

SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF

THE NORTH OF THE NETHERLANDS

Charming villages, an ancient maritime man-made landscape, and stunning untouched countryside, the North of the Netherlands reveal its full magnificence.

The North of the Netherlands offers incredible opportunities for an exclusive holiday. Whether you are looking for an eco-destination, allotment, a tailor-made group trip, a weekend break or a day trip.

GRONINGEN

Vigorous, authentic and unspoiled. Surrounded by countryside where the silence embraces you like an old friend. Step into a different world and enjoy Groningen to the fullest. We guarantee you will come back for more!
www.visitgroningen.com

FRIESLAND

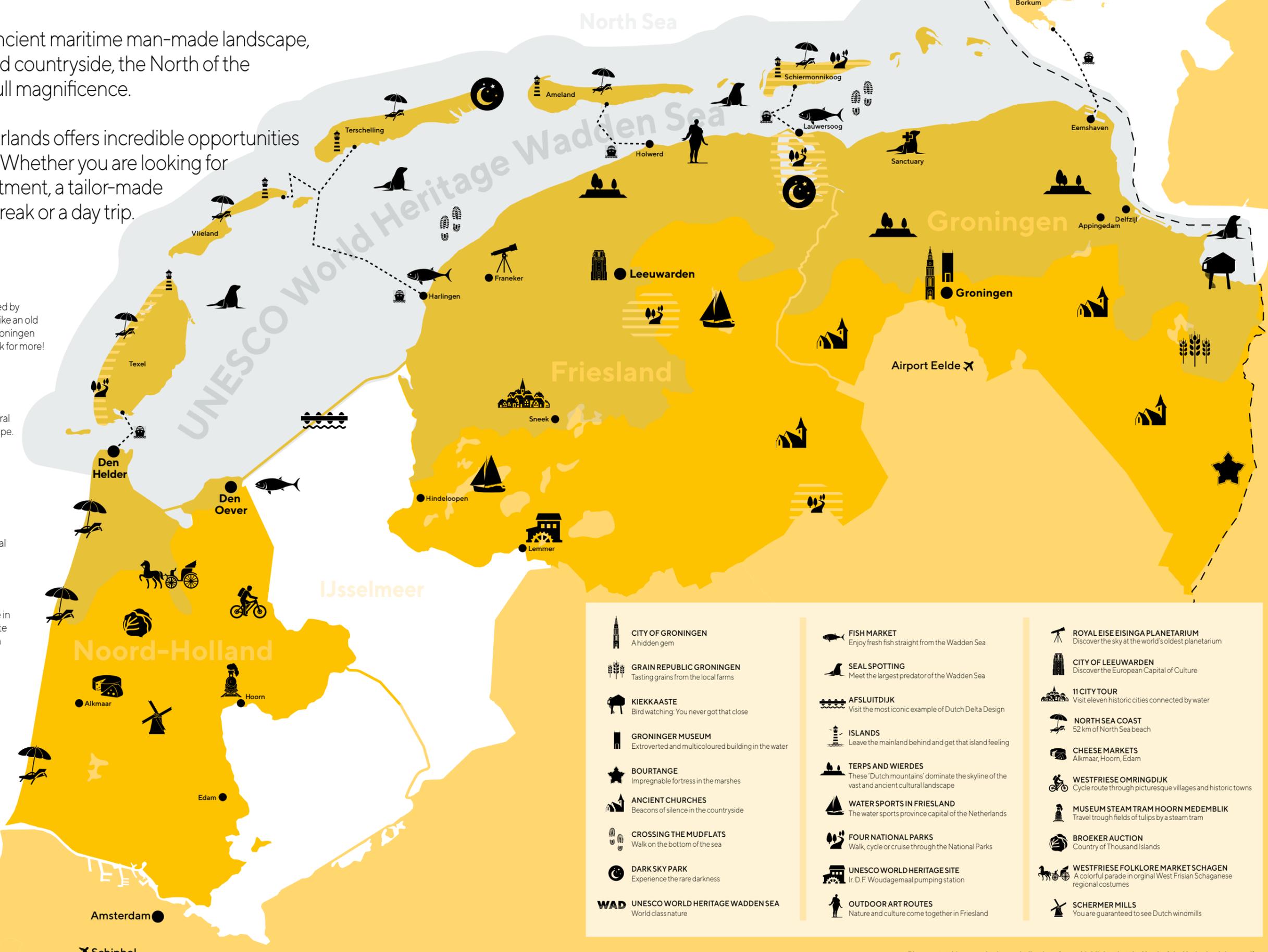
Friesland, the European Capital of Culture in 2018, will shine a spotlight on its beautiful natural surroundings in 2021 with Ode to the Landscape. Quite rightly so according to Lonely Planet, who previously listed the province in the Top 3 Best of Europe.
www.friesland.nl/itb

