



The Hague

TRAVEL TO THE HAGUE

About NL

The Netherlands is a country of beautiful landscapes, unique national parks, sandy beaches, traditional villages and green cities. It is a perfect holiday destination with something to offer for everyone. And getting here is a snap. For a small country, have great international connections. While there are many different ways to get here, I think sustainable is best.



The Hague

The Netherlands' third largest city after Amsterdam and Rotterdam, The Hague is the capital of the province of South Holland and home to the Supreme Court, the International Court of Justice, the International Criminal Court, the working palace of the Dutch royal family and the global HQ of Shell. It's a beautiful and a bit of a strange city.



Although most people go crazy for Amsterdam or Rotterdam, the Hague is a beautiful and slightly quirky city. It's a beautiful and quirky city where ideas become reality without pause.

I think the Hague is a great (and affordable) base for exploring the Netherlands as Delft is only fifteen minutes away, Amsterdam is forty minutes away, and Schiphol is thirty minutes away. Most of my friends who experience this other side of the Hague beyond the "boring" government side quickly understand why I've made this city my home after living in Amsterdam. I wrote this guide as I was tired of seeing guides that covered the main attractions glossing over the bits that make this city special.



Visit the Peace Palace

The Peace Palace (Vredespaleis) is the most photographed building in The Hague. It is home to the International Court of Justice, the Permanent Court of Arbitration, and other institutions. Some of the most important disputes in the world are settled here. Just standing in front of it, it feels like an important place.

Wander the canals

Most people associate canals in the Netherlands with Amsterdam, but many other cities like The Hague, Delft, and Utrecht have them, too. In The Hague, many of the canals were filled in beginning as far back as the 17th century to help with sanitation concerns, but they have since been restored.

Now, it's possible to walk along the canals, take a canal cruise, or even rent your own boat to enjoy the waterways at your desired speed. If you happen to visit at the end of August, you can also see the annual Jazz in the Canal festival in which musicians play on waterside stages and on pontoons in the canals.





Explore street fairs and festivals

Many weekends of the year the city is filled with different types of special events. There are major festivals that draw from around the region and smaller street fairs that have fewer attendees but lots of fun. In May, you'll find the Sniester festival, which brings over 70 performers to Grote Markt and Paard in the Hague's Pop district. August and September, respectively, bring the International Fireworks Festival and the Kite Festival in Scheveningen.

Explore street fairs and festivals

Some of the most traditional food in the Netherlands is Indonesian, and it's a must-try in the Netherlands. The food of the former Dutch colony has lots of different flavors and textures.



Explore Chinatown

Two striking gates mark the unmistakable entrances to Chinatown. A neighborhood filled with restaurants, supermarkets, and specialty stores, this is the place to go for anything Asian. There is a mix of Chinese, Japanese, Indonesian, and Thai cultures present in the food, decorations, and items sold here. Woeng Kee and Full Moon City are popular for dim sum. St. Anny Tea House is the best choice for pastries, and Asian Street Food by Momiji has a little bit of everything, including fruit teas.



Get beachy at Scheveningen

As soon as the weather gets sunny (and often even before then), crowds begin to flock to Scheveningen, one of the top places to go in The Hague. The beach resort on the North Sea is just 15 minutes by tram from center city, which means you can explore the city attractions in the morning and have your toes in the sand in the afternoon.

