

PLEASURE

Check into a state-of-the-art roadside inn 15 minutes from Amsterdam

In a fishing village outside Amsterdam, Hotel De Durgerdam opened earlier this year in a newly renovated 17th-century inn. It is beautiful, peaceful and almost homely



The interior design is by the design agency Buro Belén based on the history of the inn and the region, including the different colors that belong to the local crafts. PR photo

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Where are we?

We are only a quarter of an hour's drive from the center of Amsterdam, but it feels like we have driven an hour out into the countryside. Durgerdam is the name of the 600-year-old fishing village founded on the dyke, and hence the hotel's name De Durgerdam. It is set up in an inn from 1664 and has just been completely renovated by the property company Aedes, which also has Soho House Amsterdam and The Hoxton Amsterdam in its back catalogue.

FACTS

HOTEL DE DURGERDAM

FOLD OUT ^

Hotel De Durgerdam , Durgerdammerdijk 73, Amsterdam, dedurgerdam.com.

The price per night starts at DKK 2275 without breakfast. The hotel has 11 rooms, three suites, restaurant, wine cellar, living room and jetty.

Børsen was invited by Aedes/De Durgerdam, who paid for the stay, but had no influence on the content of the article.

Why should you live here?

The village of Durgerdam, made up of lots of small, colorful houses, was not a smart place until just ten years ago. Now house prices have exploded, without the atmosphere yet being spoiled by the hype, and De Durgerdam combines the idyll of a fishing lodge with the excellence of a boutique hotel. Restaurant De Mark on the ground floor was developed by two Michelin chefs with a focus on seasonal ingredients, and let me put it this way: We didn't skimp on inch-thick asparagus.

Who are the others?

As a guest, it feels like being on a weekend with some family when we look out from the room towards the green fields and down to an elderly neighbor reading behind the lace curtain. De Mark on the ground floor, where there have been celebrations for around 500 years, attracts both locals and people from the center from morning until midnight. In the summer, Durgerdam is a favorite bathing spot for many Dutch people, and as a hotel guest you have the easiest access to the bathing bridge in your thick hotel bathrobe.

how is the room

The old main house has three soulful rooms on the first floor and a suite under the gable on the second floor, which is also equipped with a wood-burning stove and lake view. The atmosphere can be briefly described as: Rembrandt meets modern inn with a color scheme of, among other things, ochre, withered green and warm mocha on both walls, woodwork and textiles. All the works on the walls are original, and by the armchair is a spice schnapps, brewed by one of the neighbors, using local herbs. It's hard to find anything to complain about.



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What about the bathroom?

The bathrooms keep the same finished style as the rest of the house, with handmade tiles from floor to ceiling and Zenology products. However, there is only a bathtub in the second-floor suite, so the rest of the rooms have to make do with a rainfall shower.

What should you choose from the minibar?

The minibar is a large bar cabinet, which is in the living room in the basement, which has full bookshelves, soft sofas, a wood-burning stove and thus a carpenter-built bar cabinet. It works according to a principle of trust, where you note down on your own account what you drink.

What should you try here?

Try one of the hotel's electric bikes, if possible. with the guide from ridewithmeworld.com, and take a liberating hill-less tour in a few hours like the local exercisers. Past grazing cows, historic villages and the raw waterfront with eateries, before Durgerdam appears again. Note: Bicycle helmets are not *in vogue* in the Netherlands.



The best tables in restaurant De Mark have a view of both the lake, the jetty and the small road. PR photo

Where do you go if you leave the hotel?

I could have easily hung out without leaving the address, but luckily we went to Vuurtoreneiland (vuurtoreneiland.nl) one evening and had dinner. Today, the island is Unesco World Heritage, and you book a whole evening that starts with aperitifs and snacks on a wooden boat from the center of Amsterdam, dinner prepared on an open fire in the island's 19th-century fort, and a return trip with dessert on the same boat. Huge experience.

What are you taking home?

From the nearby Irma-like supermarket Landmarkt, we filled up the suitcase with goat's cheese, cinnamon sweets, syrup waffles and the colored sugar crumbs that the Dutch eat as cold cuts.