Bike & Boat: Netherlands & Belgium: Amsterdam – Bruges Premium

8 days, *€ 1449*



DUTCH BIKE TOURS
Bike, Breathe & Discover

Introduction



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.

Day to Day

Day 1 **Amsterdam – Utrecht**

Embarkation and check-in is between at 2 p.m., where your crew for the week will be waiting to welcome you on board. At 2.30 p.m. the ship will depart from Amsterdam to Utrecht, a charming town. From there, you can enjoy a scenic first test ride through the surrounding area of Utrecht.

Day 2 **Utrecht – Vreeswijk | Schoonhoven - Kinderdijk 32/56 km | Dordrecht**

During breakfast, the ship cruises to Vreeswijk, where your bicycle tour starts. Cycle along winding rivers, picturesque villages, and historic locks while enjoying the peaceful nature and the Dutch landscape. 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 approx. 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, 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 "Wouwse 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 Grote Market, the Onze-Lieve-Vrouwe Cathedral and the medieval Steen Castle. Dinner tonight (not included) will be in town in a restaurant of your choice (recommendations available on board).

Day 5 **Antwerp – Temse – St. Amands 34/49km**

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-metre-tall belfry of Ghent, one of three medieval towers that overlook the old city center. Before dinner a small canal boat will take you for a guided tour through the historic city.

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.

Prices, Data, Booking

Prices per person – 2027

Hutsoort	Voor	Seizoen A	Seizoen B	Seizoen C	Seizoen D	Seizoen E	Seizoen F
Twin cabin	*2 pax*	**€2.239, -**	**€1.859,-**	**€1.759,-**	**€1.879,-**	**€1.829,-**	**€1.843,-**
Twin cabin with split level beds (LaMar)	*2 pax*	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	**€1.679,-**	**€1.743,-**
Twin cabin with double bed lower deck (Clair d'Etoile)	*2 pax*	Not available	Not available	Not available	**€1.879,-**	Not available	Not available
Premium twin cabin (MAGII)	*2 pax*	**€2.569,-**	**€2.189,-**	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available
Junior Suite lower deck (MAGI)	*2 pax*	**€2.739,-**	**€2.359,-**	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available
Suite Upper deck (not on MAGI)	*2 pax*	**€2.939,-**	**€2.559,-**	**€2.459,-**	Not available	Not available	Not available
Single cabin (MAGIII)	*1 pax*	**€2.898, -**	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available
Twin cabin for single use (not on MAGIII)	*1 pax*	**€3.358,50**	**€2.788,50**	**€2.638,50**	**€2.818,50**	**€2.743,-**	Not available
Twin cabin with split level beds for single use (La Mar)	*1 pax*	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	**€2.518,50**	Not available
Twin cabin with double bed lower deck for single use (Clair d'Etoile)	*1 pax*	Not available	Not available	Not available	**€2.818,50**	Not available	Not available

Junior Suite lower deck for single use (MAGI)	*1 pax*	Not available	**€3.538,50**	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available

*** Discount Triple cabin:** (Premium) Triple - €50 p.p. | Suite - €100 p.p. (only available on MAGII/III, only for children till 14 yrs (MAGII) / 16 yrs (MAGIII), on request and limited)

