

Alkmaar, North Holland, Netherlands

Holland at its most photogenic: a medieval cheese market town of gabled houses, mirror-flat canals, and a world-famous Friday spectacle that's run for 400 years.

 Docked (river quay)  Typical call: 6-8 hrs  Euro (€)  Dutch (English widely spoken)

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: River quay at Kanaalkade or Noorderkade, steps from the old town

Walk to center: 5-10 min on foot to Waagplein cheese market square

Best For: Cheese market Fridays (late Mar–Sep), canal walks, Dutch history

Don't Miss: The Friday morning cheese market at Waagplein (10:00–13:00)

 Getting around:  **Taxi**  €3.10 start + €2.35/km ·  **Rideshare**  Uber, Bolt

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Alkmaar Cheese Market** — The unmissable Friday tradition.
- **Dutch Cheese Museum (Waaggebouw)** — Inside the 1582 Weigh House on Waagplein, this interactive museum covers the history of Dutch cheese-making — Gouda...
- **Grote Sint Laurenskerk** — The largest Gothic church in North Holland above the North Sea Canal, dating to 1470.
- **Windmills of the Schermer Polder** — About 12 km southeast, the village of Schermerhorn preserves a cluster of original polder windmills in a classic Dutch...
- **Canal Boat Tour** — See Alkmaar from the water on a guided canal cruise through Verdrunkenoord, Luttk Oudorp, and Oudegracht.

