

### **The ‘Bolstienpleats’**

On the edge of the small village of Aalsum nearby Dokkum, the northernmost city of the Netherlands, the monumental farm of the Terpstra family dominates the countryside. The ‘pronkkamer’, today the main living room still contains its beamed ceiling, originally painted closet doors and a mantelpiece with gilded ornaments. The garden is authentic as well and was designed by Lucas Roodbaard, a famous nineteenth century garden architect who laid out many English landscape gardens in the region.

The farm is still fully operational. The farm house is surrounded by old elm, lime and chestnut trees. From the terrace one has a wonderful view at the surrounding countryside that invite a stroll. This can be done on foot, by bike or even on horseback. The farm is located at the Metslawiersterweg, about 2.5 km (ca. 1.5 miles) from Dokkum in the direction of Wetzens/Niawier.

### **The area**

Dokkum is an historic city with museums, the Frisian Admiralty building, many beautifully restored houses, cosy little streets and impressive bulwarks. It is also the last stop before the final stage of the famous Eleven City skating tour. The entire town centre with its authentic street pattern and many shops and boutiques will guarantee a wonderful walk. Dokkum will take you back to old times.

The museum ‘t Fiskershuske’ in the village of Peasens-Moddergat at about 15 km (ca. 9 miles) from the Terpstra farm gives an interesting view at the harsh life of the fishermen who used to be dependent on what the sea was willing to give, and sometimes was able to take. The coastal villages at the Wadden Sea are still largely authentic. The Lauwersmeer area with its beaches and nature reserves can be found at a distance of about 15 km. There are numerous ways to enjoy the natural splendour. A day trip to the Frisian islands of Schiermonnikoog and Ameland can be recommended.

### **The ancient Frisian culture**

In Wetzens and Hantumhuizen thirteenth century churches can be visited. Get acquainted with the old Frisian culture of this era that is regarded to be one of the most advanced in Europe at the time. Coins were minted and the Frisian nobility played an important role in the Crusades and the governance of the Dutch and German Roman Catholic Church. Today there is much interest in Friesland’s former days and many fascinating archeological finds are made.

### **The Pronkkamer lodging**

Guests enter the Terpstra farm at the spacious hallway and have a large bedroom at their disposal. Rooms have a small sitting area and a coffee maker. The toilet facilities are a shower and a bath. Breakfast is served in the morning in the ‘pronkkamer’ with a view of the countryside. There are possibilities to fish, horseback riding, cycling (Eleven Cities route) and swimming (Dokkum has a heated swimming pool and Lauwersoog has beaches).

De Bolstienpleats

Family M. Terpstra

Dokkumerweg 2

9121 CD Aalsum

Tel: +31-(0)519-292648

Fax: +31-(0)519-222734

E-mail: [info@debolstienpleats.nl](mailto:info@debolstienpleats.nl)