
Subject: Re: Travel Destination: Holland

Posted by [Maarten\[1\]](#) on Wed, 23 Jan 2008 11:06:46 GMT

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On Jan 23, 3:29 am, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

- > I'm putting together a short tour of Europe mid-Feb and plan
- > to set aside 3-4 days to travel in Holland. What's
- > on your list of things I *must* see or do while I am there?

I'd think that you wouldn't need to travel for going Dutch, but maybe that is just me. Mountaineering is right out, but I don't think your were expecting to do that in the first place. One of the advantages of going to the Netherlands in February is that there are not a lot of tourists at that time, the downside is that you'll find out why that is so.

Two of the three big museums in Amsterdam are closed (rather reduced in size) for renovation works. The "Stedelijk Museum" (modern art and design) has a temporary location near the central station, with a view to die for over the city from the restaurant. The "Rijksmuseum" (Rembrandt, old masters) has a limited exhibition as well. The Van Gogh museum is fully available. For a great view of the city: go to the roof of the science museum (Nemo). For guided tours of Amsterdam, these are probably the most enjoyable ones:
<http://www.gildeamsterdam.nl/MIMEngels.htm>

The Eise Eisinga museum in Franeker (<http://www.planetarium-friesland.nl/>) is a great combination of science and history.

And then there are the usual suspects: Zaanse Schans, Marken, Volendam, Enkhuizen. You could also investigate the saying: God created the world, the Dutch created their own country. One way of doing so is to go to Lelystad, specifically the Batavia werf: <http://www.bataviawerf.nl/>. A shipyard rebuilding historic ships, and a display of archeological find in the area. Yes, this land has been reclaimed only about 50 years ago now, but that doesn't mean you can't do archeology: ships are a lot easier to recover if you don't need divers.

Enjoy your stay,

Maarten
