



Fascinating Belgium  
and Netherlands

Boat & Bike Tour  
from Bruges to  
Amsterdam

# MS MECKLENBURG 2020



## Belgium meets Holland

Travel by bike & barge: a unique concept, where a cycling holiday and a journey on a comfortable ship are combined. Cycling cruises are ideal for those who like to cycle during the day and explore beautiful areas, without giving up a comfortable way of travelling.

Some of the most beautiful cities of Flanders and Holland are highlighted during this tour: Bruges, Ghent, Antwerp and Amsterdam, where you can still feel the charm of days long gone. After embarkation, you will have some time to discover Bruges, "the pearl of Flanders". Your first bike tour will take you to Ghent. Then you will cycle along the beautiful tidal river Schelde and reach St. Amands. Further downstream the Schelde the harbour city Antwerp awaits you. Kinderdijk where the most famous windmills of the Netherlands are located is another highlight of the tour. 19 windmills are standing in line, a wonderful scene for a photograph. The last evening of your bike and barge trip you spend in one of Europe's most exciting cities: Amsterdam, before you have to disembark in the morning.

**Tour details** (all times are subject to change):

Day	City	Arr.	Dep.
Day 1	Bruges		14:00
Day 1	Aalterbrug	17:00	17:30
Day 1	Ghent	19:00	
2.Tag	Ghent		09:15
Day 2	Dendermonde	14:00	16:45
Day 2	St. Amands	18:00	
Day 3	St. Amands		09:30
Day 3	Antwerp	15:00	
4.Tag	Antwerp		12:00
Day 4	Kreekrak lock	14:30	15:00
Day 4	Tholen	16:30	
Day 5	Tholen		10:00
Day 5	Willemstad	14:00	14:30
Day 5	Dordrecht	17:00	
Day 6	Dordrecht		09:00
Day 6	Schoonhoven	13:00	13:30
Day 6	Vianen	15:00	
Day 7	Vianen		06:30
Day 7	Breukelen	09:30	10:00
Day 7	Amsterdam	13:00	
Day 8	Amsterdam, AS 09:30		

### Day 1: Arrival and embarkation in Bruges – Aalterbrug – Ghent (bike tour approx. 22 km / 14 mi)

Arrival and embarkation time between 1 pm and 2 pm in the beautiful city of Bruges, also called "Pearl of Flanders". After a welcome meeting with the crew at 2 pm the ship will leave Amsterdam to Aalterbrug while you start your first bike ride through forests and wide pasture landscapes. In the middle between Bruges and Ghent your ship picks you up and you can join your first "dinner cruise" to Ghent. Enjoy the beautiful parts of Ghent during an evening stroll. The barge is docked at a lock in Merelbeke, in a suburb of Ghent and approx. 30 cycling minutes from the city centre.

### Day 2: Ghent-Merelbeke – Dendermonde – St. Amands (bike tour approx. 40-50 km / 24-31 mi)

Your bike tour leads along one of the most beautiful parts of the Schelde, a tidal river, today. You will follow it downstream. In Dendermonde it is worth visiting the St. Alexius Beguinage (1288). The departure time will be set by the skipper and is depending on high or low tide as the tide has effect on the speed of the barge. If necessary, shipping to St. Amands and overnight stay in St. Amands.

### Day 3: Dendermonde/St-Amands – Temse – Antwerp (bike tour approx. 45 - 61 km / 27 - 37 mi)

Today we will follow the Schelde further downstream via Temse to Antwerp. There is a beautiful cycling track along the river and the scenery is magnificent. The harbour city Antwerp with its beautiful inner city is well

known as diamond city and the city where the famous painter Rubens was born.

### Day 4: Antwerp – Kreekrak locks – Tholen (bike tour approx. 35 / 22 mi)

You should take some time to visit Antwerp in the morning. Towards midday the barge will sail over the Schelde-Rhine-Canal, over the huge Kreekrak locks. Here your bicycle tour starts through the beautiful "Wouwse Plantage" forest to Tholen, a former fishing village amidst the large streams of the province of Zeeland.

### Day 5: Tholen – Willemstad – Dordrecht (bike tour approx. 35 km / 22 mi)

From Tholen you will join a bike tour to Willemstad, a small fortified city. From here the barge will bring you to the beautiful city Dordrecht, one of the oldest towns in Holland. Take a walk through the town center where the façade of the houses reflect the typical image of a Dutch city.

### Day 6: Dordrecht – Kinderdijk – Schoonhoven – Vianen (bike tour approx. 55 km / 34 mi)

A fast ferry will bring you to Alblasterdam. From here you will cycle to Kinderdijk, a village famous for its impressive row of 19 UNESCO cultural heritage-listed windmills. The windmills were constructed in the 18th

century to pump water out of the low Alblasserwaard polder (a polder is a low-lying tract of land enclosed by embankments). You will then continue to cycle via Schoonhoven to Vianen, a small fortified town on the river Lek where you will spend the evening. Since the 17th century Schoonhoven – nicknamed Silver City – has been renowned for its talented silversmiths.

