

Netherlands - Belgium - Amsterdam to Bruges Boat and Bike Tour 2024
Guided Tour
8 Days / 7 Nights



Experience the charm of a bygone era on this exciting 8 day, 7 night tour where you will discover the best of what Holland and Belgium have to offer. During the day you will cycle to world famous destinations such as Amsterdam, Dordrecht, Antwerp, Ghent and Bruges, while at night you will relax in the comfort of your floating hotel. Cycling on this tour is through the beautiful – and flat – Dutch countryside of Zeeland and the western Flanders region of Belgium. Attractions along the way include many charming villages, a visit to a real Dutch cheese farm, the 19 famous Dutch windmills in Kinderdijk and the world famous cities of Antwerp, Ghent and Bruges in the western Flanders region of Belgium. You will cycle through and discover the Dutch province of Zeeland, which is essentially one big river delta of the Rhine, Meuse and Scheldt Rivers famous for its fantastic beaches, water sport activities and Delta works and the Flanders region of Belgium famous for its medieval towns and a reputation for superb food and drink.

Itinerary Day to Day

Day 1: Amsterdam - Vianen

Embarkation and check-in is at 2 pm, where your crew for the week will be waiting to welcome you on board. At around 2 p.m. the ship will depart from Amsterdam for Vianen, a small, fortified village on the Lek River. After dinner you have the opportunity to enjoy a short first test ride through the surrounding area.



Day 2: Vianen – Schoonhoven – Kinderdijk 32 or 56 km | Kinderdijk – Dordrecht

Today you will cycle along a beautiful route to Schoonhoven – nicknamed Zilverstad (“Silver City”) a city renowned for its talented silver smiths since the 17th century. Later in the day as you cycle through the Alblasserwaard region you will reach Kinderdijk, a village famous for its impressive row of 19 large windmills. All 19 windmills have a UNESCO cultural heritage listing and are a definite highlight – you will have the opportunity to visit one so don’t forget to bring your camera! From nearby Alblasserdam you will take the “Waterbus”, a fast ferry that will take you and your bicycle in approximately 10 minutes to Dordrecht, one of the oldest towns in Holland.

Day 3: Dordrecht – Willemstad | Willemstad – Bergen op Zoom 42 - 50 km

As you enjoy your breakfast aboard the ship, the ship will sail to Willemstad where you will start your day’s cycling. Willemstad is a beautiful old fortified town on the Haringvliet waterway. Your bicycle ride goes to Tholen, which once was an island in the middle of the large Zeeland streams, where many people fished for their living. Nowadays Tholen is connected to the mainland in various ways. Then you cycle on to the destination of this trip, Bergen op Zoom. Bergen op Zoom is a historic fortified town that once lay on the open waters of the Oosterschelde. After dinner you can take a walk through the old town. Narrow streets, old town, market and church squares and idiosyncratic monumental buildings show the history of a rich and eventful past that goes back more than eight hundred years.





Day 4: Bergen op Zoom – Kreekrak lock 21 - 35 km | Kreekrak lock – Antwerp

In the morning you will enjoy a small bike ride through the beautiful “Wouwe Plantage” surrounding Bergen op Zoom. In the early afternoon you will once again board the ship which will sail to the port city of Antwerp, situated on the River Schelde. Antwerp is famous for handling up to 80% of the world’s rough diamonds and is a city with a long list of attractions including: the City Hall, one of several majestic buildings constructed during the Renaissance period, the historical City Square during the Renaissance period, the historical City Square Grote Market, the Onze-Lieve-Vrouwe Cathedral and the medieval Steen Castle. Dinner tonight (not included) will be in town restaurant of your choice (our choice (recommendations available on board)).

Day 5: Antwerp – Temse – St. Amands 34 - 49 km

This morning you will cycle out of Antwerp along a picturesque section of the Schelde River to St. Amands, your home for the night. There is only one way to describe the landscape around the Schelde and that is “magnificent”. It is without doubt one of the natural highlights of the tour.

Day 6: St. Amands – Dendermonde | Dendermonde– Ghent 52 km

Today you will continue to follow the River Schelde to Ghent where the ship will moor for the night at a lock in a suburb of town. Ghent is a lively university city that boasts a rich history. Since Roman times Ghent’s position at the junction of Leie and Schelde Rivers has ensured that it has been a successful trading port. In total the city features an Opera House, 18 museums, more than 100 churches and over 400 historical buildings. Major attractions are St. Bavo Cathedral where a number of masterpieces of medieval art including the world famous Adoration of the Mystic Lamb’ by Jan van Eyck are kept and the 91 meter tall belfry of Ghent, one of three medieval towers that overlook the old city center.



Day 7: Ghent – Bruges 22 - 45 km

Today you will cycle from Ghent through the beautiful Flemish countryside of western Flanders to Bruges, widely described as the 'Venice of the North' and arguably the most beautiful of all the Flemish cities. Bruges attracts more than two million visitors every year who come to see the picturesque medieval town center of the UNESCO World Heritage listed historic city and a long list of historic attractions. An outstanding example of a medieval historic settlement, Bruges has managed to maintain its historic fabric as it has evolved over the centuries, with the result that today the city's original Gothic buildings form an integral part of the town's identity. While you are here you can visit one of Bruges many museums or simply take in the stunning beauty and culture of this unforgettable city from the comfort of a sidewalk café.

Day 8: Bruges

End of your tour. Disembarkation after breakfast until 9:30 a.m.



Route



Technical Characteristics

Tour Profile: Easy. These holidays are appropriate for anyone with good physical condition and basic cycling skills. On virtually flat terrain, with distances up to 50 kilometers. You spend about 4 hours on your bicycle.

