

Travel Scheme Europe + Heritage Programme 2025-2028

Introduction

Collaboration begins with getting to know each other. Would you like to connect with a heritage partner in Europe? Then you may be eligible to apply for the Travel Scheme within the Europe + Heritage Programme 2025-2028. This scheme is open to heritage professionals from the Kingdom of the Netherlands who wish to visit a European partner or invite a European partner to the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

The scheme is supported by the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science.

Objectives

Applications will be assessed based on the objectives of the Travel Scheme:

- A. Networking and knowledge exchange: the extent to which new contacts are established and knowledge is exchanged between the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the European heritage sector.
- B. Knowledge sharing: the dissemination of exchanged knowledge with others.
- C. Sustainability: ensuring that your journey is as sustainable as possible and provides added value compared to a digital meeting.
- D. Impact: the substantive added value of the trip, its importance for your career or project, and the potential for long-term durable collaborations and relationships. The scheme cannot be used for visits without a clear purpose or expected outcome relevant to the work of the heritage institution or professional concerned.
- E. Network strengthening: expanding your European network, for example, by attending a conference, symposium, or event. There must be a clear vision or idea for participation and its expected benefits. This also applies to incoming visits.

Who is eligible to apply?

Applicants must be based in the Kingdom of the Netherlands (the Netherlands, Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba, Sint Eustatius, and Sint Maarten) and be either:

- heritage professionals: individuals working in or with heritage at a professional level or receiving payment for such work;
- or heritage institutions: organisations primarily engaged in heritage-related activities.

The scheme is specifically intended for heritage professionals and institutions. Heritage institutions are free to decide which of their staff members will make the journey concerned. They can be both paid and unpaid staff members, such as volunteers.

The scheme is also open to heritage professionals and institutions based in the Kingdom of the Netherlands who wish to invite European heritage professionals to visit the Kingdom of the Netherlands. For example, to attend a meeting, speak at an event, or participate in a knowledge exchange. In such cases, the application must be submitted by the person or institution based in the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Civil servants at local, regional, and national government levels are not eligible to apply.

Where can you travel to/ invite someone from?

You may travel to or invite a heritage professional from Europe. 'Europe' refers to the member states of the European Union (EU) or the European Economic Area (EEA), EU candidate countries, the United Kingdom, and Switzerland.

Eligible countries for collaboration are:

- Albania
- Austria
- Croatia
- Czech Republic
- Belgium
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Bulgaria
- Cyprus
- Denmark (including the Faroe Islands and Greenland)
- Estonia
- Finland
- France (including French Guiana, French Polynesia, the French Southern and Antarctic Lands, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Mayotte, New Caledonia, Réunion, and Saint-Barthélemy, Saint-Martin, Saint-Pierre and Miquelon, Wallis and Futuna)
- Germany
- Georgia
- Greece
- Hungary
- Iceland
- Ireland
- Italy
- Latvia
- Liechtenstein
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Moldova
- Montenegro
- North Macedonia
- Norway

- Poland
- Portugal (including the Azores and Madeira)
- Ukraine
- Romania
- Serbia
- Slovenia
- Slovakia
- Spain (including the Balearic Islands and the Canary Islands)
- Turkey
- United Kingdom
- Sweden
- Switzerland

What expenses are covered?

The Travel Scheme is intended to cover travel (return trip) and sustenance expenses.

The applicant is responsible for any additional costs, such as insurance, other travel and accommodation expenses, and domestic travel costs.

The amount of the Travel Scheme depends on the travel distance and the chosen means of transport. The distance of your journey is calculated in bee line from the traveller's place of residence to the destination, based on a one-way trip in kilometres. A free online [Distance Calculator](#) can be used for this calculation.

For travellers based in the Netherlands, the following amounts apply:

- **Journeys of 0-600 km one-way without flying: €350**
- **Journeys of 600-2000 km one-way without flying: €1000**
- **Journeys of 600-2000 km one-way with flying: €350**
- **Journeys of more than 2000 km one-way: €1000**

For applicants based in the Caribbean part of the Kingdom, the following amounts apply:

- **Journeys of 0-600 km one-way without flying: €350**
- **Journeys of 0-600 km one-way with flying (only if no alternative means of transport is available): €700**
- **Journeys of 600-2000 km one-way without flying: €1000**
- **Journeys of 600-2000 km one-way with flying: €700**
- **Journeys of more than 2000 km one-way: €1000**

If one leg of the journey (outbound or return) is made by airplane, the trip is considered a flight journey, even if the other leg is made using another means of transport.

Sustainability and means of transport

Sustainability is an important aspect of the Travel Scheme.

Journeys under 600 km one-way must be made using a means of transport other than airplane, except in the following cases:

- the applicant has a disability that affects their ability to travel by alternative means;
- the applicant is travelling from or to an island that can only be reached by air.

Applicants are encouraged to use alternative means of transport for longer journeys, avoid unnecessary travel, and conduct as much activity online as possible.

What is the scheme not intended for?

The scheme is not open to disciplines other than heritage.

Travel between the Netherlands and the Caribbean part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands does not qualify as international collaboration and is not eligible for the scheme.

The scheme cannot be used for:

- visits without a clear objective or expected outcome;
- research projects where the results are not shared with a wider audience;
- airplane journeys under 600 km if none of the exemption conditions apply.

Application

Applicants must complete the [Travel Scheme application form](#) on the DutchCulture website.

Applications can be submitted on an ongoing basis until the available funds are exhausted.

Applications must be submitted no later than four weeks before departure.

A heritage institution or professional may submit a maximum of two applications per calendar year under the Travel Scheme of the Europe + Heritage Programme 2025-2028. A maximum of two people per institution may travel together with support from the Travel Scheme.

Procedure

Applications are assessed internally by DutchCulture. Applicants will be notified of the outcome in writing within three weeks (15 working days).

If the application is approved, 100% of the awarded amount will be paid out. After the trip, applicants will be asked to complete an evaluation report.

DutchCulture reserves the right to reject an application. The decision is final and cannot be appealed.