

The Dutch Travel advisor

Travel in Style



The Holland Journal – Newsletter for Travel Advisors

November 8, 2017

As we are rapidly approaching the end of 2017, we can proudly say that we can look back on an extremely successful year. Having been accepted into the Virtuoso network in 2016 meant that 2017 was even busier than last year already was. Through this wonderful network, we were able to reach even more travel advisors and we were fortunate enough to be able to expand our already considerable network. We would like to thank all the advisors that we have already been working with for many years for their loyalty, and we hope to be able to establish a similar working relationship with the new agents that have found us through the Virtuoso network.



Since we are indeed reaching the end of the year, that does mean that it is high time for a new Holland Journal. We hope that you will enjoy this issue and if our plans to expand our team even further in 2018 pans out, we will hopefully be able to send you a Holland Journal on a more regular basis.

New address

Despite this year's hustle-bustle, The Dutch Travel advisor has also moved. We are now located in the heart of the bulb district.

Our new address is:

Laan van Rijckevorsel 36
2161 KV Lisse
The Netherlands
Tel: +31 (0)6 53556292



The Anne Frank House is being renewed

The Anne Frank House is preparing itself for a new generation of visitors by carrying out a major renewal project. Museum visitors will be given more historical context and in-depth information so they can gain a better understanding of the life story of Anne Frank and a deeper experience of her hiding place. The changes will leave the authentic character of the house intact. More space will be created for educational groups and visitor facilities, and there will be a new entrance area. The Anne Frank House will remain open during the renovation, which will take around two years.



Ronald Leopold, executive director of the Anne Frank House, says: "Many of our visitors are aged under 25, and come from countries outside of Europe. So, it's important to go deeper into the historical context and the background to the life story of Anne Frank in the museum. We'll be giving more information on what happened during the Second World War and the Holocaust, how it could happen, and what this means for us today. We'll also go deeper into the history of the time spent in hiding and the key figures in the house. But of course, we will retain the authentic character of the house: experience and meaning will always be our priorities."

As well as the new features in the museum, the Anne Frank House will also gain more space. The former student flats on the Westermarkt square will be made a part of the museum, making space available for educational groups and visitor facilities, such as a cloakroom. The museum will also get a new, larger entrance area on the Westermarkt.

www.annefrank.org

The Amsterdam Light Festival

What a lot of people may not know, is that the light art installations of the Amsterdam Light Festival are made exclusively for the festival. From an artwork in the masts of the VOC ship 'de Amsterdam' to the works that are harnessed above the Herengracht, they were all created with a specific location in mind.

Amsterdam Light Festival strives to create innovative and unique works of art, which is why the festival works together with a host of talented artists, architects and designers. They submitted their trailblazing ideas on account of a worldwide Call for Concepts, after which a carefully curated jury made a selection of the best ideas. These concepts were then realized by Amsterdam Light Festival. No less than 1800 artists were interested in last year's Call for Concepts. This resulted in 900 submissions by designers, architects and artists, from 45 different countries all over the world. 35 artworks were realized, one of which is 'thinline' by world famous Chinese artists and activist Ai Weiwei.



From November 30, 2017 until January 21, 2018, the artworks will illuminate the center of Amsterdam for 53 consecutive days. Visit the water exposition by doing a canal cruise or admire the new land exposition at the Marineterrein Amsterdam.

<https://amsterdamlightfestival.com/en>

‘Romance in Flowers’ at Keukenhof

Keukenhof gardeners plant 7 million bulbs

On Thursday October 5, 2017, Keukenhof’s gardeners planted the first bulbs for the flower mosaic ‘Romance in Flowers’. This marked the start of the planting of seven million bulbs for coming year’s display.

In 2018, Keukenhof’s theme will be Romance in Flowers. After all, romance and flowers are inseparable. The historic park was created in the middle of the Romantic period (1857) as an ornamental garden for Keukenhof Castle. The atmospheric outlay surrounding the pond with its beautiful perspectives and centuries-old beech trees has seen millions of bulbs flower since 1950. Many generations experienced their moment of joy there.

In 2018, Keukenhof will have another, wonderful 50,000 tulip mosaic. The mosaic has been planted in two layers to extend its flowering during the spring. The mosaic is 250 m² in size. 50,000 bulbs were used: tulips, grape hyacinths and crocuses.

Keukenhof is of exceptional importance to Dutch tourism. Annually, over 1 million visitors, from over 100 countries are received. 75% of these are from abroad. The principal countries of origin are: Germany, the United States, France, the United Kingdom and China.

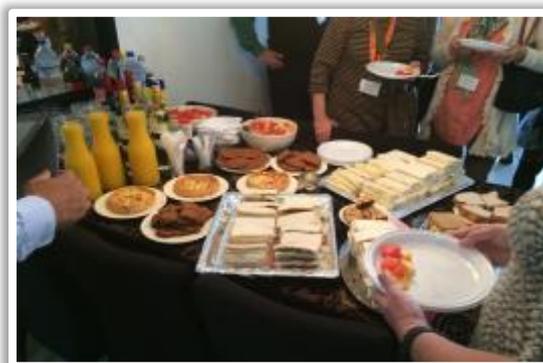
In 2018, Keukenhof will be open from March 22 - May 13.

