

# Dutch Waterways

ANTWERP TO AMSTERDAM



**NO SINGLE  
SUPPLEMENT**  
for Solo  
Travelers

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**Traveling Aggies**

A PROGRAM OF  
The Association of Former Students™



April 17-25, 2024



# A World of Discovery



Embark on a carefree cruise brimming with Old World charm and history along the intimate waterways of Belgium and the Netherlands! You'll glide down Amsterdam's iconic canals, stroll amid a sea of brilliant tulips at Keukenhof Gardens and admire the medieval character of Bruges and Antwerp. Discover enriching details from expert guides and lecturers during your travels, plus choose from included cultural and culinary experiences in selected ports!

*Top: Keukenhof Gardens | Above: Gouda cheese, Gouda  
Cover: Amsterdam | Mail panel: The Hague | Peter Paul  
Rubens statue, Groenplaats, Antwerp*

## 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 three **UNESCO World Heritage Sites**.

ALUMNI CAMPUS  
ABROAD®

## Howdy, Ags!

There's much to discover on this wonderful, seven-night cruise through Belgium and the Netherlands! Unpack once aboard your first-class ship and then delight in the remarkable riches of their most historic cities and towns! Take in the Old-World ambience of Bruges and Antwerp, Amsterdam's gabled canal houses and breathtaking flowers in a renowned garden. Other ports of call introduce you to Kampen, steeped in Hanseatic history, and Veere, a laid-back harbor town.

You'll also choose excursions that speak to you in selected ports. In Bruges, visit a chocolaterie, discover the beer culture or view fine Belgian art. See The Hague and the Mauritshuis' celebrated masterpieces, watch artisans at the Royal Delft porcelain factory or sample farm-fresh cheeses in Gouda. In Kampen, admire its splendid architecture and visit a Hanseatic ship or brewery afterward. Another option takes you to the picture-perfect village of Giethoorn for a canal cruise.

This thoughtfully designed journey features enrichment from expert guides and lecturers, along with the security and ease of group travel. Plus, you'll appreciate the camaraderie of other curious travelers and make your own discoveries during free time.

Our Dutch Waterways cruise has always proven to be a crowd-pleaser! Guarantee your spot by making your reservation today!

Gig 'em!

*Julie Scamardo*

Julie Scamardo  
Manager of Traveling Aggies  
The Association of Former Students of Texas A&M University

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### UNESCO World Heritage

1. **The 17th-Century Canal Ring Area of Amsterdam** inside the Singelgracht, Netherlands
2. **Historic Center of Bruges**, Belgium
3. **Belfries of Belgium and France**



*Old Town, Bruges*



*Belfry, Bruges*



Old Town, Delft

### Day 1 | In Transit

Depart your gateway city for Brussels, Belgium. 🌐

### Day 2 | Brussels, Belgium | Antwerp

Upon arrival, transfer 🔄 to the ship in Antwerp.

**Antwerp Walking Tour.** Located on the Scheldt River near the North Sea, Antwerp has long been a prominent center of trade.

On a guided walk, appreciate its wealth of medieval architecture. See the Gothic Cathedral of Our Lady, the 16th-century town hall festooned with flags and Grote Markt square lined with narrow guild halls.

**Enrichment: Contemporary Belgium.**

The ship moors overnight in Antwerp.

### Day 3 | Bruges | Middelburg, Netherlands | Veere

🌐PYJ | Choose one of these excursions:

All excursions include a guided walk in Bruges' Old Town. See the Basilica of the Holy Blood, the medieval guild hall buildings and the Belfry Tower. Then begin your selected tour.

- **Cultural Bruges.** Study fascinating artwork from the Flemish primitive and expressionist periods at the Groeninge Museum. *(Active)*
- **Bruges and Beer.** Delve into Belgian brewing traditions at the family-owned De Halve Maan Brewery. Sample their beer and relish the city views from the rooftop. *(Active)*
- **Bruges and Belgian Chocolate.** Cocoa beans were first introduced in Belgium in the 17th century. At a chocolatier's shop, learn what makes Belgian chocolate special and indulge in a sweet sample. *(Active)*

Enjoy lunch on your own in Bruges, then rejoin the group to meet the ship in Middelburg. While the ship cruises to Veere tonight, gather for a Welcome Reception and Dinner.

