

leeuwarden-friesland 2018

# European capital of culture

## PRESS

English



De mooiste verhalen in  
kleinschalige ontmoetingen



www.leeuweenfrans.nl







***Bisto der hast klear foar?***

**Are you almost ready for it?**

This document provides you with everything you'll need for your press visit to Leeuwarden-Friesland. Our job is to help you on your way, guide you through Leeuwarden and Friesland, and show you how to get to our press centre where a quick internet connection and free coffee will let you get to work straightaway. Press passes and wristbands will be available at the press reception desk in the Blokhuispoort on the day you arrive. Can't find something? Find it at [2018.nl/press](https://2018.nl/press) or ask one of us. We'll be glad to help. ♥

Table of Contents



Press Centre	5
Content available free of charge	6
Disclaimer	7
About LF2018	8
Programme	9
City walking tours	11
Accessibility	12
Overnight stays	13
Lunch, dinner, drinks	14

Tip: we've made a map in Google Maps so you will always know where you are and where you really have to be: [bit.do/ leeuwarden](https://bit.ly/leewarden). Also download the LF2018-app for Android and iOS in the [Google Play Store](#) and the [App Store](#).\*

\* Everything in [blue](#) is a hyperlink and digitally clickable.

## Press centre

**First things first:** your workplace (and that free coffee we mentioned). The press centre is located in the first courtyard of the former prison and now a Dutch national heritage site known as De Blokhuispoort.

This facility offers regional, national and international media a permanent place to work and a central location to conduct personal interviews with Frisian celebrities and other prominent people.



The press centre is open every workday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. These times will be adjusted, however, to accommodate special events. The entire press centre is located on a single floor and is easily accessible\*. ♥

[natasja@baasamsterdam.com](mailto:natasja@baasamsterdam.com)

De Blokhuispoort, first courtyard  
Blokhuisplein 40 8911 LJ Leeuwarden  
Opening hours, Monday-Friday:  
09.00 am – 5.00 pm

## Get in touch with our media team



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*\*Need more information about accessibility? We work closely with such agencies as Leeuwarden's Accessibility Work Group. Together, our goal is to provide an accessible programme. The hundreds of projects included in Leeuwarden-Friesland 2018 will be held in many different locations but some are not yet available to everyone. We want to offer you practical solutions that will improve accessibility for those with a hearing, visual, mental, physical or psychological limitation.*

# Content available free of charge

Leeuwarden-Friesland 2018 frequently commissions photographers, video makers and writers to report on the most interesting events, projects, etc. Still images, video material, texts, articles, bios and quotes that may be used free of charge are available at [2018.nl/press](http://2018.nl/press). This site also provides a great deal of information about what it means to be the European Capital of Culture, our logo, press releases and the annual magazine. The photographs and videos may be used free of charge on the condition that you provide the proper credits.

The maker's name is given in the last part of the document title. ♥

### Photographic and video material

Photographic and video material may be used free of charge and will become available as soon as possible after an event at [2018.format.com](http://2018.format.com).

### The 2018 magazine

The entire programme is listed in the [2018 magazine](#) at 2018.nl/press

### Questions?

If you have any questions, you will almost always find the answers in the [FAQ](#) at 2018.nl/press.

### Bidbook

How did we become a European Capital of Culture? Read our winning [bidbook](#).

### Press website

All press information is also available in digital form: [2018.nl/press](http://2018.nl/press)

*If you have a question that isn't answered here, we'll be pleased to give you the right information. Please contact:*



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that all of the content to be produced is shared with LF2018 for the purpose of using it as reference material and reporting. You will provide LF2018 with all the produced content in the form of: 1) links referring to all online communication including social media posts, blogs and/or reviews, and 2) copies (.pdf) of publications appearing in printed media. We ask everyone to refer in all of their communications to 2018.nl and to accompany all online communications with #LF2018. All visual material (photography and video) must be accredited to: LF2018 or Leeuwarden-Friesland 2018 with the name of the photographer if mentioned in the document title. For control purposes, LF2018 would like to see the draft texts of any interviews with anyone involved in LF2018 before they are published. The use of visual material and texts by M.C. Escher is permitted only on the condition that the Escher Foundation has agreed to this.

