



See you in
HARLINGEN

Dear Sir, dear Madam,

It was our pleasure to welcome representatives of the cruise lines: Silversea Cruises (USA), Seabourn Cruises (USA), Hapag Lloyd (Germany) and All Leisure (UK), on October the fifth 2012. On this day the cruise companies held a sight inspection and learned more about our beautiful city Harlingen and the province of Fryslân.

As a small keepsake of that day we offer you this photo album.

Our special guests experienced the great atmosphere in our lovely historic town. We walked with them through some of its old streets and sailed shortly over the Wadden Sea. We showed the old and new harbours and discussed

the possible mutual advantages of working together. We hope that in a couple of years we will all look back on this day as a start of 'Cruise port Harlingen'.

Best regards,

Board of Mayor and Aldermen of Harlingen





*The sky,
the sea,
the water,
beautiful town
on the Wadden Sea.*





Harlingen is proud of its monuments. The old city contains over 600 well preserved houses, warehouses and churches, some lovely lanes and narrow footpaths.

It is not only the old inner city that attracts tourists. People also love to come to the Wadden Sea itself. The Wadden Sea, with its unique tidal flats and wetlands, was inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List in June 2009.





Harlingen is also a fisherman's town. Everywhere you can smell the sea, and hear the sound of shrieking seagulls and moaning fog-horns.





Winter, spring, summer or autumn, each season brings its own charm to Harlingen.

Nevertheless, the weather could have been a bit better that morning. Below decks on the Minerva the crew made a warm welcome to everyone and served regional fingerfood.

From the Southern Harbour we took off by pilot boat to see and learn more about the Wadden Sea and the harbours of Harlingen.



In 1645 the Admiralty of Fryslân moved from Dokkum to Harlingen. It was in that very year that the Southern Harbour (Zuiderhaven) with all its

shipping yards, became a naval port for warships. These days one can find a fleet of traditional sailing ships here, The Brown Fleet (De Bruine Vloot).

Men and women - eager to go aboard - gather here to embark on their journey across the IJsselmeer and Wadden Sea. Our group boarded here as well.



The festivities in Harlingen are famous far and wide.

Thousands of visitors come to the Street Festival, enjoy Music by the Sea or visit the

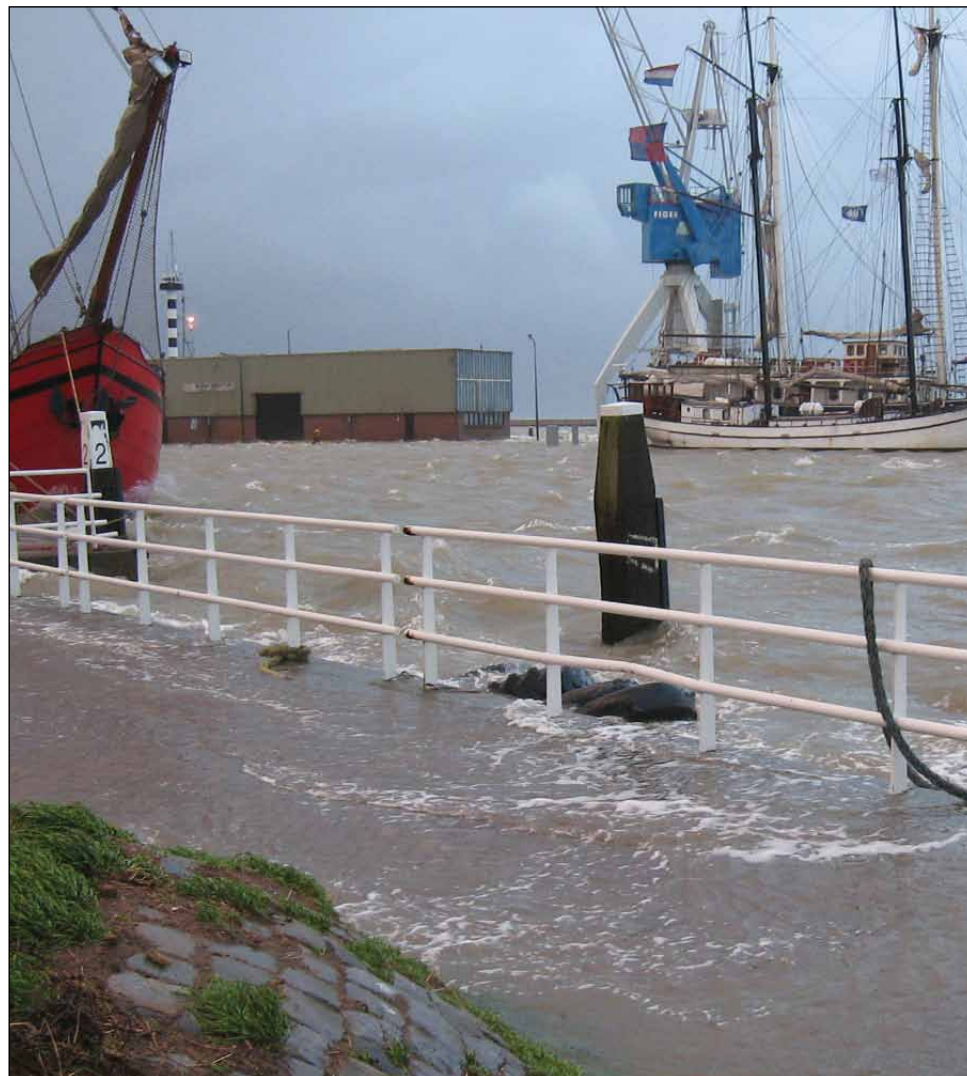
‘Days of Fishing’ (Visserij-dagen).

