

Cycling Guided

Options:

Premium Boat
Superior Boat

Day 1 Amsterdam to Vianen	15 km
Day 2 To Kinderdijk - Dor-	55 km
Day 3 To Tholen - Antwerp	20 or 36 km
Day 4 To Dendermonde	48 or 65 km
Day 5 To Ghent	52 km
Day 6 To Bruges	45 km
Day 7 North Sea circular ride	38 or 50 km

Day 8 Bruges

Holland / Belgium



Floating Adventures: Amsterdam to Bruges

Experience the charm of a bygone era on this exciting bike and boat tour where you will discover the best of what Holland and Belgium have to offer, riding on miles of flat, quiet country roads and bike trails.

This unique holiday allows you the freedom to explore the **Dutch** and **Flanders** countrysides by day and sleep in comfort on board our boat at night. Our deluxe vessel has all the amenities you could want.

Attractions along the way include many charming villages, a visit to a 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.

This tour departs from either Amsterdam or Bruges, and offers both premium and superior accommodations.

Fast Facts

Includes:

- 7 nights accommodation, with all meals included (breakfast, 3 course dinner on board and packed lunch)
- Daily briefings by guide, maps and information
- GPS tracks

E-Bike Info:

- E-bike rental: \$295
- Limited supplies on boat, reservations required for all bookings



Tour Details 2020

Premium barge Sat:

Starting from: \$1595 per person L/D*
\$1950 U/D Twin
\$2095 U/D Dble

Single cabin supplement: add \$850 L/D
Amsterdam-Bruges Apr 18-Sep 26
Bruges-Amsterdam Apr 25-Sep 19

Superior barge Wed & Sat:

Starting from: \$2095 per person L/D
\$2395 Premium Twin
\$2950 per person U/D

Single cabin supplement: \$1000
Amsterdam-Bruges Apr 25 to Oct 10
Bruges-Amsterdam May 13 to Oct 19

Bike rental: \$125

Length: 8 days / 7 nights
Grade: Moderate

*L/D Lower Deck U/D Upper Deck

ITINERARY

Day 1 Amsterdam 15 km

Embark at 1PM and get settled. We sail at approx. 2PM to Vianen, a small fortified village on the Lek River. After the distribution of bicycles, you can enjoy a short first test ride through the surrounding area.

Day 2 To Schoonhoven, Kinderdijk and Dordrecht 55 km

After a cyclist's breakfast we take off to Kinderdijk after visiting Schoonhoven a town known for its silver. We pass by rows of large windmills along the Albasserwaard and will stop to visit one. You will take the "Waterbus", a fast ferry, that will take you and your bike to Dordrecht, considered to be one of the oldest cities in Holland.

Day 3 To Tholen - Kreekrak lock - Antwerp 20 or 36 km

We cruise along the canal to Tholen where you start your day's cycling through the "Wouwse Plantage" forest. Continue on to the impressive Kreekrak lock. After meeting the barge you sail to Antwerp, renowned for being the "world's leading diamond city", more than 80% of all diamonds are traded in Antwerp and was the home of painter Rubens.

Day 4 To Temse and Dendermonde 48 or 65 km

We follow the beautifully landscaped Zeeschelde river to St. Amands. We can join the beautiful bike path along the river, the landscape around the Schelde is magnificent and is without doubt one of the natural highlights of the tour.

Day 5 To Dendermonde and Ghent 52 km

We again follow the river Schelde in the direction of Ghent, our destination for today. It is Flanders' unsung city. Sandwiched between Brussels, Bruges and Antwerp, this attractive medieval canal city has long been overlooked by visitors on the traditional art-town hop between Belgium's big three. Some attractions include 18 museums, over 100 churches and St Bavo Cathedral.

Day 6 To Bruges 45 km

Our bike tour starts just outside the city and goes through the pleasant Flemish countryside of Western Flanders to Bruges. Bruges, also called the Venice of the North, is maybe the most beautiful of all Flemish cities. Its old centre, which dates from the Middle Ages, is almost completely intact. Perhaps visit one of Bruges many museums or simply take in the stunning beauty of this unforgettable city from the comfort of a sidewalk café.

Day 7 Bruges to the North Sea 38 or 50 km

Today we ride through an attractive polder landscape to the North Sea coast and the attractive dune landscape of "Het Zwin" (an unique nature reserve). We return along lovely canals to Bruges, a really unique place to visit.

Day 8 Bruges Tour ends after breakfast, disembark for 09:30.

**Itinerary subject to change by Captain*



Slightly different itinerary for Superior barge Days 3 & 4. See page 3 for details.

What to Expect

What will the weather be like?

The weather is nice and cool especially in the mornings and evenings. A sweater or fleece would be useful. It may rain in the spring so rain gear for cycling is highly recommended.

How many hours of cycling a day?

You can cycle from 4 to 6 hours a day depending on your fitness level. There are several breaks during the day to get off the bicycle and walk around. The route is completely flat with very little elevation gain or loss.

How fit do I need to be?

The fitter the better, but even a fit beginner will enjoy this trip. The biggest issue may just be getting accustomed to sitting on a bike for hours a day, so get used to riding on a bike before coming out.

What are the accommodations like?

Cabins are all fitted with 2 beds, a bathroom with sink, toilet and shower and air conditioning. The main common areas include the upper deck with the dining room. All barges have an outdoor deck to enjoy as well. Lactose/Gluten-free diets add \$100, vegan diets not available.



Getting There

Amsterdam (Schipol) airport is easily accessed from most major cities.

From the airport, you can take the local train directly to the Amsterdam Central Station. This journey takes about 15 min. and departs 6x per hour.

Trains to or from Bruges are also available from Schipol airport (voyage 3 hours).

Day 3 Willemstad -Tholen - Antwerp 36-44 km

Sail to Willemstad where you will start your day's cycling. Willemstad is a beautiful old fortified town on the Haringvliet waterway. Your ride goes to Tholen, once 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. In the afternoon you will once again board the ship to 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 Renaissance period City Hall, the historical City Square Grote Market, the Onze-Lieve-Vrouwe Cathedral and the medieval Steen Castle.

Day 4 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.

How to book your holiday

- Contact our office to make sure there is space available. One of our travel planners will walk you through the entire process.
- Download the reservation form from our site and send in completed form by fax or email. Once this is done, your space is confirmed and a pre-departure packet will be sent.
- A deposit is required immediately, and final payment is due 60 days prior to the trip departure. Terms & conditions are outlined in our Reservation Form.
- Plan your air travel as soon as possible.
- We encourage you to purchase travel insurance, either through us or a travel insurance provider directly.
- Ensure you are in proper health for the trip chosen. Contact us, for more information on vaccinations, inoculations, and fitness requirements.