

UK, NETHERLANDS & BELGIUM

DISCOVER
Adventure

London to Bruges Cycle



Duration: 6 days

Ride from London to the canals and cobbled streets of Bruges, one of Europe's best-preserved medieval cities and known as the 'Venice of the North.' A wonderful cycling experience through the bike-friendly Low Countries.

We take the scenic route, heading out of London on quiet roads to Harwich, and cross by ferry to the Hook of Holland, before crossing low-lying Dutch Zeeland on fabulous cycle paths over a series of islands and sea barrages – a stunning ride which demonstrates some impressive engineering. From beautiful Vlissingen we take another ferry and, after a short, flat morning through West Flanders, follow canals into fairy-tale Bruges.

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1: London – Harwich – Hook of Holland

An early start from north-east London allows us to avoid the morning traffic as we pass through the outskirts of London onto quieter roads. It is not long before we are among the fields and villages of rural Essex. The route is reasonably flat and will take us through quieter countryside, passing through Maldon and Colchester, before heading to our destination. Here we have dinner before catching the overnight ferry to the Hook of Holland. Night on ferry.

Cycle approx 82 miles

Day 2: Hook of Holland – Vlissingen

Today's ride is beautiful, and likely to invoke a deep respect for the experts of land reclamation! Our route takes us south across the peninsulas and islands of Zeeland, the westernmost and least-populated province of The Netherlands. Quiet roads and cycle paths lead us over bridges and protective sea-barrages, giving us a wonderful viewpoint into this area of man-made hills which was once a marshy mudscape appearing only at low tide. It's all very scenic, with beaches and windmills, small ports and cobbled quays, and small towns and villages with traditional architecture. Passing Middleburg, the province capital, just a few more miles brings us to historic Vlissingen. Night hotel.

Cycle approx 108km (67 miles)

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DETAILED ITINERARY (cont.)

Day 3: Vissingen – Bruges

A morning's ride completes our challenge! We leave Vlissingen's port with a lovely ferry crossing across the estuary of the Scheldt River to Breskens. Leaving the coast, we ride flat, quiet roads towards the attractive town of Sluis and the border into Belgium. Here we cruise flat and largely traffic-free canal paths, enjoying the scenery, until we come into central Bruges. Famed for its canal networks, this 'Venice of the North' has some beautiful medieval buildings; the impressive historic centre is a World Heritage Site. An afternoon wander is a very pleasant way to wind down after the efforts of the last few days! Night hotel.

Cycle approx 38km (24 miles)

Day 4: Bruges – London

Free to explore until we transfer to Lille and connect to our Eurostar to London, where you will be reunited with your bike.

(Lunch not included)

Discover Adventure reserves the right to change the route or itinerary for safety reasons should local conditions dictate.

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CHALLENGE GRADING

Trips are graded Yellow, Orange or Red, in increasing level of challenge. This ride lies within the **Yellow** range.

The grade is determined by factors such as terrain, distance, climate, altitude, etc. Each colour grade has a **spectrum** which reflects the difficulty of these factors; trip duration, accommodation and living conditions are also taken into account.

The Challenge Factor icon shows the most challenging aspect – the long days cycling.

The grade reflects the overall trip; some sections will feel more challenging than others. Unusual weather conditions also have a significant impact, and not all people are tested by the same aspects.