Tour dates 2027:
Season A: Magnifique's (I, II, III, IV): April 27 - June 29; August 24 - October 19
Season B: Magnifique's (I, II, IV): July 1 - August 19; August 26; en October 7
Season C: Magnifique's (IV): October 14
Season D: Clair d'Etoile: May 1
Season E: La Mar: May 7; September 3
Season F: La Mar: May 14
Departures:
Departures on Tuesday: Magnifique I (MAGI)
Amsterdam – Bruges on May 18; June 1 and 22; July 6 and 20; August 3, 17 and 31; September 28; and October 12
Bruges – Amsterdam on May 11 and 25; June 8 and 29; July 13 and 27; August 10 and 24; September 7; October 5 and 19
Departures on Thursday: Magnifique II (MAGII)
Amsterdam – Bruges on April 29; May 27; June 10; July 8 and 22; August 5; September 2, 16 and 30
Bruges – Amsterdam on May 6 and 20; June 3 and 17; July 15 and 29; August 12; and October 7
Departures on Tuesday: Magnifique III (MAGIII)
Amsterdam – Bruges on April 27; May 11 and 25
Bruges – Amsterdam on May 4 and 18
Departures on Thursday: Magnifique IV
Amsterdam – Bruges on April 22; May 6 and 20; June 3 and 17; July 1, 15 and 29; August 26; September 9 and 23; October 7
Bruges – Amsterdam on April 29; May 13 and 27; June 24; July 8 and 22; August 19; September 2, 16 and 30; October 14
Departure on Saturday: Clair d'Etoile
Amsterdam – Bruges on May 1
Departures on Friday: La Mar
Amsterdam – Bruges on May 7
Bruges – Amsterdam on May 14; and September 3

Accommodation

Premiumship Magnifique I

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 barge will sail under Dutch flag and management on several tours in The Netherlands, Belgium and Germany.

Description of the cabins

The Magnifique I will have a capacity of max. 32 guests in 16 cabins. Twelve twin cabins (approx. 11 m^2) with two single beds; four junior suites (approx. 15 m^2) have two single beds set next to each other as a hotel style bed.
All beautifully decorated cabins are on lower deck and have en-suite bathrooms, air-conditioning, a mini-safe and a hair-dryer; the windows can not be opened for security reasons.

Description of the ship

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. Wi-Fi is available. Large glass doors open to the beautiful partially roofed teak wood sundeck with chairs and tables between the salon and the wheelhouse. Bicycles are stored on the front deck.

Facts about the ship

Length: 57 m
Width: 6.6 m
Crew: 5
Cabins: 16
Pass: 32 (max.)

Premiumship Magnifique II

The premium ship Magnifique II was constructed in 2015/2016. The proud owner, Walter van Berkum, is one of the most experienced ship builders and operators of the fleet: he converted several former cargo ships into beautiful passenger ships. By constructing the Magnifique II, Walter was the first one to introduce "upper deck suites" for smaller passenger barges. The Magnifique II has set new standards for comfort for bike and barge tours. The vessel sails under Dutch flag and management and is a very popular ship on several tours in The Netherlands and Belgium.

Description of the cabins:

The upper deck has four spacious suites (14 m^2) with two separate single beds, a small sitting area and large panoramic windows, of which the middle part can be opened. The lower deck has thirteen cabins: one premium twin cabin (13 m^2) with two separate single beds and a small sitting area and twelve beautiful twin cabins (11 m^2) with 2 separate single beds. In most cabins, on prior request, the beds can be set together as a double bed. On request, an extra bed is available in two twin cabins and one upper deck suite for children up to age 16 (above one of the other beds).
All cabins have en-suite facilities with a shower, toilet and sink. The cabins on the lower deck have portholes (fixed for safety reasons), upper deck suites have 2 m wide windows (which can be partly opened) and the air conditioning in all cabins can be individually regulated. Furthermore, in each cabin you will find a flat screen satellite TV, a mini safe and a hair dryer.

Description of the ship:

The upper deck has a large, tastefully furnished and spacious salon with air conditioning, a restaurant area, a beautiful bar and a lounge area with cozy sitting area, a wide screen TV and large panoramic windows. Wi-Fi is available. The Magnifique II has a beautiful, partly covered teak wooden sun deck with chairs and tables on the aft deck and a cycle storage on the front deck. On the top deck, the barge has a whirlpool/Jacuzzi and some deckchairs to relax while you enjoy the scenery when cruising. In winter '23/'24, the restaurant and lounge area of the ship will get a makeover with new flooring, furniture and decoration.

Facts about the ship
Length: 63 m
Width: 7.2 m
Crew: 5
Cabins: 17
Pass: 37 (max.)

