

Traveling  
Range Riders



HARDIN-SIMMONS  
UNIVERSITY

ALUMNI & FRIENDS TRAVEL

April 8 to 16, 2025

# Holland & Belgium

ALONG THE DUTCH WATERWAYS



# Art and Gardens in the Low Countries

Behold the many beautiful sights — and the striking works of art they inspired — along the waterways of Holland and Flanders. This nine-day, eight-night trip aboard the deluxe river boat **Viva Enjoy** includes visits to four UNESCO World Heritage sites — among them the network of authentic windmills in Kinderdijk and Amsterdam’s canal district. Admire the second-largest collection of Vincent van Gogh’s art in the world. Watch hardworking craftspeople create the world-renowned “Delft Blue” porcelain at the original Royal Delft factory of De Porceleynne Fles. Explore Antwerp’s carefully preserved Flemish culture, immerse yourself in Veere’s rich history and discover Hoorn’s role in the Dutch Golden Age of wealth and prosperity. Marvel at the tapestry of color and fragrance as more than 1,000 floral varieties reach full bloom in the spring. These beautiful sights within the Dutch-speaking world make for a trip to remember.



Cover Photo: Iconic windmill and tulip field in the Netherlands  
Current Page: Amsterdam’s world-famous UNESCO-inscribed canals



Dear HSU Alumni and Friends,

Join us on this exclusively chartered river cruise aboard the deluxe **Viva Enjoy**, one of the finest vessels to ply the waterways of Europe and the canals of this delightful land of polders (reclaimed lowlands). Celebrate the beauty of Holland and Flanders in blissful springtime — the ideal season for visiting, when the tulip fields are in full bloom.

Discover the true essence of River Life® in the Low Countries. Our expert-guided tours explore four UNESCO World Heritage sites — the tree-lined canals of Amsterdam, the legendary 18th-century windmills of Kinderdijk, the medieval Flemish jewel of Bruges and the historic belfries of Belgium. Experience this region's pastoral idyll and fascinating history with visits to the world-famous Keukenhof Gardens, the mercantile town of Antwerp and medieval Ghent. Watch traditional craftspeople create the iconic “Delft Blue” porcelain and discover the world-class Kröller-Müller Museum. Learn more about the modern life and cultural heritage of the Netherlands during an exclusive River Life® forum with local residents and encounter the rich history of the region of Flanders in its main cultural centers.

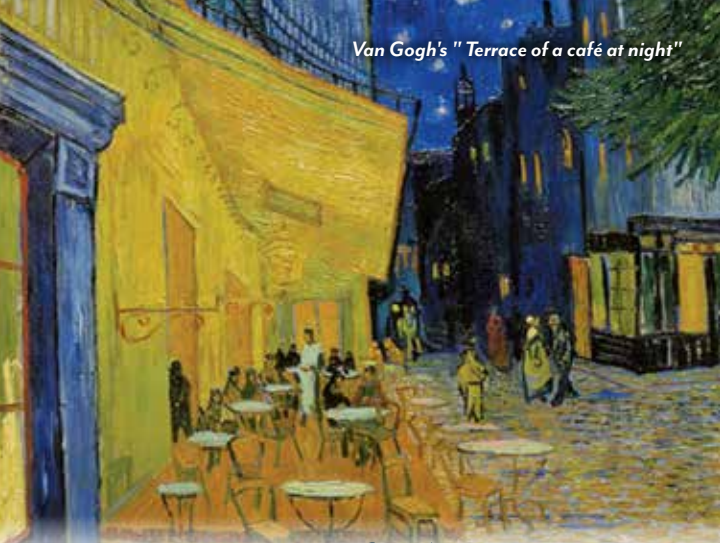
Unpack just once and delight in specially arranged cultural enrichments, including a privately chartered canal cruise. Enjoy a guided excursion in every port, deluxe accommodations and all meals included — an excellent value. Reserve now while space is still available.

Happy Trails!

Britt (Yates) Jones '84  
Trip Host & Director, HSU Traveling Range Riders  
Hardin-Simmons University

All members of HSU's community – alumni, families, and friends – are welcome to explore the world with HSU's Traveling Range Riders. For more information on all Traveling Range Riders opportunities, visit our web site at [www.hsutx.edu/travel](http://www.hsutx.edu/travel), or contact us at 325-670-1377 or [travel@hsutx.edu](mailto:travel@hsutx.edu).

