

Dutch Equestrian Spring Escape March 11 – 16 2025

This coming spring we are offering an exclusive equestrian spring escape in the Netherlands! A mix of riding in the forest, shopping at a major equestrian store, driving a pair of Friesians, exclusive clinics and demos and finishing with a full day FEI World cup at the Dutch Masters !

INCLUDED

- Hotel accommodation (5 nights)
- Breakfast, lunch & dinner
- Hot & cold beverages, fruit and snacks
- 2 x riding and 1 x driving (1,5 – 2 hours on average)
- 1 x seat/posture lesson (on a horse simulator)
- 2 x equestrian clinic / demo
- 1x full day access to the Dutch Masters (Indoor Brabant) <https://www.thedutchmasters.com/>
- 1x Shopping at an equestrian flagship store <https://hypostore.com/>
- 1 x Dutch cultural visit: windmills, wooden shoes, cheese, villages!
- Pre and post stay extensions assistance

NOT INCLUDED

- Travel to the Netherlands
- Transits from airport to hotel
- Pre and post trip excursions
- Alcoholic drinks

Riding and driving

To be able to enjoy the riding you should be able to ride comfortably in all three gaits in an English saddle. This is an equestrian escape for everybody! dressage riders, jumpers or eventers as well as happy hackers 😊 If needed we will split the group in 2 to accommodate both more advanced and intermediate riders. The stables use a weight limit of 85 kg (188 lbs.). This trip is also suitable for capable teenage riders if accompanied by an adult.

We are aiming for two leisure trail rides with an intro in the arena to estimate your level. On one of the days we will have a driving lesson with our Friesian horses! We want to have fun and relaxed rides, with hot cocoa or mulled wine to warm up after our rides! In the very unlikely event that the trails are frozen solid we will substitute the hacks with indoor riding & driving.

If you want to join in all the fun, but are not interested in the two rides we will make sure you can relax in a cozy atmosphere with a cup of coffee while the riders are out.

The Dutch Masters!

We are booking all-day tickets for Saturday March 15th

We will see the **FEI World Cup dressage Grand Prix (Freestyle to Music)** in the most epic arenas of the season. The world class competitors, venue, crowds and atmosphere make this a day to remember!

In the evening we attend the **CSI5* International 1.50 show jumping** with jump off: the best of the best will be here competing for the win!

Besides top sport, Indoor Brabant with the Dutch Masters is also known for the many exclusive vendors where great deals can be found, another opportunity to shop!

<https://www.thedutchmasters.com/>

Clinics and demo's

This week is a great opportunity to learn! We have organized for several clinics and demo's: From a seat and posture lesson with the popular horse simulator "Joker" to auditing a world class demo or a visit to a famous international stable or stud farm. Learn about breeding and selecting Dutch warmbloods and Friesians with a hands-on clinic in judging conformation and movement.

Shopping!

The newly opened flagship "Hypostore" in Emmeloord is a wonderful stop on the way to one of the clinics. You can find the latest European Equestrian fashion here as well as a wide selection of tack and other horse necessities!

<https://hypostore.com/>

On Saturday there is plenty of time to browse the many boutique vendors during the Dutch Masters @ Indoor Brabant!

Sight-seeing and Dutch culture

Of course a visit to the Netherlands is not complete without some windmills, wooden shoes and cheese! We will visit the Zaanse Schans open air museum with its many windmills.

<https://www.dezaanseschans.nl/en/> It is located very close to the hotel and is a perfect time to shop for souvenirs and try some cheese. En route to the stables and clinics we will drive through picturesque villages and towns, of course stopping frequently for coffee, apple pie and lunch!

Food!

We will start with a welcome dinner in Zaandam on Tuesday night. The hotel has an excellent breakfast buffet for you to enjoy. Every day we have selected local restaurants for lunch and dinner, please send us your dietary restriction or allergies. Of course we will stop frequently for hot drinks, warm apple pie, a fresh stroopwafel or a cheese tasting.

Hotel

We have selected the Inntel hotel in Zaandam for your stay! Only 15 minutes from down town Amsterdam this hotel had everything we are looking for: comfortable rooms, an excellent breakfast buffet, easy to reach for our daily equestrian activities and a pool!

https://www.inntelhotelsamsterdamzaandam.nl/?utm_source=GMB&utm_medium=organic

Transits

Every day your guide will pick you up to bring you to all of your activities in our comfortable minivan. We will bring drinks, fruits and snacks as well as warm blankets to use during the clinics if needed!

Optional activities, Pre- and post-trip extensions

While we have a fairly fixed itinerary we can certainly accommodate special requests! Maybe you have already seen the windmills, or are you only interested in dressage? We can offer plenty of alternatives! If you don't want to ride, but do enjoy the rest, you are most welcome too!

If you want to extend this trip, we can help you with your hotel booking, plan extra visits or book tickets for e.g. the Anne Frank house or the van Gogh museum. Of course we can also arrange for Sunday PM tickets for the Dutch Masters (Rolex Grand Prix CSI5*), other specific equestrian visits or horse shopping!

Itinerary

Below is our itinerary. While all tours and visits will be included in this trip, we can change the dates for the specific visits due to the weather and availability of tickets. We might also substitute certain specific visits, if we think they add more value to your trip.

Tuesday March 11

- Arrival
- welcome dinner in Zaandam!

Wednesday March 12

- Trail ride in the dunes: 90 minutes in nature followed by hot cocoa and apple pie
- Seat/posture lesson with horse simulator
- Visit Zaanse Schans in the afternoon: windmills, wooden shoes and cheese!

Thursday March 13

- Driving lesson in the Veluwe national Forest – majestic Friesians!
- Exclusive equestrian shopping at <https://hypostore.com/>
- Clinic judging the KWPN horse and Friesians (conformation, movement)

Friday March 14

- Trail ride in one of the national parks: we discover a different part of Holland
- Special demo or visit to international stable or stud farm: learn from the best!

Saturday March 15

Dutch Masters <https://www.thedutchmasters.com/>

- FEI World Cup dressage Grand Prix (Freestyle)
- 1.50m international 5* show jumping
- Browse and shop at the many vendor stands

Sunday March 16

- Departure after breakfast

Your guide

Sarah started riding at the age of 5. From a true barn rat she turned into a happy adult amateur for decades! In more recent years she has become a top groom and driver for her riding daughters, collecting and breeding show jumpers and dressage horses along the way! She also owns European Horse Trade, and has helped people find their perfect equine partner in Europe for more than 20 years.

What do you need to bring?

Please bring riding breeches, gloves and jodhpurs/riding shoes or boots. If you do not want to bring your own helmet you can borrow one at the stable.

Dress for the weather March in the Netherlands can be cold, or warm, or wet!

An empty suitcase for your shopping 😊

What do we need from you?

For all riding activities we need your full name, age, height and weight as well as a detailed description of your (recent) riding experience.

Please send us your (equestrian) interests! Are you a hard core dressage rider, have you always wanted to know more about Friesians or do you fancy importing a Dutch warmblood? Is there a specific stable or shop you need to visit during your pre or post trip extension?

Do let us know if you have any dietary restrictions or allergies so we can select the best restaurant options.

Price : € 3.025

Early bird discount 10% (€ 302,50) through Nov 30 2024

Price with early bird discount : € 2.722,50

For any questions please email to sarah@dutch-tours.com or call/WhatsApp to + 31 6 21816480

Our general terms and conditions apply!

Book now!