

Spotlight on: Holland

On top of the culture and history in Holland, don't miss your chance to experience two of the country's special events, Floriade Expo 2022 and the unmissable annual flower festival, Keukenhof. Read the full itineraries at trafalgar.com.

Floriade

Learn what it would be like to live in a place that is built with environmental sustainability at its heart. On this *MAKE TRAVEL MATTER*® Experience, you'll visit Almere, a new Dutch city built on land that was reclaimed from the sea. Exploring a showcase of inspiring ideas about Greenery, Food, Energy and Health, you'll gain a fresh perspective on what life could look like in a custom-made, sustainable green city of the future.

Keukenhof

Garden lovers will not want to miss wandering the gardens of the iconic Keukenhof Park in glorious full bloom. Known as the 'Garden of Europe', Keukenhof garden literally springs to life each year, packed with carpet like rows of Holland's iconic tulips as well as roses, lilies and more.

Visits are included on select departures on trips on this page. Visit trafalgar.com for more.

Amsterdam Explorer

6 Days

1 Country

8 Meals

from **US\$2195** Per person, twin share **Past Guest Rated 4.5/5** feefo 



📍 See what happens on trip:

#TTAmsterdamExplorer

Explore the photogenic Dutch capital and iconic sights beyond its canals on this in-depth Amsterdam trip. You'll feast with the locals, see how they carve their sturdy clogs and experience first-hand the enduring symbols of Holland, from windmills to cheese.

Your Must-See Highlights

- **Explore** the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam and Corrie ten Boom House in Haarlem with a Local Specialist
- **Visit** a Dutch windmill and a cheese farm in Zaanse Schans, Volendam and Gouda
- **Scenic Cruise** of Amsterdam's canals
- **Tickets** for Floriade Expo in Almere (mid-April until end of September)

Trip code: **AMEX**

TRAFALGAR

Amsterdam Explorer

Your itinerary



 Start Location

 Plane

 Cruise

 Over night

 Visited Location

 End Location

 Train

 Ferry

Day 1

Welcome to Amsterdam

Welcome to the picture-perfect city of Amsterdam, buzzing with bicycles and boats. Every alley leads to another cosy bruin café and the canals are more plentiful than in Venice. Delve into the gezelligheid of Amsterdam during a city orientation – to see its beautifully preserved medieval buildings and tree-lined canals. Then, enjoy a Welcome Reception and laid-back city cruise along the winding canals, soaking up the alluring setting as you enjoy a light meal.

 **Hotel** - Eden

 **Included Meals** - Welcome Reception

Day 2

Rijksmuseum and More in Amsterdam

This morning, we Dive Into Culture and enjoy a Small Group Sightseeing tour of the Rijksmuseum, home to masterpieces of Rembrandt, Hals and Vermeer. Spend the rest of the day exploring the city your way. Visit the floating flower market or stroll along the gabled façades that line Amsterdam's ring of canals. End your day with delicious local flavours at one of the city's many cosy restaurants. However you choose to spend your day, you're in for a gezellig time in one of Europe's cutest capitals.

 **Included Meals** - Breakfast

Day 3

A Day Exploring Dutch Culture and History

Take a trip back in time to discover the centuries-old traditions of Holland stopping in the pretty town of Haarlem where we join a Local Specialist for a walking tour through the cobblestone streets and admire the charming gabled houses. Dive Into Culture and visit Zaanse Schans to sample delicious Dutch cheeses and investigate the inner-workings of one of the country's many windmills. Along the way, you'll learn about the Zuiderzee, and its incredible story of land reclamation and battle against the encroaching sea. We travel to the fishing village of Volendam on the shores of the IJsselmeer, our gateway into a Holland of yesteryear. This evening, we Connect With Locals to enjoy a home-cooked dinner with the Pauw family during an exclusive Be My Guest experience.

