

Tulipmania!

Keukenhof Gardens and Amsterdam

April 6 -- 13, 2011

Each year, from mid-March until late May, Keukenhof Gardens opens its gates to nearly a million people. Over seven million bulbs are planted each year in a spectacular array of colors and themes. After the garden closes, the work begins to dig up and replant all of these bulbs in preparation for next year's show. All in all, there are nearly 1,000 varieties of tulips alone that can be viewed at this remarkable garden, located about one hour's drive from Amsterdam. In April of 2011, you can join Peter Olin and your fellow Arboretum travelers on an early season tour of Amsterdam and the garden at Keukenhof.



We'll be arriving in the garden when the tulips, hyacinths, daffodils and other spring bulbs are in full bloom, making for a wondrous display of colors. In the garden you'll enjoy the sounds and aromas of Holland, from the calliope playing at the food court to the many offerings of Dutch cuisine available for your lunch there.

We start our day at Keukenhof with a morning visit to the flower auction at Aalsmeer, where every day the world price for flowers and plants is set. Through a fascinating process during which large and small batches of flowers are sold within fractions of seconds. Each day 19 million flowers and two million plants are sold through 13 auctions. The building at Aalsmeer covers over seventy football fields -- the largest trade building in the entire world! As a visitor to the auction at Aalsmeer, you will walk over a specially designed gallery, where you can view the auction without being noticed, enjoy the gorgeous flowers, and experience the hustle and bustle of the auction itself.

A visit to the city of canals, the "Venice of the North", as Amsterdam is often called, is not complete without a tour and viewing of the city from the famous Amsterdam Canal Boats, where you can view the architecture of Amsterdam at a leisurely pace. A canal boat cruise is an ideal way to see the essence of Amsterdam, as the city relies so heavily on commerce on and along its waterways.

We take you to the Dutch countryside as well, to visit the Paleis Het Loo, linked with the lives and times of the Royal Family. Het Loo was the favorite palace of King William of Orange and later Queen Wilhelmina. The baroque parterre gardens are newly planted each spring and summer in typical 17th century Dutch traditional style, and the fountains play continuously from April through November.

Nearby is the Kröller-Müller Museum, with its world-renowned collection of 19th and 20th century visual art. The focal points of the museum are the extensive range of works by Vincent van Gogh (over 275 paintings) and the sculpture garden. The museum also has a fine collection of impressionists, including works by Seurat, Picasso, and Piet Mondrian, and is surrounded by one of the largest sculpture gardens in Europe, including works by Auguste Rodin.



In addition, we visit the colorful old world villages of Marken and Volendam, small fishing villages on the northern seacoast of Holland, and Alkmaar on the day of the weekly cheese auction, when teams from the Cheesemaker's Guild move and weigh cheese according to the tradition begun in the 16th century.

Come and join Peter on this wonderful tour! From the flowers at Keukenhof to the Dutch countryside to the vibrant city of Amsterdam, this tour offers you the best of Amsterdam and Holland.

Tour Price: \$2,295 land only*

Tour cost is exclusive of airfare, airline taxes and fuel surcharges.

Prices are per person, based on double occupancy. Single supplement \$595 extra.

**Note: limited special purchase air space from Minneapolis available at \$695 per person, plus \$450 (est.) departure taxes & fees.*

TOUR ITINERARY

Wednesday, April 6

Overnight flight from U.S. to Amsterdam

Thursday, April 7

Upon arrival in Amsterdam, we board our motorcoach to our hotel in the heart of Amsterdam. We have a city tour en route, and after check-in at our hotel, we enjoy lunch prior to our tour of the canals of Amsterdam by canal boat. We return to the hotel afterwards. The balance of the day is at leisure, to rest up and enjoy Amsterdam. Dinner tonight is on your own. **L**



Amsterdam – Hortus Botanicus

Friday, April 8

After breakfast we depart for a tour of the villages of Marken and Volendam, fishing villages north of Amsterdam. En route, we stop at the town of Alkmaar, where every Friday there is a cheese auction and market in the town square. This is a great experience, recalling bygone days when cheese was bought and sold like this on a daily basis. We'll continue on to Marken and Volendam, where you'll have time to explore these charming and historic villages. There is free time for you to locate a nice restaurant for lunch (on your own) before we return to Amsterdam. This evening, many of the museums in Amsterdam are open, and this would be a great opportunity for you to make plans to visit one. **B**

