

Travel with The Met

May 12–21, 2024

Holland & Belgium:
Amsterdam to Bruges
Aboard *Magnifique III*
with Rika Burnham, Lecturer

THE
MET



Holland & Belgium: Amsterdam to Bruges Aboard *Magnifique III*

Dear Members and Friends of The Metropolitan Museum of Art,

In May 2024, join me for an enchanting cruise through the Low Countries aboard the boutique riverboat *Magnifique III*. As we follow meandering rivers and canals from the Dutch capital of Amsterdam to the medieval Belgian city of Bruges, we will encounter towering cathedrals, gorgeous gardens, landmark windmills, and charming, centuries-old villages. Most notably, we will look closely at extraordinary works of art throughout this program, including the *Ghent Altarpiece*, Rembrandt's *Night Watch*, Rubens's *Descent From the Cross*, and Van Gogh's *Sunflowers*.

As a longtime museum educator specializing in looking closely at art, I am excited to delve into the region's unparalleled art heritage with you, featuring private viewings of extraordinary paintings, sculptures, and altarpieces in beautiful churches and museums. From Amsterdam's Rijksmuseum to Antwerp's Royal Museum of Fine Arts, the grand achievements of Dutch and Flemish masters, such as Vermeer, Memling, Rembrandt, Bosch, and Bruegel, will captivate us. We will also experience the power of Jan and Hubert van Eyck's meticulously restored *Adoration of the Mystic Lamb*, now returned to its original home, St. Bavo's Cathedral in Ghent, Belgium.

The jewel-like medieval architecture will be a continuous delight, from Amsterdam's 14th-century Begijnhof, featuring the city's oldest private homes, to the peaceful *béguinage* in Bruges, which was founded in 1245. Even if you've traveled to the Low Countries before, you will not want to miss a new addition to the itinerary this year. In Rotterdam, Holland's second-largest city, we will experience its experimental 21st-century architecture, including an in-depth private tour of the arch-shaped Markthal, an imaginative, environmentally sustainable combination of residences and a market. We will also have guided access to the world's first public art storage facility, Rotterdam's new Depot Boijmans Van Beuningen, where we'll see a selection of its more than 150,000 artworks.

I hope that you will accompany me on this marvelous riverboat voyage through the Low Countries, celebrating their storied landscapes, beautiful architecture, and magnificent works of art.

Sincerely,

Rika Burnham

Lecturer

The Metropolitan Museum of Art



Traveling with you

Rika Burnham

Rika Burnham is a leading theorist and practitioner of art museum gallery teaching. Author of *Teaching in the Art Museum: Interpretation as Experience*, and lecturer at Columbia University, she has served as Head of Education at The Frick Collection, Museum Educator at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Project Director for TIME/Teaching Institute in Museum Education at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and was appointed Getty Research Institute Museum Scholar in 2002 and 2018. She holds a degree in art history from Harvard University and was awarded the degree of Honorary Doctor of Fine Arts from Massachusetts College of Art and Design in 2014.

Trip Highlights

- Admire works by Rubens, Michelangelo, Anthony van Dyck, Hans Memling, the Van Eyck brothers, and other masters on expert-guided tours of Holland and Belgium's museums and churches, including Amsterdam's famed **Rijksmuseum**
- View the world's largest collection of Van Gogh paintings, including *Sunflowers* and *The Potato Eaters*, on a private tour of the **Van Gogh Museum**
- Travel to picturesque **Kinderdijk**, a Dutch village famous for its impressive UNESCO-listed row of 19 large windmills
- Marvel at **Rotterdam's** experimental new architecture, with inside looks at the **Markthal**, a giant public market covered by an impressive archway composed of 228 residential apartments, and the new **Depot Boijmans Van Beuningen**, the world's first public art storage facility
- In Antwerp, view Fouquet's *Madonna* and other masterpieces at the **Royal Museum of Fine Arts**, reopened after a \$105-million, 11-year renovation
- Stroll along the 15th-century cobbled streets and tranquil canals of **Bruges** and enjoy a special visit to an authentic medieval estate
- Join expert guides in tranquil medieval **Begijnhofs**, groups of small houses that once served women's religious communities, in both Amsterdam and Bruges



Museum Mayer van den Bergh, Antwerp



Photos clockwise from top right: Map of the region; Depot Boijmans Van Beuningen, Rotterdam, Holland, photo © B.Ossip; Cathedral, Antwerp, Belgium, photo courtesy of Visit Flanders; Bruges, Belgium; Windmills of Kinderdijk, Holland; Markthal, Rotterdam. Front cover: Bruges, Belgium . Back cover: Ghent, Belgium (top); Vincent van Gogh (Dutch, Zundert 1853–1890 Auvers-sur-Oise), *Oleanders* (detail), 1888. Oil on canvas. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. Gift of Gift of Mr. and Mrs. John L. Loeb, 1962 (62.24) (bottom).

