

Events in the Netherlands 2023

Started exhibitions in 2022

Christmas market in the Fluweelengrot in Valkenburg

18 November 2022 - 8 January 2023

A very special Christmas market in the Fluweelengrot in Valkenburg. Apart from the Christmas market, there are many different activities in the "Christmas City Valkenburg".

<https://www.christmastownvalkenburg.com/>

"Winter in the Fortress" in Elburg

18 December 2022 - 6 March 2023

Under the motto "Winter in the Fortress", the town of Elburg is transformed into a medieval town of the early nineteenth century.

<https://www.winterindevesting.nl/>

January 2023

New Year's Dive Scheveningen

1 January 2023

On the first of January of each new year, New Year's Diving begins at 12 noon. Hundreds of people plunge into the waters to ring in the New Year. This tradition has already existed for 40 years. The New Year's Diving takes place directly in front of the Kurhaus Hotel in Scheveningen.

<https://www.holland.com/global/tourism/activities/events/scheveningen-new-years-dive.htm>

Music event Eurosonic Noorderslag

18 until 23 January 2023

The annual music conference in Groningen, with more than 300 acts of emerging and renowned bands.

<https://www.holland.com/global/tourism/activities/events/music-festival-eurosonic-noorderslag.htm>

National Tulip Day

21 January 2023

On the Dam in Amsterdam, the opening of the tulip season is organized by the Dutch tulip growers. In a specially created picking garden on the Dam, everyone can pick tulips for free.

<https://www.holland.com/global/tourism/activities/events/national-tulip-day-1.htm>

Hortus botanicus Leiden

January - December 2023

In 2023, it is all about "water" in the oldest botanical gardens in the Netherlands. Water plants and the new Hortus pond built at the end of last year are highlighted.

<https://hortusleiden.nl/en/>

Hanse - Year

January - December 2023

In 2023, the 9 Dutch Hanseatic cities will celebrate their 400-year history. Authentic mansions, centuries-old monuments and shining bodies of water immerse the visitors of the nine cities into the rich history of the region, while each has its own diverse offers from innovation to tradition.

<https://www.visithansaholland.com/>

125 years Escher

In 2023, Escher in the Palace celebrates the 125th birthday of M. C. Escher. With over 120 prints in the museum, the most famous work from the oeuvre of M.C. Escher is permanently on display.

<https://www.escherinhetpaleis.nl/?lang=en>

Museum SieboldHuis

2023 is Siebold Year. The entire year is dedicated to Philipp Franz von Siebold, who arrived in Japan 200 years ago and laid the foundation for his impressive collection. A full activity program starring Siebold will be organized.

<https://www.sieboldhuis.org/en/>

February 2023

Vermeer exhibition at the Rijksmuseum

10 February - 4 June 2023

For the first time in its history, the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam is devoting a retrospective exhibition to the 17th century master Johannes Vermeer. This will be the largest Vermeer exhibition ever.

<https://www.rijksmuseum.nl/en/press/press-releases/rijksmuseum-to-stage-the-largest-vermeer-exhibition-ever>

Double Silence exhibition at Voorlinden Museum

11 February until 29 May 2023

In 'Double Silence', Michaël Borremans and Mark Manders invite the viewer into a space and time where the artists themselves enter into a dialogue through their works, as the title suggests, amidst silence or stillness.

<https://www.voorlinden.nl/?lang=en>

Wonderlicht Alkmaar

16 - 17 February 2023

'Wonderlicht' is a theatrical evening walk through the historic fortress in Alkmaar. Visitors experience a beautifully lit route with fire trees, fire pits, braziers, torches and can watch theatre shows along the route.

www.wonderlichtalkmaar.nl

Dutch Carnival

19 February - 21 March 2023

In the Netherlands, Carnival is mainly celebrated in the South. The provinces of Limburg and North Brabant are predominantly Catholic provinces, where most residents celebrate carnival. Although some people take carnival traditions very seriously, most keep it simple and celebrate it singing and dancing in colorful costumes and attending one of the many carnival parades.

<https://www.holland.com/global/tourism/activities/events/celebrate-carnival-in-holland.htm>

Model Building Fair Zeelandhallen

February 2023

The Model Building Fair has developed into a meeting place for all exhibitors and clubs involved in model building. From life-size courses to farm miniatures, there is everything to see and experience.

www.modelbouwshow.nl

March 2023

Spring Garden Breezand

4 - 5 March 2023

Spring Garden Breezand will bring a little joy to people's homes in the spring. During the weekend that the spring garden takes place, 200 bouquets of tulips will be delivered to nominees in the municipalities of Den Helder, Hollands Kroon and Schagen. During an on-site program, shows, presentations and evening parties will be organized for visitors.

<https://lentetuin.nl/41ste-editie-lentetuin-breezand-verschuift-naar-2023/>

Keukenhof

March - May 2023

Millions of tulips, daffodils, hyacinths and other bulbous plants form a colorful sea of flowers.

