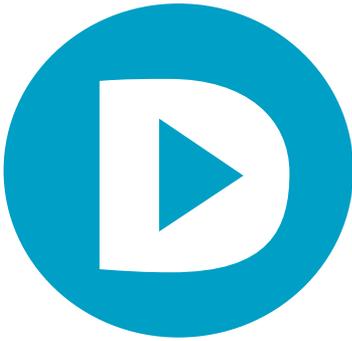


# ▶ DELTA



*Delft Survival Guide*



COLOPHON

# Delta

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Delta is the independent newspaper of TU Delft.

[www.delta.tudelft.nl](http://www.delta.tudelft.nl)

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The Survival Guide is an on-going series and will be updated with new and relevant topics.

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# Table of Contents

<b>Life on campus</b>	<b>6</b>
Survive: Campus	<a href="#">8</a>
Survive: Bars on campus	<a href="#">11</a>
Survive: TU Delft's online forums	<a href="#">14</a>
Survive: Mental health on campus	<a href="#">16</a>
<b>Getting around</b>	<b>18</b>
Survive: The bike	<a href="#">19</a>
Survive: The cycling rules	<a href="#">21</a>
Survive: The public transport	<a href="#">24</a>
Survive: The new train tickets	<a href="#">28</a>
Survive: The news	<a href="#">31</a>
Survive: Networking	<a href="#">34</a>
Survive: The libraries	<a href="#">36</a>
Survive: After-hour emergencies	<a href="#">39</a>
Survive: Free wifi	<a href="#">41</a>
Survive: The rain	<a href="#">43</a>
Survive: The tourism	<a href="#">45</a>
Survive: The snow	<a href="#">47</a>
Survive: The trash	<a href="#">49</a>
Survive: Visas	<a href="#">52</a>
Survive: The medical system	<a href="#">54</a>

## **Things to do** **57**

Survive: The beaches	<a href="#"><u>59</u></a>
Survive: The museums	<a href="#"><u>61</u></a>
Survive: Trivia nights	<a href="#"><u>63</u></a>
Survive: Sports clubs	<a href="#"><u>65</u></a>
Survive: The theatre	<a href="#"><u>67</u></a>
Survive: The events	<a href="#"><u>69</u></a>
Survive: Delft's music events	<a href="#"><u>72</u></a>
Survive: The tastings	<a href="#"><u>75</u></a>
Survive: Winter activities in Delft	<a href="#"><u>77</u></a>
Survive: Watching sports	<a href="#"><u>80</u></a>
Survive: Indoor games	<a href="#"><u>82</u></a>
Survive: Exercising	<a href="#"><u>85</u></a>
Survive: Fitness classes	<a href="#"><u>87</u></a>
Survive: City walks	<a href="#"><u>90</u></a>
Survive: The coffeeshops	<a href="#"><u>93</u></a>
Survive: The ice cream	<a href="#"><u>95</u></a>

## **Eating out & shopping** **98**

Survive: Thrift shopping	<a href="#"><u>100</u></a>
Survive: Thrift shopping II	<a href="#"><u>102</u></a>
Survive: Late night shopping	<a href="#"><u>105</u></a>
Survive: Home food shopping	<a href="#"><u>107</u></a>
Survive: The weekly markets	<a href="#"><u>109</u></a>
Survive: Breakfast	<a href="#"><u>111</u></a>

---

Survive: The hunt for ingredients	<a href="#">113</a>
Survive: Book shopping	<a href="#">115</a>
Survive: The international cuisine	<a href="#">118</a>
Survive: The perfect cuppa	<a href="#">120</a>
Survive: The best of shopping	<a href="#">122</a>
<b>Dutch life</b>	<b><a href="#">125</a></b>
Survive: Sinterklaas in Delft	<a href="#">126</a>
Survive: King's Day	<a href="#">129</a>
Survive: Speaking in Dutch (or not)	<a href="#">131</a>
Survive: Public holidays	<a href="#">133</a>
Survive: Learning Dutch	<a href="#">141</a>
Survive: Football mania	<a href="#">143</a>

# SURVIVE

## life on campus



# Survive: Campus

New to TU Delft or still confused about what EWI actually means? Here's a quick introduction to all the buildings on campus, from their Dutch names and English translations to a bit of history.



## The Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment

**Dutch:** Faculteit Bouwkunde

**Abbreviation:** BK

One of the coolest spaces on campus, BK City opened in 2009, after a tragic fire in destroyed the original faculty building. The story of its construction is nothing short of a miracle. After the fire, the university's former main building was given to the faculty. By June, the faculty's professors had plans in place on how to convert the heritage building into a space for designers of the new millennium.

## Faculty of Civil Engineering & Geosciences

**Dutch:** Faculteit Civiele Techniek en Geowetenschappen

**Abbreviation:** CITG

On a sunny day, the CITG building looks like it's patterned by hundreds of clouds. The glass facade, printed with a pattern of cut stone, was

added to the building in 2007 along with other renovations to the 1970s building, originally designed by Van den Broek & Bakema.

### Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Mathematics and Computer Science

**Dutch:** Elektrotechniek, Wiskunde en Informatica

**Abbreviation:** EWI

This 22-storey, 90 metre-tall EWI building was once the tallest building in the Netherlands. Designed in the 1960s by prominent Dutch architect G.Drexhage, it was landmark in Dutch architecture, with its functional design, outer skin made of glass in steel frames and the roof which doubles up as a research platform.

### Faculty of Industrial Design

**Dutch:** Faculteit Industrieel Ontwerpen

**Abbreviation:** IO

If you take a quick detour into this faculty, you're likely to see some curious designs and futuristic models. The academic programme of this department began over 35 years ago, and is among the oldest of its kind in the world.

### Faculty of Aerospace Engineering

**Dutch:** Faculteit Luchtvaart- en Ruimtevaarttechniek

**Abbreviation:** LR

One of the biggest faculties dedicated to this area of research in Europe, this is also among the largest faculties in TU Delft. While the main building is slightly further down from the rest of campus, the faculty also owns their own plane.

### Faculty of Technology, Policy and Management

**Dutch:** Faculteit Techniek, Bestuur en Management

**Abbreviation:** TBM

The faculty came into being in 1997, with the merger of the former Faculty of Technology, Policy and the Faculty of Philosophy and Applied Social Sciences (WTM). The mission statement of the faculty, as mentioned on its website, states that it "wishes to make a significant contribution to sustainable solutions for social problems in which technology

plays an important role, through internationally oriented education and research.”

### Faculty of Applied Sciences

**Dutch:** Faculteit Technische Natuurwetenschappen

**Abbreviation:** TNW

With over 50 professors and seven departments, it is one of the largest faculties in TU Delft. Some of its subject areas include Chemical Engineering, Nanosciences, Biotechnology and Radiation among others. When TU Delft was established in 1843, one of the first three year courses offered was Chemical Engineering. “In those days chemistry was, for the most part, still in the hands of apothecaries, and the first lecturer and later professor in the Department was a medical doctor by the name of Donnadieu,” said the website of the department.

### Faculty of Mechanical, Maritime and Materials Engineering

**Dutch:** Werktuigbouwkunde, Maritieme Techniek & Technische Materiaalwetenschappen

**Abbreviation:** 3mE

Four towers, crowned with glass domes and a body of water welcome you. The forecourt has four female figures on the roof. According to one of the faculty’s publications: “They represent the four elements – water, fire, air and earth” – and were added in the early 1950s. “They were carved on location from limestone underneath a tarpaulin for protection from the rain.”

## Survive: Bars on campus

Fancy a mid-week pub crawl? Or a Friday night borrel? Don't bike all the way to the city centre, check out some of the bars on campus.



### /Pub

The /Pub is located in the basement of the EWI building and is run by members of the various academic student societies. "The pub is probably as old as the building. Before EWI became a joined faculty, the pub was called the E-Cafe," said Leon Loopik, one of the volunteer bartenders. "We sell about 150 litres of beer on a good night, but there've been nights when we've gone up to 250ltrs," said Jonas Carpay, another volunteer. Though the pub is officially open only until 19:00, legend has it that it was once open until the first class the next morning.

**Where:** Basement, EWI

**When:** Wednesdays, Thursdays, Friday 16:00 – 19:00

### BouwPub

Housed in a small building near the architecture faculty, Bouwpub was once home to the building's caretaker. "It's the only pub which is not managed by a student society. We have a special bar committee and

welcome volunteers to help out behind the bar,” said Vincent Rutenfrans, a member of the bar committee. The pub hosts events throughout the year, from Oktoberfest to a special wine night called Beaujolais.

**Where:** Faculty of Architecture

**When:** Tuesdays 17:00 – 20:00 and Thursdays 16:00 – 20:00

### Atmosfeer

One of few campus bars to be open until 1:00, Atmosfeer is managed by students of the Faculty of Aerospace Engineering. “A bar committee, which is formed by members of the student society, is set up to look into the management. We also have student volunteers for regular nights,” said Jef Michielssen, president of the student society. You can also order dinner until 18:00.

**Where:** Faculty of Aerospace Engineering

**When:** Wednesdays 17:00 - 1:00 and Fridays 17:00 - 20:00

### ECAST

A small, cosy pub in the department of Chemical Engineering, here they also serve snacks such as fries and bitterballen. On November 14, they have a special night where students are invited to bring along their friends and family.

**Where:** Department of Chemical Engineering

**When:** Thursdays 16:00 – 20:00

### i.d-Kafee

This one is a must visit. One of the busiest pubs, the i.d-Kafee is said to host the biggest parties on campus. Recently, they hosted an Oktoberfest event, attended by 450 students. “We sold around 1,400 litres of beer in four hours on that day,” said Jan Koenders, chairman of the faculty student society responsible for the pub. While the pub itself is relatively small, the area outside is usually full of students. Koenders said that they also have the distinction of being the largest buyers of Grolsch in Delft.

**Where:** Faculty of Industrial Design Engineering

**When:** Wednesdays 17:00 – 21:00

### TB-Cafe

One of the youngest pubs on campus, they host a variety of theme nights. An open bar with a funky chandelier, they also serve pasta and pizza, as long it's ordered before 18:00.

**Where:** Faculty of Technology Policy and Management

**When:** Thursdays 16:00 – 21:30

### PSOR

This bar began in the 1970s with an old refrigerator. "Sometime in the 1990s the number of people visiting increased so the space became bigger," said Ileen van den Berg, secretary of the faculty's student society. 30-40 people are here each week, from students to members of staff. They also host special events such a Christmas party, Belgian drinks nights. They have a beer of the month, special beers, spirits and even fresh coffee should you need it.

**Where:** Faculty of Civil Engineering

**When:** Thursdays 15:30 - 19:30

## Survive: TU Delft's online forums

At TU Delft, there's a digital solution for a lot of your problems. Missed a class or need to review a lecture? There's Collegerama or iTunes U. No idea what's happening on campus or where to meet new people? There's Delftulip and Come2TUDelft. And, of course, there's Blackboard, the virtual classroom. Here's a quick recap about them all.

### Come2TUDelft

In 2013 the Central International Office (CIO) launched a social networking community for PhD candidates and researchers. Called Come2TUDelft, today the by-invitation-only network has close to 750 members. Come2TUDelft allows candidates and researchers across faculties to interact with each other, through posts and IMs. It is also an information portal, with pages on practical information about Delft and the university, upcoming activities, arrangements for new arrivals and events. There is also space for videos, photos, blogs and discussion forums.

<http://come2tudelft.ning.com/main>

### Collegerama

Collegerama is an online database with live recordings of almost all lectures held on campus. It has over 20,000 lectures and around 800,000 visits a year. In July, the site recorded its three millionth visitor since 2008. "The amount of lectures we record has been growing and is now about 3,000 a year. Started in 2008 as additional material for students, today about 70-100 lectures across faculties are recorded per week. "We have limited resources, but we try and cover all faculties. We get the most requests from EWI, CITG and 3mE," said Leon Huijbris, head of the New Media Centre.

<http://collegeramacolleges.tudelft.nl/>

### Blackboard

This is a great blended learning tool for teachers and students. Accessible by campus ID, Blackboard has an online extension of the classroom, complete with options for interaction and feedback. "Teachers can use Blackboard as a digital learning environment to upload presentations,

documents, notes. Here you can do everything you can do in class, it's a great learning interface and is still evolving," said Kees van Kuijen of E-Learning Support. Besides the Grade Centre and Content Editor, teachers can now also access Student View and are encouraged to use Blackboard Instant Messenger to communicate with groups, offer online consultation and video conferences.

<https://blackboard.tudelft.nl/>

### Delftulip

Delftulip (also launched by the CIO) is an online international student community catering to MSc and BSc students. A private community, it is designed like a social media website with a profile page, chat boxes, space for blogs and posts. Incoming students are given resources about what to expect - on campus, in the city and Dutch society. The idea is to help students from different cultural backgrounds create networks within a safe environment even before they get on campus.

<http://delftulip.ning.com/>

### iTunes TU Delft

When the app launched in 2011, TU Delft was the first Dutch university forum on iTunes University. With over 20,000 lectures, presentations, videos and podcasts, it is downloadable free and accessible all over the world. "The material includes almost everything found on Collegerama. This platform makes it easier to find globally and put us in the league of big international universities that were already on iTunes U," said Paul Suijker, who was the project manager of the team that launched the app. It has had over half a million downloads and continues to grow.

<http://www.tudelft.nl/en/study/online-education/itunes-u/>

### TU Delft's Web Care Team

All of these forums apart, TU Delft is also very active on Facebook and Twitter. The Facebook page has around 28,000 likes and they have 25,000 followers on Twitter. Regular updated with news, events, photos and campus on-goings, they're a good resource all things TU-related.

Facebook

[www.facebook.com/  
TUDelft](http://www.facebook.com/TUDelft)

Twitter

[www.twitter.com/  
tudelft](http://www.twitter.com/tudelft)

## Survive: Mental health on campus

Help is just a phone call away. Faculties and departments across TU Delft have a panel of trained experts available with any kind of counselling help that students and PhD candidates might need. We asked Paula Meesters, the team leader of the campus psychologists, about their services and how best they can be approached.

### Language is not a barrier

“Of course we can talk to students in English. We have also had students who cannot communicate well in English or in Dutch, but language has never been a barrier. We can always communicate enough to help,” said Meesters. They also have a number of international counsellors that they can refer the student to if required.

### A dedicated psychologist for international students

Starting soon, the team will include an International Student Psychologist. According to Meesters, “We understand that internationals grapple with emotions such as homesickness, adjustment barriers and need help keeping all that in mind.”

### When and how to approach them?

Check your faculty/department website to get in touch with academic/career counsellors. “If it’s not an emergency, it’s best to come to us via our website,” she said. “Students fill out a form highlighting the main issues they face and we make an appointment.” One psychologist is available every day and can be reached at **015-2788004**.

### It’s free - of cost and judgment

All visits to campus counsellors are free of charge and confidential. “We want students to feel absolutely comfortable about coming to us with their problems, or alerting us about a friend that they feel might need some help. There should be no stigma attached at all,” said Meesters

### What sort of help can you expect?

A student usually meets with the psychologist on campus a few times to help them cope better. Cases that need prolonged therapy are referred

to outside counsellors. Also, if a student undergoing therapy needs extra time to complete his course, or even financial help, the psychologists and academic counsellors can help them approach the university for an extension or help.

### Other kinds of help

The university also has general counsellors who focus on campus regulations, financial support and help with the IND to Career Counsellors for those who might be confused about what options will be best for them. There are regular meetings with the management, faculty and student organisations where they can suggest solutions to some problems most of their clients face.

### Training classes

The psychologists also conduct free training courses for students. From Constructive Thinking (for those who fear failure), how to get your stress under control, and a fairly open-ended course called Ready for Change which is applicable to anyone who feels they need to change something - whether it's learning to say no or better concentration.

### Help outside TU

While campus psychologists cannot treat staff members, there are a number of psychologists and psychiatrists in the Netherlands that cater to internationals. If you're unsure, start with the ACCESS Counsellors Network, a network formed by ACCESS, a non-profit organisation based in The Hague that helps expatriates settle into the Netherlands. "These counsellors are not only mental health professionals they are themselves expatriates or have had expatriate experience. And know that living far from the familiar is of relevance and importance when discussing or dealing with any kind of mental health situation," said Deborah Valentine, executive director. Every month two of their counsellors are on call. The caller is then referred to someone within the network who best suits their needs: location, language, required expertise. This call is free of charge. Subsequent treatment/consultations are charged and arranged between the client and therapist.

# SURVIVE

## getting around



## Survive: The bike

If you haven't been warned, let us do so. Bikes are among top things stolen in the Netherlands. Don't be fooled by a busy street or bustling afternoon, a bike isn't safe anywhere. If thieves don't get to it, the weather might. Or bad cycling. Experts from cycle shops across town gave us some tips on how to keep your cycle healthy and safe.

### Lock it up

Rule number one, even if you're stepping into a store for a second. "A sturdy chain lock long enough to go around a pole or stand is the best option," said Arthur Wijtman, the owner of Bike Totaal Wijtman on Westlandsweg. He explains that thieves can load locked bikes onto vans, so, if a bike is chained to something else it's more secure. According to Jean Charles, of the NS Rijwielshop behind the Delft Station, said having two different locks is another option. "Most thieves specialise in one kind of lock. If they see that there are two different locks, they will lose interest and move on the next one," he explains.

### The weather

While most bikes can withstand the Dutch weather, some take a beating. Cheaper bikes tend to rust in the rain and breaks get squeaky after water damage. While the best solution is to keep your bike inside or in an underground shed, if space isn't available, buy a weather proofing spray. You can get a big can for around €9 at most bike shops. Spray the wiring and the metal well. Not only will the coating protect it from weather damage, your bike will also be easier to clean.

## Insurance

Most shops that sell new bikes will inform you about available insurance policies. If you're investing in a high-end model, it might be a good idea to go for insurance as well. But for second hand bikes and cheaper models, it may not seem viable. But, just in case you want insurance you can even get one with an expensive lock. Certain brands of locks (costing around €40) come with an insurance policy as well.

## Health check-ups

Cycle shops create a health plan for your bike when you buy it. For instance, a new bike from Ado Bike at Papsouwselaan comes with free initial servicing. For an average bike anywhere between three to six months between servicing is good. "A lot of factors, from the make of the bike to the rider, affect the health of the cycle. Some bikes need to be looked at every month but most can go a while if the driver is careful," said Wijtman. To keep your bike in good shape also watch the way you cycle, go easy on bumps, skidding unnecessarily and avoid cycling over broken glass.

## Repair work

Repair work doesn't come cheap. While most faculties in TU Delft have air pumps you can use to refill your tyres, anything may require outside help. At the NS Rijwielshop, repairing a flat tire costs €10, while replacing the front tire costs €15-18.

## Light at night

Every cyclist is required to have a light at the front and the rear of the cycle at night. You can be fined for not having proper lights. Some bikes will come with a dynamo light attached to the front wheel, powered by your peddling. You can also buy battery clip-on lights (average cost around €5 for two) and wear them while you're riding. Most stores (Blokker, Hema) carry very inexpensive lights (around €1) which attach to your bike via an elastic cord. Watch out, those get stolen more often than the bike itself.

# Survive: The cycling rules

Everyone uses a bike to get around in the Netherlands. It's a way of life. Whilst you may not see the rules strictly adhered to in practice, here is what they actually are.

## Legal protection

Cyclists are protected by a strict liability law. The car is deemed responsible in any collision between a cyclist and a car, regardless of fault. Even if a driver can prove the crash occurred because of a cyclist's wrongdoing, the motorist's insurance company is still responsible for at least 50% of the damage to the bike and its rider, 100% if the cyclist is a child.

## Lights and reflectors

Lights and reflectors are compulsory on your bike at night, or when visibility is restricted. Reflectors are red at the rear, yellow on the pedals, and white or yellow on the wheels. Front lights are white or yellow, and rear lights are red. Lights don't have to be fixed to the bike, they could be attached to your chest or back, so long as they're visible. According to Fietserbond, the Dutch Cyclists' Union: "It only costs a few euros, but investing in a good set of bike lights is worth your while. You'll be seen



better by cars and cyclists.” In addition to an accident, you also risk a fine if you don’t comply: €55 for no lights, and €35 for no reflectors.

### A bell

Every bike should have a bell that can be heard by other road users. It’s much easier to pass other traffic on narrow or busy roads with your bell, so don’t be afraid to use it. The fine for a faulty bell is €35.

### Alcohol and drugs

Cycling whilst under the influence of drink or drugs is not allowed. The alcohol in your breath must not exceed 220 micrograms per litre. That’s a blood alcohol content of 0.05%. Is this the same for all road users? “Yes, for you as a cyclist, the same standards apply as for motorists,” according to the police website. The public prosecution website details the penalties: “For cycling under the influence, the penalty amount is €140. Cycling under the influence in combination with dangerous cycling behaviour is punished more severely.” So a taxi is cheaper than the fine if you’re considering cycling home after a heavy night.

### Priority to the right

The general rule at road junctions is that priority must be given to traffic approaching from the right, and this goes for bikes as well as cars, unless road markings or signs indicate otherwise. For example, shark teeth, the white triangles painted on the ground, point to whoever is supposed to stop and yield.

### Indication

It’s compulsory to give advance warning of your intention to turn left or right by stretching your arm out horizontally in the direction you wish to travel. A €35 fine is possible for failing to do so. And it’s always best to check over your shoulder before turning.

### No rules

Cycle helmets are not compulsory. There are no rules saying you can’t cycle whilst using your mobile phone or whilst listening to music. Carrying passengers on the front or back of your bike is fine, so long as children eight or under have a suitable seat. Cycling two abreast is fine,

so long as you don't disturb or hinder other traffic. Cycling three or four in a row is not permissible by law, despite teenagers doing this often. An English language brochure entitled 'Road Traffic Signs and Regulations in the Netherlands' can be downloaded from [rijksoverheid.nl](http://rijksoverheid.nl), a government website. The public prosecution website, [om.nl](http://om.nl), details in Dutch the penalties for breaching the rules.