Premiumship Magnifique III

Our premium ship Magnifique III was launched in 2018. The proud owner, Walter van Berkum, one of the most experienced ship builders and operators of the fleet, already converted several former cargo ships into beautiful passenger barges. The Magnifique III meets the highest standards for comfort for bike and barge tours. The vessel sails under Dutch flag and management on several tours in The Netherlands and Belgium.

Description of the cabins

The upper deck has five spacious suites (16 m^2) with two separate single beds, a small sitting area and a "French Balcony": ceiling-to-floor sliding glass doors. The lower deck has fourteen beautiful twin cabins (12 m^2) with two separate single beds and two single cabins (approx. 7 – 9 m^2). In most cabins and all suites, on prior request, the beds can be set together as a double bed. On request, an additional third bed is available in one of the suites and one of the twin cabins for children up to age 16 (Pullman bed, above one of the other beds).
All cabins have en-suite facilities with a shower, toilet and basin. The cabins on the lower deck have portholes (fixed for safety reasons), upper deck suites have sliding glass doors that can be partly opened. The air conditioning in all cabins can be individually regulated. Furthermore, in each cabin you will find a flat

screen satellite TV, a mini safe and a hair dryer.

Description of the ship

The upper deck has a large, tastefully furnished salon with a restaurant area, a nice bar and a lounge area with cozy sitting corners, a wide screen TV and large panoramic windows. There are also two TV screens (a camera and a navigation system) to see the real-time movement and position of the barge. Wi-Fi is available. Large glass doors open to the beautiful partially roofed teak wood sundeck with chairs and tables on the aft deck. There is a cycle deck on the front deck. On the top deck, the barge has a whirlpool/Jacuzzi and some deckchairs to relax and enjoy the scenery while cruising.

Facts about the ship

Length: 67 m
Width: 7,2 m
Crew: 5
Cabins: 21
Pass.: 40 (max.)

Premiumship Magnifique IV

Following the overwhelming success of our premium barges Magnifique, Magnifique II (2016), and Magnifique III (2018), we are proud to announce the new sister for the family: the Magnifique IV (2020). Master shipbuilder Walter van Berkum is one of the most experienced operators of our fleet, having already converted several former cargo ships into luxury passenger barges. As the proud owner of the Magnifique IV, he is dedicated to ensuring this beautiful ship meets the highest standards of quality and comfort for our bike and barge tours.
The Magnifique IV will sail under the Dutch flag and host several tours in the Netherlands and Belgium. Accommodating no more than 36 passengers plus crew, the vessel is designed to create a welcoming atmosphere and personal experience for everyone on board.

Description of the cabins

In addition to the bar and lounge area, the upper deck houses 10 generous suites, while the lower deck houses eight twin cabins and the dining room. The spacious suites, each measuring 16 m^2, have two separate beds, set next to each other as a hotel style bed (200 x 160 cm), a cozy sitting area, and a large sliding window.The twin cabins below deck, measuring 12 m^2 feature two single beds and fixed portholes. All cabins have their own private bathroom with shower, basin and toilet; as well as individually-regulated air-conditioning, flat screen satellite TV, mini safe and hair dryer.

Description of the ship

The Magnifique IV's upper deck features a spacious and tastefully-decorated salon with air conditioning, a bar and lounge area. Here you will find large panoramic windows, a widescreen TV, and information screens displaying the barge's real-time location. Wi-Fi is also available. The comfortable and inviting restaurant is separated from the kitchen by a glass wall, so you can see our talented chefs in action. Large glass doors open onto a beautiful partially-covered teak sundeck, furnished with tables and chairs. The front deck has space to accommodate bicycles, while the top deck boasts a hot tub and deckchairs, from which you can enjoy the scenery.