LF2018 retains the right to make changes in the information in this document without any prior notification. LF2018 accepts no liability for information communicated via external parties to which we have referred. ♥

# Disclaimer

This disclaimer indicates the conditions under which we are offering you information about LF2018 and how we are requesting that you deal with content related to LF2018:

external parties is permitted on the condition



# about #If2018

The programme for Leeuwarden-Friesland 2018 is the starting signal for a better world. It's a year when our meaningful cultural programme demonstrates how thousands of Frisians, together with other Europeans, will take charge of making their own place a better place. Our goal? A socially enriched and biodiverse world created by artists, farmers, scientists and people just like you. Our motto? Working together with people we know and don't yet know. Or, as we say in Friesland: working together as an open community, an *lepen Mienskip*. Leeuwarden-Friesland will show that change is possible if you dare to dream, do things and be different. Get inspired! Come to Friesland and get things done together with us.

## Interview requests and bios

Requests for interviews with key figures or others affiliated with Leeuwarden-Friesland 2018 can be made by contacting:



**Radboud Droog**

*Press Spokesperson (and interview requests)*

+31 (0)6 - 31963387

[radbouddroog@2018.nl](mailto:radbouddroog@2018.nl)

- or, if unavailable, with -



**Johannes Keekstra**

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[johanneskeekstra@2018.nl](mailto:johanneskeekstra@2018.nl)



**Tjeerd van Bekkum**

*CEO, General Press Information*

Van Bekkum has served as the CEO for the Foundation for Leeuwarden-Friesland European Capital of Culture 2018 since July 2017. He succeeded Lieven Bertels after recently leaving his position of Mayor of Smallerland (including the village of Drachten) in which he had served for almost five years. After completing his degree in business administration, he worked as a policy officer for the VVD party in Parliament and as a political advisor at the Public Works & Water Management Department. He first served as a mayor

from 2005 to 2012 in the Municipality of Marum (Province of Groningen), where he still resides. He then acquired administrative experience as an alderman for the municipality of Berkel en Rodenrijs.

Van Bekkum: *„By doing, daring and being different, thousands of Frisians have created an international and comprehensive programme. A programme that aims to cause a lasting movement, and by doing so, we would see the effects of art and culture for years to come. We proudly present ourselves to Europe on behalf of the Netherlands.“*



**John Bonnema**

*Financial Director*

Bonnema has been working in the public sector for more than 17 years as a registered accountant and a management consultant - mostly regarding issues associated with strategy, management and finances in almost all areas and sectors in municipal government ranging from land development to the social domain. In recent years, he has focused primarily on realising collaborations in the broadest sense of the word. His career has thus involved interactions among process, content and people at all levels (managerial, strategic, tactical and operational).

Bonnema: *„After years of intensive preparation with a very involved Frisian and national community, we are finally ready. A unique opportunity for Friesland to present and strengthen itself, in several ways, and with an eye towards the future.“*



**Oeds Westerhof** *Legacy*  
Director

Westerhof is a graduate of Dutch Language and Literature. After holding various PR and marketing positions in non-profit organisations, he sought a new challenge in the cultural sector. He has worked as a consultant and interim manager as the Director of Oerol, the Dutch Performing Arts Fund, theatres, centres for the arts, and libraries. He has supervised cultural institutions during mergers and change processes and served as the director for organisations such as LUX, which is a film theatre, theatre and debate centre. He has been affiliated with Leeuwarden-Friesland 2018 since 2012. Currently, his activities here focus on supporting social, economic, cultural and ecological areas (Legacy).

Westerhof: „For me, Leeuwarden-Friesland 2018 means working on a new future for Friesland.”



**Immie Jonkman**  
Programme Team, Spokesperson for the Regional Media

As project leader/manager, she is right at home in various areas such as marketing/communications, finances (budget control and fundraising) and supervising a project and its team. She has also acquired experience in various areas such as the cultural, political, business and creative environments. She worked as a journalist for five years at a regional broadcasting company (Omrop Friesland) and served as a project leader for such events as the Fries Straatfestival and, until present, the Slachte Marathon). Immie is a member of the executive board for the Koninklijke Vereniging De Friesche Elf Steden, which organises the famous eleven-city ice skating race, and the JeugdCultuurFonds Friesland.

