Belgium & Holland
Bruges to Amsterdam Aboard Magnifique III
With Leonard Folgarait, Distinguished Professor of the History of Art
May 15–23, 2020
Dear Vanderbilt Alumni and Friends,

Please join us on a cultural cruise through the meandering waterways of the Low Countries. Cruise from the medieval city of Bruges in Belgium to the Dutch capital of Amsterdam aboard Magnifique III, a riverboat ideal for viewing the region’s charming landscapes and historic sites. In the early springtime, tulips, daffodils, hyacinths, and other colorful flowers should be in full bloom in Belgium and the Netherlands.

We are delighted that Leonard Folgarait, a Distinguished Professor of the History of Art at Vanderbilt University, will join us for the cruise. The works of Dutch artists including Vincent van Gogh and Piet Mondrian have been a focused topic of his teaching.

Begin in Bruges, home to awe-inspiring buildings and artwork. Visit the Groeninge Museum, with works by Jan van Eyck and other great Flemish artists, and see Michelangelo’s Madonna and Child in the Church of Our Lady. We will also have an opportunity to meet a local artist. Then, embark Magnifique III for a seven-night cruise through storybook villages and idyllic countryside. Call at Ghent for a once in a lifetime opportunity: we will be among the first to behold Jan van Eyck’s partially restored Adoration of the Mystic Lamb, the iconic Ghent Altarpiece, in its original home, Saint Bavo’s Cathedral. Also explore Dendermonde, known for its spectacular Flemish buildings, and Antwerp, where you will visit the Rubens House.

In the Netherlands, wander historic Dordrecht, stopping to see the Great Church, the Dordrecht Museum, and a medieval monastery. In picturesque Kinderdijk, view impressive windmills, then drive to Gouda to sample artisanal cheeses at the world-famous market. Discover Royal Flora Holland, the flower auction at Aalsmeer. Disembark in Amsterdam to admire the splendid masterpieces of the Rijksmuseum.

This delightful journey provides numerous opportunities for cycling, walking, or cruising to view the historic sites and serene landscapes of the region. We anticipate that this cruise, which is co-sponsored by Duke University, will sell out quickly. Don’t miss this opportunity to experience Belgium and Holland with your fellow alumni.

Sincerely,

Cary DeWitt Allyn
Director, Vanderbilt Travel Program

The Vanderbilt Travel Program strives to engage Vanderbilt alumni, parents and friends of all ages, keeping them connected with each other and Vanderbilt. Each carefully designed trip offers unparalleled educational opportunities, many with Vanderbilt professors, for an exclusive “beyond the classroom” experience.

CRUISE HIGHLIGHTS

BE among the first to visit the partially restored Ghent Altarpiece and experience an exclusive tour of its future dedicated museum

MARVEL at the excellent collection of Hans Memling masterpieces in the medieval St. John’s Hospital in Bruges; and go inside the Church of Our Lady to behold Michelangelo’s Madonna and Child —the only sculpture by the artist to leave Italy during his lifetime

RELISH the intimate and friendly atmosphere created by the Dutch captain and crew aboard Magnifique III, a luxury riverboat with 20 comfortable cabins

RISE early to experience the hustle and bustle of Royal Flora Holland, the flower auction at Aalsmeer

EXPLORE the UNESCO-listed town of Kinderdijk, Holland, where 19 impressive windmills showcase the ingenuity of Dutch technology

ADMIRE works by Rubens, Michelangelo, Anthony van Dyck, Hans Memling, the Van Eyck brothers, and other masters
MONDAY, MAY 18: DENDERMONDE / SINT-AMANDS
Cruise along the Scheldt River to Dendermonde, a small city known for its magnificent Flemish buildings. Visit the Church of Our Lady, home to two Van Dyck paintings and a 12th-century baptismal font of Tournai stone, and see the medieval Cloth Hall on Market Square. Join Magnifique III in Sint-Amands and enjoy an evening concert on board. B,L,D

TUESDAY, MAY 19: ANTWERP, BELGIUM
Step ashore in Antwerp to visit the renovated Central Station, one of the most beautiful rail stations in Europe, and view the restored Harbor House, designed by Zaha Hadid. Continue to the 17th-century Rubens House to see some of the Flemish painter’s famous works. Afterwards, discover the Red Star Line Museum to learn the stories of the immigrants migrating to America between 1873 and 1935. Get a taste of Antwerp by sampling Belgium's celebrated beer at a local tavern. B,L,D

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20: ANTWERP / DORDRECHT, HOLLAND
View the impressive Kreekrak lock system before biking from Tholen towards Willemstad; or go ashore to visit Dordrecht, one of the Netherlands’ oldest cities, which is best discovered on foot. Walk past its historic harbors, ancient warehouses, and busy merchant streets. Visit the Great Church, the Dordrecht Museum, and the 13th-century Augustine monastery. Magnifique III remains docked in Dordrecht overnight. B,L,D

FRIDAY, MAY 15: DEPARTURE
Depart on an overnight flight to Brussels, Belgium.

