

THE MITCHELL GALLERY

St. John's College



along the

DUTCH WATERWAYS

aboard the Exclusively Chartered Deluxe AMADEUS SILVER II

April 25 to May 3, 2019





Dear Mitchell Gallery Members, Friends and Alumni of St. John's:

It is said that "God created the Heavens and the Earth, but the Dutch created Holland." Indeed, not only did they wrest a portion of their land from the sea, but they built upon it an enchanted realm carpeted by vibrant flowers and laced with storied waterways.

We are delighted to announce that Mitchell Gallery Art Educator Lucinda Edinberg will travel as host of this special Dutch Waterways cruise. Join us on this exclusively chartered river cruise aboard the deluxe AMADEUS SILVER II, one of the finest ships to ply the waterways of Europe and traverse the canals of this delightful polder land. Celebrate the beauty of Holland and old-world Flanders in blissful springtime—the ideal season for this comprehensive itinerary, when the tulip fields are in full bloom.

Discover the true essence of river life in the Low Countries. Our expert-guided tours explore two UNESCO World Heritage sites—Amsterdam's 16th- and 17th-century house-lined canals and the medieval Flemish jewel of Bruges. Experience this sublime region's pastoral idyll and fascinating history with visits to "Golden Age" Hoorn, the world-famous Keukenhof Gardens, the old Hanseatic city of Kampen, rarely visited ancient Maastricht, the mercantile town of Antwerp and medieval Ghent, home to the Van Eyck brothers' *Adoration of the Mystic Lamb*— the world's most coveted masterpiece. Walk through the poignant World War II American Military Cemetery in Margraten and discover the artistic legacy of the world-class Kröller-Müller Museum. Learn more about the rich history of the Flemish speaking county of Flanders and the modern life and cultural heritage of the Netherlands during an exclusive RIVER LIFE[®] FORUM with local residents.

Delight in specially arranged CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS, a privately chartered small boat canal cruise and an exclusive musical concert. Enjoy an included, guided excursion in every port, deluxe accommodations and all meals. RIVER LIFE® along the Dutch Waterways is a perennial favorite; reserve now while Early Booking Savings and space are still available.

Dank u wel!

For more information about The Mitchell Gallery at St. John's College go to sjc.edu/mitchell-gallery.

Sincerely,

tydee Schaller

Hydee Schaller Director, The Mitchell Gallery

Pamela McKee Pamela McKee Membership Committee, The Mitchell Gallery Board of Advisors pmckee7@verizon.net

Cover photo: Cruise through Holland, where tulip blooms announce the arrival of spring. Photo below: Maastricht on the River Meuse is widely considered to be one of the oldest towns in Holland.



Included Features

On Board the Exclusively Chartered, Deluxe Amadeus Silver II

- Seven-night cruise from Ghent, Belgium, to Amsterdam, the Netherlands.
- Deluxe, river-view accommodations.
- All meals aboard ship.
- Complimentary wine and beer are served with lunch and dinner.
- Captain's Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
- Complimentary Wi-Fi throughout the ship.

Expert-Guided Excursions and Exclusive Cultural Enrichments

- Walking tour of Ghent, featuring St. Bavo's Cathedral.
- Walking tour of the medieval, fairytale city of Bruges, a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- City tour of Antwerp featuring a visit to see three of Peter Paul Rubens' masterpieces in the 16th-century Cathedral of Our Lady.
- Visit to the Netherlands American Cemetery, honoring Allied World War II operations, in Margraten, near Maastricht.
- Tour of idyllic Maastricht, a city of intriguing history, contemporary art and charming culture.
- Walking tour of Nijmegen, granted city status by the Roman Empire in A.D. 104.
- Guided tour of the world-class
 Kröller-Müller Museum for exploration of the Low Countries' rich artistic heritage.
- Walking tour of the former Hanseatic League city of Kampen.
- Specially arranged, private organ concert featuring an 18th-century Hinsz organ in Kampen's Bovenkerk (church).
- Walking tour in the charming former "Golden Age" trading town of Hoorn, made famous during the 17th-century era of the Dutch East India Company.
- Excursion to magnificent Keukenhof Gardens to see the world's largest and most colorful display of spring flowers in bloom, weather permitting.
- Private cruise along Amsterdam's UNESCO World Heritage site canal district.
- Exclusive **RIVER LIFE**[®] **FORUM** with local residents who will discuss life in the Low Countries.
- Time at leisure to explore Kampen, Maastricht and Antwerp.
- Learn traditional Dutch phrases.

