





TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY®

Traveling Aggies

Howdy, Ags!

"God created the Heavens and the Earth, but the Dutch created Holland." Indeed, not only did they wrest a portion of their land from the sea, but they succeeded in building upon it an enchanted realm carpeted by flowers and traced with storied waterways unparalleled anywhere else in the world.

Come celebrate the beauty of Holland and Belgium in springtime, the best season for this comprehensive itinerary aboard the exclusively chartered, deluxe MS Amadeus Elegant, one of the finest ships to ply the waterways of Europe and cruise the canals of this delightful polder land.

Discover the true essence of river life in the Low Countries with an included excursion in every port and see firsthand this sublime region's breathtaking tulip fields in full bloom. Our expert-guided tours explore two UNESCO World Heritage sites—Amsterdam's distinctive 16^{th} - and 17^{th} -century house-lined canals and Belgium's well-preserved, medieval jewel of Bruges—as well as the "Golden Age" trading town of Hoorn, the world-famous Keukenhof Gardens, the medieval mercantile town of Antwerp, the old Hanseatic city of Kampen, the quaint village of Giethoorn and ancient Maastricht. Discover the rich history and artistic legacy of the world-class Kröller-Müller Museum and enjoy enriching lectures and the exclusive RIVER LIFE FORUM®, which features local residents' perspectives and provides an insider's view of modern life and cultural heritage in Holland.

RIVER LIFE® along the Waterways of Holland and Belgium is a popular travel program and an excellent value—it includes exclusive Cultural Enrichments, specially arranged excursions, meals and all accommodations. I encourage you to book now while Early Booking Savings and space are available.

Dank u wel!

Gig 'em!

Jermfer Bohac

Jennifer Bohac '87, Ph.D. Director of Travel Programs Traveling Aggies

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No funds donated to The Association of Former Students or to Texas A&M University have been used in the production or mailing of this travel brochure; all such costs are covered by our tour supplier.



The 16th-century Hoofdtoren tower in Hoorn is one of the city's last preserved defenses.

RIVER LIFE®

along the Waterways of Holland • Belgium during Tulip Season



Experience firsthand the true character and traditions of Holland and Belgium's great waterways during this comprehensive *vaart* (cruise) featuring lively Amsterdam, the medieval cities of Bruges and Antwerp, the charming and historic towns of Nijmegen, Hoorn and Giethoorn and the legendary blooming Keukenhof Gardens. Enjoy an enriching travel experience like no other, including a specially designed excursion in every port, deluxe accommodations and all meals—an excellent value. Interact with local people and experience the rhythm of daily life in the Low Countries; explore the history and

culture, art and language; and unpack just once! This popular program is one of the RIVER LIFE® series that immerses you in a comprehensive and intimate travel experience at just the right pace.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS are specially arranged and available on this custom-designed itinerary:

- ◆ Hear it from the Experts! Experienced, English-speaking local guides will accompany you throughout the program and discuss historical, cultural and contemporary Holland.
- ◆ Explore the world-famous artistic heritage of the premier Kröller-Müller Museum.
- ◆ Engage Dutch *buurtbewoners* (local residents) during the RIVER LIFE FORUM® where they share their candid perspectives on daily life in Holland.
- ◆ Admire the wonders of the famous Keukenhof Gardens and the marvelous medieval architecture of Amsterdam and Bruges.
- Learn key Dutch phrases and pronunciation to make your interactions with local residents all the more enjoyable.
- ◆ Enjoy time on your own—stroll along the charming boulevards of Antwerp, sample authentic Belgian chocolates made by hand in Bruges and observe the rhythms of life in Amsterdam's Dam Square.



In a traditional Dutch cheese market, cheese porters move sleds of Gouda cheese, named after the city in The Netherlands and one of the oldest cheeses still made today.



In UNESCO-designated Bruges, discover the city's medieval architecture and look for the landmark 13th-century belfry, which houses a 47-bell carillon and employs a full-time carillonneur to play it.

