




From Belgian Art Nouveau to Dutch Modern 2026

7 OCT – 17 OCT 2026

Code: 22635

Tour Leaders **Stephen Crafti**

Fitness Level 

Level 1 - Active

For people with active lives and good mobility

With design writer Stephen Crafti, explore the best of contemporary art, architecture, furniture and fashion in Belgium and the Netherlands.

Overview

With design writer [Stephen Crafti](#), explore the best of contemporary art, architecture, furniture and fashion in Belgium and the Netherlands.

- Begin in Brussels, visiting the UNESCO World-Heritage listed Art Nouveau interiors of Hôtel van Eetvelde, Hôtel Solvay and Victor Horta's house and studio.
- By special appointment, also view the Art Nouveau interiors of Hôtel Max Hallet, Hôtel Hannon and Cauchie House.
- Tour the Art Deco Villa Empain and the Musée David et Alice van Buuren, a private house containing sublime furnishings, stained glass and fine art.
- View exceptional 19th-century art in the Musée Fin-de-Siècle and the Belgian surrealist artist, René Magritte's paintings in the Musée René Magritte. Enjoy pre-dinner drinks at [Bar Magritte](#) which opened in 2024 to celebrate the artist's 125th birthday.
- Visit Design Museum Brussels dedicated to 20th-century art and design; tour MoMu, Antwerp's fashion Museum; and Ghent's Design Museum, due to reopen in 2026.
- Tour the home of Renaat Braem, considered one of the finest representatives of Belgium's Mid-century Modern, and Middelheim's open-air museum.
- In Antwerp visit the home-office of [Cuypers & Q architecten](#); and the home of Sam Peeters, Creative Director of the design company CONTEKST.
- Dine at [Restaurant August](#) which forms part of a project by Belgian architect and designer, Vincent Van Duysen, who transformed an Augustinian convent into a boutique hotel in Antwerp.
- Spend a day visiting Hoge Veluwe National Park home to the Kröller-Müller Museum with its notable collection of Van Gogh; and the Hubertus Hunting Lodge by Berlage.
- In 's-Hertogenbosch, visit the studio of award-winning Dutch artist-designer Maarten Baas, best known for his *Real Time: Sweepers Clock*.
- View the best of Dutch Modernism: the Rietveld Schröder House in Utrecht and the Nelle Tobacco Factory in Rotterdam – both UNESCO World Heritage listed. We also visit Villa Sonneveld, considered an outstanding example of Dutch Functionalism.
- In The Hague visit the Het Paleis containing works by Dutch graphic artist M.C. Escher.
- Conclude with a visit to Museum Voorlinden, the largest private collection of modern and contemporary art in the Netherlands, displayed in a contemporary building by Kraajvanger Architects, surrounded by gardens designed by Piet Oudolf.

Overnight Brussels (4 nights) • Antwerp (3 nights) • Utrecht (3 nights)

Informal Professional Development for Architects

Practising architects who travelled on this program in past years qualified for Informal Professional Development points. The tour program includes over 10 hours of on-site learning delivered by qualified architects. For details about the Continuing Professional Development point requirements please refer to the Australian Institute of Architects website: www.architecture.com.au

Leaders



Stephen Crafti

An Honorary Member of the Australian Institute of Architects, Stephen is a leading architecture & design writer of over 50 books & many articles including for 'The Age', 'Sydney Morning Herald' & 'Wallpaper' magazine (London), Stephen has pioneered ASA's new special design tours to London, Glasgow, Japan, Belgium, Finland & Auckland, as well as Australian programs to Hobart & Sydney.

