

Paris - Amsterdam

12 days, € 1455



Introduction



Great cycling in France, Belgium and the Netherlands

A dream bike ride through Europe, from the Eiffel tower of Paris to the canals of Amsterdam. These two European cities with big importance for history, world-famous buildings and museums are the start and the finish of this journey through 3 countries.

In between you will explore famous and beautiful towns like Ghent, Antwerp and Gouda as you cycle through varied landscapes. You will start in France, beautiful France with its very wide spectrum of food and wines.

Day to Day

Day 1 Arrival Paris

Your holiday starts in Paris, 'The City of Lights'. There is so much to see and do here: stroll along the river banks of the Seine or the Montmartre district or visit the famous attractions such as the Sacre Cœur Basilica, the Notre Dame cathedral, the Louvre museum with the Mona Lisa and of course the Eiffel Tower.

! Bikes are not allowed on the train from Amsterdam to Paris (or vice versa). We therefore strongly recommend to book this trip with rental bikes, so you can leave the rental bikes at the hotel in Amsterdam at the end of the trip.

Day 2 Paris - Chantilly/Senlis

72 km

Today you start cycling! Exiting the capital along the Canal de l'Ourcq and Canal Saint-Martin really allows us to dive into a history book, an open-air museum.

On the first 30 kilometers from Paris to Gressy, the route follows the nice cycle track of the Canal de l'Ourcq, a rural setting away from cars, for a safe exit out of Paris.

As you get closer to Senlis you will encounter forests and true nature as you reach the region "Ile de France": guaranteed change of scenery with these great pines and this sandy soil in the Landes, south west of France.



Day 3 Chantilly/Senlis - Compiègne**66 km**

The program of the day: Prestigious castle, medieval towns and large forest area!

Chantilly is world renowned for its castle (sometimes compared to a castle of the Loire), its Great Stables, its porcelain, its lace and its gastronomy (yes the famous cream Chantilly would have been invented here)

An ancient foundation, a royal residence during the Middle Ages, the charming city of Senlis preserves its rich history and has several museums. Its protected environment of 40 ha is particularly appreciated by filmmakers.

After crossing the forest of Halatte you cross the "plateau" of Nery but the slope is soft! You pass close to Béthisy-Saint-Pierre which is worth a detour.

After going down the Automne river which gave its name to this valley, called the 35 bell-towers, today's journey ends in the forest of Compiègne. A large town bordering the forest, a palace opening towards wooded immensities, these are the first impressions that Compiègne leaves. The city, furrowed by charming and shopping streets, has museums with varied collections.

Day 4 Compiègne - Saint-Quentin**79 km**

In the morning, we recommend to make the abbey of Ourscamp your first stop of the day. The route continues along the canal, toward Noyon. Noyon is listed as a city of Art and History: medieval atmosphere around the cathedral which saw the coronation of Hugues Capet in 987.

Further along the route, you cross vast natural areas with more than 200 species of birds and cycle through the fertile valley of the Oise before you reach Saint-Quentin. Discover its streets with Art Deco houses, the details of which deserve to be spotted. It is the style adopted during the rebuilding of the city, which was hardly destroyed during the Great War and once again became a dynamic city, the economic capital of Haute Picardie.

Day 5 Saint-Quentin - Cambrai**50 km**

The route in the morning takes you towards the Touage Museum, through small hilly roads between villages devoted to agriculture and memorial sites of the Great War: cemeteries, memorials and vestiges of the Hindenburg line. A few pedaling strokes and you pass the sources of l'Escaut, the famous river that you follow for kilometers and whose course flows into the North Sea in Netherlands. In the Haute Vallée de l'Escaut lies a jewel: the abbey of Vaucelles (XII century). As it is presented to you today, the abbey remains an unusual construction both in its dimensions and the quality of its restoration.

Passing through typical villages and hamlets, you reach the town of Cambrai, peaceful city of Art and History. Take advantage of it to discover its streets, where half-timbered houses, rich private mansions, Flemish mansions mingle with pleasure. And don't leave without having tasted the famous "Bêtises de Cambrai" or other local specialties!

