

# Join us on our NewsCruise

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## First River Cruise of 2017

The River Rhapsody tied up alongside the quay in Vlissingen on Wednesday April 19. She is the first river cruise vessel to visit the port in 2017. To celebrate the opening of the cruise season Zeeland Cruise Port welcomed the cruise passengers on a festive note and treated them to a trip on the solar train. Once aboard the

solar train the guests visited the cultural highlights of Vlissingen and its surrounding area. The partnership of Zeeland Cruise Port with the solar train is an effective one. As their collaboration strengthens, they'd like to offer more cruise passengers this enjoyable trip in the future.

## Zeeland Stars in Promotional Film

In order to show what a stunning province Zeeland is and to highlight all it has on offer to visitors, a film crew got busy shooting Zeeland's gorgeous surroundings and its tourist attractions. The film will be featured on Dutch TV channel SBS 6 on May 7 at 16.00 and once the movie has been broadcasted on television you will also be able to find it subtitled in English on our new and improved website [www.zeelandcruiseport.com](http://www.zeelandcruiseport.com)



Interview with Mayor of Veere, Mr R.v.d. Zwaag. Filmed by Dutch SBS6 television crew.

## PORT OF CALL: VEERE



Veere, a small town on the island of Walcheren in the Dutch province of Zeeland, is well-known for its delightful cruise port, dating back to the Middle Ages. The name of the town itself means 'ferry', and

there has indeed been a ferry here since 1281. Veere obtained its city rights in 1355 when a central naval administration was created here by the Admiralty of Veere. The following three centuries saw it flourish, both as a trading port for Scotland and as a centre for arts and culture. Today it sits high on the list of 'must sees', enchanting tourists from the Netherlands and abroad with its golden beaches, marinas, museums and picturesque shopping streets.

During a cruise, a port of call at Veere is something to look forward to. Once you've docked, pick up a bicycle at one of the hire shops

### HISTORY

- *The Historic City of Middelburg*



Middelburg is the capital of Zeeland and has more than 1,100 monuments, such as the impressive city hall and abbey complex. The city centre with many shops, restaurants and cafes is still surrounded by ancient canals.

→ [More info](#)

- *The Historic Maritime City of Vlissingen*



Combine shopping with a visit to the beach, a walk along the 2km long boulevard or a visit to the historic muZEEum (maritime museum) and St. Jacob's Church.

→ [More info](#)

### EXPOSITIONS

- *Delta Expo – Waterland Neeltje Jans at the Oosterscheldekering*



The Oosterscheldekering is part of the Deltaworks to protect the lower parts of the Netherlands against the sea. This 9km long storm surge barrier shows all its secrets in the Delta Expo at Waterland Neeltje Jans.

→ [More info](#)

- *Watersnoodmuseum*



In 1953 a large part of the Netherlands including Zeeland, was flooded with water after a heavy storm. In the Watersnoodmuseum you can experience for yourself how many survived the flood.

→ [More info](#)

and visit the historic houses in the area, then pedal to the historic and flour mill 'the Cow' and then on down to Vrouwenpolder Beach where you can enjoy the natural beauty of a marine area without the encumbrance of thousands of tourists. Get your strength up at one of the cafes along the shore for a windsurfing session!

Two museums are of particular interest in this pretty town. In the majestic Gothic Town Hall you will find the Vierschaar Civic Museum where you can learn all about the history of Veere and admire fabulous architecture and works of art. The second is the Museum of Scottish Houses, where you can find details of Veere's long trading history with Scotland and its painstaking efforts to be granted the rights to be the first town allowed to sell Scottish wool in the low countries.

Check out lectures, special exhibitions, and music throughout the year.

### FOOD ADVENTURE

- *Cheese farm*



Visit a local cheese farm. You will see how they make real Zeeland cheese and of course, taste it too.