With more than 40 books to his name and writing for Australia's leading newspapers and magazines, including the *Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Age* and *The Australian Financial Review*, Stephen is highly regarded in his field. Whether it's writing about a contemporary home or a design luminary, he makes the subject both intriguing and highly accessible. He started writing on architecture and design in the early 1990s, after purchasing a modernist 1950s home. "I've always been drawn to design, whether it's a building, an interior, a beautifully crafted chair or fashion. I'm fascinated with the stories behind each creation. I never stop looking. It's a continual search for the best in design, whether in Australia or overseas". Stephen Crafti also produces and hosts 'Talking Design', a popular fortnightly RMIT podcast, which features interviews with experts and professionals from all areas of the design world. In 2021 he was awarded an Honorary Membership of the Australian Institute of Architects.

Combine this tour with

Istanbul in Depth: Your "Most Pleasant and Lasting Dream" 2026

22 SEP – 5 OCT 2026

An Adriatic Journey: from Trieste to Dubrovnik 2026

20 SEP – 5 OCT 2026

Cultural Landscapes of the Midi-Pyrénées & the Dordogne 2026

22 SEP – 7 OCT 2026



Itinerary

The following itinerary lists a range of museums, galleries, buildings and design projects which we plan to visit. Many are accessible to the public, but some require special permission, which may only be confirmed closer to the tour's departure. The daily activities described in this itinerary may change or be rotated and/or modified in order to accommodate alterations in museum opening hours and privately hosted visits. Participants will receive a final itinerary together with their tour documents prior to departure. The tour includes breakfast daily, and meals as indicated in the itinerary where: B=breakfast, L=lunch, and D=dinner.

Brussels - 4 nights

Day 1: Wednesday 7 October, Arrive Brussels

- Tour commences at 2.00pm in the foyer of the Le Dixseptième, Brussels
- Villa Empain
- Stijl: multi-label luxury designer store – meeting with designer, Marina Yee
- Welcome Dinner at Brasserie Surréaliste

Meeting Point: The tour commences at 2.00pm in the foyer of [Le Dixseptième](#) which is ideally located in the historic centre, 280m from the Grand Place (Grote Markt).

Following a brief welcome meeting, we take a guided tour of Villa Empain, a private house in the Art Deco style designed and built between 1931 and 1934 by Swiss architect Michel Polak for Baron Louis Empain, son of Belgian industrialist Baron Édouard Empain. This legendary Art Deco villa was abandoned for many years before undergoing a painstaking restoration by Francis Metzger of the Ma2 architectural practice.

In the early evening we stroll through Brussel's downtown fashion and design district. In Rue Antoine Dansaert and rue de Flandre we find exclusive designers and boutiques including Stijl, where we plan to meet with designer, Marina Yee, a pivotal figure of the 'Antwerp Six'.

Tonight's Welcome dinner is at Brasserie Surréaliste, a brewery, bar and restaurant housed in a renovated Art Deco building of 1932, previously a banana warehouse. We return to our hotel on foot via the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Grand Place, which is beautifully lit in the evenings. (Overnight Brussels) D

Day 2: Thursday 8 October, Brussels

- Horta Museum, Saint-Gilles
- Art Nouveau walking tour of Saint-Gilles and Ixelles: incl. exteriors of Maison Hankar, Maison Ciamberlani and Hotel Tassel
- Hôtel Max Hallet (by special appointment)
- Hôtel Solvay (by special appointment)
- Time at leisure

Brussels is the capital of Art Nouveau and magnificent structures throughout the capital city are recognised as 'world heritage' by UNESCO. At the turn of the 19th century Brussels went through a period of unrivalled effervescence. The middle classes, merchants and artists opted to have their houses built in the style in vogue: Art Nouveau, marking the beginning of modern architecture and design. The Austrian architect Josef Hoffman, the painter Gustav Klimt and the French architect Hector Guimard all joined the Belgian architects Victor Horta, Paul Hankar, Henry van de Velde, the furniture designer Serrurier-Bovy and the jeweller Philippe Wolfers to get their inspiration.

We begin our study of Brussels Art Nouveau with a guided tour of the Horta Museum, located in the private house and studio of architect Victor Horta (1861-1947). Built between 1898 and 1901 at 23-25, rue Américaine in Saint-Gilles, the two buildings are typical of Art Nouveau at its height. The interior decoration has largely been retained, the mosaics, stained glass, and wall decorations forming a harmonious and elegant whole, down to the last detail.

