



Tulips, Tastes & Timeless Canals with Linda Haines

14 days | 17 days with Paris extension

Glide from the stylish streets of Scandinavia to the storybook charm of Western Europe on a journey that begins in Copenhagen, where sleek design and cozy hygge vibes set the tone. Then, venture into the heart of Benelux, where each stop offers its own unique flavor. In Amsterdam, cruise the canals and explore the city's effortlessly cool culture. Wander the cobbled lanes of Bruges, where medieval charm meets chocolate shops and lace boutiques. Then it's on to Brussels, where grand architecture and gourmet delights await. Not quite ready to head home? Add on an extension to Paris, where café culture, world-class art, and timeless elegance offer the perfect encore.



Your tour package includes

- 12 nights in handpicked hotels
- Breakfast daily
- 4 dinners with beer or wine
- 3 tastings
- 7 sightseeing tours
- Expert Tour Director & local guides
- Private deluxe motor coach
- 1 on-tour flight

Included highlights

- Copenhagen's Nyhavn district
- Rosenborg Castle
- Amsterdam canal cruise
- Dutch cheese farm & clog factory
- Van Gogh Museum
- Keukenhof Gardens
- Rotterdam
- Bruges waffle tasting
- Ghent culinary tour
- Grand-Place in Brussels
- Belgian chocolate tasting

Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for at least 2 hours daily across moderately uneven terrain, including cobblestone streets and paved roads, with few hills or stairs.

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Overnight Flight → 1 night

Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Copenhagen today.

Copenhagen → 3 nights

Day 2: Arrival in Copenhagen

Included meals: welcome dinner

Welcome to Denmark! After touching down, transfer to your hotel and take some time to settle in. Then, gather with your Tour Director and fellow travelers and get to know one another over a welcome dinner, served with beer or wine.

Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Copenhagen

Included meals: breakfast

Rich in parks, whimsical architecture, and inventive eateries, coastal Copenhagen is proper Danish dynamite. With your Tour Director leading the way, get to know the city via its most famous sites. (And look out for cyclists—locals love to pedal around their colorful city!)

- Stop for photos outside the 16th-century Rosenborg Castle, a royal residence built in the Dutch Renaissance style.
- View the iconic *Little Mermaid* statue, commemorating one of Danish writer Hans Christian Andersen's most famous fairy tales, and marvel at the wharfside homes and stores of the beautifully preserved Nyhavn district.
- Pass by a pair of palaces: the rococo Amalienborg, official home of the Danish royal family, and the neo-baroque Christiansborg, site of the national parliament.

Now that you've explored contemporary Copenhagen and touched on its medieval past—why not dive into Denmark's Viking history? Do just that on your free afternoon by adding an excursion to Roskilde, a former capital of the country and a hub for ancient seafarers. If you'd rather stay in town, check out the National

Museum of Denmark to see how the country's culture has transformed over the centuries. Or, go to the Kastellet. Standing sentinel over the Oresund strait, this star-shaped fortress lies a half-hour's walk from Rosenborg Castle.
+ Roskilde Cathedral & Viking Ship Museum

Day 4: Free day in Copenhagen

Included meals: breakfast

For a fairytale day with an extra dash of whimsy, add our optional outing to lakeside Frederiksborg Castle and the waterfront city of Elsinore. Or, hang back in Copenhagen for some self-guided exploration. The Kastellet, a star-shaped fortress standing sentinel over the Oresund strait, lies a half-hour's walk from Rosenborg Castle.
+ Frederiksborg Castle & Elsinore

Amsterdam → 4 nights

Day 5: Fly to Amsterdam

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Fly to Amsterdam, Netherlands today and get settled into your home away from home for the next few days. After some downtime, rejoin your group later this evening for an included dinner, served with beer or wine.

Day 6: Sightseeing tour of Amsterdam, Cheese Farm & Clog Factory visit

Included meals: breakfast

Take to the water on today's sightseeing tour as your local guide introduces you to Amsterdam's unique character.

- Cruise by icons like the Dutch National Opera house and the Skinny Bridge.
- Reflect on the city's history as you pass by a former Jewish neighborhood.
- See the dancing houses, the narrowest houses in Amsterdam, and "flower bikes" decorated by a local known as the Flower Bike Man.
- Disembark near the Rijksmuseum, and stroll to the iconic Van Gogh Museum for a tour with an audio guide.

This afternoon, head just outside of the city for a look into iconic Dutch products and how they're made.

- Pay a visit to a traditional cheese farm and clog factory where you'll enjoy a guided tour to learn how Dutch gouda is made the traditional way.
- Step inside the shoe factory and see how blocks of wood are skillfully hand-cut into clogs and try on a pair.