Facts about the ship

Ship length: 67 m
Ship width: 7.2 m
Ship height: 5.9 m
Ship depth: 1.5 m
Cabins: 18
Passengers: 36 guests (plus crew)

La Mar

In 2000, the La Mar was converted from a cargo ship into a modern and spacious passenger ship, especially for boat and bike tours in the Netherlands and Belgium. In the winter of 2012/2013 the ship has been completely renovated. Description of the cabins:

Description of the cabins

The La Mar has twelve comfortable guest cabins, situated on the lower deck. Ten twin cabins (10 m^2) with two separate single beds and two twin cabins (8 m^2) with two split level beds. These twins can also be used as singles by folding up the split level bed. Each cabin has a private shower, toilet and basin. Windows can be opened and the cabins have central heating and air-conditioning. Furthermore, in each cabin you will find a mini safe and hair dryer.

Description of the ship:

On the upper deck, there is the air-conditioned lounge, a spacious sitting area with wide screen TV, a cozy bar and a large sundeck. Wi-Fi is available. The sundeck is the ideal place to drink a cup of coffee or an aperitif and to enjoy the scenery while cruising. The meals of excellent quality are served in the air-conditioned dining room, located on the lower deck.

Facts about the ship

Length: 45 m

Width: 6,5 m
Crew: 4
Cabins: 12
Pass: 24 (max.)

Clair d'Etoile (former Zwaantje)
The Clair d'Etoile (former Zwaantje) is a new built passenger barge. Since May 2024, the ship has a new owner and operator: Marco Pouw, who has experience as an operator of a passenger barge for many years. The ship has a warm and cozy atmosphere. The Clair d'Etoile sails under Dutch flag and management and is a very popular small river barge on several tours in The Netherlands, Belgium and France.

Description of the cabins:
On the lower deck, the Clair d'Etoile has twelve comfortable guest cabins. Ten twins (7 m^2) with two separate single beds and two doubles (6 m^2) with one double bed. Each cabin has a private shower, toilet and basin. All cabins have ventilation, central heating, air-conditioning and a window; the windows in the doubles can be opened, the windows in the twins are fixed for safety reasons. Furthermore, in each cabin you will find a mini safe and hair dryer.

Description of the ship:
On the upper deck you will find the nice and cozy salon with heating, air conditioning, large panoramic windows, a restaurant area, lounge corner and a small bar. Wi-Fi is available. The Clair d'Etoile also has a very spacious sun deck with chairs and tables where you can relax, enjoy the scenery while sailing or join the skipper in the wheel house.

Facts about the ship
Length: 40 m
Width: 5,6 m
Crew: 4
Cabins: 12
Pass.: 24 (max.)

Practical Info

Good to know:
Prices for other rental bicycles, like children's bikes, tandems, trailer bikes (slip streamers), children's seats, and bike trailers are available on request. Guests are also allowed to bring their own bicycles or E-bikes, please let us know so we can reserve a space on board for you. However, the crew or tour operator is in no way responsible for any damage, loss or theft of such bicycles.
Cycling route distances in the travel program are approximate.
On some days you can choose between a longer and a shorter cycling route. Please note that on the shorter routes you may not be able to visit all the highlights mentioned.
If you prefer not to cycle on a particular day, you're welcome to stay on board and relax while the ship cruises to the next landing place.
The tour itinerary and route are subject to possible changes due to nautical, technical or meteorological reasons, or other unforeseen events.
On the arrival day, you can leave your luggage on board the ship from 11.00 am.
A detailed cycling map and a GPS app are available for guests who wish to cycle individually and at their own pace.
The tour guide is always available via cell phone in case of questions, breakdowns or emergencies.
If you have special dietary wishes (vegetarian meals, lactose intolerance or gluten-free diet), then please indicate this when you book your tour. Vegetarian meals are always available, but we need to know in advance; in all other cases we will check the possibilities for the tour of your choice. In some cases, a small fee for preparing special meals will be charged. This mainly applies to lactose or gluten-free meals.
Unfortunately, we cannot offer vegan meals. This is because the kitchens in our ships are not large enough to guarantee that the food can be prepared completely vegan. The available space on board is limited, so the chefs cannot store the necessary tools and supplies to prepare vegan food.