### Day 4 | Veere | Willemstad

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

🌐Elective | **Neeltje Jans & Delta Expo.** Travel along the Zeeland coast to the artificial island of Neeltje Jans. Learn about the Delta Works, the massive dams and storm surge barriers that protect the third of Netherlands' landmass below sea level. Later, experience the impact of the devastating 1953 North Sea flood in a gripping, 4D panoramic animation.

The ship docks in Willemstad this evening.

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

**Enrichment: The Dutch Masters.**

🌐PYJ | Choose one of these excursions:

- **The Hague and the Mauritshuis.** See top sites including the Binnenhof, the center of Dutch politics, and the Peace Palace, on a

*Kampen*





Rosary Quay, Old Town, Bruges

panoramic tour. Next, view the exceptional art at the famed Mauritshuis, which houses Vermeer’s “Girl with a Pearl Earring.”

- **Old Delft and the Porcelain Factory.** Take a guided stroll in Delft’s old town, then tour the Royal Delft Porcelain Factory, founded in 1653. Watch a master artisan hand-paint the famous blue-and-white pottery and view a fine collection of antique Delft earthenware.
- **Gouda – City of Cheese.** See the bustling market square and the 15th-century town hall, then admire the exquisite, 16th-century painted-glass windows inside Sint Janskerk. Finish with a tasting of fresh Gouda cheeses.

Return to the ship for lunch and an afternoon of cruising toward Kampen.

Windmill near Veere



## Day 6 | Kampen / Giethoorn

Arrive in Kampen, filled with grand architecture from its heyday as a prosperous trading town in the medieval Hanseatic League.

### **PYJ | Choose one of these excursions:**

- **Historic Kampen & Hanseatic Ship Tour.** See the 14th-century Church of St. Nicholas, stately merchants’ houses, the 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.** See the 14th-century Church of St. Nicholas, stately merchants’ houses, the old town hall and more with your guide. Try freshly brewed Dutch beer later on a brewery tour.
- **Giethoorn Cruise.** Travel by boat and on foot through this quaint, car-free village, which boasts tiny canals, wooden bridges and thatched, 18th-century farmhouses. Relish a delicious lunch on board the ship.

**Enrichment:** *The Hanseatic League.*

Town Hall, Antwerp





**Accommodations** (with baggage handling)

– Unpack once and sail 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.

– **Personalize Your Journey | PYJ |** A choice of excursions in selected locales.

– **Electives** and free time to pursue your individual interests.

– **AHI 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.

**Free Time:** Explore Kampen on your own. The ship sails toward Amsterdam this evening.

**Day 7 | Amsterdam**

**Enrichment:** *Contemporary Netherlands.*

**Canals of Amsterdam.** Get a delightful perspective of this romantic city on a guided cruise along its scenic, leafy canals.

Savor lunch with your fellow travelers.

**Free Time:** Create your own plans in the city. The ship remains in Amsterdam overnight.

**Day 8 | Amsterdam**

**Keukenhof Gardens.** Revel in the enchanting beauty of this 80-acre garden overflowing with tulips, hyacinths, daffodils and other blooms.

Return to the ship for a refreshing lunch.

**Free Time:** Spend the afternoon at leisure. Tonight, share in a festive Farewell Reception and Dinner to commemorate your journey.

**Day 9 | In Transit**

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for the return flight to your gateway city.

**Note:** Itinerary may change due to local conditions.

Flights and transfers included for AHI FlexAir participants.

PYJ experiences are included.

Elective experiences available at an additional cost.

*Cathedral of Our Lady, Antwerp*



**Note About Activity Levels**

We have designated activity levels for all excursions on this program. For more details, please call or visit our website.

