



CRUISE OF 12 DAYS / 11 NIGHTS - REF. AXB\_PP

## Northern European Culture and Charm: A Cruise between The Netherlands and Belgium. (port-to-port cruise)

**AMSTERDAM or surroundings(2) - ROTTERDAM or surroundings(2) - ANTWERP - BRUSSELS - ANTWERP - GHENT - VEERE - DORDRECHT - BRUSSELS**

Climb aboard an unforgettable cruise to fascinating cities and through the gorgeous scenery found in The Netherlands and Belgium. This journey takes you from charming Amsterdam to vibrant Brussels—with ports of call in Rotterdam, Antwerp, Ghent, and other historically and culturally rich destinations. Let the rhythm of the water and the beauty of the passing scenery take you away from it all. This cruise is much more than a trip—it's a total immersion in the history, traditions, and natural wonders found in two fascinating countries.

**Favorite : The memorable Red Star Line Museum and prized Nottebohm Room in Antwerp(1)**



### CRUISE HIGHLIGHTS

- Cruise the Rhine River and Belgian Canals
- Exclusive European itinerary between the Dutch and Belgian capitals
- The must-sees(1)
  - Surprising Amsterdam: Discover its hidden secrets and out-of-the-way sites
  - Volendam, a former fishing village on the banks of the IJsselmeer, and picturesque Zaanse Schans
  - The royal city of The Hague
  - Brussels, where centuries-old architecture blends with comic strip art to create a truly captivating experience
  - Beautiful, livable Ghent—a veritable cultural cocktail
  - Bruges, a Flemish masterpiece worthy of the title "The Venice of the North"
  - The Delta Works, the largest storm barriers in the world
  - The magnificent, preserved windmills in

## CRUISE PROGRAM (12 DAYS / 11 NIGHTS)



### Day 1 : AMSTERDAM or surroundings(2)

Passengers are welcome to board our ship in Amsterdam at 6:00 p.m. After comfortably settling into your cabins, we'll introduce our crew at a welcome cocktail before dinner. Free evening in Amsterdam.



### Day 2 : AMSTERDAM or surroundings(2)

In the morning, join us for the **optional excursion proposed**: Guided visit of Amsterdam. In the afternoon, join us for the **optional excursion** to Volendam and Zaanse Schans. We'll return on board. The evening is free to do as you please.



### Day 3 : AMSTERDAM or surroundings(2) - ROTTERDAM or surroundings(2)

This morning, join us for the **optional excursion proposed**: The Hague and its inner courtyards. In the afternoon, our ship will sail towards Rotterdam. Enjoy an evening of entertainment.



### Day 4 : ROTTERDAM or surroundings(2) - ANTWERP

Our ship will sail through the day. Join your onboard host/hostess for a stroll in the city. Enjoy a free evening in Antwerp.



### Day 5 : ANTWERP - BRUSSELS

The morning will be spent cruising. Join us for the **optional excursion proposed**: Guided tour of the Belgian capital and a taste of its renowned chocolate. European and cosmopolitan, Brussels has retained its traditional character. Tonight is our gala dinner and evening.



### Day 6 : BRUSSELS

Enjoy buffet breakfast on board. Free day and lunch in Brussels. Take this opportunity to explore the Belgian capital at your own pace. This city combines the features of a bustling metropolis with the charm of quieter, smaller towns. Modern with a classic touch, the streets of Brussels are steeped in charm and history. Boarding at 6:00 PM. Meet the crew and enjoy a welcome cocktail.



### Day 7 : BRUSSELS - ANTWERP

This morning, join us on an optional excursions CLASSIC/DISCOVERY: Brussels, the Comic Strip capital. Did you know that Brussels claims to have the largest number of comic book authors per square mile? In honor of their artists, the city has decorated its walls with its well-known authors and characters. We'll set out on an urban hike to spot the murals that include Tintin, Gaston Lagaffe, Lucky Luke, Astérix, Corto Maltese, and many others. We'll find other affirmations along the way, such as street signs and statues referencing the "9th Art." Then, dive into the world of comics at the Belgian Comic Strip Center—a marvelous universe where comics are in the limelight. Inaugurated in 1989, the center houses permanent and temporary exhibits focusing on European comics and their progression.

We'll return on board the ship. We'll spend the afternoon cruising towards Antwerp. Leaving Brussels behind, our ship will glide along one of the oldest navigable waterways—the Willebroek Canal—to the Scheldt River.