Day 7: Keukenhof Gardens

Included meals: breakfast

With millions of flowers growing on 70 acres of gardens, Keukenhof has been a showplace for the Dutch floral industry for more than half a century. On this excursion, you may be able to view more than six million flowers in bloom, including daffodils, croci and hyacinths, as well as thousands of tulip varieties.

Please note: Peak tulip season varies with the weather. Travelers should be prepared for a fair amount of walking.

Day 8: Free day in Amsterdam

Included meals: breakfast

Today offers two distinct paths to explore the Netherlands, and the choice is yours. You can opt into an enriching excursion beyond Amsterdam, venturing to the charming city of Delft—famed for its iconic blue pottery—and continuing on to The Hague, where political heartbeats meet cultural landmarks like the Peace Palace. Or, if you'd rather carve out your own adventure, enjoy a full free day in Amsterdam. Stroll its scenic canals, reflect at the Anne Frank House, or take on the delightfully ambitious challenge of seeing how many stroopwafels you can devour in a single day.
+ Delft & The Hague

Bruges → 2 nights

Day 9: Bruges vis Rotterdam

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

As you make your way south to Belgium, stop to pay a visit to the tough port city of Rotterdam where you'll join a local guide for a tour.

- Hear about Rotterdam's seafaring history and industrial rise as you go between the Old Port and towering skyscrapers.
- Step inside the Look-Cube Museum House and get an idea for what it's like to live in the innovative Cube Houses.

- End at the Markthal, an iconic indoor culinary market and enjoy free time to explore.

Continue to your hotel in Bruges and freshen up before tonight's included dinner later this evening, served with beer or wine.

Day 10: Sightseeing tour of Bruges

Included meals: breakfast, tasting

Set out for a morning steeped in charm, where every turn invites you to savor the sights, sounds, and unmistakable flavors of Bruges. Begin with a sweeping panoramic tour that introduces you to the city's most iconic treasures.

- See Burg Square and the Church of Our Lady, where medieval architecture and artistic legacy—including Michelangelo's Madonna and Child—leave a lasting impression.
- Enjoy the view of romantic Minnewater, the "Lake of Love," a tranquil oasis surrounded by lush greenery and whispered legends.
- Visit the Beguinage, a serene UNESCO World Heritage site that now shelters an order of Benedictine nuns, offering a glimpse into centuries of quiet devotion and peaceful tradition.
- Stop for a tasting of Belgian waffle, a golden, cloud-like creation with irresistible crunch from pearl sugar—a true indulgence for the senses.
- Set sail on the canals and tour the city by boat, gliding past gabled houses and stone bridges that reflect Bruges' timeless allure.

Brussels → 3 nights

Day 11: Brussels via Ghent

Included meals: breakfast, tasting

As you make your way from the enchanting lanes of Bruges to the bustling heart of Brussels, pause for an immersive stop in Ghent—a city that seamlessly blends medieval charm with modern vibrancy. Accompanied by a local guide, you'll embark on a tantalizing tasting tour that awakens both palate and curiosity.

- Sample beloved regional bites like ganda ham, artisan pralines, and rich cheeses—each a reflection of local traditions.
- Step into the iconic Tierenteyn mustard shop, steeped in fiery flavor and time-honored heritage.
- Stroll through the historic Great Butchers' Hall, a 15th-century vaulted masterpiece once central to Ghent's thriving meat trade.

- Enjoy free time for lunch beside the city's scenic canals—perfect for trying Roomer, a fragrant elderflower liqueur, or the herb-based Gruut beer unique to Ghent.
- Glide into the afternoon with a serene canal cruise, taking in centuries-old architecture and cozy corners that offer new angles on this charming university city.

Then continue onward to Brussels where you'll have free time for the rest of the day to relax and unwind.

Day 12: Sightseeing tour of Brussels

Included meals: breakfast, tasting

Join a local guide for a sweeping panoramic tour of Brussels, the cosmopolitan heart of Belgium and the unofficial capital of Europe. As the seat of the European Union, Brussels buzzes with global energy while preserving its rich cultural heritage.

- Drive past the Atomium, a futuristic structure and national symbol, and marvel at the Cathedral of St. Michael and St. Gudula, a majestic Gothic church steeped in centuries of history.
- Pass through the lush green expanse of Brussels Park en route to the stately Royal Palace, before gazing up at the imposing Palais de Justice—one of the largest and most iconic court buildings in all of Europe.
- Stroll through the city's historic center, where cobblestone streets open onto the dazzling Grand-Place, often called one of the most beautiful squares in the world. Pause here for a decadent chocolate tasting, sampling Belgium's most beloved sweet tradition.

