

Hellevoetsluis, South Holland, Netherlands

A perfectly preserved Dutch fortress town where 17th-century naval bastions meet Europe's oldest stone dry dock — compact, walkable, and quietly extraordinary.

Docked at town quay

Typical call: 6-8 hrs

Euro (€)

Dutch (English widely spoken)

MY DAY IN PORT

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

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: River/small ships dock at the town quay — no tender needed

Best For: History buffs, naval heritage, leisurely fortress walks

Walk to center: Under 5 min from quay to historic fortress core

Don't Miss: Droogdok Jan Blanken — oldest stone dry dock in Europe

Getting around: Taxi €10–€20 (local) · Rideshare Uber

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Droogdok Jan Blanken** — The oldest stone dry dock in Europe, built in the early 19th century and still intact.
- Vesting Hellevoetsluis Fortress Walk** — Stroll the ramparts, bastions, and casemates of the remarkably preserved 17th-century fortress.
- National Firefighting Museum** — The Nationaal Brandweermuseum holds one of Europe's most impressive collections of historic firefighting equipment, from horse-drawn pumps to early...
- Kinderdijk Windmills Day Trip** — The UNESCO-listed Kinderdijk windmill network is roughly 40 km away — a classic Dutch experience popular as a longer excursion from Hellevoetsluis or...
- Haringvliet Waterway & Marina** — The broad Haringvliet estuary framing the town is superb for kayaking, stand-up paddleboarding, and boat trips.

BEST WALKS

- Fortress Core Loop** ~2 km • 45 min • Flat, paved — From the town quay, walk to Droogdok Jan Blanken, continue past the Prinsehuis to the Hellevoetsluis Lighthouse, then loop back along the ramparts past Corn Mill De Hoop.
- Marina & Waterfront Stroll** ~1 km • 20 min • Flat — An easy walk along the Hellevoetsluis marina and Haringvliet waterfront — good for watching boats, grabbing a coffee, and enjoying the Dutch waterscape.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr	56°	43°	10d
Jun	69°	56°	11d
Aug	71°	60°	14d
Sep	67°	56°	11d
Oct	60°	51°	15d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 6:47AM–8:40PM · Jun 5:24AM–10:04PM · Aug 6:28AM–9:06PM · Sep 7:18AM–7:57PM · Oct 8:08AM–6:49PM

Euro (€)

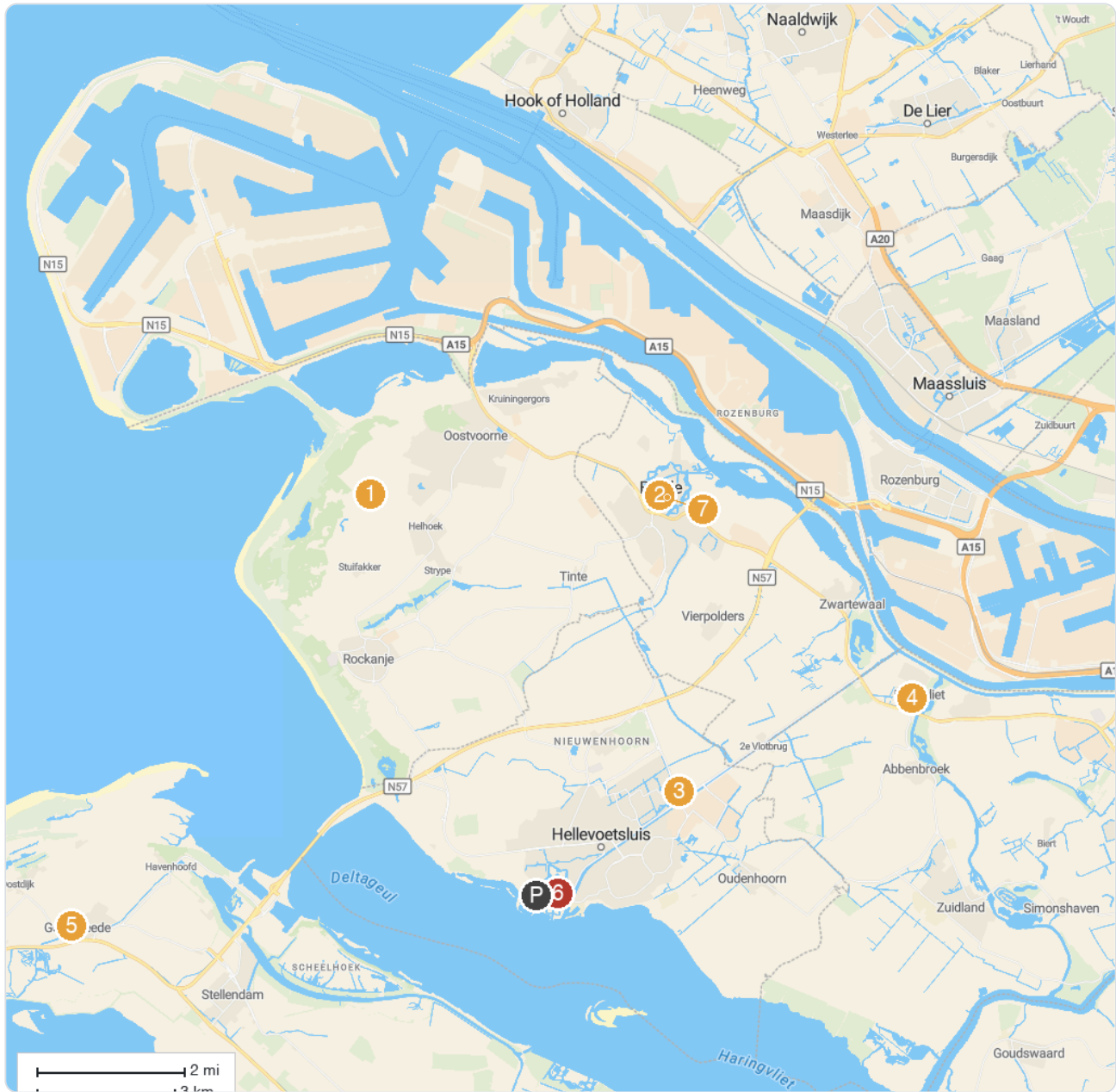
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Euro cash or card — most local cafes and museums accept cards, but a few smaller spots prefer cash.
- Everything is walkable — the fortress core is tiny. You can cover all the major sights in half a day, leaving time for a waterfront lunch.
- Rent a bike to reach the Haringvliet coastline or cycling paths along the old defensive works — the landscape is flat and ideal for cycling.
- Droogdok Jan Blanken is the unmissable sight — check opening hours before your call as it may require a guided tour booking.
- Vestingdagen festival (third weekend of August) transforms the town with historic ships, markets, and live shows — spectacular timing if your itinerary aligns.
- Pack layers — South Holland weather is unpredictable year-round. A light waterproof jacket is always worth bringing ashore.

Hellevoetsluis, South Holland, Netherlands — Port Map

cruiseports.org

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



- | | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1 Openluchtmuseum De Duinhuisjes | Open-air museum with historic dune houses. | 2 St. Catharinjekerk | Historic church with a rich past. |
| 3 Historyland | Theme park for dinosaurs, ice age, and nature. | 4 Slot Ravesteyn | Historic castle ruins with a moat. |
| 5 Torenmuseum Goedereede | Museum inside a medieval church tower. | 6 National Firefighting Museum | Museum showcasing Dutch firefighting history and equipment. |
| 7 Historical Museum Den Briel | Museum detailing the capture of Den Briel in 1572. | P Cruise port / terminal | |