**To secure your spot, contact the Traveling Range Riders at 325-670-1377 or [travel@hsutx.edu](mailto:travel@hsutx.edu); contact Gohagan & Company at 800-922-3088 or [gohagantravel.com/reserve](http://gohagantravel.com/reserve)**



## An Artful Past

Some of the world's most distinguished paintings and sculptures have been produced by Dutch-speaking artists. Housing the second-largest collection of Vincent van Gogh paintings (after the Van Gogh Museum), the Kröller-Müller Museum in the Netherlands holds an impressive assortment of stunning art. The museum was founded by avid art collector Helene Kröller-Müller, who is credited as being among the first to recognize van Gogh's artistic genius. Stroll through the museum's striking sculpture garden, which unites art, nature and architecture.

Visit Michelangelo's iconic "Virgin and Child" marble sculpture within the medieval Church of Our Lady in Bruges, Belgium. At the Gothic St. Bavo's Cathedral in Ghent, see Hubert and Jan van Eyck's "Adoration of the Mystic Lamb" altarpiece — considered the world's first major oil painting and the most frequently stolen artwork of all time. Finish your creative journey in Delft, the city that artist Johannes Vermeer — creator of a painting called "View of Delft" — called home. Visit the Royal Porcelain Fles workshop here and see how the famed blue and white Delftware is specially made.





# Keukenhof Gardens

Known around the world as the “Garden of Europe,” Keukenhof is a breathtaking tapestry of color and fragrance when its more than 1,000 floral varieties reach full bloom between mid-April and early May. Meticulously landscaped with tranquil ponds, placid streams and winding, tree-shaded paths, this vibrantly hued oasis originally formed part of the Teylingen Castle estate, where the early 15th-century Countess Jacoba of Bavaria tended an herb and vegetable garden. The landscapes of Keukenhof (translating to “kitchen garden”) were re-designed in 1857 by Jan David Zocher (known for Amsterdam’s Vondelpark) and his son Louis Paul Zocher, paving the way for the gardens we see today. In 1949, leading flower-bulb growers and exporters created the plan to use the estate to exhibit spring-flowering tulips. The park was an instant success when it opened to the public in 1950, drawing in 236,000 visitors during the first year alone. The nearly 500-acre Keukenhof has since developed into a world-famous showplace of bulbs adored by many anthophile visitors every year.



## INCLUDED FEATURES

- ◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad if you purchased air through Gohagan & Company and your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- ◆ Experienced, English-speaking local guides for included excursions.
- ◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- ◆ Complimentary bottled water in your suite or stateroom and on excursions.
- ◆ Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
- ◆ Complimentary use of an audio headset during guided excursions.
- ◆ Automatic \$250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
- ◆ Hospitality desk aboard the ship.
- ◆ Meals included as noted in the itinerary (B,L,R,D).



GOHAGAN & COMPANY



## 2025 | 9-DAY/8-NIGHT ITINERARY

### Depart Home City

#### Day 1 | April 8

Depart your home city on an overnight flight.

### Amsterdam, the Netherlands/Embark

#### Day 2 | April 9

When you arrive, embark the deluxe river boat **Viva Enjoy** and have a light lunch. Enjoy a private cruise through the charming and picturesque canals of Amsterdam, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site. Later, attend the Captain's Welcome Reception and Dinner with your fellow passengers onboard. (L,R,D)

### Nijmegen

#### Day 3 | April 10

Visit the world-class Kröller-Müller Museum, lauded

for its enormous collection of Vincent van Gogh paintings and drawings. See works by Claude Monet, Georges Seurat, Pablo Picasso, Piet Mondrian and others. Enjoy a walking tour of Nijmegen, a university town layered with more than 2,000 years of history and originally settled by the Romans in the first century B.C. See a variety of structures, from ancient Roman ruins to a WWII bunker. On board tonight, attend a forum to learn about modern life and the cultural heritage of the Netherlands. (B,L,D)

### Kinderdijk/Willemstad/Bruinisse

#### Day 4 | April 11

In Kinderdijk, see the UNESCO-inscribed network

of 19 authentic windmills built between 1722 and 1761. Visit one of the mills, among the largest assembly of such in the Netherlands. This afternoon, you will have the option to either visit the Delta Works, an impressive feat of hydraulic engineering hailed as one of the Seven Wonders of the Modern World; or explore Veere, once known for its rich history as the center of the Scottish wool trade. (B,L,D)

