



# Landscape and recreation: More beach, more nature

**Although the land reclamation near the port of Rotterdam will be a port and industrial area first and foremost, it will also provide space for recreation and new nature. The long stretch of beach at Maasvlakte 2 will provide unprecedented opportunities for recreational activity. The port activities will remain visible from the dunes.**

## **EIGHT KILOMETRES OF BEACH**

Maasvlakte 2 is located directly adjacent to the existing Maasvlakte. Slufter Beach will disappear as a result. But this will be replaced by a longer stretch of beach on the edge of Maasvlakte 2. This beach is part of the 8 km long soft seawall that defends Maasvlakte 2 against the onslaught of the sea. A paved road and 1,500 parking spaces ensure the new area's accessibility.

The south-western section of Maasvlakte 2 features a stretch of beach that thanks to its greater distance to the industrial area is eminently suited as a leisure beach (see illustration: B), with easy access and ample parking space. There are plans to develop a limited selection of facilities in this area, such as toilets, beach entrances and seasonal catering. The northern stretch of the soft seawall is particularly well-suited for use as an activity beach (C). Some 50 parking spaces will be realised on the dune, offering a view of the sea and the port area. This beach will be particularly geared towards active outdoor sports such as (kite) surfing, sailing and motor boating. In addition, a birdwatching point will be realised on this part of the dune.

A nature beach (A) can be found to the south of the present Maasvlakte. This beach is focused on providing room for nature, and the public has limited access to the area. This

arrangement will remain unchanged by the construction of Maasvlakte 2. The present Maasvlakte will also retain its existing spotter beach (D), allowing visitors to observe ships entering the port.



# More beach, more nature

Recreation on the beach of Maasvlakte 2 takes place in the 'backyard' of the port and industrial complex. While this has its advantages, it also creates a number of limitations. The law dictates that port and industrial sites are surrounded by security zones. This makes sections of the beach that are situated closer to the planned port and industrial sites less suitable for intensive recreation.

## NATURE

The port area houses a wide variety of nature. The soft seawall of the existing Maasvlakte is a dynamic landscape of sea, beach and dunes, covered in marram grass and other plant species. This is the habitat of typical gregarious birds, such as gulls, terns and avocets, but one can also come across the Natterjack Toad and unique insect species. We expect that the same kind of variety will eventually be found at Maasvlakte 2.

## INTEGRATION IN THE LANDSCAPE

Many people like to view the large-scale port activities, with sea-going vessels, cranes and tugboats. These activities will continue to be visible from Maasvlakte 2. The companies located in Maasvlakte 2 contribute to the area's appearance. Conditions will be set for the colour schemes and the architectural quality of the new buildings. When developing the new area, the planners will take account of the integration in the landscape. For example, grade-separated junctions will be integrated in the landscape in the form of 'dune viaducts'.

## FUTURELAND INFORMATION CENTER

Those who would like to know more about the construction and subsequent development of Maasvlakte 2 can pay a visit to the FutureLand information center. With a total floor space of some 1,800 m<sup>2</sup>, the center allows you to stand at the helm yourself and see how Maasvlakte 2 rises out of the water. Or travel through time, for example, with a flight over the Maasvlakte in 2033. You can look out over the work in progress while enjoying a drink or a bite to eat. FutureLand is located on the border of the existing Maasvlakte and Maasvlakte 2 at Slag Dobbelsteen.

## CYCLING ROUTES AND LOOK-OUTS

Coming from Hoek van Holland, cyclists have an easy and fun way to reach FutureLand: the Fast Ferry. In just 15 minutes,



FutureLand information center

the catamaran will take you to the TOR Line on the Maasvlakte. From there, you can cycle to FutureLand in 10 minutes. Visit [www.ret.nl](http://www.ret.nl) for the current schedule.

The existing port area already has a number of cycling routes, which will be extended to Maasvlakte 2 in the future. The entire seawall will be lined by a bike path, and various points will feature a panoramic look-out, where visitors can halt to enjoy a splendid view of the seascape and the port.

## RECREATION AT OTHER LOCATIONS

The construction of Maasvlakte 2 does not stand alone, but is part of the Rotterdam Mainport Development Project (PMR). Recreation will also be possible at nature areas created at other locations in the region in the context of this project. Take the Buytenland Landscape Park, for example. This 600 ha area has a unique rural atmosphere. In the near future, the landscape park will be easily accessed from South Rotterdam via a 'green connection' over the A15 motorway. In addition, various interesting recreation areas will be developed on the city's northern rim, with 150 ha of new nature in Schiezone, Zuidpolder and Schiebroekse Polder areas.

## MORE INFORMATION?

For the latest news regarding recreation in the region, visit: [www.maasvlakte2.com](http://www.maasvlakte2.com)  
[www.mainport-pmr.nl](http://www.mainport-pmr.nl)  
[www.kiezenvoorgroen.nl](http://www.kiezenvoorgroen.nl) (750 ha new nature and recreation area)  
[www.rotterdam.nl/pmr](http://www.rotterdam.nl/pmr) (Existing Rotterdam Area)  
[www.kustvisiezuidholland.nl](http://www.kustvisiezuidholland.nl) (dunes near Hoek van Holland)  
[www.portofrotterdam.com](http://www.portofrotterdam.com) (cycle routes in the port area)

## Maasvlakte 2

North Sea



## The Netherlands

Rotterdam port area



## Europe

The Netherlands



## ROTTERDAM MAINPORT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

The construction of the new port area, Maasvlakte 2, is part of the Rotterdam Mainport Development Project (PMR). This project also includes environmental compensation measures connected to the construction, the development of a 750 ha area for nature and recreation and improvements to the Existing Rotterdam Area. PMR is a partnership between national and regional government and the Port of Rotterdam Authority. For further information, please visit [www.mainport-pmr.nl](http://www.mainport-pmr.nl)

## MORE INFORMATION?

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## WANT TO EXPERIENCE MAASVLAKTE 2?

Visit the FutureLand information center: [www.futureland.nl](http://www.futureland.nl)