

SLOW TOURS

Full Itinerary and Tour details for

Bruges-Brussels Guided 8-day Bike & Barge Tour (FVA)



Prices starting from.

1349 €

Trip Duration.

8 days

Max Passengers.

20

Start and Finish.

Bruges to Vilvoorde

Activity Level.

1

Experience.

Bike & Barge Tours Europe

Tour Code.

#B1/2557



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Tour Details and Description

This tour takes you through some of the country's most impressive cities, each with its own unique charm and historical richness. Your journey begins in the medieval city of Bruges, often referred to as the "Venice of the North." Stroll through the picturesque streets, admire the well-preserved historic buildings and enjoy the peaceful atmosphere of the many canals. Following well-maintained cycling paths, you'll reach Antwerp, the city of diamonds and fashion. Here, you'll find a fascinating blend of historical heritage and modern life. Visit the magnificent cathedral, explore the trendy fashion district and experience the vibrant art scene.

The crowning finale of your trip is the capital, Brussels. This metropolis captivates with its diversity and cosmopolitan flair. From the majestic Grand Place to the impressive art museums and the political institutions of the European Union, Brussels offers something for everyone. Indulge in the culinary delights and immerse yourself in the vibrant culture of this fascinating city. This journey from Bruges to Antwerp to Brussels is a perfect combination of history, culture, and enjoyment – a true highlight for every traveller.

Tour Character: Level 1, Guided

Easy cycling with a guide. Up to 65km per day with little to no inclines.

Your Barge:

Between 1997/1998, the FVA was newly constructed from a dismantled casco of a freight lugger, a common type of ship in the beginning of the 20th century. The refurbishing and conversion to a passenger ship was made in 2015/2016. The ship features a tastefully decorated saloon/restaurant with a huge, cosy sitting area, TV and stereo equipment and a small bar. The lower sun deck offers storage

space for the bicycles, on the upper sun deck (steep stairs) there are sitting areas for the passengers. Eight 2-bed-cabins (about 10 m²) and two bigger 3-bed-cabins (15 m²), which can be booked also as twin cabins. All cabins are outside cabins with en-suite facilities. All are equipped with hair dryer and air-conditioning. The windows cannot be opened.

Included in the Tour:

- Seven nights in outside cabins with private facilities in the booked cabin category
- Program according to travel itinerary
- All charges for ports, bridges and locks are included
- Change of linens and towels on demand
- Welcome-drink
- Full board: 7x breakfast, 6x packed lunch for cycle tours, 7x 3-course dinner
- Coffee, Tea and Water on board
- Instructed tour guide on the guided cycle tours + Daily meeting for the cycle tours
- GPS data for individual tours
- Tour guide on board
- Bike insurance included with bike rental

Not included in the tour:

- **2026 Fuel Price Surcharge - Please note, there may be a surcharge of 50-90 EUR per person/per week. To be paid on board.**
- Arrival and departure
- Parking fees and shuttles
- Bike rentals
- Helmet (BYO only, no on-board selling)
- Local visitor's tax may apply during cycle tours
- Entrance fees and excursions
- City maps
- Ferry fees
- Travel insurances
- Tips

- Drinks on board
- Personal expenses

If you would like to rent a Bike (99 EUR) or E-bike (219 EUR), please contact our office when booking: sales@slowtours.com

Notes:

- **3-bed cabin available from 1049 EUR p.p, please enquire for availability.**
- **3-bed cabin for 2 persons from 1549 EUR p.p, please enquire for availability.**
- Departures Thursday
- Bringing your own bikes is not possible
- This trip is not suitable for people with reduced mobility
- This tour is conducted in both English and German

Arrival/ Departure/ Parking:

- Embarkation from 4:00pm in Bruges
- Disembarkation is until 9:00am in Vilvoorde (Brussels)
- Return to Bruges: There is a good train connection between these two cities, approx 20 EUR p.p
- Guarded parking areas at the main station (Stationsplein), approx. 7 € per day. Online reservation possible
- Transfer by taxi from Stationsplein to ship berth approx. 10-20 €. Return transfer by train from Brussels to Bruges approx. 18 € per person. Distance to the mooring location approx. 800 m. Transfer to the landing stage by taxi, approx 10-20 EUR.

WHAT SLOW TOURS OFFERS YOU:

Customer Service: Hand-picked partners in whom we trust to deliver great service.

Best Selection: The best range of escorted and self-guided tours in Europe

Secure payment: Secure booking onsite through Stripe, the largest online provider of financial payment services.

