Cruise Details

Name:	Tulip Time (Smithsonian Journeys)
Reference:	AMAAO280409AAJ
Operator:	Ama Waterways
Cruise Type:	River
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	AmaSiena
Regions:	Western Europe
Departs On:	09 Apr 28
Departs From:	Amsterdam
Arrives On:	16 Apr 28
Arrives At:	Amsterdam
Cruise Nights:	7
Total Vacation Days:	7

Itinerary

Day 1: Amsterdam (Netherlands)

AMSTERDAM – EMBARKATION. Arrive and welcome in Amsterdam. (D)

Arrives On: 09 Apr 28

Day 2: Amsterdam (Netherlands)

AMSTERDAM – KAMPEN. Enjoy a scenic cruise through the IJsselmeer to Kampen. Venture to the charming, canal-laden village of Giethoorn, nicknamed the “Dutch Venice.” Capture wonderful photos of the picturesque thatched-roof farmhouses, which are seemingly lifted straight from the pages of a fairytale. In the afternoon, go for a guided bike ride through the Dutch countryside or visit Flevoland’s vibrant tulip fields. (B,L,D)

Arrives On: 10 Apr 28

Day 2: Kampen (Netherlands)

Arrives On: 10 Apr 28

Day 3: Bruinisse (Netherlands)

BRUINISSE. After enjoying a scenic cruise through the Delta, join a guided tour to the medieval harbor town of Zierikzee, brimming with delights, from its 16th-century stone-built Gravesteen to its lovely harborside shops and cafes. This excursion includes a photo stop at the Oosterschelde Kering, the largest storm surge barrier of the Delta Works. Alternatively, focus your tour on the history of the Delta Works at the Flood Museum. More than half of the Netherlands lies below sea level and the Delta Works were built to prevent a recurrence of the 1953 flood disaster. Prefer discovering Bruinisse on two wheels? Join our guide for an exhilarating bike tour. (B,L,D)

Arrives On: 11 Apr 28

Day 4: Gent (Ghent) (Belgium)

GHENT – BRUGES, BELGIUM. Admire Ghent’s canal-side architecture and some of its famous sights, including the Castle of the Counts and St. Bavo’s Cathedral and its Adoration of the Mystic Lamb. Those with a sweet tooth can visit a chocolate maker's shop. After being greeted with a glass of champagne, a master chocolatier will brief you on the history of chocolate. You will also have the opportunity to taste different types of pralines - and try your hand at making your own. Alternatively, take a full-day tour of Bruges, one of the best-preserved medieval cities in Europe and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Stroll through Grote Markt and Burg Square, visit the centuries-old Church of Our Lady with its prominent spire, and, if you choose, sample some of the local specialties, from Belgian fries to waffles to chocolate, before returning to the ship. (B,L,D)

Arrives On: 12 Apr 28

Day 5: Antwerp (Belgium)

ANTWERP. Explore this trendy city on a walking tour where you’ll see Antwerp’s Steen Castle, Grote Market and Brabo Fountain, along with the UNESCO-designated Cathedral of Our Lady. For a more active exploration of the area, join a guided bike tour. Later in the afternoon, you have a choice of two excursions. Foodies will want to go on a culinary tour to indulge in chocolate, waffles and beer. Flower lovers and gardeners can roam through the Floralia, an annual spring flower show featuring approximately one million bulbs that are hand-planted each year by the castle staff. (B,L,D)

Arrives On: 13 Apr 28

Day 6: Rotterdam (Netherlands)

ROTTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS – KINDERDIJK. During the morning, you can go on a walking tour of Rotterdam, nicknamed the "Gateway to Europe," and taste local specialties. Alternatively, go on an excursion to Delft, known as the home of the painter Johannes Vermeer, Delft Blue earthenware and the Royal House. While here, you'll visit the Royal Delft Porcelain Factory and Museum. If you prefer a more active adventure, then go on a bike ride through Rotterdam and past some of its famous landmarks and architecture. In the afternoon, venture to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Kinderdijk, a lovely village renowned for having the country's greatest concentration of windmills, all dating from the 18th century. Visit a private windmill via electric boat. You may also pedal past the windmills from the seat of a bike. Or, if you wish to explore the history of US immigration, join us on an excursion that visits Delfshaven, where, on August 1, 1620, the Pilgrim fathers departed on their epic journey aboard the Speedwell, plus tour the FENIX Museum of Migration, a former harbor warehouse currently being transformed into this unique educational experience. (B,L,D)

Arrives On: 14 Apr 28

Day 7: Amsterdam (Netherlands)

AMSTERDAM. Enjoy a morning of scenic cruising before venturing out in the afternoon on a smaller boat specially designed to glide beneath the many bridges of Amsterdam. Admire the city's historic harbor and canals, where you'll see beautiful homes lining the water and the fabled Skinny Bridge. Alternatively, marvel at one of the most impressive public gardens in the world, Keukenhof**, which presents a spectacular display of millions of flowering tulips spread out over 70 acres. Spend time ambling through this legendary garden, open only nine weeks a year and sometimes referred to as the "Garden of Europe." (B,L,D) **Note: Included on most departures; An alternative tour will operate on sailings that visit Amsterdam outside of Keukenhof's open dates.

Arrives On: 15 Apr 28

Day 8: Amsterdam (Netherlands)

DISEMBARKATION – DEPART AMSTERDAM. Disembark the ship and prepare for your flight home. (B) (B,L,D) – Indicates Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner are included on this day.

Arrives On: 16 Apr 28

For more information on this cruise, please call +44 (0)1202 767926.

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