

Holland & Belgium

With Garden America!

April, 2022



~ April 17 - 26, 2022 ~

Join **Garden America** hosts John, Bryan and Tiger as they host their 5th garden adventure with Earthbound Expeditions. Celebrate spring with a garden journey to Holland and Belgium! Discover endless fields of gorgeous tulips with a visit to the Keukenhof Tulip Festival. In addition, you'll also attend the legendary **Floriade Garden Expo**, the Aalsmeer Flower Auction and visit farms and some of Europe's oldest botanic gardens.

Enjoy scenic walks through the lovely Dutch countryside. Celebrate the lives of the Dutch Masters with private museum guides, delve into Dutch history, taste delicious local cuisine and be treated to gardens bursting with color. This intimate small group garden adventure ensures an enriching travel experience for curious and like-minded travelers who wishes to experience the gardens, art, food and history of Holland and Belgium—all at a leisurely, relaxing pace.

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

3 Nights Amsterdam

3 Nights Ghent

3 Nights The Hague



JOURNEY HIGHLIGHTS

Exploring the famous Keukenhof tulip garden ❖ The Floriade Garden Expo ❖ The Aalsmeer Flower Auction ❖ The Japanese gardens of the Hague ❖ Visits to working farms ❖ Guided visits to the great museums of Holland ❖ Visiting a Delftware factory where the delicate blue and white pottery is made ❖ Kinderdijk, the UNESCO World Heritage site of windmills ❖ Learning how the Dutch have successfully pushed back the sea ❖ Enjoying locally crafted beer, chocolate, mussels and cheese in Holland and Belgium ❖ Traveling with like-minded friends who share your passion for gardening, culture, history and food.

IT'S INCLUDED

- Hosted by Garden America hosts, Bryan, Tiger and John
- Guided by an Earthbound Expeditions expert guide
- Nine nights' accommodations in superior 3 and 4-star hotels
- Multi-course dining: All breakfasts, plus 5 lunches and 3 dinners.
- Beer and cheese tastings
- Dining out in locally-loved restaurants and cafés
- Daily excursions to towns, museums, markets, castles and gardens
- Gratuities for local guides and drivers
- Activities and entrance fees for all items as listed in itinerary
- Opportunities to bike and walk the many canal paths and lanes

NOT INCLUDED

Trip insurance * International flight tickets * Any items not mentioned in your custom Garden America itinerary.

TRIP DETAILS

10 Days / 9 Nights (not including air travel)
\$4,495 per person, Double occupancy
\$1,199 Single supplement
Trip begins: April 17, 2022 in Amsterdam
Trip ends: April 26, 2022 after breakfast



SAVE UP TO \$400: Reserve by January 7, 2022 and save \$200 | Pay your final balance by check and save \$100 | Earthbound Expeditions Alumni always save \$100

RISK FREE GUARANTEE: Your \$500 deposit is fully refundable until Feb.15, 2022.



**EARTHBOUND
EXPEDITIONS**

Earthbound Expeditions Inc.

P.O. Box 11305, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110 USA

T. 800.723.8454 / T. 206.842.9775 / F. 206.238 .8480

www.EarthboundExpeditions.com



View Rembrandt's "The Night Watch" in Amsterdam

Welcome to Holland!

DAY 0: April 16 – Depart the U.S. for Amsterdam!

Remember, you'll need to depart the U.S. no later than today.

DAY 1: April 17 – Arrive in Amsterdam

Arrive in Amsterdam and transfer to your centrally located four-star hotel. Enjoy a stroll through the old town or along the historic canals before meeting your Earthbound Expeditions guide and your Garden America hosts for an orientation and welcome dinner.

Sleep in the heart of Amsterdam (B, D)

DAY 2: April 18 – The Dutch Golden Age

After breakfast, discover the hidden and historic sights of this fascinating city. Enjoy a private tour of the Rijksmuseum and see Rembrandt's famous Night Watch. History and art lovers may wish to visit the Van Gogh museum, Anne Frank house or the Hortus Botanicus independently. There will be free time this afternoon to pursue your interests.