ITINERARY

Day

- ◆ AMSTERDAM Pre-Cruise Option
- 1 Depart the U.S.
- 2 Amsterdam, The Netherlands
 - ◆ Private cruise of the 17th-century canal district[®]. Embark M.S. AMADEUS ELEGANT. CULTURAL ENRICHMENT:
 - ◆ Exclusive RIVER LIFE FORUM®.
- 3 Amsterdam/Hoorn
 - Visit Keukenhof Gardens.
 - Walking tour of Hoorn.
- 4 KAMPEN FOR GIETHOORN
 - Private boat cruise in Giethoorn.
 - Walking tour of Kampen.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT:

- Private organ concert in the Gothic Bovenkerk (church).
- 5 Arnhem/Nijmegen
 - Walking tour of Nijmegen.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT:

- Guided tour of the world-class Kröller-Müller Museum.
- 6 Maastricht
 - Walking tour of Maastricht.
 - Visit to The Netherlands American Cemetery at Margarten.
- 7 Antwerp, Belgium
 - City tour featuring masterpieces by Peter Paul Rubens.

OPTIONAL EXCURSION:

- Tour of the Delta Works.
- 8 GHENT FOR BRUGES®
 - Walking tour of Ghent.
 - City tour of Bruges, a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- 9 GHENT
 Disembark ship.
 Transfer to Bruges for your return to the U.S.
- ◆ BRUSSELS® POST-CRUISE OPTION



Amsterdam, The Netherlands

A private canal cruise offers a unique firsthand look at the integral role waterways have played for centuries in the life of this city. Amsterdam's canal district, a UNESCO World Heritage site ringed by concentric canals and lined with 16th- and 17th-century merchant row houses, charming houseboats and world-renowned museums, is brimming with history and artistic wealth. What began as a simple fishing village developed into the thriving economic center of the world in the 17th century and produced master artists including Rembrandt and Vincent van Gogh.

Hoorn

Once a prominent harbor, Hoorn became one of Holland's most important centers of trade during the Golden Age in the 17th century as the home of the Dutch East India Company, the first multinational corporation in the world. Stroll along the charming, lively harbor and admire the landmark Hoofdtoren tower, one of the city's last preserved defenses dating to the 16th century.

Giethoorn

With four miles of canals and over 150 bridges, the beautiful town of Giethoorn is affectionately



The River Meuse flows through ancient Maastricht, the southernmost city in The Netherlands, rich in history dating back to the Romans in the first century B.C.



Ghent's medieval harbor, Graslei is known for its beautifully intricate, well-preserved guildhall façades.

known as the "Venice of The Netherlands." No traditional roads can be found in this village; residents and visitors commute by boat, by bicycle or on foot. Board a small boat for a private tour along the village's serene waterways.

Kampen

The old Hanseatic League city of Kampen, located on the left bank of the River IJssel, is an idyllic Dutch town of color and charm and home to one of the best-preserved old town centers in The Netherlands. See the remains of the ancient city walls including three gates that are still standing, along with the Old Town Hall and the 17th-century New Tower. In the Gothic Bovenkerk (church), listen to the intonation of its impressive, 18th-century Hinsz organ with more than 3000 pipes during a private, specially arranged concert.

Kröller-Müller Museum

Located in the picturesque De Hoge Veluwe, The Netherlands' largest national park, the world-class Kröller-Müller Museum is lauded for its chronological collection of Van Gogh's masterpieces. The museum also exhibits works by Pablo Picasso, Pierre-Auguste Renoir and Édouard Manet, as well as captivating late 19th- to 21st-century sculptures by Auguste Rodin, Henry Moore and Jean Debuffet displayed in its unique 60-acre garden.

Nijmegen

Scenic Nijmegen is widely regarded the oldest city in The Netherlands and was settled in the first century B.C. Downtown, the Valkhof Hill features an impressive ninth-century Carolingian chapel overlooking the River Waal. Among the well-preserved historic buildings are the 15th-century town hall and Latin school, the 16th-century, Renaissance-style *Waag* (weighing hall) and a series of quaint 17th-century houses.

Maastricht

Founded by the Romans, the fabled city of Maastricht is today an epicenter of history, art and culture. Enjoy a walking tour of the historic city center—the oldest in the Netherlands—

and admire its outstanding monuments—the towering Basilica of Our Lady, resembling a high-walled castle, was built in one of Maastricht's picturesque cobblestone town squares in the year 1000—dignified architecture, and stand on the medieval 13th century city wall looking down across the River Meuse at the scenic city below. Just outside of Maastricht in Margarten, walk through The Netherlands American Cemetery, one of the largest American military cemeteries in Europe honoring the allied operations during World War II.

