Interesting facts about The Netherlands / Dutch people few people know

We know that it's the home of tulips, that it has an interesting-sounding language, that it's low-lying compared to sea level, but there's a lot more to discover.

Here are a few interesting facts about the Netherlands and its people that you may not know:

The Netherlands is the world's second largest exporter of agricultural products, behind only the United States. This is quite impressive considering the country's small size and population.

The Dutch are known for their love of cycling, with over 18 million bicycles in the country. In fact, there are more bikes than people in the Netherlands.

The Netherlands is home to the world's first stock exchange, the Amsterdam Stock Exchange, which was established in 1602.

The Dutch are known for their love of cheese, with over 600 different varieties produced in the country. Gouda and Edam are two of the most well-known Dutch cheeses.

The Netherlands is also home to the world's first public museum, the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam. The museum was founded in 1800 and is home to a collection of over 8,000 paintings and other works of art.

The Dutch people are the tallest in the world, with an average height of around 6 feet for men and 5 feet 7 inches for women.

The Netherlands is famous for their windmills and there are still around 1,000 windmills in the country, mostly used for drainage and irrigation.

The Dutch language is not just spoken in the Netherlands, but also in Flanders (northern Belgium) and Suriname, a former Dutch colony in South America.

The Dutch have a strong tradition of flat-sharing, as housing is quite expensive in the Netherlands, it's common for people to live with multiple roommates to split the cost of rent.

The Dutch have a strong tradition of 'gezelligheid' which is the sense of coziness, warmth and friendliness, this is why you'll find people sitting outside in cafes, even when it's cold and windy.