Globe Treks

Tours / Cruises since 1978

Cruises



Belgium Private Barge Cruise

June 21 - 29, 2027

$5668/double per guest - $8950/single per guest

Plus airfare

Our own private 10 cabin voyage on CroisiEurope's *MS Raymonde* with our own captain, chef, and guides in Belgium, from Ghent to Halle. Embark on an intimate, private barge adventure through the heart of Belgium and hosted by Globe Treks. Drift through the heart of Belgium that celebrates the "art of living" at every turn! From the fairytale spires of Bruges and Ghent to the sophisticated pulse of Brussels, you'll glide through a dense network of waterways that link the history of Flanders and Wallonia. Indulge in a journey for the senses where world-class chocolate and award-winning wines from the Chant d'Éole vineyard are always on the menu. Whether you're exploring the "Belgian Versailles" at the Château de Beloeil or wandering the storied streets of Mons and Oudenaarde, this is an escape designed for those who want to savor unique flavors and breathtaking sites from the best seat in the house.

TOUR INCLUDES

- Local home pick-up service and luggage handling
- Escorted by Globe Treks tour manager
- All onboard meals, shore excursions, and beverages (open bar on board)
- 22 guest capacity private barge, US Raymonde
- Bicycles available on board
- Refined French cuisine - Gala dinner and evening
- Cruise to the heart of Wallonia and Flanders
- Bruges, Flemish architecture at its best
- Oudenaarde and Ghent
- Château de Beloeil, nicknamed the Belgian Versailles
- The Chant d'Éole vineyard and its sparkling wines with a Belgian flair



itineraries subject to change

Reserve your spot! **(828) 692-1399 • globetreks.com**

Office Location: 1605 Asheville Highway, Hendersonville, NC 28791

Belgium Region Private Barge Cruise **Day by Day**

Day 1, June 21: Depart USA. Fly into Antwerp or Brussels

Day 2, June 22: Arrive, pre night hotel

Day 3, June 23: Ghent
Board the *MS Raymonde,* settle into your cabin, we'll introduce you to our crew at a welcome cocktail.

Day 4, June 24: Ghent - Oudenaarde
In the morning, guided tour of Ghent. Departure by coach to Ghent. Discover the highlights of the largest city in East Flanders during this tour. Follow in the footsteps of Charles I of Spain and admire the monuments of one of Europe's best-preserved medieval cities. Ghent's city center is a pedestrian area resembling an open-air museum, where typical Flemish architecture reveals an undeniable medieval heritage. Enjoy some free time in the city center, followed by a beer tasting at a brewery. Ghent's city center was once home to a great number of breweries. Today, brewers seem to be rediscovering the city. The best known is Gruut (2), which brews its beer using a blend of herbs and spices instead of hops.
Return on board in Gavere-Asper (or nearby) for lunch.
In the afternoon, guided tour of Bruges. Departure by coach to Bruges. Its artistic collections, relaxed lifestyle, romantic atmosphere and architectural appeal are just some of the attractions of the "Venice of the North", a jewel of Flanders and an essential stop in Northern Europe. A prosperous maritime city in the 14th century, Bruges has preserved the rich and refined architecture of that period, characterized by discreet and elegant finishes. Accompanied by a guide, you will explore the city and discover its must-see landmarks before enjoying some free time. After the excursion, we will rejoin the ship in Oudenaarde. Evening at leisure. Overnight stop.

Day 5, June 25: Oudenaarde - Peronnes Lez Antoing
This morning, join us for a guided tour of Oudenaarde and the Tapestry Museum. Oudenaarde is a picturesque city full of historic monuments, with the most notable being the town hall and its two main churches. Other memorable sites include the lovely beguinage, the house where Margaret of Parma was born, the Boudewijnstoren, and the 18th-century meat market. Everything is testimony to a rich and lively past. The city has more than 100 historic monuments. Set off on an urban hike taking you to the loveliest areas and tourist sites. Enjoy some free time on your own to see what the city has to offer. Then depart for the Tapestry Museum. This museum, combining modernity with ancestral craftsmanship, houses an exceptional tapestry collection, one of the most important in Flanders. A true symbol of luxury between the 15th and 18th centuries, Oudenaarde tapestry perfectly illustrates a unique and remarkable expertise. Landscapes, verdant scenes, animals and representations from mythology or the Old Testament will take you on a journey through genres and centuries.
After we return on board, our ship will continue cruising to Péronnes-lez-Antoing. Take advantage of some downtime to relax on the Sun Deck and watch the scenery roll by. We'll cross through the city of Tournai before arriving in Péronnes-lez-Antoing in the early evening. If you'd like, you can work off dinner during an evening stroll. We'll remain in port overnight.

Day 6, June 26: Peronnes Lez Antoing - Mons
We'll spend the morning cruising on the Nimy-Blaton-Péronnes Canal, a strategic waterway in the center of Belgium. The canal opened in October 1955 and enabled a liaison between the Canal du Centre and the Scheldt River. We'll arrive in Mons at the beginning of the afternoon. Set off on a visit to the Château de Beloeil (1) and the Chant d'Éole vineyard. We'll head over to the Château de Beloeil—nicknamed the Belgian Versailles—which contains a valuable collection of 15th- to 19th-century art, including a library with more than 20,000 books and precious manuscripts. The furniture is a sampling of some of the top work of French cabinet makers in the 17th and 18th centuries. The paintings depict the grand achievements of most of the castle's family members. We'll continue on to the Chant d'Éole estate. The vineyard came to be when a family of Belgian farmers joined forces with a family of eminent sparkling-wine makers. They use the best modern techniques to guarantee a sparkling wine that adheres to Belgian tradition. We'll take a guided tour recounting the vineyard's history. Our enthusiastic guides will explain the different stages of production—from planting to bottling, and everything in between. We'll finish up the tour will a tasting of three signature spirits—the Brut Blanc de Blancs, the Rosé Brut, and the Elixir Saint-Georges. We'll return to Mons. We'll remain in port overnight.