

## Luxury Shake up Schengen

### 12 days / 9 nights individual travelling

Explore The Netherlands, Belgium & France



- Your journey will start by a 4 night stay on an authentic houseboat and exploring Amsterdam. See windmills and traditional wooden housing, or perhaps visit a medieval castle with wooden bridge.

- Travel by direct train to Brussels, Belgium for a taste of chocolates on a local tour. Breathe in the past and visit the medieval town Bruges.

- Travel by direct train to Paris, France for a 3 night stay in charming area of Montmartre. Cruise on the Seine River in VIP style and discover hidden gems on a private walking tour.



#### HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE

Visit Amsterdam in The Netherlands, free time

Visit Brussels, Bruges in Belgium, free time

Visit Paris, France, free time

International train between Amsterdam – Brussels – Paris 2<sup>nd</sup> class seats

Clogs & Windmills small group tour, visit Zaanse Schans, Marken & Volendam

Private Seine River cruise with Parisian champagne brunch

Exciting walking tours with a local

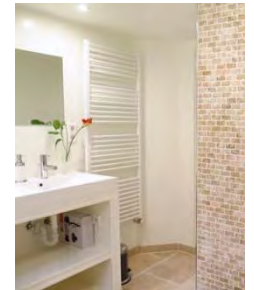
And many more

## Luxury Shake up Schengen Day 1 to 5 – Explore Amsterdam, The Netherlands



Spend 4 nights on a authentic 3-star houseboat on the canals of Amsterdam's city centre.

- 4 Nights on authentic houseboat \*\*\*\* including breakfast on the 1<sup>st</sup> morning
- Centrally located
- 2 floors, Double bed, bathroom with whirlpool and shower, fully equipped kitchen, spacious livingroom, free Wifi, TV, heater
- 3 hrs. All of Amsterdam
- 2 hrs private walking tour
- 2 hrs private canal cruise



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|-------|---|
| Day 1 | Departure   |
| Day 2 | Arrival Amsterdam Airport, transfer to houseboat, afternoon relaxing private canal boat cruise – embarking at central location, drink & snacks included |
| Day 3 | Private walking tour 2 hrs, free day to explore Amsterdam   |
| Day 4 | All of Amsterdam 3 hrs vehicle sightseeing tour, free time to explore Amsterdam   |

### Optional activities:

- 3-4 hrs. visit of medieval castle & garden with wooden drawbridge
- 1,5 - 2 hrs. choose from various private walking or food tours
- 3 hrs. dinner at a local's home
- full day visit of fairytale Efteling theme park, *rated world's best '17*
- 3 hrs. visit & dinner at the beach

## Luxury Shake up Schengen

### Day 5 Windmills & Clogs Group Tour

visit Volendam, Island Marken & Zaanse Schans



Visit 3 traditional villages tucked away in the “Polder” green countryside dominated by green fields, dikes, agriculture and cattle. See many windmills and picturesque wooden housing, Visit a cheese farm, clogs factory on a 5,5 hrs tour.

- Group tour by touringcar
- Tour guide & audio guide in 16 languages
- Guided visit of Zaanse Schans, Volendam & Island Marken, clog and cheese demonstrations, tastings & ferry ticket



Volendam and the Island Marken were originally traditional fishing villages with a rich culture, still inhabited by the Dutch today. Some of the elders still wear the folklore clothing and live in historical houses decorated in typical Volendam style.

First stop of this tour will be at the colorful fishing village “Volendam” for a 45 min. guided visit of the village and harbor, visit of a local shoemaker and a cheese farm. There is no better place to experience a taste of Dutch herring. From Volendam harbor a boat will take you in 20 minutes to the Island Marken. A 45 min. guided walk will take you along the traditional houses and harbor.



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After this you will return by boat to Volendam to continue the journey through the countryside to Zaanse Schans, famous for its’ old windmills. Zaanse Schans is a small rural village comprised of typical green wooden historical buildings. There are many water channels, farmlands and fully functioning windmills, it’s partly an open air museum situated along the beautiful Zaan River.

