Dutch Waterways

MASTERPIECES OF ART AND NATURE

April 19 to 29, 2017

a program of the stanford alumni association
When I think of Holland, I envision tulips, wooden shoes and windmills, but the Netherlands is also a modern, progressive country. We’ll explore this fascinating blend of Holland’s Golden Age and 21st century as we navigate its scenic waterways, a labyrinth of canals and locks that’s a marvel of hydro-engineering. It being the height of the spring blooming season, we’ll cruise by brilliantly hued fields of Holland’s iconic tulips that exemplify the cutting edge of sustainable agriculture and biogenetics. We’ll travel through the idyllic countryside that inspired a genre and a generation of Dutch and Flemish masters whose works we’ll view at the region’s world-class art museums—some recently modernized. Come celebrate old and new Holland and the magnificent Dutch spring with us!

BRETT S. THOMPSON, ’83, DIRECTOR, STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY

Highlights

ENJOY a private seven-night cruise aboard the charming, intimate 28-passenger canal barge, MS Magnifique II, newly built in 2016.

VIEW renowned works of art by the great masters at the Rijksmuseum and the Van Gogh Museum.

TOUR the famous annex where Anne Frank and her family hid during World War II, and view her original diary.

EXAMINE the inner workings of the world’s largest flower auction in Aalsmeer and stroll through the Keukenhof Gardens’ 88 acres of magnificent flowers.
BERT PATENAUC, MA '79, PHD '87, is a lecturer in history and international relations at Stanford University. Bert’s wide-ranging Stanford credentials include assisting Stanford alumnus and former Sunset magazine publisher L. W. “Bill” Lane, Jr., complete his memoir, The Sun Never Sets: Reflections on a Western Life (Stanford University Press, 2013). Bert’s previous book, Trotsky: Downfall of a Revolutionary (HarperCollins, 2009), was serialized for radio by the BBC. His first book, The Big Show in Bololand: The American Relief Expedition to Soviet Russia in the Famine of 1921 (Stanford University Press, 2002), won the 2003 Marshall Shulman Book Prize and was made into a documentary film and broadcast in April 2011 as part of the award-winning PBS history series, American Experience. His book reviews have appeared in a variety of scholarly journals and in the Wall Street Journal. Bert, who has traveled extensively with Stanford, served as faculty leader for the Dutch Waterways program in 2014 and is looking forward to once again traveling by barge, by bicycle and on foot through the Dutch countryside and its urban suburbs. Some of the topics he will discuss with us during this program include the history of the Netherlands as a thriving center of international law and a major hub of international trade; the Netherlands’ rich art heritage, from the Dutch masters to van Gogh to the early-20th-century political cartoonist Louis Raemaekers; and Holland’s iconic windmills, tulips and Delftware.

Howard Fields, MD ’65, Opus Mediterraneo, 2015

“Bert was superb, well-informed, accessible, articulate. I would go again on a trip with him any time.”

SIGN UP ONLINE: alumni.stanford.edu/trip?dutch2017
OR BY PHONE: (650) 725-1093
WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, APRIL 19 & 20
U.S. / AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS
Depart the U.S. on overnight flights to Amsterdam. Upon arrival on Thursday, transfer to our hotel in the heart of the city. Take time to rest after the flight or stroll through town before our welcome reception and dinner.
CONSERVATORIUM HOTEL (D)

FRIDAY, APRIL 21
AMSTERDAM
After breakfast, depart on our first excursion, exploring the rich artistic heritage of the Dutch people. Begin with a leisurely guided walk through the Museum District, where we visit the recently renovated Van Gogh Museum. Enjoy lunch independently at one of Amsterdam’s many charming cafes. Take advantage of some free time this afternoon to soak up the local color and do a bit of shopping.

