

# Princess Royal



## Vreeswijk to Amsterdam

**Saturday** - Meet at the Hôtel de l'Europe in Amsterdam. Transfer to the Princesse Royale moored in Vreeswijk. Cruise along the river Lek to Schoonhoven, renowned for its silver jewelry and traditional clockworks. Free time to stroll through this charming town.

**Sunday** - Cruise to Kinderdijk where we visit the 19 traditional windmills built in 1740 to drain the polders. Lunchtime cruise on the river Hollandse IJssel passing the skyline of Rotterdam on our way to Gouda. Walking tour of the town that is famous for its cheeses, pipes, and candles. Takes in the beautiful stained glass windows of St John's Church (15C).

**Monday** - Cruise to Oude Wetering on the Gouwe and Oude Rijn canals. Polders (low-lying land reclaimed from the sea) liberally dotted with greenhouses stretch out in every direction. After lunch, excursion to Keukenhof Gardens, Holland's most colorful garden-park and famous throughout the world for its dazzling fields of tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths.

**Tuesday** - Coach drive to the world's biggest flower auction in Aalsmeer. Cruise on the Ringvaart canal, skirting one of Holland's oldest polders- the "Haarlemmermeer." After lunch, tour of Haarlem, center of the Dutch bulb trade: St Bavo's church with one of the world's largest church organs, and the Frans Hals Museum with its collection of Dutch masters. Cruise to Purmerend.

**Wednesday** - Cruise past fields of flowers in bloom to Alkmaar. Walking tour with its 17C fortifications, St. Lawrence's Church with one of the finest old organs in Holland, beautiful 15C Gothic Town Hall, and many picturesque old houses-excellent shopping.

**Thursday** - Cruise to Zaanse Schans, a village full of wooden houses and windmills. This "living museum" will transport you 300 years into the past. Cruise ends in Amsterdam. Walking tour and shopping. Farewell dinner.

**Friday** - Morning transfer Hôtel de l'Europe.

## Amsterdam to Ghent

**Saturday** - Meet at the Hôtel de l'Europe in Amsterdam. Transfer to the Princesse Royale moored in the heart of the city. Dinner followed by a walking tour, one of Europe's premier cultural and commercial centers.

**Sunday** - Excursion to Haarlem, the center of the tulip and hyacinth trade, and a chance to admire the city center: St. Bavo's Church containing an organ with 5,000 pipes (one of the largest in the world), and the Frans Hals Museum with its superb collection of Dutch Masters. Cruise to Schoonhoven, a lovely old town renowned for its silver-smithing since the 17C.

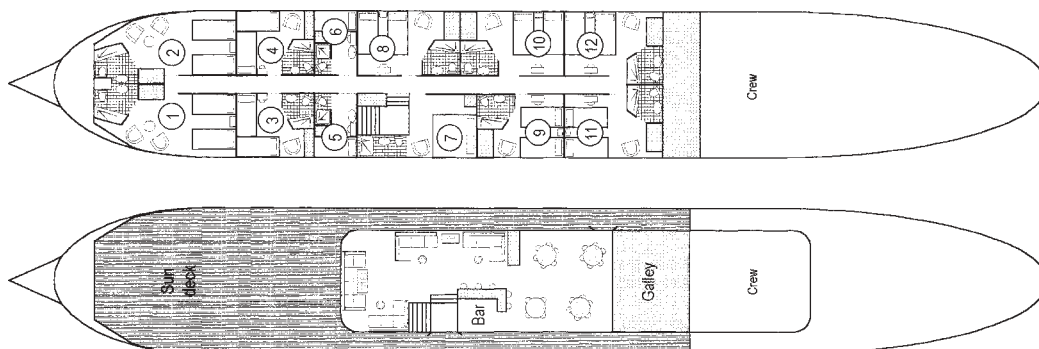
**Monday** - Breakfast cruise to Kinderdijk where you will visit the 19 traditional windmills built in 1740 to drain the polders. After lunch, beautiful cruising through the Delta to Willemstad. Free time to stroll through this charming town.

**Tuesday** - We continue our cruise in the Delta, passing tiny, picturesque villages on our way to the town of Veere with its lovely old houses and 15C Town Hall. Cruise to Middelburg, capital of Zeeland. Walking visit of this historical town: handsome 15C Town Hall, 12C abbey housing the Zeeuws Museum, and its collection of traditional costumes and excellent shopping.

**Wednesday** - Cruise the western arm of the Schelde, linking Antwerp to the sea, and cross the border into Belgium before arriving in Ghent. After lunch, visit the city of 200 bridges: the medieval church of St. Nicholas; the Cathedral of St. Bavo, with a crypt (built 941) housing the celebrated 12-paneled *Adoration of the Lamb*, painted by the Van Eyck brothers; and the spectacular Town Hall.

**Thursday** - Cruise to Bruges with the landscape of Flanders. Walking tour of Bruges, famous for its fine lace. Its attractions include over 50 bridges, the 350 ft. high belfry (13C), and Belgium's oldest city hall. Farewell dinner.

**Friday** - After breakfast, coach transfer to Brussels, Hôtel Conrad.



Low Season: March - April 20, October 19 - November 23			
TWIN	LS 1,990	HS 2,290	SS 470
CHARTER	LS 45,800	HS 45,800	