# Survive: The public transport

Too scared to get on your bike, lest you fly away with the wind? Don't worry. If you haven't already figured how well connected the public transport system is, here's our quick guide to getting around town.

## HTM

There's still some time to go before Tram #19 takes her maiden voyage on to TU campus. For now, the HTM is a great option for a scenic ride to Den Haag or a quick trip to Rijswijk. Tram #1 will take you directly from the Delft Station to Madurodam and the Scheveningen Beach. And, if you have an OV chipkaart, it will barely cost you anything. Create your profile on their website, key in your usual itinerary and get updates if there are any timing/route changes on your route.

**Website:** [www.htm.nl](http://www.htm.nl)

**Twitter:** [@HTM\\_Reisinfo](https://twitter.com/HTM_Reisinfo)

## NS

The Nederlandse Spoorwegen is among the most tech-savvy transport systems around. Not only can you plan and book your travel online, the website also allows you to check the facilities available at each station, from whether they have a bathroom to the nearest Albert Heijn. The Journey Planner tells you your carbon foot print too. For example, one train ride to Schipol emits 75% less CO2 than a car ride over the same distance. Their twitter account, NS\_online, has over 70,000 followers. Aside from route info, they also reply to most comments, often with a polite thank you thrown in.

**Website:** [www.ns.nl/](http://www.ns.nl/)

**Twitter:** [@NS\\_online](https://twitter.com/NS_online)

## NS Zone Taxi

The NS Zone Taxi service is provided at certain stations across the country. You need to register (free) with NS in order to be able to use, once you do that, you can book a cab online. The cabs run around the first train of the day and the last one at night. The fare is calculated according to zones, 'the starting rate is € 6 for the first zone up to 2 kilometers.



### Other important websites

#### **9292.nl**

This website is the ideal journey planner. It takes into account all modes of transport and gives you travel costs and time. You can also download the 9292 app for your tablet or smartphone and have your travel details on your fingertips.

Website: <http://9292.nl/>

#### **OV Chipkaart.nl**

The OV chipkaart is a transport card that works on most Dutch transport systems. There are different kinds of cards with discounts for regular users. An important thing to keep in mind is that the English version of the website does not tell you about offers such as the 40% korting card or the annual pass. Grab a Dutch friend to help you navigate.

Website: <http://www.ov-chipkaart.nl>

Then you pay € 3 per driven kilometer 2' according to the website. You can pay by direct debit.

Website: <http://www.ns.nl/reizigers/producten/van-deur-tot-deur/ns-zonetaxi.html>

### Regiotaxi Haaglanden

Another taxi service in The Hague region is Regiotaxi. Slightly cheaper than a private cab, Regiotaxis provide public transport with the comfort of door-door travel. Though available to everyone, these were originally designed for passengers with reduced mobility. These cabs can be hired on a shared basis, and therefore work out cheaper. One can book a cab online, on the phone, or simply at the taxi stand. There are three taxi stands in Delft, in De Hoven, De Veste and at Bieslandhof. Services from these points start around mid-day and are usually every hour.

**Website:** <http://regiotaxi.haaglanden.nl>

**Phone number:** 0900-2028474.

### Veolia City Transport

Veolia city buses ply all across Delft, cutting through the city centre, right up to the Aula. If you're too tired to walk back to the university after a jaunt through Amsterdam, board a bus from the station itself. If you have an OV-chipkaart, you'll pay less than €1.50. Veolia is also on Facebook on Twitter and is constantly updated with schedule changes and special services on offer. Their Twitter account has over 11,000 followers and sometimes runs competitions with prizes such as a free OV Chipkaart.

**Website:** [www.veolia-transport.nl](http://www.veolia-transport.nl)

**Twitter:** [@veolia\\_nl](https://twitter.com/veolia_nl)

### Veolia City Transport

In 2014 Network Duurzame Mobiliteit launched Link2D, an initiative to make TU Delft campus and the technology park area more accessible. Link2D has Tuk Tuks or e-shuttles that run from the Delft Zuid station and e-bikes for rent. Both can be booked online. The bikes are fitted with GPS-trackers and you can see which is parked nearest to you and rent it. The tuk-tuk charges €1.50 per ride (up to three kilometres) and €3 (up to six kilometres). "This is the pilot year for the project. Once we

see if it's commercially viable, we can talk about linking it to OV cards or student cards. For now, there's a flat rate for everyone," said Bas Hilckmann (associate partner NDM) during an interview to Delta in 2015.

**Website:** [www.link2D.nl](http://www.link2D.nl)

## Survive: The new train tickets

A lot changed while you were gone for the summer. We're not just referring to the Aula. Over the summer, the Dutch railway system discontinued paper tickets, making it necessary for all travellers to have a transport smart card, i.e. an OV-Chipkaart. These cards are mandatory for tourists as well who can choose from either rechargeable ones or 24-hour cards.

The rechargeable smart cards cost €7.50 and are valid for up to five years. Both options are valid across all forms of public transport in the Netherlands. "The OV-chipkaart aims to reach one single payment and travel system for all public transportation options in the Netherlands," said Anita Hilhorst, spokesperson for Translink, the company behind the OV Chipkaart.

Hilhorst adds, "Our goals are to make things easier for the traveler, improve customer service, reduce fare evasion, enlarge public safety in and around public transport, flexibility in tariff systems, honest and quick revenue division and to provide logistic information."

The big impact is on students who have NS discount cards. These discount cards allow holders to travel with up to three guests on discounted tickets. Before, this meant that one could buy discounted paper tickets for their guests. Since the new system was put into place, Delta received queries from students about the discounts and whether it would be valid for guests using anonymous cards. If yes, then how?

Our email to the NS office on this topic went unanswered. However, over the summer, Delta reporters spread out across the country to test this new system and bring you answers. Luckily, there are NS kiosks and officials at almost every major platform, and they were all very helpful. We are happy to report that guests can still avail those korting rates. As for how, here is a step-by-step explanation based on our own experience



### 1. Activate the discount

Once you have bought anonymous smart cards for your guests, you need to activate discount on it. The discount can be activated at the ticket machines at each station. The discount is valid only for a one way trip and needs to be activated again for the return journey.\*

### 2. Present your card

Show your card to the reader on the machine. You will then be shown the balance on the card and a menu of options.

### 3. Choose your option

In this menu, choose Load Other Products (English) or Laden Overige Producten (Dutch). This will lead you to a page with options such as 'Dagkaart', 'Dagkaart hond', 'Dagkaart fiets' and 'Samenreiskorting'.

### 4. Samenreiskorting

From this menu, choose the option: Samenreiskorting (same in English and Dutch)

### 5. Choose travel mode

Choose from 1st class or 2nd class (depending on what the primary NS discount is activated for). You can also load the money during this pro-

cess if needed.

## 6. Present the card again

The reader will prompt you to show your card again, and activate the discount on it.

## 7. Final check

When you check in for the train, notice the display on the check-in machine - it should say 'korting' (discount) has been activated.

Note that the guest availing the discount must be travelling with someone who has an identity-based smart card with an NS discount. The discount is only valid for the times mentioned in the terms of the NS card. For instance, the 40% korting is only valid after 9:00 on weekdays and all day on weekends. The discount activated on anonymous cards is valid for 30 minutes after checkout and needs to be reactivated after that. It's probably all very confusing right now, but it does get easier. Once you've activated the samenreiskorting once, you'll be able to do it in your sleep the next time. Okay, not in your sleep, but definitely after your first cup of coffee.

\*One of our anonymous chipkaarts had the samenreiskorting activated for over 7 hours after checking out. When we asked an official at Amsterdam Centraal, they couldn't explain why.

## Survive: The news

For foreign students, access to local news may seem limited since local papers and TV broadcasts are in Dutch. Thankfully, there are a number of English language news outlets available. Here are five you can choose from to provide you a daily source of local news.

### The Hague Online

Based out of The Hague, this website is a composite source of all kinds of information. You can find articles on upcoming events, news stories, sports activities, cultural shows, festivals and nightlife - not just in The Hague but also nearby places such as Delft. "The goal of the website is to help expats and internationals feel at home in The Hague," said Billy Allwood, a British expat and the founder of the website. Check out their Weekly Calendar if you're looking for a quick way to plan your weekend fun.

[www.thehagueonline.com](http://www.thehagueonline.com)

Twitter: [@thehagueonline](https://twitter.com/thehagueonline)

### Dutch News

Feel lost each time your Dutch classmates talk politics? Try Dutch News. National news is reported in English and the site also has a section called the Dictionary of Dutchness which explains some key terminology (such as ATV, ANN), a section on housing, a What's On section for the culturally inclined and a lot more. "We want to keep people who don't speak Dutch in touch with a broad spectrum of Dutch news," said Robin Pascoe, the editor. "We also try to remember that our readers may be new here and so we put stories in perspective. We don't assume they know what an ATV day is or what the AOW is, for example," she adds.

[www.dutchnews.nl](http://www.dutchnews.nl)

Twitter: [@DutchNewsNL](https://twitter.com/DutchNewsNL)

### IAmExpat

This Amsterdam-based website was started in November 2010, by expats looking to create a platform to help "expats of all colours, shapes and sizes" interact with each other and engage with the local community. While there is a certain amount of weekly news on the website, the



## The Underground

The Underground has become a common sight at coffee shops across The Hague. The free, monthly English paper was started by graphic designer Simone Branson Harper as a way to “to connect the international yet local community of The Hague to the Hagernaren.” Besides articles on events, restaurants and hot spots, they have segments on historic landmarks, columns by prominent locals and quirky stories about local residents. Branson Harper, who was born to a Dutch mother and English father, said the idea was “to create a paper for people like me, people with a multicultural background... a paper which appeal to both communities, connecting them through culture, history and joint interests.”

URL: [www.theunderground.nl](http://www.theunderground.nl)

Twitter: [@UndergroundTH](https://twitter.com/UndergroundTH)

focus is more on expat living issues. It has sections on education, careers and events, and in-depth articles on topics such as housing rules and the Dutch tax system. “It is an online media platform covering the day-to-day needs of all English-speaking internationals in the Netherlands. They can access up-to-date information, news, housing and career services, lifestyle tips and community events,” said Sergios Charalampos, Editor in Chief of the website.

[www.iamexpat.nl](http://www.iamexpat.nl)

Twitter: [@iamexpat](https://twitter.com/iamexpat)

## Expatica

Sometime in early 2000, Canadian expat Bram Lebo found himself waiting endlessly for a tram one morning. The only people at the station were other foreigners. None of them knew that the transport workers of the Netherlands were on strike that day because all news about that was limited to Dutch channels. That gap, between Dutch news and local foreigners, is what Lebo set out to fill with Expatica- an online forum. Today, the site has pages on other European countries, South Africa, and Moscow. Besides current affairs and daily news, the site is a trove of information for expats. There are sections on housing, education, student life, finding a job, finance and business and a lot more.

[www.expatica.com/nl](http://www.expatica.com/nl)

Twitter: [@expatica](https://twitter.com/expatica)

## Survive: Networking

Close to 1,000 international students join TU Delft every year. And countless other internationals move with them or for work nearby. Those internationals are looking to expand their professional and social networks and do so through a number of groups available in Delft.

### Young Delft

The organisation started in 2007 as a platform for networking among Dutch support staff, but in 2012, it reinvented itself as a space for all young employees of TU Delft under the age of 36. The goal of the organisation is to help employees, especially international staff, get to know each other and develop their skills. The Young Delft board is comprised of volunteers from across the university. “The diversity in backgrounds (both in positions, as well as in cultural background/nationality) of the board adds value to the activities undertaken,” said Rudy Negenborn, the chairperson of Young Delft. Last year, the organisation hosted events such as “Speeddating the Board of Directors” and the “TU History Event & Boat Tour”. “In 2013 we have already experienced a successful New Year’s Lunch and are currently working on organising the Secret Places Walk, the Science and Creativity Week and regular Cool Colleague Cafés,” adds Negenborn.

<http://youngdelft.tudelft.nl/>

### DelftIANS

If your idea of networking involves some fun and games, attend the next event organised by expat group DelftIANS. Besides weekly squash meets, board game evenings and poker nights, there are also monthly pub quizzes for you to get your geek on. The group started in 2006 with 7 members and today has 454 members on their mailing list. Joe Neesan, who took over the organisation in 2010, said, “Our motto is ‘We will introduce you to your new friends.’” They organise drinks every two weeks in one of the local pubs (usually at ‘t Proeflokaal) and also encourage members to organise events such as film nights, dinners, parties, dog walking, and games nights. “Basically, we try to match new members with people who have the same interests or speak the same language. The TU students mostly enjoy the drinks and meeting up with

other TU students to talk about their research,” said Neesan.

[www.delftians.com/](http://www.delftians.com/)

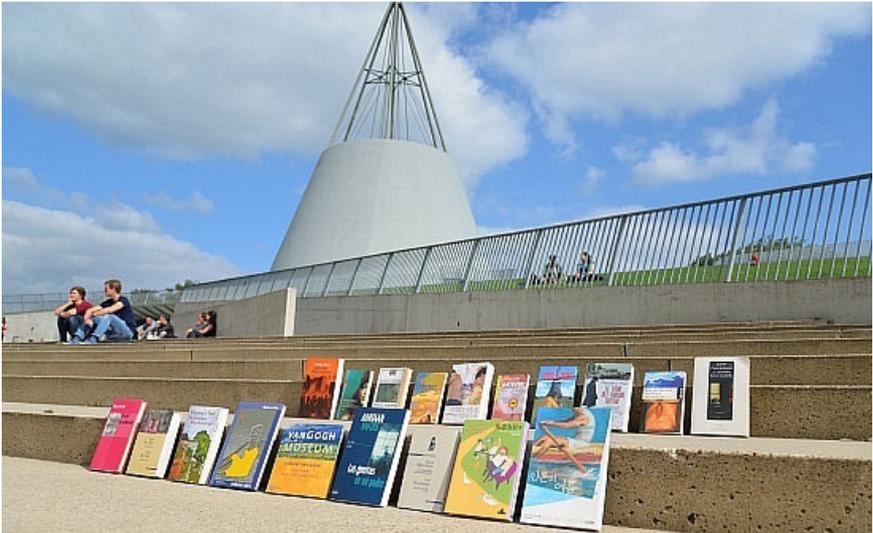
### Delft Expat Project

Started in 2009 under the aegis of the Gemeente, the Delft Expat Project helps expats feel at home. The organisation arranges an annual event to welcome new expats into the city and help them find their feet around. Their website is constantly updated with information about events in the city that would interest expats, such as the Blues Festival and English Story Night. They also have a twitter account called Expat Team Delft (@DelftExpats) and a smart phone app called Discover Delft. “The Delft Expat Project team addresses ways in which the city can improve the living and working environments of expats in Delft,” said a note on their Twitter homepage.

[www.delft.nl/delften/Residents](http://www.delft.nl/delften/Residents)

## Survive: The libraries

Not only are 21st century libraries straddling the frontier between the e-book revolution and the romance of print, they are also morphing into art galleries, studios, experimental spaces and, cool places to hang out! And, some of the world's most cutting edge libraries are a stone's throw from you.



### Library, TU Delft

In 2012, the library was voted among the 7 coolest libraries in the world by CNN. But it's not just incredible architecture and thousands of books that make the library cool; it is also the epicentre of some very interesting innovations. Besides the heritage collection and initiatives such as the Unidentified Heritage Object, they also make an effort to introduce students to art through exhibitions. The library hosted its first student broadcasting session this February. The session was conceptualised and executed by a TU student. "In many ways, art stimulates technology and the library can be a great space to encourage students to think out of the box," said Marion Vredeling, Library Program Manager. The library hosts the popular Meet the Rector project and also pioneered

the Human Library concept, a discussion with two human books. “We want students to see the library as their space. If they have an idea that we feel will appeal to a larger audience and help students grow, we can provide rooms, computers, projectors, whatever they may need. Eventually, we would like students to think of the library as ‘the place to be’ on campus,” adds Vredeling.

[www.library.tudelft.nl](http://www.library.tudelft.nl)

### Bibliotheek Den Haag

The Bibliotheek Den Haag is among the best reasons to get out of Delft. This five-storey library, set in the City Hall, is ideal for a day of browsing and research. Hop on to Tram 1 and hop off at the Spui. There’s free Wifi here, a stocked café, and an entire lounging floor, complete with sofas, study tables and even recliners. This floor even has sound proof rooms for musicians with finicky neighbours, a stage for live performances and a recording studio. “We also host a number of events in English such as talks by writers, lectures on current affairs, writing workshops, courses in art and have an English Reading Circle among other things,” explains Reinier Horjus. The Bibliotheek has a large collection of books in English and section of books to help you learn Dutch. The library also has an extensive collection of e-books for the digitally converted. “We want people to see the Bibliotheek as a living room for the neighbourhood. We want to promote education, culture, information and meeting among citizens,” he adds.

**Annual membership fee:** €21 (€5 for those with South Holland membership pass)

[www.bibliotheekdenhaag.nl](http://www.bibliotheekdenhaag.nl)

### DOK

In 2008, the Shifted Librarian called Delft’s DOK “a library of the future”. The DOK calls itself a Library Concept Centre and, according to its website, “is on a mission to become the world’s most library”. Before the new library space opened in 2007, designers consulted with consumers to determine what people want from such a public space. The result was this sun-lit library with movable bookshelves, play areas and not only a central seating area, but nooks and corners where you can settle down with your laptop or book and feel at home. There are music chairs, giant

screens, Playstations, Wiis, and even some funky iPod sofas that keep the teenage clientele coming back. Besides an art gallery on the premises which promotes new artists, the library also hosts exhibitions in its foyer. They have an art-to-borrow membership, which allows people to change their office/home decor from time to time. Though the English language books and CDs collection is considerably smaller than in the Hague, you'll still find enough classics or popular fiction to keep you busy between exams. Did we mention, there's free wifi?

Annual membership fee: €34

[www.dok.info](http://www.dok.info)

## Survive: After-hour emergencies

Having trouble after-hours? Here's some information to help the next time you're locked out of your house at midnight or have a roommate in desperate need of some cough syrup on a weekend.

### Odd hour for bike troubles!

Time is no longer a good excuse for not getting your bike repaired. The bike shop behind the NS Delft station is open 24 hours. "Patching up a flat tyre costs €10 and replacing a tube €21," said Rob, a shop employee. If you have a fancy bike and are paranoid about theft, you can also park your bike here until the end of the day. Day charges at €1.25 while a month card if for €13.50. "The garage is guarded, so people know their bikes are absolutely safe," said Rob. This is also where you can rent bicycles if you have guests in town.

**Where:** Behind the NS station

### Locked out?

It's 1:00 on a Saturday night. You just got home. You can find your house but not your keys. What do you do? Call one of the after-hours locksmiths available in town. Among them, slightly expensive but extremely efficient, Lock Expert is a structural and electronic security company which also works with the police and the Ministry of Justice. "We actually come at any hour of the day you call," said Peter K, the owner of the company. Whether you need to unlock your door to get in or change all the locks, they are available 24 hours a day. "We charge a flat rate of €90 to open a door and the charge for materials of extra. The good thing is that if the work takes 5 seconds or half an hour, we don't confuse the customer by negotiating. They know exactly what to expect in terms of payment and don't have to stress about that," he adds.

[www.lockexpert.nl/pagina/slotenmaker-delft](http://www.lockexpert.nl/pagina/slotenmaker-delft)

**Phone number:** 015 760 00 04

### Urgent medication

If you need medicines urgently after 18:00, or on the weekend, your best bet is the Buitenhof Apotheek. This small shop, tucked away in a

quiet part of town, closes for regular business at 18:00, but an attendant stays at hand till 8:00 the next day. It's mainly for emergencies and those with prescriptions, but you can get over-the-counter medicines such as paracetamol and cough syrup here even after hours. "If you call any pharmacy in town after working hours, there is an automated message that asks you come here," explains Chantalle Thomassen, a staff pharmacist. An extra charge of €2.50 is added to after-hours purchases. If you reach the shop and find it closed, just ring the bell. If no one answers, a notice outside has a phone number you should call. "Someone will be there, but they might be sleeping. Which is why we ask people to ring the bell and wait," she adds.

[www.buitenhofapotheek.nl/](http://www.buitenhofapotheek.nl/)

**Phone number:** 015 2565 000

### Doctor Doctor

Weekends are the worst time to fall ill. Not just because you miss out on the fun, but also because your general practitioner is undoubtedly off as well. If you have a raging fever or an allergic reaction and absolutely must see a doctor, then it's the Huisartsenpost Delft you need to head to. Situated next to the Reinier De Graaf hospital, the office is open from 17:00 to 8:00 on weekdays and 24 hours on weekends and holidays. The Huisartsenpost Delft is a collaboration of all GPs from the municipalities of Delft, Nootdorp, Pijnacker, Delft, Schipluiden and Den Hoorn. All the GPs of these areas alternate after-hours duties through the year. Always call first before going so the medical assistant can give you an appointment and initial assessment if needed. In case the patient is too unwell to travel, the assistant can also suggest sending someone over for a home consultation.

[huisartsenpostdelft.nl/](http://huisartsenpostdelft.nl/)

**Phone number:** 015 251 19 30



## Survive: Free Wi-Fi

A guide to some of the many cafes in the city that offer free wifi. From cosy corners with great coffee to sunlight couches at the local library; take your pick for the next time you're sick of studying in your dorm room, or the conical library of TU Delft.

### DOK

The DOK Concept Centre is library, art gallery and café rolled into one. While members can use the internet enabled DOK computers, the café on the premises offers wifi to visitors. The library itself is huge, and you can find just the right corner for yourself. There are long work stations overlooking the canal on the ground floor and red satellite sofas among the bookshelves on the second floor.

**Cup of coffee:** €2.40

**Address:** Vestplein 100

### Stads Koffyhuis

Overlooking the Oude Kerk, this café has warm wooden interiors and a great view. "We guarantee to have food (and coffee) on your table within six minutes. So, if you're really hungry, this is the place," said Julian De Randamie, the Head Chef of the café. The board outside proudly

announces that they offer wifi. “We also have a range of slanting beakers designed with the theme of the tilting old church in mind,” said Randamie. While you’re here, sample the Delft Leaning Cup- served in a slanting cup – the drink has layers of hot chocolate, coffee and whipped cream (€3.40).