The Scheldt River crosses through three countries—France, Belgium, and the Netherlands—before emptying into the North Sea. We'll arrive in Antwerp in the evening. We'll remain in port overnight.

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## Day 8 : ANTWERP - GHENT

Optional excursions:

- **CLASSIC:** Antwerp, its historic center, and the Het Steen fortress. The oldest building in the city sits on the banks of the Scheldt River. The medieval fortress Het Steen was built between 1200 and 1225 to defend and protect the inhabitants from invaders. Today, it houses a multimedia exhibition called The Antwerp Story, which traces the city through time in a surprising and innovative fashion. Travel from century to century as you traverse the rooms. Discover the tales, hidden secrets, and historic sites in the surprising city of Antwerp. The fortress roof offers an uncluttered view of the river, city, and the second-largest shipping port in Europe. After this immersive intro, we'll head over to the historic center and Grand-Place. The city hall—listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site—is, without a doubt, the most remarkable building. Richly decorated guildhalls line the edges of the Grand-Place. The square's center contains the eclectic Brabo Fountain. The stunning Gothic masterpiece—the Cathedral of Our Lady and its single belfry—has dominated the horizon for over five centuries.

- **DISCOVERY:** Antwerp, the Red Star Line Museum and Nottebohm Room. We'll begin our tour of Antwerp this morning at the Grand-Place, surrounded by the elegant facades of ancient halls. We'll stop in front of the Flamboyant-style city hall. Then, we'll head over to the Hendrik Conscience Heritage Library for a visit to one of the country's most prestigious book rooms. We'll visit the Nottebohm Room to learn about the rare historic collection it holds. The room is located in the library's oldest wing and was made into a showroom in 1936. Afterwards, we'll visit the Red Star Line Museum, which traces the saga of the great wave of Europeans emigrating to the USA between 1850 and 1930.

We'll return on board for lunch while the ship continues towards Ghent. We'll cruise on the Scheldt River, gliding past huge salt marshes and plains before reaching the Terneuzen Lock and the Ghent-Terneuzen Canal. We'll arrive in Ghent in the evening.

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## Day 9 : GHENT - Bruges - GHENT

Optional excursions CLASSIC / DISCOVERY :

**Morning: Ghent :** Discover the highlights of the largest city in East Flanders during this guided tour. Follow in the footsteps of Charles V of Spain and admire the monuments of one of the best-preserved medieval cities in Europe. The historic centre of Ghent is a pedestrian zone that feels like an open-air museum, where typical Flemish architecture reveals a rich medieval heritage. Afterwards, enjoy a beer tasting at a local brewery. Ghent once had a vast number of breweries, and today, brewers are rediscovering the city. The most famous one is Gruut, which makes its beer not with hops, but with spices. **Afternoon: Bruges :** Departure by coach to Bruges. Its art collections, gentle lifestyle, romantic charm and architectural elegance make it one of the most beautiful cities in Flanders and a must-see stop in Northern Europe. A wealthy maritime city in the 14th century, Bruges retains the refined and harmonious architecture of that golden era. Visit a historic brewery whose story began in 1856, followed by a tasting.

Return on board. Evening at leisure.

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## Day 10 : GHENT - VEERE

Morning navigation along the Ghent-Terneuzen Canal towards Veere. Pass through the Terneuzen lock, which connects Ghent to the sea via the Scheldt River. Continue along the Scheldt and the Walcheren Canal before reaching Veere in the early afternoon. Enjoy some free time or join us for an option CLASSIC/ DISCOVERY excursion to the Delta Works. We'll set out to visit the largest flood protection system in the world, located along the Dutch coastline. The Delta Works was built to battle maritime inundations affecting the local provinces. Construction of the works lasted over 40 years and includes five storm surge barriers, two locks, and six dams. Traveling the Expedition Delta route brings the impressive works to life.

Our tour will take us to one specific area of the Delta Works. After our excursion, we'll return on board for dinner. Our ship will cruise to Dordrecht overnight.

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## Day 11 : DORDRECHT

Navigation to Dordrecht. In the morning, the optional CLASSIC/DISCOVERY excursion is: The Windmills of Kinderdijk. Discover the magnificent Windmills of Kinderdijk and learn how the Dutch have tamed the surrounding water for more than 1,000 years using their unique approach. We'll set out on foot to visit the windmills. It's the only place in the world where we can see so many windmills in one place, and that's also one of the reasons why they were listed as a prestigious UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1997. Return on board. Afternoon navigation to Brussels via the Hollandse Diep, the widest distributary of the Rhine delta in the Netherlands.

