



 Europe Rivers, Europe & River Cruises
 51° 2' N 3° 43' E

Holland and Belgium: Medieval History and Scenic Waterways

Journey along the Rhine and other picturesque waterways of Holland and Belgium, where centuries of rich culture, art and history come to life amidst vibrant flower vistas, iconic windmills and fairytale towns. Travel down Amsterdam’s scenic canals, call on historic cities such as Antwerp and Delft, and take in the serene Dutch countryside while delving into the region’s defining artistic legacy, deep-rooted Jewish history and culinary delights. This captivating voyage sails aboard the newly chartered 120-guest *Connect*, a luxurious vessel rooted in sustainable design—from thoughtfully sourced build materials and green technology that minimizes food waste to environmentally friendly bath and bedding products in every spacious stateroom.

From
\$ 6,450 / per person
 Does not include flights

 DATES Apr and Aug	 DURATION 8 or 9 Days
 SHIPS <i>Connect</i>	
 STARTS AT Brussels, Belgium	→  ENDS AT Amsterdam, Netherlands

Highlights

- ★ Stroll through more than 7 million tulips, daffodils and hyacinths at Keukenhof, known as the “Garden of Europe” (spring departures), or marvel at the Brussels Flower Carpet: 2,000 square meters of flowers meticulously arranged to create a work of art on the city’s iconic Grand-Place (summer departures)
- ★ Witness the works of masters like Van Gogh, Rembrandt, Rubens, Vermeer and more with exclusive, after-hours tours at the Kröller-Müller and Mauritshuis Museums
- ★ Tour WWII monuments that reveal Amsterdam’s rich Jewish heritage, guided by Holocaust survivors or family members of survivors
- ★ Indulge in incredible culinary experiences throughout your voyage, from a progressive food tour of Belgian specialties in Antwerp to curated dinners onboard featuring local flavors





Day by day

■ DAY 1

Brussels, Belgium

Arrive in Brussels and check in at the Radisson Collection Brussels. The rest of the day is at your leisure to explore the city.

◇ DAY 2

Brussels

Step into a masterpiece where nature meets imagination as you experience Brussels' Flower Carpet. Every two years, the UNESCO-listed Grand-Place transforms into an awe-inspiring tapestry of nearly a million begonias or dahlias. Covering 2,000 square meters with intricate designs inspired by global traditions, this living artwork first created in 1971, celebrates Belgian creativity and is now recognized as part of Brussels' cultural heritage. Embark *Connect* in the afternoon. After lunch on board, settle into your stateroom before joining your fellow travelers for a festive welcome reception and dinner on board.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 3

Antwerp

Start your day in Antwerp with a visit to the Royal Museum of Fine Arts, home to an impressive collection of Flemish Baroque and contemporary masterpieces. Alternatively, delve into the city's Jewish heritage, which dates back to the 16th century when Sephardic Jews fled the Spanish Inquisition, as your guide shares fascinating insights into the community's growth and contributions during Antwerp's economic golden age. This afternoon, indulge in a progressive food tour, sampling Belgian fries, waffles and chocolate at some of the city's finest eateries and capping it off

with a Belgium beer tasting led by a knowledgeable beer sommelier. Enjoy a celebratory welcome cocktail party and dinner on board this evening.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 4

Ghent

This morning, you'll explore Ghent, one of Belgium's most vibrant cities, on a walking tour through medieval streets, lively squares and stunning architecture. Visit St. Bavo's Cathedral, where you'll have the rare opportunity to admire the world-renowned Adoration of the Mystic Lamb by Van Eyck. In the afternoon, choose between free time to further explore Ghent or a visit to Gravensteen, the city's impressive medieval fortress.

This evening on board, enjoy a classical concert followed by a gourmet dinner, creating the perfect end to a memorable day.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 5

Rotterdam, The Netherlands / The Hague or Delft / Kinderdijk

Arrive in Rotterdam this morning with options to explore the city. Visit The Hague, the political heart of the Netherlands and home to the esteemed International Court of Justice. Enjoy a private visit to the Mauritshuis Museum before it opens, where you'll have the rare opportunity to admire masterpieces such as Vermeer's *Girl with a Pearl Earring* in a crowd-free setting. Alternatively, immerse yourself in the city of Delft, renowned for its iconic blue pottery and royal connections. Visit the Royal Delft factory, the last remaining producer of the famous Delftware, and wander through the

town's storied streets.

This afternoon, journey to the UNESCO-listed Kinderdijk to witness its iconic windmills and learn about the Netherlands' groundbreaking water management systems.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 6

Arnhem

Explore Arnhem's rich history with visits to landmarks such as the John Frost Bridge, a pivotal site during the 1944 Battle of Arnhem, and the Old City Hall located in Market Square. Alternatively, discover Het Loo Palace, a former royal residence that offers a glimpse into the grandeur of Dutch monarchy. Stroll through the opulent gardens, admire the baroque architecture and uncover the legacy of the royal family.

