

## Bruges - Amsterdam

8 days, € 864



## Introduction



We have devised a wonderful cycling holiday that kicks off in Belgium and leads up through the Netherlands to Amsterdam. Recurring themes include historical architecture, pastoral countryside and water vistas. In eight days you will discover a great many delightful places you otherwise wouldn't have chanced upon.

We also offer this tour with Amsterdam as the starting point. Please note: This is not a round trip!

Want to see more of Belgium? Ask about the possibilities for extra cycling days starting in Ghent or Antwerp or visit the site of our other label [Belgian Biketours](#).

Please be aware that it is not always possible to start/ finish with a bike rental in every location, our bike supplier cannot deliver the bikes everywhere. When you want to rent our bikes, please check with us which starting/ending location in Belgian is suitable.

## Day to Day

### Day 1 **Arrival in Bruges, Belgium**

Bruges is known as the pearl of Flanders. It's a truly enchanting town that has been welcoming tourists for about 150 years. With most of its medieval architecture intact, it remains exceptionally well preserved and can really give you a sense of times gone by when it was at the centre of the European wool and cloth trade.

### Day 2 **Bruges - Middelburg/Vlissingen**

**66 km**

After a hearty breakfast, hit the tracks and pedal to the charming little town of Damme on the banks of the Damse Vaart. Then continue to the border and enter Zeeland, a Dutch province marked by light, wind, water and lots of space. It is mostly made up of islands so bridges and ferries will be taking you across the waters as you drift north east. Picture-book towns with ancient houses and cobbled streets are lined up for the coming days. But first you will pass through Zeelandic Flanders with its winding country roads, pollard willows, wet meadows and scattered villages. At the end of the day, hop on a ferry boat to the maritime town of Vlissingen. Cruising further north, you will discover the nostalgic splendour of the city of Middelburg, capital of Zeeland. In the 16th and 17th centuries it was one of the most important centres of trade in the Netherlands.



Day 3 **Middelburg/Vlissingen – Zierikzee**

**42 km**

Discover the charming village of Veere. From 1541 everything that was exported to Holland from Scotland (mainly wool) came ashore in and was distributed from Veere. This contract brought the town not only prosperity but also a very lively Scottish expat community that stayed for 300 years. Walk in their footsteps as you take a tour of the sights. A wander down the narrow streets of Zierikzee is an absolute delight. Quaint little old houses take you back in time to the town's glory days when ships set sail for the Baltic and Mediterranean to sell salt, wool, fish, grain and red dye.

Day 4 **Zierikzee – Willemstad**

**50 km**

Enjoying your last day in Zeeland, traverse a patchwork landscape of vast polders, idyllic countryside, rolling dunes and golden sand flats. Round off the day in Willemstad, a fortified town shaped like a seven-point star.

Day 5 **Willemstad – Papendrecht**

**65 km**

The result of a major flood in 1421, Biesbosch is one of the few remaining wetland habitats in Europe where the ecosystem has adapted both to saltwater coming in from the sea through tidal creeks, and to freshwater coming down in the rivers. It's an ever-changing labyrinth of creeks and riverlets encompassing countless little islands of willow woods and reeds, a paradise for birds. Pedalling on, you will reach one of the oldest towns in Holland: Dordrecht, completely surrounded by water. The area around the marina is a true gem. This oldest part of town counts over a thousand historical buildings and three nostalgic canals.

Please note you will only cycle through de Biesbosch park on days that the ferry departs. This ferry does not go daily. If the ferry does not go you follow an alternative route.

Day 6 **Papendrecht – Gouda/Oudewater/Bodegraven**

**37 km**

Hit the trail once again and set off for the village of Kinderdijk where nineteen majestic windmills present a unique spectacle. They were used to drain excess water out of the low-lying polder up into the River Lek. As you ride your bike towards Gouda, cruising at about two meters below sea level, enjoy pastoral countryside and wonderful cloudscapes. For centuries, people flocked from far and wide to buy horses, cows, meat, turf, seed, cheese etc, at weekly and annual markets in Gouda. We recommend a stroll around the old part of town to soak up the yesteryear atmosphere. Walk all the way around St. John's church and the market square boasting a 15th-century town hall and a Weighing House ("Waag").

