A Day Out in Historic Edam

Looking forward to a wonderful day out in historic Edam? You certainly can! Let us arrange an enriching morning guided tour of the Edam Museum, followed by an afternoon tour through the Great Church, optionally complemented by a tasty lunch by the water in the centre of Edam at Hotel De Fortuna.

About the Great Church

Edam's Great Church is proudly ranked among the 100 most beautiful churches in the Netherlands. The church, completed in 1535, features 33 magnificent stained-glass windows. The, almost unique, Librije (Latin school) is situated on the south side. Much of the rich history of Edam and Holland is preserved within the windows and historic gravestones. http://www.grotekerkedam.nl

About Edam Museum

Founded in 1895, the Edam Museum is one of the oldest museums in North Holland. It is housed in two remarkable historic buildings: the Steenen Coopmanshuys (Stone built Merchant's House) dating from 1540, and the Town Hall from 1737, on the opposite side of the Dam. There are fascinating exhibitions at each location. Please note that neither building is wheelchair accessible. http://www.edamsmuseum.nl

The Connection between the Great Church and Edam Museum

In Edam Museum, you will be introduced to the three legendary figures or 'miracles' who once lived in Edam: Trijntje Keever, a girl who grew to 2.54 meters and thus remains the tallest woman who ever lived on earth. Langbaard (Longbeard), a governor of the orphanage with a 2.50 m long beard, who used his beard to raise money at fairs to donate to the orphanage. And the Dikke Waard (Fat landlord), the proprietor of an Edam café who weighed 455 pounds. All three historical figures are laid to rest in the Great Church, where a gravestone and the traditional bier can still be seen.

The museum's exhibition, 'Seafaring Edam', highlights notable sea captains from the era of Michiel de Ruyter. The final resting places of these naval heroes can also be seen in the Great Church. Also, Edam's prominent 16th and 17th century shipbuilding heritage is showcased through historical paintings, artifacts, and stained-glass windows. As is the tale of the Purmer mermaid, discovered in the nearby Purmer Lake by local Edam girls, who is also featured in the museum's exhibition 'Edam in 14 Steps'.

About Hotel De Fortuna

Situated on Spuistraat, Hotel De Fortuna is set in a picturesque waterfront building in the heart of Edam, offering views of a historic shipyard. (Please note it is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays). https://fortuna-edam.nl/

Practical information

A Day Out in Edam starts at Edam Museum and ends at the Great Church. The guided tour in the morning is from 10:30am - 11:30am while that in the afternoon is from 1:30pm - 2:30pm. The costs comprise €100, for a guide at each location, plus the standard admission fee at Edam Museum (typically €8). Entry to the Great Church is free. Contact us at info@grotekerkedam.nl to find out more