Checklist Return Visa

Why do you need a return visa?
You are legally living in the Netherlands, but you cannot prove it because you do not have a residence permit card (yet). This is a problem if you are going to cross the border and/or return to the Netherlands. For this purpose the return visa has been invented.

More information about the return visa can be found here: https://ind.nl/EN/individuals/residence-wizard/visa/return-visa

Please note: you can only apply for this if we have already applied for your extension of your residence permit.

How to apply?
You need to make an appointment with the IND by phoning them: 088-0430430. Please mention your V number (on the backside of your residence permit, starting with ‘VNR…’) and ask for an appointment in order to apply for a return visa. The IND may ask you for the reason of your intended trip.

In general you can have an appointment within two weeks. However, during summer and before the Christmas holidays it can take longer to get an appointment.

After having set the appointment, you will receive an appointment code which you will need to show at the IND reception desk when you enter the building. The appointment takes about 15 minutes. The return visa is a sticker in your passport. You will obtain it right away.

Please note: if your application was send out about 2 months before, you may check if your new residence permit card is ready. If this is the case, you do not need to buy the return visa, as the IND office can hand out your new residence permit card.

Required documents (to bring to your appointment):

- your (valid) passport
- your current/old/expired residence permit card, or
- a police report regarding the loss or theft of your residence permit card
- € 148, you have to pay the costs for this visa during the appointment (in cash or with bankcard with PIN, credit card is not accepted).