

# HOLLAND & BELGIUM

BY FIRST CLASS BARGE



**Gardens | Art | Culture | Food | History | Music**

**April 26 – May 5, 2022**

**By Premium 1st Class Barge: MS MAGNIFIQUE II**



Join friends of **Peter and Kathleen van de Graaff** and tip toe thru the tulips with a spring trip to the Netherlands. Travel back in time to a bygone era: Holland's 17<sup>th</sup> century Golden Age. This was a time when Dutch ships plied the seven seas, Rembrandt painted endless masterpieces, and merchants moved the nation's bounty inland by canal. Gliding along Holland's many waterways, you'll visit charming open-air markets and towns.

Enjoy scenic walks through the lovely Dutch countryside, and, if you like, gently bike along the tow paths. In addition, we will celebrate the lives of the Dutch Masters, enjoy gorgeous classical concerts, delve into Dutch & Belgium history, taste delicious local cuisine and be treated to fields of tulips bursting with color. This 1<sup>st</sup> class expedition is aboard the gorgeous MS MAGNIFIQUE II. Enjoy an enriching and relaxing travel experience with like-minded, classical music companions who wish to savor art, food, and architecture—all at a leisurely, tranquil pace. *\*This will be Peter and Kathleen's 11<sup>th</sup> voyage with Earthbound Expeditions!*

## **Risk-Free Reservations**

**Your reservation deposit is 100% refundable until September 1, 2021.**



**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](http://www.EarthboundExpeditions.com)



## IT'S INCLUDED

- Hosted by **Peter and Kathleen van de Graaff**
- Seven nights of relaxation and fun aboard the 1<sup>st</sup> class MS Magnifique II
- Two pre-cruise nights at a centrally located 4-star hotel in Amsterdam
- Tickets to the famous Royal Concertgebouw
- Local Dutch expert guides will offer educational insights
- Multi-course dining aboard the MS Magnifique II
- 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

Gratuities for the ship crew \* Trip insurance \* International flight \* \$100 one week 7-speed bike rental \* Port taxes of \$125 \* any items not mentioned under It's Included

## JOURNEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Sailing through Holland when thousands of acres of tulips bloom
- A private tour of the renowned Concertgebouw Symphony Hall. A concert will also be reserved (if available). Concert programs for 2022 will be released in Oct. of 2021
- Two classical concerts + a classical music recital
- Visiting museums to see works of Dutch masters
- Exploring the famous Keukenhof tulip garden
- Visiting a Delftware factory where the delicate blue and white pottery is made
- Visiting Kinderdijk, the UNESCO World Heritage site of windmills
- Learning how the Dutch have successfully pushed back the sea
- Enjoying locally crafted beer, mussels and cheese

## TRIP DETAILS

10 Days / 9 Nights (not including air travel)

From \$4,795 per person (see the last page for details)

Trip begins: April 26, 2022 at 6pm in Amsterdam

Trip ends: May 5 after breakfast in Amsterdam

*\*Group air includes all taxes, fees and airport transfers while in Europe*

**SAVE UP TO \$500:** Reserve by July 1, 2021 and save \$300 | Pay your final balance by check and save \$100 | Earthbound alumni always save \$100





*Enjoy two pre-cruise nights in historic Amsterdam!*

## *Welcome to Holland!*

### **DAY 1: April 26 - 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 hosts, Peter and Kathleen van de Graaff for an orientation and welcome dinner. Sleep in the heart of Amsterdam (D)*

### **DAY 2: April 27 - 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 Hermitage Amsterdam independently. There will free time this afternoon to pursue your interests. This evening enjoy a classical concert TBA. Sleep in the heart of Amsterdam (B, D)*

### **DAY 3: April 28 - Flower Auction, Keukenhof Gardens and Embarkation**

The Aalsmeer Flower Auction is the largest in the world. 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 just in time to board the MS Magnifique II. Welcome drinks and dinner will be served on board. *Sleep on board (B, D)*