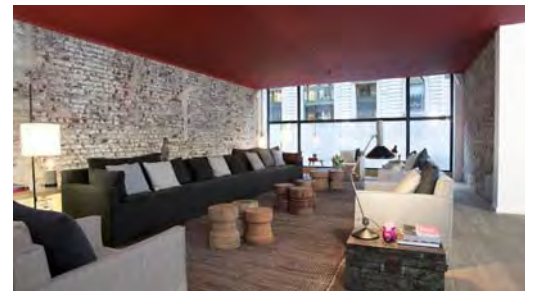
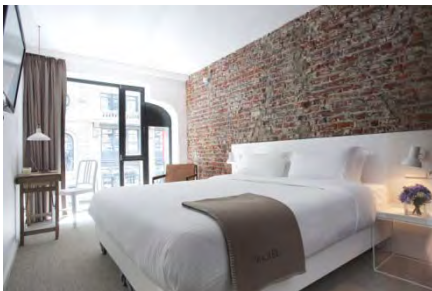
Cheese and clog demonstrations can be seen inside some of the buildings as well as a tinware factory, a cheese and dairy factory and other crafts. The old village is still inhabited by the Dutch today. You will pass by a historical dock and historical buildings some of which you will be able to enter and will give a great view on life in Holland 17 / 18th century.





Travel by train and spend 2 nights in a 3-star hotel in the heart of Brussels city centre and get a taste of the best chocolates in the world.

- 2 Nights in hotel\*\*\*\* including breakfast
- Located at walking distance of city highlights
- Double room en-suite with private veranda
- Tea & coffee making facilities
- Free Wifi
- 2 Hrs. chocolate walking tour includes tastings



### Day 6

- Transfer to train station, direct train 2 hrs from Amsterdam to Brussels
- Taxi at own arrangement to hotel situated near some highlights
- 2 hrs chocolate walking tour with a local including tastings
- Free time to explore Brussels

### Optional activities:

- Hop on hop off sightseeing bus
- Belgian beers private walking tour with a local
- Full day World War II private history tour
- Various private walking tours 1,5 - 3 hrs
- Christmas markets only in December



Spend a day in history and visit the medieval town Bruges with its historical buildings with beautiful facades, old towers and streets, beautiful squares and narrow canals.

You are taking a step back in time.

- 9 Hrs. group tour
- Return transport per touring car
- Air-conditioning
- Optional visit of historical town "Gent"



#### Day 7

- Meet at central location in Brussels at 10:00 AM, travel by touring car in 1,5 hrs to medieval town Bruges
- Free time to explore Bruges
- Travel back to point of start, overnight in hotel in Brussels

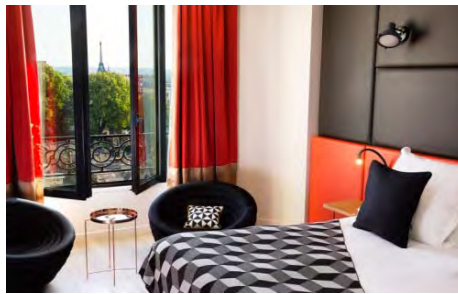
#### Optional activities:

- Private guided walking tour with a local
- Boat cruise (commercial)
- Christmas markets only in December



Travel by train and spend 3 nights in a 3-star hotel in the charming district of Paris “Montmartre”. Cruise on the Seine River in style and discover hidden gems on a private walking tour.

