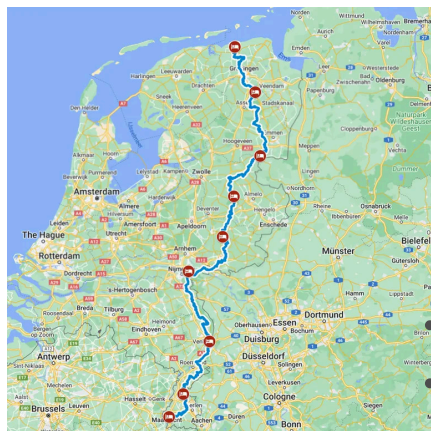


## Cycling The Pieterpad sporty and E-bike

10 days, € 1099



## Introduction



### NEW TOUR 2025

The "Dutch Camino" for cyclists is called the Pieterfietspad, stretching from Pieterburen in Groningen to the Pietersberg near Maastricht in Limburg, follows, wherever possible, the Netherlands' most famous long-distance hiking route: the acclaimed Pieterpad. This 580-kilometer trail takes you past all the highlights of the (East) Dutch landscape. From the Groninger Wierden, through the forests of Drenthe, the hills of Salland, the castles of the Achterhoek, the Maasheggen in North Limburg, to the Maasduinen, you will eventually arrive in the hilly region of South Limburg.

The Pieterfietspad is the official cycling variant of the popular Pieterpad. While the Pieterpad connects the most beautiful walking paths, the Pieterfietspad does so with cycling routes. So hop on your bike and explore the Netherlands on two wheels!

### NEW SERVICES

In addition to bike-friendly accommodations, 12/7 availability, luggage transport, etc., we also offer:

The included map set of the Pieter Cycling Route from our partner Stichting Pieterpad (the guidebook and maps are only available in Dutch but you can use the maps for cycling)

All routes and necessary travel information are available in English in our handy and user-friendly navigation app Guibo.

Transfer to the starting point on the last day: see the practical information to find out more.

## Day to Day

### Day 1 Arrival in Pieterburen / Westernieland

Welcome to Pieterburen – Starting Point of the Pieterfietspad! Have you arrived on time? Perfect! Take the opportunity to relax at the village terrace or hop on your bike to explore the sea dyke. Enjoy breathtaking views of the ever-changing Wadden Sea. In the evening have dinner in the village. Savor local cuisine and unwind in a cozy atmosphere.

### Day 2 Pieterburen / Westernieland – Zuidlaren / Zeegse (83/88 km)

Embark on an unforgettable cycling journey through the enchanting Wierdenland of Groningen, where picturesque creeks meander through expansive, flat landscapes. Discover charming villages perched on elevated ground, such as Eenrum and Winsum, each offering unique sights and local delights. Follow the scenic route along the Reitdiep, the oldest cultural landscape in Western Europe, leading you to the historic city center of Groningen. Here, you can marvel at stunning monuments and indulge in urban pleasures. As you explore the city, you'll trace the banks of the Drentsche Aa, a winding waterway that will accompany you throughout your ride. Enjoy the breathtaking scenery around the Paterwoldsemeer and the Hondsrug, a 20-meter high 'megaflute' that provides stunning views over the surrounding valley. Your adventure culminates in the esdorp of Zeegse, part of the National Beek- and Esdorpenlandschap Drentsche Aa, where you can unwind and reflect on the beautiful landscapes you've encountered.



### Day 3 **Zuidlaren / Zeegse - Coevorden (85/80 km)**

Begin your day in Drenthe with a scenic ride through the stunning landscapes of the 'velden,' (fields) including the tranquil and expansive Ballooërveld. This rugged terrain features serene ponds, heather fields, and lush forests that invite exploration. As you pedal past Rolde, the former capital of Drenthe, take a moment to admire two ancient hunebedden that dot the landscape. The journey continues along the impressive Rolderrug, guiding you through the heart of Drenthe—an untouched, forested nature reserve spanning 5,000 hectares. After passing 'De Kielse Keien,' consider a detour to the Ellert and Brammert Open-Air Museum in Schoonoord, where you can immerse yourself in local history. Your adventure leads you further into the Sleenerzand, where you'll search for the intriguing 'Papelozse Kerk' and the historic 'Galgenberg.' Make a quick stop at the 'Driftplein' near Dalen, home to the northernmost artwork of the 'Kunstwegen' route, before continuing your journey to the "Geese" city Coevorden.

