

Harlingen, Friesland, Netherlands

One of the Netherlands' oldest seaports, Harlingen sits where Frisian culture meets the wild Wadden Sea — historic canal quays, traditional sailing ships, and a town centre you can walk to straight off the gangway.

 Pier (small/medium ships) or Tender (large ships)

 Typical call: 6–8 hrs

 Euro (cards widely accepted)

 Dutch & West Frisian (English spoken everywhere)

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Pier (Wilhelmina Harbour, ships up to 160 m); larger ships tender from Wadden Sea (30–45 min)

Best For: Canal walks, Frisian culture, Wadden Sea wildlife, authentic Dutch atmosphere

Walk to centre: 5–10 min from pier to Noorderhaven canal & Voorstraat

Don't Miss: The Whale of Harlingen fountain, hand-painted Frisian earthenware factory, kibbeling at the harbour

Getting around:  Taxi  €10–€20 ·  Rideshare  Uber

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Wadden Sea Seal & Sandbank Tour** — Board a RIB or traditional sailing vessel to explore the UNESCO Wadden Sea tidal flats.
- Frisian Earthenware Workshop Visit** — The Harlinger Aardewerken Tegelfabriek hand-paints traditional Frisian tin-glazed earthenware and tiles, reviving a Harlingen ceramics tradition...
- Hannemahuis Museum** — Harlingen's main museum occupies a magnificent 18th-century merchant's mansion and tells the story of the port's seafaring and whaling history...
- Independent Day Trip to Leeuwarden** — Hop the direct train from Harlingen Haven station (right by the harbour) to Leeuwarden — Friesland's elegant capital, with grand canals, the leaning...

BEST WALKS

- Harbour Canals Loop** 2.5 km · 45 min · Flat — Walk from the cruise pier along the Noorderhaven canal with its 17th-century warehouse facades and flotilla of historic clippers, continue to Zuiderhaven, and loop back...
- Sea Dike & Beach Walk** 3 km · 50 min · Flat — Head west along the Westerzeedijk sea dike for open views across the Wadden Sea toward the islands of Terschelling and Vlieland on the horizon.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 **CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		54°	43°	8d
Jun		63°	54°	9d
Aug		68°	59°	11d
Sep		64°	55°	12d
Oct		57°	50°	12d

 **DAYLIGHT &  MONEY**

Apr 6:39AM–8:38PM · Jun 5:11AM–10:06PM · Aug 6:19AM–9:04PM · Sep 7:12AM–7:53PM · Oct 8:05AM–6:41PM

Euro (cards widely accepted)

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Go cashless. The Netherlands is heavily card-oriented — many small cafes and market stalls are card-only. Bring a contactless card; you may not need cash at all.
- Dress for the wind. Harlingen sits directly on the Wadden Sea coast — it can be gusty and changeable even on bright days. A windproof layer is essential year-round.
- Eat kibbeling at the harbour. Fresh deep-fried cod chunks from a harbour fish stall are a quintessential Dutch quayside snack — don't leave without one.
- Train to Leeuwarden is easy. Harlingen Haven station is steps from the pier. A direct 25-minute train opens up the Frisian capital — great if you want more than the town itself.
- Tender passengers: check last return time. If your ship is tendering, the last tender is non-negotiable. Build in buffer — 30–45 min crossing each way.

Harlingen, Friesland, Netherlands — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



1 Keatsmuseum Museum dedicated to the traditional Frisian sport of keats.

3 Korendragershuisje (National monument) Historic guild house for Harlingen's former grain carriers.

5 Museum Martena Regional museum showcasing Frisian history, art, and culture.

P Cruise port / terminal

2 De Stenen Man Historic monument honoring a dike worker, overlooking the Wadden Sea.

4 Eise Eisinga Planetarium World's oldest working planetarium, built inside a canal house.

6 Harlinger Aardewerk & Tegelfabriek Traditional factory producing Harlingen pottery and hand-painted tiles.