- 3 Nights in hotel\*\*\*\* including breakfast
- Central location
- Double room with en-suite bathroom and city views
- 2 Hrs. private walking tour with a local
- Private luxury Seine Cruise with Parisian champagne brunch



- Day 8** Transfer to Brussels train station, train ± 2 hrs to Paris – taxi at own arrangement to the hotel - free afternoon
- Day 9** Private Seine river cruise with Parisian champagne brunch - free day to explore Paris
- Day 10** Private walking tout with a local 2hrs - free day to explore Paris
- Day 11** Transfer to Charles de Gaulle Airport
- Day 12** Home Arrival

**Optional activities:**

- various private walking tours
- private guided tour of The Louvre Museum
- private guided tour of Versailles Castle & Gardens
- Paris by night private sightseeing tour with champagne

**The program includes:**

4 nights authentic houseboat \*\*\*\* Amsterdam including breakfast on the 1st morning  
2 nights Hotel \*\*\*\* Brussels including breakfast  
3 nights Hotel \*\*\*\* Paris including breakfast  
Accommodations at prime locations  
Private transfers as mentioned  
One way international 2nd class train ticket from Amsterdam to Brussels (direct connection)  
One way international 2nd class train ticket from Brussels to Paris (direct connection)  
Private Canal Cruise with a local in Amsterdam, snacks & drink included  
Private walking tour in Amsterdam, professional local guide with history degree, 2 hrs  
(choose from Western Islands, Once upon a Time in Amsterdam or Redlight Diaries)  
Private All of Amsterdam Sightseeing Tour, air-conditioned vehicle  
(flexible route to your preference with plenty of stops for photos)  
Windmills & Clogs Tour, small group, minibus transport, cheese tasting, Dutch wine & schnapps tasting included (Visit Zaanse Schans, Volendam, Broek aan Waterland, cheese & clog making demonstration, entrance to windmill, visit cheese farm)  
Chocolate Tour in Brussels, 2 hrs, small group, chocolate tastings included  
Full day visit of medieval town Bruges, touringcar transport, 1,5 hrs group guided walking tour included  
Private Seine River Cruise in Paris, 1,5 hrs, delicious Parisian champagne brunch included  
Private Walking Tour in Paris, 2 hrs, Marais District  
Free time to explore Amsterdam, Brussels, Bruges and Paris

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**Individual travelling - departure every day**

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**This tour is excluding:**

Breakfast on selfcatering houseboat  
Lunch & dinner  
Drinks  
Taxi from Brussel & Paris train station to Hotel  
Extra optional activities  
International flights  
Personal expenses, tips

**Other requirements:**

Schengen visum - apply at Dutch Embassy  
Local currency: Euro

Museum entrance tickets, concert and festival tickets can be arranged at request.  
Activities can be replaced or added to your preference. Details about optional activities not included on request.



**Amsterdam – The Netherlands**



**Redlight Diaries private walking tour - Amsterdam**

The Red-light District “De Wallen” is one of the most famous areas in Amsterdam. This part of the City is especially known for its coffeeshops and the many widows where charming ladies display themselves in an area lit up by red and blue lights. One of the freedoms in The Netherlands is prostitution which by law is considered as a legal profession.

During more recent years the area has been cleared from its shady image, streets have been renovated and many widows replaced with arts and fashion displays. Nevertheless enough of the windows still remain and are considered relevant to the area. The Red-light district has many interesting stories to tell and a private guided walking tour by a knowledgeable local will take you through its shady history, the smallest alley, monumental sites and China Town.

We will take a stroll and discover everything about the rise of the “coffee shops” and how prostitution developed, explaining the policy and how the Government manages it. Listen to the story of Joanie, how she grew up in the 60's and 70's of this last century and how she managed to survive in this tough neighborhood. Could she resist the temptations? Did she find the love she yearned for?

I will take you also back in time on an adventure about life in the 16th century, how it has been in this neighborhood and who lived here. You will be pleasantly surprised and fascinated.

**Included:**

Private walking tour / 2 hrs  
English spoken

**Excluded:**

Meet up at central location in the centre



**The Western Islands private walking tour - Amsterdam**

We will walk “under the arches” and arrive at the Western Islands. The Bicker Island, Prinsen Island and Realen Island have a rich history of trading, shipping and industry that goes way back to the 17th century.

