



## Tulips & Windmills

### 9-Night Netherlands & Belgium Cruise aboard Viking River Cruises

*Embark on the ultimate 10-day spring vacation as we cruise through the Low Countries of The Netherlands and Belgium.*

*Explore Amsterdam with its world-famous canals and museums. Visit two of Belgium's most beautifully preserved medieval cities, Antwerp and Brugge. Stroll through charming, cobbled Hoorn and see the Kinderdijk windmills. We'll be in Holland for Tulip Time! See the colorful tulip fields and the amazing flowers at **Keukenhof Gardens** — the most photographed place in the world!*

#### Day 1 Depart U.S.

Depart on your flight to Amsterdam.

#### Day 2 Amsterdam

Welcome to **Amsterdam**! We will be met at the airport and taken on a **city tour**, which will include a visit to the **Anne Frank House** and the **Van Gogh Museum** featuring works by the artist and his contemporaries. Early afternoon we will board our ship which offers an intimate atmosphere where passengers can really get to know fellow vacationers. Enjoy “river view” staterooms, elegantly appointed public areas, fine dining and spacious outside decks that allow you to take in the scenery. After boarding, you have free time to get acquainted with this canal-laced city—or join in on a “**welcome walk**” to stretch your legs and start getting oriented. Meet your traveling companions at the first of many fabulous dinners on board.

#### Day 3 Amsterdam

After breakfast, embark on a **canal tour** by glass-topped boat to see architecture from the city's Golden Age. Return aboard for lunch, then take free time to explore the city's charming neighborhoods—as always, your shipboard Program Director can help you plan your free time. Dine aboard; evening departure.

#### Day 4 Hoorn

Early this morning, sail across the IJsselmeer (once known as the Zuiderzee) to the ancient shipping village of **Hoorn**. After breakfast, enjoy a **guided walk through Hoorn's cobbled streets**; see age-old cheese warehouses on the town's main square, which dates back to Holland's Golden Age. Lunch is served aboard; you have a free afternoon to explore Hoorn, visit a local bakery and shop for souvenirs. Or, take an optional excursion showcasing the small towns and bucolic landscapes of the northern Holland area. Depart during dinner and cruise through the night.

#### Day 5 Arnhem & Nijmegen

After early arrival in **Arnhem**, take a special **Battlefield Tour** visiting several sites that were crucial to the heroic battle fought September 17-25, 1944, when troops from the British First Airborne Division were encircled by German troops in the unsuccessful attempt to secure Rhine bridges. This fierce battle is immortalized in Richard Attenborough's classic film, *A Bridge Too Far*. Our tour will visit some of the **landing zones**, the **Airborne Museum and Cemetery** in nearby **Oosterbeek** and the famous **John Frost Bridge** (named for the paratroopers' commander). After lunch aboard, you may return to Arnhem for leisure time in this historic town or you may take an optional tour to the Netherlands Open-Air Museum. This museum showcases 250 years of Dutch culture with more than 80 authentic houses, workshops and windmills. Cruise through dinner to **Nijmegen**, one of Holland's oldest cities, where you have a free evening.



### Day 6      **Kinderdijk & Antwerp**

Arrive this morning in **Kinderdijk** and disembark for a **tour** of this ingenious 18th-century community. Learn why the windmills were built and see how they work to help control flooding, then tour an actual working windmill to see its pumping mechanism and living quarters at this **UNESCO World Heritage Site**. Lunch aboard as we sail toward **Antwerp**. After dinner aboard, relax on the ship or spend some time exploring the cafés and brew pubs of this extraordinary Flemish capital.

### Day 7      **Antwerp**

This morning, enjoy a **half-day tour** of **Antwerp** featuring the **Cathedral of Our Lady** with its three monumental altarpieces painted by Peter Paul Rubens; the **Grote Markt** (Grand Square) surrounded by the Golden Age Town Hall and guild halls, and **Het Steen** (Steen Castle), Antwerp's oldest building. You have afternoon free time before dining aboard; sail tonight for **Ghent**.

### Day 8      **Ghent & Brugge**

From **Ghent**, travel to **Brugge**, one of the oldest towns in Flanders. Our **city walk** visits the **Church of Our Lady**, with its famous *Madonna and Child* sculpted by Michelangelo. Also see the **Beguinage**, a hidden courtyard inhabited by nuns, and the town's scenic network of canals. Stay in Brugge for lunch and further exploration or have lunch aboard. Use your free time in Ghent to see the amazing **Floralies**, a major floral festival held only during this sailing!

### Day 9      **Middelburg, Delta Works & Rotterdam**

Our day begins with a **walk through medieval Middelburg** with its dramatic 16<sup>th</sup>-century Gothic town hall. From here, travel to **Neeltje Jans Expo** to learn more about how the **Delta Works** protect Holland from the sea. See the hydraulic lock system and walk along the massive dam. Return to our ship for lunch and afternoon cruising. Arrive this evening in **Rotterdam**; rebuilt after much World War II destruction, it is the world's second largest port. The evening is at leisure; dinner aboard.

### Day 10      **Keukenhof Gardens & Amsterdam**

After breakfast, take a journey to picturesque **Keukenhof Gardens**, the world's largest floral park. Admire the stunning floral beauty at both indoor and outdoor exhibits of millions of vibrant blooms including tulips, hyacinths, croci and daffodils. Return aboard for lunch. The rest of the day is yours to discover Amsterdam's hidden treasures. You may choose to explore Museum Square or shop for colorful clogs and tulip bulbs. Dinner is served aboard, followed by free time to enjoy Amsterdam's night life. The ship remains docked overnight.

### Day 11      **Disembark and return to U.S.**

After breakfast we will transfer to the airport for our return flight filled with memories of our wonderful trip!

**FOR MORE INFORMATION contact Cruises and Tours Worldwide at  
(314) 961-1020 or (800) 435-2710.**

**[www.cruises-toursworldwide.com](http://www.cruises-toursworldwide.com)**