



# **Amsterdam, Luxembourg & Brussels**

## 10 days | 12 days with Bruges extension

Wander past meandering canals, gabled houses, and blossoming gardens as you take in the picturesque charm of Amsterdam, Luxembourg, and Brussels. Delve into the Dutch capital's laid-back cafe culture before strolling along Luxembourg City's quaint, cobbled streets and exploring historic Brussels, the unofficial capital of Europe.



## Your tour package includes

8 nights in handpicked hotels
8 breakfasts
3 dinners with beer or wine
1 beer tasting
1 tasting
4 sightseeing tours
Expert Tour Director & local guides
Private deluxe motor coach

### Included highlights

Amsterdam canal cruise Van Gogh Museum Rembrandt Hoeve Maastricht Luxembourg's Old Town Bastogne War Museum Grand-Place in Brussels

#### Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for at least 1 hour daily across moderately uneven terrain, including cobblestone streets and paved roads, with few hills or stairs.

#### Group size

15-38

## **Amsterdam, Luxembourg & Brussels**

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## **Overnight Flight** $\rightarrow$ 1 night

#### Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Amsterdam today.

## $\textbf{Amsterdam} \rightarrow 3 \text{ nights}$

### Day 2: Arrival in Amsterdam

Included meals: welcome dinner Welcome to the Netherlands! Meet your Tour Director and fellow travelers at tonight's welcome dinner.

## Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Amsterdam

Included meals: breakfast

Take to the water on today's sightseeing tour as your local guide introduces you to Amsterdam's unique character.

- Cruise by icons like the Dutch National Opera house and the Skinny Bridge
- Reflect on the city's history as you pass by a former Jewish neighborhood
- See the dancing houses, the narrowest houses in Amsterdam, and "flower bikes" decorated by a local known as the Flower Bike Man
- Disembark near the Rijksmuseum, and stroll to the iconic Van Gogh Museum for a tour with an audio guide

Enjoy a free afternoon in Amsterdam or add an excursion.

Please note: The Keukenhof Garden optional excursion will only be offered from late March through mid-May. The Food of Amsterdam optional excursion will replace Keukenhof Garden when it is out of season.

- + Food of Amsterdam Walking Tour
- + Keukenhof Gardens

## Day 4: Free day in Amsterdam

Included meals: breakfast Spend a free day in Amsterdam or add an excursion.

+ A Day in Charming Delft

## $\textbf{Luxembourg Region} \rightarrow 2 \text{ nights}$

Day 5: Luxembourg Region via Rembrandt

### Hoeve & Maastricht

Included meals: breakfast, dinner Travel south to the mountainous province of Limburg making stops along the way.

- Pay a visit to the Rembrandt Hoeve, a traditional cheese farm and clog factory where you'll enjoy a guided tour to learn how Dutch gouda is made the traditional way
- Step inside the shoe factory and see how blocks of wood are skillfully hand-cut into clogs and try on a pair
- Stop in its capital, Maastricht, where your
   Tour Director will show you its Old City walls
- Enjoy free time to grab lunch, visit some shops, and explore on your own

Later, cross into the tiny principality of Luxembourg where you'll sit down for an included dinner with your group.

## Day 6: Sightseeing tour of Luxembourg City

Included meals: breakfast

A local guide leads today's tour of Luxembourg City, the country's capital.

- Enter the Luxembourg American Cemetery and Memorial
- View the World War II Monument to National Unity in the New Town
- See the Citadel of the Holy Spirit, Notre-Dame Cathedral, and Grand Ducal Palace
- Travel through the Old Town, a UNESCO
   World Heritage site

Enjoy a free afternoon in the Luxembourg region or add an excursion.

+ Historic Germany: A Day in Trier

## **Brussels** $\rightarrow$ 3 nights

## Day 7: Brussels via Bastogne

*Included meals: breakfast, beer tasting, tasting* Travel north through the forested Ardennes on your way to Brussels.

