

Cycling Europe

HOLLAND: BIKE & BARGE 2020

SOUTHERN TOUR: “MS DE AMSTERDAM” & “DE NASSAU”

Semi-Guided Cycle Tour

8 days/7 nights, Amsterdam to Amsterdam



BIKE & BARGE through the heart of Holland. Visit the famous historical towns and cities, and enjoy many architectural and cultural highlights in the province of “Zuid-Holland”. Although this is the most densely populated part of the country you will be surprised when you visit the small, picturesque towns and ride along the cycle tracks through the “Green Heart” and the small “Lake District” of Holland. The Southern tour is the perfect tour to explore the variety of scenery in the central part of the Netherlands with many small canals and lakes, and also the beautiful old cities both during the day and in the evening. You will travel on board the *De Amsterdam* or on *De Nassau*, river cruise ships which have recently been refurbished for cycling cruises in the Netherlands.

Highlights include:

- Amsterdam with its beautiful canals
- Rotterdam, the busiest port in Europe
- Delft with its famous Delfware factories
- Gouda cheese
- Windmills of Kinderdijk
- Schoonhoven – the silver city
- Historical centre of Haarlem
- Open air museum of “Zaanse Schans”.



ITINERARY - “De Amsterdam”

Day 1: (Saturday) Amsterdam

Embarkation begins at **2.00pm** in the centre of Amsterdam. It is possible to bring your luggage to the boat earlier from 9.30 am onwards. You will have plenty of time to explore the city, visit museums or take a canal tour (purchase discounted tickets onboard until 10.00pm). This is a unique way to see the capital of Holland from another side. **Overnight in Amsterdam**

Day 2: (Sunday) Amsterdam- Breukelen by boat – Breukelen – Utrecht (cycling approx. 25-40km) – Afternoon: Utrecht – Rotterdam by boat (cycling approx. 25-40km)

During breakfast we sail from Amsterdam to Breukelen. From Breukelen we cycle along the beautiful small river Vecht, where we are able to see nice villas, cottages and small castles. Along the river into the centre of Utrecht with its Dom (cathedral) tower at 111m high. In the afternoon, we continue by boat to Rotterdam, where in the evening we take a short walking tour of the city.



Day 3: (Monday) Rotterdam – Schiedam – Delft - Rotterdam (cycling approx. 28 - 50km)

Today the ship stays in Rotterdam. You cycle via “Jenever-City” Schiedam and through the Delftland to Delft. Visit the beautiful city centre with its canals, picturesque streets, bridges and alleyways. For many, a visit to the Delftware factories “Royal Delft” is one of the highlights of the tour. In the evening, a short city walking tour is included.

Day 4: (Tuesday) Rotterdam – Alblasterdam/Kinderdijk by waterbus then cycle Kinderdijk – Gouda – Schoonhoven (cycling approx. 30-58km)

Take the fast ferry with your bike and arrive in just 10 minutes in Alblasterdam. Cycle to Kinderdijk, a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site, with 19 windmills all in a line. Then you have a choice between a short bike tour through

the Alblasserwaard to the “Silver City” of Schoonhoven on the river Lek, or a longer bike tour visiting the cheese city of Gouda. Both tours end in Schoonhoven.

Day 5: (Wednesday) Schoonhoven – Oudewater – Utrecht (cycling approx. 45km) Afternoon: Utrecht - Haarlem by boat

We cycle from Schoonhoven through the beautiful “Green Heart” to Utrecht. We go through Oudewater, where you can visit the Witches Weigh House dating back to 1595. The scales in the weigh house were used to weigh women alleged to be witches. Most of them were cleared of the allegation, for even in those days, few Dutch women weighed less than 50kg, and if a supposed witch weighed more than that she could not be a witch, since the broomstick would have broken under her weight. Near Oudewater you can visit a traditional cheese farm and buy delicious Gouda cheeses. In the afternoon we cruise to Haarlem, and in the evening enjoy live music onboard.