Led by a specialist guide from ARAU (Atelier de Recherche et d'Action Urbaines) we take a walking tour of the Art Nouveau buildings of Saint-Gilles and Ixelles, viewing the exteriors of Roosenboom House designed by Albert Roosenboom a pupil of Victor Horta; the Maison Hankar and Maison Ciamberlani – both designed by architect Paul Hankar; Hôtel Tassel by Victor Horta 1893-1897; Hotel Otlet by architect Octave van Rysselberghe and Henry van de Velde and Hôtel Hannon by architect Jules Brunfaut.

By special appointment, we view the interiors of the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Hôtel Max Hallet and Hôtel Solvay, both designed by Victor Horta. On avenue Louise, the restored Hôtel Max Hallet is a restrained structure of 1904 where the straight, slender façade is decorated with elegant doors and windows plus an elongated stone balcony with a wrought-iron balustrade.

Also on avenue Louise, the Hôtel Solvay is a luxurious residence built by Victor Horta in 1894 for the Solvay family. The 33-year-old architect was given complete freedom and unlimited funds to design the interior and furnishings. This is generally considered the most ambitious and spectacular work of Horta in the Art Nouveau period. It features a decorated staircase, mosaic floor, painted walls, wrought iron work and custom furniture. (Overnight Brussels) B

Day 3: Friday 9 October, Brussels

- Musée David et Alice van Buuren
- Guided tour of Musée Fin-de-Siècle (due to reopen in 2026)
- Musée René Magritte
- Pre-dinner drinks at [Bar Magritte](#)

We start our day with a visit to the David and Alice van Buuren Museum, a private house built from 1924 to 1928, decorated with sublime furnishings, stained glass and fine paintings covering five centuries of art.

This afternoon we tour the Musée Fin-de-Siècle, dedicated to arts and crafts at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries. The museum includes displays of paintings, contemporary photography, architecture, film, music and literature – and a home for the outstanding collection of Art Nouveau furniture and decorative art work donated by the Gillion-Crowet family in 2006. Artists represented include Belgian painters such as the impressionist-influenced Hippolyte Boulenger and Guillaume Vogels, the powerful imagery of Léon Spilliaert, and the remarkable expressionist and surrealist painter and printmaker, James Ensor. Major international figures are also well-represented with works by Van Gogh, the Pre-Raphaelites's Burne-Jones, and the key French artists of the time, including three contrasting works by Gauguin, sculpture by Rodin and paintings by Bonnard, Sisley and Seurat.

We end the day with a tour of the museum devoted to Brussels' most famous modern artist, the Surrealist painter René Magritte. The Musée René Magritte displays some 200 original paintings, drawing and sculptures, mostly donated by his wife Georgette and by his principal collector, Irène Hamoir Scutenaire. This is the world's largest collection of Magritte's work.

This evening we enjoy a pre-dinner drink at Bar Magritte which opened in 2024 to commemorate the artist's 125th birthday. Featured in *Wallpaper* magazine, the bar 'boasts a joyful colour palette with playful textures and beautiful art deco-inspired stained glass windows. (Overnight Brussels) B

Day 4: Saturday 10 October, Brussels

- Hôtel van Eetvelde (by special appointment)
- Cauchie House (by special appointment – To be confirmed in 2026)
- Design Museum Brussels

This morning view the interior of Hôtel van Eetvelde, a town house designed in 1895 by Victor Horta for Edmond van Eetvelde, Minister for the Congo Free. Its interior is a Horta masterpiece studded with exotic timbers and sporting a central glass dome infused with African-inspired plant motifs. Together with three other town houses of Victor Horta, including Horta's own house and workshop, it was added to the UNESCO World Heritage list in 2000.

