# Bike and Boat: Amsterdam to Bruges



8 Days / 7 Nights | Rating: Easy | Start / End: Amsterdam

See the Departure Dates and Pricing Details



The Amsterdam – Bruges bike and barge cycle tour is an exciting holiday experience that highlights some of the most beautiful cities of Holland and Belgium. On a daily basis you will cycle through a variety of flat landscapes through charming villages and historic cities while cruising along the impressive waterways of Zeeland, the River Schelde and the picturesque Vecht and Lek Rivers. During the course of the tour you will visit the world famous cities of Amsterdam, Utrecht, Antwerp, Ghent and Bruges – each in their own right are destinations of significance with a long list of sights and attractions to discover. Along the way you will cycle through the beautiful Dutch landscape of Zeeland, will visit a real Dutch cheese farm and 19 Dutch windmills in Kinderdijk and will discover the western Flanders region of Belgium. The province of Zeeland is essentially one big river delta of the Rhine, Meuse and Scheldt Rivers famous for its fantastic beaches, water sport activities and Delta works, while the Flanders region of Belgium boasts a number of world famous medieval towns and has a well-deserved reputation for superb food and drink. As well as cycling through many picturesque villages each day, you will have the opportunity to discover Amsterdam and visit Antwerp, a city famous for its vibrant nightlife. Ghent, Belgium's fourth-largest - and most beautiful - city is home to a flourishing flower export trade. You will be able to discover the UNESCO World Heritage-listed historical center of Bruges.

**BOOK THIS TRIP:** 







"I had an absolutely wonderful trip and am so glad I chose Sojourn."

– Corinne Campbell, Sojourn Guest

#### **EXPERIENCES, NOT BIKE TOURS**

While we love our cycling, it makes up only one facet of what a true Sojourn trip entails. We believe in immersing ourselves in local cultures and discovering the hidden gems of the world.

#### **REGIONAL PLANNING SPECIALISTS**

From Vietnam to France to Glacier National Park, we are committed to offering exceptional trips in regions with which we are deeply familiar. We personally design and operate each of our trips.

#### PREMIER ACCOMODATIONS

We carefully select from some of of the most comfortable barges available in the Netherlands.

#### **UNWAVERING ATTENTION TO SERVICE**

Our commitment to provide you with unwavering service starts from the moment you first interact with the Sojourn team. We believe the little details matter and make the Sojourn vacation a life-list worthy experience for our guests.

#### PROFESSIONAL TRIP LEADERS

Gracious, engaging, and intelligent, our expert team of tour leaders consist of professionals from all walks of life and make exceptional travel companions. Always a step ahead, they are adept at everything from spinning wrenches to whipping up fabulous picnic lunches.

#### YOUR VACATION, YOUR PACE

We believe that at the end of the day, you are at the helm of your own vacation. We offer an array of day-to-day options to enable you to approach each day at your own pace.

BOOK THIS TRIP
RESERVE ONLINE | CONTACT US | CALL 800.730.4771



## Sunday: Day 1



Embarkation for the Amsterdam – Bruges bike and barge cycle tour will take place at 1 p.m., where the crew will warmly welcome you on board the ship. Once everyone is settled in, at around 2 p.m., the ship will set sail from Amsterdam and begin its journey towards the first destination, Vianen.

Vianen is a small fortified town located on the banks of the river Lek. It offers a charming setting for your first night on the tour. Upon arrival in Vianen, the bicycles will be fitted, and you will have the opportunity to enjoy a

#### **GOOD TO KNOW**

Every Sojourn trip is different in their own unique ways. We want you to be aware of them so that you can only have the best experiences possible. Please know, whichever trip you choose we are committed to make it the trip of a lifetime!

short bicycle ride around the town and its surroundings. This initial ride allows you to get familiar with the bikes and stretch your legs after the journey.

As the ship docks for the night in Vianen, you can explore the town further, take a leisurely stroll, or relax on board and enjoy the barge life experience. The crew will provide information about the itinerary and activities planned for the following days during the evening, giving you a glimpse of the exciting journey ahead.

