

# The Dutch Travel advisor

## *Travel in Style*



## The Holland Journal - Newsletter for Travel Advisors

November 10, 2020

Firstly, we would like to congratulate our American readers with the election of Joe Biden as your next President. We are hopeful that he will be a positive and uniting force during his presidency. We are also very hopeful that the beginning of 2021 will bring a vaccine, and that this will mark the beginning of the end of the Corona era. We cannot wait to start receiving your clients again and showing them all the great things our country has to offer.



In the meantime, we bring you some news on what is going on in the Netherlands. And once again, we wish for you all to remain safe and healthy.

## COVID-19 Update the Netherlands

In the Netherlands, we have succeeded in halting the recent rise of coronavirus infections. We are definitely on the right track, but our government feels we are not moving quickly enough. The numbers need to drop faster. The Dutch government has therefore decided to impose extra measures for the next 2 weeks on top of the current partial lockdown, effective November 5.



On November 19, we will return to the partial lockdown introduced on October 14. Mid-December, the government will assess what can be done in the period that follows. Before the measures in force can be reconsidered, there needs to be enough evidence that the number of infections is falling and that our regular healthcare services are under less pressure. During the current lockdown, all bars and restaurants are closed as well as all museums. The museums are set to re-open on November 19, but restaurants are expected to remain closed longer.

For a full overview, please visit our website: [www.thedutchtraveladvisor.com/news](http://www.thedutchtraveladvisor.com/news)

## Check Out our Updated Tour Examples

We, at the Dutch Travel advisor, have not been idle during this challenging year. We have made use of the extra time we now have available to update and expand the tour examples that we have posted on our web site.

We have also updated and added to the tour examples that we have listed under 'Products' on the Virtuoso website. Please check them out but remember, these are only examples, everything we do is custom-made!

**The Dutch Travel advisor website:** <https://www.thedutchtraveladvisor.com/tours/tour-examples/>  
**Virtuoso.com:** <https://www.virtuoso.com/suppliers/15216805/the-dutch-travel-advisor#.X6P0IC-iHx4>



## Hotel Heritage in Bruges Adds 5<sup>th</sup> Star

Our favorite hotel in Bruges has recently opened a spa in the hotel, called 'Le Moment by Sothys'. The Heritage Spa invites guests to relax in a warm and elegant atmosphere where a discreet and attentive team provides Sothys treatments offering a comprehensive range of face and body treatments with a number of characteristics: anti-stress, anti-ageing, beauty, slimming, massages from around the world.

With the addition of a spa, the hotel is now considered a 5-star property.

Hotel Heritage, part of the Relais & Chateaux chain, is a small boutique hotel with only 22 rooms and is located in the very heart of Bruges at a walking distance from all the main sights. It is housed in a 19<sup>th</sup> century building.



More good news: the hotel's fine dining restaurant "Le Mystique" is now open seven days per week.  
<https://www.hotel-heritage.com>

## Rosewood Amsterdam

Rosewood Hotels & Resorts is opening its first property in the Netherlands in 2023 when it plans to unveil the Rosewood Amsterdam. The property, which overlooks the Amsterdam Canal District's Prinsengracht (Prince's Canal), will be housed within the city's former Palace of Justice, originally constructed in 1665. The building is currently undergoing a preservation and redesign process overseen by Netherlands-based architectural firm Kentie & Partners and Dutch designer Piet Boon.



Once completed, the hotel will have 134 guestrooms and feature amenities like a spa, a wellness and fitness center, an indoor pool and multiple event and meetings spaces, including a 3,000-square-foot ballroom. The Rosewood Amsterdam will also house several bars and three dining venues, including an Indian restaurant. Additionally, a library area and business club will be located within the hotel's lobby lounge. <https://www.rosewoodhotels.com/en/amsterdam>

## Palace Het Loo Under Renovation

The former Royal Palace Het Loo has been a museum since 1984. The furnished rooms and chambers show how the Dutch Royal Family lived and worked for 300 years. The palace itself underwent many changes and is currently 'again' undergoing a major renovation. The palace is set to reopen in the Spring of 2022.

It was stadtholder Willem III (1650-1702) who purchased the medieval hunting lodge 'Het Oude Loo' in 1684 together with the surrounding buildings, woods, estates and water courses. He wanted to build a new hunting lodge on this site, one which would compete with the country estates of other European royalty. Willem and his wife Mary Stuart (later Queen Mary II) were lovers of architecture and garden art. The 'new' Loo was envisaged as a magnificent summer residence where the stadtholder could hunt and entertain his noble guests in royal splendor.



In 1689, Willem III and Mary became king and queen of the kingdoms of England, Scotland and Ireland and this international status deserved a larger palace. The gardens were extended, and four pavilions were added to the palace; these connected the middle section with the East and West wings. After the death of Willem III, the palace was used by consecutive stadtholders, kings and queens as a hunting lodge and summer residence.

Princess Margriet (aunt of current King Willem-Alexander) and Professor Pieter van Vollenhoven were the last residents until 1975. In 1977, a start was made on the radical restoration. The main idea was to return the exterior of the palace to its original 17th century glory. The additions made in the 19th and 20th centuries were removed.

The present Dutch Baroque garden with many symmetrical parterres, impressive fountains and historical planting are reconstructed to the original 17th-century design. The gardens were intended to give prestige and status to William and Mary and impress their guests. From April until October, you can enjoy the fountains, which always spout freshwater thanks to the high level of the ground water, surpass the Versailles ones! <https://www.paleishetloo.com>

Keep an eye on our [tour examples](#) as we are developing tours that will include a visit to Palace Het Loo.

## Museum of Bags and Purses Closed

With much sadness we have to report that one of our favorite museums in Amsterdam, the Museum for Bags and Purses, has permanently closed its doors.

It is another victim of the COVID-19 pandemic. As a consequence of the mandatory closure of all museums during the first lockdown in April, the museum no longer had the financial means to re-open after the lockdown was lifted and to continue its existence.



Attempts are being made to ensure that the collection of almost 5,000 bags and purses will stay intact. It is not yet known how this will be accomplished.

## New Date Set for the Return of the Grand Prix to the Netherlands

The Dutch Grand Prix is a Formula One automobile race that was held at Circuit Zandvoort from 1948 to 1985. It was scheduled to be held again in Zandvoort from 2020 onwards. The Dutch Grand Prix was a part of the World Championship as of 1952, and designated the European Grand Prix twice, in 1962 and 1976, when this title was an honorary designation given each year to one Grand Prix race in Europe.



1985 saw the race's final running, as the company that ran the circuit (CENAV) went out of business, marking the end of the old Zandvoort circuit. The track, owned by the municipality of Zandvoort, was not used for some time and part of the grounds and approximately half of the track was sold in 1987 to Vendorado, a bungalow park developer at that time. The track was eventually redesigned and was still used for other disciplines of motorsport.

On May 14, 2019, the Dutch Grand Prix at the Zandvoort track was announced for the 2020 Formula One calendar. In March 2020, the return, set for May of 2020, was postponed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The new dates set for the event's return to the Netherlands is now the weekend of September 3 - 5, 2021.