Holland & Belgium: Amsterdam to Bruges

Aboard *Magnifique III*

May 12–21, 2024

Departure

Sunday, May 12

Depart on an overnight flight to Amsterdam.

Amsterdam, Holland

Monday, May 13

Arrive in Amsterdam and transfer to the hotel. This afternoon, take a stroll to the Begijnhof, a private court surrounded by some of the oldest architecture in central Amsterdam dating back as far as the 14th century. Afterwards, head to the Van Gogh Museum for a private tour. See the world's largest collection of Van Gogh paintings, including *Sunflowers* and *The Potato Eaters*. Gather this evening for a welcome dinner. **D**

Amsterdam, Holland / Embark *Magnifique III*

Tuesday, May 14

This morning, head to the Rijksmuseum, the State Treasury of Dutch art for an expert-led tour. Marvel at works by Rembrandt, including the world-famous *The Night Watch*, as well as Vermeer, Frans Hals, and more. Then transfer to a canal boat for an introductory cruise through this historic city—including its iconic bridges, waterfront houses, and historic canals recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site—accompanied by an art historian. This afternoon, embark *Magnifique III*. **B, L, D**



Rembrandt Harmensz van Rijn, *The Night Watch* (detail), 1642, Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam. On loan from the City of Amsterdam

Vianen / Rotterdam / Kinderdijk / Dordrecht

Wednesday, May 15

Early this morning, travel to Rotterdam, Holland's second-largest city, with its eclectic, experimental architecture. First, stop at the new Depot Boijmans Van Beuningen, the world's first public art storage facility, for an in-depth private tour focusing on this architectural gem, which houses more than 150,000 works. Afterwards, take a special look at the sleek, striking Markthal (Market Hall). Opened in 2014, this residential and office complex features a giant public market framed by an arch consisting of 228 residences. After lunch, head to the picturesque Kinderdijk and see the marvelous windmills at this UNESCO-designated site. Conclude with a reception at a private residence (*pending confirmation*). Rejoin the ship in Dordrecht. **B, L, R**

Dordrecht / Antwerp, Belgium

Thursday, May 16

Today, attend a lecture on board as you travel to Antwerp, a city renowned for its medieval and modern architecture and impressive art collections. See the Cathedral of Our Lady where Rubens's famous *Descent from the Cross* is on display. Discover the majestic Royal Museum of Fine Arts, which features drawings, sculptures, and paintings from the past 600 years, including works by Van Eyck, Memling, Rubens, and Rodin. Stand next to Jean Fouquet's *Madonna* and view the world's largest collection of James Ensor works. The ship is docked in Antwerp overnight. **B, L, D**

Antwerp / Dendermonde / Sint-Amands

Friday, May 17

Admire the treasures of the Museum Mayer van den Bergh, whose collections includes Pieter Bruegel the Elder's *Mad Meg*. Continue to Dendermonde a small city known for its magnificent Flemish buildings. Visit the city's Church of Our Lady, home to two Van Dyck paintings, including *The Adoration of the Shepherds*. View works from Gaspar de Crayer and David Teniers the Elder, and behold its 12th-century baptismal font of Tournai stone. This evening, enjoy a private concert onboard.

B, L, D

Sint-Amands / Ghent

Saturday, May 18

In the morning, enjoy a lecture on board as *Magnifique III* sails to Ghent, once one of Europe's largest and wealthiest medieval cities. View its greatest treasure, the 15th-century *Ghent Altarpiece* (*The Adoration of the Mystic Lamb*) by the Van Eyck brothers, and take a tour of its dedicated museum in St. Bavo's Cathedral. This evening, enjoy an optional illuminated walking tour of Ghent. **B, L, D**

Ghent, Bruges

Sunday, May 19

Start your day with a visit to the Museum of Fine Arts of Ghent, the oldest museum in Belgium. View more than 400 masterpieces of European art spanning from Impressionism to Modernism. Afterwards, on the way to Bruges, stop at the private residence of an aristocratic Belgian family for lunch (*pending confirmation*). Rejoin the ship in Bruges after a delightful walking tour featuring the peaceful *béguinage*. This evening, enjoy dinner at leisure. **B, L**

Bruges

Monday, May 20

Today, visit Bruges's Church of Our Lady to see its celebrated *Madonna and Child* by Michelangelo. Then discover the Groeninge Museum, with works by Jan van Eyck and other great Flemish artists. Enjoy a visit and light refreshments at the Adornes Domain, an authentic medieval estate, followed by lunch at leisure. This afternoon, you may explore the city on your own or opt for a tour of the Hans Memling Museum, including his famous *St. Ursula Shrine*, housed in the Hospital of St. John. Gather this evening for a festive farewell dinner. **B, D**

Bruges / Disembark / Brussels / Return

Tuesday, May 21

Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the Brussels airport for flights home. **B**

This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.