For availability reasons it's possible you will stay in Oudewater or Bodegraven instead of Gouda.

Day 7 **Gouda/Oudewater/Bodegraven – Amsterdam**

**68 km**

Plunge into the "Groene Hart" (green heart), a pleasant rural area of low-lying polders with peat meadows and grazing cattle. It's a flat, open, spacious landscape where church spires and windmills touch the horizon and clouds are reflected in lakes and canals. Your bicycle holiday ends in Amsterdam, famous for its gorgeous 400-year-old canal district. This city is brimming with things to see and do. As always, street artists and performers draw crowds on Dam, Leidseplein and Rembrandtplein. A new attraction is "Het Grachtenhuis" (Museum of the Canals). Have you been to the renovated Rijksmuseum and Maritime Museum?

Day 8 **Return Home**

After breakfast your cycling holiday has come to an end.



## Prices, Data, Booking

### Starting dates:

Daily start from April 1st until September 23rd.

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):

March 29th, 30th and 31st 2024

April 20th 2024

April 26th and 27th 2024

May 9, 10th and 11th 2024

May 17th, 18th and 19th 2024

Price pp		€
Double room, breakfast		859.00
Single room, breakfast	29/03/2024 - 30/09/2024	1,244.00
	Extra night double room, breakfast only	80.00
Extra night double room, breakfast only Amsterdam		100.00
Upgrades pp/night		€
Fletcher Hotel Arion, Vlissingen		55.00
Hotel NH Brugge, Brugge		20.00
Westcord Art Hotel, Amsterdam		10.00
Surcharge per person		€
Stay in Amsterdam on Saturday		25.00
Stay in Amsterdam from: 17/05/2024 - 19/05/2024		40.00
Rental bike		€
Child bike		77.00
Hybrid		91.00
E-bike		189.00
Extra services		€
Bike Breakdown pass	€ 4.00 x 7	28.00
Child seat	€ 5.00 x 7	35.00
Bike theft insurance	€ 3.00 x 7	21.00
E-bike theft insurance	€ 6.00 x 7	42.00
Extra luggage	€ 5.00 x 7	35.00
Tag-along bike	€ 6.00 x 7	42.00



Child trailer	€ 17.50 x 7	122.50
Bike helmet	per piece	10.00
SGR	per piece	5.00

**Starting point:**

Bruges



## Accommodation

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

### **Velotel \*\*\*\* (Brugge)**

[www.hotelvelotel.com](http://www.hotelvelotel.com)

### **Loskade 45 \*\*\*\* (Middelburg)**

[www.loskade45.nl](http://www.loskade45.nl)

### **Hostellerie Schuddebeurs \*\*\* (Noordgouwe)**

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

Be aware that the restaurant of the hotel is very popular so advance reservations is recommended. There is no other restaurant nearby. The nearest alternatives are in Zierikzee, 3 km away.

### **Hotel Mauritz \*\*\* (Willemstad)**

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

### **Leonardo Hotel Papendrecht \*\*\*\* (Papendrecht)**

[www.apollohotels.nl/leonardo-hotel-papendrecht/](http://www.apollohotels.nl/leonardo-hotel-papendrecht/)

### **Best Western Hotel Gouda \*\*\*\* (Gouda)**

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

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

[www.westcordhotels.nl/hotel/art-hotel](http://www.westcordhotels.nl/hotel/art-hotel)



## Practical Info



7 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



Bruges



Parking possibilities at the hotel



GPS-tracks available



Any ferry crossings are not included

## Arrival info



Nearest Airports are Brussels Airport (BRU) or Luchthaven Oostende-Brugge (OST)

