



## Cycling, Culinary Heritage & Wadden Sea Experience – 3 days

A cooperation between Visit Groningen and Dutch Bike Tours.

*Maximum number of participants: 15 persons*

This three-day trip is designed for those who love "the good life." You'll start with a relaxed, social evening in Groningen, enjoying local snacks by an outdoor fire. From there, you'll pedal through ancient "mound" villages that feel like an open-air museum, stopping for vineyard tours and regional treats along the way.

The grand finale takes you to the very edge of the Netherlands for Noordpolderzijl, where you'll trade your bike for mud boots to experience the Wadden Sea in the most authentic way possible: by walking right onto the seabed.

### The Highlights

- **The Ultimate Groningen Snack:** You'll get to try a true local icon—the eierbal (deep-fried egg snack)—at a bistro that focuses on honest, local ingredients.
- **The "Pompeii of the North":** Cycle through Ezinge, a village so rich in history and archaeology that it's famous for its ancient artificial dwelling mounds (wierden). It's a literal trip back to 600 BC.
- **Wine Tasting in the North:** You might not expect a vineyard here, but a stop at Hof van 't Hogeland includes a guided tour and a tasting of local sparkling wines and cheeses—a perfect afternoon break.
- **Wadlopen (Mudflat Hiking):** This is the "bucket list" item. After a cozy lunch at the tiny harbor of Noordpolderzijl, you'll head out onto the mudflats for a guided hike through the UNESCO World Heritage Wadden Sea.

### The Route at a Glance

**Day 1:** A social "warm-up" ride around Groningen with a campfire dinner at De Biotoop.

**Day 2:** A culinary tour from Groningen to Pieterburen, stopping for cake, wine, and history.

**Day 3:** A bike ride to the coast followed by a massive Wadlopen adventure.

**Good to know:** Waddenhoes Guesthouse is the best rated accommodation in Pieterburen. It has 2 apartments with 4 rooms, 2 apartments with 2 rooms and 2 separate rooms. For this tour you may opt to share a room (with someone you know and/or person of same gender) or to request a room for single use: please notify when applying.

## Day 1 – Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> of October

### Groningen, City and Surroundings (ca. 20 km)

At 3:00 PM we hop on our bikes for a relaxed cycling tour – getting away from it all, enjoying some fresh air and good company. We both start and finish in Groningen.

Our first stop is Camping “De Kleine Wereld”, at Bistro Landing. This bistro works with honest, often locally sourced products. Here you’ll enjoy drinks accompanied by a true Groninger specialty: the ‘eierbal’. After that, we continue cycling at an easy pace.

Later along the route, we sit down for a delicious dinner at ‘De Biotoop’, catered by Marlien of Peper Event Catering, a private chef known for creating delicious dishes. The setting is wonderfully atmospheric, complete with a fantastic outdoor fire. After all this, it’s time to return to Groningen.

Overnight in Groningen.

**Accommodation:** to be announced



## Day 2 – Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> of October

### Groningen – Pieterburen (ca. 38 km)

At 10:00 AM we depart from The Market Hotel in Groningen for a culinary cycling tour toward Pieterburen. Riding through the Groninger countryside, we reach Garnwerd, where we enjoy coffee and cake at Bij Hammingh and receive a small bag of regional products for the journey. We cycle through Feerwerd, a village dating back to around 600 BC, and Ezinge, the characteristic wierde village often referred to as the “Pompeii of the North.”

In Saaksum, we have lunch by the water at Paviljoen Overdaips. This is followed by a flavorful stop at Wijngaard Hof van ’t Hogeland in Groot Maarslag, including a guided tour, sparkling wine, two wines, and locally produced cheeses. In Maarhuizen, we relax at ‘Enne Jans Heerd’ for a nice drink with a snack.

Via Eenrum, home to the impressive 13th-century Sebastiaankerk located on a wierde, we continue cycling to our final destination, Pieterburen. A laid-back day filled with cycling, local flavours, and Groninger stories.

Overnight Pieterburen.

**Accommodation:** Waddenhoes Guesthouse



## Day 3 – Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> of October

### Noordpolderzijk – Mudflat Hiking

After a good breakfast, we set off by bike toward Noordpolderzijk. At restaurant ’t Zielhoes, we enjoy an early lunch, after which it’s time for a truly unique experience: wadlopen (mudflat hiking). Until approximately 3:30 PM, we explore the Wadden Sea on foot and experience this extraordinary natural area up close.

Afterwards, we return to Groningen, reflecting on an active and unforgettable day.