundred monuments. On a hot summer day the city beach is great place to relax.

Day 2 **Harderwijk - Enkhuizen**

61 km

The first leg of your tour will take you through Flevo Polder, the newest part of the Netherlands, reclaimed from the sea! The route takes you through woods and farmland to the town of Lelystad, named after the architect of the Zuiderzee Works, Mr. Cornelis Lely. Museum Nieuwland explains how the Flevo Polder came to be and how it affected the people who used to live by the sea. A 32-km dike will take you across the waters to the lovely town of Enkhuizen, steeped in history.



Day 3 **Enkhuizen - Rijs**

37 km

For a history lesson go to ZuiderzeeMuseum in Enkhuizen. It boasts a recreated village of old, complete with craftsmen in traditional costume. You can also learn about the trading routes sailed by seafaring villagers from the shores of the Zuiderzee: For centuries, dried fish and Edam cheese were exported all over Europe; grain from Poland was shipped to Italy; wine shipped back to Amsterdam etc. After that, all aboard the ferry to cross Lake IJsselmeer in 1½ hours, from Enkhuizen to the pretty town of Stavoren. The lake was created in 1932 when a closure dam was put in place to cut off the Zuiderzee from the North Sea. This was necessary to stop the sea from flooding towns and villages on its shores. Once the dam was in place, the sea had become a lake. You will disembark in Friesland province which has its own official language, bi-lingual road signs and its own specialties such as "Fryske Dumkes" (hazelnut biscuits).

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Day 4 **Rijs- Zwartsluis/Vollenhove**

69 km

In the morning, you will cycle through Gaasterland, undulating and woody, to your first port of call, the picturesque town of Lemmer, a favourite with boaters in summer. Next, it's full steam ahead to a World Heritage Site - if you are a steam enthusiast this is your lucky day... Wouda steam-driven pumping station has been operational since 1920 and was used to drain a lake. For centuries, windmills took care of water management in the Netherlands before steam engines took over. Nowadays most of our 1600 pumping stations are electrically powered. In the afternoon, nature lovers will bask in the beauty of Weerribben-Wieden National Park where water and reeds dominate the landscape. It is said to be the most valuable marshland of north-western Europe.

In case our hotel in Zwartsluis is not available, you will spend this night in the lovely hanseatic city of Vollenhove. You will have the chance to visit Zwartsluis the upcoming morning.

Day 5 **Zwartsluis/Vollenhove - Harderwijk**

62 km

After exploring Zwartsluis, popular with boaters and other water sports enthusiasts, you will set off atop the old Kamperzeedijken (Kampen sea dikes) to the beautiful town of Kampen. It has one of the best preserved town centres in the country. Check out the town gates on the River IJssel side of town.

In the afternoon, pick up the route again and follow the fringes of Veluwe Forest down to Harderwijk. First meet Elburg, another Hanseatic town, then cycle through Nunspeet. Harderwijk is like Elburg a Hanseatic town along the former Zuiderzee sea coast.

Alternative route (Brown route, 71 km) goes through the area impressive sand dunes area Het Beekhuizerzand.

Day 6 **Return Home**

After breakfast in your hotel, you will return home.



Prices, Data, Booking

Starting dates:

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from May 1 till September 25.
Daily departure in July and August

Price pp		€
Double room, breakfast		525.00
Single room, breakfast		700.00
Extra night double room, breakfast only		80.00
Rental bike		€
Child bike		55.00
Hybrid		65.00
E-bike		135.00
Extra services		€
Bike Breakdown pass	€ 4.00 x 5	20.00
Child seat	€ 5.00 x 5	25.00
Bike theft insurance	€ 3.00 x 5	15.00
E-bike theft insurance	€ 6.00 x 5	30.00
Extra luggage	€ 5.00 x 5	25.00
Tag-along bike	€ 6.00 x 5	30.00
Child trailer	€ 17.50 x 5	87.50
Bike helmet	per piece	10.00
SGR	per piece	5.00

Starting point:

Harderwijk



Accommodation

The hotels and the B&B on this trip have been carefully selected for their location, atmosphere and/or unique services. All rooms are en-suite. A list of the accommodation we work with appears below. If a certain accommodation is unable to confirm due to lack of availability, we will try to request a comparable alternative if possible. When selecting the accommodation, we try to take into account as much as possible a safe and closed bicycle shed. However, we cannot do this with all of them guarantee and this partly depends on the number of bicycles of other guests.



Best Western Hotel Baars ****
(Harderwijk)
www.hotelbaars.nl



Hotel Restaurant Die Port van Cleve * (Enkhuizen)**
www.deportvancleve.nl



Hotel Jans * (Rijs)**
<https://hoteljans.nl/hotel-jans>



Hotel Zwartewater ****
(Zwartsluis)
www.hotelzwartewater.nl



Practical Info



5 Nights included



3/4 Star Hotels



Breakfast included



Detailed roadbooks with maps and tourist information



The possibility of renting our bikes



7-days a week service-hotline



Luggage transport to your next hotel



Harderwijk



Parking possibilities at the hotel



GPS-tracks available



Any ferry crossings are not included

Arrival info



Nearest Airport is Amsterdam Airport Schiphol (AMS)



The train from Schiphol to Harderwijk departs 2 times per hour. Travel time is about 1.5 hours. A single ticket costs approx €16- per person excl. bicycle.

For timetables and tickets, go to www.ns.nl/en. For bus details, how to reach the hotel, check: www.9292.nl/en.