**Excursions on this itinerary require:**

- walking on cobblestones, unpaved paths and/or uneven surfaces
- getting on/off motor coaches and boats

## **EXTEND YOUR STAY**



### **Antwerp** | 2 Nights

{ Elective PRE-Trip Extension at an additional cost }

Delight in the intriguing museums and tantalizing food of this inviting, walkable city! This extension includes two nights at the first-class Hilton Old Town Antwerp; daily breakfasts; a guided tour of medieval Ghent; deluxe motor coach to/from Ghent; gratuities for guide and driver; the services of an AHI Travel Director and AHI Hospitality desk; baggage handling between the hotel and ship; and all taxes and service charges.

**\$995 per person, double occupancy | \$1,395 single occupancy**



### **Amsterdam** | 2 Nights

{ Elective POST-Trip Extension at an additional cost }

Explore alluring Amsterdam's lively districts and world-class museums! This extension includes two nights at the centrally located, first-class Amsterdam Marriott; a guided walk and visit to the National Maritime Museum; daily breakfasts; the services of an AHI Travel Director and AHI Hospitality desk; guide gratuities; baggage handling between the ship and hotel; and all taxes and service charges.

**\$995 per person, double occupancy | \$1,470 single occupancy**

# Reserve your trip today!

To book your journey,  
please call our AHI Travel Experts  
at **800-633-7514** or  
visit **AggieNetwork.com/Travel**.

## Program Dates

### Travel dates †

**April 17-25, 2024**

† Travel dates include any overnights required for international travel. These dates may vary depending on air schedules.

### Tour dates\*

**April 18-25, 2024**

\* Tour dates begin on the scheduled arrival date at your destination and end on the scheduled departure date from your destination.

## Cruise Program

Category-Deck	Full Price	Special Price*
E-Haydn (Mid Aft)	\$3,645	<b>\$3,395</b>
D-Haydn (Midship)	\$3,845	<b>\$3,595</b>
C-Strauss (Aft)	\$4,245	<b>\$3,995</b>
B-Strauss (Midship)	\$4,445	<b>\$4,195</b>
A-Mozart	\$4,945	<b>\$4,695</b>
Suite-Mozart (Midship)	\$5,445	<b>\$5,195</b>

Suite category features a balcony. Categories A, B and C feature a drop-down panoramic window. Categories D and E feature a panoramic window.

**\*Special Price includes \$250 special savings. Special Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel.**

VAT is 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).

Special offers, promotions and discounts cannot be combined.

**Single supplement waived for solo travelers!** This offer is limited, capacity-controlled and tends to sell out quickly.

**Please note:** Program-specific terms and conditions are available at <https://texam.ahitravel.com/destinations/1805A?schoolId=168>. You can also request a copy from our travel experts. Any payment to AHI Travel constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out therein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.



Bruges



## MS Amadeus Riva



Aboard this elegant, 79-cabin ship, reminiscent of a grand European hotel, cruise in exceptional comfort and style while enjoying warm hospitality and personalized attention from its seasoned crew. The beautifully appointed public spaces feature large windows for expansive views of the unfolding scenery. Savor delectable breakfast and luncheon buffets and indulge in sophisticated, regionally inspired dinner menus. Wine, beer and soft drinks complement both lunch and dinner. Each evening, relax in your inviting cabin or suite, which includes a private bathroom with a shower, satellite TV and complimentary Wi-Fi.

### AHI FlexAir

#### Let us arrange your flights

**Our experts are ready to assist you in booking flights. Our personalized air program offers the following advantages:**

- **price guarantee** to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase
- arrival and departure **transfers** on group dates
- **flexibility** to change or cancel your reservation without penalty up to 60 days before departure on most flights
- **assistance** in the event of schedule changes or delays



Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam

### AHI Travel Expertise

From your reservation to your return home, we are here to ensure you have the adventure of a lifetime.

#### *Before you go:*

**Travel Consultants** stand ready to answer your questions as they guide you through the reservation process.

**Passenger Service Representative** offers personalized assistance with flights, electives and special requests.

**Travel Information** provides pre-departure details and enrichment about your destination.

#### *Once you arrive:*

**Your Travel Director**, a seasoned, multilingual professional, manages daily logistics so you enjoy a seamless experience.

**Handpicked Expert Guides** offer fascinating insights and share their passion for their country with you.

**Knowledgeable Lecturers** deepen your appreciation for the region and its history, culture and current events.



Antwerp



# Traveling Aggies

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