

# AMSTERDAM & BELGIUM BY FIRST CLASS BARGE



## With KNKX & host, Nancy Leson!

April 14 - 23, 2026



Join me, Nancy Leson, in Holland and tiptoe through the tulips with friends of KNKX-NPR!

We'll travel in style aboard the luxurious *MS Magnifique II*, sipping local beers and genever, savoring fresh mussels, Belgium chocolate, and the finest seafood as we glide along picturesque waterways.

Along the way, we'll wander storybook villages, enjoy a fun jazz concert, tour a traditional cheese farm, and marvel at the iconic windmills of Kinderdijk.

Join KNKX, and celebrate the Dutch Masters, uncover rich cultural history, and indulge in unforgettable regional cuisine—all in the heart of tulip season.

What could be more fun? Join me and fellow KNKX supporters for a tasty, unforgettable journey through the Netherlands and Belgium! Space is limited, so hop aboard and reserve your spot today!



**EARTHBOUND  
EXPEDITIONS**

Earthbound Expeditions Inc.  
P.O. Box 11305, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110 USA  
Tel: 206.842.9775  
[www.EarthboundExpeditions.com](http://www.EarthboundExpeditions.com)

## TRIP AT A GLANCE

2 Nights – Amsterdam – pre-cruise nights  
7 Nights – Aboard the 1<sup>st</sup> class MS *Magnifique II*



## JOURNEY HIGHLIGHTS

Cruising through Holland when thousands of acres of tulips are in bloom ♦ Guided museum visits highlighting the works of Dutch masters ♦ Exploring the famous Keukenhof tulip garden ♦ Visiting the city of Delft where the delicate blue and white pottery is made ♦ Visiting Kinderdijk, the UNESCO World Heritage site of windmills ♦ Learning how the Dutch have pushed back the sea ♦ Enjoying locally crafted gin, mussels and cheese with a variety of uniquely handpicked meals

## IT'S INCLUDED

With KNKX host Matt Taylow and Food for Thought special guest, Nancy Leson

With expert local Dutch guides

Special tastings of cheese, mussels, beer, gin and more!

Seven nights of relaxation and fun aboard the 1st class MS *Magnifique II*

Two pre-cruise nights at a centrally located 4-star hotel in Amsterdam

A special jazz performance (tba)

Multi-course dining on shore and aboard the MS *Magnifique II*

Fascinating excursions to towns, museums, markets, castles and gardens

Gratuities for local guides and drivers (tips for ship crew not included)

Activities and entrance fees for all items as listed in itinerary

## TRIP DETAILS

10 Days / 9 Nights (not including air travel)

From \$6,995 per person (see page 10 for details)

Trip begins: April 14, 2026 in Amsterdam

Trip ends: April 23, 2026 after breakfast in Amsterdam

## SAVE UP TO \$200

KNKX and Earthbound Travel alumni save \$100 per person ♦ Pay final balance by check and save \$100 per person

**NOT INCLUDED:** E Bike Rental, International Airfare, Travel Insurance.





*Your floating comfy home, the 1<sup>st</sup> class MV Magnifique*

## Welcome to Holland!



### DAY 0: Depart the U.S. for Amsterdam

### DAY 1: Tuesday, April 14 – 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 fellow travelers for an orientation and welcome dinner. *Sleep in the heart of Amsterdam (D)*

### DAY 2: Wednesday, April 15 – The Dutch Golden Age & Van Gogh

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*. After an independent lunch, gather for a self-guided visit to the Van Gogh Museum. The late afternoon is yours exploring Amsterdam at your leisure. Join your hosts for a special evening out on the town. *Sleep in the heart of Amsterdam (B, D)*

### DAY 3: Thursday, April 16 – Keukenhof Gardens, Cheese Farm & Embarkation

Today, we visit Keukenhof a garden which dazzles with millions of tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths in sweeping displays. After our visit we head to a cheese farm to sample and learn about the origins. We return to Amsterdam in time to embark the MS Magnifique II. Welcome drinks and dinner will be served on board. *Sleep on board (B, D)*



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*View the Night Watch, by Rembrandt, 1642*

“The earth laughs in flowers.”

*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

#### DAY 4: Friday, April 17 - Canal Cruise to Historic Haarlem

Sit up on the top deck this morning and enjoy a relaxing cruise through the Dutch countryside.



In 1625, Dutch settlers in the new world named New Amsterdam (later changed to New York) after their own beloved city. Today we'll also visit Haarlem, namesake to the neighborhood in New York. You'll have time for an independent lunch here.

After an orientation walk through the delightful old town square of Haarlem, you're free to explore this gem on your own. History and art lovers may wish to visit the Frans Hals Museum. For lunch, enjoy an Indonesian Rice Table. This festive meal of many small dishes—satays, curries, sambals, and more—offers a delicious tour of Indonesia's rich flavors in one sitting. *Sleep on board (B, L, D)*



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*“God created the world, but the Dutch created the Netherlands.”*  
Old Dutch Saying



#### Day 5: Saturday, April 18 – Historic Leiden

After a leisurely breakfast we set out to discover the fascinating Cruquius Museum. The Cruquius Museum explores the age-old Dutch battle against the water. The reclamation of Haarlemmermeer by means of steam power marked the breakthrough of the Industrial Revolution in the Netherlands. The Cruquius houses the world's largest steam engine.