Antwerp, Belgium

The Old Town of Antwerp preserves its charming Flemish culture in its labyrinth of squares and narrow passages that lead into the spectacular Grote Markt, where beautifully preserved guildhalls once bustled with Antwerp's 16th-century merchants and tradesmen. In the Cathedral of Our Lady, the pride of Belgium featuring a remarkable 47-bell carillon and soaring 401-foot, delicately ornamented spire, you will see the 17th-century Baroque masterpieces of the city's native son, Peter Paul Rubens, including paintings of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, The Raising of the Cross and The Descent from the Cross.

Delta Works Optional Excursion: See one of the most impressive feats of hydraulic engineering in the world, Delta Works. This complex system was built to protect the southwestern Netherlands from the encroaching North Sea and to reclaim polder lands.

Ghent

The rich history and commercial heritage of Ghent are reflected in the splendid 12th- to 17th-century guildhalls lining the quay. In St. Bavo's Cathedral, see the Van Eyck brothers' magnificent polyptych, the altarpiece of the *Adoration of the Mystical Lamb*.

Bruges

The timeless, fairytale city of Bruges is a UNESCO World Heritage site of treasured architecture, virtually untouched since the 15th century and one of the best-preserved medieval cities in Europe. It is built around a double ring of picturesque canals connected by charming arched foot bridges and is world-renowned for its delectable, hand-crafted chocolates. Enjoy a walking tour from the Market Square to the extraordinary Gothic Chapel of the Holy Blood, seeing Bruges' magnificent, deftly crafted stone guildhalls and opulent churches dating back to medieval times.



The quaint, picturesque town of Giethoorn boasts over four miles of canals and no traditional roads.



m.s. Amadeus Elegant

The elegance and romance of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's music was inspiration in the meticulous crafting of the deluxe M.S. AMADEUS ELEGANT, which set new standards in design and technology and features the comforts of a floating Five-Star hotel.

This exclusively chartered ship offers 76 river-view, air-conditioned, stylishly appointed Suites (236 square feet) and



Standard Stateroom

Staterooms (161 square feet), among the most spacious of any European river ship. Most accommodations feature a French balcony (floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door with iron railing). Each has two twin beds (convertible to one queen-size bed), a private bathroom with shower (Suites have bathtub with shower), individual climate control, satellite telephone and television, writing desk, safe and hair dryer.

Freshly prepared continental meals featuring local ingredients are served in single, unassigned seatings in the delightfully scenic Panorama Restaurant and include early-risers' coffee, buffet breakfast and lunch, afternoon tea, four-course dinner and late-evening snack. Complimentary wine and beer are served with lunch and dinner.

Public facilities are spacious and include the Panorama Bar, Lido Bar, Amadeus-Club with Internet station, beauty salon, boutique, fitness studio with massage services and early morning exercise classes and Sun Deck. Guests will also appreciate the complimentary use of an audio headset available to all passengers for listening enhancement during shore excursions. Laundry service is available.

The English-speaking, international crew provides warm hospitality. The M.S. AMADEUS ELEGANT meets the highest safety standards and is one of the only European river ships to have been awarded the "Green Certificate" of environmental preservation.

Keukenhof Gardens

A brilliant and breathtaking tapestry of colors and fragrance when in full bloom, the gardens of Keukenhof are affectionately known as the Garden of Europe. Our program has been planned during the height of Holland's spectacular spring flower season, when more than seven million flowers are expected to be in bloom across this 79-acre wooded park in a dazzling display of color.

"Keukenhof" translates to "kitchen garden" and was inspired by the early 15th-century Countess Jacoba of Bavaria, who resided in a nearby castle and tended an herb garden on this site. Today, Keukenhof Gardens is an international showcase for the Dutch floriculture industry with an emphasis on flower bulbs. Exhibitors feature more than 1000 varieties of their tulips, along with daffodils, hyacinths, orchids, roses, carnations, irises and lilies-and new strains of tulips are cultivated every year. This idyllic setting is meticulously planted and landscaped, complete with tranquil ponds, gentle, flowing streams and winding, tree-shaded paths.



Included Features

On board the exclusively chartered, deluxe m.s. Amadeus Elegant

- Seven-night cruise from Amsterdam, The Netherlands to Ghent, Belgium, with port calls at Hoorn, Kampen for Giethoorn, Arnhem for Kröller-Müller Museum, Nijmegen and Maastricht, The Netherlands; and Antwerp and Ghent for Bruges, Belgium.
- River-view, air-conditioned Suite or Stateroom, each with a private bathroom.
- All meals served at single, unassigned seatings-early-risers' coffee, buffet breakfast and lunch, afternoon tea and four-course dinner and late-evening snack--featuring fine continental cuisine.
- Complimentary wine and beer are served with lunch and dinner.
- Captain's Welcome and Farewell Receptions.

