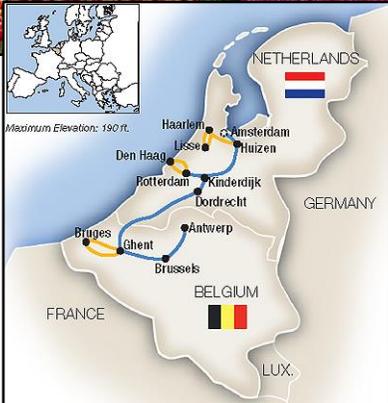


Spring in Belgium & Holland

April 1 – 9, 2019

ARTS COUNCIL
OF MOORE COUNTY

TAUCK



Join the Arts Council and Tauck to view nature's spectacular annual springtime show on this memorable cruise through the inland waterways of the Netherlands and Belgium. Everywhere, a spot of local color—tulips, daffodils and hyacinths abloom in flower boxes or in grand gardens...in historic windmills preserving a vanished way of life...in gabled houses dressed in maritime lore along Amsterdam's tree-lined canals...or in centuries-old Dutch and Flemish masterpieces.

DAY 1 & 2 – DEPART US FOR AMSTERDAM: Upon arrival in Amsterdam a transfer is included from Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport to your Tauck riverboat. After settling into your cabin, attend a discovery briefing, then enjoy a welcome reception followed by dinner aboard the riverboat. (Meals: D)

DAY 3 – AMAZING AMSTERDAM: Awaken in Amsterdam—a vibrant blend of the historic and the contemporary. After breakfast, explore this nearly car-free city of flower-rimmed canals, gracious gabled mansions, and people on bikes with a boat cruise through the network of 17th century canals at the core of the old city offering a refreshing perspective of the Netherlands' capital city. Amsterdam boasts more canals than Venice and more museums per kilometer than any other European capital. One of the most famous is the matchless **Rijksmuseum**—filled with works by the Dutch Masters, including Rembrandt's *The Night Watch* and Vermeer's *The Milkmaid*, which after lunch aboard ship, you'll visit with a local guide. The afternoon is free to explore or relax as you wish. This evening on board enjoy a shanty choir performance, some Dutch treats and the chef's signature dinner, as we cruise to **Haarlem**. You'll have an opportunity to walk ashore in Haarlem with your Tauck Director tonight. (Meals: B/L/D)



DAY 4 – MAGICAL KEUKENHOF GARDENS & THE HAGUE:

Disembark for an excursion to **Keukenhof Gardens** in Lisse, home of famous show gardens and millions of tulips, daffodils and hyacinths which are particularly beautiful at this time of the year. A rolling carpet of color, Keukenhof is one of Europe's most iconic, and fragrant places to witness springtime in all its glory. After lunch ashore, return to the riverboat for an afternoon of cruising. This evening, meet your local guides in Rotterdam and travel to **The Hague** (the royal city of Den Haag to the Dutch), for a sparkling **Tauck Exclusive** evening featuring dinner, live music and a tour of Dutch Golden Age paintings at the **Mauritshuis**, a renowned art museum housed in a historic 17th century building. (Meals: B/L/D)



DAY 5 – KINDERDIJK'S WINDMILLS & DORDRECHT: Arrive in the Dutch village of **Kinderdijk**, where 19 original 18th century windmills—preserved today as a UNESCO World Heritage Site—create an iconic polderscape that's better than any picture-postcard. There's no other place in the world besides Kinderdijk where you can see so many historic windmills together in an authentic setting. During your visit, discover how a windmill works both inside and out, and explore the quintessentially Dutch history of windmills. Alternatively, you can choose a bicycling excursion amidst the Kinderdijk windmills. Cruise on to nearby **Dordrecht**, a historic island city bordering no less than five rivers in the South Holland province of The Netherlands. The city's charming harbor district preserves many historic warehouses, merchants' mansions and quays, and its role as a major port city from the 15th to 18th centuries. A walking tour reveals Dordrecht's notable architecture and monuments in its medieval inner city, as well as the surrounding ring of 19th century buildings. Enjoy dinner and evening activities as we sail on to Belgium tonight. (Meals: B/L/D)

DAY 6 – FLEMISH TREASURES IN GHENT & BRUGES:

Arrive in the historic port city of **Ghent in Flanders**, arguably Belgium's most beautiful city. Take a walking tour of Ghent's Old Town; the pedestrian-friendly cobblestoned town center feels like an outdoor museum of early Flemish architecture. Climb to the top of the 14th century belfry (left) to view Ghent's visual feast of castles, churches and historic merchants' houses. Try the local specialty, Ghent noses, a traditional raspberry candy sold at stands on the street, or a warm waffle with sugar or honey. Continue on to **Bruges**, known to many as "**the Venice of the North**," for its canals and tiny medieval streets. While walking along Bruges' cobblestoned lanes, you'll feel like you've walked into a painting by Jan Van Eyck, who captured life in the city during its heyday in the 15th century. Hike up the medieval bell tower and take in wonderful panoramic views. Enjoy dinner onboard tonight as you sail on to Antwerp. (Meals: B/L/D)



For additional information, contact Katherine MacRae • 910.692.2787 • katherine@mooreart.org



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“The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page.” – *Saint Augustine*



DAY 7 – ANTWERP & THE AGE OF EXPLORATION: Arrive this morning in the major port city of **Antwerp** for a day in the capital of the Belgian province of Flanders. Take a tour of the city and a guided walk through the city's historic center. As we stroll and hear stories and insights from our local guide, take in **Grote Market, City Hall; Cathedral of Our Lady**; and numerous restored merchants' houses, harkening back to the days of the 16th century Age of Exploration when Antwerp was the richest city in Europe. We'll also visit the **Red Star Line Museum**, where interactive exhibits in the former warehouses of the Red Star Line shipping company tell the story of the more than two million immigrants from all over Europe whose long journey to a new life in North America began right here. After lunch, we can visit a local brewery for a tour and a tasting of authentic Belgian "bier." Return to the ship and enjoy dinner and a musical performance this evening as the riverboat cruises to **Brussels**. (Meals: B/L/D)

DAY 8 – DISCOVER BRUSSELS: Our morning tour of **Brussels**, Belgium's capital and a key center of European trade and culture since the 13th century, begins with a city tour taking in the **Atomium**, a 338 foot structure resembling atoms, built for the 1958 World's Fair, and ends at **Grand-Place** (right), one of Europe's loveliest city squares, boasting a Gothic town hall surrounded by Renaissance-era guildhalls. Return to the riverboat for lunch. This afternoon, you might choose to participate in a demonstration by a local chocolatier. Then gather for a farewell reception and dinner marking the end of this fabulous spring river cruise! (Meals: B/L/D)



DAY 9 – RIVER CRUISE ENDS IN BRUSSELS: Transfer included to Brussels Airport. (Meals: B)

Arts Council Member **Cat. 2 Ruby Deck (150 ft²): Double = \$4,275 / Single = \$5,985**
Costs Per Person: **Cat. 3 Emerald Deck (225 ft²): Double = \$4,445 / Single = \$6,223**
 (Non-members add 15%) **Cat. 5 Ruby/Diamond Deck (225 ft²): Double = 5,740 / Single = \$9,184**

Register by August 27, 2018 with \$1,000 deposit and receive a complimentary hotel night in Amsterdam or Brussels (pre- or post- cruise). Final payment due December 15, 2018.

INCLUDED: Airport transfers, everything described in cruise description above, 20 meals; unlimited complimentary beverages aboard ship (including regional wine, beer and premium spirits), gratuities to ship staff, drivers, local guides, Tauck Directors & Cruise Director, admission fees, taxes, portage & fuel surcharges.

NOT INCLUDED: International Airfare, incidental expenses, & trip insurance.

Estimated Airfare: Economy = \$850/person Business Class = \$3,309/person

Tauck Cruise Protection Insurance: \$599/person (Must be purchased at time of deposit.)

NOTE FOR ALL ARTOURS: You should be in good physical condition to fully enjoy our tours. The Arts Council cannot provide individual assistance during the tours and therefore reserves the right to decline to accept anyone on a tour who has a physical condition that could create a hazard to him/herself or could impact the enjoyment of other travelers on the tour.

CANCELLATION POLICY: 35% of the total cost will be withheld for cancellation after registration deadline on **ALL ARTours**. **NO** refunds are made after advertised full payment deadline unless substitute traveler is found—at which time transfer fees, if applicable, will be withheld. Trip cancellation insurance is available on request.

For additional information, contact Katherine MacRae • 910.692.2787 • katherine@mooreart.org