Day 6 Cambrai - Tournai**75 km**

This day offers a pleasant ride through to the Parc Naturel Régional Scarpe-Escaut, the first French regional park. Here, Belgium and France link with the barges on Escaut river, between lands and waters where you pedal through to the forests, marshes and ponds populated with various species. You will discover the mining villages classified by UNESCO, and the agricultural landscapes.



Day 7 Tournai – Ghent**79 km**

While leaving the 5 bell-towers of Tournai behind you, today you will leave Wallonia and enter the province of Flanders. Down the road do try one of the most famous Belgian local products "Geraardsbergse mattentaart", a pie with an ancient history of making. The river Scheldt is still your guide as you cycle to the old town of Oudenaarde (AD 974). Also center of the famous classic cycle race "Ronde van Vlaanderen". The former towing paths along the banks have been transformed to smooth cycle paths, occasionally leafy and then through the open fields of Flanders. At the end of the day the sparkling cultural city of Ghent is waiting for you. The Belgians call Ghent their most beautiful city and the city will undoubtedly charm you.

Day 8 Ghent – Antwerpen**90 km**

Cycling North, you will follow the banks of the river Scheldt you leave Ghent and cycle towards Lokeren. The bushes and polders show the wild and pure nature here. The wide Schelde is not only a natural, but also a tourist attraction.

Antwerp is the largest town in Flanders and Belgium's most important port city. After viewing the historical town center, you might like to venture to the hip and trendy parts of the city: 't Zuid and Het Eilandje. Have you worked up a thirst for Belgian beer? Consider visiting De Koninck beer brewery. It has been going strong since 1833 and has a new visitors centre welcoming guests wishing to look around and do some tasting. This brewery is best known for its 'Bollekes'.

Day 9 Antwerpen – Breda**73 km**

The landscape along today's cycling route is predominantly woody. On the border between the Netherlands and Belgium, catch your breath in De Zoom - Kalmthoutse Heide, a lovely cross-border nature reserve. Upon crossing the border, you will find yourself in the south of the Netherlands. In village after village, Brabant hospitality will entice you to stop for a cup of coffee and big slice of fruit tart.

Today's destination is Breda, the main city of Nassau in Holland, boasting many imposing monuments. The ancestors of our royal family converted Breda to a beautiful city with richly decorated buildings.

Day 10 Breda – Gouda/Bodegraven**81 km**

The route today will take you right past one of the few remaining fresh-water tidal areas in Europe: Biesbosch National Park. You will cycle through Dordrecht, one of the Netherlands' oldest towns and a great place to stop for a lunch break. A visit to the scenic harbour quarter with its wonderful historical buildings should not be missed.

Today's highlight is one of the Netherlands' most popular tourist attractions: Kinderdijk, a world-famous complex of windmills. Nineteen historical windmills reach to the skies in the epitome of classical Dutch countryside. You can visit an authentic workshop and find out how these mills were built and how they work. Have you always wanted to be a miller? This is where you can still learn the trade!

End the day in medieval Gouda. Amble through the beautifully preserved town centre and visit the old town hall and St. John's church. Stop off at a bakery to buy fresh syrup waffles (Gouda is the hometown of syrup waffles) and Gouda cheese - perhaps the world's most famous type of cheese. For availability reasons it's possible you will stay in Bodegraven instead of Gouda.

Please note: Biesbosch Park can only be cycled on days the ferry runs. There is an alternate route for days with no ferry departure.



Day 11 **Gouda/Bodegraven - Amsterdam**

68 km

Today's route takes you through the Green Heart of Holland, abounding in water. It is a true cycling paradise, with characteristic peat and polder landscapes, small farming communities and picturesque historical towns.

Your cycling holiday ends in Amsterdam, one of the crown-jewels of Europe. With so much to see and do, you couldn't wish for a more exciting way to end your holiday. Make sure to go for a walk to marvel at the townhouses in the 17th-century canal district (listed as World Heritage). Have you got time and energy left? Opt to saunter down the infamous red-light district which attracts millions of curious tourists every year; or enjoy the street performers on friendly Rembrandtplein.