- Visit the Bastogne War Museum, which pays tribute to the American soldiers who defended Belgium in World War II during the Battle of the Bulge
- Take a guided tour of Maredsous Abbey in the town of Dinant, where monks continue the Benedictine brewing tradition

• Sample a variety of different cheeses during a light charcuterie lunch served with a Maredsous brewed beer

## Day 8: Sightseeing tour of Brussels

Included meals: breakfast, tasting Join a local guide for a panoramic tour of Brussels, the unofficial capital of Europe and headquarters of the European Union.

- Drive past the Atomium, the Cathedral of St. Michael and St. Gudula, a Gothic church dating back to the Middle Ages
- Pass by Brussels Park, the Royal Palace, and the Palais de Justice, the largest court building in Brussels
- Stroll through the city's historic center, stopping at the Grand-Place market for a chocolate tasting

Enjoy a free evening in Brussels or add an excursion.

+ Belgian Chocolate Workshop & Beer Tasting

## Day 9: Free day in Brussels

Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner Spend a free day in Brussels or add an excursion. Celebrate your trip with your fellow travelers at a farewell dinner this evening.

+ A Day in Antwerp

## **Flight Home**

## Day 10: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures) Transfer to the airport for your flight home or continue your tour in the city of Bruges.

## + Bruges extension

Continue your trip to Bruges, a medieval city so well-preserved, it's like walking right into a fairytale scene. Explore some seriously charming cobbled streets on a sightseeing tour with a local guide.

## **Bruges** $\rightarrow$ 2 nights

## Day 10: Transfer to Bruges & sightseeing tour

Included meals: breakfast, tasting Travel to Bruges, where you'll have plenty of opportunities to take in the sights, sounds and flavors of this charming city. Get an overview of Bruges on a panoramic tour of its most famous sites.

- See Burg Square and the Church of Our Lady
- Enjoy the view of romantic Minnewater, the "Lake of Love"
- Visit the Beguinage, a UNESCO World Heritage site, now home to an order of Benedictine nuns
- Stop for a tasting of Belgian waffle, a thick and fluffy treat made with crunchy pearl sugar
- Set sail on the canals and tour the city by boat

## Day 11: Free day in Bruges

Included meals: breakfast

Spend a free day in Bruges or add an excursion. This evening, enjoy a farewell drink as you celebrate your trip with your fellow group members.

+ A Day in Ghent: Tasting Tour & Canal Cruise

## **Flight Home**

## Day 12: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures) Transfer to the Brussels airport for your flight home.

## Customize your experience

Customize your tour by adding excursion options. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose. Save \$10 when you book your excursion up to three days before your tour departs.\* Excursions requiring advance reservation only list this discounted price. Call or go online to customize your tour: **goaheadtours.ca/ABL | 1-800-754-5066** 

#### Day 3: Food of Amsterdam Walking Tour

\$129CAD/\$139CAD\* (2.5 hours, departure time varies)

Get a taste of sweet and savory Dutch dishes on a culinary walking tour through Amsterdam. Meet your local guide at Beursplein Square, which is located in front of the Amsterdam Stock Exchange, and walk through the old city center, an area once known as the Red Light District. Make your way to your first stop, a chocolate and spice shop set along Amsterdam's oldest canal. There, you'll taste award-winning chocolate and an iconic Dutch sweet, the stroopwafel, as you learn about Amsterdam's role in the 17th-century spice trade. Continue on to a cheese shop to sample several varieties made by a local family. Next, follow the bustling Zeedijk (or sea dike, in Dutch) through the heart of Chinatown and visit a family of fishmongers who have been in business since 1938. There, taste raw herring and kibbeling, or battered, fried fish. Wrap up your tour with a visit to an award-winning microbrewery, where you'll enjoy beer and a selection of Dutch snacks. Spend some free time in the city before heading back to your hotel. Please note: This excursion is only offered from mid-May through December.

