

WEBCAM VOYAGES by Richard Jolliffe

Like many of you I am finding this lockdown very strange. For this year I had a diary full of planned cruises and day trips. I am convinced that all now will not happen.

But all is not lost. Because there are many webcams around mostly in Holland. Some are on Dutch barges and tugs. On most days I find one that is either travelling from the Hook towards the Erasmus Bridge and possibly Dordrecht or from IJmuiden towards Amsterdam. So I can continue going on voyages even if I am not actually there.

<https://webcam-binnenvaart.nl/> has seven barges and a pusher tug. The page drops out after a while, but a simple click and you are back in. And you can go to some parts of Europe that you would never consider going. I tend to watch this site at least once a day if not more. Feniks and Sayonara are two container barges that do a lot of travelling between Maaskvlakt eand Dordrecht. Rarely a day goes by without one of the vessels on one of the main waterways. Others are on very picturesque inland waterways.

Other Webcams I have found.

Rotterdam area.

Some of these have more than one camera linked from the main page.

<https://fotopaulmartens.netcam.nl/breddiep2.php>

On one of the "mushrooms" at the entrance to the Hook of Holland. This rotates to see an almost 360 degree view. You need to click on the arrow to start the programme.

<https://fotopaulmartens.netcam.nl/futureland.php>

This one looks down at part of the large area near Futureland.

<https://www.webcam-rotterdam.nl/>

Overlooks the quay at the end of the cruise terminal towards Parkkade far in the distance. Three other river cameras are also linked to this page.

<https://www.webcam-hoekvanholland.nl/>

This is at the pilot station at the Hoek just West of the ferry terminal. The fast ferry to the container terminal goes from there as well.

<https://www.webcam-hoekvanholland.nl/pages/cameras/waterweg-hvh.php>

This one overlooks the green at the Hoek near the vantage points that many TSS members use.

<https://fotopaulmartens.netcam.nl/breddiep.php>

This one is a fixed camera looking at the Breddiep passageway between the Hoek and the Caland Canal. The web cam is rather blurred at present, but I don't think access is easy to fix issues. Again you need to click on the arrow to start this one.

<https://webcam-hoekvanholland.nl/pages/cameras/waterweg-ingang.php>

An excellent view along the shipping channel from the Hoek.

<https://webcam-maassluis.nl/pages/cameras/het-scheur2.php>

<https://webcam-maassluis.nl/pages/cameras/het-scheur.php>

Camera at Maassluis overlooking the shipping channel. There are three webcams on these pages.

<http://streaming.softclass.net/paulmartens/erasmus2.php?autostart=true>

A view from near the Spido terminal overlooking the cruise terminal next to the Erasmus Bridge. There used to be one overlooking the cruise terminal from above but this one kept changing web addresses and I have now lost that one completely.

<https://fotopaulmartens.netcam.nl/erasmus1.php>
Looking towards the Parkkade.

<https://www.zeegat.nl/>
Somewhere I have never been but is on my wish list. There are two webcams overlooking the Flushing shipping main channel.

North Sea Canal, IJmuiden and Amsterdam

<http://www.ijmondphotography.nl/webcam/index.html>
This one is on a house in South Velsen. It was not until I met some friends of mine in Amsterdam, who used to work in Newbury with Vodafone, that one of them explained that it was on her house. It's a small World. She does websites for the maritime industry. It usually looks quiet then suddenly a bulker goes by!

<https://www.portofamsterdam.com/en/webcam>
On the tall port authority building just West of the Central Station. This one rotates round the area. There is also a link to the IJmuiden webcam.

<https://webcam-amsterdam.nl/>
Three different views near Amsterdam's Central station and the cruise terminal.

<https://www.portofamsterdam.com/en/webcam-sealock>
At the entrance to IJmuiden overlooking the bulk carrier berths and a look at the port.

Dordrecht

<https://webcam-dordrecht.nl/>

Texel area

<https://www.webcams-texel.nl/pages/cameras/veerboot.php>
Numerous webcams ships and animals etc

There are also many other maritime web cams round Europe. Here are some I know of.

<http://www.newholmwoodhotel.co.uk/webcam/> This one is right outside the room I stay in at the hotel at West Cowes on the Isle of Wight when I go there for up to a week in July. As my room view is limited by the building's walls and the building next door and the camera is more to the front, it's even worth logging on when at the hotel to know when to rush out across the road with the cameras.

<https://isleofwightwebcams.co.uk/> This page has many webcams. It also links to the one above called Cowes Yachting. It has a good view over the Solent towards Portsmouth and is on a Church high up in Ryde. There is also a steam train link to the Isle of Wight Railway. There are some old videos stored on this website.

<https://webcam-terneuzen.nl/> This is a great site. There is a camera pointing West and another East from a building near the vantage point at Terneuzen. The number of ships passing is just incredible. Many people have been there, but alas, the closest I have got is to the tug berth to the West and also passing very close on cruises.

I went on a cruise to Ghent a few years ago and took the hourly bus to Terneuzen but only stayed a short while. Planning to go again last year, I found the bus now only runs at weekends and very few times a day. Such is progress.

There are also webcams on this web address provided by Multratug overlooking the area near the drydock to the North and South showing the Ghent Canal. There is also another webcam pointing at Haven van Paal, but no deep-sea vessels come in view.

Portsmouth. <http://www.hmswarrior.org/webcam>

This currently seems fixed. It used to rotate round the whole port. No doubt there is some work being done on Warrior to cause the camera to be moved to a different location.

Red Funnel used to have live webcams but this service has temporarily been suspended.

London Tower Bridge

<https://balticlivecam.com/cameras/united-kingdom/london/london-panorama-tower-bridge/>

Falmouth

<https://www.harbourlights.co.uk/webcam/>

<https://www.cornwalls.co.uk/webcams/falmouth-harbour-webcam>

France

<https://www.lehavretourisme.com/en/live-webcam>

A rather far off view of ships near Le Havre.

Cruise Ships.

<https://www.cruisecritic.co.uk/articles.cfm?ID=214>

This one lists all cruise ship companies using webcams. But of course most ships are no longer trading.

Google Maps.

And if you are going somewhere and want to know the best vantage points go to Goggle Map and choose the area, zoom in and "walk" the area on Google map. I did this last year in Amsterdam when I wanted to find ex deep sea ships now converted to houseboats in the East of the city. It saved a lot of walking as I found some areas with good vantage points and some obscured by trees etc which were not worth visiting.

There must be many other good webcams around. Unfortunately addresses often change so I loose them for months. By all means, let me know of any more at G3ZGC@AOL.com.