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Cruise Rates

Cabins	Decks	Double	Single
21 & 22	Lower Deck	N/A	\$8,999
Single accommodations. One twin bed with portholes			
5, 7 to 12 & 14 to 20	Lower Deck	\$9,999	\$14,999
Standard, twin beds with portholes			
1 to 4 & 6	Upper Deck	\$13,499	Inquire
Suites, twin beds, small sitting area, French balcony with floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors			



Magnifique III

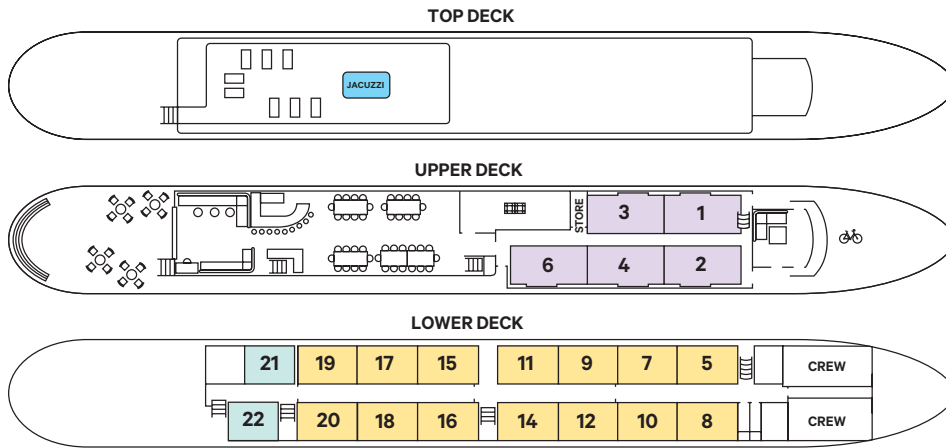
Rates Include

- One night hotel accommodations at the Hotel De L'Europe, Amsterdam
- Seven nights cabin accommodations aboard *Magnifique III*
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner). Bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with all meals; wine/beer at dinners
- Airport/hotel/pier/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Escorted sightseeing by private motorcoach; entrance fees for included visits
- Taxes, service, and portage charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers

Not included in rates

International airfare; passport/visa fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses (e.g. laundry services); airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; excess baggage; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

Magnifique III



Guests dining aboard *Magnifique III* (top); Upper deck suite (above right); and dining room (above left)

Launched in 2018 as a beautiful passenger barge, *Magnifique III* features 21 contemporary cabins. The upper deck has five spacious suites (172 sq.ft.) with two separate single beds, a small sitting area, and a "French balcony" featuring ceiling-to-floor sliding-glass doors. The lower deck has fourteen beautiful twin cabins (129 sq.ft.) with two separate single beds and two single cabins. The upper deck has a large, tastefully furnished salon with a restaurant area, a nice bar, and a lounge area with cozy sitting corners, a wide screen TV, and large panoramic windows. On the top deck, the barge has a whirlpool/Jacuzzi and some deckchairs to relax and enjoy the scenery while cruising.

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Reservation Form

To secure your reservation, please call Arrangements Abroad at 844-TRVLMET (844-878-5638); email: met@arrangementsabroad.com; or complete this form and return it with your deposit of \$1,000 per person (of which \$500 is non-refundable for administrative fees), to be paid by debit card, credit card, wire transfer, or check payable to *Arrangements Abroad*. Mail to: Arrangements Abroad, 260 West 39th Street, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10018-4424.

Name(s) in full as on passports. Please print.

Address

City State Zip

Telephone (home) (business)

Fax Email

Accommodations

Magnifique III cabin preference (1) _____ (2) _____

I wish to share a cabin with _____

Form of Payment

Enclosed is my check (payable to *Arrangements Abroad*) Debit card Credit card

Name on debit/credit card

Debit/credit card number

3- or 4-digit security code

Expiration date

Each participant must sign below. I/We have read, understand and agree to the Terms & Conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms and detailed in program documents. I/We agree to full payment 120 days prior to departure.

Signature (required)

Date

Signature (required)

Date

For additional information, please call 844-TRVLMET (844-878-5638) or to opt out from receiving mail, email travelwiththemet@metmuseum.org



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