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For additional information, go to www.nwciowa.edu/alumni/netherlands-tour



NORTHWESTERN COLLEGE ALUMNI BIKE TOUR HOLLAND BLOOMS!

# APRIL 23 - MAY 3, 2015



Keukenhof Gardens

### **EUROTRAIL**

213 Richards SW Grand Rapids, MI 49504 (616) 406-7511 eurotrail@sbcglobal.net www.eurotrailtours.com

In the year 1998, Eurotrail organized its first bike tour for Northwestern College alumni. This eighth tour will take us through the Netherlands when the tulips are blooming and the people join the King, Willem-Alexander, in celebrating his birthday. We will bike through historic cities like The Hague, Leiden, Haarlem, Amsterdam and Utrecht, experience the biggest harbor in Europe in Rotterdam and see the impressive line of windmills at Kinderdijk. We will bike through beautiful nature areas, mostly on quiet country roads and separate biking paths, pausing at windmills and mansions, farms and nature areas, historical cities and quaint villages. Many evenings have activities as well: lectures on Dutch history or a concert. In this all-inclusive tour, you will be spoiled with gourmet food, excursions and cultural experiences.

#### COMMENTS FROM PARTICIPANTS ON OTHER TOURS:

- "Twelve days of joy, education, variety, fun, friendship and excellent, caring leadership make this the tour of a lifetime!"
- "It has been an outstanding tour!! We have had a marvelous time and have learned so much! Every day was packed with great things!"
- "Thank you for a totally awesome time! Every day was a delight! We were treated like Royalty!"

• "It is a five-star tour and we recommend it to anyone."

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# **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

#### Pavment

The deposit of \$300 per person is due with the reservation form. The second and third payment of \$1,150 each are due on December 1, 2014 and March 1, 2015. You will receive an invoice for every payment.

#### **Cancellation and Refunds**

Notice of cancellation must be received by Eurotrail in writing. Those who cancel after booking and before 50 days prior to departure will receive a full refund minus a \$75 handling fee per person. Cancellation between 50 days prior to departure and 10 days prior to departure will result in a 70% refund. Those who cancel after 10 days prior to departure or interrupt the tour after it has begun, pay 100% of the tour price and will receive no refund. Eurotrail reserves the right to cancel the tour at any time and in such case a full refund of the tour price will constitute full settlement and conclusion to the participant.

#### Health, Passport and Insurance

Tour participants are completely responsible for their own well-being and fitness prior and during the tour and should receive their physician's approval to engage in the tour. Participants must be in the possession of a valid passport. Eurotrail recommends travelers to purchase shortterm traveler's insurance that covers baggage, accidents and sickness, trip interruption and trip cancellation insurance. We also recommend that you take your own bicycle helmet along.

#### Extension of vacation

If you wish to spend more time in the Netherlands or another country before or after the biking tour, let us know, and we will try to assist you in any way we can.

#### **Tour Price**

We reserve the right to change prices without notice if the currency exchange rate varies significantly between the time of booking and departure. You will then get an opportunity to cancel the tour for a full refund. Participants can lock in the tour price by paying sooner; the tour price is guaranteed once final payment is received.

#### **Release and Assumption of Risk**

Due to unforeseen circumstances Eurotrail might alter accommodations, routes or sights from those mentioned in the itinerary. Participants must recognize that during the tour accidents and illnesses may occur and that forces of nature or transportation modes may cause inconveniences, delays and/or cancellations. Eurotrail will not be liable for any personal injury, property loss or property damage to any tour participant. The tour operator, while taking every precaution with the participant's property, is not liable for any loss, damage or inconvenience in the handling of that property. The participants assumes all of the above risks and will hold operators harmless from all liability, and any and all action or demand which they now have or which may arise, in connection with the tour or any other activity arranged for the client by the tour operator and their agents. These terms are considered as accepted when the participant makes payment for his or her tour, and that acceptance also serves as a release and assumption of risk from the participant's heirs, executors and administrators, and for all members of the participant's family.

This copy is for us (see other side)

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**THURSDAY, APRIL 23** Departure from the U.S. airport of choice.

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#### FRIDAY, APRIL 24

Arrival in the morning at Schiphol airport. Opportunity to get cash at an ATM machine. A coach will depart around 9:00 AM to the flower auction in Aalsmeer. The coach will return around 11:30 AM to pick up other passengers and then drive to Kinderdijk, where we will see the densest concentration of windmills (17 in total) in the Netherlands and enjoy lunch. The coach will bring us to our hotel in Rotterdam, where we will have an opportunity to take a nap and enjoy a boat tour of the biggest harbor in Europe.

