

The Tour on Dutch Architecture – Programme for Architects

The restoration and modernisation of Holland's infrastructure has not only been a continual endeavour but an absolute must. Out of sheer necessity, architecture has been regarded as a social and cultural undertaking. Combining architecture with politics has had a significant influence on urban culture. Not least thanks to the political commitment to housing projects, the Dutch are now churning out one best-seller after another in the history of modern architecture.



Programme:

Amsterdam ● Rotterdam ● Ypenburg ●
Utrecht ● Hilversum

Amsterdam - new developments along the waterfront

After the city had turned its back against the river IJ for decades, Amsterdam's city planners rediscovered the waterfront in the early 1990s. A new housing area was created on the former harbour docks KNSM, Java and Borneo-Sporenburg, with port basins substituting green space. The development is still going on along the banks of the river IJ, where housing blocks and office buildings are currently being erected between old store houses. In the West, the Silodam, a spectacular housing block by MVRDV, forms the final chord of the developments. And in the East, the city is busy with the creation of seven artificial islands in IJsselmeer lake, where 18 000 people will live and work in 2012.



In the morning programme:

Eastern Harbour Islands

Walk across Borneo-Sporenburg, KNSM- and Java-Eiland

Urban plans by West 8, Sjoerd Soeters, Jo Coenen • Housing projects by a.o. Neutelings Riedijk, MVRDV, Hans Kollhoff & Christian Rapp, Frits van Dongen/de ArchitectenCie, de architectengroep, Kees Christiaanse Architecten

IJburg

Walk across the new island district, visit to the infocenter

Housing projects by a.o. Bosch Architects, Maccreanor Lavington, VMX, Medic + Puljiz/de ArchitectenCie

In the afternoon programme:

Architecture centre Arcam, René van Zuuk (interior visit) • Housing block Silodam, MVRDV • Housing block Het Schip, Michiel de Klerk • GWL-Terrain, Kees Christiaanse Architecten • Culture park Westergasfabrik, Gustafson Porter • Housing block WoZoCo, MVRDV



Rotterdam - from post-war city to the 21st century

The city centre of Rotterdam was completely destroyed during World War II. After the war, city planners saw the resulting *tabula rasa* as a chance to realize a modernist city center with a radical separation of functions according to the rules of CIAM. Nevertheless, Rotterdam always had the reputation of an ugly working class city. Only in the last few years, it emancipated itself and became a mecca for young architects who like the flair of the harbour city. Around Schouwburgplein and Museumpark, but mainly in the former harbour district Kop van Zuid, numerous experimental buildings have been realized. With the Erasmusbridge by Ben van Berkel, Rotterdam obtained a new emblem.



In the morning programme:

City centre

Schouwburgplein by West 8 with cinema by Koen van Velsen • Café de Unie, J.J.P. Oud • Shopping street Lijnbaan, Van den Broek en Bakema • Department store Bijenkorf, Marcel Breuer

Museumpark

Park by OMA and Yves Brunier • Dutch Architecture Institute, Jo Coenen • Extension of Museum Boijmans van Beuningen, Robbrecht & Daem • Kunsthal, OMA

In the afternoon programme:

Harbour cruise

Kop van Zuid

Walk across the harbour peninsula

Erasmusbridge, UN Studio • Housing towers Hoge Heren, Wiel Arets • KPN-Tower, Renzo Piano • World Port Authorities skyscraper, Lord Norman Foster • Passenger terminal, Van den Broek en Bakema • Hotel New York • Housing projects by a.o. Frits van Dongen /de ArchitectenCie, Kees Christiaanse Architecten, CePeZed



Ypenburg - VINEX-settlement on the Polder

In 1993, the Fourth Regional Planning Nota Extra (VINEX) was released in the Netherlands. Ever since then, row house settlements have been sprouting from the polders. Many of them are monotonous and uninventive, but there are exceptions to the rule. In the new town of Ypenburg close to The Hague, several interesting experiments and variations on the row house theme were developed.

In the programme:

Masterplans by West 8 and MVRDV • Housing projects by o.a. Diener + Diener, de architectengroep, Frits van Dongen/de ArchitectenCie., MVRDV, Bosch Architects



Utrecht - University Campus

The university campus of Utrecht was created in the 1960s. A sprawl of buildings spread itself across some meadows outside the city, the individual buildings drifting solitarily in the green space. Since a few years, the university is working on a densification of the campus. OMA developed a new masterplan, which was filled in with experimental architecture. The result are several innovative faculty buildings, but also a café with a basketball court on its roof and a library in which the depots float like clouds.



In the programme:

Interior visit of the Rietveld-Schröder-House by Gerrit Th. Rietveld

Walk across the campus

Masterplan by OMA • Faculty buildings by a.o. OMA, Neutelings Riedijk, UN Studio, Mecanoo • BasketBar by NL Architects • University library, Wiel Arets • Ronald McDonald House, Bosch Architects



Hilversum - Modernism and Media Park

Hilversum is the media capital of the Netherlands. Since the early nineties, numerous buildings for broadcasting stations and controlling institutions have been erected. The most spectacular project is the Villa VPRO by MVRDV, a flexible room landscape in Holland's deepest office building. However, Hilversum saw its first architecture boom as early as the 1920s, when Wilhelm Marinus Dudok was the city architect.



In the programme:

City hall by W.M. Dudok • Sanatorium De Zonnestraal by Jan Duiker • Broadcasting stations Villa VPRO and RVU by MVRDV • Media commissariate, Koen van Velsen • Institute for Image and Sound, Neutelings Riedijk



Information:

- 4 or 7 day tours
- accommodation in hotel***/****/*****
- private transfers in a minibus
- assistance of an architect – specialist on Dutch architecture (Arabic / English or Dutch speaking)
- all tours are tailor-made in cooperation with the Client
- additional trips, visit, restaurants, etc booked upon request

Price dependent on the chosen hotels / programme