SATURDAY, APRIL 22
AMSTERDAM / EMBARK
Spend the morning at the Rijksmuseum, one of Europe’s greatest museums, newly reopened after a 10-year renovation and filled with masterpieces from the Dutch Golden Age. After lunch on our own, we gather again for a canal boat tour through the city’s labyrinthine canals. Weather permitting, take a stroll through the charming Jordaan neighborhood to the 350-year-old Noordermarkt, a historic farmers and flea market. Stop at the Anne Frank House for a vivid, firsthand look at the Secret Annex where this extraordinary teen hid with her family during WWII.

SUNDAY, APRIL 23
HAARLEM
After dinner, perhaps attend an optional concert at Amsterdam’s famous Concertgebouw, one of the world’s finest acoustic concert halls and home of the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra. CONSERVATORIUM HOTEL (B)

MONDAY, APRIL 24
LISSE / LEIDEN
After an early breakfast, set out to experience the sights and fragrances of Lisse’s amazing Keukenhof Gardens, world-renowned for its seasonal display of more than 7,000,000 blooming tulips, daffodils, hyacinths and other colorful spring bulbs. Stroll through acre after acre of the world’s largest flower garden, taking in a beautiful scene that exists only for a short time each spring. Following lunch on our own, we travel along the famous Flower Route. Stop in the elegant city of Leiden, home to the oldest university in the Netherlands. Dine together this evening on our river barge. MS MAGNIFIQUE II (B,D)

TUESDAY, APRIL 25
THE HAGUE / DELFT
Begin the day in Den Haag (The Hague), the seat of government and home of
the Royal Family. Our morning tour includes viewing the Mauritshuis Collection, which features works by Vermeer, Rembrandt and other celebrated Old Masters. Spend the afternoon in Delft, birthplace of Dutch Golden Age artist Johannes Vermeer and an important center for the production of ceramics, specifically the world-famous Delftware. Return to our river barge in time for dinner.

MS MAGNIFIQUE II (B,D)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26

ROTTERDAM / KINDERDIJK / GOUDA
Rise this morning to the colorful, bustling activity of Rotterdam Harbor and enjoy breakfast while cruising to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Kinderdijk. Tour the windmills the site is known for, built in the late 1700s and now the largest concentration of traditional windmills remaining in the Netherlands. Take an optional bicycle ride along the canals to soak in the beauty of this historic area. Re-board our barge and have lunch while cruising to Gouda. Our afternoon tour includes a visit to Gouda’s architecturally rich city square and to St. John’s Church with its world-famous stained glass windows. Enjoy dining independently at one of Gouda’s many fine restaurants this evening.

MS MAGNIFIQUE II (B,L)

THURSDAY, APRIL 27

GOUDA / OUDE WETERING
Wake up in Gouda for a morning dedicated to the city’s most famous product. Call at the Cheese Weighing House, where we can test our knowledge of cheeses and even sample some of the tastier varieties. This afternoon, perhaps take a bike ride through the Groene Hart (“Green Heart”) of the Dutch countryside, a lovely rural landscape of lakes, fields and small villages, or opt to relax on deck or enjoy a hands-on experience with our chef, helping out with tonight’s dessert. After we’ve worked up an appetite, enjoy a beer tasting and dinner onboard.

MS MAGNIFIQUE II (B,L,D)

FRIDAY, APRIL 28

AALSMEER / AMSTERDAM
Depart from our barge early this morning for a rare opportunity to witness the Aalsmeer Flower Auction, where we watch the haggling and deal-making among flower vendors and get a taste of life behind the scenes of the tulip trade. Return to our river barge for brunch and sail back to Amsterdam. Explore Amsterdam independently this afternoon before reuniting with the group to celebrate the end of our journey at this evening’s farewell dinner onboard our barge.