- *Zeeland Seafood Sensation*



Zeeland is one of the leading regions of mussel and oyster farming. In Yerseke, the epic centre of the aquaculture, you can learn all about these delicacies of the sea and enjoy a nice portion of mussels or oysters in one of the many seafood restaurants.

- *De Kleine Schorre Vineyard*



At Schouwen-Duiveland you will find the De Kleine Schorre Vineyard. It is one of the biggest Dutch vineries. Taste exquisite wines and find out why the Royal Dutch Airlines (KLM) has chosen de Kleine Schorre wines for its business class travellers.

→ [More info](#)

### LEISURE



The Netherlands is made for biking and in Zeeland you can enjoy a ride along scenic biking routes through forests, small villages, dunes and along the seaside.

**Zeeland Cruise Port’s new marketing strategy attracts more cruise ships to Zeeland.**



Vlnr Dirk van der Raadt, Timothy Littley, René Kitzen, Marijn van Nispen, Francesco Faes.

The new marketing strategy by Zeeland Cruise Port to attract more cruise liners to Zeeland has proved to be a great success. At the Port Lauderdale fair in March this year, the new brochure, in the form of a handy 50-page booklet, was handed out to the directors of the various shipbuilders present. And in style! It was presented resting on blue velvet in an oyster basket, together with a depiction in blue of the Flying Dutchman on the inner surface of a Zeeland oyster shell.

‘There was an enthusiastic reaction to our brochure, in which we were able to portray Zeeland and all its special facets’ says Marijn van Nispen, Director of Zeeland

Cruise Port. ‘The mutual collaboration with Zeeland Seaports has certainly borne fruit. Together with Commercial Manager Francesco Faes, we have been able to achieve a lot. We never dreamed that the rhetoric would be made reality by such big players as Holland America Line, Seabourne, Windstar and Crystal Cruises. The coming three years will in all probability see 18 cruise liners in Zeeland, instead of the 7 which have already been organised – an increase of 250 per cent. This is excellent for businesses, towns and the economic development of Zeeland in general. Now we’ve had this success, we are quickly moving on to having round-the-table meetings with our advisor Nelleke

Launspach of Business Class Connect to discuss the next steps. In any event, there will be a business film and we will be working on a cruise guidebook detailing excursions in Zeeland, tips and background stories, which will be present in all cabins. We are counting on the financial assistance of a large number of councils and the business world in order to do this. The more passengers who partake in these excursions, the more the province will benefit economically. Passengers easily spend USD 100 per person. Altogether, we are talking about the sort of turnover you don’t want to miss out on.’

Commercial manager Wendie Lindgreen adds, ‘The spending money mentioned by Marijn is an average and is in addition to the cost of the excursions themselves. We are very pleased with the enthusiasm of Zeeland Seaports. We can see a strong collaborative bond for the future, whereby we can promote all the ports of Zeeland, including those which deal with river cruises. We also have a collaboration with the Zeeland Cruise Port Foundation in mind, focussing on towns such as Middelburg and Veere, and municipalities such as Schouwen-Duiveland and Tholen. In earlier discussions, they showed their enthusiasm for our approach, and that has only increased.’

If you would like to see how Zeeland Cruise Port is keeping the cruise shipbuilders and passengers informed, please log in to: [www.zeelandcruiseport.nl](http://www.zeelandcruiseport.nl)

**Port of Vlissingen Benefits**

There are many reasons why the port of Vlissingen is a great port of call for cruise vessels. It has already become clear to several leading operators. We’ll list them here.

- An open, lock free, connection close to the main North Sea shipping routes;
- Good, direct connections with public transport;
- An international airport within 90 minutes reach;
- Beautiful surroundings with lots of possibilities for excursions within 30 minutes of the quay;
  - Gastronomy and culture in safe surroundings;
  - Located in Zeeland, the province with the cleanest beaches and most sunlight hours in the Netherlands;
- Hospitality desk.

**ZEELAND CRUISE PORT**

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Vlissingen 