Next, we tour Cauchie House, considered to be one of the most beautiful Art Nouveau masterpieces in Brussels. It was built in 1905 by Art Nouveau architect, painter and designer Paul Cauchie. It bears many exceptional decorative elements, including the famous Art Nouveau *sgraffito*. The *sgraffiti*, or engraved drawings, that you can see on the wall, represent the allegories of the arts.

This afternoon we tour the Design Museum Brussels which is dedicated to design and art from the 20th century. This unique collection includes Pop Art, everyday products, artworks and iconic industrial designs. The museum's colourful entrance steps were designed by Jean Nouvel. Of particular note is the *Plasticarium*, which contains over 2000 plastic objects ranging from everyday gadgets to works of art. (Overnight Brussels) B

Antwerp - 3 nights

Day 5: Sunday 11 October, Brussels – Ghent – Middelheim – Antwerp

- Design Museum, Ghent (due to reopen in 2026)

- Cathedral of St Bavo, Ghent
- Middelheim Open Air Sculpture Pavilion: Braem Pavilion & Het Huis

This morning we journey to the port city of Ghent, located at the confluence of the Leie and Scheldt rivers. Known for its medieval castle, guildhalls and art treasures, it is also home to Belgium's Design Museum. On arrival we take a guided tour of the museum's collection which includes a varied selection of just under 200 objects, from 1880 to the present day.

Following some time at leisure for lunch, we visit this wonderful 24-panel altarpiece in the Cathedral of St Bavo in the centre of Ghent. *The Adoration of the Mystic Lamb* was begun by Hubert van Eyck (c.1390-1426) and completed after his death by Jan van Eyck in 1432. Commissioned for the chapel in which it remains today by a wealthy alderman in 1420, the painting is arguably the greatest work of the Northern Renaissance.

The Antwerp-born architect Renaat Braem (1910-2001) is considered one of the finest representatives of Belgium's Mid-century Modern. He began his career as a trainee with Le Corbusier and worked incessantly from his hometown base from the late 1930s. Braem designed some of the most representative modernist examples in Belgium, including the Middelheim Open Air Sculpture Pavilion which we next visit.

This open-air museum for modern sculpture, set in a 27-hectare park, includes works by Ai Weiwei, Alexander Calder, Jean Arp, Dan Graham, Per Kirkeby, Henry Moore, Panamarenko, François Pompon, Auguste Rodin, Joep Van Lieshout and Ossip Zadkine.

To house smaller sculptures and more fragile works, Renaat Braem was commissioned to design an exhibition hall. Throughout his career he saw architecture as the art of organising space in order to liberate humankind. His architecture gradually adopted a more organic style, which is apparent in this pavilion. We also view the Het Huis, a semi-open pavilion designed by Robbrecht and Daem. This temporary exhibition site, which consists of plaited grey-green curved steel plates, has been seamlessly incorporated into the green surroundings of the park. Together with the Braem Pavilion, Het Huis is an example of the museum's ideal of merging art and architecture. (Overnight Antwerp) B

Day 6: Monday 12 October, Antwerp

- Antwerp Central Station (Exterior) & the Art Nouveau district of Zurenborg
- Home of Sam Peeters, Creative Director of CONTEKST
- Renaat Braem's House (To be confirmed in 2026)
- 'New Faces of Harbour Cities': An architecture tour of Antwerp's Port including MAS, the Port House by Zaha Hadid Architects & Red Star Line Museum

Accompanied by a local architect, we spend a full day exploring a range of Antwerp's architectural projects. We begin with visit to Antwerp's Central Station, considered one of the most beautiful stations in the world. The original station was constructed between 1895 and 1905. The stone clad terminus buildings, with a vast dome above the waiting room hall were designed by Louis Delacenserie and the vast iron and glass train shed by Clement van Bogaert. Between 2000 and 2009 the monumental building was completely modernised and expanded to accommodate the high-speed rail line.