Distance: 210 - 313 km

Travel Season: *Departures Magnifique I Tuesdays from Amsterdam:* May 7; May 21 and June 4, 2024
Departures Magnifique I Tuesdays from Bruges: May 14 and June 11, 2024
Departures Magnifique II Thursdays from Amsterdam: May 2; May 16; May 30; June 13; July 11; July 25; August 22; September 5; September 19 and October 3, 2024
Departures Magnifique II Thursdays from Bruges: May 9; May 23; June 6; June 20; July 18; August 1; August 29; September 12; September 26 and October 10, 2024
Departures Magnifique III Tuesdays from Amsterdam: June 11; June 25; July 9; July 23 and August 6, 2024
Departures Magnifique III Tuesdays from Bruges: May 21; June 4; June 18; July 2; July 16; July 30 and August 15, 2024
Departures Magnifique IV Thursdays from Amsterdam: April 25; May 9; May 23; June 6; June 20; July 4; July 18; August 1; August 15; August 29; September 12 and September 26, 2024
Departures Magnifique IV Thursdays from Bruges: May 2; May 16; May 30; June 13; June 27; July 11; July 25; August 8; August 22; September 5; September 19 and October 12, 2024

Price per person	Season A	Season B	Season C
Twin Cabin	€ 1699.00	€ 1549.00	€ 1449.00
Premium Twin Cabin (Magnifique II)	€ 1949.00	€ 1799.00	€ 1699.00
Junior Suite (Magnifique I)	€ 2099.00	€ 1949.00	---
Suite Upper Deck (not on Magnifique I)	€ 2299.00	€ 2149.00	€ 2049.00
Single Cabin (Magnifique III)	€ 2129.00	€ 1929.00	---
Twin Cabin for Single Use (limited, on request)	€ 2548.50	€ 2323.50	€ 2173.50
Rental hybrid bicycle with 11 gears, hand brakes		€ 100.00	
Rental e-bike (limited number)		€ 250.00	

Season A: departures on Ship Magnifique April 25 – June; August 29 – September 30

Season B: departures on Ship Magnifique July – August 28; October 3

Season C: departure on Ship Magnifique on October 10

Included:

- 7 nights' accommodation in booked cabin category
- Full board: 7 x breakfast, 6 x packed lunches, 6 x three course dinner, coffee and tea on board
- Use of bed linen and towels
- Daily cleaning of the cabin
- Climate controlled cabin
- Welcome drink
- Daily briefings
- Fully guided cycling tours (more than 22 guests: 2 tour leaders, 2 groups)
- Some short walking tours
- Maps and notes for cycling tours (1 set per cabin)
- GPS tracks
- Use of a helmet, waterproof pannier bag and water bottle
- Fees for ferries
- Entrance Red Star Line Museum in Antwerp
- Tasting Belgium products
- Canal trip through Ghent
- Wi-Fi

Not Included:

- 1 dinner
- Gratuities (at your discretion)
- Drinks and expenses on excursions (not mentioned under included)
- Transfers to/from docking place
- Entrance fees and excursions not mentioned under included

The Magnifique I



New photo pending

The new premium barge Magnifique I will join our fleet in 2024. In recent years, experienced ship builder, barge owner and operator Walter van Berkum constructed the barges Magnifique II, III and IV. His newest project is to extend and restyle an existing passenger barge. A new section of 12 meters will be placed in the ship, making it 57 meters long and 6.6 meters wide. This size allows the barge to navigate on smaller waterways, and often moor in the center of towns and cities.

The Magnifique I will have a capacity of max. 32 guests in 16 cabins. All beautifully decorated cabins are on lower deck and have en-suite bathrooms, air-conditioning, a mini-safe and a hair-dryer. Twelve twin cabins are approx. 11 m²; four junior suites have queen size beds (two single beds set together) and are approx. 15 m². The upper deck has a tastefully furnished salon with a restaurant area, a nice bar and a lounge area with sitting corners, air-conditioning, TV and large panoramic windows.



The Magnifique II



This younger sister of the Magnifique, the Magnifique II, was built in 2015 -2016 and offers a wonderful stay to a maximum of 34 guests. All of the 13 cabins on the lower deck and 4 suites on the upper deck are very comfortable: excellent beds and a private bathroom, as well as air conditioning, satellite TV, and a wardrobe with a mini-safe. In the tastefully furnished and air conditioned salon on the upper deck, the bar is a real eye catcher. On one side you'll find the restaurant area and on the other there is the lounge. The captain and his crew will take good care of you!



The Magnifique III



This beautiful ship has 16 lovely cabins on the lower deck, all with two very comfortable beds, an en-suite bathroom, satellite TV, mini-safe and hairdryer. The 5 suites on the upper deck also have a small sitting area and large windows. The air conditioned restaurant and lounge area are situated around the prominent bar; ideal spots to enjoy life aboard! Let's not forget about the Jacuzzi and deckchairs on the top deck.



The Magnifique IV



Following the overwhelming success of our premium barges Magnifique, Magnifique II (2016), and Magnifique III (2018), we are proud to announce the construction of a new sister for the family: the Magnifique IV. Launch date: Spring 2020 This beautiful ship has 8 lovely cabins on the lower deck, all with two very comfortable beds, an en-suite bathroom, satellite TV, mini safe and hairdryer. The 10 suites on the main deck also have a small sitting area and large windows. The restaurant is situated on the lower deck and the lounge and bar area on the upper deck; ideal spots to enjoy life aboard! Let's not forget about the Jacuzzi and deckchairs on the top deck.

