

## Giethoorn

The Netherlands is not only famous for its colourful tulips, picturesque windmills, and flat landscape, but also for the adorable village of Giethoorn. The settlement is more than 700 years old and is quiet, peaceful, and poetic. Perhaps most notable, it is also completely free of cars and dust.

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The village was built around 1230 by people from southern Europe. While working in a field, they discovered many goat horns buried in the ground, believed to be a consequence of a great flood in 1170. The village was therefore named "Geytenhoren", meaning "the excavation of the goat horn", later shortened to the name it holds today.

[youtube.com/EnglishTreasure](https://youtube.com/EnglishTreasure)

Giethoorn is now in a nature reserve, 120km from Amsterdam. The idyllic town has no roads, but is surrounded on all sides by canals over which span delicate wooden bridges. All cars must be left outside, and only bicycles are permitted. The houses have thatched roofs and are surrounded by water, just like an island. The only way to enter the village in summer is on small boats or walking across the bridges, but in winter, it becomes truly magical as the canals around Giethoorn completely freeze.

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Where is Giethoorn?

[youtube.com/EnglishTreasure](https://youtube.com/EnglishTreasure)

What is special about the village?

In winter, how can you get to the village?