

## Through the Netherlands by Bike & Boat

### MS SERENA: "North Holland"

#### Characteristics:

*Operator:* SE-TOURS GmbH

*Participants:* from 50

*Tourtype:* guided

*Children:* no

*Regions:* Alkmaar, Amsterdam, Den Helder, Frisia, Harlem, Lake Yssel, North Holland, North Sea, Texel

*Countries:* Netherlands

#### Benefits:

- Seven nights in outside cabins, shower/WC in the booked cabin category
- Programme according to routing from/to Amsterdam
- Welcome cocktail
- Room cleaning every day
- Changing of towels and bed cloths if wanted
- Full board consisting of breakfast buffet, lunch or lunch package for cycle tours, coffee or tea in the afternoon, dinner
- All charges for harbours, bridges and locks
- Daily meeting for the cycling tours
- Printed instructions and detailed maps for daily individual bike tours (1 per cabin)
- Tour guide
- Rental bike insurance



#### Additional costs:

- All other costs: on request (bikehire, cabin categories, additional nights, transfers and so on)

#### Tour description:

Flat countryside up to the horizon, windmills, canals (Grachten) and cycling, that are the Netherlands. And there is so much more. Discover the Netherlands in a unique way on an 8-days-journey by bike and boat. Well-built cycle paths as well as wide and extensive waterways guarantee an unforgettable holiday. Throughout the day you are cycling on your own through the beautiful landscapes in Rembrandt's and Van Gogh's country and in the late afternoon your swimming hotel MS SERENA will be at your disposal. And if you don't like to cycle every day, you can stay on board and enjoy the passing countryside.

#### MS SERENA:

A comfortable river boat with restaurant and bar (air-conditioned). There is a partly roofed sundeck with seats and store place for the bicycles. On the whole MS SERENA comprises 33 cabins on the Main Deck and 18 cabins on the Promenade Deck with two-bed-cabins (approx. 8-9 sqm) with two single beds. The two Junior-Suites (approx. 12 sqm) on the Main Deck have a grandlit (lying surface 1,40 x 2,00 m). There are in total 3 single cabins (2 on the Main Deck and 1 on the Promenade Deck, 6 sqm). All cabins have windows that can be opened on both decks, shower/WC, colour TV and ventilation.

Technical data: Length 90 m. Width 9.90 m. Max. 99 passengers. 3 decks. Dutch flag and guidance.

#### The Province of the Northern Netherlands:

The Dutch province of the North Netherlands is situated on a peninsula the North Sea and the IJsselmeer (IJssel Sea). The Northern Netherlands were founded due to the separation of the north and south of the Netherlands in 1840. Its capital is Haarlem, the biggest city is Amsterdam. Discover the folklore and tradition in the flat Polderland, on the North Sea and in romantic ports. You are travelling through a former lake and marsh region that has been drained by the help of windmills since the 17th century. Experience varying, typically Dutch Polder-countrysides, dunes and North Sea beaches, the North Sea island Texel and many picturesque harbour villages on the coast of the IJsselmeer.

#### Tour Details:

1st Day: Saturday - Individual arrival at Amsterdam, Shipping from Amsterdam to Hoorn

Check-in on board in the afternoon. Maybe you will take some time for exploring the city of Amsterdam and a shopping tour. At 6:00 pm MS SERENA will leave Amsterdam for Hoorn with its historical old part of town.

2nd Day: Sunday - Cycling from Hoorn to Enkhuizen, cycle tour: approx. 20 - 26 km

Hoorn is an ancient city in which you can still find many buildings dating back to the 17th century (e.g. the Regentur of Westfriesland - today a museum -, the town's scales at the Rodesteen, the harbour tower as well as the storage houses at the old quai). Today you are cycling from Hoorn to Enkhuizen. Tip: you should visit the Zuiderzeemuseum (optional).