#### **Day 7: Vianen – Breukelen – Amsterdam (Bike tour approx. 36 - 46 km / 22 – 29 mi)**

Shipping to Breukelen, where you disembark and your cycling tour starts. Ride along the small river Vecht: this area is well known for its beautiful mansions, small castles and beautiful houses with large gardens and parks. Over the small villages of Nieuwersluis, Loenen and Vreeland to Nigtevecht, where you can visit a traditional cheese farm. Continue cycling through the historical town of Muiden and on to Amsterdam where you will meet the barge for the final time in the Amsterdam harbour.

#### **Day 8: Amsterdam**

After breakfast: end of the tour and disembarkation till 09:30 am.

### **MS Mecklenburg**

The MS MECKLENBURG is a small river cruiser with a family atmosphere and your swimming hotel during the tour. On the partially roofed sun deck are sitting places (tables + chairs) and storage room for the bikes.

The salon with bar is a large room for common use and has a semi-separate restaurant area.

On board of this cosy ship are a total of 11 cabins for max. 22 guests. All cabins (approx.. 8-9 m<sup>2</sup>) have shower + toilet, 2 lower beds and air-conditioning. Windows cannot be opened.

The interior of the ship is a non-smoking zone: smoking is only allowed on the sun deck. As a safety measure, a statutory smoking ban applies in all cabins; this means that all cabins and rooms on board are no-smoking zones.

#### **Technical data:**

**Length:** 41 m • **Width:** 5,05 m • **Depth:** 1,20 m • **Passengers:** max 22 • **Crew:** 3-4 • **Currency on board:** EURO. Only cash.



#### **Important remarks:**

**Your journey to Bruges and from Amsterdam will be individual.** • **Embarkation:** from 01:00 p.m. to 02:00 p.m. • **Disembarkation:** After breakfast by 09:30 a.m. • **Bicycles on board:** Unisex trekking bicycles with normal mount (ladies model), 7 gears, hand brake and pedal brake or hand brakes only (subject to availability) and pannier bag. E-Bikes are on these tours only available after prior request (by booking) and confirmation and at limited number. **Please indicate your body height when you book** • **To bring your own bike:** On request only – due to lack of space on sundeck. • **Languages on board:** German, English • **Cycle Tours:** Daily guided bike tours by one guide. It is also possible to ride the bike tours individually. Tour description and maps are available on board. The kilometers/miles indicated for the cycle tours are approximate. The quality of the cycle ways along this route is excellent. Most of the way is paved or asphalted and does not have any gradients of note. This makes the trip suitable for cyclists with an average physical condition. • **Luggage on board:** We recommend waterproof rain gear, bike helmet, sun hat and sports shoes. We would like to ask you to do without hard-side luggage as storage space in the cabin is very limited! • **Alterations of schedule or program:** Subject to change. In case that as a result of nautical, technical or meteorological reasons a route cannot be taken, the skipper reserves the right to change the route for your safety (this would not be a reason for fee-free cancellation) • **Travel documents:** EU-citizens (without special situations like dual citizenship, main residence abroad or a limited-validity passport) are required to have a valid passport or ID-card, not expiring within six (6) months of the return of your cruise. We kindly ask non-EU citizens, EU-nationals with multiple citizenship or anybody who has to respect special legal entry requirements for the country to visit, to inform about visa and entry documents at the competent embassy. • **This trip is not suitable for guests with reduced mobility.**

## Travel dates 2020

Season 1: 19 Sep. – 26 Sep

Season 2: 13 June – 20 June / 25 July – 01 August / 05 Sep – 12 Sep

### Prices per person in Euro:

Departures from Saturday to Saturday:	Season 1	Season 2
2-bed-cabin	899,-	999,-
2-bed-cabin for single use (limited)	1.349,-	1.499,-

€ 75.- **Rental bicycle** 7-gear, hand brake and pedal brake or hand brakes only (subject to availability), back bags and rental bike insurance (please indicate by the booking)

€ 165.- **E-Bike** (advance reservation, limited number) with pannier bag and rental bike insurance

### Services included:

- 7 nights tour and accommodation on board of MS Mecklenburg in the booked category
- Program according to the routing
- Welcome drink
- Full board (7x breakfast, 6x picnic lunch during bike tours, 6x coffee and tea in the afternoon, 7x 3 course dinner)
- All charges for harbours, bridges and locks
- Daily cabin cleaning
- Use of linen and towels
- Daily briefing on the respective bike tours
- Tour guide for guided bike tours
- Printed instructions and detailed maps for daily bike tours (deposited on board, 1 per cabin)
- GPS tracks

### Not included:

Journey to Bruges and from Amsterdam, parking fee, shuttles, bike rental, ferry tickets, entrance fees and excursions, town maps, drinks on board, tips, insurances.

### Passenger car parking options in Bruges (subject to change):

Guarded parking areas at the main station (Stationsplein), approx. 5–7 € per day. No reservation possible. Transfer by taxi from Stationsplein to ship berth approx. 15-25 €.

Return transfer by train from Amsterdam to Bruges approx. 40 € per person.

Minimum number of participants: 18 guests (must have been reached within 21 days prior to departure). You may cancel the booking at any time. For cancellation fees, please refer to the booking conditions of SE-Tours. The tour operator's terms and conditions apply: SE-Tours GmbH, Am Grollhamm 12a, 27574 Bremerhaven. We recommend that you take out a travel health insurance with repatriation coverage as well as baggage, accident and travel cancellation insurances.

### Reservations:

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