

Frisian Towns and Lakes

6 days, € 630



Introduction



Discover attractive towns and villages, some of them with a rich historical past. Safe bicycle tracks lead you past the varied scenery of woods, dunes, marshes, crop fields and pastures with grazing piebald / Frisian cattle and proud black Frisian horses. Tourists travel from far and wide to experience the wild purity of the Wadden Islands that are a part of Friesland province. Opt to stay an extra night in the town of Harlingen to visit Wadden Islands Vlieland or Terschelling. As on all our carefree cycle tours, we provide luggage transfer and excellent accommodation. It's possible to stay an extra night in the town of Harlingen to visit Wadden Islands Vlieland or Terschelling.

Day to Day

Day 1 Arrival in Heerenveen

Attractive Heerenveen originated as a peat digging site in 1551 on a spot where two canals crossed. It is the Netherlands oldest peat canal village. You might like to visit nearby country estate Museumpark Landgoed Oranjewoud, a woody and elegant country park which is the lovely natural setting for the Belvédère Museum for Frisian 20th century and contemporary art.

Day 2 Heerenveen - Rijs

46 km

The rural landscape and the lakes you will encounter between Heerenveen and Lake IJsselmeer are man-made. This is peat bog, dug up for fuel (turf) many centuries ago, then partly drained and reclaimed for pastures for grazing cattle. The first large village you will reach on the route is bustling Lemmer, a port for pleasure craft on Lake IJsselmeer. The Wouda steam driven pumping station near Lemmer is the largest of its kind in the world. It has been operational since 1920 and is a World Heritage Site. From here, you will cycle through woody, slightly undulating Gaasterland, past the curious cliffs on the coast, to Rijs.

Today you can also choose to cycle a longer route of ca. 66 km. Then you will cycle an extra loop around the peatbog natural reserve Rottige Meente and along the river de Lende (close to small village of Ossenzijl and the National Park Weerribben).



Day 3 **Rijs - Harlingen**

63 km

After the varied landscape in Gaasterland you will reach Stavoren, the oldest town in Friesland. Continue up the coast of Lake IJsselmeer, remembering its amazing history and enjoying the stunning views. Pass through the towns of Hindeloopen (world famous for its painted furniture), Workum and Makkum (known for its pottery) and find out about the history of these pretty towns. End the day in Harlingen, a harbour and trading town directly connected to the sea.

Tip: if you want to spend a day cycling on the Wadden Island of Vlieland or Terschelling, then we can book an extra night in Harlingen for you and a return ferry ticket. In the booking form, please add 1 extra night in Harlingen and the Boat tickets service. In the remarks field, add the name of the island you would like to visit.

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Day 4 **Harlingen - Leeuwarden**

66 km

Today's trip will take you through a landscape of dikes and villages, located on mounds that have been created during the past 600 years by the reclamation of the Wadden Sea. The edges of the shallow Wadden Sea are characterised by mud-flats with specialised vegetation that can cope with the salty tide seeping in twice a day between the mud banks. This landscape has always been shaped primarily by the sea. However, man has built dikes and terps to try to keep the sea out. In the afternoon, follow the River Dokkumer Ee all the way to compact and friendly Leeuwarden, the interesting capital of Friesland Province. This city was the Cultural Capital of Europe in 2018.

Day 5 **Leeuwarden - Heerenveen**

67 km

On your last cycling day, you will leave the monuments and cultural highlights of Leeuwarden to set off towards the city of Sneek and the nearby lake, a popular area for watersports enthusiasts. Your next stop will be the Frisian town of Joure, where you might like to pause at a cafe for a bite of one of the sweet Frisian specialties.

Day 6 **Return Home**

After breakfast in your hotel, you will return home.



Prices, Data, Booking

Starting dates:

Daily from April 1 till September 25.

The price for an extra night in Harlingen is €80,- per person sharing a double room with breakfast included.

The price for an extra night in Harlingen is €125,- per person in single room with breakfast included.

Return boat ticket from/to Terschelling or Vlieland is €55,- per person. You also need to select 1 extra night in Harlingen in the booking form. Please add in the comment field if you want to go to Vlieland or Terschelling.

Price pp		€
Double room, breakfast		625.00
Single room, breakfast		900.00
Extra night double room, breakfast only		80.00
Rental bike		€
Standard bike		75.00
Child bike		75.00
E-bike		150.00
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
SGR	per piece	5.00
discount	per piece	-20.00

Starting point:

Heerenveen or Leeuwarden



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.



Uitgerust voor Zaken *
(Heerenveen)**

www.uitgerustvoorzaken.nl



Hotel Jans * (Rijs)**

www.hoteljans.nl



Hotel Anna Casparii*
(Harlingen)**

www.caspariigroup.nl



**Fletcher Hotel Stadhoudershof
Hof **** (Leeuwarden)**

www.hotelstadhouderlijkhof.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



Heerenveen. For more information:
ns.nl/reisplannen



Parking possibilities at the hotel



Any ferry crossings are not included

Arrival info



Nearest Airport is Amsterdam Airport Schiphol (AMS)



The train from Schiphol to Heerenveen departs 1 time per hour. Travel time is between 2 and 2,5 hour. A single ticket costs approx €26,- 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.