Day 6: (Thursday) Haarlem – North Sea Coast – Haarlem (cycling approx. 40-50km) Evening: Haarlem – Zaandam by boat

Today offers two bike tours, both taking you through the beautiful Kennemer dunes, a national park, via Bloemendaal and Zandvoort and along the North Sea Coast. The longer route leads to the largest steam engine in the world, the Cruquius pumping station, and back to Haarlem. This evening we sail to Zaandam.



Day 7: (Friday) Zaandam - Amsterdam (cycling 30 - 45km)

From Zaandam you will cycle to the open air museum “Zaanse Schans”, where you will find traditional wooden houses, windmills, cheese farm and clog (wooden shoe) manufacturing. Continue the bike tour through recreational area “Twiske” to Amsterdam. **You will have the afternoon and evening free in Amsterdam** to do the things you may not have had the opportunity to do before the tour began. We recommend the 1 hr Amsterdam Canal Tour, discounted tickets are available onboard.

Cycling: 30 -45km

Day 8: (Saturday) Amsterdam

Your tour concludes after breakfast 9.30am.

ITINERARY – “De Nassau”

Day 1: (Saturday) Amsterdam – sail to Haarlem

Embarkation begins at **2.00pm** in the centre of Amsterdam. In the late afternoon the ship will sail to Haarlem. You will have a welcome drink and your first tour briefing on board.

Overnight in Haarlem

Day 2: (Sunday) Haarlem – North Sea Coast – Haarlem (cycling approx. 40-50km) Evening: Haarlem – Zaandam by boat

Today offers two bike tours, both taking you through the beautiful Kennemer dunes, a national park, via Bloemendaal and Zandvoort and along the North Sea Coast. The longer route leads to the largest steam engine in the world, the Cruquius pumping station, and back to Haarlem. This evening we sail to Zaandam.

Day 3: (Monday) Zaandam - Amsterdam (cycling 30 - 45km)

From Zaandam you will cycle to the open air museum "Zaanse Schans" (free entry), where you will find traditional wooden houses, windmills, cheese farm and clog (wooden shoe) manufacturing. Continue the bike tour through recreational area "Twiske" to Amsterdam. **You will have the afternoon and evening free in Amsterdam** to do the things you may not have had the opportunity to do before the tour began. We recommend the 1 hr Amsterdam Canal Tour, discounted tickets are available onboard.

Day 4: (Tuesday) Amsterdam- Breukelen by boat – Breukelen – Utrecht (cycling approx. 25-40km) – Afternoon: Utrecht – Rotterdam by boat (cycling approx. 25-40km)

During breakfast we sail from Amsterdam to Breukelen. From Breukelen we cycle along the beautiful small river Vecht, where we are able to see nice villas, cottages and small castles. Along the river into the centre of Utrecht with its Dom (cathedral) tower at 111m high. In the afternoon, we continue by boat to Rotterdam.

Day 5: (Wednesday) Rotterdam – Schiedam – Delft - Rotterdam (cycling approx. 28 - 50km)

Today the ship stays in Rotterdam. You cycle via "Jenever-City" Schiedam and through the Delftland to Delft. Visit the beautiful city centre with its canals, picturesque streets, bridges and alleyways. For many, a visit to the Delftware factories "Royal Delft" is one of the highlights of the tour. In the evening, a short city walking tour of Rotterdam is included.

Day 6: (Thursday) Rotterdam – Alblasserdam/Kinderdijk by waterbus then cycle Kinderdijk – Gouda – Schoonhoven (cycling approx. 30-58km)

Take the fast ferry with your bike and arrive in just 10 minutes in Alblasserdam. Cycle to Kinderdijk, a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site, with 19 windmills all in a line. Then you have a choice between a short bike tour through the Alblasserwaard to the "Silver City" of Schoonhoven on the Lek River.

Day 7: (Friday) Schoonhoven – Oudewater – Utrecht (cycling approx. 45km) Afternoon: Utrecht - Amsterdam by boat

We cycle from Schoonhoven through the beautiful "Green Heart" to Utrecht. We go through Oudewater, where you can visit the Witches Weigh House dating back to 1595. The scales in the weigh house were used to weigh women alleged to be witches. Most of them were cleared of the allegation, for even in those days, few Dutch women weighed less than 50kg, and if a supposed witch weighed more than that she could not be a witch, since the broomstick would have broken under her weight. Near Oudewater you can visit a traditional cheese farm and buy delicious Gouda cheeses. In the afternoon we cruise to Amsterdam.