 **Included Meals** - Breakfast, Be My Guest

Day 4

A Day at Floriade 2022

Take a day trip to Almere to learn all about the future of growing 'Green Cities' when you Dive Into Culture at Floriade Expo 2022. This MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience is a showcase of inspiring ideas about the green city of the future. Amidst a tranquil setting of thousands of trees and an incredible array of bushes, plants and flowers, you'll enjoy a gorgeous glimpse of what it would be like to live in a city created with a green heart at its core. Visit the Green Island and the three districts, each with their own theme – Food, Energy and Health. Admire the impressive botanical collection sourced from across the world, while you lose yourself in the unforgettable mix of colours, scents and experiences. Enjoy a host of live entertainment, live cultural shows, culinary surprises and far more, all while surrounded by the soul-stirring greenery of this custom-made city of the future.

 **Included Meals** - Breakfast

Day 5

Discover Gouda (or Keukenhof during Tulip Season)

The powerful aroma of delicious Dutch cheese will infuse our senses today. Seemingly frozen in time with its beautiful 15th-century town hall and medieval cheese weighing station, Gouda's status as a cheese trading town dates back to the Middle Ages. Dive Into Culture and witness this proud tradition first-hand in the town's beautiful market square, before spending the rest of the day at leisure (Please note, during the opening of Keukenhof, an excursion to see the tulip fields will be included instead of the visit to Gouda). Returning to Amsterdam this evening, you'll be treated to a superb Farewell Dinner in the heart of the city.

 **Included Meals** - Breakfast, Farewell Dinner

Day 6

Farewell Amsterdam

The time has come to bid tot ziens to the magnificent city and your fellow travellers after an enjoyable encounter with Amsterdam and the surrounding Dutch countryside. Find out more about your free airport transfer at trafalgar.com/freetransfers.

 **Included Meals** - Breakfast

All optional experiences for this trip

Book with your travel director when you travel

AVAILABLE ON DAY 2

Hidden Amsterdam

We'll pay a visit to The Royal Palace in Amsterdam with our Local Specialist. Built in 1648, it originally served as the Town Hall and is still in use by the Dutch Royal Family today. It has also been a Napoleonic Palace, before its current role. Its rich history and the interior of this magnificent building in the heart of Amsterdam make this a must see.

Adult Price: **€48.00***

*** The Optionals and pricing listed here are a guideline only and subject to change.**

AVAILABLE ON DAY 2

Van Loon Museum

In the heart of the canal district lies Museum Van Loon, a magnificent private residence built in 1672. The former residence of the artist Ferdinand Bol, the 18th-century interior still evokes the splendour of the Golden Age. With our Local Specialist, we'll discover the large collection of paintings, fine furniture, precious silver and porcelain from several centuries. A short walking tour in the heart of the city will then take us to the Beguinage (Begijnhof), a hidden courtyard where extremely pious women lived for almost 700 years. This glimpse behind the façades of Amsterdam's world-famous canals is highly recommended.

Adult Price: **€42.00***

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AVAILABLE ON DAY 2

Holland's Favorite Foods

Nibble your way through Amsterdam's international dining scene on a tasting tour led by a Local Specialist. Learn about the international flavors that have influenced Dutch cuisine, while grabbing bites at a cheese shop, beer garden and family restaurant. Savour handpicked local delicacies including artisanal cheeses, a sweet 'stroopwafel' and the best fish in town. We'll wash them all down with a beer or Jenever.

Adult Price: **€62.00***

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AVAILABLE ON DAY 5

Muiderslot, A Genuine Castle

We'll take a short drive with our Local Specialist to imposing Muiderslot Castle, which will give us a real taste of Dutch history. It's part of Amsterdam's Defence Line and is UNESCO World Heritage Listed. During your guided tour, through rooms refurbished in 17th-century style, it's easy to picture yourself in a Rembrandt painting, as it evokes the period when Pieter Corneliszoon Hooft, known as the "Dutch Shakespeare," occupied the castle. We'll also enjoy a garden tour and a refreshment in a typical Dutch Inn.

Adult Price: **€56.00***

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