Always Included

- Transfers and luggage handling abroad if your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- Experienced local guides for included excursions.
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions.
- Complimentary bottled water in your Suite or Stateroom and on excursions.
- Hospitality desk aboard ship.
- Experienced Gohagan & Company Program Directors at your service.
- Complimentary use of an audio headset during guided excursions.
- Automatic \$250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.



The lively, medieval Markt is the principal city square and gathering point in Bruges.

Ghent

The industrial history of Ghent is evident in the 12th- to 17th-century guildhalls lining the quay. In St. Bavo's Cathedral, see the Van Eyck brothers' magnificent altarpiece of the *Adoration of the Mystic Lamb* this polyptych is the most often stolen artwork of all time and is still missing one panel.

Bruges

Built around a double ring of charming canals connected by arched foot bridges, fairytale Bruges is a UNESCO World Heritage site of virtually untouched medieval architecture and renowned, hand-crafted chocolates. Enjoy a walking tour from the Market Square to the magnificent Gothic-style Chapel of the Holy Blood to see timeless and deftly crafted stone guildhalls and opulent churches.

Antwerp

The Old Town of Antwerp preserves its charming Flemish culture in a labyrinth of squares and passages that lead to the vibrant Grote Markt, where beautifully preserved guildhalls once bustled with 16th-century merchants. In the Cathedral of Our Lady, where a delicately ornamented spire soars at 401 feet and a remarkable carillon rings with 47 bells, see the 17th-century Baroque masterpieces of the city's native son, Peter Paul Rubens, including paintings of the *Assumption of the Virgin Mary, The Raising of the Cross* and *The Descent from the Cross*.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT: Explore Antwerp at leisure, pausing to admire the centuries-old Diamond District or Flemish Renaissance architecture.

Maastricht

Founded by the Romans and later a destination for pilgrims seeking the



Keukenbof Gardens)

A brilliant and breathtaking tapestry of color and fragrance when in full bloom, Keukenhof is affectionately known as the "Garden of Europe." This vibrantly hued setting is meticulously planted and landscaped, complete with tranquil ponds, gentle, flowing streams and winding, tree-shaded paths. Our program is during the height of Holland's spectacular spring, when more than seven million flowers are expected to blossom across this 79-acre wooded park in a dazzling display of color.

Keukenhof (kitchen garden) was inspired by the early 15th-century Countess Jacoba of Bavaria, who resided in a nearby castle and tended an herb and vegetable garden on this site. Today, Keukenhof Gardens is an international showcase for the Dutch floriculture industry. Exhibitors feature more than 1000 varieties of their tulips, along with daffodils, hyacinths, orchids, roses, carnations, irises and lilies, while new variants of tulips are cultivated every year.

tomb of St. Servatius, today the fabled city of Maastricht is an epicenter of art and culture. See the towering, castlelike Basilica of Our Lady, built in one of Maastricht's cobblestone town squares in the year 1000, and stand on the 13th-century city wall for a scenic view across the River Meuse. In Margraten, walk through one of Europe's largest American military cemeteries honoring the allied operations during World War II.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT: During your leisure time, enjoy a traditional slice of *vlaai* (sweet flan) and coffee amid medieval scenery.

Nijmegen

Scenic Nijmegen, one of the oldest cities in the Netherlands, was settled in the first century B.C. and hosts many well-preserved buildings, including the 15th-century town hall and Latin school, the 16th-century, Renaissance-style Waag (weighing hall) and a series of quaint, 17th-century houses. Overlooking the River Waal, Valkhof Hill features the impressive ancient Barbarossa Ruins and ninth-century Carolingian chapel.

