

# **Dutch Waterways**

# Antwerp to Amsterdam

# **Inspiring Moments**

- Glide past elegant, gabled houses from the Dutch Golden Age on Amsterdam's picturesque canals.
- Marvel at the glorious springtime display of tulips and other cheerful blooms at Keukenhof Gardens.
- Delight in the romantic, cozy ambience of canal-lined Bruges, packed with wonderfully preserved Gothic architecture.
- ► Admire **Antwerp's medieval treasures** in the colorful old town.
- ► Take in the beautiful façades of charming **Kampen**, a historic Hanseatic city.
- Enjoy the relaxed pace of life in the Dutch seaside harbor town of Veere.
- ► Experience two UNESCO World Heritage Sites.



() E	XTEND YOU	JR STAY
Amsterdam	2 Nights	PRE-Trip
Antwerp	2 Nights	POST-Trip
{Se	e website for d	etails.}



Keukenhof Gardens

Embark on a carefree, first-class cruise along the intimate waterways of Belgium and the Netherlands, brimming with centuries of history! Witness the iconic canals of Amsterdam, stroll through a sea of brilliant tulips at Keukenhof Gardens and admire the medieval character of Bruges and Antwerp. Other ports of call introduce you to Kampen, rich in Hanseatic heritage, and Veere, a laid-back harbor town. Expert guides and lecturers add context to your daily sightseeing, plus you'll enjoy a choice of included cultural and culinary experiences in selected ports!

# **Day-by-Day Itinerary**

#### Day 1 | In Transit

Depart for Brussels, Belgium. 🛟

### Day 2 | Brussels, Belgium | Antwerp

Upon arrival, transfer **3** to the ship in Antwerp.

Antwerp Walking Tour. Located near the North Sea, Antwerp has long been an important center of trade. Discover its medieval architecture on a guided walk in the old town. See the Cathedral of Our Lady, the town hall and the Grote Markt's narrow guild buildings.

Enrichment: Contemporary Belgium.

The ship moors overnight in Antwerp.

Day 3 | Bruges | Middelburg, Netherlands | Veere

**PYJ | Choose one of the following excursions:** All excursions include a guided walking tour of Bruges. Stroll through Market Square and see the medieval guild hall buildings, the Basilica of the Holy Blood and the Belfry Tower. Then, continue with your selected tour.

•*Cultural Bruges.* Admire the outstanding artwork at the Groeninge Museum, known for its Flemish Primitive paintings and Flemish expressionist pieces. (*Active*)

•*Bruges and Beer.* Learn about Belgian brewing traditions on a tour of the De Halve Maan Brewery. Take in the sweeping view of Bruges from the roof and sample a glass of freshly brewed beer. (*Active*)

•*Bruges and Belgian Chocolate.* At a chocolatier's shop, delve into the art and history behind Belgian chocolate-making, plus enjoy a tasty sample. (*Active*) After lunch on your own in Bruges, rejoin the group and meet the ship in Middelburg. As the ship cruises to Veere, gather for a Welcome Reception and Dinner.

#### Day 4 | Veere | Willemstad

**Free Time:** Join the half-day Elective Activity or follow your own agenda in Veere for the day.

Travel to the **Delta Expo**. Travel to the





artificial island of Neeltje Jans and its Delta Expo. Learn about the Delta Works, the huge dams and storm surge barriers that protect the parts of the Netherlands below sea level. Grasp the terrible impact of the disastrous 1953 flood through a riveting, 4-D animation. The ship docks in Willemstad this evening.

#### Day 5 | The Hague / Delft / Gouda

#### Enrichment: The Dutch Masters.

#### PYJ | Choose one of the following excursions:

•*The Hague and the Mauritshuis.* See the city's highlights including the Binnenhof, the center of Dutch politics, and the Peace Palace. Next, visit the famed Mauritshuis, which houses Vermeer's "Girl with a Pearl Earring" and artwork by Dutch and Flemish masters.

