

# BELGIUM, HOLLAND & GERMANY

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## ***Brussels, Amsterdam, Hamburg - visit Bruges– 11 days***

Departure: May 05, 2019

Return: May 15, 2019

*Opera **Tristan und Isolde** is conducted by **Alain Altinoglu** in Brussels, with singers **Petra Lang** and **Christopher Ventris**. An excursion to **Burges** will be made to the fairy-tale town in Belgium to see Our Lady's Church, housing the famous **Madonna statue** by **Michelangelo**. **Elena Stikhina** is singing **Madama Butterfly** by **Puccini** in the **Dutch national opera house** in Amsterdam. We will see two amazing operas in **Hamburg**, **Parsifal** by **Wagner**, An American **Conductor Kent Nagano** is conducting, and **Robert Dean Smith** singing. A rarely performed opera **La Belle Helene** by **Jacques Offenback**, **Kate Aldrich** sings as **Hélène** and **Viktor Rud** as **Agamemnon**, **Nathan Brock** will be the conductor. We have selected the finest hotels, centrally located to visit prominent museums near by such as the **Rijksmuseum**, housing the huge painting "**The Night Watch**", a masterpiece by **Rembrandt** and the "**Anne Frank House**" in Amsterdam. We will stay at the super deluxe **Fairmont Four Seasons Hotel** on a lake in Hamburg, close to fine museums. Come and join us on this extraordinary tour.*

### ***Opera Performances***

In Brussels:

May 7 - **Tristan und Isolde** by Wagner with Petra Lang and Christopher Ventris

In Amsterdam:

May 10 - **Madama Butterfly** by Puccini

In Hamburg:

May 12 - **Parsifal** by Wagner with Robert Dean Smith

May 14 - **La Belle Helene** by J. Offenback with Kate Aldrich and Viktor Rud

Sunday, May 5. (D)\*. DEPART FOR BRUSSELS



Depart this evening aboard any airline of your choice for Brussels, Belgium. Dinner and light breakfast served on the plane.

### Monday, May 6. (B,D). BRUSSELS

Independent arrival at the Brussels Airport. Take a taxi to the deluxe HOTEL LE PLAZA, where we stay three nights. We will reimburse you the taxi fare. Briefing and Gala Welcome dinner at the hotel.

*Brussels, the capital of Belgium is more renowned as capital for the European Union. Brussels operates as a bilingual city where both French and Dutch (as in Holland) are official languages and displayed on all streets and signs. The Grand Place or the Market Square is surrounded by the city tower and a range of beautiful 300-year-old buildings, which when lit by bright illumination in the evening make it an unforgettable sight. Just a short walk away is the most famous small bronze statue of the city, Mannekin Pis, performing one of a child's most basic functions. Near the square are shops that sell the famous Belgium Lace even though today some of them are outsourced abroad. Ask for the country of origin, if interested in purchasing.*

### Tuesday, May 7. (B). BRUSSELS

Morning sightseeing to include the Atomium, a gigantic structure that still remains from the 1958 World Expo, the Palace of Justice, Royal Palace, Grand Palace and the famous Mannekin Pis fountain. This evening we will see the opera **Tristan und Isolde** by Wagner at the La Monnaie De Munt Opera House.

### Wednesday, May 8. (B) BRUGES - BRUSSELS

Morning departure to visit Bruges, a fairy-tale town in Belgium to see Our Lady's Church, housing the famous Madonna statue by Michelangelo and the Town Hall Square with its Chapel of the Holy Blood. We return back this afternoon to Brussels.

### Thursday, May 9. (B,D). BRUSSELS - AMSTERDAM

Morning departure for Amsterdam to arrive at the deluxe centrally located RADISSON BLU HOTEL, where we stay three nights. Dinner at the hotel.

*Amsterdam is colloquially known as the Venice of the North with its impressive architecture and more than 1500 bridges. In the 17th Century this small fishing village exploded into the most*



*important trading center in the world during the Dutch Golden Age of trading with South Africa, India, Indonesia and China. In the 19th and 20th Centuries, the city expanded in all directions, with many neighborhoods and suburbs designed in Modernistic styles. Amsterdam is not the capital of Holland, which is The Hague. This gives the city an informal atmosphere, tolerant and progressive.*

### Friday, May 10. (B). AMSTERDAM

Morning sightseeing of this multi-cultural city to see the canals lined with old houses designed in Renaissance, Baroque, Art Nouveau and Modern Architecture. This evening we will see the opera **Madama Butterfly** by Puccini at the Dutch National Opera.

### Saturday, May 11. (B). AMSTERDAM

Today is free to visit the Anne Frank House or any of the fine museums including the Van Gogh Museum, or the Rijksmuseum with its most famous painting the “Night Watch”, a masterpiece by Rembrandt.

### Sunday, May 12. (B). AMSTERDAM - HAMBURG

Morning departure for Hamburg to arrive at the super deluxe FAIRMONT HOTEL VIER JAHRESZEITEN, where we stay three nights. This evening we will see the opera **Parsifal** by Wagner at the Hamburg State Opera.

### Monday May 13. (B,D). HAMBURG

This morning we will take a sightseeing tour of the city by bus. This evening we will have our Gala Farewell dinner at a gourmet restaurant.

*The Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg is the second largest city in Germany. Hamburg is a major port on the river Elbe and an important financial center for centuries. It is the seat of Germany’s oldest stock exchange and Germany’s second largest bank, Berenberg Bank. Hamburg is also known for several theaters and a variety of music shows. From 1960 to 1962, the Beatles launched their career by playing at various music clubs in the city.*

### Tuesday, May 14. (B). HAMBURG



This morning we will take a walking tour of this second largest city in Germany. Among the sights are the City Hall, churches of St. Michaels and St. Jacob, Counting House buildings and the Old Town. Afternoon is free. This evening we will see the opera **La Belle Helene** by Jacques Offenback at the Hamburg State Opera.

### Wednesday, May 15. (B). HAMBURG - BACK HOME

We will arrange transfer for your flight back home, arriving the same afternoon. Auf Wiedersehn. See you on another HAT Tour.

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\* B-Breakfast, L-Lunch, D-Dinner (including wine)

### LAND COST

DOUBLE: \$7,250 PER PERSON

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$1,250



DEPOSIT: \$2,000 PER PERSON

BALANCE DUE: FEBRUARY 5, 2019

## **TOUR INCLUDES**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Category orchestra level seats in theaters
- Four Operas
- Deluxe centrally located hotels
- Buffet breakfast daily, and 3 dinners with wine in gourmet restaurants
- Welcome reception with cocktails
- Private sightseeing in each city
- Excursion trip to Bruges
- Experienced English speaking local guides
- Entrance fees to museums
- Transportation to and from theaters
- Baggage handling
- Guide, driver and bellboys gratuities
- Travelling with the owner at your service
- Complete package with details of operas listed
- Transfers from and to airports on published arrival and departure days only

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