3rd Day: Monday - Shipping from Enkhuizen to Lemmer - Cycling from Lemmer and back, cycle tour: approx. 32 - 45 km

Today you are shipping over the IJsselmeer to Lemmer. You are starting your roundtrip by bike: over the Oosterzee Buren to the Tjeukemeer, further to Munnekeburen, then around the Rottige Meente over Scherpenzel and Schoterzijk back to Lemmer with its historical old part of town and beautiful gable houses. Tip: Optional visit of the largest still-functioning steam pumping station in the world, "Woudagemaal".

4th Day: Tuesday - Cycling from Lemmer to Stavoren, Cycle tour: approx. 33 km - Shipping from Stavoren to Oudeschild (Island of Texel)

You are going by bike to Sondeler Leien Lake, from there through the woods of Rijsterbos passing the Mokkebank (a birds' reservation) to the Roode Klif at Stavoren. From there you are shipping to Oudeschild on the Island of Texel.

5th Day: Wednesday - Island of Texel - Cycle tour from Oudeschild and back, cycle tour: approx. up to 70 km, Shipping from Oudeschild to Den Helder

You are going on a round trip by bike on the biggest North Sea Island of the Netherlands - Texel. There are numerous alternative routes (29/32/47/70 km). Tip: We also recommend you to visit the beer brewery of Texel (optional). About 6:00 pm shipping back to Den Helder.

6th Day: Thursday - Cycling from Den Helder via Sint Maartensvlotbrug to Alkmaar, cycle tour: approx. 25 to 55 km

In the morning you are cycling through the dunes to Alkmaar. It is possible for you to go on board MS SERENA in St. Maartensvlotburg and ship the rest of the way to Alkmaar. As an alternative, you can also start your cycling tour in St. Maartensvlotburg.

7th Day: Friday - Shipping from Alkmaar to Wormerveer - Cycling from Wormerveer to Amsterdam, cycle tour: approx. 35 km

In the morning you have the opportunity to visit the cheese market in Alkmaar (ca. Apr. to Sept). At midday we are shipping to Wormerveer from where you are cycling to the open-air museum Zaanse Schans (windmills,

ancient Dutch village, cheese factory, etc. - entrance fee is not included). You are cycling through the recreational area Twiske to Amsterdam. Tip: In the evening you have the opportunity to take part in a "Grachtenrundfahrt" (shipping on the channels of Amsterdam in small boats, optional)

8th Day: Saturday

After breakfast you are checking out and we are saying goodbye - have a safe journey.

Important remarks: Your journey to and from Amsterdam will be individual. - Basically, we reserve the right to make changes of routing and program. If there is low or high water and a route cannot be shipped, the captain reserves the right to change the route in view of your safety (this cannot be accepted as a reason for free withdrawal). - The interior of the ship is a non-smoking zone: smoking is only allowed on the sun deck.. - Embarkation: from 15:00 hours to 16:30 hours - Disembarkation: After breakfast by 09:30 hours. - Bicycles on board: Unisex trekking bicycles with normal mount (ladies model), 7 gears, hand brake and pedal brake and pannier bag. E-Bikes are on these tours only available after prior request (by booking) and confirmation and at limited number. Please indicate your body height by booking. - Cycle tours: All distances are "approximate distances" of recommended bike tours. When a guest does not want to cycle one day, she/he can skip the bike tour and relax on board while cruising to the next harbour. The bike tours are individual, at your own pace, without a tour guide, but with daily briefings on board and detailed bicycle maps and directions. Nearly all cycle tours can be classified as being easy. - Languages on board: German, English - Excursions: The excursions mentioned in the programme are all optional (surcharge - not included in the tour price) and can be booked directly on board at the cruise director. - Luggage: We recommend: rainwear, bicycle helmet, sunhat and sneakers. - Diet: (i.e.: lactosefree, glutenfree) possible on request and for an extra charge. Must be booked at least 14 days prior to departure. - Travel documents: EU-nationals need a valid passport.

<https://www.boat-and-bike.com/tour/through-the-netherlands-by-bike-boat-1.html>