Magnificent park with flowerbeds, plant pavilions, flower displays, shows etc.

<https://keukenhof.nl/en/>

April 2023

Exhibition "We were kings"

7 April - 27 August 2023

"Ancient Egypt in the music of the African diaspora" features in the exhibition at the Rijksmuseum. It is dedicated to the music of artists with African roots and includes video clips, audio clips, concert recordings, photos and album covers to tell the story of well-known and lesser-known musicians and their connection to ancient Egypt.

<https://www.rmo.nl/en/exhibitions/temporary-exhibitions/expected-we-were-kings/>

Exhibition Antoni van Leeuwenhoek

9 April 2023 - 7 January 2024

The exhibition about Antoni van Leeuwenhoek, a Dutch naturalist and the most important microscopist of the 17th- and early 18th century, will be temporarily on display at the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam.

<https://www.rijksmuseum.nl/en>

Flower Parade Bollenstreek

22 April 2023

The parade starts in Noordwijk in the morning and travels through Sassenheim, Lisse, Hillegom, Bennebroek and Heemstede. In the evening they reach Haarlem, where they are displayed on the historic main square (Grote Markt) in the city centre during the weekend.

<https://bloemencorso-bollenstreek.nl/en/>

King's Night

26 April 2023, countrywide

The night before King's Day is a highlight in many major cities. For example, special events and activities take place in Amsterdam, Rotterdam, The Hague, Utrecht or Eindhoven.

King's Day (King's Birthday) – countrywide

27 April 2023, countrywide

The whole country is in a celebratory mood on this day. Young and old take part in the outdoor festivities such as flea markets, theater performances, music and games.

<https://www.holland.com/global/tourism/information/general/the-royal-family/kings-day.htm>

Tulip Festival Northeast Polder

April 2023

The annual festival has the most extensive tulip fields in the Netherlands and is located near the World Heritage Site of Schokland, picturesque Urk, De Orchideen Hoeve and other attractions.

<https://tulpenfestival.nl/en/>

May 2023

Liberation Day

05 May 2023

Celebration of the liberation from the German occupation in WWI. Various events are held, such as 'Liberation Music Festivals'.

<https://www.4en5mei.nl/english>

National Mill Day

13 and 14 May 2023

Open day at many of the country's mills. The beautiful and characteristic for the Netherlands monuments are open for visitors.

<https://www.molens.nl/english/>

June 2023

Kaeskoppenstad

3 - 4 June 2023

Kaeskoppenstad transforms the city center of Alkmaar into d'Oude Stad (old city). This annual event is all about the 16th century.

<https://www.kaeskoppenstad.nl/english>

Flag Day in Scheveningen

'Vlaggetjesdag' celebrates the arrival of the New Herring (matjes). In addition, many different activities take place in Scheveningen (The Hague).

<https://vlaggetjesdag.com/contact-route/english/>

Parkpop – The Hague

Parkpop is one of the largest free-to-attend music festivals in Europe and attracts many visitors of all ages every year. Visitors enjoy the great line-up, as well as all sorts of other fun activities, the beautiful surroundings and socializing.

<https://www.parkpopthehague.nl/en>

July 2023

Vierdaagse in Nijmegen

18 - 21 July 2023

40,000 people come together to participate in the largest walking- and running event in the world - the Vierdaagse. In addition, the 4-Daagse celebrations include various festivals, concerts and food markets taking place in Nijmegen.

<https://www.4daagse.nl/en/>

Tilburg Fun Fair

21 - 30 July 2023

With more than 230 attractions and about 1.5 million visitors, the Tilburg Fun Fair is the largest in the Benelux.

<https://www.kermistilburg.nl/>

World Gymnaestrada 2023 Amsterdam

30 July – 5 August 2023

World Gymnaestrada is a global, non-competitive event held every four years with the largest number of active participants of any gymnastics event. Participation is open to all, regardless of gender, age, race, religion, culture, ability or social status.

www.worldgymnaestrada2023.com/en/

August 2023

European Para Championships 2023

8 - 20 August 2023

For the first time, the continental championships for several different para-sports will all be combined in and around the same host city - Rotterdam. The event features 7 to 10 different sports, including para-cycling, wheelchair tennis, boccia, goalball, wheelchair basketball, wheelchair rugby, para-table tennis, judo and para-shooting.

<https://teamtoc.nl/2021/05/26/press-release-european-para-championships-2023/?lang=en>

Dragon stitches 2023

11 - 13 August, 17 - 19 August 2023

A theatrical production about the legend of St. George and the dragon. The open - air spectacle takes place every seven years.

<https://www.draaksteken.nl/en/>

Holland Festival Oude Muziek (*Early Music*) Utrecht

25 August - 3 September 2023

Ten days of music from the Middle Ages, Renaissance, Baroque, Classical and early Romantic periods. At the same time there will be other concerts, such as carillon, a symposium, video screenings and a market on early music.

