



# Excursion programme of the ELCA Committee of Firms

8 - 9 May 2020

ELCA

# Welcome to The Netherlands

It is with great pleasure that I invite you to The Netherlands in 2020, the same year that VHG will celebrate their 100th anniversary. We look forward to showing you our country, our landscape and our green tradition.

For our excursion programme, we have selected a number of interesting projects, ranging from traditional to modern landscapes, from public spaces to private gardens and from parks on ground level to parks on the roof. We are proud of these projects because they show the knowledge and craftsmanship as well as the creative and innovative powers of Dutch landscaping professionals. We also encourage you to ask us all your questions, as we enjoy sharing our thoughts and experiences. You can read more about our views in this brochure.

Looking forward to meeting you,



**Rien van der Spek**  
Chairman VHG



## Preliminary Programme

On Friday 8 and Saturday 9 May you will be able to participate in special VHG excursions. On Friday we will visit The Hague, the Dutch residence city. On Saturday a visit to Rotterdam, industrious hub of entrepreneurship, is on the schedule. VHG colleagues were involved in some of the projects and gardens we will visit. They will lead you around and explain about the landscaping process and special features.

### Friday 8 May: The Hague – residence city

#### 1 Japanese Garden in Clingendael Park

The Japanese Garden is the jewel in the crown of historic Clingendael Park. The garden holds a wonderful collection of rare trees and plants. Because this garden is vulnerable, the collection is open to the public for only 8 weeks per year. The Japanese Garden was established at the beginning of the 20th century by Marguerite M. baroness van Brien (1871-1939), who lived in Clingendael at the time. It is the only Japanese garden in The Netherlands built around that time and it is a haven of tranquillity and peace.

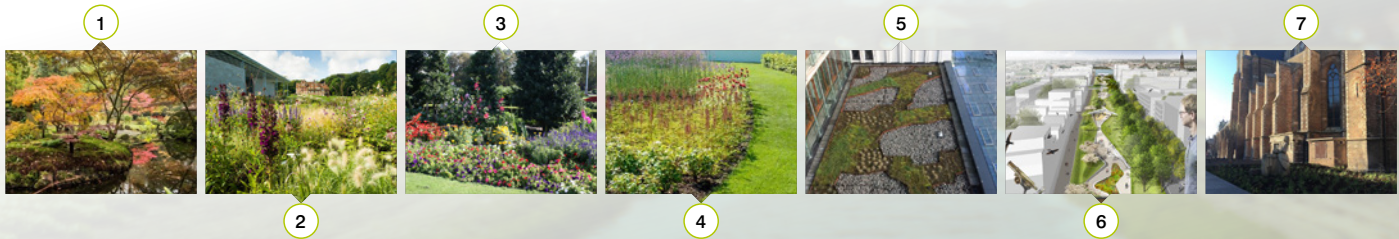
#### 2 The garden of Museum Voorlinden

Museum Voorlinden is a private museum with a collection of modern and contemporary art located at Landgoed Voorlinden in Wassenaar, near The Hague. The garden surrounding the new building was designed by renowned Dutch landscape architect Piet Oudolf. Oudolf is the best known representative of 'The Dutch Wave', a movement in garden architecture where natural planting, art and seasonal features are important sources of inspiration. At Voorlinden, Oudolf's design refers to classical garden architecture: various colourful herbaceous borders are surrounded by grass paths or knolls, enhancing the surrounding scenic landscape park. The garden can also be enjoyed from inside the museum – where modern architecture and art make a connection with nature through its large picture window.

#### 3 The garden surrounding the Peace palace (to be confirmed)

The Peace Palace (1913) houses the International Court of Justice and other institutions. An interesting and historic garden surrounds this imposing building in the centre of the royal seat. It is a peaceful oasis where British garden architect Thomas Mawson used the concept of peace in all sorts of botanical elements: he planted no plants with sharp thorns and only small-leaved trees and shrubs, so the garden is always full of light. The water in the pond is – just like peace – one of the most important conditions for life. The roses in the lovely rose garden symbolise love, another essential element of peace. The old trees of the former estate Zorgvliet, that form part of the garden, form a screen that shuts out the busy city.





## Saturday 9 May: Rotterdam – industrious hub

### 4 Private garden

Next on the programme is a private garden, designed and landscaped by Allure Tuinen, a subsidiary of Weverling Groenproviders. This landscaping firm is known for its exclusive and unique gardens. Their gardens are high-quality showcases of their expert knowledge, many years of experience and continuous schooling of their horticultural specialists.

