

2-day program art, sport and nature in and around the fortified town of Heusden

picturesque fortified town

Heusden is a small, beautifully restored fortified town situated on the river Maas, between 's-Hertogenbosch and Waalwijk within a short distance from the unique 'Nationaal Park Loonse en Drunense Duinen', the largest sand drift area in Western Europe.



history

The name Heusden appears in the year 722 as Hunsata super Fluvium Mosam. During that time the town obtained her town rights. From the 13th century Heusden has had a turbulent history: many wars, the plague, looting by the infamous 'Witte Veer' gang, and the townhall disaster in 1944. Heusden has been Dutch and French in the past.

the river Maas

Its location on the river Bergsche Maas on the cutting edge of the provinces Brabant, Holland and Gelderland resulted in a strategic position. The defense system in the form of earthworks and the double canal system gave the inhabitants of Heusden relative safety within the fortified town.

In the fortified town the echo of the past is reflected in the names of alleys, streets and squares, like the 'Botermarkt' (buttermarket), the 'Vismarkt' (fishmarket) and the 'Burchtplein' (castle square). In Heusden are many plaques that refer to the profession of the owner or to the mores of the time in which the Bible was a guide. A good example is the house with the beautiful plaque 'INT Paradys' (in paradise).



art lovers

The small scale of the town remained intact. There are about 1500 residents in Heusden, which makes the town organized, accessible and relaxed. On the ramparts you can walk and cycle, with a playful look on the orange roofs and constantly changing perspectives of the canals, ravelins and outlying areas.

In the town, many artists and galleries are housed. From Wednesday until Sunday, you can visit the galleries, that exhibit a large variety of arts. The shops are open on Sundays. For a meal or a drink you can go to one of the many cafés and restaurants that are located on the monumental 'Vismarkt' or the 'Burchtplein'. The distances in the town are small, so you don't need a car. All amenities are within walking distance. For lovers of water sports, there are two marinas and a small, intimate city harbor.

environment

You can easily make a trip to the beautiful 'Nationaal Park De Loonse and Drunense Duinen' within 15 minutes by car. The park is a mix of dunes and woods.

The program

Day 1



10 AM art workshop

Painting workshop at *lis viv'arte*. You will paint under the expert guidance of *lis* on a canvas of 40 x 40 cm. The studio is located in the heart of the town at 16 Ridderstraat.

After the painting workshop, you are welcome to visit the gallery, housed in 'De Weynbergh' at 23 Breestraat. The gallery focuses on contemporary art.

1 PM lunch

Lunch at the Stadsherberg at the Burchtplein. This is a restaurant with a small brewery museum. They make their own beer en liqueurs.



3 PM solex tour

A three hour-Solex tour by Van den Brandt rental. Playful exploration of the region. Includes route, coffee and cakes.

7 PM cooking clinic

Cooking clinic in restaurant van Dijk at the Vismarkt. Under the guidance of the chef you will create your own meal.



Day 2



10 AM mountainbiking

Adventurous exploration of the 'Loonse en Drunense Duinen' by mountain bike. Thanks to the microclimate in these dunes, temperatures in summer can easily reach 40° C with cold nights, similar to a desert climate. This leads to a unique plant growth.

The tour includes a roadmap, helmet, license, repair kit, basic instruction. Transport to and from Heusden with minibus.

1 PM lunch

Lunch at restaurant 'De Drie Linden', located on the edge of the National Park.



3 PM sight seeing

Walk in Heusden. Led by a guide who will inform you about the history of the town.

6 PM dinner

Dinner in restaurant 'In Den Verdwaalde Koogel'



your stay

You will stay in B & B 'Achter Sint Joris', at 8 Burchtstraat or in hotel 'In Den Verdwaalde Koogel' located at 1 Vismarkt.



Price per person € 400, - all inclusive. Drinks are exclusive, based on the hotel price.