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 25

We will bike to Delft, where we will visit the Nieuwe Kerk in the town's historical center, the burial site of William of Orange and the Royal Family, and eat 'poffertjes' for lunch. We will visit the Delft Blue Factory in Delft and then go on to The Hague, where we will see the buildings of Parliament. We will stay in The Hague (23 miles)

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 26

We will start the day with an international church service (optional). Afterwards we will bike to the beach of the North Sea in Scheveningen, visit a famous art museum with Vermeer's Girl with a Pearl Earring, and the Peace Palace, which is home to the International Court of Justice. We will stay in The Hague (6 miles).

#### MONDAY, APRIL 27

On this day all cities and villages of the Netherlands are full of festivities to celebrate the King's birthday. Most people will dress up in orange clothing. We will enjoy the public feast in all towns and villages we will bike through. We will leave The Hague and bike to Wassenaar (the home town of King Willem-Alexander and Queen Maxima) and via the dunes near the North Sea and the fisherman's town of Katwijk, we will end up in the Medieval town of Leiden where we will enjoy a city tour. We will stay in Leiden (19 miles).

### TOUR LEADERS:

James Kennedy is a NWC alumnus and professor of Dutch history at the University of Amsterdam. He also taught eight years in the U.S. at Northwestern College, Valparaiso University and Hope College. He has published books on modern Dutch history: the sixties, euthanasia and secularization. His wife, Simone Kennedy, is a local politician and canidate for Senate.

#### HOTELS:

All of our hotels are located in nature areas or quiet streets and have private facilities.

### FOOD:

Breakfast buffet, lunch, snacks and refreshments are included in the price. Each night we will savor an excellent multi-course dinner, prepared by superb chefs.

#### NIGHTS:

After dinner, we will often enjoy city walks or lectures on Dutch history.

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### TUESDAY, APRIL 28

From Leiden we will bike along rivers and lakes and through the fields of blooming tulips to the Keukenhof Gardens, where 7 million flower bulbs, 2,700 trees, floral displays in the park and unique flower shows in the various pavilions are a glorious visual feast and provide many photo opportunities. Afterwards, we will bike to Haarlem, where we will visit an art museum (25 miles).

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

We will visit the Corrie ten Boom house in Haarlem and then hop on our bikes to see some typical Dutch country side with windmills, wooden green houses, canals and ferries. We will visit the Zaansche Schans, an open-air museum with authentic windmills, shops and houses. We will bike through a wet nature area to Amsterdam, where we will stay the night (26 miles).

#### PRICE:

### \$2,600 per person

This includes:

- Hotels (Double occupancy. Additional \$250 for single supplement)
- All meals, beverages and snacks.
- Entrees to all sights, museums, castles, boats and ferries
- Bike rental
- Transportation to and from the airport
- Tour leaders
- Baggage transfer

Minimum of 18 participants, maximum of 30.

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 30

We will spend the day in Amsterdam, seeing a number of museums (Rijksmuseum, Maritime Museum, Anne Frank House, etc.), the Beguine Court and enjoy a boat tour through the canals. Participants who missed out on the flower auction in Aalsmeer on their day of arrival, can join a tour early in the morning to this auction. At night we will enjoy an authentic Indonesian rice table dinner.

#### FRIDAY, MAY 1

We will bike all through Amsterdam, seeing all the new additions to the town and enjoy its urban history. We will follow rivers and bike through quaint villages until we get to the winding River Vecht between Amsterdam and Utrecht, lined with imposing mansions, country houses and tearooms. Rich merchants from the Golden Age once spent their summer months here. We will spend the night in the Medieval city of Utrecht (26 miles).

#### SATURDAY, MAY 2

We will spend the day in Utrecht, to see the town and its museums and enjoy its shopping opportunities. We will take a bus to our hotel near Schiphol. On the way we can stop in interesting towns like Gouda, depending on the preferences of our participants.

#### SUNDAY, MAY 3

Day of departure. Transportation from the hotel to the airport is available beginning at 6am.

## **Reservation Form**

Name(s)	c.
	<u> </u>
Address	:
-	
Phone:	
Cell:	
Email:	
What ro	om accommodations do you prefer:
	single accomodations (\$ 250 single supplement)
	twin beds: share room with:
	twin beds (please find a roommate for me) double beds (if available)
	double beds (II available)
Would y	you like information on group flights from your preferred airport?
	yes, I prefer to fly from:
Dietary	preferences:
Ouestio	ns/comments/suggestions for the itinerary:
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