Jonkman: „By being the Capital of Culture, we are creating a better future for our region. We're ready to roll up our sleeves and work with each other to create a better world with culture as the medium.”



**Sjoerd Bootsma**  
Programme Team, Spokesperson for the Dutch Media

Sjoerd Bootsma has been involved with Leeuwarden-Friesland 2018 since 2011, initially as a writer for both bid books and now as a programme developer in the artistic team. For him, the programme for the Cultural Capital is about who we want to be by the year 2030.

Sjoerd is also the artistic director for the festivals ‘Welcome to The Village’ and ‘Explore the North’ and initiated ‘Innofest’ and ‘Podium Asteriks’.

Bootsma: „For me, the Capital of Culture is a conversation with all Frisians and Europeans about who we are together in 2030. About how we live side by side, how we deal with our planet, how we can at times express our dreams a little more elaborately. Artists and cultural producers are stimulating the conversation by means of our projects.”



**Claudia Woolgar**  
Programme Team, Spokesperson for the International Media

She is an experienced producer, programmer and project manager in the arts. Holding various positions, Claudia acquired experience in central and eastern Europe as well as in Ireland and her homeland, England. She has been in charge of various festivals in Europe and did the international programming for Limerick City of Culture 2014. Claudia lives in turns in Leeuwarden and Rotterdam where she works as a freelance English teacher.

Woolgar: „2018 is an opportunity to enrich our lives - for us and for our children.” ♥



# PROGRAMMe

## Programme contents

The programme for LF2018 will set change in motion. 'Royal de Luxe', '11Fountains', and 'The Eighth Day' teach us that daring to have big dreams opens up opportunities that we couldn't have explored otherwise. 'King of the Meadow', 'Farm of the World' and 'Fossil-Free Friesland' show that it's possible to make our future sustainable if we aren't afraid to get started on it. And in 'Lân fan Taal' (Land of Language), 'Lost in the Greenhouse', and 'Strangers on Stage', we experience the value of diversity. Daring to be different is exactly what makes us stronger.

## Programme structure

Our programme is made up of 60 main programme elements and hundreds of smaller initiatives distributed over the entire province. We will start in January and end in November 2018. We will present a varied programme of theatre, music, dance, the visual arts, literature and film all year through. A première, a new exhibition, a festival or a unique international performance will be held practically every week. Leeuwarden's city centre will be the exciting festival site where almost half of all the projects will take place. The other half will be distributed among special locations in Friesland. The programme is being developed by thousands of people ranging from the sexton in the church in Reduzum to an internationally renowned artist, and from a volunteer traffic controller to the founder of the Oerol Festival. Everyone's getting involved. This is why we're working with civil society organisations, neighbourhood and village associations, healthcare institutions, and adult day care centres as well as businesses, entrepreneurs, art and culture centres, pop venues and educational institutions located both in Friesland and faraway places.

## European Capital of Culture

The European Capital of Culture is an international cultural project intended to call attention to the various cultures of Europe. The Capital of Culture is Europe's most ambitious event in the area of art and culture. It works like this: every year, two countries in the European Union hold a national election. An international jury then appoints one city in each of these countries to become a European Capital of Culture for one year. Leeuwarden is one of these two European cities for 2018, and we're pretty proud of this, too! But it's not just a Frisian festival; Leeuwarden-Friesland has been appointed the European Capital of Culture on behalf of the whole of the Netherlands.

## Figures

Programmes in the main programme: **60** Initiatives in the Open Community Programme:

### **1100 initiatives**

Of which this number are in the final phase: **400**

Of which this number are already listed online at

Friesland.nl: **90**

Distribution in Leeuwarden and elsewhere in Friesland: **50%** of the events will take place in Leeuwarden and the other **50%** in the Province of Friesland and elsewhere.