Sleep in the heart of Amsterdam (B, D)

DAY 3: April 19 – Flower Auctions, a farm visit and Keukenhof Gardens

The Aalsmeer Flower Auction is the largest in the world. An amazing twenty million flowers from all over the world are sold daily here. This morning you'll tour the facilities and see where the auction takes place. Also known as the Garden of Europe, Keukenhof Gardens is the world's second largest flower garden after the Dubai Miracle Garden. After a full day outing, return to Amsterdam. *Sleep in the heart of Amsterdam (B, D)*



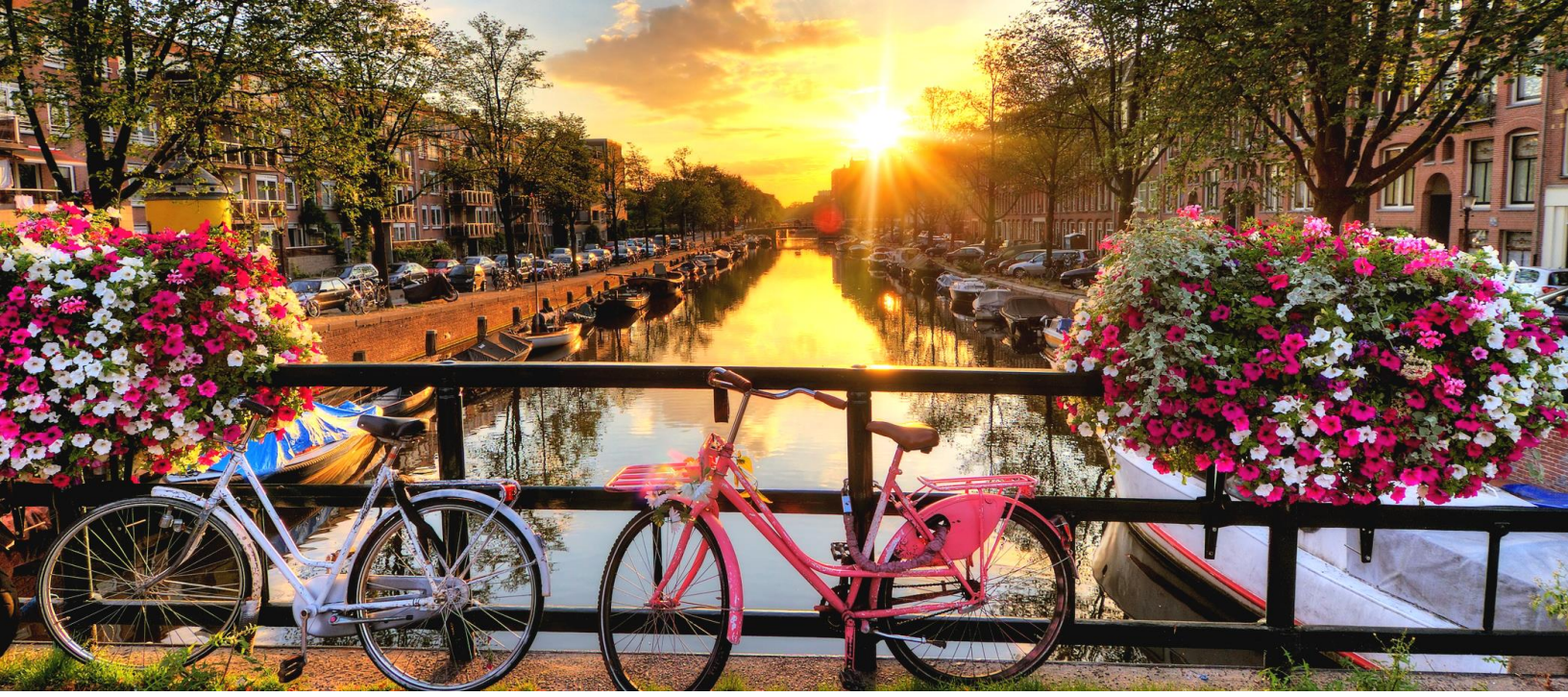
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Bikes along Amsterdam's famous canals paths

