



River Ambassador

7 Nights

Holland & Belgium at Tulip Time



Summary

Discover the springtime splendor and stunning beauty of Holland and Belgium

Acres of tulips stretching as far as the eye can see, windmills silhouetted against the sky, the very fields Vincent van Gogh himself once painted—these are just a few of the sights that await you in Holland and Belgium during tulip season. On this unforgettable cruise through one of the most breathtaking regions of Western Europe, you'll explore bustling towns that were once ancient Roman settlements, hunt for unique treasures in medieval villages and marvel at the works of Dutch and Flemish masters, including Peter Paul Rubens and Vincent van Gogh.

Discover the sophisticated charms of Brussels— and a celebration of the nation's springtime flower culture at the enchanting Spring Show in Castle Groot-Bijgaarden—as well as the artistic treasures of Antwerp. Then it's on to the Netherlands, where you'll explore the dynamic city of Maastricht. Walk in Van Gogh's footsteps in Nuenen and visit the old silversmith town of Schoonhoven. Stroll through the legendary Keukenhof Gardens, which boasts over seven million tulips, daffodils and hyacinths. Enriched by the sights and sounds of the verdant Dutch countryside, you'll conclude your cruise in Amsterdam, one of the great capital cities of the world.

Overview

Country:	The Netherlands- Belgium
Cities:	Brussels, Antwerp, Maastricht, Cuijk, Schoonhoven, Amsterdam
Season:	March – April 2017
Duration:	8days /7 nights
Port of departure:	Brussels
Starting Price:	€ 2799

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Itinerary



Day 2: Brussels

Featured Excursions:

Brussels city tour with choice of Planet Chocolate demonstration and tasting OR Floralia Brussels at Castle Groot-Bijgaarden

Brussels, the capital of Belgium, offers a treasure trove of historic architecture, along with a rich culinary tradition—chocolate!—and a vibrant culinary capital. After a panoramic tour of Brussels, you'll have two choices of excursions. Food lovers will be lured by the divine aromas drifting from delightful cafés and chocolate shops, as your destination is Planet Chocolate. A creative chocolatier will show you how cocoa beans are transformed into decadent chocolates, offering you samples in the process. If you prefer a sweet and aromatic treat of a different kind, visit Castle Groot-Bijgaarden, a magnificent Renaissance castle just outside Brussels. Open only one month in spring, the multicolored festival of tulips, daffodils, hyacinths and roses attracts some 50,000 plant lovers annually, and you are among them. End your day with the Captain's Welcome Reception and Gala Dinner. Note: The Spring Show at Castle Groot-Bijgaarden is only offered for cruises that depart after March 26.

Day 3: Antwerp

Featured Excursions:

Choice of Antwerp walking discovery tour with Belgian brewery tasting OR Antwerp city tour with Rubens House visit

Experience Belgium's golden age with a walking tour of Antwerp's stunning Renaissance-era City Hall, Market Square and UNESCO-designated Cathedral of Our Lady, which houses four extraordinary works by Peter Paul Rubens. At the old riverside dock area, there is a 19th-century warehouse that has been transformed into a restaurant and brewery, where you can taste Pakhuis's unfiltered blonde beer. Art lovers will want to participate in the panoramic city tour with a visit to the palatial home in the heart of the city where the native Rubens once lived and worked. An art expert will guide you through the studio where Rubens and his assistants worked—the master generally painted the figures himself but left the backgrounds to others.

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Day 4: Maastricht

Featured Excursions:

Choice of Maastricht walking discovery tour OR Netherlands American Cemetery and Memorial visit
The oldest city in the Netherlands, Maastricht—known as one of the most beautiful and romantic cities of Holland and loved for its convivial lifestyle and historic centre, has long played a strategic role in European politics—most recently hosting the 1992 signing of the treaty that gave the European Union the euro. Choose to see the historic core of the city or visit a reminder of more recent history at the Netherlands American Cemetery and Memorial.

Day 5: Cuijk (Nuenen), Heusden

Featured Excursions:

Van Gogh “Village Day” in Nuenen with countryside lunch and Heusden “Village Day”
Vincent van Gogh produced 195 paintings and numerous watercolors and sketches, including The Potato Eaters, in the two years he lived in Nuenen, and you can follow in his footsteps as you stroll through the town that provided inspiration. After lunch in a historic water mill, which was even painted by Van Gogh, visit picture-perfect Heusden, where you’ll explore either by bike or on foot to see a working mill or learn how to make bread at the local bakery.

Day 6: Schoonhoven (Schoonhoven Or Kinderdijk)

Featured Excursions:

Choice of Schoonhoven walking discovery tour OR Kinderdijk windmills
Known as Silver City, Schoonhoven has been a centre of silversmithing since the 17th century, when craftsmen produced beautiful and useful pieces for wealthy merchants in neighboring cities. If you prefer exploring the Netherlands’ engineering marvels in their long quest to hold back the sea, join a local as you discover 19 astonishingly well-preserved windmills, a UNESCO World Heritage-designated site. Should you wish, you’ll even have a chance to climb inside one of these historic structures.

Day 7: Amsterdam

Featured Excursions:

Choice of full day at Keukenhof Gardens* OR exclusive “Do as the Locals Do” Amsterdam walking tour
Gardeners will want to spend all day at the Keukenhof Gardens, one of the most impressive public gardens in the world with millions of tulips and other flowers—an extraordinary and limited sight in the spring. For authentic, insider encounters and discoveries, “Do as the Locals Do” while in Amsterdam, with a guided stroll through the historic canal district including a look inside the Museum Van Loon, a restored 17th-century canal house. Spend your last night on the ship enjoying the Captain’s Farewell Reception and Gala Dinner. *Note: Lunch is not included with the full day at Keukenhof Gardens.

Day 8: Amsterdam (Disembark), Transfer To The Airport

Disembark the ship and transfer to Amsterdam Schiphol Airport for your flight home

Prices Include

7-night cruise in a River view stateroom
All transfers on arrival and departure days
All meals onboard, prepared using the finest and freshest ingredients
7 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 7 dinners
Captain’s Welcome and Farewell Receptions
Welcome and Farewell Gala Dinners

Prices Exclude

International airfare
Port charges of \$140 (per person)

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Unlimited beverages onboard, including fine wine, beer, spirits, soft drinks, specialty coffee and tea, and mineral water

Starting price per person in Euro

Category	Ship	Price
Category 3	River Ambassador	2799
Category 2	River Ambassador	3299
Category 1	River Ambassador	3999
Suite	River Ambassador	5299

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This is a product sheet elaborated in order to give you a quick overview of our package with details pertaining to hotels, flights and proposed tours. This is not a tailor made quotation and should you wish to have specific details reviewed to better suits your need please do not hesitate to contact one of our travel consultants or visit one of our branches.

CODE: GR-B-SUM17-UNIWORLD-HOLLAND & BELGIUM AT TULIP TIME

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