

London to Hamburg Cycle

Trip code: LH



“ If you are looking for a company who you can have confidence in to take care of all your requirements and allow you to just focus on enjoying your ride this is the company to choose... **Andy, London to Hamburg 2015** ”

 Total 5 days	 Hotels	 Difficulty: ★★★★★
 Cycling 4 days	 UK, Holland & Germany	 May - September

Overview

Cycle from London to Hamburg with More Adventure! Over four days you will cycle from London through eastern England, The Netherlands and Germany to the iconic city of Hamburg.

The first day's ride will see you heading northeast out of the bustling capital city of the UK, through Essex to the port of Harwich. An overnight ferry will then take us all to the Hook of Holland where we'll then ride east towards the capital, cross the border into Germany and onto our finish point, the city of Hamburg.

It is fully supported and guided by the More Adventure team, with your luggage transferred from each of the pre-booked hotels to the next, so all you need to do is turn up and ride!

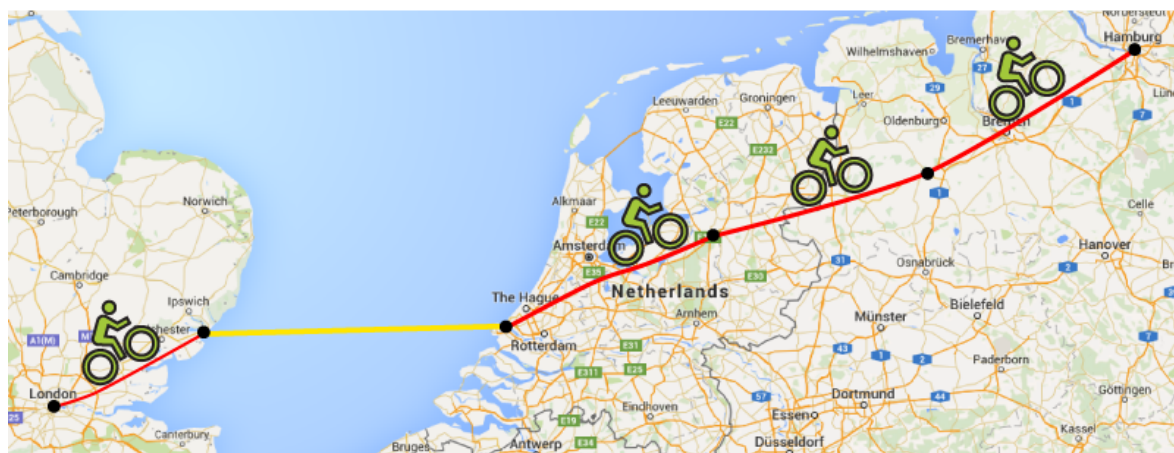
Highlights

- Starting the ride in Central London
- The beautiful backroads of Essex
- Getting the overnight ferry to Holland and waking up in a different country
- The flat, open countryside and cycle lanes of The Netherlands and Germany
- Riding into the historic city of Hamburg

Detailed Itinerary

Day 1: Join tour in London, cycle to Harwich (85 miles)

We meet in London for a briefing and then after a short cycle through the outskirts of London, our route takes us into rural Essex and to the city of Chelmsford. From Chelmsford we continue North-East, crossing over the River Brain and into Colchester before arriving in Harwich. After our evening meal, we will be boarding our ferry for an overnight crossing to the Hook of Holland. There are cabins onboard so hopefully you'll get plenty of rest before arriving into The Netherlands the following day.



Day 2: Hook of Holland to Zwolle (114 miles)

After a good night's rest on the ferry, we begin our second day cycling. From the Hook of Holland our route takes us firstly north-east, skirting The Hague, the capital of South Holland and seat of the Dutch government and parliament. From The Hague we continue North-East towards the capital city of Amsterdam then cross over the Hollandse Brug (bridge) into the province of Flevoland. Our evening stopover is Zwolle, here we'll have our evening meal and a much-deserved rest in anticipation of our third day in the saddle.

Day 3: Zwolle to Cloppenburg (104 miles)

Today we say goodbye to The Netherlands and cross the border into Germany. The route is flat today but we'll have an early start just in case! Soon after skirting around Zwolle, we arrive at the German border and along rural roads through picturesque farmland. Our overnight stop for this evening is Cloppenburg.

Day 4: Cloppenburg to Hamburg (112 miles)

Our final day cycling first takes us North-East from Cloppenburg to the city of Bremen, a major port on the River Weser and home to the fabulous St Peter's Cathedral. We continue North-East and soon enter the outskirts of Hamburg, Germany's second largest city. Our journey ends at the Hamburg Rathaus (town hall) square - well done, you've made it! From here, we'll make a short cycle to our hotel and prepare for our celebratory meal and last evening as a group.

Day 5: Hamburg sightseeing & return to London

With over 40 theatres, 60 museums, magnificent architecture and some very interesting local dishes to try, there's plenty to do and see in this incredible city. Hamburg is also home to the Vattenfall Cyclastics, an annual race through the city streets which contributes to the UCI World



Ranking. You'll have the whole day to explore Hamburg before your flight back to London in the early evening.

You will need to purchase a return flight from Hamburg to London on day five, Germanwings offer these for around £50 (please only book this once the trip has been confirmed). You will be met by the More Adventure team at Heathrow airport with your bicycle and luggage from 17:30 onwards. If you wish to stay on for longer in Hamburg or return to a different airport, you are responsible for transporting your bicycle and luggage on the flight, which will incur further costs.

