

Designing dairy cow barns: the basics

4 day course, 7-10 December 2015

Vetvice organizes an international Barn Design Course from 7 until 10 December 2015 in the Netherlands. In this course, Vetvice educates professionals to become Certified Barn Designers following the concept of the successful CowSignals trainings. The participants will be provided with knowledge about the fundamentals of designing a barn in which a cow can live a long, healthy and productive life. A comprehensive, rational designed dairy barn makes working enjoyable, easier and quicker. In addition, building a simple, flexible and expandable barn contributes highly to short and long term success of a dairy farming enterprise.

Program

The setup of this course is that we do theory and interactive presentations in the morning, in the afternoon we are going to visit farms to see the aspects we discussed in practice. The language will be English. We are working in a group with a minimum of 8 and a maximum of 12 participants.

Day 1: an introduction to barn design, 10.30 a.m. – 18.00 p.m.

Morning:

- A general introduction to barn design
- CowSignals diamond: the six basic needs for well-being, health and production
- Where to start? The four corner stones of barn design

Afternoon:

- Farm visits (in the vicinity of Oosterwolde)
 - o Practice in the barn

Day 2: designing for milking parlors-and robotic milking barns, 08.30 a.m. – 18.00 p.m.

Morning:

- Barn design for milking parlors
- Barn design for milking robots
 - o Vetvice DairyLogix
 - o Vetvice Split entry

Afternoon:

- Farm visits (in the vicinity of Oosterwolde)
 - o Practice in the barn

Day 3: designing and the process, 08.30 a.m. – 18.00 p.m.

Morning:

- Discussion and assessment
 - o Your plans
 - o Plans brought in by Vetvice
- Drawing yourself
- Aspects such as stall design, stress-free calving line, ventilation, flooring, ridges, labour efficiency and gate plans

Afternoon:

- Farm visits (in the vicinity of Megen)
 - o Practice in the barn

Day 4: drawings and end conclusions, 08.30 a.m. – 16.30 p.m.

Morning:

- Further discussion of plans
- How to prepare a good talk with your client? Peoplesignals
- Loose ends, questions and end conclusions
- Personal recommendations for further development as a professional

Afternoon:

- Farm visits (in the vicinity of Megen)
 - o Practice in the barn

Location, come&go

You have to book your own flight ticket. **Tip:** www.skyscanner.com . You can fly into Holland on Sunday evening or early Monday morning.

Please book your own hotel room. The first two days our program is in (the vicinity of) Oosterwolde. Our suggestion is to book a hotel room for 6 December (if you arrive on Sunday) and 7 December 2015 in Hotel de Zon in Oosterwolde (www.fletcherhoteldezon.nl). The last two days our program is in (the vicinity of) Megen. Our suggestion is to book a hotel room for 8 and 9 December 2015 in Hotel Berghem in Berghem (www.hotel-berghem.eu). **Tip:** check the package deals in the hotels.

Transport from Amsterdam Schiphol Airport to Oosterwolde is easiest by car (1.45h). We advise you to rent a car at the airport. Carpool if possible, we can bring you in contact with your fellow participants. Transport from Megen to Amsterdam Schiphol Airport is a 1.15h drive. Go to <http://www.rentalcars.com/nl/airport/nl/ams/> to rent a car.

Price

Vetvice Barn Design Course

The price for the 4 day course is €1990,- per person excl. V.A.T. This **includes:**

- Lecture rooms
- Lectures with theory and interactive presentations (theory and PowerPoint presentations subsequently available)
- Farm visits (incl. plastic boots, no coveralls needed)
- Coffee, tea, lunch
- Two books of the future farming series
 - o Building for the cow
 - o Robotic milking
- Vetvice Barn Designer Certificate

This price is **excluding:**

- Flight ticket
- Hotel room with breakfast
- Dinners and drinks at night
- Transport

Vetvice Barn Design Coaching

A possible follow up for advisors is our personal barn design service. The Vetvice trainers offer you 10 hours supervision on your own projects through mail, phone and Skype. You will be coached and get feedback to guarantee that you become excellent Vetvice Barn Designers. The normal price is **€1590,-** excl. V.A.T. For Certified Barn Designers the costs for this package are **€1390,-** excl. V.A.T.



Vetvice Barn Designer Certificate

As a participant of this course, you will receive a 'Vetvice Barn Designer Certificate' as proof that you learned the basics of designing a barn in which a cow can live a long, happy and productive life.

Booking

Send an e-mail to confirm to barndesign@vetvice.com, latest 7 November 2015. Please mention your VAT-number in your registration mail. As soon as we receive your booking, you will receive an e-mail about the payment and the invoice.

Booking is not personal, you can always send another person. Cancellation up to 30 days before the start of the training is without cost, from 30 days to 7 days beforehand, we refund 50% of the training cost. With cancellation within the last week, we refund 25% of the training cost.

Thank you for your trust in the Vetvice Barn Design Academy. We are looking forward to train you to become an excellent barn designer. Feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

With kind regards,

Nico Vreeburg and Bertjan Westerlaan
Veterinarians and senior barn designers
Owners of Vetvice Barn Design Academy

Milou Fleuren
Organizing the course

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P.S. Some quotes 😊

'The Vetvice Certified Barn Design course was a one stop opportunity for collaboration and discussion on the latest barn design concepts, construction materials and cow comfort features. The variety of theory and practical application through barn tours was very helpful, and also provided an opportunity to learn how to best consult with the farmer. The educators were very knowledgeable and made the event very enjoyable, I would definitely recommend the course!' – Jasper Jonker, Canada

'The course was really nice and it's so many things to sort out! One thing was the great number of barns we have seen, with much air and space for the cows and farmers. Interesting share experiences. Nico, Bertjan and Milou were outstanding!' – Lars Fredriksson, Sweden

'I definitely learned a lot from this course. The design of the course was in such a way that there were great possibilities to discuss with fellow participants with severely different backgrounds. In addition, I can say that we have seen many different, beautiful barns and spoke with farmers that were very willing to explain their working experience in the barn. Great to have two veterinarians as trainers that have loads of experience and knowledge that they are willing to share. Compliments for the organization as well, clear communication in advance and everything during the course days was well organized.' – Lonneke Zeijlemaker - Norway