NOORD-HOLLAND

Holland above Amsterdam, the best Holland has to offer. Windmills, dykes, polders, historical and modern villages and cities.
www.hollandbovenamsterdam.com/en

WADDEN

Welcome to the most beautiful nature reserve in our country: the UNESCO World Heritage Site of the Wadden Sea. www.visitwadden.nl/en



THE NORTH of the Netherlands



-  **CITY OF GRONINGEN**
A hidden gem
-  **GRAIN REPUBLIC GRONINGEN**
Tasting grains from the local farms
-  **KIEKKAASTE**
Bird watching: You never got that close
-  **GRONINGER MUSEUM**
Extroverted and multicoloured building in the water
-  **BOURTANGE**
Impregnable fortress in the marshes
-  **ANCIENT CHURCHES**
Beacons of silence in the countryside
-  **CROSSING THE MUDFLATS**
Walk on the bottom of the sea
-  **DARK SKY PARK**
Experience the rare darkness
-  **UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE WADDEN SEA**
World class nature
-  **FISH MARKET**
Enjoy fresh fish straight from the Wadden Sea
-  **SEAL SPOTTING**
Meet the largest predator of the Wadden Sea
-  **AFSLUITDIJK**
Visit the most iconic example of Dutch Delta Design
-  **ISLANDS**
Leave the mainland behind and get that island feeling
-  **TERPS AND WIERDES**
These 'Dutch mountains' dominate the skyline of the vast and ancient cultural landscape
-  **WATER SPORTS IN FRIESLAND**
The water sports province capital of the Netherlands
-  **FOUR NATIONAL PARKS**
Walk, cycle or cruise through the National Parks
-  **UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE**
Ir. D.F. Woudagemaal pumping station
-  **OUTDOOR ART ROUTES**
Nature and culture come together in Friesland
-  **ROYAL EISE EISINGA PLANETARIUM**
Discover the sky at the world's oldest planetarium
-  **CITY OF LEEUWARDEN**
Discover the European Capital of Culture
-  **11 CITY TOUR**
Visit eleven historic cities connected by water
-  **NORTH SEA COAST**
52 km of North Sea beach
-  **CHEESE MARKETS**
Alkmaar, Hoorn, Edam
-  **WESTFRIESE OMRINGDIJK**
Cycle route through picturesque villages and historic towns
-  **MUSEUM STEAM TRAM HOORN MEDEMBLIK**
Travel trough fields of tulips by a steam tram
-  **BROEKER AUCTION**
Country of Thousand Islands
-  **WESTFRIESE FOLKLORE MARKET SCHAGEN**
A colorful parade in original West Frisian Schaganeese regional costumes
-  **SCHERMER MILLS**
You are guaranteed to see Dutch windmills

Please note: this map only gives an indication of some highlights that the North of the Netherlands has to offer.

GRONINGEN



CITY OF GRONINGEN

You can feel the city's energy when walking through the centuries-old streets. This is where oases of peace and quiet blend in seamlessly with lively student spots, hip shops and friendly market squares.