#### Day 3: Keukenhof Gardens

\$149CAD/\$159CAD\* (6 hours, departs in the afternoon)

With millions of flowers growing on 70 acres of gardens, Keukenhof has been a showplace for the Dutch floral industry for more than half a century. On this excursion, you may be able to view more than six million flowers in bloom, including daffodils, croci and hyacinths, as well as thousands of tulip varieties. Please note: Peak tulip season varies with the weather. This optional excursion is seasonal and runs only from late March through May. Travelers should be prepared for a fair amount of walking.

#### Day 4: A Day in Charming Delft

\$175CAD/\$185CAD\* (8 hours, departs in the morning) Pay a visit to the world-famous flower market at Aalsmeer for a close-up look at one of Holland's bestknown national exports: its brilliantly hued tulips. Continue to Delft, a charming town of canals, cobbled alleyways and medieval architecture. Visit the Old and New Churches on a guided tour, and then enjoy free time to grab lunch and explore the town, perhaps visiting the former home of the famous painter, Vermeer. Please note: A visit to the Hague will replace the flower market on days when the market is closed.

#### Day 6: Historic Germany: A Day in Trier

\$125CAD/\$135CAD\* (6 hours, departs in the afternoon)

Set out from Luxembourg and cross over the border into Germany for a day in Trier, one of the country's oldest cities. With your guide, explore its rich history as you make your way past ancient Roman ruins, medieval buildings, and the birthplace of Karl Marx. Then, enjoy a beer with the group before you head out into the city for free time and dinner on your own.

#### Day 8: Belgian Chocolate Workshop & Beer Tasting

\$175CAD/\$185CAD\* (3 hours, departs in the afternoon)

For chocolate lovers, Belgium is a dreamland. Today, get a behind-the-scenes look at how the country's famous treat is made during a visit to a Belgian chocolate workshop. Here, you'll follow the chocolate-making process from sourcing the raw ingredients through production. Then, try your hand at crafting hand-made chocolates during a cooking class before pairing your creations with Belgian beer.

#### Day 9: A Day in Antwerp

\$175CAD/\$185CAD\* (6 hours, departs in the morning) Spend the day exploring historic and vibrant Antwerp, the largest port city in Flanders. On your guided tour, you'll learn more about the life and work of iconic artist Peter Paul Rubens during a visit to the Rubens House. This museum once served as Rubens' own home and is where he created many of his finest paintings in the 17th century. After admiring the museum's impressive interior, walk to the old city center. View the Renaissance-era City Hall in the stately Great Market Square and pass the Gothic Cathedral of Our Lady, marveling at its soaring bell tower. Then, stroll through the Green Square, a popular setting for festivals and market stalls. End your visit with free time to enjoy lunch and explore the city's museums on your own. Please note: A visit to the Museum Plantin-Moretus will replace the Rubens House while it is closed for renovations.

#### **Extension excursion options**

## Day 11: A Day in Ghent: Tasting Tour & Canal Cruise

\$159CAD/\$169CAD\* (7 hours, departs in the morning)

Journey to the historic city of Ghent for a tasting tour with a local guide. Sample specialties of the region, including ganda ham, pralines, and cheese. You'll visit a famous Tierenteyn mustard shop and the Great Butchers' Hall, which dates back to the 15th century, as you walk through this university city. Enjoy free time for lunch by Ghent's picturesque canals, perhaps trying Roomer, an elderflower liqueur, or the famed local Gruut beer. Then, get a different perspective of the city during a scenic canal cruise.

\*Optional excursions may be purchased up to three days prior to departure or while on tour. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be canceled within three days prior to departure or while on tour. Select optional excursions require advance booking and cannot be purchased or canceled after the advanced reservation deadline. GAT accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Additional fees may apply for optional excursions purchased on tour. Excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour. Learn more at goaheadtours.ca/terms