

# YOUR INSPIRATION: THE WADDEN SEA

## DAY 1 EBB AND FLOW

Welcome to the Dutch Wadden area! The first stop is a visit to De Kiekkaaste, a bird-watching cabin at the edge of the Dollard. This cabin outside the dykes has a beautiful view over the mudflats. The seal viewing wall on the seawall lets you watch seals without disturbing them. We are on the seawall in Termunten, where you have to try herring, a local delicacy.

The next stop is Noordpolderzijk for a trip through the marsh. The salt marshes are the connection between the salty water of the Wadden Sea, and the freshwater of the mainland. It's where you will find beautiful rare plants, and many birds. Come into contact with 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. The programme does not end at sunset, however. The Lauwersmeer is one of the Dark Sky Parks of the Wadden region. You will experience the darkness of the night during an evening sailing excursion.



## DAY 2 VISIT AN ISLAND

We get up early to explore one of the 5 islands, each of which has its own unique character. In this trip we visit Schiermonnikoog. This island is, for the most part, designated as a National Park and has the widest beaches in the Netherlands. The island's untouched beauty and beautiful landscape makes Schiermonnikoog ideal for a bike ride. During the trip you learn more about life on an island where the sea plays a major role in daily life. In the evening, 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

Back to the mainland and the journey continues. We make a short stop at the 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.

We then visit the highest artificial dwelling hill of Europe; Hogebeintum. A guide is ready to tell you about how such dwelling hills originated. 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 the 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.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- ① Dark Sky Parks
- ② Lauwersmeer National Park
- ③ Ezinge
- ④ Engelsmansplaat
- ⑤ Birding Island 't 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 Cocksdoorp
- ⑮ Atlantic Wall
- ⑯ Vlieter monument
- ⑰ Kiekaaste
- ⑱ Noordpolderzijl
- ⑲ Hogebeintum



## DAY 4 THE CONNECTING ENCLOSURE DAM: AFSLUITDIJK

The day starts with a visit to the Afsluitdijk Waddencentre, where you can see for yourself why the area is a World Heritage Site. The 32-kilometre-long Afsluitdijk connects the provinces of Frisia and North Holland, but keeps the whole of the Netherlands dry. A guide from the Waddenvereniging or Wadden Region Association talks about the World Heritage status and why it is unique. Naturally we travel along the Afsluitdijk, and make one short stop at the place where the Afsluitdijk was closed and a monument was erected, known as the Vlietermonument.

In Den Oever, it's possible to literally 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 fortification and Atlantic Wall in Den Helder.