### Bruges, Belgium/Ghent

#### Day 5 | April 12

A scenic drive through Flemish countryside takes you to Bruges, where you'll enjoy a walking tour to the Gothic Town Hall, the famous and UNESCO-inscribed octagonal



Market square in Bruges, Belgium



belfry and tower, and the Church of Our Lady, with a visit to see Michelangelo's "Virgin and Child" marble sculpture. Stroll through Ghent, replete with medieval and classical architecture. Admire the windows and Gothic steeples of St. Bavo's Cathedral and see Hubert and Jan van Eyck's magnificent altarpiece "Adoration of the Mystic Lamb" — the most frequently stolen artwork of all time. See the Belfry of Ghent, the tallest belfry in Belgium and a UNESCO World Heritage site. (B,L,D)

### Antwerp

**Day 6 | April 13**

Famous for its diamond trade and fine arts legacy, Antwerp's old city evolved within

16th-century fortifications. It is home to four of the world's 18 diamond exchanges and an abundance of Flemish Renaissance treasures. Visit the UNESCO-inscribed belfry at Cathedral of Our Lady and see 17th-century Baroque masterpieces by the city's native son, Peter Paul Rubens. (B,L,D)

### Rotterdam, the Netherlands

**Day 7 | April 14**

Visit historic Delft, where Johannes Vermeer painted his famous "View of Delft." Visit the original Royal Porcelain Fles factory and watch craftspeople create the iconic "Delft Blue" porcelain. Enjoy lunch at the world-famous Keukenhof Gardens and stroll

through its tableau of blooming tulips meticulously landscaped with tranquil ponds, placid streams and tree-shaded paths. Attend the Captain's Farewell Reception and Dinner on board the ship this evening. (B,L,R,D)

### Hoorn/Amsterdam

**Day 8 | April 15**

On a walking tour, discover Hoorn, which grew to become a major harbor town during Holland's Golden Age and was an important home base for the Dutch East India Company. (B,L,D)

### Amsterdam/Return to Home City

**Day 9 | April 16**

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your flight home. (B)

*The Golden Age harbor town of Hoorn, the Netherlands*





## Viva Enjoy

The newest member of the Scylla family is the **Viva Enjoy**, which debuts in 2024. Guests are welcomed on board by friendly, multilingual and international crew members who make guests' well-being and comfort their priority. The ship's appointments are luxurious, yet the feeling is relaxed and easygoing. All staterooms and suites are equipped with a flat screen TV, included beauty products from RITUALS®, hair dryer, safe, air conditioning and en-suite bathrooms. The upper and middle deck staterooms and suites all have French balconies. Ship facilities include: two restaurants; bistro with terrace; lounge; library; fitness center; wellness area with steam bath and sauna; sun deck with swimming pool, lounge chairs and shade awnings; putting green. Complimentary bicycles available for shore excursions.



**2025 DEPARTURE DATE**  
**April 8 to 16**  
 (Tour Begins: April 9)

Category-Description	Standard Rate	Early Booking \$1,000 Savings*
<b>Emerald</b> Flat screen TV, included minibar, beauty products from RITUALS®, hair dryer, safe, air conditioning, shower and en-suite bathroom.	\$4,990	<b>\$3,990</b>
<b>Ruby</b> Outside French balcony, flat screen TV, included minibar, beauty products from RITUALS®, hair dryer, safe, air conditioning, en-suite bathroom.	\$5,790	<b>\$4,790</b>
<b>Diamond</b> Outside French balcony, flat screen TV, included minibar, beauty products from RITUALS®, hair dryer, safe, air conditioning, en-suite bathroom.	\$6,190	<b>\$5,190</b>
<b>Suite</b> Outside French balcony, flat screen TV, included minibar, beauty products from RITUALS®, hair dryer, safe, air conditioning, en-suite bathroom. Located on the Diamond deck. (limited availability)	\$6,690	<b>\$5,690</b>

**\*Early Booking Savings of \$1,000 are available when you book by 09/10/24 and pay in full at time of booking. If you pay only your deposit by early booking date, you still save \$500 per person.**

All rates are per person, based on double occupancy, including taxes. Single supplements apply to Emerald category at 125% of the per person double price. All other categories are at 200%.

