

## Safe mudflat hiking

"Safe, responsible and fun mudflat hiking" is the mission of the Association 'de Vrije Wadlopers' (Chamber of Commerce Northern Netherlands 01162455). This mission is translated below into concrete behavior for both the voluntary guides of the association and the participants in our mudflat hiking tour. Together, these elaborations form the 'general conditions' under which the association carries out its activities.

		<b>What to expect from us?</b>	<b>What do we expect from you?</b>
<b>General</b>	1	As an A-license holder for mudflat guided tour, the association organizes mudflat tour with participants and adheres to the conditions of the 'Wadloop regulations (1996)', the 'A-license', the 'Final requirements for guides' and the 'code of conduct for mudflat hiking'.	Participants follow instructions from guides to enable the safe and responsible execution of mudflat hiking activities, as mentioned in the regulation and permit. Failure to comply with or follow these conditions means exclusion from participation.
	1a		Participants take note of the fact that participation in a mudflat hiking tour is entirely at one's own risk. By participating in a tour, you agree to these terms and conditions, which are hereby made known to you. By participating in a tour you agree that the liability of the association and its guides is excluded on the basis of the provisions of article 6: 162 of the Dutch Civil Code.
<b>Safety</b>	1b	Guides are jointly responsible for the safe exercise of a mudflat hiking tour. Through training and experience, they have sufficient theoretical and practical knowledge and skills. Guides have been authorized by the association to take such measures before or during a tour deemed necessary by them, taking into account the safety of the participants.	Participants will take all relevant safety measures based on the instructions of the guides, for example by taking note of the general information on our website, in the program and the terms and conditions. During the tour, instructions are followed.
	1c	Guides maintain their knowledge, expertise and experience of the Wadden area by training, multiple (practice) exercises and mudflat hiking.	
	1d	Guides have professional and adequate mudflat equipment (which meets at least the legal requirements).	Participants have good mudflat equipment (see our website), sufficient food and drinks during the tour.
	1e	Guides show active and passive safety in their behaviour during mudflat hiking; each group is accompanied by at least 2 guides. There is no waiting for 'latecomers'. The low water does not wait!	Participants ensure that they are present with their own transport at the indicated location and take note of the 'briefing' with regard to the execution of the mudflat hiking tour.
	1f	Guides have and maintain a good physical and mental condition for mudflat hiking.	Participants have sufficient physical and mental condition to be able to deliver an expected physical and mental effort within a set period of time. Participants, who have doubts about their physical and / or mental condition, ask for advice on this issue at their own initiative with the head-guide. In case of physical and / or mental problems during the tour, inform the guide as soon as possible.

	1g	Prior to a tour, guides will act if participants have not met the set requirements. A guide is, as an authorized representative of the association, authorized to exclude participants from participation in mudflat hiking.	
	1h	Guides guide participants back to the dike, if during the mudflat walk it appears that the set conditions are not met and / or that the physical and / or mental condition in the opinion of the guide is insufficient to successfully complete the tour.	
	1j	The association will cancel a tour if the safety of the participants is / might be at stake (thunderstorm, dense fog, cold wind or a combination thereof). The association tries to do this as soon as possible. In special situations, a tour can even be cancelled at the last minute. Sometimes it is possible to offer an alternative in mutual consultation.	Participants realize that mudflat walking is dependent on the conditions in nature and therefore informs the evening before a tour on its final passage. They contact the telephone number provided to them. If possible, you agree with an alternative safe offer.
	1k	Only when cancelling a mudflat hiking tour, the amount paid by the association will be refunded. There will be no compensation provided for possible costs incurred by participants	Participants get their subscription reimbursed through the bank number of which the payments were received. They take care of any group payment.
<b>Responsible</b>	2	Guides respect the Wadden Sea and adhere to the related laws and regulations.	Participants enter the Wadden area with respect. Any behaviour that leads to disruption and / or damage is prevented. In concrete terms, this is reflected in: - Participants do not swarm; - Pets should be left at home because of possible disruption; - Waste is taken away and disposed correctly at the island / mainland; - Plants are not picked / chipped; - Birds and seals are not disturbed.
	2a	Guides respect the fact that third parties -by being engaged economically- (can) be dependent on those activities.	When engaging third parties (for example skippers), participants pay directly when booking. Only after payment of participants, the association contacts third parties.
	2b	If you do not participate in a tour, no refund will take place.	Cancellation of a tour involving organization of a boat / skipper is not possible.
<b>Pleasure</b>	1	The association provides timely and clear information about the tour, allowing participants to make an assessment on their participation.	Participants take note of the available information from the association and assess whether they can participate successfully at the activities. Attendees ensure clear registration and timely payment, well in advance of the mudflat hiking tour.
	a	Guides are hosts on behalf of the association, acting in a sphere of hospitality.	