

# TRIP TO THE NETHERLANDS

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**WINTER 2025**

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## **DAY 1 : MORNING IN AMSTERDAM**

*Written by Anaëlle and Anouk*

First, we arrived at 6.30am in Amsterdam. Then went on a walk to go have breakfast at McDonald to wait until 9am, which was the start of the visit of Microbial.

At the Micropia museum, before starting the visit, we put our things in lockers, then we went up in an interactive elevator.

So we arrived on the second floor, which, at first, was in the dark with jars that lit up.



Further on, on this floor, there were interactive animations and also a laboratory in which we could observe real scientists making yeast cultures.

On the floor below, it was viruses or other bacteria that were pathological that we could observe and understand.

After the museum, we walked to go to the train station, where we ate in a luxury restaurant.

# DAY 1 : AFTERNOON IN AMSTERDAM

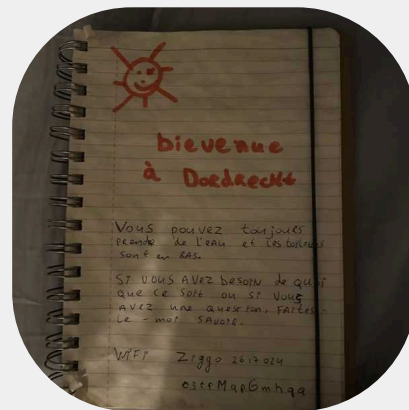
WRITTEN BY ELOANE AND CLÉMENCE

In the afternoon we visited the Rijksmuseum. The Rijksmuseum is the national museum of the Netherlands dedicated to Dutch arts and history. Our goal was to recreate the paintings, it was a very fun time.



We had to find famous works by Vincent Van Gogh, Rembrandt, and Van Rijn. And we saw the Milkmaid!!!!!! The museum was really big, there were lots of things to see. Also we had to find our highlights given by the teachers.

In the evening, we went to discover our family. It was for all a wonderful moment, we shared lots of funny times. Our host family took the time to write us a little word for us in French it was really kind of her.





## DAY 2 : MORNING IN AMSTERDAM

*Jules and Paul*



**Nemo Museum**

On the second morning, we went to the NEMO museum located in the city center of Amsterdam. The NEMO Science Museum is the largest science museum in the Netherlands. Inside, we took part in a wide range of experiments and activities on topics such as physics, chemistry, and biology. The various activities were spread over five floors and were suitable for children and adults alike.

There were lots of activities! For example, there was one where we had to hold a very cold bar for as long as possible. Another was to build a dam using orange plastic bricks to turn a turbine. And finally, there was a very funny activity for two: we had to stand face to face with a mirror cut into strips between us. We could see our faces mixed up with each other!



**Jaules (a mix between Jules and Paul)**

## DAY 2 : AFTERNOON IN KINDERDIJK

*Written by Nina and Alexandre*



On Tuesday afternoon we went cycling in Kinderdijk's windmills. When we arrived we had to wait to get the bikes because the owners had forgotten us. When we finally got the bikes, some of us had trouble understanding the mechanism for slowing down. Indeed bikes are special and you have to back-pedal to brake. At first it was so hard to slow down that one of our friends fell even if we hadn't started the ride yet.

Then we did a treasure hunt to learn more about the place and the story of the windmills and, because we were too good, we had to take the most beautiful picture of a bird to win. It was great fun to watch everyone lying down to get the best angle or chasing the birds. Moreover the weather was incredible and we had the chance to see the beautiful sunset. At the end we were all tired and our hair was a mess. The return was very silent (we were all sleeping) and I'll let you imagine the smell.



## DAY 3 : MORNING AT THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT - THE HAGUE

*Written by Enora Revereault and Jade Gazarian*



On the 3rd morning, we visited the International Criminal Court (ICC). Inside, a woman working at the ICC welcomed us. She explained the organization of the Criminal Court.