**Cup of coffee:** €2.25

**Address:** Oude Delft 133

### Kaldi

A small café tucked between apparel stores on Mols Avenue, Kaldi is another wifi-offering café that should get your academic juices flowing. Known for its speciality teas and exotic coffee blends, Kaldi is best enjoyed on a sunny day, when you can grab the table right next to the canal. The wifi is an open network, so if you’re settling down for a while, order a large cappuccino (€3.50). The fresh brew will keep you awake and alert for the toughest algorithm.

**Cup of coffee:** €2.50

**Address:** Molslaan 13

### Coffee Company

If you’re one of those who need a little noise to concentrate, then this is your best choice. This three floor establishment is always crowded, but there are plenty of seats and sofas to choose from. Until 2014, the Wi-Fi access was limited to an hour per order, but now all you need is the password from the barista. The coffee options range from caramel cappuccino (€3.10 for a small cup) to a funky monkey bambino (€2.25 for a small cup) and they carry a whole range of baked goods.

**Cup of coffee:** €2.80

**Address:** Markt 21



## Survive: The rain

It's raining...it's pouring. But that's no reason for you to become a wet mop. A quick trip to the city centre will have you sorted for the monsoon.

### Umbrellas

Prices range from €15 upwards, but buy a sturdy one because umbrellas often become collateral damage of the wind. Designed by three former students of Industrial Design Engineering at TU Delft, the umbrella is made for Dutch weather. "It always finds the best position in the wind; doesn't go inside out and is windproof up to 100 kilometres per hour. Given the number of rainy days in the Netherlands, and the strong wind in the autumn, this is a perfect umbrella!" said Nienke Veenstra, marketing manager, Senz. Prices range from €25 to €60 and you can even buy one of these at the Aula.

### Rain Suits

For a short bike ride in a slight drizzle, a waterproof jacket or raincoat should suffice. However, you should consider a rain suit (regenpak) for wetter days. The rain suit is exactly what it sounds like, loose pants and jacket worn on top of regular clothes. Relatively inexpensive, you can get a suit for €15 at Hema. Trendier ones are available at local stores (most bike shops have some rainwear too) for €30 upwards



or order a matching set online at [regenpakhuis.nl](http://regenpakhuis.nl).

It's not an uncommon sight to see people reach their destination and start stripping down, so don't worry about feeling silly.

## Ponchos

If suits are too much for you to get on and off, try bicycle ponchos. Designed to go across your bike, the ponchos keep your legs dry in the rain too. You can get a bright yellow one at Blokker for €7.19. If you're willing to spend a bit for fashion, then Madame De Pe, an Amsterdam-based company, has just the garment for you. Inspired by modern day overcoats and 18th century garments, "these coats address the drawbacks of ponchos. There is a lead lining at the bottom of the coat and the weight ensures that it doesn't fly or balloon up while biking. There's tight lining around the hood so it stays in place," explains Sophie Geelen, of C.Note, the company that designed the line. Prices range from €100 to 150. "The fabric is made to last, so it is like buying proper coat," said Geelen.

## Gum boots

If you're finicky about getting your feet wet, try gumboots (rubberlaarzen/regenlaarz). Designers such as Vivienne Westwood and brands such as Diesel offer a range of fancy gumboots, but you can also get a pair for around €15 at Van Haren in the city centre. You can get a host of designs at other shoe shops in town for slightly more. Another option to protect your footwear is to buy a raincoat for them. Rain overshoes, slip on covers for shoes which come with grooved soles. If you can't find them in a local store, order a pair online at [hollandbikeshop.nl](http://hollandbikeshop.nl).

## Sprays

There's a spray for everything. Your jacket, shoes, and bike. You can get a spray for leather and faux leather products at most clothing stores and shoe shops in Delft. Costing around €7, the spray covers your shoes/jackets with a waterproof covering and protects them from water damage (unless you're stuck in a deluge). Most shoes need to be re-sprayed every six to eight weeks, depending on use. You can also get a spray for your bike, to coat it and protect it from rusting in the rain.

## Survive: The tourism

While you're in the Netherlands, don't miss the opportunity to check out the rich collection of art and history in the country. Here's a range of special discount cards that can help you do so without burning a hole in your pocket.

### Delftpas

Want to discover every nook and cranny of Delft while you're here? The Delftpas is a good place to start. The original cost of the card is €60, but students get a hefty discount and can buy it for €20. The card gets you into most museums in Delft. You also get a discount on membership at the city library DOK, Theatre de Veste and the Filmhuis. The pass includes access to a swimming pool and a lot more. It is also valid at a number of places in Rotterdam, including the Euromast. You get a 50% discount on the entry fee at the Gemeentemuseum Den Haag and free entry at the Escher Museum.

[http://www.delft.nl/Inwoners/Cultuur\\_sport\\_en\\_vrije\\_tijd/Delftpas](http://www.delft.nl/Inwoners/Cultuur_sport_en_vrije_tijd/Delftpas)

### Museumpas

Are you a museum buff? Then invest in a Museumkaart. The card gives you access to 400 museums across the Netherlands for a year. For €49.95, you can visit the best museums in the country and the quirkiest ones. The House of Anne Frank, the Hermitage museum, the Van Gogh Museum and the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam are included. Individual tickets to these alone would cost you more than the pass. Besides entry, several partner museums also offer card holders discounts on their gift shops and, sometimes, a free gift. For instance, the Municipal Museum Amsterdam offers card holders a Malevich canvas bag.

[www.museumkaart.nl/](http://www.museumkaart.nl/)

### NS cards

If you're going to be travelling outside Delft often, take a look at the various discount options that the NS has to offer. The Dal Voordeel (Advantage) card gets you 40% on off-peak time travels for €50 a year, while the Altijd Voordeel card gets you discount at any hour of the day for €20 per month. Other cards include the Dal Vrij and the Weekend Vrij with

other discounts that may be of use to you. If you travel to eight different places every single day, try the Always Free pass, which costs a small fortune at €309 per month.

[www.ns.nl/reizigers/producten](http://www.ns.nl/reizigers/producten)

### Shopping cards

It might be worth your while to get in on memberships at the shops you frequent. The discounts are often worth it. Albert Heijn, for instance, has something called a Bonus Card. Each day different products in local stores have bonus stickers and cardholders can buy them for a discount. IKEA has a Family Card which gets you discount on certain products and a free coffee in the restaurant. Even the local Gall & Gall has membership cards that can get you up to 10% off on your favourite wine.

For more information: Check with individual shops

### Other City Passes

Like the Delftpas, other cities in the Netherlands have their own discount cards. Most of the venues in the Delftpas overlap with those of the Rotterdam Pass. The IAmsterdam card opens doors to most museums in Amsterdam and gets you unlimited travel on the local trams, one free canal cruise and other discounts. You can buy a 24, 48, or 72 hour card for €42, €52 or €62. There are smaller passes such as the Hofvijver pass in Den Haag for €12.50 which gets you into a collection of city museums and the Combiticket available in Delft for €16.50, which gets you into the churches, museums and Vermeer Centrum. So you could consider these options if you have guests visiting for a short while.

For more information: Check with local tourist information points.

## Survive: The snow

Despite the unexpected heat wave in January, snow and sleet are not an uncommon sight in February. Just in case the weather decided to let up and you find yourself in the middle of a snow blizzard, here are some points to help you stay safe.

### Stay warm

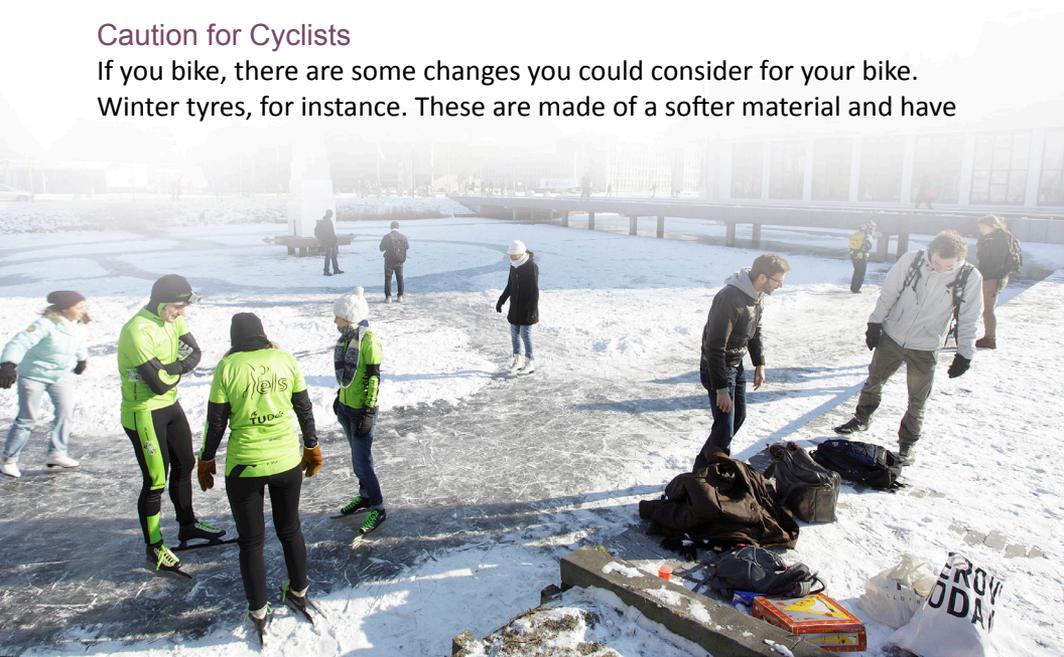
Layer up, wear your thickest socks and find the furriest ear muffs because that wind chill can be brutal. Always keep hot chocolate handy.

### Guidelines from the government

If you're living in an independent house, you and your roommates might consider investing in a shovel. "Indeed, residents are responsible for shoveling their own sidewalks. They are not obliged to, but advised to do so, using a snow shovel or salt and sand," explains Michiel Visser, Adviseur Stadsmarketing, Gemeente Delft. He adds that the Gemeente is responsible for keeping the main streets and roads free of ice and snow, as well as the areas around public buildings like hospitals and stations. "The Gemeente makes sure that anyone will be able to reach a road that is prepared with salt or shoveled," said Visser.

### Caution for Cyclists

If you bike, there are some changes you could consider for your bike. Winter tyres, for instance. These are made of a softer material and have



more grooves for a better grip on the snow. The tyre also shakes off snow easily and is less slippery on wet roads and fallen leaves. It costs about €50-65, but can come in handy on wet, slushy days which are a common sight in Delft. Spiked tyres, on the other hand, cost €70-80 and have a much more limited use, since it doesn't snow for too long here. "It's not necessary by law. In fact, few people actually change their tyres—older people and those who bike about 15 kilometres day," said Tim van Mulken, the manager of the workshops at Bike Totaal Wijtman, Delft. "Don't cycle on roads that haven't been cleared and avoid tracks made by cars as they can be slippery," he cautions. According to The Guardian, you should also let out a little air from the tyres, ride them soft and brake early in slippery conditions.

### Pet precautions

In 2013, Dutch animal welfare organisation Vier Voeters Netherlands reported that pet owners should be extra careful during the winter as the salt and sand used to melt ice can cause small injuries in the paws of their pets. Even the small pieces of hardened snow can be injurious. According to their advisory, dogs sometimes consume that salt and sand while licking their paws, which in turn can cause stomach ailments. Recommendations included a lukewarm footbath after the walk to remove small stones, road salt and ice. And special dog shoes for sensitive or injured dogs.

### Tune In to updates

If you're travelling outside of Delft during the winter, it is prudent to check for updates online. The NS is timely with all their updates, especially when it snows as train services are invariably disrupted. Follow them on Twitter or download their app. On days with particularly hazardous weather conditions, the university also sends out internal advisories and announcements, so keep an eye for those as well. Most importantly, find yourself a Weather App that suits you and save it on your phone or desktop. When it comes to snow, you'd rather enjoy the snowfall and skip the slippery aftermath.

## Survive: The trash

From recycling to reusing to set rules for toxic waste, the Dutch have a rule for everything. The good news is the system seems easy-to-use.



### Old Electronics and Furniture

#### Reuse

Before you decide to get rid of electrical equipment because it's not working, you might want to stop by the Repair Cafe one weekend. Held at the Science Centre, the Repair Cafe is an initiative that brings together volunteers with expertise to help repair things, from televisions and vacuum cleaners to broken tables.

[www.repaircafe.nl](http://www.repaircafe.nl)

#### Recycle

If the object in question is in working order, contact Kringloopwinkel Delft. The organisation, which has second-hand shops in the city, will send someone to collect old electronics, clothes, utensils and even furniture from your house if it is difficult for you to drop them off. According to their helpline (and the [Delft.nl](http://Delft.nl) helpline) they will even collect old

electronics that are not in working order.

[www.kringloopdelft.nl](http://www.kringloopdelft.nl)

## Refuse

Stuck with a giant TV that doesn't work or a moth eaten sofa no one will buy? Don't worry. There is a bulky waste collection point at Voltaweg 11 managed by Avalex. Residents usually need an Avalex card (Avalexpas) to get in and only one card is registered per address. So check with your landlord or call the company to register. You can also call the Avalex helpline and make an appointment to have them collect the waste (note: only for bulky waste such old furniture and big electronics). In the past, students in DUWO apartments were also given passes. "But they usually got lost as those in DUWO accommodations rarely used for them. If they do, they can contact the caretaker and he will organise the disposal for them," said Sander Jongerling, Team Leader, DUWO.

[www.avalex.nl](http://www.avalex.nl) or 0900-0507

## Toxic Waste

Delft.nl offers a detailed explanation on how to separate waste. An important aspect is ensuring that toxic waste such as batteries, syringes, cans of paint etc. are not thrown with regular trash. While toxic waste can also be dropped off at Voltaweg, there are drop off points at IKEA and on campus for electronic waste. At the IKEA recycle point you can drop off used energy saving bulbs, discarded packing, metal, used batteries, paper and plastic. With regard to small toxic waste such as batteries for those in DUWO houses, Jongerling said, "People can put that in the mailbox of the caretaker and he will get rid of it in the right manner." If you need help sorting the waste, try a Jekko box by an initiative called WeCycle. The boxes are designed with easy-to-use categories and can be dropped off at collection points.

[www.wecycle.nl](http://www.wecycle.nl)

## Glass

Check the label on beer bottles before you throw them away. Some of them can be returned to deposit machines in Jumbo or Albert Heijn. For the rest and other glass there are disposal points all over the city. The glass bin on campus is at Korvezeestraat and there's one right behind

the Jumbo at Kruisstraat. Note that mirrors, wire glass, double glazed windows, glass baking dishes and crystal should not be thrown in these bins - they have a different melting temperature and the recycling process then results in poor quality glass. While the bigger of these items needs to be dropped off at waste collection points, the smaller ones can be wrapped in newspaper and put with residual waste.

To check where you can drop off paper, plastic, glass or textile waste for recycling visit [www.avalex.nl/locatie](http://www.avalex.nl/locatie)-containers.

For details on how to separate waste: [www.delft.nl/delften/Residents/Housing/Recycle\\_and\\_minimize](http://www.delft.nl/delften/Residents/Housing/Recycle_and_minimize)

## Survive: Visas

What are your plans after graduation? The Dutch government wants to retain non-EU talent in the country. What, and how viable, are the visa options available to those students that wish to stay?

### Orientation year for graduates in the Netherlands

Known as the search year visa and designed to allow graduates time to job hunt. The IND recommends applying within four weeks of graduation, and it's issued for a maximum of one year from your graduation date. You'll have unlimited access to the labour market and can work freely for the duration. It costs €614. TU Delft graduate, Prakhar Kapoor, had such a visa. "It was simple enough to do, I just filled in the forms online and took them along to the nearest IND office," he said. "I do feel that the fee is too much. I had a bank loan to come here and was lucky enough to find a job, others haven't been so lucky." At the end of the year, you must have found work and changed your residence permit or you will need to leave the country.

### Orientation year for highly educated persons

Similar to above, but not just for graduates of Dutch universities, this visa is also issued for one year and will entitle you to seek suitable employment. You can apply within three years of graduation, for example, if you go home after your study then want to return. It has a points based system that rates your education, age and likelihood of success in the Netherlands. It doesn't exempt you from the work permit requirement once you do find a job though. Costs €614.

### Highly skilled migrant visa

Once you've found work, this is the visa your employer is likely to apply for on your behalf. There are minimum gross monthly salary requirements, excluding holiday allowances: €4,189 for over 30's, €3,071 for under 30's, and interestingly just €2,201 if coming from an orientation year. Costs €870.

### Scientific researcher visa

PhD students and guest researchers are eligible, but only recognised in-

stitutions can apply. The visa provides a work permit waiver for you and your partner. Costs €307.

### Working as an employee

You may find an employer that will take you on as a labour migrant, if no other option is available to you. You must earn a competitive income, and your employer needs to prove a Dutch or EU national wasn't available to do the job, which can be difficult. Costs €870.

### Working on a self-employed basis

You can apply for an entrepreneurial residence permit if your business serves an essential Dutch interest, which is assessed on a points based system. Costs €1,279 plus accountancy fees for verifying your finances. Typically, there's a low success rate for getting this visa. Gaurav Genani, TU Delft graduate and founder of Skel-Ex, said, "Few internationals were doing it before, but there are more now thanks to incubators like YES!Delft. It took about a month to prepare the application for the IND. The business plan is the most important thing, treat the IND like an investor, the document is crucial. I was trained at YES!Delft so I had help, advice and a letter from them supporting my application." It's not a quick process, as it took Genani nine months from start to finish.

### Innovative start-up visa

This is a new permit valid for one year. Only possible under the guidance of an experienced facilitator, of which there are only a handful, it's competitive. Finn Hansen, founder of Med Canvas, was the first recipient on March 4, 2015. "This visa was designed as a stepping stone to the self-employed visa, it has less strict criteria and is less elaborate. The process was relatively straightforward," he said. "I believe 12 months gives you ample chance to build your business and get it to a stage where you can meet the requirements for the self-employed visa," he added. Costs €307, plus a further €384 upon expiration to extend to a self-employed visa.



## Survive: The medical system

Dutch healthcare has again been rated the best in Europe by the Euro Health Consumer Index, yet access to medical care in the Netherlands is often perceived by internationals as difficult.

### General practitioner

The huisarts is a general practitioner, or GP. Whether you utilise the Student Health Care service detailed below, or register with a GP of your own choosing, make sure you register with one. They will be your first point of contact for non-urgent care, and specialised care is only available upon their referral. In this sense they act as gatekeepers. It's worth noting that Dutch healthcare is generally non-interventionist in nature, and medication is not handed out lightly.

### Student Health Care (SGZ)

SGZ provides various services: GP care for illness and medical problems, the student doctor for preventative or study related healthcare, and the travel clinic. "Our practice is in a healthcare centre with dentists, psychologists and physiotherapists. Our services are also for PhD candidates and staff at TU Delft," explained Wim van Donselaar, doctor at SGZ. They

provide care on campus too. There is a daily drop-in clinic weekdays from 11:00 - 11:45 at Leeghwaterstraat 152. No appointment is necessary, it works on a first-come first-served basis, and is meant for brief consultations or recent illness. For anything else, you'll need an appointment with the GP: mornings on campus, or afternoons at the healthcare centre at Beukenlaan 4G. The student doctor can assist with things such as RSI prevention, counselling and medical certificates. The travel clinic is specialised in providing vaccinations and advice to travellers. TU Delft has an agreement with SGZ: "Preventative services on referral of a student counsellor/advisor are free of charge, and mainly subsidised by TU Delft. The costs of the GP are covered by the insurance company, and in general bills will be sent directly to the insurer," said Van Donselaar.

### Ambulance

In the event of a life-threatening emergency, telephone 112 for help, they will decide whether to call an ambulance.

### Hospital

Delft has one hospital, Reinier de Graaf, located at Reinier de Graafweg 3A, where many specialists are located. Unless it's an emergency, treatment at the hospital is only possible upon GP referral. What is classed as an emergency? "Acute injuries resulting from an accident, acute heart problems or distress, complaints that are too serious to wait for a consultation with a GP," according to their website. The emergency department is called Spoedeisende Hulp in Dutch. New hospital premises are opening at the same address on August 31, 2015.

### Out of hours GP service

This is the huisartsenpost, located in a separate building next to the entrance of the hospital emergency department. Open weekdays from 17:00 until 08:00, and 24 hours a day during weekends and holidays. When should you consult them? "In case of emergency and acute health problems out of hours, when your regular practice is closed, and your health problem needs to be seen right away and cannot wait until the next day," states their website. You can call 015 2511930 for advice, to make an appointment with a GP, or for hospital referral.

### Pharmacy

The apotheek is where medicines are available either over the counter for self-care, or on prescription from a doctor. The staff can also advise on medications and minor ailments. The pharmacy closest to the hospital is open out of hours: Buitenhof Apotheek at Rossinistraat 1. Bear in mind that medications you can buy at home over the counter may need a prescription in the Netherlands.

## Dental

Be sure to find and register with a tandarts before you need one. Many practices are full and not accepting new patients. It's common to have a check-up every 6 or 12 months. Check your health insurance to see what your dental coverage is, if any.

See also our previous guide: surviving mental health on campus.

# SURVIVE

## things to do



DAGSCHOTEL  
VERS GEKOOKTE  
MOSSELET MET  
FRITES, SALADE ET

Custom

# Survive: The beaches

If the sun is shining, you should stop reading this and go enjoy it before the rain returns. Don't know where to go? Here's a look at some easy-to-access outdoor spots where you can make the most of the summer.

## Delftse Hout

Let's start with the one that's in your backyard. Literally. A simple bike ride outside the city centre brings you to beautiful farmlands and polder landscapes. There are camping grounds, jogging paths, cycling lanes and countless picnic spots. You can get a real sense of Dutch polders as you cycle along and the greenery merges seamlessly with water bodies. The bike paths are carefully marked, and you can even cycle along farmlands to Pijnacker and Zoetemeer. Horse riders, bikers, cyclists, bird watchers and picnic parties all come together at the central crossing where an ice cream van is parked during the day. Make sure to stop, the ice cream is delicious. There are a number of activities you can choose from, nature walks, sporting activities and a host of restaurants.