*View the Night Watch, by Rembrandt, 1642*



**DAY 4: April 29 - 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.*

This afternoon enjoy a guided stroll through the delightful old town square of Haarlem which will include a chance to deepen your understanding of Holland's Golden Age at the Frans Hals Museum, named for one of the Netherlands' most famous painters. You'll also be treated to a concert on the very organ Mozart played while visiting Holland in 1765 - 66. *Sleep on board*  
*This evening you'll enjoy another classical concert (B, D)*



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*Discover the renowned Concertgebouw Symphony Hall*

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

An old Dutch Saying

**Day 5: April 30 - Medieval Leiden and Utrecht**

After a leisurely breakfast we set out to discover the fascinating Cruquius Museum. The Cruquius Museum tells about 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 worlds’ largest steam engine.

After our visit we make our way to Leiden where we will enjoy an independent lunch. After lunch enjoy a guided tour of the city center. It’s known for its centuries-old architecture and for Leiden University, the country’s oldest, dating from 1575. The university houses the Hortus botanicus of Leiden, founded in 1590, where the tulip was introduced to Western Europe. The Museum de Lakenhal displays works by the Dutch Masters including Rembrandt, who was born in Leiden.

In the late afternoon, we make our way back to the Magnifique II and the town of Utrecht. Dinner served on board this evening. *Sleep on board (B, D)*



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**DAY 6: May 1 - Historic Cities of The Hague, Delft and Rotterdam:** 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, 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 17<sup>th</sup> century monument.

You'll also see the Peace Palace, home of the International Court of Justice, the principal judicial body of the United Nations.

After an independent lunch, we make our way to the charming city of Delft. It is not just the historic city center and rich history of Delft that will amaze you. The city is full of special surprises.

Famous for its blue ceramic pottery, there are still three Delftware factories in operation. There is no standard for the designs used on the pottery, each factory creates its own designs inspired by Chinese porcelain. The main images are floral designs and various birds, including peacocks. *Sleep on board (B, D)*



**DAY 7: May 2 - 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.

And for Europeans emigrating to Canada or the USA in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, Antwerp was the main embarkation point for the Red Star Line. Two million passengers funneled through Antwerp to board Red Star Line ships. The excellent Red Star Line museum focuses on passenger stories, the ships and the history of city and port of Antwerp. We return to the Magnifique II in the late afternoon. *Sleep on board (B, D)*



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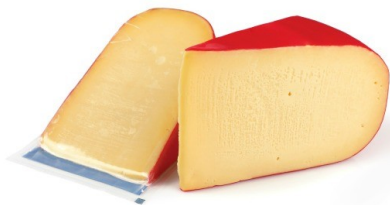
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*"I dream of painting and then I paint my dream."* Vincent van Gogh



**DAY 8: May 3 - Windmills and Cheese Tasting: Rotterdam, Kinderdijk and Gouda:** Tour the lively market of Rotterdam and also learn about the city's tragic past. Now known as the "Manhattan on the Maas," many are unaware that this is Europe's largest harbor.

Later in the day, we visit quaint Kinderdijk, a UNESCO World Heritage site. This is where it all happened! It is an amazing experience to witness the resourcefulness and determination of a nation's successful efforts to beat back the sea and reclaim land that was once under water. 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 drifting through the Dutch countryside. The Magnifique II travels next on to Gouda. Your walking tour includes the Gothic city hall, completed in 1450, and Sint Janskerk (St. John's Church), with its world-famous 16<sup>th</sup> century stained-glass windows. You will also have free time to explore this lovely traditional Dutch city before returning to the barge for dinner. *Sleep on board (B, L, D)*



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*The 1st class, lovingly restored MS MAGNIFIQUE II*

