

BRUNS

Visitor centre The Mauritshuis



Visitor Centre The Mauritshuis is safely located by the water, hidden among nature and full of history. The beautiful centre of Willemstad, a fortified town on the Hollands Diep. The Mauritshuis was commissioned by Prince Maurits, son of Willem van Oranje (1567-1625), and built in 1623. As the founder and first resident, he personally welcomes, as life-size interactive silhouette, the visitors to the renewed centre.

In the visitor centre, visitors are enticed to discover the defence of Willemstad for themselves. Different stories are told. The stories are grouped in three overarching themes: Orange and Spain, Land and Water and War and Peace. In each room a theme comes to life. The aim of this visitor centre is to 'entice' visitors to discover the rest of the defence of Willemstad through the interactive exhibition.



Authority

The Mauritshuis Willemstad
Hofstraat 1a
4797 AC Willemstad
The Netherlands
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Location

Willemstad, The Netherlands

Surface area

370 m²

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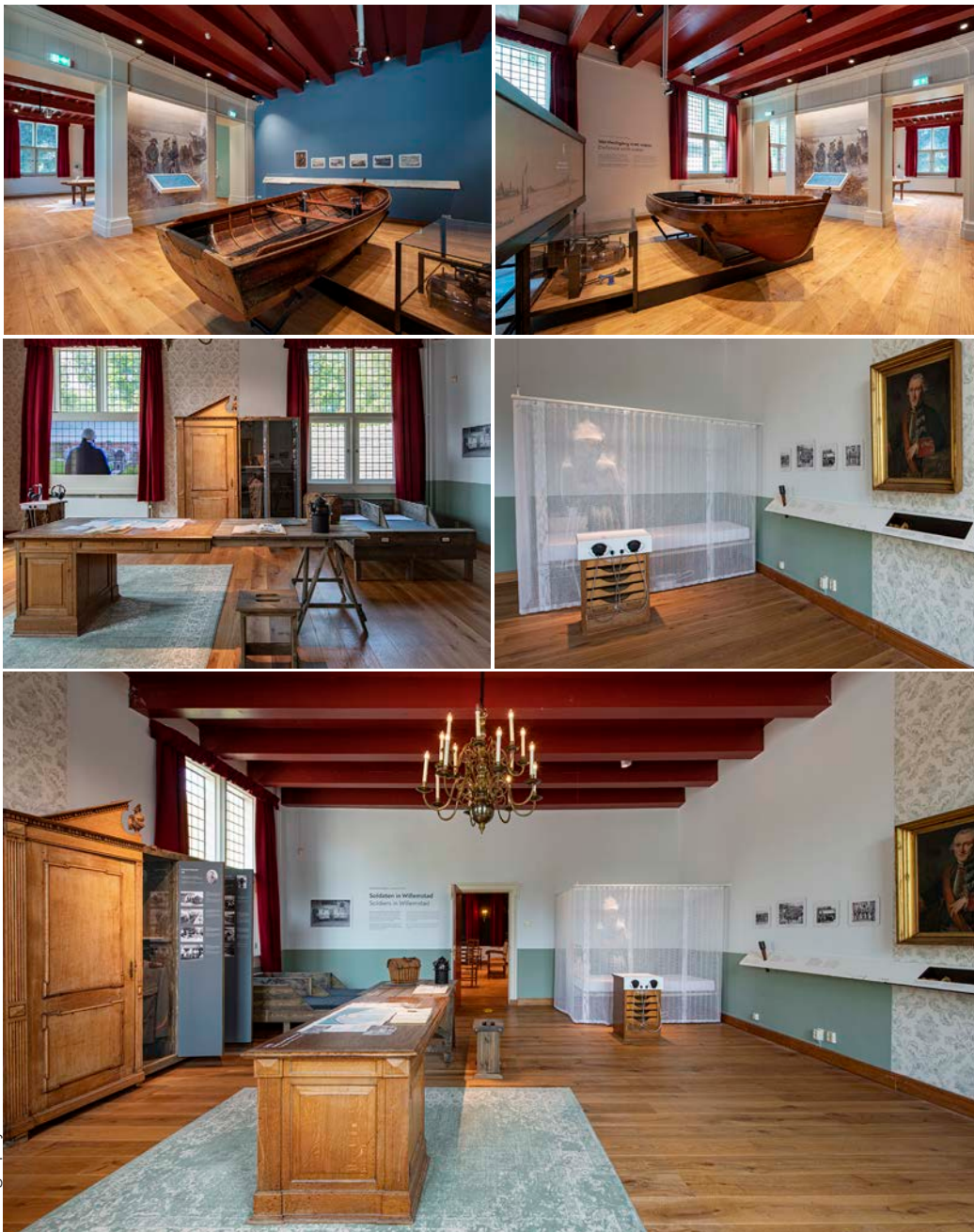
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In collaboration with the design firms Duinzand and Platvorm. Bruns realised the renewed concept included lighting, hardware and software. Upon entering, the life-size 3D printed statue of Prince Maurits, which speaks to visitors by means of audio, shines next to the new reception and information desk. A complete timeline has been realised on the walls, allowing visitors to discover the history step by step. Further along the route, there is a fortress table, at which Prince Maurits, fortress builder Menno van Coehoorn, a farmer, Spanish soldier and a local woman each tell their own story. Visitors can build the ideal fortress with them by using of an interactive screen.

In the Land and Water theme, we installed an interactive rowing boat where visitors can sail over the Hollands Diep and along the Zuidwaterlinies.

Finally, we took care of the complete furnishing of the governor's office. In this room, the visitor looks over the governor's shoulder as enemy troops approach. In this room is also to the discover the military hospital, where the story of a nurse from that time can be heard. Realising this was the biggest challenge in the project. Through many trials, we managed to reproduce the silhouette of the nurse in the curtain.

In the renovated visitor centre, the historic stories of the Mauritshuis come alive in an interesting and contemporary way. The concept is based on real stories of characters, giving visitors the feeling of actually being there.



Destination

Museum

Type of exhibition

Permanent

Project director

Maarten Taborsky

Design

Duinzand

Jan Luijkenstraat 46-2

1071 CR Amsterdam, NL

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Platvorm

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Start

October 2019

Delivery

August 2021