We could see where people like the judges were standing because we were sitting in the public area above the court. It's where people go if they want to attend a hearing.

Thanks to her presentation, we learnt about the different chambers which are "pre trial" ; "trial" ; "appeals" ; "reparation". These chambers accurately described the process the Court is following for each of the case and crime which could be :

- crimes against humanity
- genocide
- crimes of war
- crimes of aggression

The crimes needs to have happened in a country which signed the treaty of Rome in 1988. There are 120 countries part of this treaty.

We also had the opportunity to watch a video presenting the ICC, it sumed up what our guide had told us.



## DAY 3 : AFTERNOON AT THE ESCHER MUSEUM - THE HAGUE

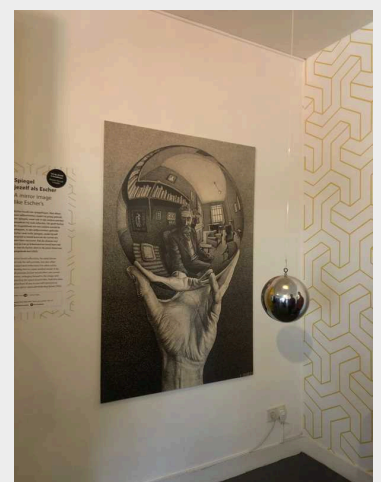
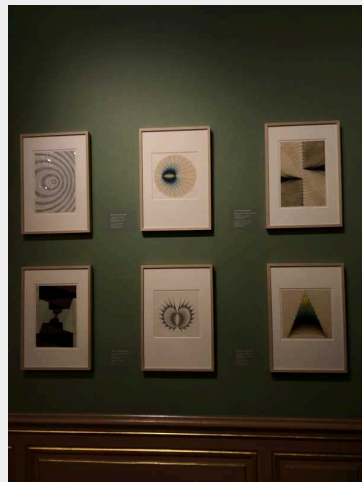
*Written by Shana and Maïa*



On Wednesday afternoon, we visited the Escher museum in The Hague.

It's an art museum about optical illusions, viewpoints, drawings that are impossible to made in 3D. We found it interesting because we don't see that kind of arts often. We enjoyed taking pictures or also trying to understand the process as the Pythagore three. We had some works to do like reproducing an art work or inventing one with the same process as Escher, it was quite hard.

## Examples of arts we saw...



self-portrait with a spherical mirror

The Paleis is a really nice place with lots to see, photos to take in the Escher room, etc. It was interesting to see this kind of art, we don't see it often and it makes us think about how it was created.



# DAY 4 : MORNING IN BRUSSELS

*Written by Enzo and Gwendal*

## 1-The European parliament

When we arrived In Brussels, we went to the European Parliament where we met an employee who explained the functioning of the European Parliament. Then we met another person, she was a European deputy who accepted to answer our questions. It was interesting and also funny when Mr. Fablet and the deputy did not agree on a topic.



## 2-Belgian food

At lunch some people ate their picnic given by their families and others decided to enjoy being in Brussels to buy chips as well as waffles which are traditionnal Belgian food.





## DAY 4 : AFTERNOON IN BRUSSELS

Charlie and Adrien

*After eating our lunch, we walked to the National Museum of Science. The teachers let us go in in the museum autonomously with the people we wanted to be with, so we could go see what we wanted and when we wanted it. There were some skeletons of dinosaurs and prehistoric creatures. We also saw a lot of stuffed animals which were very realistic.*



*After everyone finished visiting the museum, we gathered and we went to a big place which is called the "Big Place". On this place, there were the town hall of Brussels and the Brussels city museum. Once again, the teachers let us go walk in the city center. So if we wanted, we could buy some gifts for our family or eat some Brussels food. At the end of the afternoon, we all came together at the Big Place. The teachers showed us a famous spot called the "Manneken Pis". It's a fountain which looks like a little kid who is urinating. Finally, we walked a bit to reach the bus and begin the return trip.*

