



# Survival Guide



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## **1. Arrival**

### **1.1 How to arrive in the Netherlands?**

#### **By Airplane**

The main airport of the Netherlands is Schiphol Airport (in Amsterdam). There is a train station located within the airport itself, where you can take a train to Delft.

A smaller airport for low-cost flights is Eindhoven Airport. You can take Bus 401 or 400 from the airport to the Eindhoven train station, where you can take a train to Delft. The entire journey will take about 2 hours.

Another small, but less used airport is the Rotterdam-The Hague Airport. You can take Bus 33 from the airport to the Rotterdam Central Station, where you can take a train to Delft. The journey will take around 50 minutes.

Other options are: Weeze, Brussels or Brussels South Charleroi airports, where you'll need to take longer train rides to arrive at Delft.

### **By train**

The Netherlands is very well connected to Belgium, France and Germany by train. The train rides between Netherlands and Belgium are done with Intercity (more affordable) and Hi-speed trains. The connection to France is done via Thalys, and Germany is connected via IC, ICE and Night Line Deutsche Bahn trains. If you book in advance, you might get nice deals, but these trains are usually expensive. To buy tickets and plan your trip you can visit <https://www.nsinternational.nl/en>. You may also use [www.db.de](http://www.db.de) and [www.b-rail.be](http://www.b-rail.be) when traveling from Germany or Belgium. You can travel from the end-stations Amsterdam, Rotterdam or Amersfoort to Delft easily by train.

Train ticket vending machines in train stations in Amsterdam and also other stations support mastercard or visa.

### **By Bus**

It is possible to arrive in The Netherlands from many cities in Europe through Eurolines or Flixbus. It is not the most comfortable trip, but can be quite cheap depending on the current offer. The closest Eurolines stops are in Rotterdam and The Hague, where you can easily take a train, tram or bus to Delft. Flixbus has a stop in Delft itself and in other Dutch cities.

### **By Car**

If you consider coming by car make sure you have a GPS, since the flatness of the country makes it difficult to navigate on your own.

## **1.2 How to arrive in Delft**

You have arrived in The Netherlands and you are faced with the following question: How the hell do I get to Delft? Fear not, Delft can be easily reached via various forms of public transportation.

To find out which train or bus to take, we advise you to download an app called 9292. In the app, you can fill in where you are, and where you want to go, and the app will look for all the possible ways to get you there by public transit. Another app that can be of use is the NS Reisplanner app. This app can only plan your trip by means of trains.

The train tickets can be bought from the service desks (only during working hours) and self-service ticket machines. You can pay with a debit or credit card (Maestro, Mastercard or Visa) at all ticket machines and with coins at some machines. When bought at the machines or the counter, the ticket will have an extra charge of 1€ for the physical ticket. You can avoid this cost by buying the ticket online (which will come with a QR code that you can scan to enter and leave train stations). This can be done at <https://www.ns.nl/producten/en/s/enkele-reis>.

Another option is to buy a reusable travel card (called an ov-chipkaart, which costs 7,5€) that you can add money to and use for both trains and buses. However, this option isn't the best as the ov-chipkaart requires a balance of at least 20€ to use trains.

Do not forget to buy a train ticket since the conductors check frequently, especially on routes to and from airports. If you are caught without a ticket, you will be fined €35 plus the cost of the ticket you should have bought.

When using the bus or tram, you can buy a ticket from the driver using cash/coins.

## 1.3 What to bring

o Passport and visa (if needed) o Student Card (or proof of being a student) o Travel/Health Insurance (if needed) o Towels and other personal sanitary products (toothpaste, shampoo etc) o Warm clothes (weather will be below 10 °C at night) o Raincoat/Umbrella (it's very likely it will rain a lot) o Formal set of clothes for official ceremonies (dress shirt, skirt, formal pants, nice shoes...) o Mobile Phone o Study Materials o An open mind and well-rested body!

