

## HOLLAND – TALL SHIP SAILING THE UNESCO-LISTED WADDEN SEA

8-days / 7-nights Moderate **SELF-GUIDED** - PREMIUM Bike & Sailing Ship cycling cruise



Cruise the waterways of Holland and explore the UNESCO World Heritage listed Wadden Sea biosphere reserve and the inland lake known as IJsselmeer on a stylish and beautifully appointed three-masted tall ship. There are three renovated and re-fitted clippers, flat-bottomed with a shallow draught. All three have a spacious dining area with bar and cosy seating corner for relaxing. There are 10 comfortable cabins on each ship; all cabins have an ensuite shower / toilet, twin lower beds and an opening window or porthole.

Starting and ending in Enkhuizen, an easy train ride from Amsterdam, this Bike & Boat cycling cruise sails along the coastline with many fishing villages and old trading harbor towns. Highlights include the North Sea islands of Texel and Terschelling and their natural areas, small villages and long sandy beaches. The coasts of the provinces of North-Holland and Friesland are a combination of rural areas, small villages, and picturesque harbour 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. Of course, you are also very welcome to just relax and enjoy the sailing and scenery.

Bike & Boat cruises combine cycling and river, canal or sea cruising, and allow partners of different abilities and interests to holiday together (trips are just as interesting for leisure cyclists OR enthusiasts). Should you not feel like cycling, then you are welcome to relax aboard the ship as it sails to the next destination. Well-maintained multi-gear bicycles with panniers are provided – comfortable, easy to ride and ideal for this route – and a fascinating and varied guided cycling program with free time to explore each day’s destination.

**E-Bikes are available** (at extra cost) – request these early to avoid disappointment.

**Cost from:** \$2595 per person twin share      Single cabin from \$3225 limited availability  
Cabins Upgrades: Junior Suite \$355 per person, Upper Deck Suite \$885 per person

**2024 Departures:** Saturdays: 20, 27 April; 4, 11, 18, 25 May; 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 June; 6, 13, 20, 27 July;  
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 August; 7, 14, 21, 28 September  
Sundays: 5, 12, 19, 26 May; 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 June; 7, 14, 21, 28 July; 4, 11, 18, 25 August;  
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 September

**Includes:** 7 nights’ cabin accommodation; 7 breakfasts, 6 (mostly picnic) lunches, 6 three-course dinners & 1 picnic dinner; hire of multi-gear hybrid touring bicycle with pannier; welcome drink; afternoon coffee and tea; multilingual crew onboard who provide daily tour briefings (the guide does not cycle with the group); route notes and detailed maps for daily individual self-guided bike tours (1 set per cabin).

**Not Included:** Transfers to/from the mooring point in Enkhuizen, other transfers, entrance fees and excursions, ferry fares / tickets, drinks on board, bike or travel insurances, crew gratuities. Bike helmets are available for hire by prior arrangement at extra cost; we recommend you take your own or purchase one locally.

**Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations**

**Time and Tide Wait for No Man:** *A Sailing and Cycling tour is an adventure: the only thing which is certain is that we leave from and come back to Enkhuizen. The sailing route depends on weather and wind. The skipper decides the sailing schedule each day and will discuss the options with guests. The skipper and crew do everything they can to offer the program as per the itinerary, but it is possible that the itinerary will vary or that the program will be offered out of order. Enjoy and relax: the elements will lead you.*

**Suggested itinerary:** *All cycling distances are approximate. The itinerary is subject to change.*

#### **Day 1: Arrive Enkhuizen**

Make your way to Enkhuizen by mid-afternoon. There are regular train services departing every half hour from Amsterdam and the journey takes about an hour (cost paid locally). Make your way to the mooring point to board the ship from 2.00pm.

#### **Day 2: Enkhuizen – Den Oever / Texel**

**Cycling @ 25-40km**

Begin by cycling along the IJsselmeer through the beautiful polder landscape to Medemblik, where you rejoin the ship to sail to Den Oever, situated on the Afsluitdijk (the dam which separates the IJsselmeer from the North Sea). Depending on the weather this evening the ship may take the lock and sail to the island of Texel.

#### **Day 3: Texel, roundtrip from/to Oudeschild**

**Cycling @ 40-50km**

The island of Texel is a cyclist's dream destination with its varied scenery, well-signposted cycle tracks and picturesque villages. Today's suggested cycling route takes you around this, the largest of the Dutch North Sea islands, via a number of pretty little towns, the seal sanctuary Ecomare and a traditional beer brewery near the harbor of Oudeschild.

#### **Day 4: Texel – Terschelling**

**No cycling**

When the tide and the weather are right the boat sails to the island of Terschelling. As the ship navigates the tidal flats of the Wadden Sea, keep a lookout for seals on the sandbars. While sailing you will be served an extensive lunch on board. In the afternoon arrive on Terschelling island, which features peaceful nature reserves, several well-preserved towns, and thirty kilometres of sandy beaches. No dinner will be served tonight, to enable you to explore the island, but you can pack a picnic dinner or dine in one of the restaurants at Terschelling (not included).

#### **Day 5: Terschelling – Harlingen**

**Cycling distance own choice**

While yesterday was all about sailing, today is all about cycling. Terschelling has plenty to offer cycle tourists: nature and culture, 70 kilometres of cycling tracks and four beautiful villages. West Terschelling is the largest village on the island and has some interesting shops and pubs, as well as the standout landmark on the island, the 400-year-old lighthouse Brandaris. Also worth visiting is the nature reserve of Boschplaat, with dunes, salt marshes and expansive views. You might even spot ducks, black-winged stilts, large colonies of spoonbills and great black-backed gulls. Afterwards, relax in comfort back onboard the ship as it sails across the Wadden Sea to Harlingen, the most important harbor city of the province of Friesland.

#### **Day 6: Harlingen – Franeker – Makkum**

**Cycling @ 40-60km**

Cycle from Harlingen through the beautiful wide Frisian countryside to Franeker, with the pocket-sized planetarium of Eise Eisinga. Continue past several rural villages to the small harbor of Makkum on the eastern bank of the IJsselmeer. If you choose the longer cycling trip, you also visit Bolsward, another of the Eleven Frisian cities.

#### **Day 7: Makkum – Stavoren – Enkhuizen**

**Cycling @ 30-50km**

From Makkum ride to Stavoren, with a choice of routes. The shorter ride is via the old trading town of Hindeloopen. The local traditional decorative painting is quite famous and well-represented in Hindeloopen's arts & crafts shops. The longer route runs alongside several Frisian lakes and shows you a different type of landscape. From Stavoren the ship sets sail across the IJsselmeer to Enkhuizen in the late afternoon.

#### **Day 8: Depart from Enkhuisen**

Tour ends after breakfast.

#### **Contact Outdoor Travel for more details and reservations:**

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