LODGING: Barge

### Monday: Day 2



The day starts with a scenic cycle route leading to Schoonhoven, a city known as "Zilverstad" or "Silver City." The city has been renowned for its talented silver smiths since the 17th century. As you explore Schoonhoven, you may have the opportunity to witness the craftsmanship and artistry of local silver artisans. Continuing along the route, you will reach the Alblasserwaard region and the village of Kinderdijk. Kinderdijk is famous for its impressive row of 19 large windmills, all of which have earned a UNESCO cultural heritage listing. These iconic windmills are a definite highlight of the tour, and you won't want to miss the chance to capture their beauty on

# KEEPING YOU POSTED

We're constantly looking for ways to enhance our trips. We'll do our best to notify you of any changes in this itinerary. Other changes may be communicated to you on the trip by your leaders.

your camera. After visiting Kinderdijk and enjoying the sight of the windmills, you'll head to Alblasserdam. From there, you will take the "Waterbus," which is a fast ferry that accommodates bicycles as well. The Waterbus will take you and your bicycle on a short 10-minute ride to Dordrecht, one of the oldest towns in the Netherlands.

LODGING: Barge

CYCLING OPTIONS: 34 Miles

## Tuesday: Day 3



After breakfast, the ship will sail to Tholen, where your day's cycling begins. Tholen is a picturesque town in the Netherlands, and from here, you will cycle to the "Wouwse Plantage" forest. This forest provides a scenic and refreshing backdrop for your cycling route, offering the opportunity to enjoy nature and its tranquility. On your cycling journey, you will come across the impressive Kreekrak lock. The lock is a part of the waterway system and is an engineering marvel that aids in regulating water levels and facilitating smooth passage for boats and ships. After your exploration of the forest and the lock, you'll meet up with the ship once again. The ship will then sail to the port city of Antwerp, located on the river Schelde. Antwerp is a vibrant and historically significant city with a wide range of attractions to explore. After dinner on board the ship, you'll have the opportunity to venture out and explore Antwerp's beautiful old city center. The historic streets, charming architecture, and lively atmosphere make it a delightful place to wander and soak in the city's ambiance.



## Wednesday: Day 4



Today's tour will see you cycle out of Antwerp on a beautiful cycle path along the picturesque tidal Schelde River to Dendermonde, your home for the night. The Schelde River is tidal, and the tidal characteristic adds a unique dynamic to the landscape, creating ever-changing vistas along the riverbanks. It is without doubt one of the natural highlights of the tour.

LODGING: Barge

CYCLING OPTIONS: 29 Miles 39 Miles



You will continue following the river Schelde to reach the lively and historically rich city of Ghent. Ghent is a vibrant university city with a long and significant history as a major trading port since Roman times. The city boasts numerous cultural attractions, including an Opera House, 18 museums, more than 100 churches, and over 400 historical buildings. One of the major highlights in Ghent is the St. Bavo Cathedral, which houses several masterpieces of medieval art, including the world-famous 'Adoration of the Mystic Lamb' by Jan van Eyck. After a day of cycling along the river and exploring the city's cultural treasures, the ship will moor for the night at a lock in a suburb of Ghent, allowing you to further immerse yourself in the city's vibrant atmosphere and explore more of its delights during the evening.



LODGING: Barge

CYCLING OPTIONS: 32 Miles

## Friday: Day 6

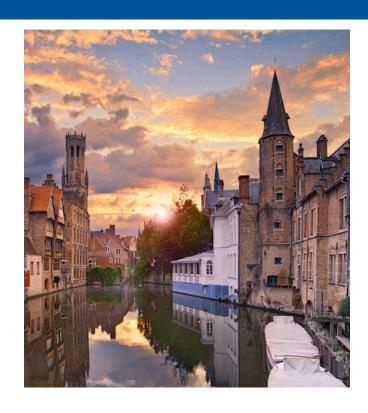


Today's route takes you through the picturesque Flemish countryside of western Flanders, leading you to the enchanting city of Bruges, often referred to as the 'Venice of the North'. Bruges is a city of immense charm and history, attracting over two million visitors annually. Its UNESCO World Heritage-listed historic center is a remarkable example of a medieval settlement that has preserved its original Gothic constructions, creating a unique and captivating ambiance. During your stay in Bruges, you'll have the opportunity to explore the city's many attractions. You can visit one of Bruges' numerous museums, each offering insights into the city's rich history and cultural heritage. Alternatively, you can simply enjoy the stunning beauty and cultural richness of Bruges from the comfort of a sidewalk café, immersing yourself in the city's unique atmosphere. For dinner, you'll have the freedom to choose a restaurant of your liking available in Bruges. The ship's crew can provide recommendations to help you find the perfect spot to enjoy a delicious meal.