“I dream of painting and then I paint my dream.”
Vincent van Gogh

DAY 4: April 20- Antwerp, Belgium and on to historic Ghent

Antwerp is a port city on Belgium's River Scheldt, with history dating to the Middle Ages. In its center, the centuries-old Diamond District houses thousands of diamond traders, cutters and polishers. Antwerp's Flemish Renaissance architecture is typified by the Grote Markt, a central square in the old town. At the 17th-century Rubens House, period rooms display works by the Flemish Baroque painter Peter Paul Rubens. *Sleep in charming Ghent (B)*

DAY 5: April 21- A day in Ghent!

The city of Ghent lies between Brussels and city of Bruges. It is often overlooked by travelers who choose to visit its more famous neighbors and thus, it has a more authentic feel. It is a prominent cultural hub and a major university town with thousands of students giving it a very lively and cheerful vibe.

After enjoying a traditional Belgium lunch together, we set out to explore the University Botanical Garden. More than 10,000 different plant species in the tropical and subtropical greenhouses of the University Botanical Garden are in bloom and appealing to all. Discover special plants, learn more about plants and their relationship with humans or simply enjoy a leisurely stroll in a beautiful setting. *Sleep in charming Ghent (B, L)*



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Discover the Picturesque Belgium Cities of Ghent and Bruges

DAY 6: April 22- An outing to Stunning Bruges

Charming Bruges is the perfect, pocket-sized medieval city. Laced with canals, it was at one time, a great North European trading port. The magnificently detailed paintings of its artists, such as Jan van Eyck and Hans Memling, record its wealth in clothing, jewelry and ornament. Then it fell rapidly into decline and slept until rediscovered and restored to glory in the 19th century. Today, the city of Bruges is a vibrant cultural hub.

Enjoy a guided visit of this perfectly preserved medieval gem, a bucket of mussels and a good Belgium beer (and chocolate) before making our way back to Ghent in the afternoon.

Sleep in charming Ghent (B, L)

Day 7: April 23 - Kinderdijk and Gouda

In the beautiful wetlands around Dordrecht, you will find the windmills of Kinderdijk. Nineteen beautiful windmills, built around 1740, stand here as part of a larger water management system to prevent floods. Today, they symbolize Dutch water management, and in 1997 they were declared to be UNESCO World Heritage.

After touring the windmills, we visit the town of Gouda! The birthplace of the Netherlands' most delicious food exports - Gouda cheese and stroopwafels - Gouda is a tasty discovery. But there's more than the legendary Gouda cheese market to put on your city itinerary. *Sleep in The Hague (B, L)*



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Day 8: April 24 – Botanical Gardens of Leiden & the Hague: Today we set off to explore the charming city of Leiden. Enjoy a guided tour of the city center. It's known for its centuries-old architecture and for Leiden University. The university also houses the Hortus botanicus of Leiden, founded in 1590, where the tulip was introduced to Western Europe. One of the Europe's first botanic gardens, now part of the University of Leiden. It is small and beautifully kept. There is also a Japanese garden named after

the scientist Von Siebold who carried out botanical research in Japan during the 19th century. Part of the botanical garden is a historical reconstruction of the very first version of Leiden university botanical garden. There is also a systematic garden named after the Swedish botanist Carl Linnaeus.