**For more:** [www.delft.nl](http://www.delft.nl)

## Scheveningen Beach

It's likely that you've already been here. After all, the Scheveningen Beach has reportedly has one million visitors annually. But, if you haven't, here's some incentive. Bungee jumping. A sea museum. Sand sculptures. The beach itself can be divided into four parts - Boulevard, harbor, Northern beach and nude beach. And each section has its own attractions. "No beach resort is complete without a tourist train. The Boulevard Train... takes you past the famous Seinpostduin along the harbours and past the old village of Scheveningen," said [denhaag.nl](http://denhaag.nl). For the thrill seekers, there's a permanent jump location at the pier which goes 60 metres down! Besides the hustle bustle of beach vendors, there are also 35 beach clubs to choose from. Some other popular beaches near Scheveningen are Kijkduin, Noordwijk and Katwijk. Katwijk is home to the oldest light-

house on the Dutch coast and you can glimpse some old fishing cottages while Noordwijk is among the longest beaches in the country.

**For more:** <http://scheveningenbeach.com>

### Zandvoort Beach

A free beach festival, travelling theatre by the sea and a Grand Prix parade of historic cars. The Zandvoort beach in North Holland is one of the major beaches of the country and has 30 beach clubs and a line-up of events all through summer. “The star attraction is the beach itself. 9 kilometers long and 100 meters broad, it is known as one of the cleanest and safest beaches in the Netherlands. It carries the Blue flag (International symbol for safe and clean beaches) and the Quality Coast flag (European flag for sustainable tourism),” said Pim Huijsmans, Team leader Marketing and Promotion, VVV Zandvoort. Huijsmans said that approximately 4,500,000 people visit Zandvoort aan Zee annually and the area has 950,000 overnight visitors. “It is the only beach in the Netherlands that can be reached by train. The Zandvoort train station is approximately 100 metres from the beach, so visitors can hop of the train, onto the beach,” he adds.

**For more:** [www.vvzandvoort.nl/](http://www.vvzandvoort.nl/)

### Beaches and Other Getaways

It may all be flatland, but the Dutch coastline is fascinating nevertheless. Divided into three groups, the Wadden Islands, the coastline of North-Holland and South-Holland and Zeeland, the beaches and islands along the coast are a must-visit for anyone lucky enough to catch some sunshine in the Netherlands. In Wadden Islands, the must-visits include the Frisian island Texel where you can go camping, sailing, river rafting etc. Zeeland, which has a coastline 650 kilometres long, also sees the longest hours of sunshine in the country, 140 hours more than the rest of the country.

## Survive: The museums

A great number of the historic sites around Delft are open to the public and many of them offer a discount to students. Take a look.

### Museum Het Prinsenhof Delft

The Prinsenhof Museum plays a lead role in the history of Delft. Built in the 15th century as a nunnery, the building was given to William of Orange in 1572 as the Prince's Court (Prinsenhof). On July 10, 1584, Balthasar Gerards assassinated the prince in his home and the holes made by the gunshots can still be seen in the stone walls. Talking about the most interesting aspect of the museum for international visitors, Saskia Smit, from the Communication & Marketing team of Heritage Delft, said "The story of William of Orange, his role in the revolt, his murder. His leadership at the cradle of the Dutch Republic justifiably makes Orange one of the most important figures of Dutch history ever." If this sounds fascinating, then here's the good news. "We offer a discount for students. When you show your student card, ISIC or CJP card you receive €3.50 off of the ticket price; regular tickets cost €8.50. If you have a Museum Card entrance is free," she adds. Moreover, the museum often also collaborates with the university on exhibitions. "Next year we're opening an exhibition in which works by TU Delft students are incorporated."

**Address:** *Museum Het Prinsenhof, Sint Agathaplein 1, 2611 HR Delft*  
[www.prinsenhof-delft.nl](http://www.prinsenhof-delft.nl)

### Vermeer Centrum

The Vermeer Centrum Delft opened to the public in 2007. Dedicated to the life and works of 17th century Dutch master, Johannes Vermeer, it is the only place in the world with true scale reproductions of all of his paintings. The centre itself is built on the spot where the St. Lucas Guild of artists met during Vermeer's time. An interesting exhibit in the centre is a dining table marked with the names of all the artists who met during Vermeer's time. One section walks you through his paintings, with detailed explanations about the inspiration behind each work. There also is a section explaining Vermeer's use of light and his experiments with photography and the materials he used. Every Sunday at 10:30 the

centre offers a free guided tour free, with a regular entrance tickets. Student tickets cost €6. The centre has a cafe with changing contemporary art and, of course, a memorabilia shop.

**Address:** *Vermeer Centrum Delft, Voldersgracht 21, 2611 EV Delft*  
[www.vermeerdelft.nl](http://www.vermeerdelft.nl)

### Tabak's Historisch Museum

Started by cigar specialist Louis Bracco Gartner, the collection at the Tabaks Historisch Museum Delft takes you through the history of the tobacco industry in the Netherlands. In the 19th century, Delft had several prominent cigar factories and hundreds of cigar makers were active here. Old cigar tins, lighters and over a 1,000 pipes are part of the collection at the tabak museum. "These are items collected over the last 50 years, and span the 17th century till the present. A lot of the pipes in our collection were found under the ground of the old city," said Ryna Bracco Gartner, his wife. "Every showcase tells another story in the history of tabak (tobacco) in the Netherlands," she adds. A small private museum, it can only accommodate 12 people at a time and one must call to make an appointment beforehand. "I will be there to explain to visitors about the history," she said. There is no entry fee, but visitors are welcome to make a donation towards the upkeep of the museum.

**Address:** *Van Bossestraat 4, 2613 CR Delft*  
[www.tabaksmuseum.nl](http://www.tabaksmuseum.nl)



## Survive: Trivia nights

Do you enjoy trivia? Does your geographical expertise or memorization of football line ups impress your friends? Put that knowledge to good use at a local pub quiz and you might even be rewarded with prizes.

### Biercafe Doerak

If you're good at trivia, you might win a bottle of beer. The entry fee is one euro per person and teams typically have five members. "The quiz is in Dutch, but the questions are really international. There are a lot of questions about movies and round with pictures and several other categories that everyone can try," said Marijke Vuik, the owner. The pub only accepts fifteen teams, so book in advance on Facebook or their website.

**Address:** Vrouwjutenland 17 2611 LB Delft

### Biercafe 't Proeflokaal

Held in English, the pub quiz at Proeflokaal is popular with the internationals of the city. The quiz has a fixed format with multiple rounds on different categories including music, geography, Hollywood and history. The quiz is held on the last Thursday of every month. You can register on the night of the event. It starts at 21:00 but get there early, because they often fill up.

**Address:** Gasthuislaan 36-38, 2611 RB Delft

### Sports and Culture Centre, TU Delft

Get your fix of trivia right on campus. The cafe at sports centre regularly hosts a quiz with questions on a wide range of topics. The next one, being held in October, will be hosted by a professional quiz master. “Pub quizzes are very popular in Delft and all across the Netherlands,” said Chris Piguillet, from PubQuizMaster, the company that hosts the quiz at the Sports Centre. “You don’t have to be intelligent to win at the quiz or to have fun there. It’s a great way to hang out with friends and even a good family affair,” he adds. Given that the participants at this quiz will mostly be students, the questions will steer clear of the 50s and 60s. “It will be fairly contemporary general knowledge, television, music and so on.” You don’t need to register in advance but the quiz is typically crowded, so get there well before time to ensure your team a spot.

**Address:** Sports en Cultuur, TU Delft

### O’Casey’s Irish Pub and Restaurant

If you can’t wait a whole month for your trivial pursuit, head to Den Haag. O’Casey’s Irish Pub has been hosting a quiz every Thursday night for the last 15 years. Held in English and Dutch, the quiz is often hosted by QuestionMark, a popular quizmaster. “While some nights are busier than others, an average quiz night has about 15 teams, so if you’re coming in a big group it’s best to book in advance,” said Jim Bowers, one of the managers of the pub. Entry fee is five euros and questions are on general knowledge topics.

**Address:** Nooreinde 140, 2514 GP, Den Haag

### O’Sheas Rotterdam

Plan your week by your quizzes. O’Sheas in Rotterdam hosts a quiz night every Tuesday. Divided into six rounds, it includes a picture round and a music round. All questions are in Dutch and English. “Each team has five members and we are packed every week. Students, expats, people who drop in en route from work- we get people from everywhere,” said John Deros, a bartender at O’Sheas. The quiz starts at 8pm, so get in early to grab a good seat.

**Address:** Lijnbaan 37-39, Rotterdam

Still want more? Log on to [quizagenda.nl](http://quizagenda.nl).

## Survive: Sports clubs

Cricket on weekends? Softball on Monday nights? Rugby with friends and football with foes? Let sport be your route to discover life beyond the premises of the university. Sports clubs across Delft give you a chance to sign up with recreational teams (and semi-professional teams if you're good enough) and play with a fun crowd of people from all over the world.

### DSV Concordia: Cricket and Tennis Club

If you're looking to be part of a club with legacy, Concordia has been around since 1888. The 125 year old offers cricket, tennis, and even has a football team. The venue has six tennis courts and the main football ground doubles up as the cricket field with an artificial pitch in the centre. "Our cricket team is really popular among the internationals community of the city and has a lot of players from South Asian countries," said Corine Brekelmans, the secretary of the club. While the summer is on, teams play off against other cities. Annual membership lasts from January to January, so if you're looking to play next summer, make sure you sign up well in time.

**Website:** <http://www.concordiadelft.nl>

### Rugby Club Delft

Founded in 1974, Rugby Club Delft has around 100 senior members and a youth division as well. "RC Delft has a rich history of international players. Currently there are British, American, South African, French, Irish, Bulgarian, Ecuadorian, Spanish and Argentinean people frequently playing for the club. Also our head coach is Scottish.



Combined with our Dutch players we make up for quite an international bunch,” said Tim Hoefnagel, senior coordinator of the club. With players ranging from professionals to those with no experience at all, the club hosts friendly matches every few weeks and while the season is on, matches are played every Sunday.

**Website:** <http://www.delftrugby.nl/>

### Rowing Club: RV DDS

If you want to get into a sport that’s typically Dutch, try rowing. Don’t worry if you have absolutely no clue how to go about it, as long as you know how to swim, you can jump right in. Most clubs have beginners level training as well. Founded in 1888, Rowing Club De Deftsche Sport has over 300 members, from the age of 11 and above. With a big mix of internationals, the association has strict training and testing systems including a test in skulling and a steering exam. “There is no firm structure concerning teams. If you prefer skiffing (single boat) you can go skiffing. If you prefer to row in a team you can do that as well. Teams are formed by the members themselves. In case you want to join a team, it is important to know people and to merge in the club. This can be done by doing volunteer work (bar services, maintenance on the boats, joining a committee, etc.),” said Dennis Tromp, a board member.

**Website:** <http://www.rv-dds.nl>

### Blue Birds- Baseball and Softball Association

Around since 1966, this club is perfect for an evening of light-hearted, if strenuous softball. A good game and fun are paramount among the 300 odd members of the club. “We have different leagues for men and women and recreational teams. We also have a number of internationals on our teams,” explains Diana Timmerman, organization treasurer. All through summer, the teams play against those from different cities and during the winter, while field games are impossible, you can use the indoor facility for practise.

**Website:** <http://www.bluebirds.nl/>

# Survive: The theatre

Delft may be a small town, but it doesn't lack variety when it comes to entertainment. Whether you're a theatre aficionado, prefer ballet or want to watch the latest blockbuster, the perfect venue is right around the corner.

## Theatre De Veste

For the past nineteen years, Delft's Theatre De Veste has hosted a wide array of cultural activities, from stand-up comedy to dance and chamber music. "We host a lot of comedy because Delft loves to laugh. The stand-up nights are more expensive by comparison, but they sell more. This gives us a chance to host experimental acts and newcomers as well," said Anne Struiksmma, of the marketing department. While the stand-up is usually in Dutch, they have hosted internationals such as Greg Shapiro. Among events with international appeal in January they have a concert by a rising Russian pianist Pavel Kolesnikov and a fusion dance performance. Students can buy an annual membership card for €10. Called an Investigation Card, it works as a discount card and every subsequent ticket then costs €7.50 (including a drink and coat check). Average ticket costs for non-students vary from act to act and cost €10 - €30.

**Where:** Vesteplein 1 Delft

**Website:** [www.theaterdeveste.nl/informatie/Recommended\\_for\\_internationals/](http://www.theaterdeveste.nl/informatie/Recommended_for_internationals/)

## Filmhuis Lumen

Do you like your cinema black and white? Or do you prefer them international, insightful, artistic and, sometimes, obscure? Filmhuis Lumen is probably more your kind of space then. Founded in 1974 with the aim of improving film availability in Delft, the theatre screens movies not often in the mainstream. Made by filmmakers around the world, the works explore different socio-historical backgrounds, past filmmakers and innovative filmmaking. For students, tickets cost €7.50 on weekdays.

**Where:** Doelenplein 5, 2611 BP Delft

**Website:** [www.filmhuis-lumen.nl](http://www.filmhuis-lumen.nl)

## Microtheatre

The Microtheatre is the theatre of amateur drama club called *de Flits* or The Flash. Founded in 1939, the club comprises a group of around thirty people who do everything from stage construction to acting and administration. They have two annual productions a year which run fifteen to twenty-five times each. "Though we work with plays written by playwrights from across the Western world, we only stage them in Dutch. Right now we are rehearsing Uncle Wanja by Tsjechov, which will be staged from March through May. For our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary we will present a variation on Moulin Rouge from October on," said Eddy Gerretsen, senior member of the club. Entrance costs €10 (€9 for students). "If you want to practice your Dutch and see if a play by a writer you know, a visit might be worthwhile for international students," he adds.

**Where:** Kerkstraat 19, 2611

**Website:** [www.deflits.nl/](http://www.deflits.nl/)

## Pathe, Delft

Newly revamped, Pathe is the main movie theatre in town. Part of the Pathe chain of cinemas, Pathe Delft showcases the latest Hollywood blockbusters and Dutch movies. In bigger cities such as Den Haag and Rotterdam, the halls also screen big budget films from other countries. While a regular ticket costs €10 (more for a 3D film), morning shows cost €7.50. You can also invest in Unlimited membership cards.

**Where:** Vesteplein, Delft

**Website:** [www.pathe.nl](http://www.pathe.nl)

## Lijm & Cultuur

Multipurpose venue Lijm & Culture is located right behind the university. In 2014, they will host several plays, bands and the Car Art Festival among other events. At the end of January, the seventh edition of Chaos aan de Schie will be held during which cultural programmes will be held at the venue for six weeks. Prices vary per event, ranging from €10 - €25.

**Where:** Rotterdamseweg 272, 2628 AT DELFT

**Website:** [www.lijmencultuur.nl](http://www.lijmencultuur.nl)

## Survive: The events

There's a lot going on in Delft. How does a theatre festival, a museum night, restaurant week and open monument day sound? With most of free or extremely affordable, there's no excuse to not get cultured.

### Museumnacht Delft

A night out was never this much fun. Every year, on Museum Night, museums and art galleries across the city stay open late into the night. A number of cultural performances - plays, live music, painting - are organised around Delft. The ticket for the night is usually a blinking button, in 2013 it was in the shape of a clover and the year before that a star.

**When:** Usually in October

**Entry:** Around €10

<http://www.museumnachtelft.nl/>

### Open Monumentendag

Heritage Day is celebrated across the Netherlands every September. Over 4,000 historical buildings and sites are open to the public and free. The theme for Open Monument Day in 2014 was *Op Reis* (Traveling.) In Delft, over 35 buildings, including the Town Hall, are open and there are also tours, lectures and performances in several of them. Started in 1987, recent editions have seen around 900,000 visitors per event.

**When:** September

**Entry:** Free

<http://www.openmonumentendag.nl/>

### Delft Fringe

Based on Edinburgh Festival Fringe, one of the world's largest art festivals, Delft Fringe began in 2011. Celebrating theatre in the fringes of society, performances take place at unexpected venues. Previous editions have been at libraries, ateliers, cafes and even a church. Performances include improvs, musicals, street plays, stand-up comedy and other genres. Most are free, but the artist may send a hat around for optional tips.

**When:** Summer festival

**Entry:** Free (for most events)

<http://www.delftfringe.nl>



## TEDx Delft

Top scientific minds, artists and innovators from the Netherlands get together for a day of inspiration at TEDx. Started in 2012, TEDx Delft also has a number of side events and salons in the months running up to the main event. Speakers in 2013 included Rutger de Graaf, the director and co-founder of DeltaSync and Gerwin Smit who spoke about developing the lightest ever prosthetic hand.

**When:** Check website for details

**Tickets:** €25 for students / €50 for non-students

<http://www.tedxdelфт.nl>

## Festibérico

Started in 2002, Festeberico is a film festival that celebrates great Portuguese and Spanish films. Featuring classics, alternative cinema and award winning films from film festivals, the filmmakers are also present at some of the screenings for a discussion with the audience. Hosted by Lumenhuis Delft, the festival is about more than just films, and with food and music added to the mix, it's an important showcase for Portuguese and Spanish culture.

**When:** Check website for details

**Tickets:** €8.50 per film for students

<http://www.festiberico.net>

## Lichtjesavond

The annual Evening of Lights is one of the most magical nights of the winter. A giant Christmas tree is lit in the Markt, marking the start of festive season. Carollers perform all across the city, while visiting bands perform live on a stage at the Markt. The town is lit up with decorations and food stalls line every corner. Enjoy steaming *glühwein* (mulled wine) and hot *poffertjes* (little pancakes.)

**When:** Second week of December

**Tickets:** Free

## National Restaurant Week

If you're a foodie, you should probably save up for this. For one week, restaurants across the Netherlands offer discounted menus and pre-fix menus for cheaper rates. You could get a 3-course dinner for €27.50 and lunch for €22.50 at a top restaurant. Over 1,000 restaurants are part of Restaurant Week.

**When:** Check website for details

**Tickets:** Varied.

<http://www.restaurantweek.nl>

## Survive: Delft's music events

From blues to jazz to pop of all sorts, Delft offers a number of music festivals through the year. Here's a list of what's coming in 2014.

### Delft Blues Festival

One of the first big Blues festivals in the region, the Delft Blues Festival is held annually in February. Over fifty performances are held across thirty locations. Bands are invited from all over the world for this weekend event. The festival is usually held in February and there are workshops on topics such as playing the blues harp and blues guitars and a film screening. Each year the event has a theme, in 2014 it was Blues Divas.

**When:** February

**Entry:** Free

<http://www.delftblues.nl/>

### Jazz Festival Delft

Jazz Festival Delft is among the largest jazz festivals in the Netherlands. The city jazzes up with live acts across town, at pubs and cafes, Beestenmarkt, the Markt and other locations. Featured acts include a range of styles - from traditional jazz to fusion, world pop and other experimental sounds. Beer tents and food stalls are set up around live arenas.

**When:** August 15 - 17

**Entry:** Free

<http://www.jazzfestivaldelft.nl/>

### Stukafest

The Stukafest is a live performance festival, hosted in student rooms of TU Delft. With theatre, music, dance, literature and poetry performed and recited live, personal rooms become public stages. Three rounds of performances include amateurs and well-known names. Former line-ups have included Spinvis, and rapper Typhoon among others. Venues can host up to thirty people (sixty for really popular acts). There's also an after party at Theatre de Veste until 4:00.

**When:** Check website for details

**Tickets:** Tickets range from €4.50 to €14

<http://www.stukafest.nl/delft/>

## Westerpop

Started in 1989 as a small festival with nine acts, today Westerpop has over twenty acts and 15,000 visitors. The two day festival celebrates popular music and features Dutch and international bands. Previous shows have featured bands such as Treetop Flyer from the UK and Moving House from Denmark. Held behind the Central Station, the venue has food and drinks stalls and places to sit around and relax in the sun.

**When:** Summer

**Entry:** Free

<http://www.westerpop.nl>



## Zomer Festival

The Zomer Festival, or the Summer Festival, is a day-long music celebration. Held on campus, the multi-venue festival has stages set up indoors and outdoors. There are live performances by Dutch bands with genres range from hip-hop to rock, as well as DJs. A lounge square is set up with drinks and food for sale. In 2013, there was also a science island where TU Delft scientists showcased the latest developments.

**When:** Late May / June

**Entry:** Presale: €15 / At the door: €20

[www.zomerfestival.tudelft.nl/](http://www.zomerfestival.tudelft.nl/)

### Taptoe Delft

If you think you can hear a military band performing a chart topping pop music melody, odds are you stumbled upon Taptoe Delft. This is among the more unique festivals in the city. Taptoe Delft started in 1954 as a performance of the military tattoos (military bands) in the country, today it features over fifteen citizen tattoos from across the country. The Markt is closed off to create a venue with special lighting and visual effects and a long marching area for each band.

**When:** September

**Tickets:** Starting at €18

<http://www.taptoedelft.nl/>

## Survive: The tastings

For those of you interested trying out new flavours, Dutch *proeflokaals* (tasting rooms) are just the thing for you. From organised tasting sessions on whisky, to a free crash course in coffee, here's a look at some interesting tasting sessions in Delft and nearby.

### Jenever

If you haven't tried this traditional Dutch liquor yet, then Schiedam is the place to do it. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century, this tiny town was the international hub of jenever manufacturers. Today it houses the Jenever Museum (which also conducts tastings) and a number of smaller pubs with big collections of the juniper-berry flavoured drink. One such is Jeneverie 't Spul which has over 400 different kinds of jenever, a small museum on the premises and they conduct regular tastings. Seven kinds of jenever are served along with snacks at a typical tasting. "Besides talking about flavours, I also tell participants about the history of the drink, anecdotes and explain how it is made," said Rob van Klaarwater, the owner. The tasting costs €15 per person and should be booked a 10 days to two weeks in advance.

