

Kinderdijk, South Holland, Netherlands

Nineteen 18th-century windmills line the canal banks where the Lek and Noord rivers meet — a living drainage system and the most iconic windmill landscape in the Netherlands, now a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

 River pier (direct dock)  Typical call: 3-5 hrs  Euro (€) — largely cashless  Dutch (English widely spoken)

MY DAY IN PORT

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

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: River cruise ships berth on the Lek riverbank, steps from the windmill site entrance

Walk to windmills: 2–5 min from the pier to the Visitor Center

Best For: Photography, Dutch history, easy flat walking, canal boat tours

Don't Miss: Interior of Museum Windmill Nederwaard and the 30-min canal cruiser tour

 Getting around:  Taxi  €80–95 from Rotterdam ·  Rideshare  Uber, Bolt

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Museum Windmill Nederwaard** — Step inside a working 1738 ground-sailer windmill to see how a family of 15 once lived and worked in cramped quarters alongside the grinding...
- **Canal Cruiser Boat Tour** — A 30-minute guided canal ride past all 19 windmills from the water — the best angle for photos and ideal for those who prefer not to walk the full...
- **Wisboom Pumping Station** — Explore the 19th-century steam pumping station — now electric — with interactive displays explaining the Dutch polder water-management system that...
- **Cycling the Windmill Route** — Rent a bike at the entrance and cycle the full length of the polder canal — the most Dutch way to see all 19 mills and reach the quieter far end...
- **Rotterdam Day Extension** — Combine Kinderdijk with Rotterdam's striking modern architecture — the Cube Houses, Markthal, and Erasmus Bridge are 30 minutes away by WaterShuttle.

BEST WALKS

- **Main Windmill Canal Walk** 2 km one-way · Flat paved path · 30–45 min each way — Follow the canal towpath from the Visitor Center past all 19 windmills to the far end of the polder.
- **Village & River Levee Loop** ~1.5 km · Flat · 20–30 min — From the pier, walk the Lek riverbank levee path north and loop back through the small village — pleasant views of the river and the docked cruise ships from above.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

🌦️ CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				🇳🇱 DAYLIGHT & 💰 MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain	Apr 6:45AM–8:38PM · Jun 5:21AM–10:02PM · Aug 6:26AM–9:04PM · Sep 7:16AM–7:55PM · Oct 8:06AM–6:46PM	
Apr	57°	42°	11d	Euro (€) — largely cashless	
Jun	70°	55°	11d		
Aug	72°	58°	14d		
Sep	67°	54°	10d		
Oct	60°	49°	14d		

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Pre-book tickets online. kinderdijk.nl is cheaper than the gate, and time slots fill up fast when multiple river ships are in port simultaneously.
- Go cashless. The Netherlands is nearly a cash-free society — card (Visa/Mastercard) is accepted everywhere at Kinderdijk, including toilets.
- Wind is constant. Even on sunny summer days, the open polder is exposed and breezy. Pack a windbreaker — you'll be glad you did.
- People still live here. Most windmills are private residences. Only the two designated museum mills are open inside — respect fences and gardens.
- Try the Dutch snacks. Grand Café Kinderdijk at the Visitor Center does good Dutch apple pie; look for stroopwafels and poffertjes at stands nearby.
- From Rotterdam? Take the seasonal WaterShuttle from Erasmusbrug (Willemskade) — 30 scenic minutes on the river, far cheaper and more enjoyable than a taxi.

Kinderdijk, 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 Hoge Bergse Bos | 2 Maritime Museum |
| 3 Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen | 4 Wereldmuseum Rotterdam |
| 5 Plaswijckpark | 6 Kijk-Kubus Museum-house |
| 7 Miniworld Rotterdam | 8 Erasmusbrug |
| P Cruise port / terminal | |