



# YOUR INSPIRATION: THE WADDEN SEA

## DAY 1 EBB AND FLOW

Welcome to the Dutch Wadden area! Our first stop is a visit to De Kiekkaaste, a bird-watching hide at the edge of the Dollard. This hide just outside the dykes has a beautiful view over the mudflats. The seal-viewing wall on the seawall enables you to watch seals without disturbing them. We spend time on the seawall in Termunten, where you have an opportunity to try raw herring, a local delicacy. The next stop is Noordpolderzijl for a trip through the marshes. The salt marshes are the confluence of salty water from the Wadden Sea and freshwater from the mainland. It is a place where you find beautiful rare plants and many birds. Experience how the changing tides affect the natural world and its animals. We will take a guided tour through this fascinating landscape. You can dine and spend the night in Pieterburen. However, the programme does not end at sunset. Lake Lauwersmeer is one of the Dark Sky Parks of the Wadden region, where you will experience the darkness of the night during a night-time sailing trip.



## DAY 2 VISIT AN ISLAND

Today we get up early to explore one of the five islands, each of which has its own unique character. On this trip we visit Schiermonnikoog. The larger part of this island has been designated as a National Park and it has the widest beaches in the Netherlands. The island's untouched beauty and magnificent landscape make Schiermonnikoog ideal for a bike ride. On this trip you learn more about life on an island where the sea plays a major role in daily life. In the evening, you can enjoy a meal at a beach pavilion and spend the night in a typical hotel.



# WADDEN

[visitwadden.nl](https://www.visitwadden.nl)





## DAY 3 THE FRISIAN WADDEN COAST

Today we return to the mainland where our journey continues. We have stop briefly at a unique work of art entitled 'Waiting For High Water', part of the Sense of Place Project. This art route revolves around the Wadden area, which is full of distinctive landscapes, culture and stories. These works of art give you an idea of the slow, unstoppable processes that constantly affect the Wadden region.

Then we visit the highest artificial dwelling mount in Europe - Hogebeintum. A guide is ready to tell you about the origins of these dwelling mounts. Finally, we visit Harlingen, one of the eleven cities, and a real Frisian seaport city with beautiful distinctive buildings. Here we go on a city walk and hear stories about the city's maritime history, not missing the iconic artwork the Whale Fountain. It is one of 11 fountains designed by an international artist couple from Puerto Rico. We spend the night in Harlingen or Makkum.

## DAY 4 THE CONNECTING ENCLOSURE DAM – AFSLUITDIJK

The day starts with a visit to the Afsluitdijk Wadden centre, where you can see why the area is a World Heritage Site. The 32-kilometre-long Afsluitdijk connects the provinces of Frisia and North Holland, and keeps the whole of the Netherlands dry. A guide from the Wadden Region Association talks about the World Heritage status and about why it is unique. It goes without saying that we will travel along the Afsluitdijk. We will stop briefly at the place where the Afsluitdijk was closed, and where a monument was erected, known as the Vlieter monument. In Den Oever, you can actually walk on the bottom of the Wadden Sea by joining a mudflat walking tour. Mud, water and the beautiful surroundings are the ingredients for a wonderful day on the mudflats. Stay the night in the north of North Holland.



## DAY 5 ATLANTIC WALL

Visit the fortifications and Atlantic Wall in Den Helder.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- ① Dark Sky Parks
- ② Lauwersmeer National Park
- ③ Ezinge
- ④ Engelsmansplaat
- ⑤ Birding Island Griend
- ⑥ Seal plate
- ⑦ Lifeguard house Vlieland
- ⑧ Afsluitdijk Wadden Centre
- ⑨ National Park Schiermonnikoog

- ⑩ Harlingen
- ⑪ Holwerd
- ⑫ Den Oever
- ⑬ The Raging Globe (sandbank)
- ⑭ The Cocksdorp
- ⑮ Atlantic Wall
- ⑯ Vlieter monument
- ⑰ Kiekkaaste
- ⑱ Noordpolderzijl
- ⑲ Hogebeintum

