









Discovery tour through Friesland


South Holland

The Netherlands basically means ‘the lower lands’, and the Frisian region embodies this name. Water and land are almost on the same level and are intertwined in every possible way. It’s only thanks to a large network of locks, dikes and pumps that it’s even possible to live here. This results in a unique open landscape, home to 12 ‘Natura 2000’ conservation areas. This tour is carefully planned to show you all the different landscapes that Friesland has to offer. You’ll cycle along canals and lakes, through open farmland and visit small villages that were granted city rights in medieval times. You’ll not only see the mainland, but also the Wadden Islands off the coast, which are another part of this diverse province. Your ship will take you on a crossing to one of the islands. In a three-hour cruise over the Wadden Sea you’ll get to know this special tidal area (listed as Wadden as UNESCO World Heritage). This coastal wetland is typified by extensive mud flats, tidal creeks and the islands contained within it, a region continually contested by land and sea. On the crossing you’ll have plenty of opportunities to spot birds and wildlife


Netherlands



Easy



8 Days / 7 Nights



Self-guided tour

To the online version



Itinerary

Day 1**Enkhuizen - Stavoren**

about 2.5 hours sailing

Your floating hotel is ready for you at 2 pm (at 4 pm on June 24, 2023) in the harbor of Enkhuizen and the crew will show you your home for the week. After this introduction the Lena Maria will depart. On your first cruise you'll cross the former Zuiderzee, the once notoriously wild South Sea, to reach the province of Friesland. You'll enter the small Hanseatic trade village of Stavoren for your first night on board.

Day 2**Stavoren - Makkum**

approx. 32-49 km

Today your first bike ride is on the agenda. The route will follow the Frisian coast in a northerly direction. Along the way you'll pass through the historic harbors of Hindeloopen and Workum, both small picturesque fishing villages. In Workum you can visit a museum dedicated to the painter Jopie Huisman, who was an iconic local artist. Visit a uniquely Frisian approach to life and art. Continuing by bike towards your destination of Makkum, you'll see a huge hall clearly visible in the distance. Inside, destination shipbuilders are busy constructing superyachts, large ocean-going vessels with everything on board that a human could possibly need or imagine. When you arrive in Makkum, the crew will welcome you back on board with tea and coffee.

Day 3**Makkum - Terschelling**

about 4 hours sailing

In the early morning your captain will maneuver the Lena Maria through sea locks onto the Wadden Sea. Over about four hours the barge will carry you through this UNESCO-listed tidal sea flats to the island of Terschelling. Beside the birdlife, you may even spot some seals on the crossing if you're lucky.

On the island you'll have plenty of time to explore. There are many tiny villages, sandy beaches and dunes. The eastern part of Terschelling is one large nature reserve where you'll have a chance to spot black-winged stilts, large colonies of spoonbills and great black-backed gulls.

Day 4**Terschelling - Harlingen - Franeker - Leeuwarden**

approx. 35-45 km

With another morning sail, the Lena Maria will head back to the mainland. Starting in the historic fishing town of Harlingen, you'll leave the coast for the first time this week to visit Franeker, another of Friesland's 11 cities. Here the Royal Planetarium is well worth a visit to see a working model of the solar system built by amateur astronomer Eise Eisinga in the 18th century. He planned to create it in six months, but in the end it took seven years. Today's destination is Leeuwarden, the capital of Friesland. Leeuwarden is a vibrant city with plenty of things to see and do. Among them, the church tower of Oldehoeve is certainly a highlight. Nicknamed the 'Frisian tower of Pisa' you can imagine how it looks! Dinner tonight (not included) will be in town in a restaurant of your choice (recommendations available on board).

Day 5**Leeuwarden - DE Alde Feanen - Grou**

approx. 40-50 km

During breakfast, the Lena Maria will take you out of Leeuwarden. We start cycling outside of the city towards National Park De Alde Feanen. This park consists of a variety of landscapes with small lakes, reedbeds and swamp forest. In the 17th century the area was mined for wet peat. Now, centuries later, the former mining grounds have evolved into a spectacular nature reserve with over 400 different plant species. One moment you'll see a wide view over vast grasslands and waving reed beds, the next you'll have a sheltered feeling as you pass through fairy tale marshy forests. You'll then return to Grou where the Lena Maria is moored for the night.

Day 6**Grou - Sneek**

approx. 30-45 km

This morning you'll start cycling from Grou in a westerly direction for a day of quiet bike paths and expansive views. Today's destination is Sneek, the oldest fortress town in the province. Sneek, or Snits in Frisian, played a key role in the Friso-Hollandic wars of the 13th-15th centuries, when the counts of Holland attempted to conquer the free Frisian territories. One of the city's highlights is the Waterpoort, an impressive gate connecting city and harbor that is both defensive and decorative. Tonight, the Lena Maria docks in Sneek.

Day 7**Sneek - Stavoren - Enkhuizen**

approx. 38-48 km

The last cycling route of the tour leads you from Sneek to Heeg. This 18th century village is known for its long history of eel trade with London, which continued up until 1938. From Heeg, traditional wooden eel boats would sail across the Channel and right up the Thames to moor in the center of London. Eels were transported live in the bottom of the boats, which had special holes to allow water to flow in and out. From Heeg, you'll cycle past Fluessen Lake through classic Frisian countryside. When you arrive in Stavoren, the Lena Maria will be ready to take you back to Enkhuizen.

Day 8**Enkhuizen**

Enjoy your last breakfast on board before check out and disembarkation at 09:30. End of the tour.

The route

Easy bike tour in flat terrain, no noteworthy climbs or with shorter daily stages which can be managed also from untrained cyclists.

➤ **Explore the area on Google Maps**

Prices and events

Place of arrival: Enkhuizen

Season 1
20.07.2024 | 27.07.2024 | 03.08.2024 |

Bike & Boat Friesland, MS Lena Maria, 8 days, NL-NHSFL-081

Base price	1,369.00
Surcharge 2-bed-cabin single use	50%

Our bookable bikes

	Price
7-gear unisex with freewheel	104.00
E-Bike	256.00
Bring your own bike	10.00
Bring your own E-bike	25.20

Prices per person in EUR

Services & Extras

Services

Included Services

- 8 days/7 nights8 nights
- 7 x breakfast7 breakfast
- 6 x packed lunches6 lunches
- 7 x 3-course dinner on board | 2023: 6 x 3-course dinner on board7 board
- Coffee and tea on boardCoffee board
- Welcome drinkWelcome drink
- Use of bed linen and towelsUse towels
- Daily cleaning of the cabinDaily cabin
- Daily briefings by the crewDaily crew
- Maps and notes for cycling tours (1 set per cabin, on the islands Ride with GPS only)
- GPS tracksGPS tracks
- Use of a waterproof pannier bagUse bag
- Wi-FiWi-Fi
- SGR Insolvency protectionSGR protection

Not included Services

- Drinks
- Rental bicycle (optional)
- Helmet rental (optional)
- Personal insurance
- Gratuities (at your discretion)
- Entrance fee and excursions
- Fees for ferries / waterbus
- Transfer to/from the docking place
- Parking fees

Important notes

Further important information according to the package travel law can be found [here!](#)

Ship



MS Lena Marie

The Lena Maria is a very comfortable ship, ideal for “bike and barge tours” in the Netherlands and Belgium.

Contact & booking

Do you still have questions about the tour? We are happy to help and look forward to your inquiry.



**Theresa
Hengst**

Book now