<https://oudemuziek.nl/festival/>

September 2023

Open Monument Day

9 - 10 September 2023, countrywide

During this weekend, thousands of monuments in the Netherlands are open to the public.

Festival Masterly The Hague

21 - 24 September 2023

Modern designers draw inspiration from 17th-century Dutch masters during the three-day art festival. The objects will be exhibited alongside their muses in four stately monumental buildings around the Court Pond in The Hague.

<https://www.holland.com/global/tourism/activities/events/masterly-the-hague-art-festival.htm>

Rolling Stones exhibition

September - November 2023

The Groningen Museum and the Rolling Stones' management have reached an agreement to bring Unzipped back to Groningen in 2023.

<https://www.groningermuseum.nl/en/museum/news/goed-nieuws-the-rolling-stones-komen-terug-naar-groningen>

HISWA te water

'HISWA te water' is known as the most comprehensive boat show in Europe due to the variety of boats and brands from home and abroad. More than 250 new vessels are presented in the Bataviahaven in Lelystad.

<https://www.hiswatewater.nl/en/>

October 2023

Leiden's Liberation

2 - 3 October 2023

Leiden celebrates the liberation from the Spanish occupation on October 3, 1574. During the festivities there are performances by DJs and music groups, as well as fairs.

<https://www.holland.com/global/tourism/activities/events/leidens-ontzet.htm>

Zotte Zaterdag Gouda

Zotte Zaterdag ("Crazy Saturday") is a medieval festival on the day when Erasmus, scholar and writer of the "Praise of Folly" traditionally returns to Gouda - the city where he grew up.

<https://www.zottezaterdag.nl/>

Kunst10daagse in Bergen

Kunst10daagse is a cultural festival where almost 300 artists exhibit at about 160 different locations in the green artists' village of Bergen and the beach village of Bergen aan Zee in North-Holland.

It includes a wide of paintings, sculptures, installations, photography, etching and ceramics.

<https://dekunst10daagse.nl/>

November 2023

Europort 2023

7 - 10 November 2023

For many decades, Europort has been the exhibition and meeting place where the international maritime industry meets to network, cooperate and innovate.

<https://www.europort.nl/en>

Christmas market in the Fluweelengrot in Valkenburg

November – December 2023

A very special Christmas market in the Fluweelengrot in Valkenburg. Apart from the Christmas market, there are many different activities in the "Christmas City Valkenburg".

<https://www.christmastownvalkenburg.com/>

GLOW Eindhoven

During the annual light art festival GLOW, numerous artists from home and abroad present their thematically coordinated light installations. As soon as dusk falls, numerous building facades in downtown Eindhoven are illuminated and bathed in a new light.

<https://www.gloweindhoven.nl/en>

December 2023

Saint Nicholas Day

5 December 2022

On the evening of December 5, the so-called Pakjesavond (gift-giving evening) takes place. While parents and friends dressed as Sinterklaas and Piet visit the children, gifts are exchanged, songs are sung and sweets are eaten.

<https://www.holland.com/global/tourism/activities/events/sinterklaas.htm>

Royal Christmas Fair

7 - 24 December 2023

The Royal Christmas Market in The Hague is one of the largest Christmas markets in the Netherlands. Gift ideas, winter fashion and design decorations are to be found among the twinkling lights and well-known Christmas carols.

<https://denhaag.com/en/calendar/royal-christmas-fair>

Gouda by Candlelight

15 December 2022

On this day, many activities and markets take place in the streets of Gouda. When it gets dark, the city is lit only by candlelight. The Gothic town house and the buildings in the old market square are also illuminated by candlelight Christmas. The mayor recites the Christmas gospel. After that, Christmas carols are sung together under the fir tree.

<https://welcometogouda.com/discover-gouda/events/gouda-bij-kaarslicht>

Charles Dickens Festival and Deventer Christmas Town

Under the motto "Christmas City Deventer", the historic city center of Deventer is in the Advent spirit with numerous activities: in addition to the Christmas market on Sunday, the Dickens Festival takes place with various characters from Dickens' novels.

<https://dickensfestijn.nl/english/>

IJsbeelden Festival Zwolle

At the end of the year, the largest ice sculpture festival in Europe takes place in Zwolle. Only 100 km from the German border, numerous sculpture artists create figures of a special kind from 275,000 kg of ice and snow.

<https://www.ijsbeelden.nl/en>

New Years Eve in Rotterdam

31 December 2023

In Rotterdam, a huge fireworks display is held annually at the Erasmus Bridge.

<http://hetnationalevuurwerk.nl/>

Subject to change, 50670 Cologne, March 2022

NETHERLANDS BUREAU FOR TOURISM AND CONGRESSES
www.holland.com
