



Netherlands- Sail and Bike the Wadden Sea (2025)

8 Days/7 Nights

Individual Self-guided



Sail and bike tours are something very special. Feel the freedom, the wind and salt on your skin! It's a little bit like discovering the seas and new areas as a modern-day explorer.

Aboard one of the most comfortable sailing ships, the Leafde fan Fryslân, the Mare fan Fryslân, and the Wapen fan Fryslân, you will experience pure nature while enjoying water, sun and a stiff breeze on the big inland lake IJsselmeer and the so-called "Wadden Sea", listed as a UNESCO World Heritage biosphere reserve. During this Sail & Bike tour you can explore the beautiful and unique Frisian Sea and some of its islands.

It is a world with two faces, where sand and water dominate during the changeover from low to high tide and where islands of all sizes line up like pearls on a chain. There are tidal channels, seagrass meadows, mussel beds, sandbanks, mudflats, salt marshes, beaches and dunes. The Frisian Sea is the

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habitat of marine mammals, such as seals and porpoises, and the breeding ground and wintering area for millions of birds. The area is one of the last remaining large-scale, low-tide ecosystems where natural processes continue to function. Furthermore you will visit the famous (freshwater lake) IJsselmeer and its beautiful coastline with many fishing villages and old trading harbor towns.

Highlights of the tour are the North Sea islands of Texel and Terschelling and their beautiful natural areas, small villages and long sandy beaches that you can explore by bicycle. Highlights on the coasts of the mainland in the provinces of North-Holland and Friesland are a combination of rural areas, small villages and picturesque harbor towns: a true “El Dorado” for cyclists. If you like, on board, you may – instructed by the experienced crew – lend a hand during navigating and raising the sails. Sailing experience is not necessary. But of course you are also very welcome to just relax and enjoy the sailing and scenery.

The ship – Your sailing hotel

In between cycling excursions, you cruise along with the ship, which travels to a new destination every day. You dine, sleep and eat breakfast on board. You’ll receive a packed lunch every day, and you can usually choose between a longer or shorter bike ride. It’s also possible to spend a day on board if you like. There are rental bikes on board, but you can also bring your own if you mention it when booking.

Perfect for more experienced cyclists

With a detailed map of the area and a suggested route for close-range explorations, you decide where you head and how fast you ride. During the evening prior to next day’s cycling tour, the ship’s crew will explain some difficult parts, offer tips about the nicest places to stop for a drink or lunch, and mention the best highlights. In case of emergencies or problems, the crew can be contacted. But – as the ship is sailing to the next port – they can only offer assistance by phone.



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Day by Day

Day 1: Enkhuizen

Embarkation and check-in where the crew will welcome you on board is from 2 p.m. near the beautiful center of Enkhuizen and close to the railway station. After unpacking your luggage the skipper will join you for an aperitif before giving you a rundown of what to expect on the journey, details about the ship and also about safety measures to be taken on board. In the evening take a stroll through the historical center of Enkhuizen, a quaint town that was the home of the Dutch merchant fleet during the Golden Age of The Netherlands. Enjoy your first night on board in Enkhuizen on the western bank of the lake IJsselmeer.



Day 2: Enkhuizen – Medemblik (24 km/14 mi or 37 km/22 mi.) | sailing Medemblik – Den Oever – Texel

Today you can cycle the first leg of the trip along the IJsselmeer coast through the beautiful polder landscape to Medemblik. After the cycling tour the ship will sail further to Den Oever. Depending on the weather in the evening the ship will take the lock and sail across the Wadden Sea (part of the North Sea) to the island of Texel.

Day 3: Texel, roundtrip from/to Oudeschild (43 km/26 mi. or 49 km/30 mi.)

The island of Texel is a cyclist's dream destination with its varied scenery, well signposted cycle tracks and picturesque villages. Our suggestion is to complete a round trip cycling tour of the largest of the

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Dutch North Sea islands that takes you via a number of villages, the seal sanctuary station “Ecomare” and a traditional beer brewery near the harbor of Oudeschild.



Day 4: Texel – Terschelling (sailing about 5 – 6 hrs.)