GRAIN REPUBLIC GRONINGEN

This past filled with grains sounds lovely, but is there any place you can go to taste this gold? Well yes, De Graanrepubliek cooperative, which is established in an old steam locomotive shed. In this impressive building, you can enjoy the Groningen bread, beer and much more.



KIEKKAASTE

Bird watching hut The Kiekkaaste is the only bird watching hut in the Netherlands that is located outside the dikes. From the bird watching hut bird lovers have a beautiful view over the muddy fields of the Dollard.



GRONINGER MUSEUM

People in Groningen like to do things that are just a bit different. With each new exhibition, the museum challenges both itself and its visitors to consider visual art from a different perspective.



BOURTANGE

This defence work was newly finished when the Spaniards showed up at the gate. Be sure to explore the impregnable Groningen fortress that has been restored to its former glory.



ANCIENT CHURCHES

You are always welcome in any church for a moment of silence. In most of them, you can hear only your own footsteps. You will find the doors already open, or you can ask the neighbours for the key.



CROSSING THE MUDFLATS

Take a step forward with your right foot to find out your left foot is stuck in the mud. Crossing the mudflats is a magnificent and unforgettable experience.



WADDEN



DARK SKY PARK

Go out by yourself or take an excursion to see a starry sky and stars that you have never seen before. On some days, you can even see the northern lights.



WAD

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE WADDEN SEA

The Wadden Sea is one of the last remaining large tidal areas where the forces of nature are free to do as they please.



LOCAL PRODUCTS

The Wadden area is full of surprising flavors. Such as delicious oysters, salicornia and of course fresh fish.



SEAL SPOTTING

They often rest on the sand banks in large numbers, which makes them easy to spot. You can probably already spot them when travelling on the ferry to one of the islands.



AFSLUITDIJK

This 30-kilometer-long dike, that is actually a dam rather than a dike, closes off the Zuider Zee from the Wadden Sea to protect cities such as Amsterdam.



ISLANDS

In addition to a visit to the beautiful Wadden coast of the mainland, it is also possible to visit one of the charming islands. Take a ferry and get a beautiful view over the Wadden Sea from the deck



TERPS

The terps were created to provide safe high ground during storm surges, high tides and sea or river flooding. In time some became villages, sometimes even cities, such as Leeuwarden and Dokkum.

With their tough little Roman churches these 'Dutch mountains' still dominate the skyline of this vast and ancient cultural landscape.



FRIESLAND



WATER SPORTS IN FRIESLAND

Half of Friesland is made up of water. No wonder it's the water sport province of the Netherlands. In 2020 the Frisians celebrate their centuries-old bond with the water. Come enjoy sailing, rowing, fishing and swimming.



FOUR NATIONAL PARKS

Nature lovers will never get tired of the four National Parks that Friesland has to offer. Some parks even offer a guide, to take you on an eco-safari.



UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE

Ir. D.F. Woudagemaal, the world's oldest pumping station, can be found in Friesland, where the Frisians still use it to prevent their feet from getting wet! In 2020 the Woudagemaal celebrates its 100 year anniversary.



OUTDOOR ART ROUTES

There's no time to be bored when you follow one of the area's many art routes. Walk along the Wadden coast and discover Sense of Place-, landscape art that decorates more and more of the coastline.



ROYAL EISE EISINGA PLANETARIUM

Discover the heavens at the world's oldest planetarium. It was built in 1744 by amateur astronomer Eise Eisinga and is still working to this day. See it in his historic living room.



CITY OF LEEUWARDEN

The European Capital of Culture 2018 offers everything for a great city break. Museum enthusiasts can visit the Museum of Friesland and the Ceramics Museum. The city is conveniently situated and surrounded by National Parks and beautiful landscapes.