<https://keukenhof.nl/en/>



Lunch with a Private Family

Why not combine a visit to the Keukenhof with a lunch at the home of a private Dutch family? The Dutch Travel advisor has exclusive access to this young family that lives at a stone’s throw distance from the Keukenhof. You get to interact with the family and witness first-hand how an average Dutch family lives. Not only that, they will freshly prepare a delicious Dutch lunch for you. If you are lucky, and the weather is nice, lunch will be served in their garden.



Private Canal Cruise with a Michelin Star Chef on Board

We are now able to offer the opportunity to enjoy a private saloon boat cruise with your very own Michelin Star Chef on board. While you are enjoying the many wonderful sights that Amsterdam has to offer from the privacy of your own historical saloon boat, a Michelin Star Chef will freshly prepare a delicious multi-course dinner for you on the spot.

It doesn’t get more VIP than that!



New Tour: Cruise on the River Vecht with a Tour of Slot Zuylen

We have developed a wonderful new tour. One that starts in Loenen aan de Vecht, where you will board a historical private saloon boat for a 2.5-hour cruise on the Vecht River. The scenic cruise will take you along the many rich mansions in the direction of Slot Zuylen. In the 17th and 18th centuries, many country estates were built on the banks of the Vecht by rich merchants and administrators from Amsterdam.

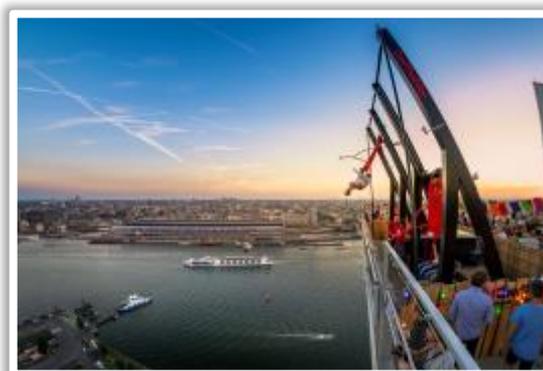
The cruise will end in Oud Zuylen where you will be given a private tour of Slot Zuylen. Whilst retaining many of its medieval castle-like features, Slot Zuylen was converted into a country mansion in the 18th century. Its most famous resident was Belle van Zuylen (Isabelle de Charrière), writer of fame and feminist avant la lettre. Slot Zuylen opened its doors to visitors 60 years ago and has meanwhile acquired museum status. The past is recalled to life through guided tours, garden walks, concerts and special events.



A'DAM Lookout and Over the Edge Swing

A'DAM LOOKOUT is an observation deck with an unrivalled panoramic view of Amsterdam. You'll see the city's historical center, its pulsating port, the unique Dutch polder landscape and you'll spot the famous canals which belong to the UNESCO world heritage list. Complementing the experience is a state-of-the-art interactive exhibition about Amsterdam's history and culture. A'DAM LOOKOUT is located on top of the A'DAM Tower in Amsterdam North.

'Over the Edge' is Europe's highest swing on our sky deck. Daredevils and thrill seekers will swing 300 feet above the ground, back and forth over the edge of the tower with Amsterdam below their feet. Enjoy the unrivalled view over our capital city, while the adrenaline flows through your body. www.adamlookout.com



Hoftramm

If you have clients staying in, or visiting The Hague, you may want to suggest the following 'restaurant' for a unique dining experience: the Hoftramm. Tram Restaurant Hoftramm is a moving The Hague tram which has been converted into a modern and elegant restaurant and which is fully equipped with all necessary amenities, including a professional kitchen and toilet. On board this culinary tram, on a fixed route through the center of The Hague towards Scheveningen and back, a high-quality, 4-course dinner is prepared and served by famous Dutch chef Pierre Wind and his team.



Since booking in advance is necessary, please do not hesitate to let us know if you have clients that are interested, and we will be happy to assist.

Antwerp Voted Among Top 10 Cities to Visit in 2018

Antwerp has been voted into Lonely Planet's top 10 'Best in Travel 2018' as one of the best cities to visit in 2018.

According to Lonely Planet: "Once northern Europe's greatest city, today Antwerp is one of its best-kept secrets. Flanders' unofficial capital is laden with historic riches and home to world-class arts and design, and this year it's showing its cultural chops with a celebration of its Baroque heyday. Inspired by the city's most famous resident, Rubens, Antwerp Baroque 2018 will feature Flemish Masters rubbing shoulders with modern talent in a calendar that spans parades, concerts, street art, multimedia shows and workshops. Not that Antwerp's residents need an excuse to unleash their creativity: the city, especially its former docks, is flush with pop-up bars, farm-to-fork joints and architectural showstoppers."



The Dutch Travel advisor has wonderful guides in all of Belgium, including Antwerp, therefore if you have clients wishing to go there, do not hesitate to let us know!

Schiphol VIP Service

Another service we are able to provide for your clients, is the Schiphol VIP Service, the most exclusive way to travel through Amsterdam Schiphol Airport. Privacy and personal service are offered, regardless of which airline your clients are flying with. The VIP service is separate from the regular passenger process at Schiphol. The VIP team will take care of all practicalities of air travel, while the clients relax in peace and privacy with their companions. The VIP center is open daily from 06:00 to 23:00.



Whether your clients are arriving or transferring, they will be picked up right at the foot of their plane with a luxury car and taken directly to the VIP center. While they relax, and wait for their luggage, all of the arrival formalities will be handled for them.

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