### Day 4 **Coevorden - Hellendoorn (66 km)**

Once you're on your way, you'll pass by several installations from the "Kunstwegen" route, the longest avenue of contemporary visual art in Western Europe. Cycling along narrow paths, you'll journey through the valley of the winding Overijsselse Vecht, the smallest of our major rivers. Enjoy the swaying reeds, majestic beech avenues, and the gently rolling meadows surrounded by hedgerows, where red farmhouse roofs peek out. You'll travel through the charming village of Rheeze, known for its authentic brink. It's time for a coffee break and a farewell glance over the Vecht as you reach the cozy town of Ommen. Beyond the lovely Huize Het Laer, the landscape changes dramatically. Now, prepare for the "climb of the week" over the Archemer and Lemelerberg, which together rise 78 meters in the otherwise flat terrain. Enjoy the views and the diverse scenery of sandy plains, heath, juniper bushes, and forests. Just a flat stretch left, and then you'll head over the Hellendoornse Berg to your destination, the "Ice Village" Hellendoorn.

### Day 5 **Hellendoorn - Vorden (51 km)**

Start with a gentle climb and descent into the vibrant textile town of Nijverdal. Then, cycle through Europe's largest dry heathland: the Sallandse Heuvelrug, home to unique birds such as the redstart, nightjar, and the iconic black grouse. Enjoy cycling along the rolling, winding paths that offer beautiful views. Don't miss the opportunity to visit the nature museum on the Holterberg, featuring its unique dioramas. After Holten, you'll enter the feudal Graafschap: a historic, wooded landscape shaped by nobility in past centuries. Near the charming 18th-century Huis Verwolde, complete with a delightful tea garden, you can seek out the "thick tree," a 450-year-old oak. As you pass the Twentekanaal and the Berkel River, take a moment to admire Huize Enzerinck before cycling into the picturesque 8-castle village of Vorden.

### Day 6 **Vorden - Ooij (77 km)**

Start your adventure with a self-service ferry ride across the Berkel River, followed by a visit to the charming Huize Enzerinck before cycling into the picturesque 8-castle village of Vorden. Take a beautiful bike path to Castle Vorden, an impressive medieval structure with a delightful tea garden. Continue through the characteristic landscape of hedgerows, tree lanes, small fields, and meadows. Marvel at the 18th-century Huis de Kiefskamp, styled in Louis XVI fashion, and Huis 't Zelle, known for its unique 18th-century lane system. After passing through Zelhem, home to the archaeological museum Smedekinck, you'll catch a glimpse of the hilly Montferland in the distance. Cycle through the expansive Bergherbos before descending into Gelderse Poort, a unique area where the Rhine has carved through the moraine. Enjoy the water-rich Ossenwaard and the newly established bird-rich nature reserve of Revensweert before reaching the wide river. A bike ferry will take you across to Millingen aan de Rijn. Continue your journey through the rugged nature of Millingerwaard and the picturesque Ooyse polder with its lush meadows, dikes, and water features. Conclude your day with a late stop at the flower-filled Millinger tea garden or relax on the cozy terrace at Oortjeshekken.



## Day 7 **Ooij - Venlo (85 km)**

Discover the Nijmegen Hills and Maas Valley. As you approach, the contours of the Nijmegen Ridge emerge, leading you on a journey of ups and downs over the "seven hills" to Groesbeek. Here, visit the Canadian War Cemetery, the Liberation Museum, and a replica of an Allied glider at Klein Amerika, which commemorate the final, bloody days of World War II. Descending through the stunning Zevendal, you'll reach the Maas Valley, where you can enjoy cycling through the Maasheggen area, the oldest cultural landscape in the Netherlands. This mosaic of meadows, ancient trees, and hedgerows bursts into bloom with mayflower and blackthorn in spring. Continue past charming farming villages and through the forests of Landgoed Geijsteren, where you'll find the secluded Willibrordus Chapel, a beloved pilgrimage site since the 17th and 18th centuries. This pilgrimage spirit continues in Tienray, known for its replica of the Lourdes grotto—indeed, you've entered the Catholic south! After visiting the rose village of Lottum, take a ferry across the Maas to explore the chapel of Our Lady of Genooi, the patron saint of nearby Venlo. This historic Hanseatic town, located at the transition from lowland to hill country, is your destination for the day. Make sure to arrive in time for a stroll along the lively Maasboulevard or through the historic city center.

## Day 8 **Venlo - Sittard (83 km)**

Start your journey cycling over the Jammerdaalse Heide, whose name is said to originate from the lamentations of Caesar's soldiers, who were defeated here by Ambiorix (jammeren = whining). The ancient clay pits with their steep banks are a haven for rare species like the natterjack toad and sand martin. The tale of the "Gekke Moandaagvierder" highlights your presence in Limburg! Continue along the Prinsendijk, a geological boundary that once formed part of an ancient Roman road and was also used by German forces during the 1944 Maas-Roer position. After enjoying the natural beauty surrounding the winding Swalm River, you'll arrive at the impressive Hillenraad Castle. A delightful, winding bike path takes you through Melickerheide, part of the terraced landscape of National Park de Meinweg, featuring dry dunes and marshy wetlands. As you ride near the meandering Roer River, you'll pass the elevated Basilica of Saints Wiro, Plechelmus, and Otgerus. Your journey concludes in the historic center of Sittard, home to ancient monasteries. Be sure to stop at the remarkable medieval castle ruins of Montfort before finishing today's ride.