After our visit we make our way to Leiden for an independent lunch. After lunch enjoy a guided tour of

the city center. Leiden is known for its centuries-old architecture and its university, the country's oldest. The university houses the Hortus Botanicus of Leiden, founded in 1590, where the tulip was introduced to Western Europe. In the late afternoon, we make our way back to the *Magnifique II* and cruise on to the town of Utrecht. Dinner served on board this evening. *Sleep on board (B, D)*



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## DAY 6: Sunday, April 19 – The Hague & Delft

After a hearty breakfast we depart for The Hague. Enjoy an exclusive tour of the Mauritshuis Museum, where you will view the best of Dutch painting from the Golden Age. The compact and world-renowned collection is situated in the heart of The Hague. 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 17<sup>th</sup> century monument.

We'll also drive past the Peace Palace, home of the International Court of Justice, the principal judicial body of the United Nations.

After an independent lunch, we continue to the charming city of Delft. While its beautifully preserved historic center is sure to impress, Delft offers more than just picturesque streets and rich history. Renowned for its iconic blue-and-white ceramics, the city is still home to three working Delftware factories. The *Nieuwe Kerk* (New Church), the final resting place of the Dutch royal family, including William of Orange, is also located in this city. *Sleep on board (B, D)*



## DAY 7: Monday, April 20 – Antwerp, Belgium

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.

Enjoy an included in-depth walking tour of the historic city center. Then, you'll be treated to a traditional Belgium feast of mussels, frites, beer and chocolate. We return to the *Magnifique II* in the late afternoon. *Sleep on board (B, L, D)*



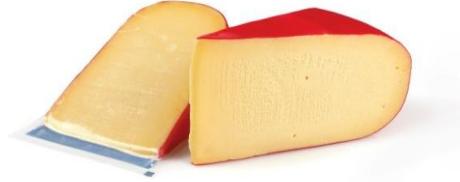


*“I dream of painting and then I paint my dream.”* Vincent van Gogh

#### DAY 8: Tuesday, April 21 – Rotterdam, Kinderdijk and Gouda: Say Cheese!

This morning we'll tour the lively market of Rotterdam and learn about the city's tragic past. Now known as the “Manhattan on the Maas,” this is Europe's largest harbor.

Later in the day, we visit quaint Kinderdijk, a UNESCO World Heritage site. See firsthand how a nation's ingenuity and determination have transformed reclaimed land from the sea into thriving countryside. You can climb up inside the belly of these tremendously powerful, wind-powered, pumping stations. This is the largest collection of authentic, working 18<sup>th</sup> century windmills in the world.



After your tour, meet up with your floating home and enjoy lunch while cruising through the Dutch countryside. The *Magnifique II* travels next to famous cheese town of Gouda. You will also have free time to explore. Enjoy a cheese tastings and an independent dinner out on town. *Sleep on board (B, L)*





*The 1st class lovingly restored MS MAGNIFIQUE II*

**DAY 9: Wednesday, April 22 – Bike or relax: A scenic float trip to Amsterdam**

Drift from Gouda to Amsterdam, passing historic windmills and colorful tulip fields. Enjoy sun-dappled decks for reading, coffee, or simply soaking in the scenery. Or, hop on a bike and peddle your way to Amsterdam. Sleep *on board* in Amsterdam (B, L, D)

**DAY 10: Thursday, April 23 – Homeward Bound**

After breakfast, disembark and 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! (B)



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## Meet Your Host!



**Nancy Leson** learned much of what she knows about food during her first career: waiting tables at some of the country's finest restaurants. Seattle knows her as the mouth that scored — for the better part of two decades — as restaurant critic and food columnist for the Seattle Times, and as food commentator for NPR member-station KNKX. These days she teaches cooking classes throughout Puget Sound, hosts international tours with Earthbound Expeditions and the University of Washington Alumni Association, and helps end hunger one loaf at a time with the non-profit baking brigade Community Loaves. Find Nancy on social @nancyleson and at [www.nancyleson.com](http://www.nancyleson.com)