Expert-Guided Excursions

- Private cruise along Amsterdam's UNESCO World Heritage site canal district.
- Excursion to the magnificent gardens of Keukenhof, known as the Garden of Europe, during the best time of year to see countless varieties of tulips, daffodils and hyacinths in bloom, weather permitting.
- Walking tour and canal cruise through Giethoorn, widely regarded the most picturesque village in The Netherlands.
- Walking tour of the former Hanseatic League city of Kampen.
- City tour of idyllic Maastricht.
- Visit to the only American military cemetery in The Netherlands in Margarten, near Maastricht.
- City tour of Antwerp featuring a visit to see three of Peter Paul Rubens' masterpieces in the Cathedral of Our Lady.
- Walking tour of Ghent, featuring St. Bavo's Cathedral.
- ◆ Excursion to Bruges, a UNESCO World Heritage site, including a walking tour.

Exclusive Cultural Enrichments

- Exploration of the Low Countries' rich artistic heritage with guided tour of the world-class Kröller-Müller Museum.
- Special RIVER LIFE FORUM® with local residents who will discuss life in Holland.
- Specially arranged, private organ concert in the Bovenkerk in Kampen.
- Learn Dutch phrases.

Enhanced Travel Services

- Transfers and luggage handling abroad for participants whose arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- All excursions and visits, as outlined above, with experienced local guides.
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions.
- Delta Works optional excursion at additional cost.
- Hospitality desk aboard ship.
- The services of experienced Gohagan & Company Program Directors throughout the program.
- Complimentary use of a state-of-the-art audio headset for each participant during guided excursions.
- Travel document wallet, name badge and pre-departure information.
- Automatic \$250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.



Located in the heart of the capital city, Keizersgracht is the widest canal in Amsterdam.

Amsterdam Pre-Cruise Option
The historic heart of Amsterdam, lined with

tree-shaded canals and stately 16th- and 17th-century merchant houses, is designated a UNESCO World Heritage site and the perfect prelude to your cruise. A guided city tour acquaints you with its landmarks and famous monuments. Walk through Jordaan, the most picturesque neighborhood in Amsterdam and a center for art, music and antiques; and visit the historic Anne Frank House museum. Enjoy time at leisure in this city known for its vibrant culture and friendly people. Spend two nights in the Five-Star Renaissance Amsterdam Hotel, ideally located alongside a quiet canal in the heart of the city.

Brussels Post-Cruise Option

The cosmopolitan capital city of Belgium, Brussels has become a crossroads of modern Europe—both NATO and the European Union have their headquarters here; residents speak variations of French, Flemish and German; and the grand boulevards and parks have a Parisian energy while retaining their Flemish character. In the very heart of the city, see the Royal Palace, home of Belgium's monarchs since the country gained its independence in 1830. Visit historic Waterloo and Napoleon's Last Headquarters museum in Plancenoit. Accommodations for two nights are in the centrally located HILTON BRUSSELS GRAND PLACE.

Pre- and Post-Cruise Options are available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.

Grand Place, a UNESCO World Heritage site, is the bustling central square in Brussels.



MS Amadeus Elegant



LAND/CRUISE TARIFF (per person, based on double occupancy)					
Stateroom Category*	Description - All accommodations are outside with two twin beds that convert to make one queen bed, private bathroom with shower, air conditioning, sitting area, radio, television, safe, writing desk and hair dryer.	Early Booking Price through September 10, 2015	Regular Price after September 10, 2015		
6	Stateroom with small window. Haydn Deck, aft. (limited availability)	\$2,995	\$3,995		
5	Stateroom with small window. Haydn Deck, forward.	\$3,695	\$4,695		
4	Stateroom with French balcony (floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors with railing). <i>Strauss Deck, aft.</i>	\$4,195	\$5,195		
3	Stateroom with French balcony (floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors with railing). <i>Strauss Deck, forward.</i>	\$4,495	\$5,495		
2	Stateroom with French balcony (floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors with railing). <i>Strauss Deck, midship.</i>	\$4,995	\$5,995		
1	Stateroom with French balcony (floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors with railing). <i>Mozart Deck.</i>	\$5,495	\$6,495		
Junior Suite	Suite with French balcony (floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors with railing), bathtub, large sitting area with sofabed and minibar. Mozart Deck.	\$6,195	\$7,195		