**DAY 9: May 4 - Exploring Dutch Edible Specialties**

Stroll Gouda's local market and join a visit to the cheese-weighing house, De Waag, where you will sample some of the appealing varieties. Yes, there is more than one kind of Gouda! We'll have lunch on board and continue along the canals toward Gouwsluis, a small Dutch town, renowned for its historic vertical lift bridge and also home to the futuristic Steekterpoort building, the facility which controls all of the 24 moveable bridges in South Holland. You may choose to take a bike ride through the nearby countryside, or just relax and enjoy the scenery. After dinner on board, enjoy a presentation and tasting of locally-crafted Dutch beers. *Sleep on board (B, L, D)*

**DAY 10: May 5 - 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)*

**RESERVATIONS & QUESTIONS**

800 723 8454

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

- Tour Details Subject to Change -



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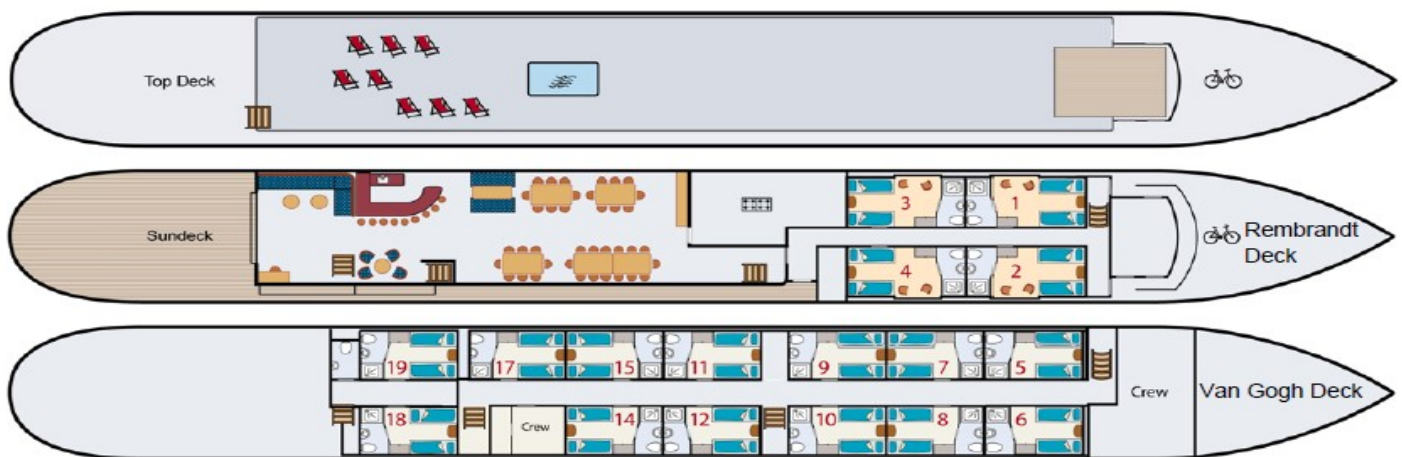




## The First-class Historic Barge: The MS Magnifique II

The ship boasts a classical style with emphasis on superior comfort. Highlights of the barge include four upper deck suites with cozy seating area and a large panoramic window which can open.

On the upper deck there is a tastefully furnished salon with restaurant, bar, lounge with wide screen TV, large windows. You can also enjoy a partly covered teak wooden sun deck with chairs and tables on the aft deck, a hot tub, and a cycle shed.



	<b>Price</b>	<b>Early Bird Discount</b>	<b>Alumni &amp; BPR Members</b>
	Before discounts	Reserve by June 1, 2021 and save	Save an additional \$100
<b>Van Gogh Deck</b>	\$4,895	\$300	\$100
<b>Rembrandt Deck</b>	\$5,395	\$300	\$100

**Single Supplement:** \$1,995

**Risk Free:** Receive a full 100% refund until September 1, 2021



View photos of the Magnifique II barge at:

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



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*Cabins are bright and spacious. Each comes equipped with bathroom and shower*



*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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