

# POINTS OF INTEREST De Biesbosch

POINTS OF INTEREST DURING  
YOUR VISIT TO  
DE BIESBOSCH NATIONAL PARK



**Nationaal Park  
De Biesbosch**

## 1. Walk or bike ride to viewpoint Noordwaard

Coordinates: N51.78549, 4.781250



**The Noordwaard** is a huge wetland. It was recently made as a nature development and water management project to prevent nearby cities from flooding. The project ended in 2015. Part of the Noordwaard consists of mudflats, which, when flooded, form huge water basins. Vegetation is kept short by Scottish Highland cows, Konik horses and water buffaloes. There is also farmland which floods occasionally. The most interesting part of the Noordwaard is near Biesbosch Museumeiland (see 4), where the landscape is more varied with higher vegetation.

In summer the mudflats attract lots of waders (e.g. Spoonbill, Avocet, and Black-tailed godwit which is Holland's national bird). In winter there are thousands of geese (mainly White fronted and Barnacle), ducks (Teal, Garganey, Gadwall, Wigeon) and hundreds of Great egrets.

The tall poplars around the mudflats are good resting places for White tailed eagle (*Haliaeetus albicilla*) and Osprey.

Willow bushes and reedbeds are interesting for amazing numbers of Bluethroat and Cetti's warbler and lots of other birds.

There are several observation points, but bird watching is perfect even from the dikes end cycle paths along the road.

Other birds: Peregrine Falcon, Northern Goshawk, Marsh harrier, Common snipe, Dunlin, Black-tailed godwit, Cetti's warbler, Common kingfisher, Bearded Tit, Great Bittern.

How to get there: From Dordrecht Central station take busline 620 to Werkendam. The bus crosses the Nieuwe Merwede river by ferry. Get off at the other side of the river. From there you can start your hike. The map shows possibilities to walk and cycle up to 17 km through the wetlands of the Noordwaard.

Or instead you can hire a bike from the station and follow the red-white bike signs to Werkendam. Cross the river ferry. Welcome to the heart of the Biesbosch!

Where to stay: There is a hotel at 1 km from the ferry: [www.brabantsebiesbosch.nl](http://www.brabantsebiesbosch.nl), (coordinates: 51.778099, 4.761831) and a small campsite with a marvelous view on the wetlands 1 km from the ferry: [www.biesboschvakantie.nl](http://www.biesboschvakantie.nl) (coordinates: 51.778099, 4.761831).

## 2. Walk to Tongplaat Hide

(Coordinates: 51.751699, 4.719059)



**The Tongplaat** used to be farmland. It became a tidal wetland in 2012 and now it is a paradise for birds. One of the White tailed Eagle couples in the Biesbosch has their nest nearby, so you have a chance to see them here throughout the year. In summer foraging Spoonbills and lots of other waders. In Winter geese and ducks. During migration Osprey and a chance for rare waders. Peregrine Falcon, Northern Pintail, Northern Goshawk, Bluethroat, Great egret , Cetti's warbler, Common kingfisher, Bearded Tit.

How to get there: From Dordrecht Central station hire a bike from the station and follow cycle route 48 – 47 – 46 – 75 – 42. Or take bus 5 to Sterrenburg and get off at Slangenburg. From there it is a 2 km walk.

### 3. Boat trip to Zuiderklip Observatory Tower (Coordinates: 51.116605, 4.416964)



**Zuiderklip Observatory Tower** is situated in the heart of the Biesbosch. You can reach it by boat or canoe, or on a (boat) excursion from the visitor centre in Drimmelen. From the mooring place Zuiderklip you can hike over the dike of the wetland. Spoonbills and other waders in summer, fouraging geese in winter, good place for Osprey during migration.

Address visitor centre: Biesboschcentrum Drimmelen, Biesboschweg 4, 4924 BB Drimmelen, T +31 (0) 162 6882233, E [info@staatsbosbeheer.nl](mailto:info@staatsbosbeheer.nl) (coordinates: 51.709614, 4.810793).