MS MAGNIFIQUE II (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, APRIL 29

AMSTERDAM / DISEMBARK / U.S.
Disembark our river barge and transfer to Amsterdam’s international airport for departing flights back to the U.S. (B)
MS Magnifique II

Unlike the many large vessels that ply the Dutch waterways, the MS Magnifique II combines modern features with the comfortable atmosphere of a traditional barge. Newly built in 2016, she features a tastefully furnished salon with a restaurant and bar on the upper deck, along with a teak sun deck. Cabins are appointed with twin beds, private bath, climate control and flat-screen TV. Lower-deck cabins (118 sq. ft) have fixed portholes while the four upper-deck suites (151 sq. ft) have large windows. Chartered exclusively for Stanford, this new barge accommodates just 28 Stanford guests.

Program Cost*

Rates are per person, based on double occupancy, unless otherwise noted.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category A</td>
<td>Standard cabin, 118 sq. ft.</td>
<td>$8,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category AA</td>
<td>Suite, 151 sq. ft.</td>
<td>$10,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category A, Single</td>
<td>Standard cabin, 118 sq. ft.</td>
<td>$11,495 **</td>
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</tbody>
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* Association nonmembers add $300 per person.
** Single accommodations are limited at this rate.
Rates are per person, based on double occupancy, and include:

**Included**
- 2 nights of 5-star hotel accommodations
- 7-night cruise aboard the MS *Magnifique II*
- 9 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 7 dinners
- Welcome and farewell receptions
- Gratuities to porters, guides, drivers and ship crew for all group activities
- All tours and shore excursions as described in the itinerary
- Airport transfers and baggage handling on program arrival day and group transfer to the airport on departure day
- Minimal medical, accident and evacuation insurance
- Port fees and embarkation taxes
- Educational program with lecture series and pre-departure materials, including recommended reading list, a selected book, map and travel information
- Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program

**Not included**
- International and U.S. domestic airfare
- Passport and visa fees
- Medical expenses and immunization costs
- Meals and beverages other than those specified as included
- Independent and private transfers
- Trip-cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance
- Excess-baggage charges
- Personal items such as internet access, telephone and fax calls, laundry and gratuities for non-group services

**Air arrangements**
International and U.S. domestic airfare is not included in the program cost. Round-trip, economy-class airfare between San Francisco and Amsterdam is approximately $1,100 as of April 2016 and is subject to change without notice.

**What to expect**
We consider this program to be mildly strenuous, and at times, physically demanding and busy. Daily excursions involve one to two miles of walking in all weather and occasionally on uneven terrain such as cobblestone streets. Lunches are generally eaten independently while we are on excursions, and there are several days in which guests are off the vessel for a full day while it repositions. The MS *Magnifique II* is a casual barge, not a luxury riverboat. Passenger cabins are reached via a steep flight of 14 stairs with a handrail; there is no elevator access. There are several optional opportunities for biking over flat terrain. Participants must be physically fit, active and in good health. We welcome travelers 15 years of age and older on this program.

**Deposit & Final Payment**
A $1,000-per-person deposit is required to hold space on this program. Sign up online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip?dutch2017 or call the Travel/Study office at (650) 725-1093. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign a Release of Liability.

**Cancellations & Refunds**
Deposits and any payments are refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply.

**Insurance**
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. You may choose to subscribe to optional trip-cancellation and baggage insurance. Information will be provided to travelers with their welcome materials. The product offered includes special benefits if you purchase your policy within 14 days of written confirmation of your participation on the trip.

**Eligibility**
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $300 more than the members’ price. A person traveling as a paid guest of a current member will not be charged the nonmember fee. To purchase a membership, visit alumni.stanford.edu/goto/membership or call (650) 725-0692.

**Responsibility**
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and ship arrangements and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motorcoach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. It is understood that the ship’s ticket, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the cruise company. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time that passengers are not onboard their plane or conveyance. Neither the Alumni Association, Stanford University nor our operators accept liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect in May 2016 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges.

**Telephone:** (650) 725-1093
**Email:** travelstudy@alumni.stanford.edu

California Seller of Travel Program Registration #2048 523-50

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"Barge travel is the best way to go! Stanford found superb local guides who enriched our sightseeing."

Kitty Holden, '67, Dutch Waterways, 2014