

## Zuiderpark June 2023

Having checked with Zuiderpark pr that there were no known cancellations scheduled we booked our flights in April.

We flew from Southampton on the 9.40am flight arriving in Amsterdam Schiphol an hour later about midday their time with just our small rucksacks, so no baggage collection needed.

We then caught a train direct to Amsterdam Centraal having bought tickets at a very easy to use machine at the airport – about 20 mins to get to Amsterdam.

We had a few hours in Amsterdam and opted to do a bus tour (hop on hop off) after a bit of lunch. If you do the tour starting after 2pm it is nearly half price. We opted to stay on the bus for the hour and a quarter or so – they give you headphone to plug in and you get a good English commentary.

We then had a bit of a walk round for an hour or so before catching a train to Den Haag Centraal where we had decided to book our hotel as it was closer to Zuiderpark. There are no direct trains from Amsterdam to Den Haag on Friday afternoon so we had to change at Leiden. These two-tier trains do get a bit busy. It took a couple of conversations to work out which train out of Amsterdam we needed but people are very helpful and have excellent English.

We stayed at the Moxy Hotel which we booked a few days after our flights which was about 600m from the station – South side, straight down an avenue. The Moxy was very comfortable, but breakfast not included. If you opt to add breakfast this was quite steep at about £12 – it's a buffet but you can't really exploit this before the run.

We caught the 7.45am No. 9 tram to Zuiderpark. It stops right by the entrance after about 15 mins and 7 or so stops – the trams are very clean and efficient. The No. 9 runs every 15 mins so you could potentially opt for the next one or one after that.

The Moxy has a standard 12 noon checkout so we had plenty of time for a post-run coffee at Zuiderpark, catch No. 9 tram back and have a shower before checking out.

Don't forget tourist tax at about £5 per night per person gets added.

After a visit to the Escher exhibition and a bit of lunch we set off for the station to catch a direct train to Schiphol and our 4.40pm flight.

Happy Days, Prost !