

DID YOU KNOW?

- ... The Netherlands and Holland are one and the same place
- ... 26% of the Netherlands is under sea level
- ... The International Court of Justice (at the Peace Palace) and the International Criminal Court are both situated in The Hague
- ... Holland still has around a thousand old-fashioned working windmills
- ... Holland is the third biggest exporter of agricultural produce, preceded only by the US and France, even though only 4% of the Dutch population works in the agriculture sector
- ... Holland has no less than 32,000 km/19,900 miles of dedicated cycle paths
- ... Flevoland, the twelfth province, was reclaimed from the Zuiderzee ('Southern Sea') in 1986
- ... The Dutch are the tallest people in the world
- ... Amsterdam was built entirely on piles
- ... Holland always has a coalition government, so it is a country of compromises
- ... Every Dutch person owns a bike and there are twice as many bikes as there are cars
- ... The Van Gogh collections in the Van Gogh Museum and the Kröller-Müller Museum are the largest in the world
- ... Holland has the highest concentration of museums in the world
- ... Holland was one of the six founding members of the European Community
- ... The canals of Amsterdam, the former island of Schokland, the fortifications around Amsterdam, the windmills of Kinderdijk-Elshout, the Beemster Polder, the Wadden Islands, D.F. Wouda Steam Pumping Station and the Rietveld-Schröderhuis are all on UNESCO's World Heritage List
- ... The highest point in Holland is in Vaals and is 323 meters/352 yards above sea level, and is also the point where the Netherlands, Germany and Belgium meet
- ... Amsterdam is the capital, but the government is in The Hague
- ... Most Dutch people speak a foreign language as well as Dutch
- ... Rotterdam is one of the largest ports in the world
- ... Nieuwerkerk aan den IJssel is 6.76 meters/7.29 yards below sea level, which is the lowest point in Holland
- ... Amsterdam has over 1200 bridges
- ... The Dutch king, Willem-Alexander, takes personal interest in water management
- ... When you arrive at Schiphol Airport, you are four meters below sea level
- ... Holland has more than 4,400 km/2,500 miles of navigable rivers, canals and lakes
- ... You can see how Holland waged war against the sea at Deltapark Neeltje Jans in Zeeland
- ... The Dutch saying "Act normally, that's crazy enough" fits the Dutch like a glove
- ... Saint Nicholas' Eve on 5 December is the Netherlands' number one traditional holiday
- ... There is no country in the world where more liquorice is consumed than in the Netherlands: 32 million kilos/71 million pounds per year
- ... 3% of the Netherlands consists of National Parks
- ... In the Netherlands, anyone aged 14 or older is obliged to carry an original and valid proof of identity
- ... The Netherlands has approximately 1,5 million cows, which together produce 10 billion litres of milk
- ... On average, the Dutch eat 14.3 kilos/31.5 pounds of cheese per person per year
- ... 500 million kilos/1,1 billion pounds of cheese are exported per year
- ... The Netherlands has 1048 windmills and 108 water mills
- ... The mills in the Netherlands represent the age-long battle against water
- ... Many of the Dutch eat raw herring with onions using only their hands