Kröller-Müller Museum

Among the heathlands and dunes of the Netherlands' largest national park, De Hoge Veluwe, is the world-class Kröller-Müller Museum, lauded for its chronological collection of van Gogh's masterpieces, the second largest collection in the world.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS: Enjoy a guided, tour and see works by Picasso, Monet, Renoir and Manet, as well as captivating late 19th- to 21st-century pieces by Rodin, Moore and Dubuffet, wreathed in the idyllic woodland scenery of the 60-acre sculpture garden.

Kampen

A quintessential Dutch town of color and charm, the old Hanseatic League city of Kampen on the River IJssel maintains one of the best-preserved old town centers in the Netherlands. See the remnants of the medieval city walls, the Old Town Hall and the 17th-century New Tower.

> Amsterdam's Canal Ring, a is lined with three times as many bridges as Venice.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS: During a private, specially arranged concert in the Gothic Bovenkerk (church), listen to the intonation of more than 3000 pipes resonating from the 18th-century Hinsz organ. Explore Kampen's nautical heritage—which extends from the Kogge Shipyard to the fine local fish cuisine—at your leisure.

Hoorn

A prominent harbor in the 17th century, Hoorn became one of Holland's most important centers of trade during the Golden Age as the home of the Dutch East India Company, the first multinational corporation in the world. Walk along the charming, lively harbor and admire the landmark 16th-century Hoofdtoren tower, one of the city's last preserved defenses.

Amsterdam

Amsterdam's canal district—a UNESCO World Heritage site where concentric canals weave between 16th- and 17th-century merchant row houses, charming houseboats and world-renowned museums is brimming with history and artistic wealth.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS: A private canal cruise offers a unique look at the integral role waterways have played in the life of this city, which began as a simple fishing village and flourished into the 17th century's foremost economic center, producing master artists such as Rembrandt and van Gogh. In the world-famous Keukenhof Gardens, stroll through a vivid, sprawling tableau of colorful blooming tulips.

ITINERARY

Day

- 1 Depart the U.S. Delft • Kinderdijk[®] • The Hague Pre-Cruise Option* <u>or</u>
- 2 Brussels, Belgium/Ghent
 Embark AMADEUS SILVER II.
- **3** Ghent for Bruges[®]
 - Walking tour of Ghent.
 - City tour of Bruges, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

4 Ghent/Antwerp

 City tour featuring a visit to the Cathedral of Our Lady, housing masterpieces by Rubens.

Cultural Enrichment:

 Opportunity to explore Antwerp's charming cobblestone square at your own pace.

5 Maastricht, the Netherlands

- Visit to the Netherlands American Cemetery at Margraten.
- Walking tour of Maastricht.

Cultural Enrichment:

Time at leisure in Maastricht.

6 Nijmegen

- Walking tour of Nijmegen.
- CULTURAL ENRICHMENT:
- Enjoy a guided tour of the extraordinary world-class Kröller-Müller Museum.

7 Kampen/Hoorn

- Walking tour of medieval Kampen.
- Walking tour of charming Hoorn.

Cultural Enrichment:

 Private organ concert in Kampen's Gothic Bovenkerk (church).

8 Amsterdam

Cultural Enrichments:

- Visit to Keukenhof Gardens.
- Private cruise of the canal district, a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- Exclusive River Life[®] Forum.

9 Amsterdam/Disembark ship Amsterdam[®] Post-Cruise Option* or

Return to the U.S.

*Available at additional cost.

Hoorn's town symbol—the unicorn—is sculpted onto the notable Hoofdtoren Tower.