Port taxes in the amount of \$195 per person are included in the above prices. Deck plans available upon request.

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## PRE-TOUR EXTENSION

### Amsterdam

**April 6 to 9, 2025** (Program Begins: April 7)

Immerse yourself in historical Amsterdam on a two-night itinerary that includes opportunities to see the Rijksmuseum's Dutch masters collection, including famous paintings by Rembrandt. Visit the exquisite 17th-century Our Lord in the Attic museum; explore its narrow corridors and note the exceptional attention to detail in its historically accurate furnished rooms. Enjoy accommodations in the deluxe **Doubletree Amsterdam Centraal Station Hotel**.

**Price per person, based on double occupancy: \$995**

**Price per person, based on single occupancy: \$1,295**

*Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.*



## POST-TOUR EXTENSION

### The Hague

**April 16 to 18, 2025** (Program Ends: April 17)

Conclude your journey with a two-night tour of The Hague, showcasing stately municipal buildings and structures long adored by the Dutch royal family. Visit the Mauritshuis, a 17th-century neoclassical mansion featuring a world-renowned Dutch and Flemish art collection, including Vermeer's "Girl with a Pearl Earring." Explore nearby Gouda, famous for its cheese. Enjoy luxury accommodations in the deluxe **Hotel des Indes**.

**Price per person, based on double occupancy: \$995**

**Price per person, based on single occupancy: \$1,295**

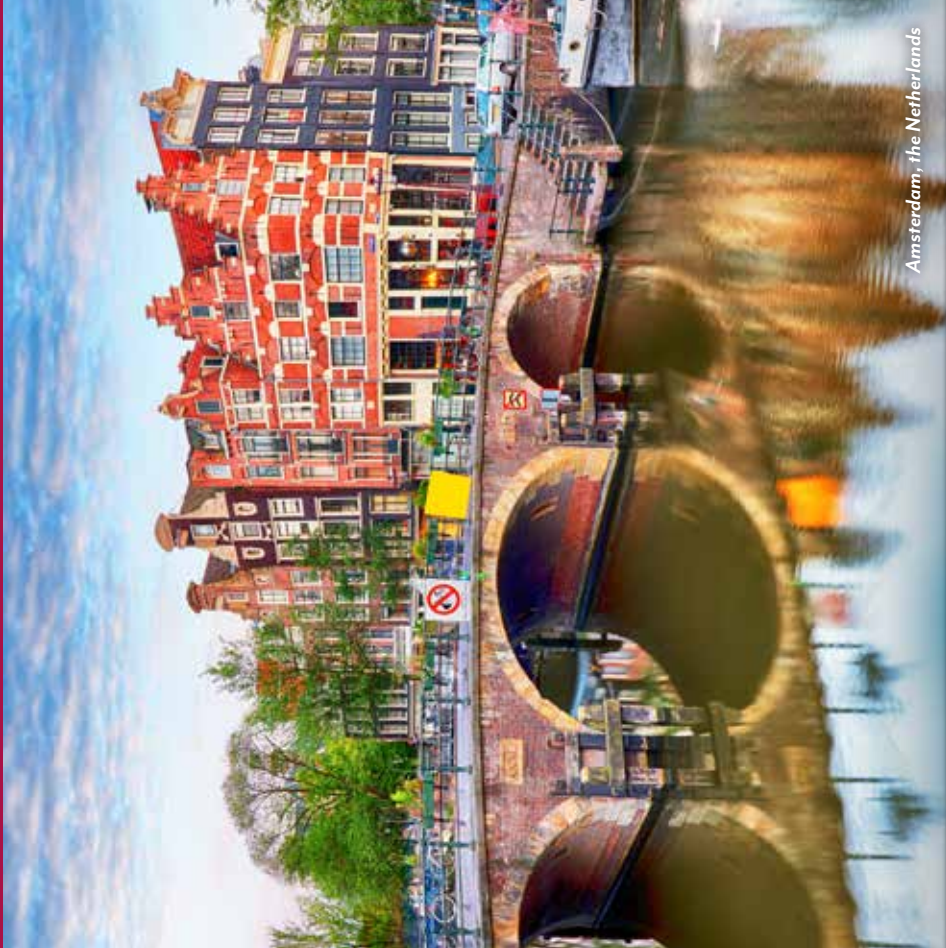
*Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.*

**Early Booking Savings\* available | Save \$2,000 per couple!**

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