We continue down Cogels Osylei to the Zurenborg district which was largely developed between 1894 and 1906. The district features a high concentration of townhouses in Art Nouveau and *fin-de-siècle* styles. Of particular interest is the façade of De Zonnebloem (Sunflower). Designed by architect Jules Hoffman in 1900, its exterior is decorated with limestone and stucco sunflower ornaments painted in gold.

We also visit the home of architect, Sam Peeters, Creative Director of interior design company CONTKST. Here we can see what can be achieved in a period home – combining the best of the past and the present. Recent renovations, which retain fine period features, revealed some surprises including a hand-painted ceiling in the formal lounge.

This afternoon we visit Renaat Baem's own home, which following his death, was carefully restored and now opens as a museum by special appointment. Built by himself in 1958, the house is considered one of the best-preserved examples of his work.

At Antwerp's dockside we take an architectural tour of Museum aan de Stroom. Located on the former site of a Hanseatic warehouse in an area known as Het Eilandje ('the little island'), the MAS is intended to be a bridge between the city centre and the port. Designed by Dutch architects Willem Jan Neutelings and Michiel Riedijk, this 60-metre-tall tower block consists of wide panels of undulating glass separating 10 giant stone containers, stacked one on top of the other and clad in violent red Indian sandstone. Every storey of the tower has been rotated a quarter turn, creating a gigantic spiral staircase. This spiral space, in which a facade of corrugated glass is inserted, forms a public city gallery. During our tour we explore how this design is consistent with the historical function and atmosphere of the location, visit the promenade, and enjoy dramatic views of the city from the viewing depot.

Across from the MAS is Antwerp's Port Authority. Our tour of this area includes exterior visits to the Port House designed by Zaha Hadid Architects and the Red Star Line Museum designed by New York architects Beyer Blinder Belle, the museum's steel and glass observation tower provides panoramic views of the city and its historic port. (Overnight Antwerp) B

Day 7: Tuesday 13 October, Antwerp

- Antwerp ModeMuseum (MoMu)
- Home and office of Cuypers & Q architecten (To be confirmed)
- Afternoon at leisure
- Dinner at Restaurant August

This morning we visit MoMu, Antwerp's fashion museum which looks back at four decades of Belgian fashion including masterpieces by Martin Margiela, A.F. Vandevorst, Ann Demeulemeester and Raf Simons.

Next, we visit the home office of architects Cuypers & Q. Complete with outdoor gardens and terraces, this unconventional home office features few doors. Instead, there are fluid open plan spaces with the offices located on the lower levels and the home dedicated to the upper floors. When the architects purchased the property it was a 'no go area' but is now one of the most coveted places to live and work in Antwerp.

Following an afternoon at leisure we dine together at Restaurant August which is overseen by chef Nick Bril who won a Michelin star at the Jane, the restaurant that put August's neighbourhood on the map. The restaurant forms part of a project by Belgian architect and designer, Vincent Van Duysen, who transformed an Augustinian convent into a boutique hotel. (Overnight Antwerp) BD

Utrecht 3 nights

Day 8: Wednesday 14 October, Antwerp – 's-Hertogenbosch – Utrecht

- Maarten Baas Studio, 's-Hertogenbosch (To be confirmed in 2026)
- Rietveld Schröder House

This morning we journey north to the city of s'-Hertogenbosch in the Netherlands, where we visit the studio of Dutch artist-designer, Maarten Baas. Baas' career was launched by the success of his *Smoke* chair, which he developed for his graduation show at Design Academy Eindhoven in 2002. In 2009, he was named 'Designer of the Year' at Design Basel/Miami. In 2012, the New York Times listed his *Smoke* and *Clay* furniture in its 'Top 25 Design Classics of the Future'. In 2016, Baas won the art prize for his *Real Time: Sweepers Clock*, a series of clocks in which people paint the time by hand.

