

### **Dutch Language Classes and Courses**

There is a small group of native Dutch people that teach Dutch in an informal but effective manner. There is also The Berlitz Language Center in Bellevue which occasionally offers Dutch Classes in Bellevue or Seattle. Berlitz Language Center, <http://www.berlitz.us/>, 520 112th Ave. NE Suite 150, Bellevue, WA 98004, Phone 425.451.0162, Fax 425.451.1224. Another source may be the Bellevue Community College, <http://conted.bcc.ctc.edu/worldlang/lang.asp>. For contact information of Dutch Teachers, please contact us via email: [info \(at\) dacccseattle.com](mailto:info@dacccseattle.com)

### **Dutch Schools**

As of October 2004 there is a Dutch School in the Seattle Area. The school's audience is children age 2-15 and the purpose is to teach dutch speaking while maintaining some of the Dutch culture. The school is named Oranjeschool and more information such as contact information, location and class information can be found on [www.oranjeschool.org](http://www.oranjeschool.org).

### **Employment / Internship with the Dutch-American Chamber of Commerce of Seattle**

The DACC is a not for profit organization that is operated by a small staff of volunteers. We do have volunteer opportunities and encourage people to contact us for more information.

The DACC currently does not have employment or full-time internship opportunities.

### **Employment Opportunities with Dutch Companies in the Seattle Area**

If you are interested in working for a Dutch company in the USA in general, we refer you to the internet where you may find companies such as Shell, Holland-America Line, Radio Holland etcetera. There are many small business operated by Dutch Citizens but employment opportunities there are usually very limited. Please refer to a source of information about coordination between companies in The Netherlands and the Westcoast of the US: [www.Nacwest.net](http://www.Nacwest.net)

In addition, we would like to refer you to our events, especially the European Business Card Exchange (EBX) which provides excellent networking opportunities and may aid in job searching.

### **Contact Information for the Netherlands Chamber of Commerce**

#### **Contact Information to obtain a list of Dutch Companies operating in the New York Area.**

The headquarters of the Netherlands Chamber of Commerce representative office in the US is in the URL: <http://www.netherlands.org/>. This chamber is located in New York, with a branch in Chicago.

The Dutch American Chamber of Commerce is an independently operating chamber organization in Seattle, Washington, performing much the same function but with a focus on the US West Coast. We have a good working relationship with the Chamber in New York, but are not part of the same organization.

### **General Information about finding Employment for Foreigners in the United States of America**

To find employment for foreigners in the US can prove to be a difficult task. You will be required to obtain a Work Permit and/or Work Visa via the US Immigration Naturalization Service (INS). Without employment you cannot obtain a Visa, and without Visa you cannot find employment.

Information about Visas is available on the following website: <http://uscis.gov/graphics/index.htm>

Our experience is that either the company hiring a foreign employee, or a delegated bureau (most often located in the country of destination), coordinates the Visa application or other form of Work Authorization to allow (paid) employment.

The DACC as organization unfortunately can not be of assistance in this process. The (internationally operating) contract agency is your primary point of contact.

### **Immigration Question, Visa, Work Permits**

The best start is to navigate the website of the US Immigration Naturalization Service (INS): <http://uscis.gov/graphics/index.htm> for information. You need to be aware that the INS takes a long time to process applications, and that you need to be very precise and accurate in answering questions and providing information, to prevent rejection of the application due to errors or missing information. Often Immigration Attorneys are hired to process the paperwork. Required forms are available on the website of the INS. If you have a unique circumstance we recommend you consult an Immigration Attorney.

The DACC as organization unfortunately can not be of assistance in this process.

### **Student Visa / Internships**

Finding Internships or Traineeships for Foreign Students is a complicated task. You will require an accepted Internship in order to obtain the Visa, and you require a Visa to obtain an Internship. For information about Student Visas we refer you to the US Immigration Naturalization Service (INS): <http://uscis.gov/graphics/index.htm>

### **Trade and Business Development and Promotion**

The Dutch–American Chamber of Commerce of Seattle is focused on facilitating trade and business development between the state of Washington and the Netherlands, but we have limited resources. Therefore we refer you to the following:

The Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce will surely be able to help you get in touch with local import/trader companies. <http://www.seattlechamber.com/>

Netherlands American Business Information Desk (NABID) should be contacted for answers to all questions you may have about doing business with the Netherlands.

Phone: (212) 370 4004 or (212) 379 4004

Hours of operation: Monday to Friday from 9am – 5pm EST

### **Netherlands American Business Information Desk (NABID)**

With the Netherlands American Business Information Desk (NABID), the Netherlands Embassy in Washington and the five Netherlands Consulates General in the United States hope to improve service to American and Dutch companies in an effort to better promote trade between The Netherlands and the USA.

NABID should be contacted for answers to all questions you may have about doing business with the Netherlands.

Phone: (212) 370 4004 or (212) 379 4004

Hours of operation: Monday to Friday from 9am – 5pm EST

Trade related questions may also be posed by e-mail. The email address of NABID is: [economic@goholland.com](mailto:economic@goholland.com)

You will find more information about the Netherlands on the web-site:

<http://www.netherlands-embassy.org>.