The entire programme is available at [2018.nl/press](https://2018.nl/press) ♥

## City walking tours

Do you have an hour to spare? If so, contact a guide who can show you the most beautiful places in Leeuwarden or Friesland, or follow a route that we have already programmed into [Google Maps](#) and go it alone on an adventure. But what if you want to get the real 'nitty gritty' on Friesland? At [Leen een Fries\\*](#) (Borrow a Frisian) you can get exactly that - free of charge.



#### [A Guide To Leeuwarden](#)

Weekly public Free Tours\* and private tours (NL, ENG, DE, SP).

+31 (0)6 15314728

*\*pay what you want*

#### [Historisch Centrum Leeuwarden](#)

Oldehove and Highlights-tour

Various languages possible

+31 (0)58 2332350

3,50 euro per person

#### [Leen een Fries \(Borrow a Frisian\)](#)

*Free of charge*

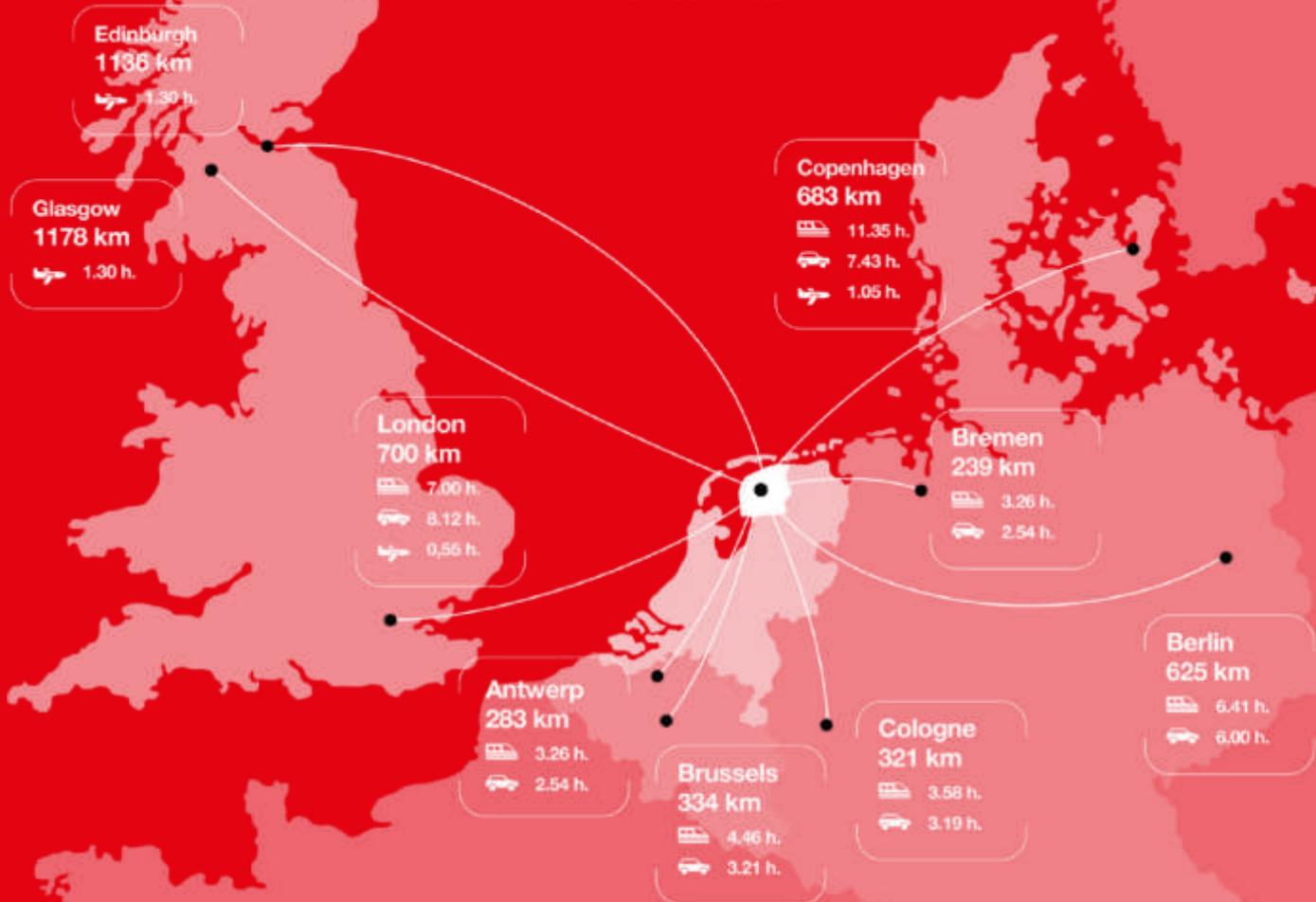
*\*'Borrow a Frisian' was initiated by the Frisian Libraries and is a platform for those who want to share their knowledge and those searching for knowledge: a good way to get acquainted. Everyone - both Frisians and non-Frisians - can share their personal knowledge and acquire experiences at [LeeneenFries.nl](http://LeeneenFries.nl). [LeeneenFries.nl](http://LeeneenFries.nl) brings together people who know and people who want to know without any money changing hands. Take good care of your Frisian. Someone else would like to borrow him or her after you!*