SATURDAY, MAY 16: BRUSSELS, BELGIUM / BRUGES
Arrive in Brussels and transfer to Bruges. Enjoy time in this UNESCO-listed city of sublime architecture and art. Visit the Hans Memling Museum and the Groeninge Museum, which houses works by Jan van Eyck and other great Flemish artists, and see Michelangelo’s Madonna and Child in the Church of Our Lady. We will also have an opportunity to meet a local artist in Bruges. Transfer to Magnifique III and settle into your cabin. Tonight, the captain hosts a welcome reception and dinner. R,D

SUNDAY, MAY 17: BRUGES / GHENT
This morning, cruise past canals and small villages en route to Ghent. Pause to watch the operation of the “Eye,” Belgium’s giant lock system, and picnic alongside the River Lys. In the afternoon a guided walking tour of Ghent will reveal the fascinating history of this lively city, which in the Middle Ages was one of the largest and wealthiest in Europe. B,L,D

Leonard Folgarait is a Distinguished Professor of the History of Art at Vanderbilt University, where he has served as Chair of the Department of History of Art. His areas of teaching and research are the modern art of Latin America, with a specialization in the twentieth-century art of Mexico, and modern European and American art and architecture. The painting of Dutch artists such as Vincent van Gogh and Piet Mondrian is a focused topic of his teaching. His special interests are the relationship of art to politics, early cubism, surrealism, performance art, film, photography, and historiography. He has published four books on modern Mexican art and his articles have appeared in journals such as Oxford Art Journal, Arts Magazine, Art History, Works and Days, and Quintana.

TRAVELING WITH YOU

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CRUISE RATES

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Single accommodations. One twin bed with portholes
Standard, twin beds with portholes
Deluxe, twin beds, small seating area, large windows

RATES INCLUDE

- Seven nights cabin accommodations aboard Magnifique III
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner); bottled water and coffee/tea with all meals; wine and beer with lunches and dinners
- Guided sightseeing by private motorcoach; entrance fees for all included visits
- Airport/pier/airport group transfer for all participants on suggested flights
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers; customary shipboard gratuities
- Taxes, service, and porterage charges

NOT INCLUDED IN RATES

International airfare; passport fees; meals and beverages not specified; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; trip insurance; luggage in excess of one suitcase; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

THURSDAY, MAY 21: DORDRECHT / VIANEN
This morning, cruise to Kinderdijk to see the impressive windmills at this UNESCO-designated site. Drive to the Gouda Cheese Market for tastings and talks with local producers. Those who wish to may cycle from Kinderdijk before reuniting with the rest of the group and the ship in Schoonhoven. Follow the Lek River to Vianen. After dinner, take an evening walk in this historic city, once home to the Marquis de Lafayette, hero of the American Revolution.
B, L, D

FRIDAY, MAY 22: VIANEN / AMSTERDAM
Early this morning, you may wish to discover Royal Flora Holland, the flower auction at Aalsmeer. Later, join fellow participants in Amsterdam for a canal cruise through this vibrant city followed by a visit to the Rijksmuseum, the State Treasury of Dutch paintings. Rejoin Magnifique III and celebrate a memorable voyage at tonight’s farewell dinner.
B, L, D

SATURDAY, MAY 23: AMSTERDAM / RETURN
Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for flights home.
B

DISCLAIMER: The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of the Vanderbilt Alumni Association and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at http://www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms
To reserve a place, please contact The Vanderbilt Travel Office at 615-322-3673 or complete and return this form with your deposit of $1,000 per person (of which $500 is non-refundable for administrative fees) payable to Arrangements Abroad. Mail to: Vanderbilt Travel Program, PMB 407735, 2301 Vanderbilt Place, Nashville, TN 37240-7735.

Name(s) in full as on passport(s).  Please print.

Address

City                           State                          Zip

Telephone (home)                                                             (business)

Fax                            E-mail

ACCOMMODATIONS
Magnifique III cabin preference  (1) _____________________  (2) ________________________

I wish to share a cabin with __________________________________________________________

FORM OF PAYMENT
☐ Enclosed is my check (payable to Arrangements Abroad)
☐ Credit card

Name on credit card

Credit card number

3- or 4-digit security code     Expiration date

I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the Terms & Conditions of this Program (see www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms to review or call for a copy). I/We agree to full payment by check, wire transfer, or credit card 120 days prior to departure. Each participant must sign below.

Signature (required) Date

Signature (required) Date

Built in the style of Holland’s traditional riverboats, Magnifique III made her premier voyage in the spring of 2018 sailing under the Dutch flag. All of her 20 cabins and suites feature individually regulated air conditioning and flat-screen satellite TV. The upper deck has a spacious salon that combines a restaurant, bar, and lounge. Large windows open onto the partially covered sun deck. The top deck features a whirlpool/Jacuzzi and deck chairs for relaxing.
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