**Yearly DACC Typical Dutch Events: Koninginnedag/Queensday, Indonesian Rijsttafel Diner**

The Dutch-American Chamber of Commerce organizes the following Typical Dutch events every year: Koninginnedag (Weekend before or after April 30), Rijsttafel Dinner Event (Last Thursday in March).

Other Dutch events such as Sinterklaas (St. Nicholas), First week in December and Kinder Koninginnedag (around April 30), are organized by the Holland America Club of the Pacific NorthWest, website: [www.Holland-Americaclub.com](http://www.Holland-Americaclub.com).

**Yearly Festivals with a Dutch Touch in Washington State and British Colombia (Canada)**

The following events are yearly events with a Dutch Touch. The DACC is not necessarily affiliated with these events. For DACC events visit the "Meetings" section of our website.

<b>Festival</b>	<b>Where</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>For more info visit:</b>
Skagit Valley Tulip Festival	Mount Vernon, WA	March-April	<a href="http://www.tulipfestival.org">www.tulipfestival.org</a>
Holland Days	Lynden, WA	Late April/Early May	<a href="http://www.lynden.org">www.lynden.org</a>
Holland Happening	Oak Harbor, WA	Late April	<a href="http://www.oakharborchamber.org">www.oakharborchamber.org</a>
Sinterklaas	Lynden, WA	1 <sup>st</sup> week of December	<a href="http://www.lynden.org">www.lynden.org</a>

**Publications**

The following publications provide a good source of information.

<b>Title</b>	<b>What is it about??</b>	<b>Where to Order (*) (**)</b>
"Dealing with the Dutch" 14 <sup>th</sup> Edition, published July 2004	People from all corners of the world involved in government, business and culture come into contact with Dutch colleagues and counterparts, either in the Netherlands or in their own countries. No matter whether you are coming to the Netherlands for a business trip or to work here for a while, or have regular contact with Dutch people in your own country, being prepared for Dutch culture will make your working and social contacts more effective and therefore more satisfactory.  Like the very successful first edition published in 1997, and the updated version published in 2001, this 14th	Paperback, \$14.95  Order online at <a href="http://styluspub.com">http://styluspub.com</a> By phone: 1-800-232-0223 By fax: 703-661-1501 By e-mail: <a href="mailto:stylusmail@presswarehouse.com">stylusmail@presswarehouse.com</a>

	<p>revised and updated edition of Dealing with the Dutch focuses on Dutch values and norms, but it also takes into account the economic, social and cultural changes the Netherlands is undergoing. Many new quotes by people from all over the world who have already 'dealt with the Dutch' have also been added.</p>	
<p>THE HOLLAND HANDBOOK (ISBN 90 5594 334 7)</p>	<p>This richly illustrated handbook offers 256 full-color pages of essential information for the expatriate on all aspects of living and working in the Netherlands such as: career, fiscal issues, health care, housing, insurance, international education, registration and telecommunications. The reader can also find more general information on Dutch culture and habits, tourist information, language and international clubs. All these subjects are approached from the perspective of the expatriate - both newcomers and expats who have been living in the Netherlands for some time.</p> <p>This and many useful addresses, phone numbers and internet URLs make <b>The Holland Handbook</b> an indispensable reference book for the employee expat, the expat's partner who does not have a paid or volunteer job (yet), foreign entrepreneurs, the many foreign students who have come to the Netherlands to train or study and professionals who want to keep abreast of the latest developments in expat affairs.</p>	<p>The <a href="#">2004 - 2005 edition</a> of The Holland Handbook is on sale for € 22.50 in major book stores throughout the Netherlands or can be ordered through this site or <a href="http://www.hollandbooks.nl">www.hollandbooks.nl</a></p>
<p>'When Abroad — do as local Children do', Ori's guide for young expats</p>	<p>An international move is experienced differently by adults and children. The book <b><i>When abroad do as local children do</i></b> reaches out to international mobile families with children between 8 and 12 years old. The activities and assignments in the book encourage the taking of initiatives</p>	<p>106 pages 25 x 21 cm f.c. 100 drawings paperback English ISBN: 90 5594 262 6 € 15.90</p>

	<p>in exploring the opportunities connected with the new environment. The children's creativity is channelled to reflect upon the changes as well as the challenges ahead. The migrating bird <i>Ori</i> leads through the book and conveys a sense of active involvement during the different phases of the transition. E-mail access and additional information provided on Ori's website <a href="http://www.ori-and-ricki.net">www.ori-and-ricki.net</a> the truly interactive format of this book. By reading together, parents, relatives and or instructors gain direct access to the feelings of the children and can design a personal action plan implementing the many playful yet concrete suggestions, to master and enjoy life abroad, home away from home.</p>	
Websites	<a href="http://www.hollandbooks.com">www.hollandbooks.com</a>	
(*)	Vendors listed on the DACC website are listed by the DACC as a means of improving relations between businesses, but the DACC does not approve or sponsor any of the products or services included in the website and is not affiliated, associated, or connected in any way with the sources of those products or services.	
(**)	Prices subject to change. Contact vendor for pricing details.	

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