Boat hire: In Drimmelen there are several companies to hire boats. Take a look at the national park website: <http://np-debiesbosch.nl/wat-vind-je-waar/verhuur/>

Electric boats for hire from [www.diepstraten-botenverhuur.nl](http://www.diepstraten-botenverhuur.nl). When you hire a boat you get a map so you know where to go.

How to get there: Drimmelen is difficult to reach by public transport. It is best reached by car from motorway A59, exit made then follow Biesbosch signs.

#### 4. Biesbosch MuseumEiland (Coordinates: 51.765206, 4.771528)



**Biesbosch MuseumEiland** is an extraordinary piece of landscape in the heart of the Biesbosch. It is a visitor centre and museum in one building. The museum is about the role of man in shaping the Biesbosch. You learn about reed cutters, willow workers, farmers, about brave men who smuggled people and goods through the Biesbosch in World war II, and about recent water management which created a paradise for wetland birds. In the museum is a restaurant for lunch and coffee. You can also make a boat trip from the museum.

Address:

Biesbosch MuseumEiland  
Hilweg 2  
4251 MT Werkendam  
T: + 31 (0)183 - 50 40 09  
E: [info@biesboschmuseumeiland.nl](mailto:info@biesboschmuseumeiland.nl)

How to get there: From Dordrecht Central station take busline 620 to Werkendam. The bus crosses the Nieuwe Merwede river by ferry. Get off at the other side of the river. From there you can start your hike (3 km) through the wetlands of the Noordwaard to Biesbosch MuseumEiland. Just follow the signs. Perfect bird watching from the road for White tailed eagle, Osprey, Waders and Ducks.

Or instead you can hire a bike from the station and follow the red-white bike signs to Werkendam. Cross the river ferry. Welcome to the heart of the Biesbosch!

Opening Times Biesbosch MuseumEiland

January to March and November to December: :

Tuesday to Friday 10.00 - 17.00 hrs

Saturday to Sunday 11.00 - 17.00 hrs

Closed on Mondays

April to October

Monday 13.00 - 17.00 hrs

Tuesday to Friday 10.00 - 17.00 hrs

Saturday to Sunday 11.00 - 17.00 hrs

For more information: [www.biesboschmuseumeiland.nl](http://www.biesboschmuseumeiland.nl)

## 5. Canoe trip in small creeks (coordinates: 51.808679, 4.750672)



Around **Biesboschcentrum Dordrecht** in the North of the Biesbosch the tidal difference is about 80 cm twice a day. It is amazing to experience this by canoeing in the vicinity of the visitor centre for a couple of hours. You see the creeks change from mudflats to mangrove like jungle and back.

It is a great way to go look for beaver tracks and lodges. There are excursions with experienced guides from the centre too, walking, canoeing and by electric boats. More information at the visitor centre: [www.biesboschcentrumdordrecht.nl](http://www.biesboschcentrumdordrecht.nl).

Address of the visitor centre: Biesboschcentrum Dordrecht  
Baanhoekweg 53  
3313 LP Dordrecht  
T. 078 770 53 53  
E [info.biesbosch@dordrecht.nl](mailto:info.biesbosch@dordrecht.nl)

### Opening times:

April to October, Tuesday to Sunday 9.00-17.00 hrs

November to March, Tuesday to Sunday 10.00-16.00 hrs

Boat/canoe hire April to October.



How to get there: From Dordrecht Central station take bus 10 to the waterbus stop. Get on board the waterbus to Sliedrecht and get off Hollandse Biesbosch. From there it is 800 m to the visitor centre.

You can also hire a bike at the station and cycle to the visitor centre following the signs numbered 87 – 84 – 83 – 80. Or alternatively cycle to the waterbus in Dordrecht (87) and take your bike on board.

Where to stay: Stayokay Hostel\_Dordrecht is 800 m from the visitor centre at the very edge of the national park. It has a campsite on the waterfront. [www.stayokay.com/dordrecht](http://www.stayokay.com/dordrecht)

Baanhoekweg 25  
3313 LA Dordrecht  
T +31 (0)78 621 21 67  
E [dordrecht@stayokay.com](mailto:dordrecht@stayokay.com)