Saturday, April 9

Today we visit the Botanical Garden in Leiden. One of Europe's first botanic gardens, now part of the University of Leiden, it is small and beautifully kept. There is also a Japanese garden named after the scientist Von Siebold who carried out botanical research in Japan during the 19th century. Part of the botanical garden is a historical reconstruction of the very first version of this garden. It is a 16th century garden for medical purposes. There is also a systematic garden named after the Swedish botanist Carl Linnaeus. We travel to Delft afterwards, to visit the town known for its blue pottery. We'll tour the factory there and have a typical Dutch *pannenkoeken* (pancake) lunch as well. You will have time to explore the city on your own before we return to Amsterdam in the afternoon. On our return we visit the Hortus Botanicus Amsterdam, one of the oldest

medicinal gardens in Europe. This delightful garden has been a favorite on our tours of Amsterdam. Tonight is at leisure in Amsterdam, with dinner on your own. **B, L**

Sunday, April 10

We travel to the Dutch countryside today, with our first stop is at the Paleis Het Loo just outside of Apeldoorn. There is ample time to enjoy both the interior of this beautiful palace, so admired by the House of Orange that the Royal Family made the palace their home for over 300 years. We have lunch on the grounds of the palace. This afternoon we travel a short distance to the Kröller-Müller Museum nearby, with its collection of Dutch and French impressionist paintings inside, and the sculpture garden surrounding the building. We return to Amsterdam in the late afternoon. Dinner tonight is on your own **B, L**



Alkmaar – The Cheese Market and Auction

Monday, April 11

This morning we depart after breakfast to visit the Flower Auction at Aalsmeer. We then continue on to our tour of Keukenhof Garden. Lunch is on your own at the garden. We depart Keukenhof in the late afternoon. This evening is free—dinner on own. **B**

Tuesday, April 12

Today is a free day, to enjoy Amsterdam as you please. There are many activities that you can enjoy in and around Amsterdam – shopping, museum visits, and local tours, but be sure to be back in time for tonight's farewell dinner at a typical Dutch restaurant near our hotel. **B, D**

Wednesday, April 13

After breakfast today, we depart for Schipol Airport, where we check in for our return flights home. We arrive at our home city this evening. **B**

B = Breakfast; L = Lunch; D = Dinner

To register for this tour, contact Jim Glad at:

Glad to Travel
(612) 724-1915
email: gladtotravel@earthlink.net

OUR HOTEL IN AMSTERDAM

Hotel Die Port van Cleve Amsterdam

Our hotel is located in the heart of Amsterdam, right behind the Royal Palace on Dam square. Die Poort van Cleve Amsterdam is an historic Amsterdam hotel, with a rich history and authentic classic features. There are many extraordinary cultural and historic sites of Amsterdam within walking distance of the hotel.

Hotel Die Port van Cleve Amsterdam offers you 121 comfortable rooms with a classic Dutch atmosphere, free WiFi throughout the hotel, Brasserie 'De Poort' famous for its steaks and the authentic Bar, the Bodega 'De Blauwe Parade' with unique Delft blue tile fresco dating from 1887.

The rich history of this classic Amsterdam centre hotel dates back to 1864 when G.A. Heineken opened his first Heineken brewery on this location. Due to the city council filling in the canal in front of the building, Heineken moved his brewery to the present location on the Stadhouderskade in Amsterdam. The Hulscher brothers continued the business and on 5 September 1870 a unique beer house opened its doors, called Die Port van Cleve. The name comes from a memorial stone with the inscription 'Die Port van Cleve' which was found during the renovation of the building by the Hulscher brothers. The beerhouse was a popular place for business men and artists to get together. It did not take long before it expanded into a restaurant with the Brasserie De Poort serving typical Dutch dishes.

The combination of a rich history, classic style, hospitality and personal service ensure you an extraordinary stay in the bustling Amsterdam city center.



Hotel Die Poort van Cleve - Amsterdam



Amsterdam Street Scene

This outstanding value includes:

- 6 nights deluxe hotel accommodation
- Buffet Breakfast daily
- Farewell dinner
- Three lunches
- Sightseeing as indicated in the itinerary
- Pre-departure information
- All taxes and service charges while on tour
- \$200 tax-deductible donation to the Arboretum
- Escorted by Peter Olin

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Deposit due with booking: \$500 per person
Final payment due: February 1, 2011

Member's Tour Cost:

\$2,295 per person, double occupancy-land only
\$595 additional, single supplement
Note: Non-members of the Arboretum add \$100

In order to qualify for the member's price, each traveler must be a member of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. For information on becoming a member of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, please contact the Arboretum membership office at 952-443-1440.

Not included in the tour

- Airfare from home city to Amsterdam
- Airline departure taxes and fees
- Gratuities to driver and guides
- Personal expenditures—laundry, phone, etc
- Items not specifically mentioned as included.

SPECIAL NOTE ABOUT AIRFARE.

Regarding airfare to Amsterdam from Minneapolis – we have contracted with Continental Airlines for a limited number of seats for this tour which are available at \$695 per person, plus departure taxes totaling approximately \$450. These seats are available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

You are free to arrange your own air flights to Amsterdam, but please contact Glad To Travel to discuss your arrival and departure times in Amsterdam to ensure your transfer between the airport and the hotel with the group.