BEST WALKS

- **Old Town Highlights Loop** 2-3 km · 1-1.5 hrs · Easy — From the quay, walk to Waagplein for the cheese market square, then continue to Grote Sint Laurenskerk, along the Verdrunkenoord...
- **Hofjes & Hidden Courtyards** 1-2 km · 45-60 min · Easy — Seek out Alkmaar's quiet historic hofjes — almshouse courtyards hidden behind medieval facades.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)	 DAYLIGHT &  MONEY																														
<table><tr><th></th><th>Mon</th><th>High</th><th>Low</th><th>Rain</th></tr><tr><td>Apr</td><td></td><td>54°</td><td>43°</td><td>10d</td></tr><tr><td>Jun</td><td></td><td>66°</td><td>56°</td><td>10d</td></tr><tr><td>Aug</td><td></td><td>69°</td><td>60°</td><td>15d</td></tr><tr><td>Sep</td><td></td><td>66°</td><td>57°</td><td>11d</td></tr><tr><td>Oct</td><td></td><td>59°</td><td>52°</td><td>15d</td></tr></table>		Mon	High	Low	Rain	Apr		54°	43°	10d	Jun		66°	56°	10d	Aug		69°	60°	15d	Sep		66°	57°	11d	Oct		59°	52°	15d	Apr 6:43AM–8:40PM · Jun 5:17AM–10:06PM · Aug 6:23AM–9:06PM · Sep 7:15AM–7:55PM · Oct 8:07AM–6:45PM Euro (€)
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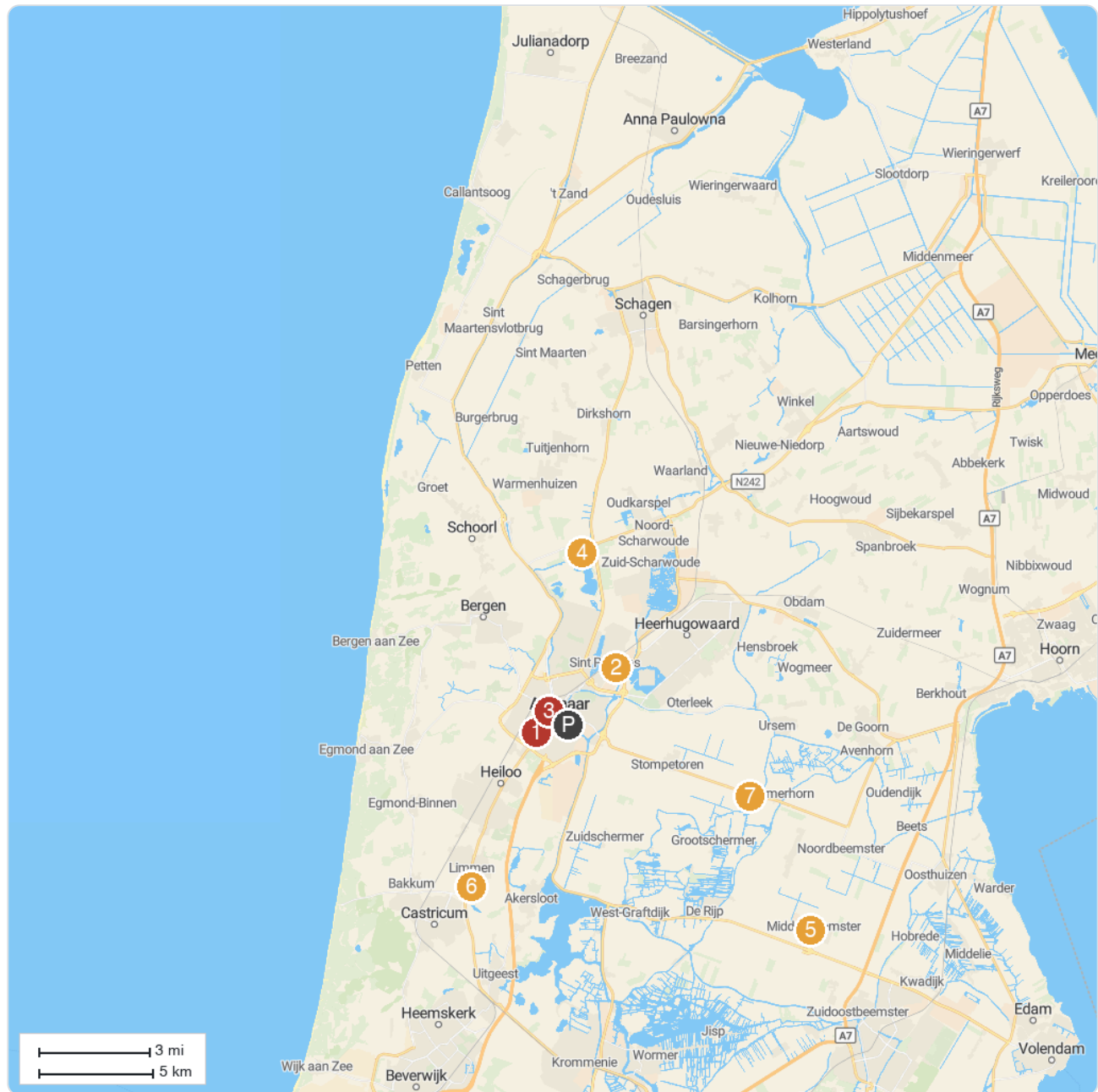
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Plan around the cheese market. It runs Fridays only, from the last Friday in March through the last Friday in September, 10:00–13:00. If your ship calls on a Friday in season...
- The center is entirely walkable from the river quay — flat terrain, no hills, pedestrian-friendly streets. Sturdy shoes are fine; no special gear needed.

Alkmaar, North Holland, Netherlands — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



- 1 Alkmaarderhout** Alkmaarderhout is Alkmaar's oldest city park.
- 3 Stedelijk Museum Alkmaar** city history, art, and cheese market paintings.
- 5 Museum Betje Wolff** a museum about an 18th-century writer.
- 7 De Museummolen** De Museummolen is a historic working polder windmill museum.

- 2 Foundation Hortus Alkmaar** Hortus Alkmaar: a botanical garden with medicinal plants.
- 4 Speelpark de Swaan** De Swaan is an outdoor play park for children.
- 6 Hortus Bulborum** a living museum of historic bulb flowers.
- P Cruise port / terminal**