The rest of the day is yours to enjoy at leisure—perhaps unwind in a sidewalk café or visit the Museum of Musical Instruments to admire its fascinating collection. Or, opt into this afternoon's excursion to dive deeper into local culture: take part in a hands-on Belgian chocolate workshop where you'll craft your own confections, then wind down with a guided beer tasting featuring some of Belgium's finest brews. + Belgian Chocolate Workshop & Beer Tasting

Day 13: Free day in Brussels & farewell dinner

Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner

Wrap up your time in Belgium with an optional excursion to Antwerp, where you'll explore the grand Rubens House, stroll through Great Market Square, and admire the city's rich artistic flair and history.

If you prefer to stay in Brussels, enjoy free time to make your final discoveries—perhaps browse

the vibrant stalls at the Marolles Flea Market or stroll through one of the city's many peaceful parks, like Parc du Cinquantenaire or Bois de la Cambre, perfect spots for a relaxing stroll or a quiet moment to soak in your surroundings. However you choose to spend your day, come back together this evening to celebrate with your group over a farewell dinner, served with beer or wine.

+ A Day in Antwerp

Flight Home

Day 14: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the airport for your flight home or continue your tour to cross another country off your list with a visit to Paris, France.

+ Paris extension

Paris is always a good idea, so extend your trip to keep exploring. Take a couple of days to museum-hop, stroll along the boulevards, brush up on your français, and let your expert Tour Director point you toward the crème de la crème.

Paris → 3 nights

Day 14: Train ride to Paris

Included meals: breakfast

Start your day with a high-speed train ride to Paris. Once you arrive in the French capital, transfer to your hotel and use your afternoon to get situated or explore the area. (With cafes and boulangeries seemingly on every corner, a little wandering goes a long way.)

Please note: Travelers should be prepared for an early morning train departures. Porterage is not included for the train transfers. Travelers must be comfortable lifting and carrying all luggage over steps, onto platforms, and into luggage storage.

Day 15: Sightseeing tour of Paris

Included meals: breakfast

Ready to be dazzled by the City of Light? Hop aboard a panoramic bus and follow a local guide through the heart of Paris, where every turn reveals a postcard-perfect view and centuries of history. With a smaller group, you'll enjoy a more intimate look at the city's iconic arrondissements—each with its own distinct charm and story.

- Glide past the Luxembourg Gardens, a lush oasis beloved by locals, and catch a glimpse of Sorbonne University, one of Europe's oldest and most prestigious centers of learning.
- Marvel at the Louvre, where the modern glass pyramid contrasts beautifully with the grandeur of the former royal palace. Though you won't go inside today, the sight alone is enough to stir the imagination.
- Admire the neoclassical façade of the Madeleine Church, then roll through Place de la Concorde, the city's grandest square, where history and elegance converge beneath the towering Luxor Obelisk.
- Cross the Pont Neuf, Paris' oldest standing bridge, and soak in views of the Seine as you pass by the storied Île de la Cité.
- Pause to hop off the bus for a photo at the Eiffel Tower, the iron icon that needs no introduction. Whether it's your first time seeing it or your fiftieth, it never fails to impress.
- Take in the Hôtel des Invalides, its golden dome gleaming in the sunlight. This 17th-century complex is not only a stunning architectural feat but also the final resting place of Napoleon Bonaparte.
- Cruise down the Champs-Élysées, lined with sycamores and luxury boutiques, and end your journey at the Arc de Triomphe, a monumental tribute to French military victories and a symbol of national pride.

Ready to hit the town on your own? Take a stroll through Montmartre's art-filled streets to peek into artists' studios. As you explore, dip into a sandwich shop for the deceptively simple jambon-beurre: a crusty baguette slathered in butter and topped with freshly carved ham. For a more elevated experience, opt into the evening's dinner and Seine River cruise. As the sun sets and the city's streetlamps begin their nightly twinkle, you'll see Paris' monuments in a whole new light.

+ Dinner in Paris & Seine River Cruise

Day 16: Free day in Paris

Included meals: breakfast

With a free day in Paris, the city is yours to explore at your own pace. Why not begin with a visit to the recently reopened Notre-Dame Cathedral? After years of meticulous restoration following the devastating 2019 fire, this Gothic

masterpiece is once again welcoming visitors. Step inside to admire its soaring vaults, intricate stained glass, and the sense of resilience that now echoes through its walls. Or enjoy a visit to one of the world's foremost museum, the Louvre. Afterward, wander through a nearby boulangerie and treat yourself to a flaky croissant or a warm pain au chocolat—there's no better way to taste Paris. Then, settle into a sidewalk café, order an espresso, and indulge in some classic people-watching. Whether it's locals walking their dogs or artists sketching along the Seine, the rhythm of Parisian life is a show in itself. This evening, enjoy a farewell drink as you celebrate your trip with your fellow group members.

