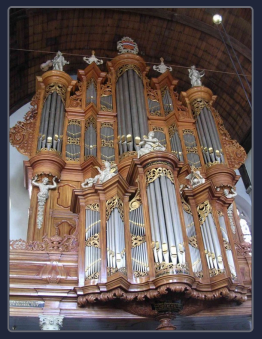
Dutch Organ Tours

Tour to the historic organ treasure from The Netherlands (part 2)

Visit famous organs in Leiden, Maassluis, Middelburg, Zaltbommel, Renswoude, Utrecht, Deventer, Arnhem, Helmond and Cuijk.

Dates: May 24-29 2027







Introduction

Without question, The Netherlands is an 'organ country', as nowhere in the world can so many historically important instruments be found within such a small area, a sonic document that reaches forward to us from the 15th century. And we invite you to find out why they have so much left!

As will you, we found organs large and small, Protestant and Catholic, sacred and secular, in big cities and little villages. Each possesses its own unique personality, as you will realize while listening, visit the old historic consoles and explore the often medieval churches. These monuments make up a list that will carry us literally from A to Z (from Arnhem to Zaltbommel), and many places in between. In 2026 this exclusive tour explores the mid and northern part of the country, now in 2027 we hope to see and hear organs in the mid and southern part. Historic organs, mostly original Dutch (however often build by German organ builders who came to the Netherlands), but some are built in the southern countries like Belgium and France, and are purchased mostly due to the closing of monasteries after the French revolution.

Dutch Organ Tours is unique, offering an intense and rewarding itinerary with full-day schedules. Yes, we'll see our share of windmills and green pastures, as traverse a broad swath of Dutch countryside. But if you require a full day for art museums and another for shopping, please arrange to stay on a little longer. And pack your comfortable shoes…our coaches, while agile, cannot always bring you to the church door, and a degree of occasionally strenuous walking is inevitable. Whether you enjoy Sweelinck, Bach or Franck, your tastes will be met and your destinations achieved. I invite you to join us for a remarkable adventure, truly a Dutch musical treat!

Itinerary

Monday May 24

At 11.00h in the morning, start of this week on Schiphol Amsterdam Airport. Travel to Leiden. After time for lunch and a brief sightseeing (specially the area where the Pilgrimfathers lived), we visit the organs in the Hooglandse Kerk: a beautiful 17th c. Dutch organ and a big English instrument from “father” Willis. After this visit we go to the hotel in the province of Noord-Brabant in the south of the country for check-in and a welcome dinner.

Tuesday May 25

We drive to Maassluis, west of Rotterdam. Here we see and hear an organ of Rudolph Garrels, a pupil of Arp Schnitger, build in 1732. After Maassluis we drive over the “Delta works” (important water works after the devastating 1953 flood) and the isles in the south-West to Middelburg. In two churches (one of them an iconic domed church) we visit two organs from the 18th Belgium organ builders De Rijckere. On the way back to the hotel a dinner is waiting.

Wednesday May 26

Today we go to the picturesque city of Zaltbommel. In the Maartenskerk from this small historic town we visit the Wolferts/Heyneman organ from 1786/1794. In the afternoon we will visit Renswoude, first for an included lunch and then for a visit to the fine new organ in the historic domed church. In the evening we will go to Utrecht. After diner in the city centre we go to the Dom Kerk for a visit to the famous Bätz organ from 1830 of this beautiful cathedral.

Thursday May 27

Today we go to the more eastern part of the country for Deventer along the Ijssel river. In the Lebuinuskerk from this historic town we visit the Holtgräve organ from 1845. In the afternoon we will visit Arnhem. After some brief time for lunch we go to the Eusebiuskerk (rebuilt after the battle of Arnhem in 1944) for a visit to the famous Strumphler organ from 1794 (originally built for a church in Amsterdam) of this beautiful cathedral. The day is closed with a nice dinner.

Friday May 28

Today two of the “imported” organs of The Netherlands, coming from Belgium: First to Cuijk, in the Martinuskerk we see and hear the Severijn organ from 1625-1650, originally built for Liege and partly reconstructed. In 1804 it was sold to Cuijk. After this visit we go to Helmond. Here, in 1820, the famous organ built by Guillaume Robustelly for Averbode was purchased and placed. Both organs are very suitable for French baroque music! he day will be closed with a farewell dinner.

Saturday May 29

Before we end this week we hear a final recital in the Grote Kerk of Loenen aan de Vecht with a fine organ from the Dutch organ builder Flentrop. The tour ends around noon at Schiphol Airport.

The itinerary is correct at time of publication and every effort will be made to keep to the schedule, but the organisers reserve the right to change the itinerary should circumstances dictate.

Practical information

This exclusive tour starts on Monday May 18 at 11.00h on Amsterdam Schiphol airport. Tour members will be required to make their own way to Holland, where they will be met at and returned to Schiphol airport, or travel arrangements will be made individually in due time if necessary, flexibility is the key word!

The organists this week are professional musicians, mostly the titular organists from the organs. The visits are closed with a short recital. An organ historian gives expert explanation. In this week there will be opportunities for participants to play various organs if they wish, number of players and available time permitted.

This tour is included hotel accommodation in a 4* hotel with wellness facilities in the Noord-Brabant area. Inclusive breakfasts, five fine dinners in several places, lunch on Wednesday, all the church and organ visits including recitals etc and a program book in colour. Exclusive lunches (except Wednesday, lunch opportunities in appropriate places). Of course all the transport is included during the week, from and to Amsterdam Schiphol Airport or another point of arrival or departure.

Price per person in a room on the base of double occupancy **€ 1.875,00**. Single occupancy (in a double room) supplement **€ 200,00** The minimum number of participants is 12, the maximum is 16.

For bookings and questions: **Dutch Organ Tours**
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