**Where:** Hoogstraat 92, 3111 HL Schiedam  
[www.tspul.nl](http://www.tspul.nl)

### Coffee

If you're a coffee connoisseur or someone who's not entirely sure how they like their coffee, then this Coffee College might be just the thing for you. Every two months, Cisca Colijn, the owner of the coffee *branderij* (roaster) Miss Morrison organises a free workshop for coffee lovers. Typically, visitors are first introduced to the green beans and then they watch a roasting process before the actual tasting begins. "Understanding how it is made helps people discern flavour better. It's important for people to know what form of coffee they like best before investing in apparatus," she explains. The date for the next coffee college will be posted on their website.

**Where:** Voorstraat 7, 2611 JJ Delft [www.missmorrison.nl/](http://www.missmorrison.nl/)



## Cheese

One of Amsterdam's famous tasting rooms, the Reypenaer Cheese Tasting Room conducts an hour long tasting session with a specialist. Here visitors try six varieties of goat cheese and Gouda. "We usually pair the cheeses with different wines," said Daphne van Delden, an assistant manager at the store. Non-alcoholic drinks can also be requested. The tastings are conducted by Ron Pieters, who has been in the business for 40 years. Among other things, visitors learn to discern the texture of old cheese, the creaminess of milk cheeses and what pairs well with what. Priced at €15 per person, the tastings are held all week long, but be sure to book in advance.

**Where:** Singel 182, 1015 AJ, Amsterdam

[www.reypenaercheese.com/](http://www.reypenaercheese.com/)

## Whiskey

Trappistenlokaal 't Klooster has something for whiskey and whisky lovers out there. "Most whisky tastings are set up for individual groups. So according to their wishes we adjust our tastings," said Helmer Dil the owner. "However, twice a year we organise a whisky dinner and tastings can be done in Dutch and English," he adds. The level of the tasting can also be adapted to suit beginners and experts alike. Prices for their tastings start around €17.50 but vary depending on the number of food items and whisky. Check their website for the agenda.

**Where:** Vlamingstraat 2, Delft

[www.trappistenlokaal.nl](http://www.trappistenlokaal.nl)

## Beer

Most pubs in Delft and across the Netherlands host some kind of beer tasting events, including Biercafe Doerak. Every two months, a beer tasting is conducted at Doerak and while it's primarily in Dutch, the hosts are happy to translate for internationals. Tastings are structured differently each time, sometimes a brewer brings over a sample of beers, while some are themed on a particular kind of beer. Their next event will be held on November 9.

**Where:** Vrouwjutteland 17, 2611 LB, Delft

[www.cafedoerak.nl](http://www.cafedoerak.nl)

## Survive: Winter activities in Delft

Don't let the thought of the dark days of winter bring you down. From ice-skating to Christmas choirs and visiting saints – these are the things to watch out for starting November.

### Skate away the blues

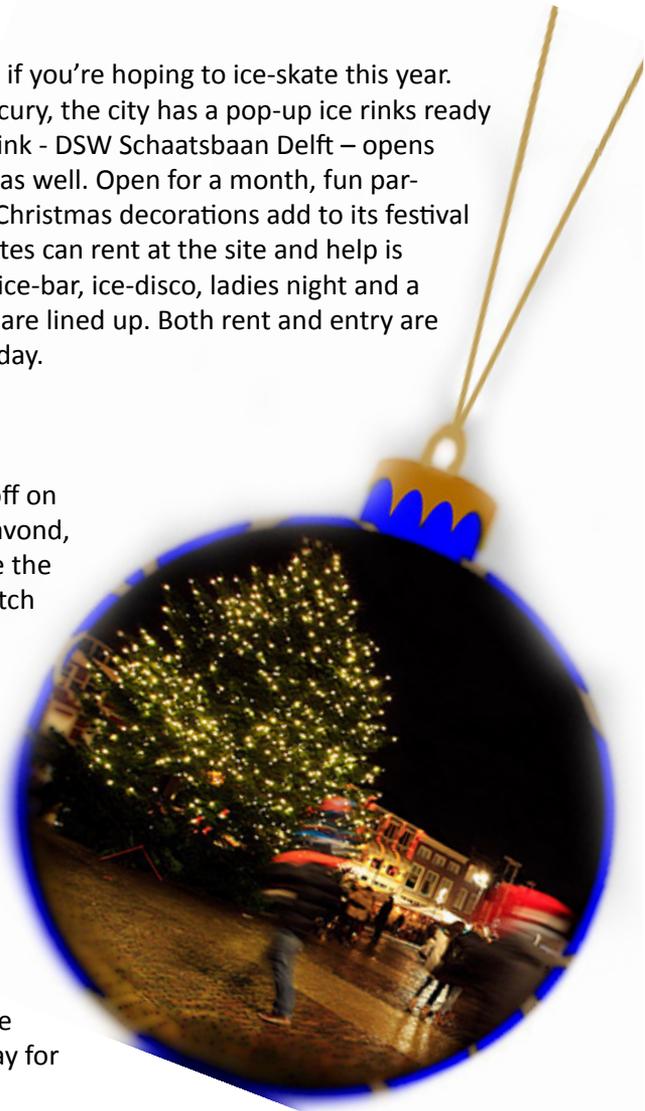
December to January

You needn't pray for snow if you're hoping to ice-skate this year. Regardless of dipping mercury, the city has a pop-up ice rinks ready for you. A temporary ice-rink - DSW Schaatsbaan Delft – opens each year at Beestenmarkt as well. Open for a month, fun party-music, disco lights and Christmas decorations add to its festival appeal. Those without skates can rent at the site and help is at hand for beginners. An ice-bar, ice-disco, ladies night and a special event for students are lined up. Both rent and entry are around €5.75 for a whole day.

### Light up the winter

December

Christmas festivities kick-off on December 9 with Lichtjesavond, a lighting ceremony where the whole town gathers to watch a giant Christmas light up. The day is marked by a Christmas market, with small concerts, food stalls all across town, carol singers and lots of Glu wine on sale. The tree chosen is usually a tall Nordmann that is beautifully decorated and usually big tree is usually lit at 19:00 but keep an eye on [Delft.nl](http://Delft.nl) closer to the day for



more updates. The tradition was started nearly 20 years ago to bring people of the city together and celebrate the Christmas spirit.

## Christmas Markets

November end to December end

'Tis the season of giving, but it usually begins with a long shopping spree. All across Europe, traditional Christmas markets are set-up around this time. The more famous ones include the **Cologne Christmas Markets** in Germany (November 24 to December 23) which is visited by millions, **Amsterdam's Local Goods Christmas Market**, a two-day event at the De Hallen complex (December 20-21). And the Dickens Festival in Deventer, Overijssel (December 20-21) a Christmas tribute to Charles Dickens. From Scrooge and Oliver Twist to drunkards and carollers, over 950 characters from his books come alive at Bergkwartier as the city becomes 19<sup>th</sup> Century England for two days. The festival has over 150,000 annual visitors. Free to the public, it is open from 11:00 to 17:00

## Christmas Concerts

December

Now in its ninth year, the Kerst Concerten in Delft is held at the Old Church, the concert line-up includes celebrity performers. This year TV presenter and Opera singer Ernst Daniël Smid and his daughter Coosje Smid, who competed in The Voice of Holland, will also perform. Tickets cost from €32.50 to €37.50. Celebrating Christmas dreams from Vienna is the Ave Marie Kerstconcert. This year, soloists join the New Romanian Chamber Orchestra and Choir as they perform at venues across the country. In Delft, it will be held on December 22 at the Old Church. Tickets cost €49.50 at the venue, (30% off for newsletter subscribers).

## Sinterklaas comes to town

November

The Dutch precursor to Santa Claus, Sinterklaas, or Saint Nicholas, arrives in the Netherlands from Spain by boat in November. This year he reaches Amsterdam on November 16 and then travels to other Dutch cities. His boat usually arrives in different cities in a grand parade, with several of his helpers performing acrobatic stunts. He then gets on his magnificent white horse for a foot-parade through the city, throwing

sweets and gifts out for excited children. He reaches Delft towards the end of November along the Oostsingel waterfront, his parade will cross Markt, then heads to Beestenmarkt. Sinterklaas itself is celebrated on December 5, and in a tradition similar to Christmas, children leave hay for Sint's horse by the fireplace and he in turn leaves them gifts.

## Survive: Watching sports

It may be too cold to play or even think about playing your favourite sport, but there's no reason you can't enjoy the game together with your team. We take a look at places across Delft that show the games, from football to cricket.

### Cafe Bonte Os

If a Champions League match is on, chances are that Cafe Bonte Os will be packed. The venue has two big screens, one of which is in the smoking lounge, so fans can keep an eye on the game wherever they are. The café, which opened in 2012, kept the name of the inn that was in that spot around 1560. No football match is too small for them to screen here. "The most popular, of course, are the Champions League and Premier League football matches. We have up to 60-70 people at a time," said Andre Lubach, the owner. They also screen dart competitions and Grand Slam tennis tournaments.

**Address:** Voldersgracht 10, 2611 ET Delft

### Sportsbar The Score

A new addition to Delft, The Score opened in October 2013. With nine big screens and one giant screen made of multiple screens put together – they take their screening seriously. A range of games is usually playing, and they screen most big sports events, from soccer to the NFL, basketball and cricket. "With American tournaments the time difference makes it a bit difficult, but we screen the Sunday matches on Monday. We have a license for various sports channels such as Sky, so we show cricket and even rugby," said Dennis Vaz, the manager. "Sports cafes aren't as popular here as they are in America, so a venue like this was missing in Delft, especially for foreigners who are used to them" he added.

**Address:** Doelenplein 7, 2611 BP Delft

### Café de Clippertje

For nearly two decades Café de Clipper has been a popular haunt for sports enthusiasts in Delft. Flip Stolte, the owner of Cafe de Clipper, is a sports enthusiast himself and is happy to discuss the games with his guests. While the cafe mainly screens football matches (and have a huge

crowd when teams such as Barcelona and Real Madrid play), they also screen events such as the Tour de France. “When we opened 17 years ago, we were the only ones screening football like this in Delft,” said Stolte.

**Address:** Markt 67, 2611 GS Delft

### Biercafe ‘t Proeflokaal

During the 2014 Football World Cup, Biercafe ‘t Proeflokaal was among the few pubs in Delft that remained opened to screen even the late-night matches during the kick-off stage. Besides their beer, darts and pub quizzes, Proeflokaal is a favoured venue among football fans. Besides multiple screens to screen simultaneous events, they even host special on-topic quizzes for fans. “Since 1997 we have been showing the World Cup and European games live on multiple screens,” the owner, Edwin van Schijndel, told Delta in a previous interview. Famous with expats, you’re likely to bump into fans from around the world here.

**Address:** Gasthuislaan 36-38, 2611 RB Delft

### Café de Tobbe

Another popular venue is Cafe de Tobbe. They have three bars and, most importantly, one large screen that is usually showing football. The bar was taken over by a new owner last year, 27-year-old Danny de Quaasteniet . “If people call and let us know in advance that they’d like to watch another sport, we can do that,” said de Quaasteniet .

**Address:** Café de Tobbe, Buitenwatersloot 17, Delft

## Survive: Indoor games

It may be off-season for the sport of your choice, but that doesn't mean you can't play. Try a different game - an indoor one perhaps? Venues across Delft offer a host of sporting options some even have leagues of their own. From darts, snooker and bowling to the more adventurous paintball and go karting - here's a look at your options.

### Snooker and Pool

The Snookercafe Peperstraat may be small but their snooker and pool tables are star attractions. Off-hours on weekdays (12:00 to 18:00) cost €6.00 per hour and from 18.00 onwards it's € 9.60 per hour. On Friday and Saturday nights, it costs €9.60 per hour. They offer a student discount as well. Another big venue for this sport is the Snooker Pool Palace. They have 14 pool tables and 6 snooker tables, and are open till midnight on most nights. And, according to their website, there's a 50% student discount.

Address: Snookercafe: Peperstraat, 13, 2611 CH

[www.snookercafepeperstraat.nl/](http://www.snookercafepeperstraat.nl/)

Snooker Pool Palace: Hendriktollensstraat 3 2624 BH

[www.snookerpoolpalace.nl/](http://www.snookerpoolpalace.nl/)

### Darts

A traditional Dutch pub game, several pubs in Delft have a dartboard. A number of them even have teams and participate in tournaments. Darts in Delft (DID) is an association for darts players, individuals and teams, in Delft and nearby. Cafe Friends Delft has six dart lanes and hosts friendly dart competitions every week. They also conduct workshops for groups in the game. The Snookercafe and Snooker Pool Palace have darts corners too, and it's usually free play the game. Biercafe 't Proeflokaal, Cafe De Tobe, Sportsbar The Game, Cafe Bonte Os and Clippertje are among others with dartboards.

### Go Karting

Race Planet Delft takes racing seriously. Besides indoor Go Karting they also give you a chance to drive a real Ferrari or Aston Martin. The real



## Bowling

Open since the 1980s, Gasterij 't Karrewiel has ten automated bowling lanes and over 60 bowling balls, from light and heavy to child-sized ones. Bowling shoes are available to rent as well. "On Mondays and Tuesdays we have competitive bowling for members and on Wednesdays we have a student discount. The discount is also available to everyone with a membership card of the cafe," said Richie Haak, an employee. The venue also has a full-fledged grill and raclette restaurant and there are menu offers that include food and an hour of bowling (€15.95). On Wednesday nights, price per lane for an hour is €12.95.

**Address:** Gasterij 't Karrewiel, Paardenmarkt 74, 2611 PD Delft  
[www.karrewiel.nl/en](http://www.karrewiel.nl/en)

race car experience comes in different packages and costs a tidy sum. The cheapest is the Schumacher experience includes driving a Porsche 911, a lap with an experienced race car driver, ice driving and the slalom test (driving zigzag through obstacles). It costs €250. But go karting is much more affordable. The standard duration of one round with the kart is 12 minutes and costs €15.75 but you can also opt for packages that include food and more time driving. There are rookie karts for children under 14 and special arrangements are made for family outings.

Address: Kleveringweg 18, 2616 LZ DELFT

Website: [www.raceplanet.com/](http://www.raceplanet.com/)

## Paintball and Laser Tag

Race Planet Delft also has a Laser Tag Arena and a game costs €9 per person, per game. If that isn't enough adrenalin, you could try paintball and shoot people with blobs of paints. At Paintball Delft a three hour stint on weekdays costs around €24.50. This includes the equipment - a semiautomatic and 100 bullets and the outfits - masks and overalls. If the weather isn't going to put you off, then they also offer archery and mountain biking. There may be a minimum requirement of the number of people before an activity can be offered, so be sure to call for a reservation before showing up.

Address: Rotterdamsweg Delft

Website: [www.paintball-delft.nl/](http://www.paintball-delft.nl/)

## Survive: Exercising

Exercise is good for the brain. If the terrible weather is your excuse for not exercising, we've got bad news. There are gyms and fitness centres all across the city – some with student discounts and others with affordable packages.

### Vital Fitness Centre

For those living closer to Zuid Holland, Vital Fitness is a good option. They have extensive cardio and strength equipment and there are always trainers to help out. The best part, you don't have to sign on for an annual membership. "We make members sign a monthly contract so they can get a membership card. After that, they can renew it each month if they like or stop altogether," said Rick Kassels, the manager. A monthly membership is €30 while an annual contract works out to €19.25 per month.

**Where:** Beethovenlaan 230, 2625 RW Delft

[www.vitalfitnesscenter.nl](http://www.vitalfitnesscenter.nl)

### Koster Ladies Club and Koster Fitness Centre

The Koster Fitness Centre has two branches, one of which is for women only. "At the ladies centre we also have trainers and training routines that focus on problem areas for women. It's located in a neighbourhood with a lot of different nationalities, so women from all backgrounds will feel comfortable here," said Bob Koster, the co-owner of the centre. Their other fitness centre is next to the TU library and has facilities from cardio machines to weights and strength equipment. They have a student discount. To use the facility from 7:00 to 17:00 for a month costs €10 in a long-term membership.

**Where:** Fitness Centre (Simonsstraat 10) Ladies Only (Aart v/d Leeuwlaan 790)

<http://www.kostersportclubs.nl/>

### Personal Fitness Delft

This is a smaller fitness centre with more focus on personalised training and physiotherapy. A typical training session would either be one-on-one or have up to four people at a time. "We usually set goals, for most

people it's weight loss or related to an injury. In the course of training we also focus a lot on correct posture, especially for someone with a hunch. In the long term, good posture presents future injuries," said Evert Vrijhof. A one-hour long group training session for four people costs €15. The fitness instructors also conduct training sessions at home, but the prices for that are more.

**Where:** Ezelveldlaan152

<http://www.personalfitnessdelft.nl/locatie/>

### CrossFit Delft

A fitness regimen that started in 2000, CrossFit incorporates multiple training styles – from high intensity interval training and gymnastics to powerlifting and weightlifting. At CrossFit Delft, a one hour fitness routine starts with a 10-15 high intensity warm up session that sets the pace for the more intense work out of the day. This can range from mobility training, flexibility and anything from gymnastics to weights. "It's ideal for PhDs who don't necessarily have a lot of time but want a work-out regimen. We work with small groups of about 14 people and two instructors. The idea is for people to learn the proper way of doing these exercises and that needs attention," said Ron Fiolet, the owner. Students are given a 10% discount and if you're not sure you want to make a long term commitment, you can sign up for a 4-part course for €50.

**Where:** Rotterdamsweg 402 A2

<http://crossfitdelft.com/prijzen/on-ramp-class.html>

### Basic Fit

Basic Fit, a popular budget fitness centre, has two locations in Delft, one in the city centre and another near Gamma. While they have annual membership plans for €15,99, they also have a monthly package for €21.99. Besides fitness machines such as treadmills, cycles etc, they also have virtual group exercises – a pre-recorded lesson plays on a big screen for a group to follow. Membership at BasicFit is transferrable among family members.

**Where:** Breerstraat 37

[www.basicfit.nl](http://www.basicfit.nl)

## Survive: Fitness classes

If going to the gym is not your thing, try one of these fitness techniques. From different kinds of martial arts to various schools of yoga, and even krav maga, you can opt for any of these right here in Delft.

### Pilates

Pilates was developed in the 20th century by Joseph Pilates, who described it as the art of controlled movement. In Delft, Pilatesstudio Body and Mind offers different levels of classes. “Pilates trains the core muscles that gives you a good posture, more stability for lack muscles, more mobility for tension muscles, balance, coordination a better mood and more energy,” said Sandra van Wensveen. They have different payment modules, you can opt for a strip card of 10 lessons for €88 or a six month module for €150.

<http://pilatesstudio-bodyandmind.nl>



## Krav Maga

Originally developed as a self-defense system for the Israeli military, Krav Maga is a contact combat system that combines techniques such as boxing, muay thai, judo and others. In Delft, one of the places that teaches krav maga is Rayo Sports. While they conduct three classes a week, you can opt to go twice a week for €41.50 a month. “The starting point of Krav Maga is natural instinct and that makes it easy to learn. Besides fun and fitness, it also makes you safer,” said Raymond Straetemans, one of the instructors. “We can always give instructions in English; in fact we have quite a few people who don’t speak Dutch already in our classes.” <http://rayosports.nl/>

## Yoga

There are a number of yoga studios in Delft that teach different styles of yoga, from Iyengar Yoga to Ashtanga Yoga. Among them is Banyan Yoga which offers classes in the various styles and all in English. “Everyone has a different motivation for yoga. If a student wants to relax and forget about their thesis for a while, they may choose our meditative Yin Yoga sessions or the intense Ashtanga yoga 75-minute session,” said Cassandra Kosten, the owner. They have two subscriptions, unlimited classes for €48 a month or once a week for €29 a month. [www.banyanyoga.nl/](http://www.banyanyoga.nl/)

## Wing Chun

A form of martial arts that originated in southern China, today there is a Wing Chun Federation even in Delft. You can attend Wing Chun classes in Delft or in The Hague for €40 a month. Dirk Wachtberger, one of the instructors, pointed out that aside from the usual benefits of any kind of training of sport or martial arts, those who learn the self-defence techniques of Wing Chun also get an innate sense of self confidence. “There are subtle differences in their body language that sends out a message, they no longer appear as someone who can be victimised,” he added. [www.vechtsportschooldelft.nl/](http://www.vechtsportschooldelft.nl/)

## Ryounkai Karate Delft

A form of traditional Japanese karate popular in the Netherlands, Ryounkai is a full contact karate. The Ryounkai Karate Delft rents a training

facility from the city hall for their twice-weekly classes. Classes cost €200 a year and for students it's €130. "Teaching in English is not a problem. In fact, our Japanese sensei, Yasuo Takahashi, who teaches a class once every two weeks, conducts all his classes only in English," said Bianca Peereboom, one of the instructors. "Ryounkai teaches you how to apply karate techniques in a real life situation," she added.

[dojodelft.wordpress.com](http://dojodelft.wordpress.com)

## Survive: City walks

Now that spring is officially here, find the next sunny weekend and head out to explore good ol' Delft. Join a walking tour, a bike sojourn, hop on a boat or buy a special map and discover the city yourself. Here are your options.

### Tour on water

This is one boat you don't want to miss. Rondvaart Delft lets you discover Delft via the canal network. The 45-minute boat tour includes highlights of the city and fascinating stories about how the city evolved. There are a number of tours through the day and start at the Koormarkt. Tickets cost €7.50 for adults and there's a 10% discount for groups of 20. It is also possible for people to rent a boat for the day and head out on your own.

[www.rondvaartdelft.nl](http://www.rondvaartdelft.nl)

### Walk, bike, game

"About 90% of our guides have been with us for over 10 years and know Delft very well," said Corneel Adamse, the assistant manager of Gidsenservicedelft. The company offers tours in various packages including one that ends at a bowling alley and others that include lunch and dinner. They have a special tour for those interested in photography and even bike tours. Most of these are only available on group booking, but they have day walks every Wednesday for €5.00 that begin in the city centre.

