

Successful Visit Royal Couple to Kaap Skil Museum

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This morning, King Willem-Alexander and Queen Máxima started their regional visit to the Wadden Islands at Kaap Skil Museum. Despite the rain, there was a wide interest of a cheerful audience when the couple arrived in the Heemskerckstraat. Here they were welcomed by the management of the Texels Museum Foundation.

Tour of the Palmwood shipwreck

Artistic director Corina Hordijk guided the royal couple along the de maquette of the Reede van Texel and the showpieces from the Palmwood shipwreck. Arriving at the now world-famous silk dress, it turned out that the King and Queen had thoroughly studied up on it. Because of the royal appearance of The Dress and the fact that it must have belonged to a lady from the highest circles, Corina told Queen Máxima that she hadn't yet looked at it with someone who could actually wear it. In response, the king answered jokingly: "And what if I were a Shakespeare actor?" A question by which he referred to one of the possible explanations for the ship's cargo that it had been the complete stage equipment of a Shakespeare company. In the 17th century, the women's roles were also played by men. Corina responded with; "The dress would have looked great on both of you."

Maritime heritage conversation

The second part of the visit to the museum consisted of a conversation about the importance of the shipwrecks on the seabed off the coast of Texel, and the necessity to protect these time capsules full of historical information. Present at this conversation were among others the mayor of Texel, Michiel Uitdehaag, Professor Maarten van Bommel of the University of Amsterdam and commissioner of the King Arthur van Dijk. The royal couple listened attentively and showed great commitment to the subject. Overall, it was a very enjoyable visit that took place in a casual ambiance. King Willem-Alexander and Queen Máxima left again at 11am for the next destination of their two-day regional visit.

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