Today you will enjoy sailing on your ship, when the tide and the weather are right, to the island of Terschelling. As you sail your way through the sandbanks of the Wadden Sea, keep a lookout for seals on the sandbars. In the afternoon the ship will arrive on Terschelling island, which features a number of picturesque villages situated between the polder and sand dunes along its 30 km expanse. While sailing you will enjoy an extensive lunch on board. No dinner will be served tonight, to enable you to explore the island, but you can make yourself a picnic meal or try one of the nice restaurants at Terschelling (not incl.).

Day 5: Terschelling roundtrip, (cycling distance of your choice) | sailing Terschelling – Harlingen

While the previous day was all about sailing, today is all about cycling. Terschelling has plenty to offer cycle tourists: nature and culture, 70 km of cycling tracks and 4 beautiful villages. West Terschelling is the largest village on the island and features a number of nice shops and pubs. The standout landmark on the island is the 400 year-old lighthouse “Brandaris” that can be seen from well off in the distance. Also worth visiting is the heath land of “Boschplaat” which will captivate you with its mud, beaches and dunes. You might even spot ducks, black-winged stilts, large colonies of spoonbills and great black-backed gulls. After a day of cycling, you can relax in comfort once you have arrived on board. In the late afternoon the ship will cross the Wadden Sea sail to Harlingen, the most important harbor city of the province of Friesland.

Day 6: Harlingen – Franeker – Makkum (48 km/29 mi. or 58 km/36 mi.)

Via Franeker, with the famous planetarium of Eise Eisinga, you cycle through the beautiful wide Frisian countryside along several rural villages to the small harbor of Makkum on the eastern bank of the lake IJsselmeer. If you take the long cycling trip, you will also visit Bolsward, one of the Eleven Frisian Cities.



Day 7: Makkum – Stavoren (32 km/19 mi. or 49 km/30 mi.) | sailing to Enkhuizen

From Makkum you will cycle to Stavoren. The short tour leads you via the old trading town of Hindeloopen. This local art of painting – a type of traditional decorative painting – is quite famous. Apart from this you'll find the First Frisian Museum of Ice Skating in Hindeloopen. The long tour runs along several Frisian lakes and shows you a different type of landscape. From Stavoren the ship will set sail to cross the IJsselmeer to Enkhuizen in the late afternoon.

Day 8: Enkhuizen End of your tour: Disembarkation after breakfast until 9.30 a.m.

Good to know

- Cycling route distances in the travel program are approximate.
- On some days you can choose between a longer and a shorter cycling route. Please note that on the shorter routes you may not be able to visit all the highlights mentioned.
- If you prefer not to cycle on a particular day, you're welcome to stay on board and relax while the ship cruises to the next landing place.



- The tour itinerary and route are subject to possible changes due to nautical, technical or meteorological reasons, or other unforeseen events.
- On the arrival day, you can leave your luggage on board the ship from 11.00 am.

Important observations for the Sail & Bike program: A little bit of adventure is a part of every Sail & Bike tour: the departure and arrival day and the location – Enkhuizen – are a certainty, 100%. For the rest, the planned daily sailing routes are partially dependent on the strength and direction of the winds and – on the Wadden Sea – high and low tide. The skipper decides the best route to be taken day by day, and discusses the options with his guests. The crew does everything in its power to enable the program to run according to plan and to offer you as fascinating, varied and active a week as possible, in which nature and culture play a major part. It is, however, also possible that departure times and the time spent on the water – and even the order of the program itself – may be adjusted. Enjoy the ride and let yourself be led by the elements! Whenever possible, various passages will be undertaken fully rigged and anyone who would like to help the crew to sail and steer the boat is welcome to do so. This is of course absolutely up to you and no sailing experience is necessary.





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Route





Tour Seasons:

- **Season A, Mare/Wapen:** May 3-September 6
- **Season B, Leafde:** July 6- August 24
- **Season C, Mare/Wapen:** Sept 13-20
- **Season D, Mare/Wapen** Sept 27

Tour Dates:

Mare fan Fryslân: departures on Saturday on May 10, 17, 24 and 31; June 7, 14, 21 and 28; July 5, 12, 19 and 26; August 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30; Sept. 6, 13, 20 and 27

Wapen fan Fryslân: departures on Saturday on May 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31; June 7, 14, 21 and 28; July 5, 12, 19 and 26; August 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30; Sept. 6, 13, 20 and 27