[www.gidsenservicedelft.nl](http://www.gidsenservicedelft.nl)

### Offbeat Walks

Besides walks across the major landmarks such as the New Church, the City Hall and the Old Church, the Gilde Delft also offers smaller themed-walks on interesting topics. These include one on the history of Delft through the Middle Ages and the Golden Age, a tour of the 16th century city prison, a walk through the city's courtyards and even walks based on famous books. For a group of more than four people a walk costs €4.00 per person.

[www.gildedelft.nl](http://www.gildedelft.nl)



## Open Walks

Throughout the week, some of these organisations and the tourism department of Delft organise open walks that visitors can join on the spot. Options include the Vermeer Walk, which costs €2.00 for the map, which takes you from Vermeer's birthplace in Beestenmarkt, to scenes from his paintings. The map corresponds to information cubes placed all over the city and these work as landmarks and give you more information on the artist and his work. Or try the Archaeology Walk. Developed by Delft Heritage, this walk introduces you to the archaeological research going on in Delft. Called Delft Upside Down, the walk is available for € 3.95.

[www.delft.nl](http://www.delft.nl)

### Wine or a DIY tour

Delft-based tour company Happy Day Tours organises a number of weekly tours, both in Dutch and English. If you want a touch of fancy, try their High Wine tour – a walk across the city’s attractions that ends with a glass of wine and dessert. They also have a Do It Yourself tour. “Included in this tour is a leaflet with a city walk, entrance to the New Church of Delft, coffee and lunch. A ticket for a canal boat trip or a ticket to Museum Prinsenhof is also included,” said Lia van der Loos of the organisation. TU Delft students get a 10 % discount.

[en.happydaytours.nl/](http://en.happydaytours.nl/)

### Beer, beer everywhere

Once upon a time Delft had one of the largest beer industries in the country and the Beer Walk by tour organisers StadgidsDelft will walk you through those days for €7.50. The route includes old buildings and beer breaks at cafes that still serve traditional recipes.

[www.stadsgidsdelft.nl](http://www.stadsgidsdelft.nl)

## Survive: The coffeeshops

Many internationals are fascinated by the cannabis and coffeeshop culture here in the Netherlands – perhaps you’re curious and tempted to try it out yourself?

### Rules

Contrary to popular belief, selling cannabis is not legal in the Netherlands. However, retail sales in so-called coffeeshops are tolerated so long as they stick to the rules. What are the coffeeshop rules? No “hard drugs” like heroin, cocaine, ecstasy and amphetamines. No causing a nuisance in the neighbourhood. They may not sell their products to minors. No sales of more than five grams at a time. Finally, no advertising. Being in possession of five grams or less is not policed. As a result of the tolerance, cannabis is readily available and reasonably priced. There are four coffeeshops in Delft to choose from.

### The Game

As well as selling weed and hash, The Game also offers space to sit and smoke it, and serves drinks and snacks too. When you enter there’s one counter with a glass window for quick purchases, with the menu displayed on a screen. The door to the café behind is to the left of the counter. It’s generally pretty busy with locals. “This place is efficient and organised with very friendly and helpful staff. You can also PIN which is handy,” said John Smith\*, a coffeeshop regular.

**Address:** Breestraat 30

### The Future

“It’s very professional, like visiting the bank. Glass protects the staff and you pass money via a tray. There are always two people serving. It’s strictly buy and fly here, there’s no seating or drinks. It’s quieter and therefore service is faster than at The Game. A big advantage is the snack bar next door,” said Smith. With the same management as The Game, they’re pretty similar. “White widow is the most popular item on our menu,” said Jane Smith\*, “but you must live here in the Netherlands to buy anything.” So be prepared to prove it if asked.

**Address:** Peperstraat 8

## Bamboe Beach Club

For those for whom discretion is important, this coffeeshop is in the centre of town but on a quiet side street. There's a themed interior in keeping with its name, including painted palm trees on the wall. "There's a bar, but not one that sells alcohol. The menu changes regularly, and the staff are helpful and happy to make recommendations. There are plenty of tables and chairs where you can sit and smoke your joint, with room to move around," said Bob Jones\*, another regular cannabis user. The pool tables, pinball and slot machines guarantee some extra fun. Free table games like backgammon will keep you occupied too.

**Address:** De Vlouw 48

## De Boeddha

"It's a small but cozy coffeeshop. You can buy coffee or tea at the bar and there are a few tables where you can sit. They sell weed and hash, including their house weed Boeddha XL. They're strict on checking ID if you look underage. I think they're a bit cheaper than the Bamboe Beach Club," said Jones. Accessories like pipes and vaporisers are also available.

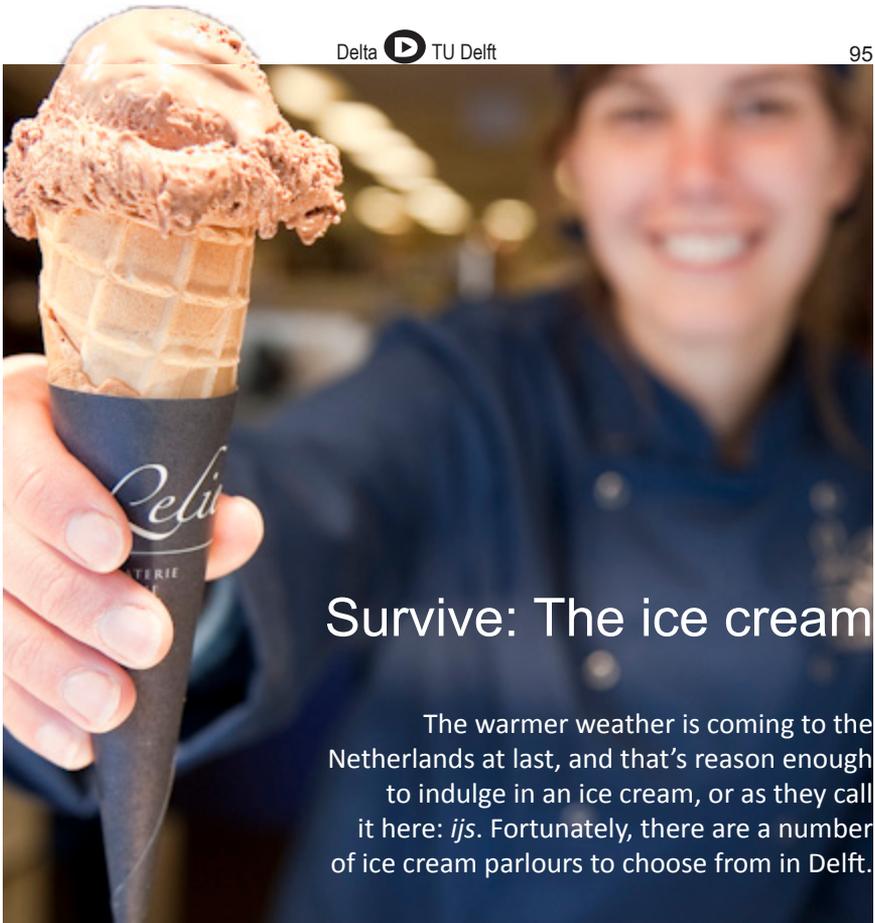
**Address:** Achterom 19A

## Alternative

Delft based company E-njoint introduced their electronic joint last year which they claim is 100% legal. They contain no nicotine, tar, toxins or THC (the chemical responsible for most of the psychological effects of cannabis) but instead contain a liquid made from propylene glycol, vegetarian glycerine and a biological flavour that is then vaporised. Products include the disposable cannabis and shisha flavoured electronic joints, and the newly released mood changers.

[www.e-njoint.com](http://www.e-njoint.com)

\*Due to the nature of this article, the participant's names have been changed at their request.



## Survive: The ice cream

The warmer weather is coming to the Netherlands at last, and that's reason enough to indulge in an ice cream, or as they call it here: *ijs*. Fortunately, there are a number of ice cream parlours to choose from in Delft.

### Chocolaterie and Gelaterie De Lelie

If the queues are anything to go by, this is the best ice cream parlour in Delft. They make their ice cream on the premises from organic milk provided by the local Biesland farm near the Delftse Hout, and they only use natural ingredients. A single scoop will cost you €1.25, and if you're a regular you can purchase an €11.00 *strippenkaart* for ten scoops. Feeling greedy? €7.50 will buy you a half litre container. They also have a handy app, so you can see anytime what flavours are available, allergy information and offers. The app is in English and Dutch. Their newest flavour is Kobus Kuch apple pie.

**Where:** Voostraat 10

## Plan B IJssalon

For years this place was known as IJssalon van Bokhoven. Now it's called Plan B, an Indonesian restaurant and wine bar, but the ice cream parlour is still there. One scoop will cost you €1.20 plus an extra €0.50 for cream. There's a nice terrace, plus inside seating. "For more than 50 years home-made ice cream has been prepared on this spot, in the catacombs under Plan B dating from 1584," states their website. In the summer they have more than 30 flavours. Franco Palomba has been the ice cream maker for more than 25 years, and his specialities include *Mirto-ijs* made with a Sardinian myrtle berry liqueur, and *Rozenijs* made with Indonesian *stroop soesoe*.

**Where:** Boterbrug 15

## Otelli

This ice cream parlour is on the main market square, has a terrace at the front where you can sit and watch the world go by, and a decent inside sitting area. The board outside boasts 48 flavours. During the summer sorbets like mango, raspberry and melon are popular. In the winter, flavours like hazelnut praline and cinnamon crunch are more in demand. They also have seasonal specialities like asparagus ice cream. One scoop costs €1.25. They also serve Illy coffee, and patisserie treats like the new ice cream macaroons.

**Where:** Markt 49

## Leonidas

Primarily a chocolaterie, they also serve Italian ice cream throughout the year in the same flavours as their chocolates, at €1.10 per scoop. "We sell 15 flavours. Chocolate, vanilla, strawberry and cookies are our most sold flavours. We also sell sugar free, lactose free and gluten free ice cream," said Elly van Leeuwe, a shop employee.

**Where:** Choorstraat 18

## De IJssalon Delft

This ice cream parlour in Wipolder is part of an award winning Rotterdam based chain. There are 24 different flavours to choose from, with elderberry ice cream being the latest addition. "There's a good selection and the flavours are really good, my personal favourite is snickers.

They even have a few sorbets, and a changing flavour of the month. It's affordable, the only negative is that you can only pay in cash," said Tarja van Veldhoven, Wipolder resident.

**Where:** Sint Aldegondestraat 2

### Beaart Ijs

A family run business, this ice cream parlour has been going for 80 years. It's not immediately obvious from the street, so look out for the red and white striped awning. Popular with locals, they have relied on word of mouth for custom for decades, so you won't find a website or formal Facebook page for them. You can enjoy your ice cream on the corner by the water overlooking the Oostpoort bridge, or there is some inside bar seating. The portions are generous, the sprinkles are good, although the selection of flavours is a little less than other ice cream parlours around.

**Where:** Julianalaan 37

# SURVIVE

## eating out & shopping



Ingredients from around the world? Grandma's baking secrets? Free wifi? We'll tell you where you can find it all. A good place to start is the Dille & Kamille in the city centre; we found authentic maple syrup here. Photo: Hans Stakelbeek

## Survive: Thrift shopping

Here in Delft, good things can come cheap, or even free. Aside from the many second hand shops scattered around the city, there are also freecycle groups that encourage people to give away stuff they don't need any more. So, if you're lucky, you can get a TV for € 50 or a laptop for free. Read on to learn how.

### Ecolution's Freecycle

This February, Ecolution organizes the second edition of the Freecycle Bazaar. The group focuses on environment-friendly activities and Freecycle encourages students and professors to give away things they don't need. Cutlery, clothes, kitchen gadgets and even two laptops found their way to the giveaway table last time. Everything is free and usually of good quality. The only hitch is that the good stuff goes fast, so get there early.

**Where:** On campus.

[www.ecolution.tudelft.nl/](http://www.ecolution.tudelft.nl/)

### Terre Des Hommes

Terre Des Hommes is a second hand shop run entirely by volunteers and all proceeds from sales go towards charity. "The clothes in this shop are clean and well maintained. You can find a smart jacket for €10 or a pair of trousers for €4.50. Mostly students come here for clothes. Boys always come at the last minute, on the very day when they have a big date or ceremony to attend!" said Yvonne de Haan, the coordinator of the shop.

**Where:** Nieuwe Langendijk 33

### The Flinstones

Yes, Wilma and Fred are their real names. We asked. Around for the past 21 years, The Flinstones is a treasure trove of second hand finds. Tucked away from the city centre, the shop looks like a small little garage, but is actually huge and stuffed to the brim. Cycles, washing machines, ovens, sofas, cupboards, dolls, stuffed toys, chairs, mirrors and even the odd 1900s model of a phone - you never know what you will find here. Students shifting houses can check out a mattress (€20), a set of 4 chairs

(€75) and an old microwave (€100). “We keep everything! A lot of crazy things too. In the beginning of a new session, we usually sell a lot of cycles,” said Wilma. The best part about Flinstones is that home delivery is free!

**Where:** Giststraat 4

### Kringloopwinkel Delft

Around for 20 years, Kringloopwinkel Delft is paradise for a student budget. The thrift shop has two branches - one on Rotterdamsweg, which is the bigger one, and the other in Beestenmarkt. The Kringloop in Rotterdamsweg is a huge, multi-storey warehouse. The ground floor has the usual suspects - old Chinaware, candle stands, clothes etc. The second and third floors have all the furnishings you’d need for a house, from sofas to dining sets. And, the prices are competitive. You could get a study table for €10 and a lounging sofa for €30. The branch in the centre is slightly more upmarket. “The things here are sort of antique and usually of much higher quality,” explains Ed, who works at the shop. That would explain why the prices are higher too.

**Where:** Rotterdamseweg 404 and Beestenmarkt 27

## Survive: Thrift shopping II

Setting up one's home is always an uphill task, often correlated to one's bank balance. Luckily, Delft has some treasure troves for bargain hunters. In 2013, we featured five of the city's thrift/second hand shops - from a warehouse full of furniture to one where you can even find some books. In part two, we explore some more.



### 't Goeie Doelen Winkelkje

Loosely translated to mean, the little shop of good deals, it's precisely what it claims to be. The shop is packed to brim with knick-knacks; from cutlery to silverware, endless rows of mugs and glasses (champagne to cherry), old clothes, shoes, CDs, DVDs and even the odd monitor thrown in. Everything is priced around a couple of euros and is extremely affordable. The initiative was started 20 years ago by a board of volunteers and all proceeds from sales go towards helping children in need. "There are seven of us on the board and we vote for which charity to donate to," said Mienke Rutgers, one of the board members.

**Mondays:** 13:30 - 15:30

**Tuesday - Friday:** 10:00 - 17:00

**Saturdays:** 10:00 - 16:00

**Address:** Yperstrat 46, 2611 SH Delft

[www.goededoelen.nu](http://www.goededoelen.nu)

### 't Goeie Doelen - The Warehouse

An extension of the main shop, the warehouse stocks bigger items such as furniture, mirrors, wall planks and big paintings etc. If you're lucky, you can get a sofa set for under €10 or a dining table set in great condition for less than €25. "Everything we sell is donated to us by people who are shifting or don't need something anymore. We have a small cart on which to collect things, or people are welcome to drop things off. The price we set depends on the quality of the product," said Peter Meyer, another board member.

**Tuesdays and Wednesdays:** 13:00 - 17:00

**Every last Saturday of the month:** 12:00 - 16:00

Address and Website same as above

### Student Sale Delft

In 2011, Greek student Nefeli Papapetrou started a Facebook group called Student Sale Delft after she noticed her newsfeed would fill up with For Sale posts at the end of a semester. Today the group has over 8,800 members and membership is now by invitation only. But, if you can get a friend to nominate you for the group, great deals await you. An average of 10 new items go on sale here every day – most commonly bikes and household goods. You can buy old Batavus bike for €80 or a flatscreen TV for €100, old utensils for €5 or an IKEA bed for €25. "The idea behind the group was for fair-priced sales. If you post about a sale in Student Sale, your goal should be to pass something on to another person and not to make profit. A lot of people shared this idea, and now you even see people giving things away for free," said Papapetrou.

[www.facebook.com/groups/student.sale/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/student.sale/)

### Used Products Delft

Open since April 2013, Used Products Delft claims to be the 'largest second hand shop with guarantee in the Netherlands'. Unlike other second hand shops, all electronic items sold here are carefully tested and sold with a one month guarantee. They also have an online selection which includes items like an iPad keyboard for €14.95 and a collection of DVDs

priced around €10 each. Gamers might be interested in a Play Station 3 console for €29.99. You can also sell or exchange your old products here as well

**Mondays:** 13:00 - 17:00

**Tuesdays to Thursdays:** 10:00 - 18:00

**Fridays:** 10:00 - 21:00

**Saturdays:** 10:00 17:00

**Address:** Binnenwatersloot 24, 2611 BK Delft

[www.usedproductsdelft.nl](http://www.usedproductsdelft.nl)

## Survive: Late night shopping

Have you ever been roaming the streets of Delft at night, zombified by hunger or bored with your usual hangout? Here's where to find last minute groceries, a hot meal or a party at the oddest hours of the night.

### Grocery Shopping

The next time you get home after a long night in the lab and curse your empty fridge, look up the term Avondwinkels (evening shops). There are a few around Delft, but if you're not sure what you need, head to the Supermarkt Delfia, out on Binnenwatersloot. Open from 13:00 until 24:00, the shop has everything from juices and milk to ready-to-eat Chinese food. There are rows of chocolates, pasta sauces, microwave foods, a small range of beer and cocktail bottles, yogurt and other edibles. If you're planning an impromptu party, they have some party supplies too. And essentials such as hair brushes, shampoo and rope! "We've been around for 9 years," said N. Javed, the owner of the shop. "TU students are among our biggest clientele. Chips, beer and mostly cigarettes are what they buy," he adds.

**Open:** 7 days a week. 13:00 – 24:00

**Address:** Binnenwatersloot 14, 2611 BK, Delft

### A Quick Bite

Out for a night show or in need of a post-pub bite? You're most likely to be heading to a place that serves doner kebabs. Next time, check out the one at the Oudelangendijk. Called Doner King, this little place offers a discount to TU students. "There is a 'Student Korting' section in our menu itself," said Tawfiq, the manager. This menu includes a Broodje doner (€3), Broodje falafel (€3), Kapsalon (with fries, salad, meat & cheese) for €5.50. If you're craving meat, they have Hotwings, Chicken Nuggets, and Fried Chicken too. And, from April onwards their shop will be open from 12:00 until 6:00. You read that correctly, noon until six in the morning. Open: 12:00 to 6:00 (summer timings)

**Address:** Oudelangendijk 19, 2611 GL, Delft

### After Party

Where do you go when your favourite watering hole is shutting down,

but your party's just begun? Bang in the centre of the city, on the Kromstraat, De Kurk is your best bet. Don't be fooled by the fancy exterior, the restaurant turns into a bar for late night drinking. The bar is open until 5:00 on Fridays and Saturdays and 3:00 on Thursdays. Aside from an extensive liquor list, they have some interesting late night snacks on offer, ranging from traditional bitterballen to dimsums and even a plate of samosas. "From 3am to 5am it's so busy in here you can barely talk to the bartender," said Elia, a part-time employee.

**Open:** Thursdays: 16:30 – 3:00. Fridays - Saturdays: 16:30 – 5:00

**Address:** Kromstraat 20, 2611 ER, Delft

### Online party planning

Decided to ditch the books for an impromptu party? Call the Late Night Shop, whose tagline is Party Delivered. It is accessible online and only makes home deliveries. Their menu ranges from crates of beer, bottles of colas and juice to boxes of snacks. For example a box of 36 mini snacks will cost you €13. The Party Menu Box 1, which includes 250 grams of kibbeling, 12 party snacks croquettes and two soft drinks, costs €29. While hot snacks can only be ordered until 23:55, home delivery is available from 17:00 until 2:55. "Given the timings of when we deliver, our service is quite exclusive. Beer and wine are among the top ordered items," said Nadia, the owner.

[latenightshop.nl](http://latenightshop.nl)

## Survive: Home food shopping

Craving some homemade baklava? Some Masala Maggie with tea? Or Duncan Hines cookie mix? It's all available right here in Delft. We tell you where.

### Bahaar

Poptahof is a favourite with internationals, especially with people from South Asia, Iraq, Syria and Egypt. Bahar Foods Delft, Ozhalk Market and Polaat International Supermarket are international grocery stores with a range of yummys. A whole section of Indian savouries by a popular brand called Haldiram's, fresh cottage cheese, ready-to-eat breads and dishes such as palak paneer and dal makhni are available here. There's a range of Turkish sweets, pickles, sauces and masalas, lentils and teas and a lot more. "I am from Afghanistan and I lived in India for a while, that is how I have a fairly good idea what to stock," said Wasib Kazim, the owner of Bahaar who took over from the Turkish owners 2 years ago. "Most of our customers are students from the university. Baklava and fresh paneer are among the most popular items but everything here is a top seller. Both shops also keep a range of instant noodles, including Masala Maggie.

**Where:** Papsouwselaan 208 2624 EG Delft, Netherlands

### Turkish shop, Centre Erciyes Slagerij

If you're not too keen on cycling all the way out, there's a small store in the centre, right near the Oude Kerk, with a range of options. The butcher's shop is out at the back, as you enter there are trays of Turkish delights to your right and salted/stuffed pickles to your left. "We keep a lot of things, but we always ensure that what we keep in our store is something we eat. If we don't eat it, why should we sell it to our customers," said Mehmet, who started the shop in 1986. Ask him the most popular thing in his shop and he said "Everything. Everything we keep is popular". Besides Ayrhan (yogurt), the shop also keeps things such as henna. They also have trays of fresh feta cheese, which is a popular ingredient in Iranian cooking as well.