Day 8: (Saturday) Amsterdam

Your tour concludes after breakfast by 9030am.

A Typical day

In the morning, an extensive Dutch breakfast will be served and you may make your own packed lunch (sandwiches, fruit, a snack and a drink). Between 9.00am and 10.00am you will leave the ship to start your cycling along the scenic routes. The ship will be sailing to the next meeting place. During self guided tours, with your bicycle, map or tour documentation (included in the cost), you can plan your

own daily tour or with assistance from the crew. The various stops en-route can be individually planned for sightseeing, coffee and lunch breaks.

At the end of your bicycle day, the staff will welcome you onboard where coffee and tea are available. In the evening a delicious three course dinner will be served onboard. Drinks, such as wine, beer and soft drinks are available at a small charge from the bar. Every evening you will have the opportunity to visit and explore a different town or city or to share your experiences with other guests from various countries in the cozy living room, the bar or on the sun deck of the ship. Daily cycling distances may vary between approximately 30 and 60 km. Most routes can be treated as easy, as major parts of the country are flat. Therefore, our tours are suitable for both experienced, as well as novice cyclists.

These self guided tours are suitable for those who do not like to bike in a group. Everyone can choose his or her own speed and daily tours can be individually arranged or organized according to your personal interests and fitness. On board, you will have many opportunities to meet other enthusiastic cyclists from various countries. **The tour leader/guide does cycle during the day, and is contactable by mobile, however, as everyone cycles at different speeds, the guide may have to round up the stragglers, so it is not possible to stay with the guide all the time.** The De Amsterdam can carry a maximum of 112 guests and for departures with more than 60 guests, there will be a second (assistant) tour leader.

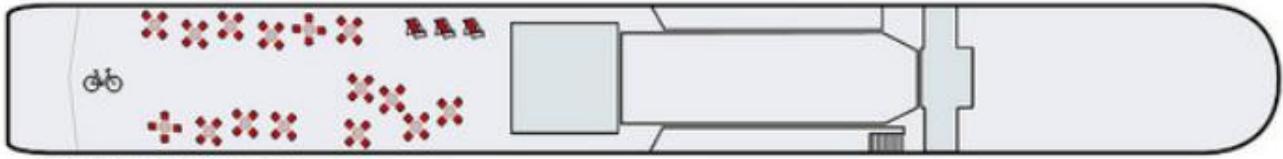
MS: DE AMSTERDAM

De Amsterdam is a very well-equipped river cruise ship with a length of 95 metres and 56 cabins (approximately 11m²). All twin cabins have a private shower and toilet, all with lower single beds and air conditioning, a mini-safe and hairdryer. There are 10 twin and 20 superior twin cabins on the lower deck and 18 identical superior twin cabins and 8 spacious French Balcony Suites on the upper deck (surcharge applies). The difference between the twin and superior cabins on the lower deck is their location in relation to the engine room, stairs and salon. All cabins have a large picture window which can be partly opened.

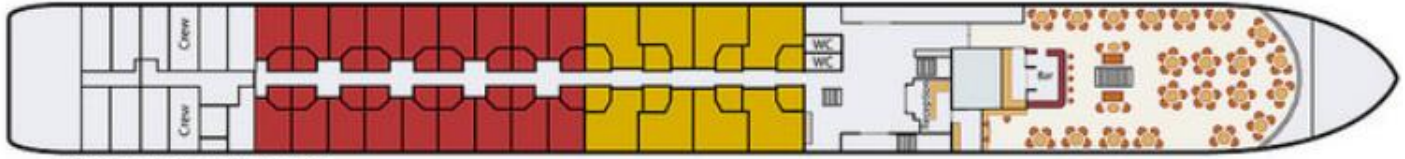
The suites (approx. 15m²) have the same amenities as the superior twin cabins, but are larger and in addition have a mini-bar and a French balcony (floor to ceiling sliding glass doors) instead of a window. The beds in the suites are set as a hotel-style bed (double bed 160 x 200cm), but can be set as twin beds on request. Twin cabins for single use and triple cabins are limited and on request.