## Day 9 **Sittard - Maastricht (45 km)**

The last leg of your journey takes you through the rolling green hills of Limburg, featuring fast-flowing streams, marl caves, limestone houses, and quaint chapels or crosses scattered throughout. The day begins with the challenge of climbing Kollenberg, the northernmost foothill of the Ardennes. A steep ascent with seven "footfalls" leads you to the highest point, where you'll find the 17th-century Sint Rosakapelle. Pause at Castle Gerlach to admire the sculpture garden and enjoy a coffee at Burgemeester Quix in the monastery courtyard. Between Rothem and Geulhem, you'll cycle along the edge of the charming Geuldal. Ride along the brand-new "Groene Loper," flanked by over two thousand linden trees, into the heart of Maastricht, home to more than 1,650 monuments. The route winds through beautiful old streets, but it's definitely worth taking some time to explore on foot at the end of this cycling day. Before that, head to Pieterberg, a plateau nestled between the valleys of the Maas and Jeker. Here, a panoramic viewpoint marks the end of your "Pieterfietspad."

## Day 10 **Depart from Maastricht**

After Breakfast, Your cycling journey comes to an end. We hope you've enjoyed every moment of your cycling adventure and created lasting memories along the way.



## Prices, Data, Booking

### Starting dates:

Wednesday until Sunday from April until end of September

Price pp		€
Double room, breakfast		1,094.00
Single room, breakfast		1,634.00
Extra night double room, breakfast only		80.00
Rental bike		€
Child bike		99.00
Hybrid		117.00
E-bike		252.00
Extra services		€
Bike helmet	per piece	10.00
SGR	per piece	5.00
transferpersonbus	per piece	140.00



## 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.



### **Pieterburen - Gastenverblijf Waddenhoes**

[www.waddenhoes.nl](http://www.waddenhoes.nl)

Alt hotels: Waddengenot &  
Dorpslogement-Pieterburen / De  
Oude Smidse-Westernieland

### **Zeegse - Hotel-Restaurant De Zeegser Duinen\*\*\*\***

[www.hoteldezeegserduinen.nl](http://www.hoteldezeegserduinen.nl)

Alt. hotel: Brinkhotel - Zuidlaren

### **Coevorden - Hotel Talens\*\*\***

[www.hoteltalens.nl](http://www.hoteltalens.nl)

### **Hellendoorn - Landgoed de Uitkijk\*\*\*\***

[www.landgoeddeuitkijk.nl](http://www.landgoeddeuitkijk.nl)

### **Vorden - Hotel Bakker\*\*\***

[www.bakkerinvorden.nl](http://www.bakkerinvorden.nl)

### **Ooij - Oortjeshekken**

[www.oortjeshekken.nl/](http://www.oortjeshekken.nl/)

### **Venlo - Theaterhotel Venlo\*\*\*\***

[www.theaterhotelvenlo.nl](http://www.theaterhotelvenlo.nl)

### **Sittard - Merici Hotel\*\*\*\***

[www.mericihotel.nl](http://www.mericihotel.nl)

### **Maastricht - Crowne Plaza Maastricht\*\*\*\***

[www.centrumhotelmaastricht.nl](http://www.centrumhotelmaastricht.nl)



## Practical Info



9 nights included



3/4 Star Hotels



Breakfast included



Set of Pieterfietspad maps (in Dutch only) and the use of the Guibo App for navigation and information (in English)



Possibility of renting bikes



7-days a week service-hotline



Luggage transport to your next hotel



CS Groningen / Station Winsum / Bus Pieterburen



Free parking options Pieterburen



For this trip, route information is only available through our navigation app. You will not receive any travel information or route information on paper, with the exception of the official (Dutch) map of the Pieterpad.



ferry crossings are not included

## Arrival info



The nearest Airport is Amsterdam Schiphol (AMS)



The train from Schiphol to Groningen departs twice per hour. The travel time is approximately 2 hours. After that, you take the train to Winsum, with a travel time of 15 minutes. From there, you take the bus to Pieterburen, with a travel time of 25 minutes. The total travel time is around 3 hours. A one-way trip costs approximately € 35,- per person excluding a bike.

For timetables and tickets, visit [www.ns.nl](http://www.ns.nl). For bus details and how to reach the hotel, click here: [www.9292.nl](http://www.9292.nl).