A lot of this history is still to be discovered today. Because of the isolated location of the islands its like time has stood still and holds a small village appearance whilst still being in centre of Amsterdam.

The walk will take you along stunning warehouses, picturesque houses, nostalgic bridges and modern architecture. You will stand in awe of the public gardens and the only remaining shipyard on the island. This tour is taking you off the beaten track and away from the tourist routes.

We will walk past the birthplace of the famous photographer Jacob Olie and the former studio of the artist Georg Breitner. Visit the area where once stood the defensive wall with a wonderful view of the old timber port and berthed boats. You will Learn about the old stories from the area and how the Islands got their name, who lived there, who was the giant of Bickers Island and were the name Gallowsstreet (galgenstraat) comes from?

**Included:**

Private walking tour / 2 hrs  
English spoken

**Excluded:**

Meet up at central location in the centre



### “Once upon a time in Amsterdam” private walking tour

“Once upon a time there was a Norwegian king`s son..” This is how the legend begins of a small village along the river “Amstel” in the Golden Ages, that grew to become the most wealthy and spirited city in the world nowadays called Amsterdam. But how did it get that way? Who were the people that lived there? How did they live? Who was a lady named “Elsje” and what happened to her on April 28<sup>th</sup> in 1664?

How did the “Minnebroeders” came to their end? And why were they hated so much? And what was going on by the old church in the autumn of 1636? Lets take a walk back in time together, straight through the historic center of Amsterdam and experience the history as I tell you all about the fascinating, beautiful and funny stories from the daily life of normal civilians in a medieval city.

**Included:**

Private walking tour / 2 hrs  
English spoken

**Excluded:**

Meet up at central location in the centre



### Private Canal Cruise - Amsterdam

Enjoy a cold drink while cruising relaxed along Amsterdam's canals. Get a complete introduction to the city, from the famous sights to the hidden gems.

#### Tour description

You will be picked up from a central departure point nearby your hotel, we'll set off on a wonderful journey through the city centre. You'll get a complete introduction to the city, from the famous sights – the Red Light District, Anne Frank House, the I Amsterdam sign, the Heineken Brewery, the Rijksmuseum, and the Royal Theatre Carré, among others – to the hidden gems.

We'll cruise down the canals on my personal, well-maintained boat. The atmosphere is very laid-back, so just relax and enjoy an ice-cold drink as we sail through both the historical and contemporary districts. We'll navigate through the narrowest canals in the old city, which the big tourist vessels can't access.

Along the way you'll have plenty of opportunities to take amazing photos. The boat is an open sloop and is in very good shape. Cold alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks are available on board for an extra fee.

#### Included:

Private canal cruise with a local / 2 hrs  
Departure point nearby your hotel  
Snacks & 2 drinks  
Clean and warm blankets if very cold  
Fuel, safety equipment  
English spoken

#### Excluded:

Extra alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks (available for an extra fee)



### Get to see All of Amsterdam Tour

This "Get to See All of Amsterdam Tour" sightseeing is really flexible and can be adjusted to your interests. The idea of the tour is to show you ALL of Amsterdam, so that you can see the differences in neighborhoods and architecture. You will see parts of Amsterdam that you probably will not

Visit at all otherwise during a short stay. In a private vehicle with driver/guide you will go through the modern multicultural west, through the old melting pot in the old east, through the traditional folklore north and the wealthy south.

The places that you will get to see is depending on the tour length that you book, the traffic, the need for stops for photos and such on the way.

**Included:**

Private vehicle tour with driver-guide / 3 hrs  
Hotel pick up / drop off  
English spoken

**Excluded:**

Drinks

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### Brussels – Belgium



#### Belgian Chocolate Tour – Brussels

When it comes to chocolates, there are the everyday candy bars we consume, and then there is Belgian chocolate. What makes Belgian chocolate unique is the quality of ingredients and an almost fanatical adherence to Old World manufacturing techniques. Even in today's world of automation and mass production, most Belgian chocolate is still made by hand in small shops using original equipment.