De Amsterdam has a restaurant on the lower deck, and you can relax in the lounge/ bar with dance floor and panoramic windows on the upper deck. On the large and partially covered sun deck, there are tables and chairs and room for bike storage. **Maximum 112 Passengers.**

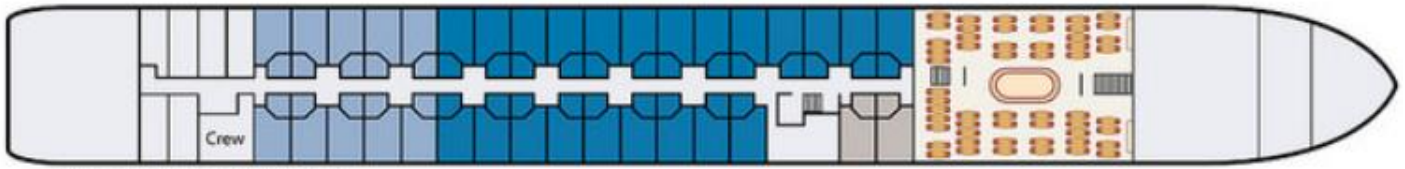




Sun Deck | Zonnedek | Sonnendeck



Upper Deck | Bovendek | Oberdeck



Main Deck | Benedendek | Hauptdeck

- Twin Main Deck A
- Twin Main Deck B
- Twin Upper Deck
- Twin Suite Upper Deck



French Balcony suite



Twin cabin

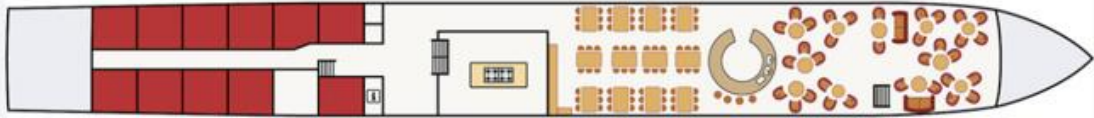


Bathroom

MS: DE NASSAU



Sun Deck | Sonnendeck



Upper Deck | Oberdeck



Lower Deck | Unterdeck

- Twin Lower Deck
- Superior Twin Lower Deck
- Twin/Triple Upper Deck



De Nassau is a medium-sized cosy river ship. In 2018 the cabins and the salon/restaurant in front of the ship underwent a refit. The ship sails under Dutch flag. De Nassau has a large salon with large panoramic windows on the upper deck that combines the restaurant, bar and a lounge area. Wi-Fi is available. On the partially roofed sun deck there are chairs and sun loungers. Here you can relax, have a drink and enjoy the scenery while sailing. Bikes are stored on a separate part of the sun deck.

Cabins

The lower deck has 22 twin cabins. Fourteen "regular" twin cabins in the middle and back (10 m² – 108 sq.ft.) have two single low beds (200 x 80 cm – 78 x 31 inches). One cabin has the possibility for a third bunk bed (above one of the beds). Eight "superior" twin cabins in the front (9,5 – 11,5 m² – 102 – 124 sq.ft.) have two separate beds, set next to each other as a hotel style bed (200 x 160 cm – 78 x 62 inches). The difference between twin and superior twin cabins on the lower deck is that the superior twins are the renovated cabins. All lower deck cabins have a small window that can be opened.

Beds in the superior cabins are normally set as hotel-style beds (78 x 62 inches) or, optional, on previous request, can be arranged as 2 separate single beds (78 x 31 inches).

The upper deck offers twelve twin cabins (10 m² – 108 sq.ft.), ten cabins with two single low beds and two have a double bed (200 x 140 cm – 78 x 55 inches). Four cabins have the possibility for a third bunk bed (above one of the beds). All upper deck cabins have a window that can be opened.

All 34 cabins aboard De Nassau have an individual climate control system, mini-safe, small wardrobe, hair dryer, 230V sockets and a private bathroom with shower, toilet and basin.