Our ship will cruise through the night. Tonight is our festive gala evening.



## Day 12 : BRUSSELS

Enjoy breakfast on board this morning before disembarking at 9:00 a.m.

### This offer includes

your cruise with all meals from dinner the first evening to breakfast on the final day (except lunch on D6) - onboard drinks included (except for drinks from our special lists) - double-occupancy cabin with shower in bathroom - assistance from our onboard multi-lingual host/hostess - welcome cocktail - gala dinner - onboard entertainment - travel assistance and repatriation insurance - all port fees.

### This offer does not include

Drinks from our special lists, or drinks ordered during excursions or transfers - lunch on D6 - cancellation and baggage insurance - optional excursions (must be reserved and paid for on board or at travel agency) - transfers to/from departure/arrival points - personal expenses.

### Transport

Port-to-port cruise without transfers

### Requirements

**Valid national identity card or passport required.** Non-EU nationals are advised to consult their embassy or consulate.

### THE CROISIEUROPE DIFFERENCE

- **All meals included - DRINKS INCLUDED** with meals and at the bar
- Refined French cuisine - **Gala dinner and evening** - Welcome cocktail
- **Free Wi-Fi** onboard
- Headsets are included for excursions
- Official welcome from the captain and crew
- Onboard activities
- Travel assistance and repatriation insurance
- All port fees included

## MENTIONS

For navigational safety reasons, the company and the captain are the only authorized persons who can modify the cruise itinerary.









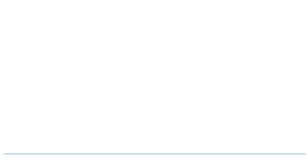





(1) Optional excursions.

(2) The Ports of Amsterdam and Rotterdam may unexpectedly decide to change the mooring places for cruise ships. In case of modification, an alternative will be set up as close as possible to these cities.

Alcohol can be harmful to your health. Please drink in moderation.



## EXCURSIONS

Day 2	2 Excursion (s)
	<b>Amsterdam tour by riverboat</b> <i>(Optional)</i>
	<div> <div>Duration : 02h00</div> <div>Classic</div> <div></div> <div>Morning</div> </div>
	<b>Excursion to Volendam and Zaanse-Schans</b> <i>(Optional)</i>
	<div> <div>Duration : 04h00</div> <div>Classic</div> <div></div> <div>Afternoon</div> </div>
Day 3	1 Excursion (s)
	<b>The Hague and its hidden courtyards</b> <i>(Optional)</i>
	<div> <div>Duration : 04h00</div> <div>Classic</div> <div></div> <div>Morning</div> </div>
Day 5	1 Excursion (s)
	<b>Guided tour of Brussels and touring a chocolate factory</b> <i>(Optional)</i>
	<div> <div>Duration : 04h00</div> <div>Classic</div> <div></div> <div>Afternoon</div> </div>
Day 7	1 Excursion (s)
	<b>Brussels, the Comic Strip capital</b> <i>(Optional)</i>
	<div> <div>Duration : 05h00</div> <div>Discovery</div> <div></div> <div>Morning</div> </div>
Day 8	2 Excursion (s)
	<b>Antwerp, its historic center, and the Het Steen fortress</b> <i>(Optional)</i>
	<div> <div>Duration : 04h00</div> <div>Classic</div> <div></div> <div>Morning</div> </div>
	<b>Antwerp, the Red Star Line Museum and Nottebohm Room</b> <i>(Optional)</i>
	<div> <div>Duration : 04h00</div> <div>Discovery</div> <div></div> <div>Morning</div> </div>

<b>Day 9</b>	<b>2 Excursion (s)</b>
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**Guided tour of Bruges and a brewery** *(Optional)*

Duration : 02h00

Classic



Afternoon



**Ghent** *(Optional)*

Duration : 03h30

Discovery



Morning

<b>Day 10</b>	<b>1 Excursion (s)</b>
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**The Delta Works** *(Optional)*

Duration : 04h00

Classic



Afternoon

<b>Day 11</b>	<b>1 Excursion (s)</b>
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**The Windmills of Kinderdijk** *(Optional)*

Duration : 04h00

Classic



Afternoon