In Midwinter the Zoutsloot transforms into the most beautiful Christmas fair of the Netherlands.



Although the skipper of the Minerva was willing to sail, this time it was better to go by pilot boat. Under a grey sky and foggy rain information was given about the Wadden Sea, the currents and depths, the Pollendam, the Nieuwe Willemshaven, the Dok and the Nieuwe Voorhaven.





Sunset at the sea dock. Time for a peaceful and romantic walk.

But even when the weather is bad, people love to go out. High tide and strong winds can draw many Harlingers to the sea. There the locals wait for big waves to hit the coast, so they can feel the strength of Mother Nature.





On behalf of the city of Harlingen a tour guide brought our guests on one of the highest 'mountains' of Fryslân. It's the hillock on which the Grote Kerk (Reformed Church) was build. The Hinsz organ dates back to 1776, the tower is older. It is at least 800 years old. During the trip there was no time to visit one of the pubs. And even if there had been time, it would have been hard to choose one.





Tim had a different route. He took the opportunity to row to the town hall. This was a flashback to his rowing moments during his university period in Amsterdam.



The weather was not favourable when our guests had their excursion. During this walk through the old city centre clouds drifted slowly apart and the sun showed its friendly face. Most likely... the enthusiastic stories made this happen.





The history of the Northern Harbour (Noorderhaven) goes back as far as 1578, when it was dug. Alongside the quay you can find houses and warehouses, dating from the 16th and 18th century.

It is a lovely place to linger or sit on a bench or terrace near the water. Watch the sailing boats come in or see them leave for a trip to one of the islands nearby.

Art galleries add extra charm to the Noorderhaven. Galerie de Vis even brings art out onto the street. And if you want to get yourself tattooed, the Northern Harbour is the place to be.



The historic city of Harlingen has a lot to offer. Tourists come to see and feel the atmosphere of its old

harbours, houses, pubs and restaurants. Is Harlingen also the perfect stop for cruise ships?



Getting to know each other and to learn more about plans and opportunities, that was the idea of the meeting in the old town hall. At first the people of Harlingen were mostly curious, when they left one could feel their enthusiasm about the outlook.



What to do when you've got all the time in the world?

Relaxing and sun bathing on the beach certainly is one possibility. Having an ice cream on a bench near the harbour is another. But how about renting a

bicycle to explore the Frisian countryside with its black-and-white spotted dairy cattle, old farms and villages on hillocks that are thousands of years old?

One could also go on an outing. The unique collection

of Frisian grandfather clocks in Museum Joure is definitely worth a visit. Also the typical Hindelooper painting or the collection of modern Frisian art in Museum Belvédère near the historic estate Landgoed Oranjewoud are worth visiting.





Apart from the fashion boutiques, bookshops and department stores, you can find some nice speciality shops selling Harlinger ceramics, Dutch cheese, art, nautical wear, exquisite leather clothing and household and kitchen utensils.



Whenever the weather allows, people enjoy a cup of coffee or glass of refreshments on a terrace. Offering them an opportunity to gaze at people. It is like sitting in the front row of a theatre that shows life itself.





*Harlingen lives
with the rhythm
of the tide.*





Tourist guides take people on a sight seeing tour. The Zoutslot is one of the favourite parts of town. Each cottage there is a painting.



Amsterdam, the capital of the Netherlands, is approximately a one-hour drive away.

This offers the chance to visit important museums like the Rembrandt House Museum, the Hermitage Amsterdam, Rijksmuseum, the Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam and the Van Gogh Museum.



Leeuwarden, the capital of Fryslân, can be reached within less than half an hour.

Leeuwarden is a city with a royal touch, because related to the Nassau's. Points of interest are the Fries Museum, the ceramic museum Princessehof and beautiful buildings, specialty shops, restaurants and pubs.



Franeker, one of the old Eleven Frisian Cities, is just a ten-minute drive away.

The city is famous for the Eisinga Planetarium (1774), one of the world's oldest operating orreries. The city also has beautiful monuments like the Korendragerhuisje and the town hall, built in Frisian Renaissance style.



Will Harlingen become an important cruise port? Journalists visited the press conference to report on this question. Mr Bob Harrison - on behalf of the cruise companies, City Council Member - Mrs Maria



le Roy and Representative of the Province of Fryslân - Mrs Jannewietske de Vries, explained the plans and opportunities. With enthusiasm journalists wrote about new opportunities for both Harlingen and Fryslân.



At the dinner party in Post Plaza hotel the Queen's Commissioner Mr Jorritsma joined in. Time to meet, drink a glass of wine and eat. The work was not finished though.

A notebook proved to be helpful when studying the route cruise boats have to take when they sail for Harlingen.





*The church bell rings,
its sound floats
over the sea.*





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