**Where:** Hippolytusbuurt delft, near Oude Kerk



## Amazing Oriental

This store is like a mini-supermarket of goodies from all over the global. Barely a 15-minute bike ride from the university, Amazing Oriental has been around for over a decade. The store is austere, no fancy interiors to distract you from the long aisles of imported food. Right at the start is a small section of American food with items such as marshmallows and Rocky Mountain Popcorn. They even carry baking soda. Further ahead are some Indonesian treats such as shrimp kroepak, and roasted onions as well as some Surinamese and Thai items. Frozen foods range from dim sum to pickled radish and bamboo shoots. Thirty different kinds of noodles are stacked in the noodle section ranging from spicy mushroom noodles, to udon. Further in you find things such as dried seaweed cake with seasoning and fried bean curd. Then of course, is the beverages section. Most interesting: bitter gourd tea and ginseng coffee. Not only is the shop popular with international students, it is a favourite with Dutch families looking to experiment with new cuisines.

**Where:** Kleveringweg 59 2616 LZ Delft

# Survive: The weekly markets

Sunshine, fresh produce, reduced prices and freshly made stroopwafels - what more can you ask for? Here's a list of some of the local markets to check out.

## Thursday and Saturday Market

Every Thursday and Saturday over 150 vendors set up stalls in the city centre. It's a great place for a bargain on fresh vegetables and meats and also to pick a range of knick-knacks (books, clothes, bags, etc). There's a spice seller who comes on Thursdays – with a wide range of spices – and you can buy sample size boxes for just €1. “Customers come here because they can get fruits and vegetables of a better quality. We usually try and get local produce and we can give our customers advice on what vegetables to buy unlike in shops,” said Saskia Versluis, the owner of Mango Enzo, one of the vegetable stalls. On Saturdays you can buy fresh stroopwaffles. During the summer months there's also an Antiques, Bric-à-brac and Book Market, so keep an eye out.

**Thursday**, 9:00 – 16:00, Markt

**Saturday**, 9:00 – 16:00, Brabantse Turftmarkt

## Thursday Flower Market

If you want to buy a big bouquet of flowers for your drawing room, a pot of herbs or some seeds, head to Brabantse Turftmarkt on a Thursday. Florists from all over the countryside set up small stalls here. “It's cheaper, the flowers are fresher and we have all kinds of flowers on sale,” said Frans Karlas, the owner of In Bloei who also has a stall at the market. A little secret about the flower market, as the products are perishable, vendors slash prices after 16:00 to ensure that everything is sold.

**Thursday**, 9:00 – 16:00, Brabantse Turftmarkt

## Tuesday Market, Hoven Passage

A similar market is set up every Tuesday near the Hoven Passage. Though it's smaller, with only twelve to fifteen stalls, you can still buy a variety of things here. Besides the fresh veggies and fruits vendors you can also get pet food and products at the Dieren Dingen stall.

**Tuesday**, 9:00 – 16:00, Near De Hoven Passage,

## Holiday Markets

On holidays such as Whit Monday, the Markt becomes ground zero for fun. Dutch artists, jewellery makers, books, ceramics, kitsch - there's a lot to see and buy. On Whit Monday, a national holiday, there's a special antiques market, which is a great place to get to know a little about Dutch history. Baker's tin cans, printed tiles, copper coffee grinders, dolls dressed in 18th century clothes are among some of the things you are likely to find here.

**Easter Monday**, all day

**Whit Monday**, all day

## King's Day Market

There's more to King's Day (Queen's Day until recently) than wearing orange and drinking beer. It's also a great day to sell and buy – tax free. People across the country hold garage sales. As with any other garage sale, there's a lot of luck involved. The good news is, the vendors don't need to charge tax on King's Day. Which things are priced really low and you're expected to bargain! You can literally find anything at the market – from an old laptop to a broken piece of god-knows-what. Families even sell old paintings and carpets, so you might want to pick up something to brighten up your student dwellings. Food stalls and beer tents will also be peppered all through town, so it's perfect for a sunny day out.

**King's Day**, all day

## Delft Ceramica

The Delft Ceramica is held at various locations in town, including Vrije Academie and Het Prinsenhof. The event is part of the Delft Ceramic Days. "The goal of Delft Ceramica is to promote the art of ceramics, to stimulate young artists and to introduce Delft as a genuine city of ceramics to a broad audience," said the website. It also brings in new and innovative ceramics from around the world. In 2013 ceramists from Germany, Belgium, and England and across the Netherlands participated.

**Delft Ceramica** (check website for details)

[www.delftceramica.nl/](http://www.delftceramica.nl/)

# Survive: Breakfast

They say breakfast is the most important meal of the day. If you're sick and tired of cornflakes or not-so-great coffee in your faculty, don't fret. There are a few places in Delft that open well before 9:00 and even have special breakfast spreads.

## Bakker Bart

Want a delicious breakfast bargain? Head to the Bakker Bart. From 8:00 to 10:00 every day they serve a special breakfast menu for €2.50, which includes a cup of tea/coffee, orange juice, a mini sandwich with ham and cheese and a croissant with butter and jam. "It's a popular deal, we get a lot of people in for breakfast through the week," said Mark Schonhoven, the manager.

Where: Brabant Turfmarkt 80

Opening Time: 8:00 (except Mondays)

## CoffeeCompany

Another one for the early risers, CoffeeCompany opens at 7:30. "For breakfast you can order muesli with yogurt or milk (€2.75) or a croissant (€1.25). You can also have a croissant with raisins or chocolates (€1.75)," said Elisa De Ruejter, the manager. A smooth latte, a favourite with students, costs €2.90 for a small cup and if you'd like one with additional flavours, it will cost €3.10.

Where: Markt 19

Opening time: 7:30 on weekdays

## Hema/Ikea/Jumbo

None of these might sound like great breakfast venues, but you'll be surprised to learn that they all have breakfast menus for a steal.

All-purpose store Hema has a breakfast offer for €1, which includes a cup of coffee, a croissant with jam and an egg sandwich. You can even ask for two strips of bacon for 25 cents extra. Breakfast is served only until 10:00.

Jumbo has a breakfast buffet of sorts. For €1.50 you can choose three items from a range of items such as fresh juice, yogurt with topping, eggs, bacon, baguette, croissants etc. If you'd like more, you have to pay

50 cents extra. Breakfast is served from Monday to Saturday from 8:00 to 10:00 and from 9:00 to 11:00 on Sundays.

At IKEA breakfast starts late, at 9:00, but is worth a shot. Besides a €1 breakfast platter, you can get bacon strips (29 cents), sausages (99 cents), pancakes (99 cents). Breakfast is served until 10:30.

### Finnley's

These guys don't open super early, but till October they start at 9am, which is early enough for a Full English Breakfast! Get a plate piled with toast, tomato, beans, eggs, black pudding, sausage and bacon for 7.5€. If you're not up for all the meat, try their Continental Breakfast for 6.95€. Served from 9:00 to 14:00, it includes croissant, bread, jam, orange juice, butter and a boiled egg. Or you can simply get yoghurt with fruits or a basic sandwich.

Where: Markt 58

Opening time: 9:00 (August 27 to October 31)

10:00 (November 1 to August 26)



## Survive: The hunt for ingredients

In October 2014, TU Delta and DutchNews.nl offered to conduct a scavenger hunt of sorts. We asked readers to tell us about ingredients and food items they have a tough time locating in the Netherlands and we offered to hunt them down. From vanilla essence to soft corn tortillas, the shortlist was fairly global. Here's a look at some of the items we managed to track down, and where.

### Vanilla Essence and Baking Soda.

We found both on a small shelf of baking goods at Dille & Kamille. Their Vanilla Essence is extracted from special pods in Madagascar. A 60ml bottle costs €4.95. Their Baking Soda is a product of UK-based company Doves Farm and 200 grams costs €2.95. "These ingredients are really popular, so we usually try and ensure that they are always available in the shop," said Maria Van Der Velde, who works at the Delft outlet of Dille & Kamille.

### Evaporated Milk and Double Cream

At Thomas Greens, a British expat shop in The Hague, you can find a whole range of Carnation milk products. Including, as requested, Evaporated Milk. A 410g tin of Light Evaporated Milk costs €2.90 and regular Evaporated Milk costs €2.65. Elmlea Double Cream costs €3. And, you can order them online. "These things are always in stock. Our teas and baking products are really popular as we have brands you can't otherwise find here," said Amanda Verbaan, owner of the shop. While they also have clotted cream for sale, you can find Clotted Cream, bottled by The Devon Cream Company, at the dairy section in most Jumbo supermarkets.

### Various colas

Jumbo has a foreign beers section that sometimes orders Root Beer. Keep an eye out for those. Meanwhile, we tracked down A&W Cream Soda at 3D Delft, the Minimarkt at Voorstraat. "A lot of our customers are American, so I thought it would be nice for them to have some drinks from their home. We also have Cherry Pepsi, Vanilla Coke and two or three kinds of Mountain Dew," said Aman Noori, the owner.

## Corn Tortillas

This may seem unlikely, but Xenox sells a range of Mexican food products, including Corn Tortillas. A packet of 8 Corn Tortillas costs €0.99. They also have a range of products from Belgium-based food makers Poco Loco that specialise in Mexican snack foods. Albert Heijn also has Corn Tortillas on sale, made by a company called Casa Fiesta. A packet of 8 tortillas costs €2.29. If they're not available at your local AH, you can even order them. We also found Old El Paso Corn Tortillas at Kelly's Expat Shop, a packet of 8 for €3.95.

## Cream of Tartar

We found this at some of the expat shops, but Dutch company Fun Cakes also sells 100g boxes of Cream of Tartar (€5.90) and Tartaric Acid (€4.30). Their website has a nifty map option that lets you find the retailers closest to you. Alternatively, you can order these online at [kookpunt.nl](http://kookpunt.nl). This website is a trove of otherwise-evasive cooking ingredients!

## Sauteed Shrimp Paste

[Ppoph.Luondo.nl](http://Ppoph.Luondo.nl) is a speciality website with a whole range of Fillipino goods and food items. We came across the website while following the request of a Delta writer for Dagupan Sauteed Shrimp Paste. You can order it online for €2.75 for 230g. They also have Tuyo, dried fish, 10 pieces for €3.

## Extras

Besides their range of products from US and the UK, Kelly's Expat Shop in The Hague now has things from Mexico, Australia, Canada, Italy and Ireland among others. We found Kraft Vegemite in their online shop, €4.50 for 220g. They also sell Atora Suet, 250 g for €2.25. Tim Tams (chocolate, caramel, white, double) around €4.25 for 200g.

## Survive: Book shopping

There's no shopping quite as exhilarating as book shopping. But, here in the Netherlands, those who can't read Dutch have it tough. Unless you know where to go. Here's our list of some key English language bookshops, most of which offer a decent student discount.



### Boekhandel Huyser

One of the biggest bookshops in Delft, Boekhandel Huyser opened in 1931. Though their section of English books is relatively small, it spans from Salman Rushdie to Roald Dahl and best sellers such as Dan Brown. "Over the past couple of years we have doubled the size of our English section. Also, if we don't have a specific book in stock, we can easily order hundreds of thousands of English books, often within a few days," said Benjamin van Dijk, who works at the shop. The shop offers a 5% student discount on English study books.

**Where:** Choorstraat 1, Delft

### Second Hand Steals

Delft has a few books shops dedicated to second hand books where you can often find the best books and the best deals. The first floor of

Antiquariaat Franke en Seij is a treasure trove of collectors books (all in English!) rare books on art and history and even old editions of classics by Bernard Shaw among others. Just around the corner from this is Second Story, another second hand book shop with shelves stacked high with choice books. On some days they even put out a basket of books for a few euros.

Where:

**Antiquariaat Franke en Seij:** Choorstraat 16, Delft

**Second Story:** Vrouwjuttenland 25, Delft

### American Book Centre

Popularly known as the ABC, the centre has two stores in the Netherlands. One in Amsterdam that opened in 1972 and another in Den Haag, which opened in 1976. "Most of the more popular titles are stocked in both stores. However, the buyers for each section can order books which they think will sell or are of local interest. For example, we sell more books on law and the EU in Den Haag due to the presence of the World Court" said Joe Neesan, who has been running the store in Den Haag since it opened. The ABC offers 10% discount to students with a valid ID from their school or university.

Where:

**Amsterdam:** Spui 12 1012 XA

**Den Haag:** Lange Poten 23, The Hague

### Waterstones Amsterdam

Part of the well-known British chain, Waterstones opened in Amsterdam as WH Smith almost 30 years ago. The store stocks all sorts of titles and genres and even books in languages other than English and Dutch. Among the few big English book stores in the country, Waterstones boasts of regulars and fans. "We offer a discount to everyone in the form of both Loyalty card (3%) and a stamp and save card (10%)," said Tim Eastwood, Branch Manager. They also host monthly book groups for classic and contemporary fiction.

**Where:** Kalverstraat 152, Amsterdam

### The English Book Shop

Quaint and cozy, the English Book Shop is a small, independent store

with an eclectic collection of English books. Here you can find a beautiful edition of Margaret Atwood or early books by award-winning authors such as Jeet Thayil and Hilary Mantel. Besides a monthly book club, they also organize literary and cultural walking tours around Amsterdam on Tuesdays and Saturdays. There's a cafe on the premises, the perfect venue for their scrabble and quiz events. And, if you become a member, you can get discounts on your book miles.

**Where:** Lauriergracht 71, Amsterdam

## Survive: The international cuisine

Want to try a new cuisine, but aren't sure if the online reviews for local restaurants are legit? After all, Sandro1285 may not really be an authority on Chinese cuisine. To make life easier for you, we asked international students and staffers at TU Delft which restaurant they head to for the taste of home.

### Chinese

Yi-Kang Gong - Chairman of the Association of Chinese students and scholars in Netherlands in Delft

If you're willing to bike a bit (or have a car), then Gong recommends the **Shanghai Garden Restaurant** (Kleveringweg 11). Having recently attended a department dinner there, he said the quality of food is definitely worth it. However, if you prefer to stick to the City Centre, then head to **Peking on Brabantse Turfmarkt**. "It's pretty close to being authentic. At Shanghai Garden Restaurant you should try the fish, and at Peking, the duck is really well made," said Gong, PhD candidate, Petroleum Energy

### Indonesian

Anandro Amellonado - TU Delft Student Ambassador for Indonesia

Amellonado, who is doing his master's in Offshore and Dredging Engineering, recommends **Toko Ramee** at Papsouwsewaan 129. "This is a small store where you can buy groceries or get some takeaway some food. A must try, I would say, is rendang (beef simmered in spices and coconut milk)." In his experience, Indonesian food in the Netherlands is less spicy than that back home. "But that's probably a good thing for Westerners who may not be able to handle too much spice."

### Indian

Shreyas Raghunathan - Former Secretary, Indian Students Association

A post doc in the Department of Imaging Physics, Raghunathan has lived in Delft since 2006. He said he's seen the quality of Indian food available in Delft change dramatically. While local restaurant **Maharaja** (Nieuwe

Langendijk) is “not as good as it used to be” he said it’s still worth trying, especially for the baingan bhārtha (aubergine dish). One restaurant he absolutely recommends is **Hills & Mills Pure Food Café** (Oude Langendijk). “The café is run by a Pakistani owner and their biryani is excellent. Even their vegetarian kebabs are great. The tandoor naan (bread) here is very authentic.”

## Italian

Luca Locatelli - TU Delft Student Ambassador for Italy

“We recently hosted our department dinner at **La Famiglia Ristorante Pizzeria** in Oude Delft. The owner and cook are both Italian and even though we had ordered a special menu, the food was really well made,” said Locatelli, a master’s student in Sustainable Energy Technology. “If you’re looking for good pizza and can do with a venue that is less fancy, then I recommend **Pizzeria Da Salvatore** on Oude Delft. They have a real wood oven and the pizzas are really great.”

## Greek

Ioannis Lantzou - TU Delft Student Ambassador for Greece

**De Kleine Griek** comes highly recommended by Lantzou. “It can offer an environment that makes you feel like you’re in Greece,” he said. Traditional dishes, like giros, souvlaki, dolmadakia and soutzoukakia are authentically made. “Don’t forget to try the methismeni tou Bekri dish. Of course, there wouldn’t be a Greek restaurant without ouzo or tsipouro.” The restaurant serves small glasses of ouzo as soon as you enter. The only drawback, he said, is that the prices are much higher when compared to Greece. “However, compared to other restaurants in Delft, they’re fair.”

## Survive: The perfect cuppa

It's one thing to plod your way to a café for a good cup of coffee, but actually waking up to that perfect cup in the comfort of your home is one of life's simple luxuries. Where can you find the right blend and smoothest flavours? A number of stores and café sell a number of blends and roasts, from the usual suspects such as Nescafe to more discerning single estate beans. We asked coffee enthusiasts where they get their daily dose from.

### Kek

Opening about 8 months ago, Kek is already a landmark among coffee connoisseurs. While they serve great lattes, they also have shelves full of coffee and tea merchandise, including packaged coffee. "We get our coffee from a small roaster who makes fresh coffee every week. They believe in direct trade and visit Guatemala every few months to buy the coffee themselves. It's single estate coffee and not a blend," said Leonie Hulselman, the owner of Kek. The prices are affordable too. 500 grams will cost around €12.50.

**Where:** Voldersgracht 27

### Kaldi

At Kaldi you can choose from a range of over twenty different kinds of coffees from around the world, including a blend called the Delft Blend. The range available at the Delft store includes blends from Sicily, Brazil, Ethiopia and Columbia. "Our in-house blend has four different kinds of coffee and is quite popular. Everything we sell is environment friendly and comes from estates where workers are treated well," explains Henry De Bruijn, the owner of Kaldi Delft. Two and a half grams of coffee will cost you €5.80.

**Where:** Molslaan 13

### Miss Morrison

The newest entrant, Miss Morrison is a celebration of all things coffee. Not only can



you buy a range of coffee here, Cisca Colijn, the owner, will also talk you through how best to make it and what flavours you can enjoy it best with. “The idea is to give people the knowledge and the perfect ingredient to enjoy their daily coffee,” she said. “You can get a full bodied, sweet South American coffee or a softer Ethiopian with a citrus taste or even herbal and earthy Indonesian coffee.” They roast all of their own coffee and all coffees here are single estate. 250 grams cost between €5.80 and €6.80. Miss Morrison also hosts Coffee Colleges, where visitors can see how coffee is roasted and learn more about the process.

**Where:** Voorstraat 7

### Café Vrij

Café Vrij takes its coffee so seriously that it’s competing for a spot on the prestigious Top 100 Misset Coffee List. They also recently made 10th place on the AD Koffie Test, organised by Algemeen Dagblad, a Rotterdam-based newspaper. Their range coffee is imported from the rainforest of Columbia where it is cultivated by the Kachalu community of coffee farmers. The Columbia Kachalu Organic is available in 250 gram packets and at any desired grind. You can even get it decaf.

**Where:** Brabantse Turfmarkt 61

### Passie 4 Koffie

Passie 4 Koffie is primarily an importer and distributor of Italian coffee to local cafes; however, Martin Bolle, the owner, said you can order small amounts for private consumption as well. “All the coffee I import is from a small coffee roaster in Italy called Caffè Manaresi,” he adds. Off the shelf, he has two blends of coffee beans in 500 gram-packs, the cost ranges from €9.45 to €9.95. “It is also possible to order bigger or smaller bags,” he said. If you’d like to sample his coffee, head to Thuis-In on Hippolytusbuurt 24.

**Where:** Zambezilaan 49

## Survive: The best of shopping

July marks the start of two months of summer break and, without classes; you'll have a great opportunity to explore the best that Delft has to offer. We've surveyed Delft locals and come up with some of their favourite places in Delft.



### Bakery

Whilst most people reported wanting a bakery close enough to easily get to whilst still half asleep, one bakery received multiple recommendations from locals scattered around town, Michel's. Owner Michel Case is originally from France and has brought a traditional boulangerie patisserie to Delft. Michel's selection of artisanal French breads and pastries are all hand made from fresh ingredients. According to Delft resident Holly Kraai "they do wonderfully fresh French loaves and the most gorgeous little tartlets." Loaves of bread start at €2.50.

**Where:** Oude Kerkstraat 3

### Ice cream

The warmer summer weather is the perfect excuse to indulge in an ice cream, or two. Whilst there are many delicious ice-cream parlours in

Delft, there is one which is recommended by more locals than others, the Chocolaterie De Lelie on Voorstraat. They make their ice-cream on the premises from locally sourced organic milk from the Bieslandhoeve (an organic farm near the Delftse Hout). Joe Neesan, a Delft resident for over 30 years said of De Lelie “they have great homemade ice cream!” A single scoop with cost you €1.20 and you can get half liters for €7.50. If you expect to visit often, you can purchase a strippenkaart and get eleven scoops for the price of ten.

**Where:** Voorstraat 10, 2611 JP Delft

### Butcher

For many, summer means barbeques. Recommended by locals from all corners of Delft, butcher Leo van der Vliet offers a large selection of quality meats and salads, and is always happy to give advice on how best to prepare different cuts of meat. They are also happy to do special orders. Their fresh, made-to-order sandwiches are another delicious reason to visit. “They have the best meat sandwiches in town, friendly service and great meat that tastes good at inexpensive prices.” said Delft resident Catarina Jesus. Their sandwiches start at €2.25.

**Where:** Oude Kerkstraat 9-A, 2611 HT Delft

### Café

There are plenty of great cafes in Delft, but locals see ‘t Postkantoor as the best café for overall experience, taking into account the atmosphere, coffee and food. Situated in the former Delft post office, they serve both lunch and dinner. Karen Heijman said “they have a really lovely and large terrace and they are child friendly.” The food portions are also large and reasonably priced. Lunch for two will cost around €15 and a cup of coffee costs €2.40.

**Where:** Hippolytusbuurt 14

### Best take-away

Don't want to go out for dinner but not up for cooking? Many in Delft picked De kleine Griek as their favourite take-away spot. The restaurant serves traditional Greek food and is open seven days a week. They also offer home delivery. A gyro meal will cost you €11.75.

**Where:** Oude delft 76

## Cinemas

Whilst many respondents visit Pathé Delft at Vesteplein for convenience and its large selection of the latest main-stream releases, for ambiance and a greater range of foreign films, Lumen is the place to go. “It’s got such a great filmhouse feel. They show art-house type movies in the native language” said Delft resident Kathryn Roscoe. You can order from their full bar and take your drink in to the show. Tickets usually cost €9.00 but with a student ID, you get a discount of €2.00. Films are often subtitled in Dutch, so check before you go.