Leafde fan Fryslân: departures on Sunday on July 6, 13, 20 and 27; August 3, 10, 17 and 24

Prices

Price per person double occupancy in Euros- all prices subject to confirmation on booking

	Season A	Season B	Season C	Season D
Small twin Cabin	NA	€1299	NA	NA
Twin Cabin	€1399	€1499	€1299	€1149
JR suite (leafed/mare)	€1599	€1699	€1499	€1349
Suite upper deck	NA	€2099	NA	NA
Single cabin(leafed/mare)	€1699	€1799	€1599	€1449
Small twin cabin for single use	€2099	€2249	€1949	€1724
Bike rental	€91			
E- Bike rental	€245			
Helmet Rental	€10			
Bike insurance	Bike €14 E-Bike €28			
Bring own bike	Bike €14 E-Bike €28			

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Included

- 8 days/7 nights
- 7 x breakfast
- 5 x packed lunches & 1 x lunch on board
- 6 x 3-course dinner on board & 1 x packed dinner
- Coffee and tea on board
- Welcome drink
- Use of bed linen and towels
- Daily cleaning of the cabin
- Daily briefings by the crew
- cycling map and notes for cycling tours (1 set per cabin)
- GPS tracks
- Use of a waterproof pannier bag
- Biodegradable water bottle
- Wi-Fi
- Carbon offset payment to the non-profit organization Justdiggitt

Not Included

- Drinks
- Bicycle rental or E-bike rental
- Helmet rental
- Personal insurances
- Gratuities (at your discretion)
- Entrance fees and excursions
- Fees for ferries
- Transfers to/from the docking place
- Parking fees

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Ships

Leafde fan Fryslân



The imposing three-masted barquentine, Leafde fan Fryslân, made its maiden voyage in the spring of 2018. The interior of this recently restyled ship can best be described as refined. There are 10 well-equipped twin cabins, 1 smaller twin cabin and 1 junior-suite with two separate beds and 1 single cabin. In some of the twins a third (bunk) bed can be added, which makes it perfect for a family. Sumptuous meals are served in the restaurant and the ship's bar is fully stocked; so the salon is the place to be after a day on the pedals. Or on deck, where you can burn some extra calories by helping to hoist the sails.

Mare fan Fryslân



The Mare fan Fryslân is a beautiful, almost extravagant, three-mast schooner that has been sailing as passenger vessel on the Dutch waters since 2007. On the lower deck there is a saloon with wooden paneling which is used as restaurant. Also below deck are 12 comfortable 2-bed cabins, 1 junior suite as well as a 1-bed cabin with bunk beds, all with a private bathroom. Next to the saloon, on the main deck, is the wheelhouse with a bar and panoramic windows. The wooden upper deck with an outdoor bar plus a Jacuzzi make this ship even more perfect for hedonists.



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Wapen fan Fryslân



The Wapen fan Fryslân is the largest two-master schooner on the Dutch waterways. Take a seat in the spacious wheelhouse and order your drink at the stylish bar to enjoy the view through the panorama windows. But of course the view is better when outside: come relax on the aft deck at the outdoor bar, in the Jacuzzi at the middle deck, or at the sundeck in one of the deckchairs. The large salon also serves as restaurant and this will be the spot to feast from fantastic food. And sleeping won't be a problem in the wonderful spacious cabins. There are 12 twin cabins with in each cabin the possibility for a 3rd bunk bed, all with a private bathroom.

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Bikes

Touring bikes

Our bicycles have a lightweight aluminum frame and are furnished with highly-responsive handbrakes, at least seven speeds and a gel seat whose height can be adjusted. Attached to the frame is an easy-to-use lock and the wheels carry puncture-resistant tires.

E-bikes

Our e-bikes also have highly-responsive handbrakes and a minimum of seven speeds. The motor runs on a 400Wh battery and offers three levels of power-assistance. The e-bikes include comfortable gel seats that can be adjusted for height, have a lock attached to the frame and special anti-puncture tires.

Taking your own bicycle

It is possible to take your own bike or e-bike with you, as long as it doesn't have mirrors or other elements that stick out. There's only limited space available on board for guests' bikes. You can reserve a place for your bike for a small fee. The operator is not responsible for damage to your bike or for theft.

This is a partner tour

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