**RESERVATIONS & QUESTIONS**

**206 842 9775**

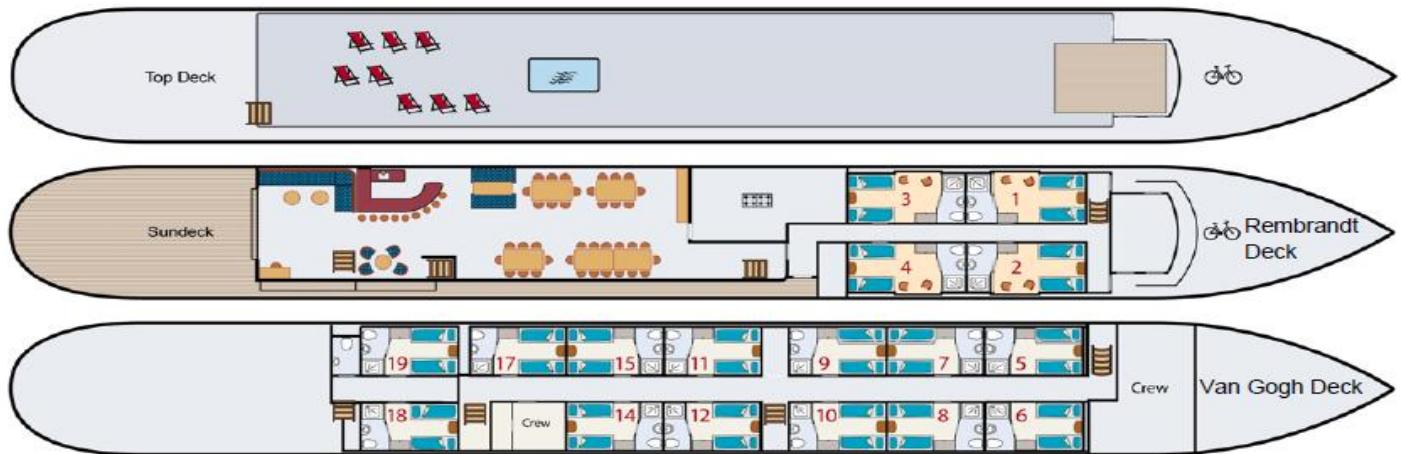
[info@earthboundexpeditions.com](mailto:info@earthboundexpeditions.com)



# Your Exclusive, First- Class Barge Adventure

## Barge: The MS Magnifique II

Relax and enjoy! Our first-class ship boasts bright, modern and cheery cabins with emphasis on superior comfort. A tastefully furnished salon and restaurant, a full bar, a gorgeous lounge and wooden sun deck with chairs and tables and hot tub are available, just for you!



Per Person before discounts	Travel Alumni save \$100 per person	*Pay by Check Discount save \$100 per person	Per Person after discounts
Van Gogh Deck \$6,995	-\$100	-\$100	\$6,795
Rembrandt Deck \$7,395	-\$100	-\$100	\$7,195

**Single Supplement:** \$1,795 for all cabins (excluding suites). Single availability is limited.

**\*Savings:** Discounts apply for all KNKX Travel Club and Earthbound alumni. If you pay the final balance by check, you can save an additional \$100 per person. To qualify there must be a remaining balance of \$3100 per person at time of final payment.

**Not Included:** Gratuities for ship crew, travel insurance and any items not mentioned in your itinerary. Port taxes, charges, and fees are currently \$125 per person and are additional.

View photos of the *Magnifique II* barge at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/boatbiketours/sets/72157685719067514/>



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All cabins are bright and spacious.  
Each comes equipped with  
bathroom and shower.  
*Lower Van Gogh deck cabin*



Bar and dining: A great place to  
relax & commune with fellow  
travelers



Enjoy wonderful multi-course  
meals in the elegant dining  
room



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## Know Before You Go!

**Reservations and Deposits:** A \$1,000 per person deposit is needed to confirm your space on this journey. You can make a credit card deposit online or by phone. Deposits are refundable, minus a \$250 per person cancellation fee, for 30 days from the processing date or 90 days prior to departure, whichever comes first. Deposits made 90 days prior to a trip departing are not refundable. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure and is non-refundable, which is why we strongly urge guests to purchase travel insurance.

**Not Included:** International airline tickets, alcoholic beverages, room service and gratuities for hotel staff, travel insurance, meals not listed in brochure, and any activities or items not listed in your itinerary.

**Physical Requirements:** It is the responsibility of each guest to be aware of their physical abilities or limitations and to be in sufficient good health to undertake the trip. [Click here](#) to read “Is an Earthbound trip right for you?” or call the Earthbound office for more details.

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

**Events and Hosted Journeys:** If a planned event is cancelled for any reason, another event will be included in its place. This is not cause for refund. Events are subject to change. Also, if a host or special guest is unable to attend as planned, Earthbound Expeditions will do its utmost to find another host who has similar interests, talents, and expertise. The inability of a host to participate in a tour is not grounds for a full or partial refund.

**Terms & Conditions:** [Click here](#) to read the full terms and condition

## QUESTIONS & RESERVATIONS

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## A Note about Jazz in Amsterdam

Amsterdam has long been a hub for jazz, attracting legendary performers and nurturing a scene that thrives today. The iconic **Bimhuis** has hosted greats like **Chet Baker**, **Sonny Rollins**, and **Charles Mingus**, while the city's intimate cafés, such as **Café Alto** and **Jazz Café Dizzy**, keep the music alive nightly. Many American jazz legends even called Amsterdam home, inspired by its open, creative spirit. For jazz lovers, the city offers both rich history and a vibrant, ever-evolving soundtrack.



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