## 2. The Netherlands and Delft

### 2.1 The Netherlands

The Netherlands is a relatively small country, which borders Germany and Belgium and lies across the North Sea from the United Kingdom. The country is often referred to as "Holland", though strictly speaking this name only refers to two of its 12 provinces. With a population over 17 million, The Netherlands is one of the most densely populated countries in the world.

Traditional means of transport in our country are bicycles (fiets in Dutch). Since the entire country is flat, and distances are short, you can get around easily by bike.

To be honest, The Netherlands is not famous for its culinary aspects. We like to steal dishes from other cultures, and that's what we do most of the time. Traditional dinner consists of mashed potatoes mixed with different kinds of vegetables, with meat on the side (it's called "stamppot") Typical Dutch foods are: Different types of cheese, Stroopwafel, Frikandel, Kroket, Patat with Mayo and Vla.

### 2.2 Delft

Delft is a city in The Netherlands. It's located in the province of South Holland, north of Rotterdam and south of The Hague. Delft is known for its historic town center filled with canals (it's sometimes called the small Amsterdam). Other things Delft is known for is the Delft Blue pottery, the painter Johannes Vermeer, the scientist Antony van Leeuwenhoek, and its association with the royal House of Orange-Nassau. And of course, Delft is well known for the Delft University of Technology.

## 3. Practical Information

### 3.1 Other useful information

Our currency is the Euro (€). ATM's are widely available, and also credit cards are often accepted (but be aware that some places might only accept Maestro debit cards and no VISA or Mastercard, so it's always a good idea to carry a bit of cash with you). Personal cheques are NOT accepted in The Netherlands. Also, make sure you have the right power sockets (type C or F). If you don't, you won't be able to charge your phone or laptop. Adapters can be found in some shops in Delft but it will be easier to bring them from home.

Cherish the moments where you can see the sun, it doesn't come out often. Expect rain, wind and cloudy weather.

### 3.2 Language

The Netherlands has its own language called Dutch (or "Nederlands"). Lucky for you, you can get around with English easily here. Almost everyone in The Netherlands speaks English as a second language, and when you approach people in English, they are happy to help. However, it does no harm to speak a few words of Dutch. This is why we included a small dictionary, which includes the most important phrases in our language.

### 3.3 Small Dictionary

Hallo, Doe!	Hello/ Bye!
Slaap lekker	Sleep tight
Hoe is het matje?	How Are You?
Ik begrijp het niet.	I don't understand you
Spreek je Engels?	Do you speak English?
Ja / Nee	Yes/No
Dank u wel	Thank you
Alstublieft	Please/You're Welcome
Sorry	Sorry
Hoe laat is het?	What Time is it?
Hoeveel?	How Much?
Ik wil graag pinnen	I'd like to pay electronically
Gratis	For free
Help	Help
Toilet, WC	Toilet
Biertje?	May I offer you a beer?
Proost	Cheers
Do You Come Here Often?	Kom je hier vaker?

## 4. Miscellaneous information

4.1 Contact information **LBG Delft/Aegee Office:** Kanaalweg 4, 2628 EB

### 4.2 Important telephone numbers

**Are you attending an Aegee event?**

Eva Groenewoud- External Affairs

+31 6 48622427

**Are you attending a BEST Delft event?**

Precup Ada - President

+31 6 13573749

**Are you in the Netherlands?**

Emergency, Police and Fire: 112

Taxi: Deltax Taxicentrale +31-15-2191919

### 4.3 Useful links

BEST Delft: [www.bestdelft.nl](http://www.bestdelft.nl) TU

Delft: <http://www.tudelft.nl/en/>

International Trains :

<https://www.nsinternational.com>

National Trains: <https://www.ns.nl/en>

Schiphol Airport:

[http://www.schiphol.nl/index\\_en.html](http://www.schiphol.nl/index_en.html)

Dutch weather:

<http://www.weatheronline.co.uk/Netherlands.html>

Journey planner, the planner for

Dutch public transit (trains,

trams, metro & bus):

<http://9292.nl/en>