LODGING: Barge

CYCLING OPTIONS: 28 Miles

You'll start the day's cycling journey along a guiet canal, surrounded by beautiful poplar trees and a charming polder landscape. A polder is a low-lying tract of land enclosed by embankments, and this area is dotted with small farmhouses, adding to the scenic beauty of the region. As you continue cycling, you'll reach the North Sea coast. Here, you will have the opportunity to relax and enjoy the inviting sandy beach. If you're up for it, you can take a refreshing swim in the sea. The North Sea coast also offers numerous cafes where you can indulge in delicious treats while taking in the attractive dune landscape. After spending some time at the North Sea coast, you'll embark on the return ride to Bruges. The cycling route takes you along a small picturesque canal, providing another opportunity to appreciate the natural beauty and serenity of the area.



LODGING: Barge

CYCLING OPTIONS: 23 Miles 31 Miles

## Friday: Day 8



Disembark after breakfast until 9.30AM in Bruges.

### Tour Accommodations



#### Barge - De Holland

De Holland is a medium-sized cozy river cruise ship, built in 1952 and extended by 16 meters in 2012. In the winter of 2017/2018 the ship has been completely refitted: new marshalling, spacious and more luxurious cabins and a full restyle of the interior.





TOUR START	1:00pm Friday (Day 1) – Board and check in at the Barge in Amsterdam.	
TOUR CONCLUSION	9:30am disembarkation in Bruges.	
TRAVEL TO/FROM TOUR	Fly into Amsterdam Airport Schiphol (AMS) Fly out of Brussels(BRU) - 1 hour by train Fly out of Amsterdam Airport (AMS) - 3 hours by train	
DAYS/NIGHTS	8 Days/7 Nights	
INCLUDED MEALS	All breakfasts, 6 lunches, and 6 dinners.	
ACTIVITIES	Cycling, local attractions in the Netherlands.	
RATING	Easy - this tour offers more natural options for someone who is active but doesn't cycle often. Daily rides average around 10-30 miles over mostly level terrain.	

#### IMPORTANT ENTRY REQUIREMENT FOR EUROPE

Much of Europe is open to Americans, including more than two dozen countries without any restrictions at all. However, it's important to double-check before traveling in case requirements change. Starting in 2024, American passport holders traveling to 30 European countries will need authorization via the European Travel Information and Authorization System (ETIAS). Please check the prevailing travel requirements for entry into Europe.

## Dates & Pricing



All prices and schedules are subjected to change. Click here for details on our website.

### What's Included?

EQUIPMENT	Tour bike, helmet, rear light, map case, water bottle, and jersey. Bring clipless pedals, seat, or helmet for a more personalized fit.
VAN SUPPORT	Rides supported by a van, as applicable, as well as a tour leader on a bicycle.
TOUR LEADERS	Local experienced tour leaders guide each trip from start to finish.
RIDE NOURISHMENT	A selection of snacks and refreshments are supplied throughout all rides.
RIDE INFORMATION	Detailed route directions, maps, and a daily briefing are provided.
OFFICE SUPPORT	At your service 9:00am – 6:00pm EST, Monday – Friday. 800-730-4771
DETAILED INFORMATION	A full complement of detailed trip and travel information will be provided upon confirmation of reservation.
E-BIKES & TANDEMS	Electic Assist Bikes are availabe on all tours where permitted (conditions apply). Call us at 1-800-730-4771 for details.

### Weather

### The Netherlands & Belgium

Average	May	Jun
High °F	63°	68°
Low °F	47°	52°

### WE'RE HAPPY TO CHAT!

Call: **800.730.4771** 

Write: info@gosojourn.com

Visit: GoSojourn.com

#### PRICES & SCHEDULE

All prices and schedules are subject to change at any time. Click HERE to view the latest departure dates & prices.