Included in this tour:
8 days/7 nights
7 x breakfast
Packed lunches
6 x 3-course dinner
Coffee and tea on board
Welcome drink
Use of bed linen and towels
Daily cleaning of the cabin
Climate-controlled cabin
Daily briefings
Fully guided cycling tours (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
Use of a waterproof pannier bag
Biodegradable water bottle
Fees for ferries
Tasting Belgium products
Entrance Red Star Line Museum in Antwerp
Canal trip through Ghent
Wi-Fi
The CO2 emissions from this trip will be offset through Trees for All and plastic recycler Orca.

Excluded in this tour:
1x dinner (Antwerp or Bruges)
Drinks

Bicycle rental or E-bike rental
Personal insurances
Gratuities (at your discretion)
Entrance fees and excursions (not mentioned under inclusions)
Transfers to/from the docking place
Parking fees
SGR Insolvency protection = mandatory consumer contribution SGR insolvency protection guarantee scheme: € 5 per person - will be specified separately on the booking confirmation

Additional services:

Magnifique's:
Rental Premium Hybrid bicycle: €154 per week (optional)
Rental E-Bike Premium: €287 per week (only a limited number of electrical bikes available: pref. reservation by booking)
Parking own bicycle: €14 per week (only a limited number of parking places available: pref. reservation by booking)
Parking + charge station own E-Bike: €35 per week (only a limited number of parking places available: pref. reservation by booking)
Clair d'Etoile:
Rental E-Bike Premium: €287 per week
La Mar:
Rental bicycle Premium: €105 per week (optional)
Rental E-Bike Premium: €287 per week (only a limited number of electrical bikes available: pref. reservation by booking)
Parking own bicycle: €14 per week (only a limited number of parking places available: pref. reservation by booking)
Parking + charge station own E-Bike: €35 per week (only a limited number of parking places available: pref. reservation by booking)

Please note: For safety reasons, it is not allowed to use the rental (e-) bikes for self-arranged rides in Amsterdam: in these cases, the limitation of liability does not apply.

Parking in Amsterdam (valet parking): prices and pre-booking on request.

If you're arriving for one of our tours by car then you can start your carefree experience immediately thanks to the CentralParking valet service.
With this parking service, you can drive directly to your ship's departure dock. Arrange a drop-off time in advance and a CentralParking valet driver will be waiting to help you with your luggage. Your valet will then drive your car to a secure garage where it will be parked under 24/7 camera surveillance. Set a pick-up time with CentralParking for your return and your car will be ready and waiting for you when the ship arrives, so you can set out on the road immediately.

Bicycle rental terms:
In case of theft of a properly locked bicycle, you are not liable for the loss/cost of the stolen bicycle, as long as you can present the original key of the lock as proof;
In case of a breakdown, technical failure or flat tire during your tour – but only after you have called and spoken to your tour leader – you can arrange the repair at a local bicycle shop (fietsenmaker). After presenting the receipt, repair costs will be reimbursed;
In case of damage, no cost for repair will be charged, except when this is a result of your own deliberate or neglectful acting;
When – as a result of a breakdown, technical failure or damage during your cycling tour – you cannot continue your cycling tour with this bicycle, and after you have spoken with your tour leader, you can safely store and lock the bicycle and travel to your ship by public transportation (if not available: by taxi). After arrival on board travel costs will be reimbursed;
If necessary and applicable, you can use another bicycle/e-bike for the remaining days of the tour at no extra costs.

Information about the bikes:
The rental bikes on our ships are unisex bicycles with a low bar and a comfortable upright sitting position. These are

stable and dependable bikes, good for miles in the saddle. The bikes consist of a lightweight aluminum frame and have highly-responsive handbrakes, at least seven speeds, an adjustable gel seat, normal flat pedals (no clips), an easy-to-use lock attached to the frame, and special puncture-resistant tires. All told, this is a light, stable and reliable bike, very suitable for touring long distances pleasantly.
Our e-bikes also have at least seven speeds and handbrakes. The motor runs on a 400Wh battery and offers three levels of power-assistance. The e-bikes include comfortable gel seats that can be adjusted for height, have a lock attached to the frame, and sport anti-puncture tires. Note that some of the ships have their own bikes on board.