After an afternoon spent at your leisure in Arnhem exploring the Airborne Museum or wandering through the picturesque old town, enjoy a private, after-hours tour of the renowned Kröller-Müller Museum. Nestled in De Hoge Veluwe National Park, the museum boasts an exceptional collection of modern art, including masterpieces by Van Gogh and Rembrandt, plus a breathtaking sculpture garden. Conclude your visit with an exclusive reception, offering a memorable finish to the day.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 7

Kampen / Giethoorn

Giethoorn, often referred to as the "Venice of the Netherlands," is renowned for its serene canals, charming thatched-roof cottages and picturesque wooden bridges. Uncover the village's rich history, dating back to the 13th century while cruising its narrow waterways. Alternatively, enjoy the scenic

beauty of the countryside near Kampen on a guided bicycle tour before indulging in a Dutch cheese presentation aboard the ship. This evening, enjoy an authentic Dutch dinner featuring fresh, locally sourced mussels and oysters. During the meal, a local chef will come aboard to reveal insights on the region's traditions and flavors, making for an unforgettable culinary experience.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 8

Amsterdam

Visit historic Alkmaar, a city famous for its cheese, where you'll explore the old town, with its well-preserved architecture and canal system. Alternatively, choose a guided walking tour through Amsterdam's most iconic neighborhoods, historic landmarks and hidden gems before taking a scenic canal cruise through the historic waterways of the Dutch capital city. Learn about Amsterdam's unique relationship with water and its iconic canal system, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

This afternoon, delve deeply into the city's Jewish history and culture on a tour led by guides who are family members of Holocaust survivors or survivors themselves. Together, you'll visit the Holocaust Museum, the Hollandsche Schouwburg—a theater-turned-museum with a poignant WWII history—the Portuguese Synagogue and the Jewish Historical Museum for a profound exploration of resilience and heritage.

Cast off this evening with a farewell reception and dinner followed by a musical performance on board.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

■ DAY 9

Amsterdam

Following breakfast, disembark in Amsterdam. Opt

to stay longer for an optional two-day post-voyage extension to explore Amsterdam and its neighboring countryside.

Meals included: breakfast

Downstream (Summer)

Brussels, Belgium → Amsterdam, Netherlands

Alternative Routes

Visit Expeditions.com for more information.

2026 Departure Dates

15 Aug

2027 Departure Dates

11 Apr, 18 Apr, 25 Apr

Special Offers

SAVE 50% ON CHILDREN 18 AND UNDER

Receive savings of 50% deducted from cabin fare on select 2026 voyages for children 18 and under at time of travel. Applicable savings will be deducted from cabin fare after any additional savings with the purchase of cabin fare. Additional restrictions may apply. Promotional offer valid on new bookings only for select 2026 departures, subject to availability and offer may be withdrawn at any time without prior notice, not applicable on airfare or extensions, and may not be combined with other promotions. Call to book or for additional details.

SAVE 10% WHEN YOU SAIL WITH A GROUP OF SIX OR MORE

Book from March 18 to May 6, 2026: Receive savings of 10% deducted from cabin fare when you book a party of 6 or more on voyages departing on or after April 1, 2026, through 2028. To qualify for the offer, parties must be 6 or more across a minimum of 3 cabins. Applicable savings will be deducted from cabin fare after any additional savings with the purchase of cabin fare. Discount is subject to be removed upon cancellation of party members if group drops below 6. Additional restrictions may apply. Savings offer valid on new bookings only, subject to availability, and offer may be withdrawn at any time without prior notice, not applicable on airfare or extensions, and may not be combined with other promotions. Call to book or for additional details.

COMBINING OFFERS

Certain offers may be combinable, up to two savings opportunities, except where noted otherwise. For example, travel with a group of 8 or more on back-to-back expeditions, and take advantage of both

savings.

CELEBRATE LIFE'S MILESTONES

Celebrate a milestone with a group of eight or more and enjoy a special amenity package including: 5% savings on voyage fares, custom group photo, US\$150 shipboard credit for the group, and other special gifts. Milestone celebration to be communicated at time of booking.

10% OFF BACK-TO-BACK VOYAGES

Save 10% on consecutive departures, applicable on voyage fares only and not valid on extensions or airfare. Valid for new bookings only, subject to availability, and may not be combined with other offers. Call for details.

Included in price

All accommodations aboard ship per itinerary; all meals as indicated in the itinerary, both aboard and onshore; beer and wine aboard the ship; hors d'oeuvres, 24-hour access to snacks, premium coffees and teas, non-alcoholic beverages, drinking water; excursions as indicated in the itinerary; crew gratuities; bicycles and e-bikes; guidance and company of our leading expedition staff; assistance of the Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic certified photo instructor; presentations by expedition staff and expert guest speakers; Wi-Fi; complimentary reusable water bottle; 24-hour access to lounges, observation decks, library, and other shared spaces; park and site entrance fees, special access permits, and port taxes. Unused services or items included in our programs are non-refundable.

Not included in price

Airfare (except flights when indicated as included); pre- and post-expedition extensions; additional hotel nights (except when indicated as included); services of an onboard physician; transfers; laundry, spa and phone services (except when indicated as included); travel protection plans; and passport, visa, and immigration fees.

Travel protection plan

We strongly recommend our guests to take advantage of our Travel Protection Plan. This plan offers comprehensive coverage to protect you from cancellation fees, costs incurred due to trip delays/interruption, damage or loss of baggage, medical assistance, and evacuation during your travels. Our Travel Protection Plan is available for U.S. residents only, and may be purchased any time prior to final payment due date, Travel Protection premiums are non-refundable once plan is purchased. Learn more about our Travel Protection "Plus" Plan: <https://www.expeditions.com/terms-conditions/travel-protection-plan/>

Cancellation policy

Review our cancellation policy: <https://www.expeditions.com/cancellation-policy/>