Duke TRAVELS

Holland & Belgium
Amsterdam to Bruges Aboard Magnifique IV
May 26–June 3, 2021

duke-travels.com
Dear Duke Alumni and Friends,

Bike along the river bank or enjoy the gentle cruise as you meander the waterways of the Low Countries. From the Dutch capital of Amsterdam to the medieval Belgian city of Bruges, the new boutique riverboat *Magnifique IV* allows you to feel you are immersed in the region’s charming and storied landscapes.

In the Netherlands, begin in Amsterdam to admire the splendid masterpieces of the Rijksmuseum. Then, embark *Magnifique IV* for a seven-night cruise through storybook villages and idyllic countryside. In picturesque Kinderdijk, view impressive windmills at a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and continue to historic Dordrecht, stopping to see the Great Church, the Dordrecht Museum, and a medieval monastery. Explore the Belgian cities of Antwerp, where you will visit the Rubens House, and Dendermonde, known for its spectacular Flemish buildings.

Call at Ghent for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity: be among the first to behold Jan van Eyck’s newly restored *Ghent Altarpiece* in its original home, Saint Bavo’s Cathedral. Conclude among the canals, cobblestones, and medieval buildings of charming Bruges. There, visit the Groeninge Museum for works by Jan van Eyck and other great Flemish artists, see Michelangelo’s *Madonna and Child* in the Church of Our Lady, and meet a local artist.

This delightful journey provides numerous opportunities for cycling, walking, or cruising to view the historic sites and serene landscapes of the region. And as the Duke group grows in size, a Duke Representative will be engaged to join you to add a uniquely Duke perspective and enhance the educational value of this learning journey. Space is limited on this small ship cruise, which is co-sponsored by Yale, Vanderbilt, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Call us for information or to hold space while you decide and to reserve conveniently over the phone.

Forever Duke,

Beth Ray-Schroeder
Director, Duke Travels

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**CRUISE HIGHLIGHTS**

**BE** one of the first to visit the newly restored *Ghent Altarpiece* and experience an exclusive tour of its dedicated museum

**MARVEL** at the excellent collection of Hans Memling masterpieces in the medieval Saint John’s Hospital in Bruges; and go inside the Church of Our Lady to behold Michelangelo’s *Madonna and Child*—the only sculpture by the artist to leave Italy during his lifetime

**RELISH** the intimate and friendly atmosphere created by the Dutch captain and crew aboard *Magnifique IV*, a luxury riverboat with 18 contemporary cabins

**DISCOVER** Dordrecht, the oldest city in Holland and home to 1,000 historic monuments, where *Magnifique IV* docks overnight

**EXPLORE** the UNESCO-listed town of Kinderdijk, Holland, where 19 impressive windmills showcase the ingenuity of Dutch technology

**ADMIRE** works by Rubens, Michelangelo, Anthony van Dyck, Hans Memling, the van Eyck brothers and other masters
SATURDAY, MAY 29: DORDRECHT / ANTWERP, BELGIUM
Attend a morning lecture as the ship sails to Willemstad. Step ashore and continue to Antwerp, a city renowned for its medieval and modern architecture and impressive art collections. Following lunch, see the cathedral where Rubens' famous Descent from the Cross is on display, and discover the Red Star Line Museum to learn the stories of the emigrants migrating to America between 1873 and 1935. Before returning to the ship in Kattendijkdok, view the restored Harbor House, designed by Zaha Hadid.  B,L,D

SUNDAY, MAY 30: ANTWERP / DENDERMONDE
Admire the treasures of the Museum Mayer van den Bergh, whose collection includes Pieter Bruegel the Elder’s Mad Meg and visit the 17th-century Rubens House to view some of the Flemish painter’s famous work. Continue to Dendermonde, known for its magnificent Flemish buildings. Visit the Church of Our Lady, home to two Van Dyck paintings and a 12th-century baptismal font of Tournai stone and visit a charming medieval béguinage (women’s living community). This evening, enjoy a private concert onboard. B,L,D

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26: DEPARTURE
Depart on an overnight flight to Amsterdam.

THURSDAY, MAY 27: AMSTERDAM, HOLLAND / EMBARK MAGNIFIQUE IV
Arrive in Amsterdam and transfer to the port of Veemkade for a canal cruise with lunch on board, followed by a visit to the Rijksmuseum, the State Treasury of Dutch art. Embark the elegant new Magnifique IV and enjoy a welcome dinner as we cruise to Vianen. L,D

FRIDAY, MAY 28: VIANEN / KINDERDIJK / DORDRECHT
This morning, travel to picturesque Kinderdijk, a village famous for its impressive, UNESCO-listed row of 19 large windmills, a delight to see up close. Continue to Dordrecht, one of the Netherlands’ oldest cities, for an afternoon walking tour. Explore its historic harbors, ancient warehouses and busy merchant streets. Visit the Great Church, the Dordrecht Museum and the 13th-century Augustine monastery. Bikers can ride and explore Dordrecht, where the ship is docked overnight. B,L,D
MONDAY, MAY 31: DENDERMONDE / GHENT
In the morning, travel by sail or bike to Ghent. After lunch, visit the City Hall, followed by a tour through Ghent’s medieval center, including the magnificent of Saint Bavo’s Cathedral. View its greatest treasure, the restored 15th-century Adoration of the Mystic Lamb (Ghent Altarpiece) by the Van Eyck brothers, and take a tour of its dedicated museum in the catacombs of the cathedral.

TUESDAY, JUNE 1: GHENT / BRUGES
Start your day with a visit to the Museum of Fine Arts. Afterwards, see the medieval Gravensteen Castle. Continue to Bruges, a medieval gem laced with canals and gardens, where the ship remains docked overnight. Delight in a walking tour featuring the peaceful béguinage as well as a visit to the studio of a local artist. Bikers may opt to cycle around the city. Enjoy an evening stroll to see the city’s illuminated medieval architecture.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2: BRUGES
Today, visit the cathedral to see its celebrated Madonna and Child by Michelangelo, and discover the Groeninge Museum, with works by Jan van Eyck and other great Flemish artists. Enjoy a visit at the Adornes Domain, an authentic medieval estate in the heart of Bruges followed by light refreshments (pending confirmation). Lunch is at leisure. Enjoy a free afternoon in this charming town or discover the collections at the Hans Memling Museum, housed in Saint John’s Hospital. Gather this evening for a festive farewell dinner.

THURSDAY, JUNE 3: BRUGES / DIEMBARK / RETURN
Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the Brussels airport for flights home.

The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of Duke Travels and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at http://www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms

CRUISE RATES
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RATES INCLUDE
- Seven nights cabin accommodations aboard Magnifique IV
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner); bottled water, soft drinks, juices and coffee/tea with all meals; wine and beer with lunches and dinners
- Guided sightseeing by private motorcoach; entrance fees for all included visits
- Airport/pier/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers; customary shipboard gratuities
- Taxes, service and porterage charges

NOT INCLUDED IN RATES
- International airfare; passport fees; meals and beverages not specified; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; trip insurance; luggage in excess of one suitcase; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.
Launched in Spring 2020 and sailing under the Dutch flag, this new river vessel has 10 generous suites on the upper deck, while the lower deck has eight twin cabins. Magnifique IV's upper deck features a spacious and tastefully decorated salon with air conditioning, a bar and lounge area. Wi-Fi is also available. The comfortable and inviting restaurant is separated from the kitchen by a glass wall, so you can watch talented chefs in action. The front deck has space to accommodate bicycles, while the top deck boasts a hot tub and deckchairs, from which you can enjoy the scenery.
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