Belgian chocolate may be expensive, but those who have sampled it say that there is no comparison between a standard chocolate bar and a Belgian praline. As a gift or special indulgence, Belgian chocolate is one product which lives up to its reputation for quality. You want to know all about it, then listen, watch, smell and taste on this chocolate tour.

**Included:**

Small group chocolate tour / 1,5-2 hrs  
Knowledgeable local guide  
Chocolate tastings  
English spoken

**Excluded:**

Meet up at central location in the centre

## Brussels – Belgium



### Visit medieval Bruges

The city centre of Bruges dates back to the 9th century and is like an open museum with medieval buildings with beautiful facades, towers, old streets, beautiful squares and narrow canals. You are taking a step back in time. Some of the historical highlights are to see the old City Gate and the Holy Blood Basilica and visit Our Sweet Lady Cathedral.

Just by walking inside a restaurant or bar you can get a glimpse of the atmosphere inside, many of these buildings breathe history inside and out. You can have lunch on one of the many street terraces, taste a Belgium waffle or go home with the best Belgium chocolates. Perhaps you would enjoy visiting the local market with regional food products or you can take a boat cruise through the canals. From the water you can take amazing pictures. Every year from November to December there is a Christmas market on the Grand Square, it is very popular because of the whole atmosphere that Bruges has.

#### Included:

Group tour / 9 hrs  
Transport per luxury air-conditioned touring car  
Tour guide on board - English spoken  
Guided group walking tour - English spoken  
Free time to independently explore Bruges

#### Excluded:

Meet up at central location in the centre  
Optional: visit of Bruges & Gent

## Paris – France



### Private luxury Seine River Cruise – Paris

There's no better way to see Paris than from the River Seine. Its' banks are lined with a series of masterpieces, starting with the Louvre Museum and culminating in a view of the Eiffel Tower, île de la Cité, La Conciergerie, Les Invalides not forgetting Notre-Dame Cathedral and the Concorde area and many other famous sites en route.

## Paris – France

This luxury private boat cruise is a unique opportunity to breathe the essence of Paris in a way that the rich and famous do. Get unique insights from a local whilst relaxing and enjoying a typical Parisian brunch consisting of premium products such as champagne, fruit juice, croissants, french baguettes, meat products, jams...

Your professional local guide will trace the evolution and history of Paris as you pass the city's monuments, and will certainly not miss sharing his/her favorite anecdotes. An unforgettable experience for those seeking to immerse themselves in the city in the most wonderful conditions.

**Included:**

Private Seine River Cruise / 1,5 hrs  
Local guide - English spoken  
Delicious Parisian brunch  
Unlimited tea & coffee  
Glass of Champagne  
Glass of fruit juice

**Excluded:**

Meet up at central location / Gare d'Austerlitz



### Private walking tour Marais District – Paris

There are various interesting and fun walking tours available. Either in a small group or private. Discover on foot some of the hidden gems and highlights of Paris accompanied by a local who is knowledgeable and passionate. You will get insights on history and buildings you will see en route. Get unique tips from a local on the best places to visit and things to do.

The Marais District is a beloved and lively area. It's popular for shopping and rich in restaurants and bars. Big shopping streets can be found but it's the many picturesque narrow old streets with interesting and arty boutiques surrounded by many historical buildings and facades that give the area its flair. It is the closest you will get to the feel of medieval Paris. The famous Jewish neighborhood is also situated in the Marais and has been home to Jews on and off since the thirteenth century. The Marais area is situated in between famous sites as the Centre Pompidou, the Notre Dame, Town Hall and the Bastille.

**Included:**

Private guided walking tour with a local / 2-3 hrs  
English spoken

**Excluded:**

Meet up at central location