Day 12 **Departure from Amsterdam**

End of your trip after breakfast. We advise you to extend your stay in order to take the time to visit the beautiful city of Amsterdam.



Prices, Data, Booking

Starting dates:

2025: June 29th, August 24th en September 14th

ATTENTION: Departures are guaranteed with a minimum of 6 participants. We reserve the right to cancel a confirmed booking up to 9 weeks before departure if we don't reach the minimum number of participants.

Please note: a minimum stay of 2 nights in a row is required in the hotel in Amsterdam on the following dates (and a higher price will be charged):

April 18-20 2025

April 25-26 2025

May 29-31 2025

June 6-8 2025

June 21-22 2025

June 24-25 2025

August 29-31 2025

Price pp		€
Double room, breakfast		1,450.00
Single room, breakfast		2,230.00
Extra night double room, breakfast only		105.00
Upgrades pp/night		€
Westcord Art Hotel, Amsterdam		10.00
Surcharge per person		€
Stay in Amsterdam on Saturday		25.00
Stay in Amsterdam from:		
25/04/2025 - 26/04/2025		
29/05/2025 - 31/05/2025		
06/06/2025 - 08/06/2025		
21/06/2025 - 22/06/2025		
24/06/2025 - 25/06/2025		
29/08/2025 - 31/08/2025		
		40.00
Rental bike		€
Premium bike		319.00
E-bike		330.00
Extra services		€
Bike theft insurance	€ 3.00 x 11	33.00
E-bike theft insurance	€ 6.00 x 11	66.00
Theft insurance premium bike	€ 6.00 x 11	66.00
Extra luggage	€ 5.00 x 11	55.00
SGR	per piece	5.00
discount	per piece	-20.00

Starting point:

Paris

Flights:

You can fly to Paris Charles de Gaulle or Paris Orly and return from Amsterdam Schiphol.

Train:



To get back to Paris there is a fast train Thalys that takes you in 3 hours and 17 minutes back to Paris. Bookable 3 month in advance starting at € 39,- one way p.p. During weekdays this train runs every 2 hours. You can not take a bike on this train (we take care of the rentalbikes).

Extra night in Paris (breakfast only):

Double room €110 per person

Single room €205 per person



Accommodation

The hotels or B&Bs on this trip have been carefully selected for their location, atmosphere and/or unique services. All rooms are en-suite. A list of the hotels we work with appears below. If a certain accommodation is unable to confirm due to lack of availability, we will request a comparable alternative. 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.

**Holiday Inn Express Paris -
Canal de la Villette (Parijs -
France)**

www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/paris

**Logis Hostellerie de la Porte
Bellon *** (Senlis - France)**

www.logishotels.com/logis-hostellerie-de-la-porte-bellon

**Aiden by Best Western T'Aim
H♦el **** (Compiègne -
France)**

www.taimhotel.com

H♦el Le Picardy ** (Saint-
Quentin - France)**

www.lepicardyhotel.com

Logis H♦el Mouton Blanc *
(Cambrai - France)**

www.logishotels.com/mouton-blanc

H♦el Alcantara* (Tournai)**

www.hotelalcantara.be

Hotel Chamade * (Gent -
Belgium)**

www.chamade.be

**Mercure Antwerp City South
**** (Antwerpen - Belgium)**

www.mercure.com/mercure-antwerp-city-south



Intercityhotel Breda **
(Breda)**

<https://hrewards.com/nl/intercityhotel-breda>

City Hotel Gouda ** (Gouda)**

www.cityhotelgouda.com

Westcord Art Hotel */****
(Amsterdam)**

www.westcordhotels.nl/art-hotel

Practical Info



11 nights included



3/4 Star hotels



Breakfast included, half board option



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



Paris Gare du Nord / Amsterdam CS. For more information:
ns.nl/reisplannen
nsinternational



Any ferry crossings are not included