11 CITY TOUR

Visit the eleven historic cities connected by water. The clearly visible traces of the rich trading history and the former maritime shipping make them a must-see for every tourist. Every town has its own charm

NOORD-HOLLAND



NORTH SEA COAST

The salty coast of Holland has a wide variety of beaches to see and enjoy. A lot of them have blue flags, which means they are clean and safe.



CHEESE MARKETS

Taste the flavour of briny polders and happy cows. During the summer, Alkmaar, Hoorn and Edam host cheese markets with old-fashioned cheese trade demonstrations.



WESTFRIESE OMRINGDIJK

A man-made wonder! This 126-kilometre-long monument meanders through the West Frisian landscape along polders, windmills, VOC towns and cheese-cover farmhouses



MUSEUM STEAM TRAM HOORN MEDEMBLIK

In the Spring, the train travels through fields of colourful tulips. It will take you through the polder landscape and various cities.



BROEKER AUCTION

Take a seat on the authentic auction bank at the oldest transit vegetable auction in the world, and watch as the auctioneer sells all kinds of vegetables from the boat.



WESTFRIESE FOLKLORE MARKET SCHAGEN

Every Thursday in summer, a colourful parade departs in original West Frisian Schaganese regional costumes with their guests across the market. Watch and enjoy as beautiful farm wagons, sjeezen or landauers are pulled along by horses.



SCHERMER MILLS

You are guaranteed to see Dutch windmills in Schermerhorn! There are many good viewing points throughout the countryside and around the village from which you will see the many mills.



EVENTS 2020

Museum of Friesland | Other Worldly | Leeuwarden

Contemporary art inspired by the underwater world
> 15th of February 2020 - 3th of January 2021

Annual Flower Market | City of Groningen

Largest flower market of the North of the Netherlands
> 10th of April

Anders Wad Festival | Lauwersoog

't Ailand Lauwersoog kicks off the 2020 season with a spectacular festival in Lauwersoog
> 2nd and 3th of May

Kaeskoppen Stad | Alkmaar

Experience the city Alkmaar just after the liberation in 1573.
> 6th and 7th of June

Oerol Festival | Terschelling

A ten-day annual cultural festival with theater, dance, visual arts and musical performances.
> 12th - 21st of June

Nightmarket Kolhorn | Kolhorn

Shop at the nightmarket in the picturesque village Kolhorn
> 26th of June, 17th of July & 7th of August

Festival Hongerige Wolf | Hongerige Wolf

A special festival in Groningen with theater and concerts
> 10th - 12th of July

Flora & Visserijdagen | Den Oever

Taste fresh fish and sail along with real fishermen
> 21st - 24th of August

Peter Grimes | Paessens - Moddergat

140 soloists, musicians & singers perform in this opera with a stunning UNESCO World Heritage Site as a backdrop
> 18th, 19th, 22nd, 23th en 25th of September

Markttag | City of Groningen

Various markets in Groningen during 'Tag der Deutschen Einheit'
> 3th of October

100 years of Unesco World Heritage

Ir. D.F. Woudagemaal | Lemmer
The steam pumping station is celebrating its birthday with various events
> Several dates throughout the year

Rolling Stones Exhibition | Groningen

Big exhibition about the Rolling Stones in the museum of Groningen
> October 2020 - January 2021

EVENTS 2021

Musical spectacle 'De Tocht' | Leeuwarden

Immersive musical that stimulates all senses and tells the story of the iconic eleven cities ice skating tour.
> October 2021 - March 2022

Classical Music Festival Oranjewoud | Oranjewoud

Adventurous festival centred around classical music, presented at special locations in the royal forests of Oranjewoud.
> June 2021

Delfsail 2020 | Delfzijl

The largest nautical event of the North of the Netherlands
> June 2021

Museum Belvédère | Living the Landscape - Nicholson, Hepworth & artists from St Ives | Oranjewoud

Exhibition about landscape and sea.
> Summer 2021