# World trip

## FRIESLAND STYLE

A trip through Leeuwarden-Friesland is like a trip around the world in miniature; here, everything is just around the corner. Friesland can be considered the Lake District of Amsterdam, or the back garden of the Netherlands.

Either way, it is the perfect place to relax and have a wonderful time. Since the end of 2017, it's been possible to get a direct flight from Brussels, Copenhagen, London and Munich to Groningen Airport Eelde. A trip by car from Amsterdam to Leeuwarden takes just an hour and 15 minutes.



# OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS

In Friesland, you have many choices for spending the night. Experience the luxury of the former home of Maria Louise van Hessen-Kassel – the mother of Willem IV van Oranje-Nassau – in Fletcher Hotel Paleis Stadhouderslijk Hof. Or sleep in a former prison - De Blokhuispoort - in the Alibi Hostel, around the corner at Post-Plaza (the former post office) or at the recently opened Boutique Hotel Catshuis. But if you'd like to experience real Frisian hospitality, spend a night in *Ābed en Brochje*, our much older version of Airbnb.

## Hotels in Leeuwarden

[Grand Hotel Post Plaza](#)

Leeuwarden centre

[Boutique Hotel Catshuis \(to open in March\)](#)

Leeuwarden centre

[WestCord WTC Hotel](#)

Leeuwarden centre

[Alibi Hostel](#)

Leeuwarden centre

## Bêd en Brochje

[De Olde Signorie](#)

Leeuwarden

['t Bûterhûs](#)

