



Cycling the Pieterpad Road Bike – 3 days

Maximum number of participants: 12 persons

This three-day route is a proper "Grand Tour" of the northern provinces. You'll kick things off by pedaling through the wide-open peace of Groningen and Friesland, heading toward the historic fortified town of Dokkum.

The second day is a longer day (115 km), taking you from the bird-filled Lauwersmeer nature reserve all the way down into the heart of Drenthe. You'll finish the trip by exploring ancient history—literally—as you cycle past prehistoric burial sites (hunebedden) and through massive forest reserves. It's a journey through time, from medieval city centers to landscapes that haven't changed in thousands of years.

The Highlights

- **Village Charm & "Mounds":** You'll visit **Niehove**, a village built in a perfect circle on a historic mound. It's incredibly quiet and feels like stepping back 500 years.
- **The Wadden Sea & Seals:** Riding through the **Lauwersmeer** area is a dream for nature lovers. You can stop at the seal sanctuary or just enjoy the massive skies over the UNESCO-protected Wadden Sea.
- **Prehistoric Drenthe:** On Day 3, you get to see the famous **hunebedden** (ancient stone tombs) near Rolde and the "Papeloze Kerk." It's a cool reminder of the people who lived here long before bikes were even invented.
- **The "Museum Village" of Orvelte:** A quick detour to **Orvelte** is a must. It's an old-fashioned village where time has stood still, complete with thatched roofs and cobblestone streets.

The Route at a Glance

Day 1: Groningen to Dokkum (54 km)

Day 2: Dokkum to Zuidlaren (115 km)

Day 3: Zuidlaren to Coevorden (83 km)

Day 1 - Tuesday 6th of Octobre:

Cycling from Groningen to Dokkum (ca. 54 km)

Cycling from Groningen to Dokkum is a journey through one of the most peaceful and authentic landscapes of the northern Netherlands – a ride where the horizon stretches endlessly.

One of the first highlights along the way is Zuidhorn, a welcoming village surrounded by fertile farmland. It's a perfect stop for a drink, offering a glimpse of everyday life in the northern countryside. Not far beyond lies Niehove, a unique circular village built on a historic mound – peaceful, picturesque, and full of character.

Arriving in Dokkum, with its canals and historic charm, feels like the perfect reward after a calm and scenic journey through the north.

Overnight in Dokkum.

Accommodation: Hotel de Abdij



Day 2 - Wednesday 7th of Octobre:

Cycling from Dokkum to Pieterburen to Zuidlaren (ca. 115 km)

After leaving Dokkum, you ride via Anjum towards the vast nature reserve of Lauwersmeer, renowned as a major breeding and resting area for birds. In nearby Lauwersoog, you can visit the seal sanctuary and enjoy views over the UNESCO-site Waddensea, a unique tidal landscape.

Continue to Pieterburen, known as the starting point of the Pieterpad, before cycling through the enchanting Wierdenland of Groningen. Picturesque creeks wind through wide, open landscapes and passing through charming mound villages such as Eenrum and Winsum.

You briefly pass through the city of Groningen and then follow the peaceful curves of the Drentsche Aa. Enjoy the scenery around the Paterwoldsemeer and cross the Hondsrug, a 20-metre-high ridge offering sweeping views over the valley.

Overnight Zuidlaren.

Accommodation: Brinkhotel Zuidlaren



Day 3 - Thursday 8th of Octobre:

Cycling form Zuidlaren to Coevorden (ca. 83 km)

Begin your day in Drenthe with a scenic ride through the stunning landscapes of the 'velden,'(fields) including the tranquil and expansive Ballooërveld. This rugged terrain features serene ponds, heather fields, and lush forests that invite exploration. As you pedal past Rolde, the former capital of Drenthe, take a moment to admire two ancient hunebedden that dot the landscape. The journey continues along the impressive Rolderrug, guiding you through the heart of Drenthe—an untouched, forested nature reserve spanning 5,000 hectares. We make a short detour to 'Museumvillage Orvelte', where you can immerse yourself in local history. Your adventure leads you further into the Sleenerzand, where you'll search for the intriguing 'Papeloze Kerk' and the historic 'Galgenberg.'Make a quick stop at the 'Driftplein' near Dalen, home to the northernmost artwork of the 'Kunswegen' route, before continuing your journey to the "Geese" city Coevorden.

Trip ends in Coevorden.