THE NETHERLANDS KAMPEN HOORN AMSTERDAM Kröller, Müller Museum Тне Keukenho HAGUE North Gardens Sea Delft IIMEGEN KINDERDIJ BRUGE Ŷ UNESCO World Heritage Site BELGIUM **Cruise Itinerary** Air Routing Land Routing

RIVER LIFE®

ALONG THE

DUTCH WATERWAYS during Tulip Season

The character of the Netherlands is alive in the iconic works of its master paintersfrom Vermeer to Brueghel—and in its flourishing landscapes and charming towns, all of which embody the region's pleasant nature. During this comprehensive reis (cruise) along the great Dutch and Flemish waterways, experience firsthand the rich heritage and traditions of lively Amsterdam; the medieval cities of Bruges, Ghent and Antwerp; and the historic towns of Maastricht, Nijmegen and Hoorn. Stroll through the legendary blooming Keukenhof Gardens and interact with local Dutch, Flemings and Belgians. This custom-designed and intimate travel program, one of the popular RIVER LIFE[®] series,

will immerse you in daily life in the Low Countries at just the right pace.



Amadeus Silver II

The elegant and meticulously crafted AMADEUS SILVER II features all the comforts of a refined and traditional hotel.

The 84 stylish Staterooms and Suites are among the most spacious of any European river ship (172 to 284 square feet). Suites include a private balcony, and select Staterooms feature a unique floor-to-ceiling window that lowers to French-balcony height at the touch of a button. Accommodations have two twin beds or one queen bed, individual climate control, sitting area and private bathroom with shower. Most have a minibar.

The delightful restaurant offers scenic views through panoramic windows as well as continental cuisine featuring fresh, local ingredients. Daily meals include early-risers' coffee, buffet breakfast and lunch, afternoon tea, four-course dinner with complimentary wine and beer, and late-evening snack.

For your leisure time on board there are two bars, an open-air lounge, complimentary Wi-Fi, beauty salon, boutique, massage room, fitness studio and Sun Deck. Complimentary bicycles are available for independent pursuits on shore. An elevator serves all passenger decks except the Sun Deck. There is no doctor on board.

The Amadeus fleet has been awarded the rare "Green Certificate" of environmental preservation.









In the world-class Rijksmuseum, view Dutch Golden Age masterpieces, including Rembrandt's The Night Watch.

The Golden Age of Amsterdam

In the UNESCO World Heritage site of historic Amsterdam, experience tree-shaded canals and gabled 16th- and 17th-century merchant houses on the Post-Cruise Option. Enjoy a guided walking tour, the world-class Rijksmuseum's prestigious Dutch Master collection and a visit to Our Lord in the Attic, a museum and 17th-century clandestine church, as well as time at leisure to experience this expressive city's vibrant culture and friendly people. Spend two nights in the Five-Star RENAISSANCE AMSTERDAM HOTEL, ideally located in the city center.

Delft • Kinderdijk • The Hague The Juwelen of Zuid-Holland

The Pre-Cruise Option begins your Dutch waterways experience in a center of resistance to the Spanish Habsburgs, headquarters of the International Court of Justice and seat of

the Dutch government. The Hague showcases stately municipal buildings, elegant residential houses and picturesque cobblestone courtyards. Walk through Mauritshuis, a 17th-century neoclassical mansion, featuring a world-renowned collection of Dutch and Flemish art, including



1

Vermeer's *Girl with a Pearl Earring* and a late-period Rembrandt self portrait. Visit canal-ringed Delft to watch traditional craftsmen create the iconic "Delft Blue" porcelain and tour an 18th-century windmill—a remarkable innovation of Dutch engineering—in Kinderdijk, a UNESCO World Heritage site. On the Pre-Cruise Option, spend two nights in the deluxe, iconic HOTEL DES INDES.

Pre- and Post-Cruise Options are available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.

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Count Johan Maurits's home, the Hague's Mauritshuis museum, epitomizes classical Dutch architecture.

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Signature as it appears on credit card

All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by check or wire transfer by January 18, 2019.

*Note: Airfare is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable. □ I/We will make my/our own air arrangements.

□ First Class



Amsterdam's bridges and canals bring the intimacy of a small town to one of Europe's most celebrated cities.

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