•Old Delft and the Porcelain Factory. Explore historic Delft on a guided walk, then take a tour of the Royal Delft Porcelain Factory, founded in 1653. Watch as a master artisan hand-paints their iconic blue-and-white pottery and view a lovely collection of antique porcelain.

•Gouda – City of Cheese. See Gouda's lively market square and its 15th-century town hall, then visit Sint Janskerk, the country's longest church, featuring some of Europe's finest, 16th-century painted-glass windows. Afterward, nibble on varieties of fresh Gouda cheese. Enjoy lunch on the ship and an afternoon of cruising toward Kampen.

#### Day 6 | Kampen / Giethoorn

Arrive in Kampen, packed with splendid architecture from its heyday as a medieval Hanseatic trading town.

#### PYJ | Choose one of the following excursions:

•*Historic Kampen & Hanseatic Ship Tour.* See the 14th-century Church of St. Nicholas, stately merchants' houses, the grand old town hall and more on a guided walk. Then, visit an authentic replica of a 14th-century, Hanseatic *kogge* cargo ship at the riverfront.

•*Kampen Walking Tour & Brewery Visit.* With your guide, see the 14th-century Church of St. Nicholas, stately merchants' houses, the grand old town hall and more. Savor some Dutch beer later on a brewery tour.

•*Giethoorn Cruise.* Travel by boat along the tiny canals of this quaint, car-free village and explore more on foot.



Return to the ship for a delicious lunch. **Enrichment:** *The Hanseatic League.* 

Free Time: Spend some time at leisure in Kampen before the ship sails toward Amsterdam this evening.

#### Day 7 | Amsterdam

#### Enrichment: Contemporary Netherlands.

*Canals of Amsterdam.* Take a guided cruise to admire the historic canal houses and other architectural gems. Savor lunch with your fellow travelers.

**Free Time:** Head off to explore this vibrant city! The ship will remain in Amsterdam overnight.

#### Day 8 | Amsterdam

*Keukenhof Gardens.* Explore this 80-acre paradise of brightly colored tulips, hyacinths, daffodils and other gorgeous blooms with your guide.

Return to the ship for a refreshing lunch.

**Free Time:** Make plans of your own this afternoon. Tonight, gather for a festive Farewell Reception and Dinner on the ship to commemorate your journey.

# Day 9 | In Transit

Transfer **>** to the airport for the return flight **+** to your gateway city.

#### Accommodations {with baggage handling}

 Unpack once and cruise for 7 nights aboard the exclusively chartered, first-class MS Amadeus Riva.

#### **Extensive Meal Program**

-7 breakfasts, 5 lunches and 7 dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine, beer or soft drinks with lunch and dinner.

#### Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- AHI Travel Assurance plan covers Accident and Sickness Medical Expense, Trip Delay and Emergency Evacuation for U.S. residents.
- Enrichment by expert speakers enhances your insight into the region.
- Engaging excursions showcase the local culture, heritage and history.
- 🏵 PYJ | Personalize Your Journey

A choice of excursions in selected locales.

- **Electives** and free time to pursue your individual interests.
- SAHI Sustainability Promise: We strive to make a positive impact wherever we travel.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.



#### **2024 Departures & Pricing**

## April 3-11, 2024

\$250
\$3,645

#### Special Price from \$3,395

#### \*See the website for complete category pricing.

\*Special price available for a limited time. Call for details.

VAT & port tax supplement are an additional \$395 per person. All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).

Single supplement waived for solo travelers! This offer is limited, capacity-controlled and tends to sell out quickly. Program-specific terms and conditions are available at https://orst. ahitravel.com/destinations/1805A?schoolld=129. You can also request a copy from our travel experts.

**Note:** Itinerary sequence and/or scheduled events may change. Walking is required on many excursions.

Flights 🔂 and transfers 🔾 provided for AHI FlexAir participants. Selectives available at an additional cost.