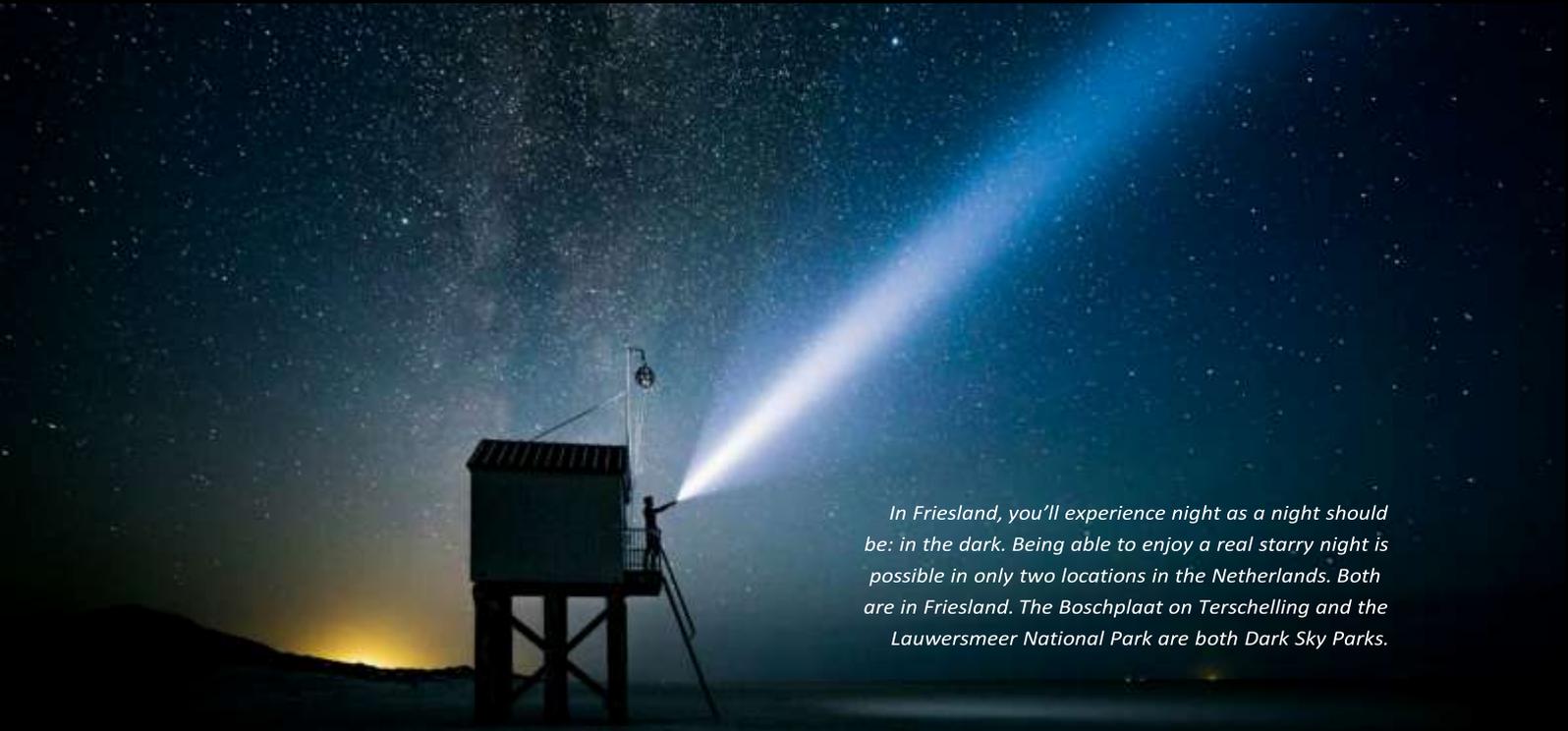
Balk

[Elfstedenstate](#)

Easterein

[The Black Horse](#)

Ureterp



*In Friesland, you'll experience night as a night should be: in the dark. Being able to enjoy a real starry night is possible in only two locations in the Netherlands. Both are in Friesland. The Boschplaat on Terschelling and the Lauwersmeer National Park are both Dark Sky Parks.*

# Breakfast, lunch, dinner

You can't get more Frisian than Frisian Beerenburg, delicious 'sugar bread' and those unique Frisian dúmkes. But Friesland has more to offer in the way of culinary delights. Immerse yourself in fancy restaurants, organic hotspots and innovative cafés.



## **Fancy**

[Restaurant Élevé](#)  
[Restaurant SEMS](#)  
[Grand Café Post Plaza](#)

## **Sustainable**

[Restaurant Eindeloo](#)  
[Lunchroom Broodje Bewust](#)

## **Hip & happening/new**

[Restaurant ROAST](#)  
[Restaurant Proefverlof](#)  
[Grand Café Z](#)  
[Café Stek](#)  
[Laura & de Chef](#)

## **Good but low budget/accessible**

[Pizzeria Burgemeester van Napels](#)  
[Grand Café De Walrus](#)  
[City Lounge Fellini Café](#)  
[Thús](#)

## **Tip: wine bar**

[Sjoddy Wine and Dining Room](#)





The programme developed for LF2018 has not only been created to generate visitors and international attention: it will also provide the Frisian business community with new opportunities. It's thanks to them that the European Capital of Culture 2018 can take place. Our three main sponsors (ING, LOF and Arriva) and all the other business partners are listed below. The SMEs of Friesland have united in Club2018: [2018.nl/club2018](http://2018.nl/club2018)

**2018.NL/PRESS**

Presenting Partners



Business Partners



Initiators

