

Hoorn, North Holland, Netherlands

Cape Horn was named after this town — and one afternoon here explains why Hoorn's merchant sailors were the boldest in the world. Golden-age gables, a working harbour, and kibbeling at the quayside.

-  Pier (docked at historic quays)
-  Typical call: 6–8 hrs
-  Euro (€)
-  Dutch (English widely spoken)
-  Compact, fully walkable centre

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: Arrive: All aboard:

Excursion: Notes:

GETTING ASHORE

- Docking:** Pier — ships berth directly at the historic harbour quays; no tender
- Best For:** Dutch Golden Age history, VOC heritage, charming cobblestone streets
- Walk to centre:** 5–10 min from quays to Roode Steen square (~500 m, flat)
- Don't Miss:** Hoofdtoren (1532 harbour tower), Bossuizen frieze, steam train to Medemblik

Getting around:  Taxi  €8–€15 ·  Rideshare  Uber

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Roode Steen & the Golden Age Quarter** — Wander the central square anchored by the ornate 1609 Waag (weigh house) and the statue of controversial VOC governor Jan Pieterszoon Coen.
- Hoofdtoren Harbour Walk** — The 1532 Hoofdtoren defensive tower guards the harbour entrance and is Hoorn's most photographed landmark.
- Museum of the 20th Century (Oostereiland)** — Right next to the cruise quay on Oostereiland, this nostalgic museum recreates how Dutch everyday life changed across the 1900s — retro living rooms...
- Steam Train to Medemblik** — Board the Museumstoomtram Hoorn–Medemblik, a fully operational historic steam train running through the West Frisian countryside to the medieval...
- Cape Horn Connection: VOC Heritage Walk** — Hoorn's biggest claim to fame: navigator Willem Schouten sailed from here in 1616 and named Cape Horn after his home city.

BEST WALKS

- Harbour & Golden Age Loop** 2 km · 30–45 min · Easy · Flat cobblestones — From the quay, walk to the Hoofdtoren, continue along Veermanskade past the historic ships to the Slapershaven and the Bossuizen frieze, then cut inland to Roode Steen...
- Oostereiland to Old Town** 1.5 km · 20–30 min · Easy — Start at Oostereiland (Museum of the 20th Century), cross to the inner harbour, walk the Scheepmakersdijk waterfront, and arrive at Roode Steen.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 **CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		55°	43°	10d
Jun		68°	56°	11d
Aug		70°	59°	14d
Sep		66°	55°	11d
Oct		59°	50°	14d

 **DAYLIGHT & MONEY**

Apr 6:41AM–8:38PM · Jun 5:15AM–10:05PM · Aug 6:22AM–9:04PM · Sep 7:14AM–7:54PM · Oct 8:05AM–6:44PM

Euro (€)

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Go cashless. The Netherlands is heavily card-based — contactless payments are accepted almost everywhere, including small cafes and market stalls. No need to find an ATM.
- Westfries Museum is closed until mid-2027 for major renovations. Don't plan your visit around it — check for temporary exhibitions at other venues in town.
- Steam train needs planning. The Museumstoomtram to Medemblik departs on a fixed schedule — book tickets in advance (museumstoomtram.nl) and confirm departure times match your port call.
- Eat kibbeling at the harbour. The fish stalls near the quayside serve deep-fried battered cod (kibbeling) with garlic sauce — the definitive Dutch harbour snack. Also try Hoornse Broeder, a local raisin bread.
- Summer cheese market. On Thursdays in mid-June through late August, the Roode Steen hosts a traditional cheese market reenactment with carriers in costume, horse carts, and live music — worth timing your visit around.
- Amsterdam is 35 minutes away. Hoorn station is a 12-minute walk from the docks. If your port call is long and you've seen Hoorn before, a direct train to Amsterdam Centraal is easy and frequent.

Hoorn, North 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 Westfriesmuseum

Historic museum showcasing West Frisian culture and history.

3 Museum of the 20th Century

Museum displaying everyday life and objects from the 20th century.

P Cruise port / terminal

2 Oosterkerk

Historic church with beautiful architecture and stained glass.

4 Stoomtramstation Wognum-Nibbixwoud

Historic steam tram station for scenic rides through the countryside.