Support: Contact us for support services on any Slow Tour - email or telephone support.

Reviews: Customer reviews available, and being constantly updated

Itinerary

Day 1

Arrival in Bruges Individual arrival in Bruges. Embarkation at 4:00 pm. Take some time to discover the interesting city of Bruges – The Venice of the North – is widely known in Europe for its art and museums. Bruges' old town with its number of Grachten (small channels) belongs to the UNESCO world's cultural heritage. Enjoy the bustle activity around the Grote Markt (the big market place) while having a nice tea or coffee.

Day 2

Trip around Bruges, cycle tour approx. 55 km The cycling tour leads through the small town of Damme

(known as the “birthplace” of Till Eulenspiegel) and Groot Ter Doest, with its impressive Ter Doest Abbey, to Lissewege – often called “the most beautiful village in Flanders.” Whitewashed houses line both sides of a small canal and cluster around the imposing village church. Afterwards, the route continues directly to the coast. A long sandy beach and numerous cafés invite you to linger. After a stay of around 2 hours, return to Bruges.

Day 3

Bruges – Moerbrugge – Ghent (Merelbeke), cycle tour approx. 60 km During breakfast your boat is shipping to Moerbrugge. The whole cycle route follows the Ghent-Oostende-Canal through the wide Flemish plain to Ghent. In the Middle Ages Ghent was the second largest city after Paris and has preserved its architectural wealth in the historic city centre until today. Your ship will dock for the night in Merelbeke (at the lock), a suburb of Ghent and approx. 30 cycling minutes to the city centre.

Day 4

Ghent (Merelbeke) – Sint Amands, cycle tour approx. 65 km After breakfast you are going by bike to Dendermonde today. A coffee break on the wonderful Flemish Grote Markt is a must. In the evening shipping to Sint Amands one of the most beautiful and winding parts of the route on the river Schelde.

Day 5

Sint Amands – Temse – Antwerp, cycle tour approx. 42 km In Sint Amands you start today's cycle tour. You are passing the water tower and cross the Brussels-Rupel-canal. After that you are cycling through a historic area of brick burning, where bricks have been produced since the Middle Ages until today. Then you follow the river Rupel until you come to the river Schelde. From Rupelmonde you are

comfortably cycling towards Hemiksem, then down the river Schelde to Antwerp, the world's centre of diamond-processing and your today's destination. Antwerp offers a number of interesting sights such as the richly decorated town hall in renaissance style, the historic Grote Markt, the huge Liebfrauen Cathedral and the medieval Steen Castle.

Day 6

Antwerp – Willebroek, cycle tour approx. 45 km After breakfast you are starting your bike tour, passing the suburban of Antwerp with their beautiful exclusive residential area via Lier along the river Nete to Willebroek where your ship is already waiting for you.

Day 7

Willebroek – Mechelen – Vilvoorde, cycle tour approx. 40 km While your ship is going through the Willebroek canal today, your last cycle tour is leading you through green, soft and hilly landscapes over Mechelen to Vilvoorde. In Mechelen, you will find the remarkable density of more than 300 listed buildings (classified as historical monuments), among them eight churches, all built within an area of only three square kilometres. From there, the journey continues to Vilvoorde, a charming suburb located about 10 km north of Brussels. Tip: You can reach Brussels by public transport in around 30 minutes. Use the afternoon to explore this fascinating city on your own – known for its diversity and cosmopolitan flair. (Distance from the mooring location to Vilvoorde train station: approx. 2 km. Train ticket to Brussels: approx. €4 per person.)

Day 8

Departure from Vilvoorde After breakfast, disembarkation until 9:00 a.m. and individual journey home.

WHY SLOW TOURS EUROPE?

Slow Tours offers a selection of tours in [Europe](#) for unique experiences, active or relaxed, so you return home feeling relaxed, refreshed & re-energised.

Connect with the locals, take time to genuinely experience another culture, relax with the easy flow of life, enjoy fresh air and freedom from crowds. Savour the experience of our hand-picked tours of Europe!

3 BIG BENEFITS OF BOOKING WITH US



TIME BECOMES A FRIEND

Yes, you'll see and do many wonderful things, but at a relaxed, easy pace that invites conversation and reflection.



DISTINCTIVE QUALITY

There's not a village you'll explore, or table at which you'll dine, that you won't remember with a smile.



PEACE OF MIND

Whether travelling directly with Slow Tours or one of our carefully selected, kindred-spirit partners, you'll have our complete and constant support.

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