♦ Singles are available in category 2 at \$7,995 and in category 1 at \$9,695 on or before September 10, 2015. Add \$1,000 for reservations made after September 10, 2015.

september 10, 2010. Had \$1,	ooo for reservations	made arter septe	111001 10, 2010.	
♦ Taxes are an additional \$130	per person and are	subject to chang	re.	
			the applicable deck plan is available bin categorization of the vessel.	
RIVER LIFE® WAT	ERWAYS OF HOL	LAND • BELO	GIUM RESERVATION FORM	
Send to: Traveling Aggies 505 George Bush Drive College Station, TX 77840 (979) 845-7514 or (800) 633-7514 Fax: (979) 845-9263			Please make my/our reservation(s) in Stateroom Category: 1st Choice 2nd Choice Double occupancy (two twin beds). Double occupancy	
Title Full Name (exactly as it appears) Full Name (exactly as it appears)			 (one queen bed). □ Single accommodations. □ I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed). 	
Street Mailing Address (no P.O. Bo	Please make my/our reservation(s): Amsterdam Pre-Cruise Option □ Double at \$940 per person. □ Single at \$1,340 per person.			
City Telephone: (Home)	State Zip Code (Mobile)		 ☐ I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed). ☐ Brussels Post-Cruise Option ☐ Double at \$795 per person. ☐ Single at \$1,095 per person. ☐ I am reserving as a single but 	
Email Address	(Business)			
Preferred Name(s) on Badge(s)	Tour No.	039-04/13/16-104	and will allow you to select	
Program reservations require a de \$200 per person Amsterdam Pre- person Brussels Post-Cruise Op program, Ilwe agree to the Release of	Cruise Option and/o tion. By reserving and o Liability, Assumption of	or \$200 per depositing on this of Risk and Binding	my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed). I/We want you to book	
Arbitration Agreement as printed on	the outside back cover o	of this brochure.	my/our air from	
 Enclosed is my/our check(s) for payable to 2016 River Life alor 	(fill in departure city)			
☐ I/We authorize you to charge☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard	to Amsterdam, The Netherlands, with return from Brussels, Belgium at an additional cost to be advised. [‡]			
			□ Economy Class	
Card Number		Exp. Date	☐ Business Class☐ First Class	

All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by check or wire transfer by January 8, 2016.

Signature as it appears on credit card

[‡]Note: Airfare is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable.

☐ I/we will make my/our own air arrangements.



Amsterdam's charming bridges and picturesque canals bring the intimacy of a small town to one of Europe's most celebrated cities.

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sickness, illness, epidemics or the threat thereof, the lack of availability of or access to medical attention or the quality thereof, overbooking or downgrading of accommodations, mechanical or other failure of airplanes, vessels, or other means of transportation, or for any failure of

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Gohagan reserves the right to change the itinerary or trip features at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, and Gohagan shall not be liable for any loss of any kind as a result of any such changes. Ship schedules, port calls, hours of arrival and departure, sightseeing events, special programs and guest lecture series (if applicable), are subject to change or cancellation without prior notice. Gohagan is not responsible therefor and is not required to compensate passengers under these circumstances. Gohagan may cancel a trip (or an option) for any reason whatsoever; if so, its sole responsibility is to refund monies paid by the participant to it. Gohagan is not required to cancel any trip for any reason including without limitation, United States Department of State, World Health Organization or other Warnings or Advisories of any kind. Gohagan is not responsible for penalties assessed by air carriers of state, world Health Organization or other warmings of Advisories of any kind. Gohagan is not responsible for penalties assessed by air carriers resulting from operational and/or itinerary changes, even if Gohagan makes the flight arrangements or cancels the trip. Gohagan reserves the right to substitute vessels, hotels or attractions of a similar category for those listed in this brochure.

makes the flight arrangements or cancels the trip. Gohagan reserves the right to substitute vessels, hotels or attractions of a similar category for those listed in this brochure.

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PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY: All programs require physical independence and mobility. Any physical or mental condition that may require special medical attention or physical assistance (for example, the need for a wheelchair) must be reported in writing when you make your reservation. Travelers must be able to embark or disembark motorcoaches alone or with minimal assistance from your traveling companion and climb stairs and step over raised thresholds without assistance. Travelers requiring assistance must travel with a companion who will be responsible for handling equipment.

DISCOUNTED R

Gohagan &



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ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT: By forwarding of deposit, the

ACCEPTANCE: By Informating of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants and accepts the terms contained in this Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.

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