### 5 Roof garden Erasmus Medical Centre Rotterdam (to be confirmed)

On the top floor of the newly built Sophia Children's Hospital of the Erasmus Medical Centre in Rotterdam, Mostert & De Winter designed and built a green roof measuring no less than three square kilometres. Not only do green roofs extend the life span of a roof and green up the city, they also contribute to a cleaner atmosphere and reduce run-off during extreme weather. In addition, they offer an attractive panorama for people living and working in surrounding buildings. The realisation of the green roof of the Sophia children's hospital is the start of a larger roof garden scheme, measuring 12.5 square kilometres, that will eventually be realised on the entire Erasmus medical centre. These roof gardens will be completed with financial support from the city of Rotterdam and water authorities.

### 6 Van Leeuwenhoekpark in Delft (project under construction)

The Van Leeuwenhoekpark is 'the green heart' of Delft. It is located on the roof of the railway tunnel through the centre of the city, that is also a shopping and leisure centre called Nieuw Delft. The park is located on a strip of land measuring about 2.5 hectares. It is a special area that has the potential to grow into a real attraction for Delft: a beautiful and vivacious green ribbon in the city's centre, suitable for both residents and visitors.

### 7 Church garden Nieuwe Kerk in Delft

De Nieuwe Kerk is located on the central market square in historic Delft. This church was founded in 1300 and is mostly known for the tomb of William of Orange and the royal crypt of the Orange-Nassau family. Along the southside of the church, landscaping firm M. van der Spek has extensively renovated an existing garden, following a design by Buro Sant en Co. It was a project that required extra care because the garden is located above an archaeological site including a cemetery and the foundations of an early addition to the church. Van der Spek started with groundworks and a raised bed for a lawn with spring bulbs, that is surrounded by a hardstone edge suitable for sitting. Other hard landscaping was also replaced, as well as the drainage system. The entire project was completed in just two months.



# The Netherlands, land of...

... rolling dunes and hills, smoothly mown meadows and fields with straight-edged furrows,

... water and wind, dikes and polders,

... and flowers in many colours,

Where the many shades of green of the Dutch landscape and the various grades of blue in Holland's waters and skies contrast with brightly coloured tulip fields.

The Netherlands and water are inextricably linked. Our love of water is at the heart of our history as it has brought us a great deal of prosperity. But living in a country that lies below sea level for the most part calls for creativity and inventiveness. Our land is protected from the North Sea by sand dunes and beaches running from the islands in the north to the very south of our country, making our coast much loved by many seaside visitors each year.

The Netherlands is also known as a flower-filled country. All year round, visitors from all over the world come to Holland to enjoy our charming tulip fields and gardens and parks.

Source: NBTC Holland Marketing



## Accommodation

During your visit to the Netherlands you have two hotel options, both located in seaside resort Noordwijk aan Zee, known for its lovely views and beaches. We do request you to make your own reservations. Please make sure you enter the special code 'ELCA'.

### Hotel Astoria

Hotel Astoria is a friendly, medium-sized hotel with 35 rooms, located at a five-minute walk from the sea and the beach. Shopping- and leisure centres are nearby.

Costs per room per night including breakfast:

- single room: € 95 or € 115
- double room € 137
- tourist tax per person per night € 2.15

Book your room directly at the hotel,  
using reference code **ELCA**, at:  
[info@hotelastoria.nl](mailto:info@hotelastoria.nl)



### Hotel Radisson Blu Palace

A palatial hotel with outstanding amenities, the Radisson Blu Palace Hotel is located at just a few minutes from Noordwijk beach and offers picturesque views of the North Sea from its large in-room windows. This 4-star accommodation features 115 rooms and 5 suites.

Costs per room per night including breakfast:

- single room € 165
- double room € 185
- tourist tax per person per night € 2.15

Book your room directly at the hotel,  
using reference code **ELCA**, at:  
[reservations.palacehotelnoordwijk@radissonblu.com](mailto:reservations.palacehotelnoordwijk@radissonblu.com)



## Participation costs

Participation in the two-day excursion programme on  
Friday 8 May and Saturday 9 May costs € 650\* per person.

Please register via the VHG website by 2 March 2020.  
The booking is definite after payment of the invoice.

*\* All prices include transport, lunches, dinners, drinks, snacks along the route.*

Please register via this link:  
[https://www.vhg.org/actueel-agenda/  
the-professional-excursion-of-  
the-elca-committee-of-firms](https://www.vhg.org/actueel-agenda/the-professional-excursion-of-the-elca-committee-of-firms)