Included

- Cycle Leader(s) and Support Driver(s)
- 3 x night's hotel accommodation
- 3 x breakfasts
- 4 x buffet-style lunches
- Ferry from Harwich to Hook of Holland with cabin accommodation
- Bicycle mechanical & First Aid support
- All luggage transported during your trip
- Bicycle and main luggage transfer back to London
- GPX files of the route (if requested)

Not Included

- Bicycle and Helmet
- Transfers to Hamburg Airport
- Evening meals, drinks and snacks
- Flights from Hamburg to London
- European Health Card
(www.ehic.org.uk/Internet/home.do)
- Insurance



This itinerary is a guide only and can sometimes be subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances. Whilst we endeavour to uphold the proposed daily mileages, this cannot be guaranteed due to changes to hotel bookings.



Trip Notes

Trip suitability

You will be cycling for between seven and nine hours each day but this is not a race! This is a group trip and we like to cycle as such. You will be cycling through rolling countryside which can be hilly, and the pace will be determined by your Cycle Leader. If you are unable to keep to this moderate pace, you will be asked to travel in the support vehicle.

You must prepare before coming on the trip, anything cardiovascular will help as will of course cycling. Importantly you need to do some 6+ hour cycles so you will know what is required. **You will need to get some hill practice in!**

We can provide you with a training plan but you will need to be comfortable cycling for several hours at a time through hilly terrain. If you are unsure or require our training plan, please contact us on info@moreadventure.co.uk.

A link to our trip grades that explains in depth our star rating is here:
www.moreadventure.co.uk/cycling-grades

Weather & Climate

The weather can vary hugely on this trip so it is essential that you are prepared for sunny (fingers crossed) and poor weather as it can rain at any time of the year and mornings can be chilly. Our recommendations on what clothing to bring will be issued upon booking.

Health

Your health and safety is our number one priority during any trip with More Adventure. For this reason, our leaders are the very best in the business, they all hold relevant outdoor First Aid Certificates and have hands-on practical medical experience in a variety of environments.

It is recommended that you visit your GP well in advance to discuss your trip and any pre-existing medical conditions you have. We will require a comprehensive medical declaration form that may need to be verified by your GP.

Insurance

Personal travel insurance is compulsory on any More Adventure trip. As a minimum, we require your cover to include medical expenses including emergency repatriation. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and damage/loss of luggage and personal effects (including your bicycle). [John Lewis](#) have Single Trip Cover Insurance plans for between £7 and £15. Click [here](#) to find out more.

You must also bring a European Health Card (www.ehic.org.uk/Internet/home.do) which are free and give you access to free healthcare anywhere in Europe.

Please be aware that your More Adventure leader will be checking your insurance documents on the first day of this trip and may refuse you to join the trip if your insurance cover is insufficient. The insurance company's 24 hour emergency contact number will need to be seen by your leader.



Money

Meals each evening tend to cost between £10 and £15. You will also need to budget for any excursions, travel around Hamburg and lunch on day 5. You will need Euros to spend in The Netherlands and Germany.

Accommodation

Accommodation for this trip for three nights is in excellent quality hotels. All have hot water showers and excellent amenities. On the ferry crossing on Day 1 you will be provided with comfortable cabins with private bathrooms and hot water showers.

Food

Breakfast will vary each morning but will generally be a continental-style affair. You will need to purchase your breakfast in the ferry restaurant on the morning of Day 2.

Lunches will be laid out for you to help yourself at each of our lunch stops. They will include breads, ham, cheese, tuna, salad, fruit, pasta and cereal bars. We will also be stopping at shops along the way for people to buy snacks and drinks. Evening meals and drinks are not included in the price and we will give you the opportunity to eat out as a group at a local pub/restaurant. Approximate costs per evening meal £10-15.

Equipment

We recommend road bicycles for this trip. Please contact us if you are unsure whether your bike is suitable.

Bikes are not included in the price. It is very important that your bike is in good working order and that you bring plenty of spares. Please bring at least four spare inner tubes. Your Cycle Leader will assist you with any minor bicycle repairs.

You must bring suitable, reasonably new tyres (e.g. Continental Gatorskin, Bontrager AW2; Schwalbe Marathon Plus). We recommend using [Wiggle \(click HERE\)](#) or [Chain Reaction Cycles \(click HERE\)](#) for the best value and quality in cycling clothing and equipment.

We do not provide helmets but we strongly recommend you bring your own to wear.

Clothing

It is crucial to be prepared for the weather! The trip will continue in all but the absolute worst of weathers. Generally the best clothes to wear while cycling are light and comfortable. Please bring a lightweight waterproof top and a lightweight windproof top. Make sure you bring enough clothes for each day's cycling and for evening meals. Better to "have and not need than to need and not have"!

Luggage

All luggage will be transported between hotels as you cycle. You are therefore limited to one suitcase/large holdall and one daysack. Please bring a suitable bag to carry a waterproof or windproof, spare inner tubes and snacks whilst cycling. This could be a [small pannier](#), a daysack, a [large saddlebag](#) or [handlebar bag](#).





Leaders

This trip is led by at least two experienced and qualified cycle leaders who will either cycle with the group or drive the support vehicle. They guide and encourage the group, and help deal with any bicycle mechanicals.

This trip will run on a minimum number of 12 persons. Please do not book any transport to/from the trip until it has been confirmed by email that it will run.

How to book

1. Find a date that suits you on our website
2. Click 'Book Now'
3. Fill in your personal details (if you are booking for a group, there is an option here to do so)
4. Fill in your medical details
5. Invite your friends if you wish!
6. Click on 'Make Payment' and securely pay a 40% deposit through Worldpay
- 7. Congratulations - you've now secured your place!**
8. You will receive a confirmation email and further information about the trip
9. The remaining balance needs to be paid no later than 5 weeks before the trip begins