**Where:** Doelenplein 5, Delft

# SURVIVE

## Dutch life

## Survive: Sinterklaas in Delft

When in Delft, do as the Dutch. That means celebrating the winter holiday of Sinterklaas, celebrated on December 5th. Sinterklaas is an elderly man in stately robes who arrives in the Netherlands from Spain every year by boat and tells children if they've been naughty or nice. As with any family holiday, food and quirky customs are a big part of the fun. Here's what you need to know to become a part of the action.

### Chocoladeletter

Literally translated to Chocolate Letter, the tradition dates back to the 16th century, when convents carved bread in the shape of letters to teach children the alphabet. Today, chocolate letters in the shape of their initials are given to children on Sinterklaas. Reportedly, over 20 million letters are produced each year in the Netherlands. At the Leonidas chocolate shop on Choorstraat you can get your initials in rich Belgian



chocolate (dark, milk and white) for €6.50. They also have chocolate Sinterklaas statues (from €2 - €6). If you're looking for chocolate letters that are a little more pocket friendly, try Kruidvat (€1.09) or C1000 (€0.50). "Traditionally, mothers or grandmothers buy the letters for children to eat on the morning of December 5," explains Els Hoogendijk, who works at Leonidas.

### Kruidnoten, Pepernoten and Speculaas

If Delft has been smelling like heaven of late, it's probably because of these confectionary delights. Speculaas are traditional biscuits made with a heady cocktail of spices – nutmeg, cloves, ginger, cinnamon and cardamom. Kruidnoten are smaller, bite sized speculaas. Nowadays, chocolate kruidnoten are also popular, and available at chocolate shops and supermarkets across Delft. For the more traditional ones, try Baker Jaap, a bakery behind the Markt. A packet costs €2.25 and you'll be heading back for more. In fact, bakeries across the city and even Albert Heijn have a variety of cookies in stock right now.

### A sip of the spirit

Through Glühwein may be the order of the season, Simon Levelt, a quaint tea shop on the Markt has some Sinterklaas specials to offer. Their Sinterklaas tea (€3.95) is flavoured with cinnamon and the Zwarte Pieten tea (€4.95) tastes like a hot sip of speculaas. "These are our most popular teas at this time of the year. We order about 20 kilos of both teas and by December 4th, we have only two or three packets left," explains Helen Taylor, who was managing the store when we visited.

### Mandarijntjes

Oranges, especially mandarin oranges are a big part of the season. It is said that Sinterklaas brings a batch of the sweetest oranges when he comes from Spain. Don't worry if you miss his boat though, because fruit shops here will be importing special oranges just for the holiday. "We will be importing oranges from Morocco, the finest, sweetest oranges you can find," said Abdoel Hillali, of the 'T Fruithuisje.

### Gifts and gifting

Gifts are a big part of the holiday as well. Children leave their shoes

next to the fireplace in the hope that Sinterklaas will leave them some presents. “Children put some things inside their shoes. It could be a little hay for Sinterklaas’s horse, maybe a gift or a poem for him as well,” said Elline DeJong of Dozijn, a gift shop tucked into a tiny corner at Papenstraat. They also some seasonal wrapping paper and decorations. De Winkel, on Vrow Juttenland, which calls itself the “most entertaining gift shop in Delft” has hand crafted decorations for the seasons – from gorgeous tiny ballerinas to gawking frogs and crazy clowns (€12.50). Don’t worry about stretching your budget though, you can find great decorations and gifts at the Museum Shop of the Botanical Garden of TU Delft, where TU students get a 10% discount.

## Survive: King's Day

Wondering why all that orange is showing up in the shops? Heard about this Willem-Alexander person, but don't know who he is? Here's our advice for surviving (and celebrating) King's Day.



### I've been living under a rock. What is King's Day?

The most important thing to know is that the Dutch like to party. Add a royal twist, and you've got one epic event. King's Day, or Koningsdag, is a national holiday celebrated on April 27 every year, to mark the birthday of the reigning King, Willem Alexander. The day is marked with a nation-wide outdoor party, flea markets, concerts, games, beer and crazy crowds dressed in orange.

### So, how can I celebrate Queen's Day in Delft?

Step out of your house for starters. The little town of Delft will be a hustle bustle of activity. "There'll be a flea market all across town and food stalls with typical Dutch food. An entertainment programme is being organised at the Markt with dance groups, live bands and lots of fanfare.

Every restaurant will up the ante for their regulars. So you can enjoy great Blues at Plan B and dance to the DJ's on Burgwal," said Nick Keijzer, Marketing and Communications, Bureau Binnenstad, Delft.

### Do I have to wear orange?

Of course. We recommend finding your loudest orange accessories. The tradition started in honour of the name of the royal household, Oranje. If you don't have anything orange, don't worry. The streets will be full of vendors hawking all things oranje, from giant sunglasses to tall hats, and even orange holders for all those beer cans you're going to buy.

### Where else can I party?

It's a nation-wide party. So, anywhere.

#### **Den Haag**

The Haagse Koninginnedag is going all out to mark the holiday. Month-long festivities in the city kicked off in April, offering loads of 'royal' fun. From carriage rides around the city, a Queen's Day concert by The Hague Philharmonic, rides on historic trams and special boat tours.

#### **Amsterdam**

Amsterdam is the scene of the real action. The royal ceremony will take place at the Royal Palace at Dam Square and the Nieuwe Kerk following which, the new King and his wife, Queen Maxima, will take a boat tour.

#### **Rotterdam**

The annual circus opens on April 29, so you can check out acrobatic feats, dance, theatre and music. Festivities will be on across the city, with a Queen's festival at the Plien, an ongoing fair, an after-party with performances by big names in House, and fireworks at night.

### Will I be hung-over?

Yes.

## Survive: Speaking in Dutch (or not)

If you're living, shopping and eating out here in the Netherlands, it's a good idea to get a grasp on some basic Dutch.

In an effort to help you understand and learn a few everyday Dutch phrases, we asked Astrid van Laar, Coordinator of the Dutch language school at TU Delft, to translate some commonly used phrases in Dutch. At the university, Dutch is taught using the DelftSe Methode. During the elementary course students learn about 1,000 words in seven weeks. "They can have small conversations on everyday topics," said Van Laar, adding, "Learning Dutch is not difficult, it just takes time and energy!"

### The Magic Words

Please	Alstublieft (formal) Alsjeblieft (informal)
Thank you	Dank u wel (formal) Dank je wel (informal)
Thanks	Bedankt

### Greetings

Hello	Hallo
Bye	Dag / Doei
I'll see you soon	Tot ziens
Good morning	Goedemorgen
Good afternoon	Goedemiddag
Good evening	Goedenavond

### Shopping

Receipt	De bon
Do you want your receipt?	Wilt u de bon? / Bonnetje?
Cash only	Alleen contant betalen
Pin only	Alleen met pin betalen
Please show your ID card	Uw identiteitsbewijs alstublieft
How much does this cost	Wat kost dit?

## Ordering

May I have a...	Mag ik een.....
I will have please...	Ik wil graag...
May I have the bill?	Mag ik de rekening, alstublieft? / De rekening alstublieft?

## Common Phrases

Feel better	Beterschap
Congratulations	Gefeliciteerd
Cheers	Proost
Bon Appétit	Eet smakelijk
Good luck	Succes
Kind regards	Met vriendelijke groet

## Other useful phrases

Do you speak English?	Spreekt u Engels?
I need help, please	Kunt u me helpen alstublieft?
I'm sorry	Het spijt me
I don't understand	Ik begrijp het niet
What did you say?	Wat zeg je?
Yes	Ja
No	Nee
How are you?	Hoe gaat het?
I'm fine, thank you	Goed, dank je

## Quick Guide to Grocery Shopping

Vegetables	Groenten
Fruit	Vruchten
Bread	Brood
Chicken	Kip
Beef	Rundvlees
Pork	Vaarkenvlees
Cream	Slagroom
Sugar	Zuiker
Salt	Zout
Oranges	Sinaasappel
Potatoes	Aardappelen
Eggs	Eieren

## Survive: Public holidays

While everyone is familiar with holidays such as Christmas and Easter, some may be wondering about the Second Day of Christmas and Easter Monday. Here's a look at the public holidays in the Netherlands.

### Remembrance Day

May 4

Though it falls on a Sunday this year, Remembrance Day is a public holiday if on a weekday. The day honours martyrs of World War II and other wars. At 20:00 on May 4 each year, a two-minute silence is held to honour their sacrifice. There are also Remembrance Gatherings held at different places in Holland.

### Liberation Day

May 5

Liberation Day is celebrated to mark the end of the occupation of the Netherlands by Nazi Germany during World War II. Festivals are held on this day around the country. In the past, celebrations in The Hague included Freedom Weeks to encourage people to talk about freedom and what it means today. Activities in April and on the day itself include film screenings, walks, lectures, concerts and even a fashion show.

### Ascension Day

May 29

Ascension Day marks the day when Jesus is said to have ascended to heaven after his resurrection. It's always held forty days after Easter. "Many Protestant churches also celebrate Ascension Day. We hold morning services at 9.30am... We will have translations available and internationals are welcome to attend," said Reverend Hans-Jans Roosenbrand, the pastor of the Delft Project.

### Whit Monday,

June 9

Whit Monday is also called the Second Day of Pentecost in the Netherlands. "You may find some services held on this day in the South of Holland, as this is primarily a Roman Catholic tradition." explains Rev.



Roosenbrand. In Delft, the day is usually marked by an Antiques Market held in the City Centre and a flea market around town.

### Christmas and the Second Day of Christmas

December 25 and December 26

According to Rev. Roosenbrand, the Second Day of Christmas began as a tradition to allow families more time together. “Traditionally people would spend the first day with the Church and the second day with family,” he explained. To get you into the right spirit, the Sports en Cultuur Centre usually has a big Christmas party just before the holidays. “It’s a Christmas-themed party, with live bands, DJs and festive ambience.

### New Year’s Day

January 1

The Dutch have found the best solution to the New Year Eve’s hangover – a New Year’s Dive. Hundreds of people gather along the beaches of the country (or even canals) to dive into the freezing water to mark to the first day of the New Year.

### Good Friday and Easter Monday

April

Good Friday, which is also known as Holy Friday or Black Friday, is a

religious holiday that marks the Crucifixion of Jesus. Easter celebrates his resurrection from the Death. While most countries celebrate Easter Sunday, with a big lunch and Easter eggs, the Netherlands also marks Tweede Paasdag, the second day of Easter.

## King's Day

April 27

Start practising your haggling skills for the tax-free markets, exercise to fit into that orange spandex and build your beer resistance. Oh and learn about the Dutch royal family – Koningsdag marks the King's birthday.



## Survive: Dutch winter treats

From spiced biscuits to chewy cookies, steaming hot sugary treats to a warm cup of wine, even the Grinch won't complain about these Dutch holiday treats.

### Speculaas

Thin, crunchy and flat, speculaas are biscuits flavoured with spices of the season, such as cinnamon and nutmeg. Usually cut into distinct shapes, from Sinterklaas to animals, they're available at most bakers and grocery stores. Try Bakerij De Diamanten Ring, at Choorstraat Delft. Around since the 17th century, they're among the oldest bakers in the city. They have a variety of speculaas on offer, such as a plain speculaas (€3.75) and one with nuts (€4.75). "We also have a special speculaas cake with almonds inside which costs about €7.95," said Lies Everts, one of the managers.

### Pepernoten

[Pepernotenfabriek.nl](http://Pepernotenfabriek.nl) declares pepernoten to be as essential for a good Sinterklaas celebration as a steam boat and a bag full of presents. Bite

sized confectionary, pepernoten or pepper nuts are spiced with anise, cinnamon and clove. The cookies are so popular that they now hit stores as early as September. A 200gram bag of pepernoten at Jumbo will cost €1.15. At Bakker Jaap, 200 grams costs €2.25.

### Kruidnoten

Often mistaken for pepernoten because of their similar shape and size, kruidnoten is similar to speculaas in taste. You can even buy kruidnoten covered in chocolate, milk, white or even dark chocolate. A bag of 200 - 215 grams costs about €1.90 at Jumbo. Kruidnoten are typically packaged in conical wrapping and most bakeries in town will have them on sale during the season.

### Oliebollen

Deep fried balls of dough anyone? It may not sound delicious, but oliebolle are a Dutch treat traditionally made on New Year's Eve. In Delft, an oliebolle stand opens near the Old Church from November 1 to December 31 every year. You can get a regular oliebolle sprinkled with sugar for 80 cents or try one with raisins, apple, rum and raisin or even banana for €2. The special ones are made by sandwiching the stuffing between two regular oliebolle and deep frying them together. "We sell 400 to 500 oliebolle every day," said John Huybregts, the owner

### Poffertjes

Poffertjes, or mini pancakes, are served steaming hot, with melting butter and powdered sugar. They're the perfect treat on a cold evening. Be sure to try the poffertjes available at stands across the city on Lichtjesavond (the evening of lights on December 9). Sometimes, you can even have them with Nutlella, rum and other toppings.

### Gluhwein

Nothing strikes the right note in winter like a steaming glass of gluhwein. This winter drink is made using red wine and spices such as cinnamon, clove and citrus fruits. While you can make it at home, it's also very affordable to buy. A bottle will cost you around €2 and is easily available at most grocery stores. Most pubs also have gluhwein on their menu during the season, including Stadcafe De Waag at Markt. A glass of glu-

hwein here costs €2.75 “Just like hot chocolate, people always seem to want gluhwein in winter. It’s a great drink to warm up with,” said Hugo Overvoorde, the manager of De Waag.

### Erwtensoep

Another typical winter dish is erwtensoep or pea soup. A thick broth soup made with peas, small chunks of ham are added on top. During festivals, there are often stalls selling homemade erwtensoep in bowls. Stad Koffie Huis serves a bowl of erwtensoep with bacon, bread and mustard (€4.95). “Ours is a traditional recipe with an East-Indian twist, a hint of curry is used. We serve it from October to March,” said Ferry van Winden, co-owner of the restaurant.

## Survive: Denglish

You put in the effort and learnt the basics of Dutch. But even the most bilingual of Dutch sometimes throw the odd curve ball into the conversation. You've now experience Denglish. That's Dutch-English, or a directly translated phrase from Dutch to English that makes little or no sense. According to Joe Neeson, organiser of the international expat group The Delftians, "While potentially confusing, I think Denglish is funny for those who speak Dutch and English." To allow you to share in the joke next time a friend, colleague or random Dutch stranger uses Denglish we have worked together to compile a list of common Denglish phrases and words to help you through that next awkward conversation.

### Five commonly used Denglish phrases

#### **Chasing somebody onto the closet**

Not to be confused with coming out of the closet, this phrase refers to pushing someone's buttons or intentionally irritating them. It's a light-hearted phrase, so if somebody apologises for irritating you by saying they were simply chasing you on the closet, don't be alarmed. At least you know how to chase them right up into that closet with you by pointing out their mistake.

#### **Now comes the monkey out of the sleeve**

This refers to a situation when somebody accidentally gives away a secret piece of information which lets you know they have been lying to cover a hidden agenda. The English variation is 'to let the cat out of the bag.'

#### **He fell with his nose in the butter**

Making reference to someone being lucky in a certain situation.

#### **You'd be a thief of your own wallet**

This phrase refers to buying anything that is on sale or a very cheap price compared to what one would expect to pay for a similar product elsewhere.



### You made me happy with a dead sparrow

Used when somebody has been made happy with a piece of information that then turns out to be untrue, or that a piece of information was lacking which changes the outcome of the event. An example: if you are offered a ticket to a festival by a Dutch friend and you accept assuming it's a gift (as it's been offered to you) only to discover you have to pay for the ticket that would be a dead sparrow.

### Five commonly used Denglish words

There are also a few words that you are likely to come across during your stay:

Original Dutch	Denglish translation	Correct English translation
kippenvel	chicken skin	goose bumps
handschoenen	hand shoes	gloves
waterkoker	water cooker	kettle
pindakaas	peanut cheese	peanut butter

## Survive: Learning Dutch

Learning a new language is never easy, but speaking the local language can help you integrate. Here's a look at some of the language institutes that offer Dutch courses in and around the university.

### Delftse Methode, TU Delft

The Institute for Languages and Academic Skills at TU Delft offers language classes in Dutch, Italian, Chinese and more "Professor Sciarone and his colleagues devised the now famous Delftse method, a new approach to learn foreign languages. The method, used only for Dutch classes, is very practical and focuses on the languages most frequently used words," explains Astrid van Laar, Coordinator of the Dutch for Foreigners programme. The course is also open to people not affiliated with the university. "For the first level, Elementary 1, students can pre-enrol on Blackboard but they need to do a placement test before they will be admitted to the course," said Van Laar.

**Where:** TU Delft

<http://www.dm.tudelft.nl/>

### De Volksuniversiteit Delft

The Volksuniversiteit Delft was founded in 1964 and offers adults a range of courses in language, art, culture, creative and social courses. Though they have beginners' classes, "If the students have a little knowledge of our language they can start with Course 2, after a talk with the teacher on our information evening," said Anton Galjé, the chairman of the school. Open to everyone, each class has 18-20 students. Courses begin at around €200. Language courses here include Dutch German, Italian, French, Japanese and other languages.

**Where:** Schieweg 93, 2627 AT

<http://www.vudelft.nl/>

### Language on Its Own Strength: Dutch Municipality Course

Started by the Gemeente Delft, the Language on Its Own Strength enables non-profit foundations and associations to set up language programmes. The Gemeente steps in with advice and financial supported

when needed. “We are the first team that worked with the project and we have students from Delft Mama, OIZD, Stuurvrouwen project and others in our network,” said Nushaba Mirzazade, one of the organizers. The course lasts six months and is held twice a week. “We charge a small monthly fee. During the course, we also organise various activities with students, such as visiting museums, hiking and so on. We do not have a website, but are always accessible by phone,” she adds.

**Contact:** 0624945154, 0612266992

### Kottman Taal en Verhaal

A small private school established in 2008, Kottman Taal en Verhaal “specializes in courses for fast learners and students with a higher education” said Petra Kottman. Group courses are usually in the evening, once a week, and a class has a maximum of eight students. “Reading, writing and listening are skills you can develop without the presence of a teacher, with the right (e-learning) materials, which is why during the lessons we focus on speaking. We use CodePlus most of the time, as the TU already offers the Delftse Method.” The fee for this course is €630 and the books and e-learning materials are around € 70.

**Where:** Gasthuisplaats 1, 2611 BN Delft

[www.kottman.info](http://www.kottman.info)

### ROC Mondriaan

A regional training centre, Mondriaan offers a number of vocational training and adult education courses. Different categories are open to skilled migrants and students of TU Delft and courses cost around €500. “Students from TU Delft need enough time to go to the course during the evening. They have told us that the courses give them the confidence to speak in Dutch as our teachers don’t speak English during the course,” said Jolanda Wanningen, a teacher. They have courses structured in three categories- literacy for beginners, learning to read and write and speaking better Dutch.

**Where:** Brasserskade 1, 2612CA Delft

[www.rocmondriaan.nl](http://www.rocmondriaan.nl)

## Survive: Football Mania

Imagine a month-long, worldwide celebration right here in Delft with crazy orange outfits, screaming crowds, overflowing patriotism and lots and lots of beer. That's how it was across Delft during the football worldcup in 2014. Read through to get a sense of the excitement and special arrangements. With the EuroCup around the corner, this is handy information to have.

### Sports en Cultuur, TU Delft

If you want to follow FIFA 2014 with a big crowd of screaming fans, just head to the Sports and Culture centre. They've got a whole lot of fun activities being planned. They're even bringing you a slice of the host country. "We'll try and create a Copacabana corner, an area where you can chill, get a drink and a meal with a live DJ playing on some nights," said Remco van der Velden of the Events Department of Sports en Cultuur. While they're still planning the details, there are likely to be on-site games, workshops and maybe even a quiz or two. "During the previous World Cup, on a night when Holland was playing there were about 700 people here, when other countries play it goes up to about 200," added Van Der Velden.

**Address:** Mekelweg 8, 2628 CD Delft

### Sportsbar The Score

The Score has a huge videowall and nine 42-inch screens across the venue. "We will broadcast all the FIFA World Cup matches. Entry is free and the bar is open to everyone. We may charge a little bit for the best seats in front of the live videowall," said Sybrinne Straker, the marketing coordinator for the sports bar. The bar has a number of specials (including beer buckets and all you can eat spare ribs on certain days) and a small beer will cost you €1.90.

**Address:** Doelenplein 7 2611 BP Delft

**Hup hup Holland!**  
To get into the Oranje spirit, be sure to listen to Hup Hup Holland, a Dutch football song written in 1950. Local fans say it's something you'll need to chant every time the Dutch team is on. Another song you might hear a lot is Viva Hollandia by Wolter Kroes and 2008 Euro Cup song.

## Biercafe 't Proeflokaal

While this particular pub is synonymous with darts and quizzes, it's also a favourite venue for locals looking to watch football. Every major tournament is screened here and the venue has multiple screens for simultaneous matches.

"Since 1997 we have been showing the World Cup and European games live on multiple screens," said Edwin van Schijndel, the owner, adding, "We will remain open for the late kick-offs." If you're planning to head here you might want to brush up on your football trivia. On the last Thursday of every month, the pub hosts a pub quiz; the one in June will be football themed.

**Address:** Gasthuislaan 36-38, 2611 RB Delft

### World Cup Playlist

The Official Song for 2014 is called We Are One (Ole Ola) which was recorded by American rapper Pitbull. It will be sung by him, Jennifer Lopez and Brazilian singer Claudia Leitte at the opening ceremony on Sao Paulo on June 12.

The Official Anthem for the event is called Dar um Jeito (We Will Find a Way) and features Carlos Santana and Wyclef Jean. Both songs are part of the World Cup Album, which has several songs, including Ricky Martin's Vida.