Flight Home

Day 17: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Customize your experience

Customize your tour by adding excursion options. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose. Save \$10 when you book your excursion up to three days before your tour departs.* Excursions requiring advance reservation only list this discounted price. Call or go online to customize your tour: <https://www.goaheadtours.com/ZBDG> | 1-800-597-0350

Day 3: Roskilde Cathedral & Viking Ship Museum

From \$169.00 . Visit the link above for pricing info.

(4.5 hours, departs in the afternoon)

Viking culture left an indelible mark on Danish history—one best seen in the city of Roskilde. Take a day trip from Copenhagen and spend some time exploring this centuries-old settlement, beginning with a guided tour of Roskilde Cathedral. Built at the tail end of the Viking Age, this UNESCO-listed church was the first Gothic-style cathedral constructed in Scandinavia. Hear its history and admire its architecture; after, head to the waterfront Viking Ship Museum. While walking its exhibits and boatyard, you'll come across the famous Skuldelev ships—five original Viking vessels, all roughly 1,000 years old, that were hauled from a nearby waterway in 1962. Wrap up at the museum, then drive back to Copenhagen.

Day 4: Frederiksborg Castle & Elsinore

From \$139.00 . Visit the link above for pricing info. (6

hours, departs in the morning)

Depart from Copenhagen and head north to visit Frederiksborg Castle. Take a guided tour of the castle and gardens, which sit within the three islets of the surrounding Slotssøen lake. After, join your Tour Director for a walk through Elsinore and enjoy free time to eat lunch. You'll also have the opportunity to walk to and take a photo of the nearby Kronborg Castle, setting for Shakespeare's Hamlet, before returning to Copenhagen.

Day 8: Delft & The Hague

From \$135.00 . Visit the link above for pricing info. (8

hours, departs in the morning)

Spend the day discovering two of the Netherlands' most captivating cities on this full-day excursion from Amsterdam. Begin in Delft, where a guided tour reveals the town's historic heart, winding canals, and a live demonstration of its world-famous blue-and-white ceramics. Enjoy some free time to explore and have lunch at your leisure before continuing to The Hague. There, take in the coastal charm of the seaside district, view the iconic Peace Palace from the outside, and step inside the Mauritshuis Museum to admire masterpieces by Vermeer and Rembrandt. After a day rich in culture and history, return to Amsterdam in the evening.

Day 12: Belgian Chocolate Workshop & Beer Tasting

From \$135.00 . Visit the link above for pricing info. (3

hours, departs in the afternoon)

For chocolate lovers, Belgium is a dreamland. Today, get a behind-the-scenes look at how the country's famous treat is made during a visit to a Belgian chocolate workshop. Here, you'll follow the chocolate-making process from sourcing the raw ingredients through production. Then, try your hand at crafting handmade chocolates during a cooking class before pairing your creations with Belgian beer.

Day 13: A Day in Antwerp

From \$139.00 . Visit the link above for pricing info. (6

hours, departs in the morning)

Spend the day exploring historic and vibrant Antwerp, the largest port city in Flanders. On your guided tour, you'll learn more about the life and work of iconic artist Peter Paul Rubens during a visit to the Rubens House. This museum once served as Rubens' own home and is where he created many of his finest paintings in the 17th century. After admiring the museum's impressive interior, walk to the old city center. View the Renaissance-era City Hall in the stately Great Market Square and pass the Gothic Cathedral of Our Lady, marveling at its soaring bell tower. Then, stroll through the Green Square, a popular setting for festivals and market stalls. End your visit with free time to enjoy lunch and explore the city's museums on your own. Please note: A visit to the Museum Plantin-Moretus will replace the Rubens House while it is closed for renovations.

Extension excursion options

Day 15: Dinner in Paris & Seine River Cruise

From \$129.00 . Visit the link above for pricing info. (5

hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)

Take in the nighttime allure of the City of Light on a special evening excursion. The event begins with dinner at a local restaurant. After you dine, board a boat cruise along the Seine. As you coast along the river and under Paris' bridges, you'll behold the illuminated monuments of the city glittering alongside the riverbanks. Please note: The dress code may vary depending on the restaurant for your dinner. Your Tour Director will advise you on what to wear, but shorts and sneakers are likely to be considered inappropriate attire.

*Optional excursions may be purchased up to three days prior to departure or while on tour. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be canceled within three days prior to departure or while on tour. Select optional excursions require advance booking and cannot be purchased or canceled after the advanced reservation deadline. Go Ahead Tours accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Additional fees may apply for optional excursions purchased on tour. Excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour. Learn more at <https://www.goaheadtours.com/about/terms>.