In the afternoon we return to the Hague in order to enjoy an exclusive tour of the Mauritshuis Museum, where you will view the best of Dutch painting from the Golden Age. The compact, yet world-renowned collection is situated in the heart of The Hague, right next to the government center. Masterpieces such as Vermeer's *Girl with a Pearl Earring*; *The Anatomy Lesson of Dr. Nicolaes Tulp* by Rembrandt; *The Goldfinch* by Fabritius and *The Bull* by Potter are on permanent display in the intimate rooms of this 17th century monument. We then set out to discover the Japanese garden created in the early 1900's by its then-owner Baroness van Brienen on our next stop. She traveled several times to Japan and the Orient and brought back authentic items such as sculptures, water bridges, lanterns, a pavilion, plants and cherry blossom trees. *Sleep in The Hague (B, L)*



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Day 9: April 25- Visit the Floriade Garden Expo!

Holland's once-in-a-decade World's Fair of Horticulture will be held in 2022! And we have managed to reserve tickets, just for you! Set across a vast, 150-acre site, more than 300 eco-homes have been built as part of the show, with plans for the area to be turned into a green residential neighborhood of 660 homes once it's finished. The theme in 2022? Building, creating and designing the green city of the future.

This evening we return to The Hague and toast to our marvelous adventure! *Sleep in The Hague (B, L)*

DAY 10: April 26- Homeward Bound

After breakfast, transfer to Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport for your flights home or enjoy some more time in Europe. Cities such as Paris and London are just a few hours away by high-speed train. Return home with a lifetime of happy memories!

-Tour Details Subject to Change -





RESERVATIONS & QUESTIONS

800-723-8454

info@earthboundexpeditions.com



Carbonfund.org

Proud Partners Since 2008

Earthbound Expeditions offers customized overseas adventures for universities, museums, garden clubs, and numerous public radio stations. Earthbound is committed to supporting environmental education, local small businesses and providing guests with a one-of-a-kind, authentic travel experience. Whenever possible, Earthbound reserves locally-owned hotels, utilizes the talents of local lecturers, and dines in family-owned establishments. Earthbound also supports projects like the Children's Eternal Rain Forest of Monteverde, Costa Rica, the Soweto Youth and Development Project of South Africa, the *Mama Rosie Orphanage in Cape Town* and is assisting families and projects in Cambodia and the USA.



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Environmental Commitment

Earthbound Expeditions is proud to partner with the Carbonfund and makes annual donations so as to help offset a guest's carbon footprint. For every guest who signs up on an Earthbound Expedition, a donation will be made to the Carbonfund.

The Carbonfund.org motto, "Reduce what you can; offset what you can't" fits perfectly with Earthbound Expeditions' long-established philosophy of supporting locally-owned businesses, promoting education and embracing the concept of "slow" travel.

By using a simple carbon calculator, Carbonfund.org is able to determine the size of your carbon footprint for any specific domestic or overseas adventure. You then may purchase carbon credits. These credits go towards supporting (1) renewable energy, (2) energy efficiency and (3) reforestation projects.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO!

Physical requirements: In order to make the most of your custom journey and join all included activities, you should be able to walk at a moderate pace, independently, for one to three miles, often over uneven cobblestones. You should also feel comfortable standing for an extended period of time during walking or museum tours or visits to other sights. Naturally, you may always choose to bow out of an activity and enjoy the sites while sipping a tea or coffee in a café. You can also hire a taxi, pedicab or horse-drawn carriage at your own expense to get you to the next attraction. Remember, you'll also need to be able to maneuver your luggage through the airport. Some museums may not have an elevator, so you'll need to climb a few stairs in order to participate.

Dress: In general, we suggest "casually smart" dress and a good pair of walking shoes. You may leave your formal attire and please, leave your treasured family jewels at home. You may also wish to check the average monthly temperatures for your destination before you go.

Travel Insurance: Earthbound Expeditions strongly encourages the purchase of travel insurance coverage. We include information on trip insurance in your deposit information.

Concerts and Events: If a planned concert or event is cancelled for any reason, another concert or event will be included in its place. This is not cause for refund. Concerts and events are subject to change.

Hosted Journeys: The inability of a host to participate in a tour is not grounds for a full or partial refund.

Terms and Conditions: All guests must read the fine print. Click [here](#) to read our full terms and conditions.

