

Once a stronghold of Calvinist separatists who arrived here from the Netherlands in the mid-19th century, the town of Holland continues to celebrate its Dutch heritage. To go Dutch for the day, start off with a breakfast of flaky, almond paste-filled *bankets* (\$1.75) and house-roasted coffee at deBoer Bakkerij (360 Douglas Ave, 616-396-2253, [deboerbakery.com](http://deboerbakery.com)). Afterward, head across town to Veldheer Tulip Gardens (12755 Quincy St, 616-399-1900, [veldheer.com](http://veldheer.com); garden admission \$10), where 5 million of the eponymous flowers explode into bloom each spring. Even if the tulips' fleeting season has passed, you can while away a pleasant spell here watching artisans turn out traditional Dutch crafts like Delft pottery and hand-carved wooden clogs at the on-site De Klomp Wooden Shoe Factory (*free*).

When hunger strikes, make your way downtown for lunch and a beer at New Holland (66 E 8th St, [newhollandbrew.com](http://newhollandbrew.com)), one of the Midwest's best-loved brewpubs. (Not sure what to sip on? Look for limited-release variations on brewery fave Dragon's Milk, a bourbon barrel-aged stout, featuring quirky ingredients like maple coffee and peanut butter.) Make a dent in the calorie count with a leisurely stroll around Windmill Island Gardens (1 Lincoln Ave, 616-355-1030, [cityofholland.com/windmillislandgardens](http://cityofholland.com/windmillislandgardens), \$9), a picturesque park centered around a 250-year-old Dutch windmill purchased by Holland residents in the 1960s.