Facts about the ship

Length: 72 m (236 ft.)

Width: 8,6 m (28 ft.)
 Crew: 12
 Cabins: 34
 Pass.: 73 (maximum)

TULIP SEASON:

Departures leaving on **04, 11, 18 & 25 April** and **2 May** are very likely to see tulips and spring flowers. During these tour you have the opportunity to visit the “Keukenhof “Tulip exhibition park in Lisse by bus/train, or partly with train and bike (transfers/tickets/entrance fees are not included in tour price below).



FULLY GUIDED OPTION AVAILABLE: “De Amsterdam” - Cycle with a tour leader in a small group of max. 20 guests. Add €125 per person. Departures 02 & 23 May, 13 June, 29 August, 12 September.

2020 COST PER PERSON IN EURO: “DE AMSTERDAM”

	Twin Lower Deck	Twin Upper Deck	Suite Upper Deck
March 28	€709	€859	€1059
April 04 & 11; October 10	€809	€959	€1159
April 18; October 03	€859	€1009	€1209
April 25; September 26	€909	€1059	€1259
May 02 & 09; September 19	€959	€1109	€1309
May 16, 23 & 30; September 12	€999	€1149	€1349
All other dates June 06 – Sept. 05	€1039	€1189	€1389

2020 COST PER PERSON IN EURO: “DE NASSAU”

	Twin Lower Deck	Superior Twin Lower Deck	Twin Upper Deck
March 30	€659	€709	€709
April 04 & 11; October 10	€709	€809	€809
October 03	€759	€859	€859
April 25	€809	€909	€909
May 02	€859	€959	€959
September 12	€899	€999	€999
June 06 & 20, July 04	€939	€1039	€1039

Triple cabin costs on request De Nassau only

Single Cabins (for single use) – Superior twin lower deck on De Nassau or Twin upper deck cabin on De Amsterdam – ADD €350.

Bike Hire: €80 per week (7 speed with hand brakes plus pannier bag)

Electric Bike Hire €180 per week (3 support levels, 7 gears, range 60-65km. Limited number)

Helmets: Rental helmets are available **€10** must be pre-booked. It is not compulsory to wear a helmet in the Netherlands but we do recommend it.

Limitation of liability (damage) rental bicycle **€10 per week**

Limitation of liability (damage) E-Bike **€25 per week**

Amsterdam Canal Tour (1hr tour) €13.00 for discounted ticket if pre-paid on board (normally €16). Tours have frequent departures, every hour from a location on the waterfront not far from the Amsterdam Central station. On the last night of the tour you will have free time in Amsterdam.

INCLUDED IN TOUR COST

- 7 night's accommodation in air conditioned cabins with ensuite
- Bedding and Towels (change of towels available on request)
- Cabins cleaned daily
- Full board : 7 breakfasts; 6 self-made picnic lunches; 7 three course dinners
- Live music on board.
- GPS Tracks
- Tour Leader/Guide onboard, conducts daily briefings, cycles with bike tours, and some city walks - is contactable by mobile phone.
- Maps and printed instructions for bike tours – 1 set per cabin
- WiFi/ WLAN in the lounge of the ship
- Complimentary tea and coffee until 4 pm
- 2 City walks: Rotterdam & Dordrecht, with tour leader.

TOUR PRICE EXCLUDES

- Transfers to and from the ship in Amsterdam
- Other transfers and fees for ferries/waterbus
- Entrance Fees & Excursions - Delftware factory, visitors centre windmills Kinderdijk, St-Jans church, Gouda cheese farm , silversmith Schoonhoven, city hall Zaandam, and more (discounted tickets are available).
- Drinks onboard
- Personal Travel Insurance
- Tips/Gratuities (at your discretion)
- Special diet catering has a surcharge of €50 to pay in cash on boat (eg gluten free, dairy free, vegan, etc). If you are a "lacto-ovo" vegetarian (eats dairy & eggs) there is no extra charge.

ASK US FOR THE 14 NIGHT "GRAND TOUR OF HOLLAND"

Book through:

A Walker's World

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