We continue to Utrecht, where following some time at leisure for lunch, we explore one of the masterpieces of the early 20th century, the Rietveld Schröder House (1924), inscribed as a UNESCO landmark of 20th-century architecture and truly a high point of the De Stijl movement. Its clean, rectilinear lines, picked out by primary colours, are reminiscent of a Piet Mondrian painting. (Overnight Utrecht) B

Day 9: Thursday 15 October, Utrecht – Rotterdam – Utrecht

- Villa Sonneveld
- Kijk-Kubus Museum-House
- Architectural Walking tour of Rotterdam
- Van Nelle Fabriek

Today we make an excursion to Rotterdam, a city that is famous for its modern architecture and dramatic skyline dominated by the ultra-modern Erasmus Bridge over the River Maas. We begin with a tour of Sonneveld House, a family home, built by Johannes Brinkman and Leendert van der Vlugt in 1933. This streamlined, state-of-the-art building is considered an outstanding example of Dutch Functionalism. The home is replete with original fittings and furniture. The Sonneveld House is located in the Museumspark, also home to the Netherlands Architectural Institute (Jo Coenen 1993) and the Kunsthal (Koolhaas 1992).

During our architectural walking tour of the city we view cutting-edge buildings by Renzo Piano, Piet Blom and Rem Koolhaas. We encounter the life-size green light-emitting matrix at Toren op Zuid (South Tower), the hypermodern New Luxor Theatre and Montevideo, the tallest residential tower in the Netherlands.

We also visit the Cube houses (Dutch: kubuswoningen) designed by Piet Blom and the Markthal, an extraordinary horseshoe structure designed by MVRDV whose glass-walled apartments arc over a 40m-high market hall. The market hall's interior is adorned with artwork by Arno Coenen and Iris Roskam named *Hoorn des Overvloeds* (*Horn of Plenty*) depicting enlarged fruits, vegetables, seeds, fish, flowers and insects.

We end the day with a visit to the modernist, World Heritage-listed, Van Nelle Fabriek. This icon of 20th-century industrial architecture was designed and built between 1925 and 1931 by Brinkman and van der Vlugt with input by Mart Stam. Largely constructed of steel and glass, it functioned as a state-of-the-art coffee, tea and tobacco factory until the 1990s. (Overnight Utrecht) B

Day 10: Friday 16 October, Utrecht – Otterlo – Utrecht

- Kröller-Müller Museum & the Hoge Veluwe National Park
- Jachthuis Sint Hubertus – Hubertus Hunting Lodge by Berlage
- Farewell Dinner

This morning we drive to the Hoge Veluwe National Park. Here we tour the collection and sculpture garden of the Kröller-Müller Museum. Located amid the scenic woodland of the Hoge Veluwe, the Kröller-Müller Museum designed by the Belgian architect Henry van de Velde sits beautifully in its garden and

surrounding woods. The museum collection focuses upon an extensive range of 275 works by Vincent van Gogh, including such famous works as his early *Potato Eaters* and his *The Café Terrace on the Place du Forum* (1888). We also see works by Seurat, Redon, Braque, Picasso, Gris and Mondrian. The museum is surrounded by one of the largest sculpture gardens in Europe, with works by Marta Pan, Barbara Hepworth, Rodin, Jacques Lipchitz, Marino Marini, Moore and many others.

Following time at leisure for lunch at the museum's café, we take a guided tour of the iconic Hubertus Hunting Lodge, designed by the renowned Dutch architect, H.P. Berlage (1856-1934), as the country residence for the Kröller-Müllers in 1914. It was completed in 1920. Considered the "Father of Modern architecture" in the Netherlands, Berlage was influenced by the Jugendstil and later by Frank Lloyd Wright. The residence, which was constructed with extreme geometric precision, is made entirely of bricks, some of them glazed. Berlage also designed the furniture, the floor tiles, the lamps and even the cutlery. Additionally, he designed the surrounding gardens which include a pond and small pavilion.

We return to Utrecht in the late afternoon where we enjoy a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. (Overnight Utrecht) BD

Day 11: Saturday 17 October, Utrecht – The Hague – Wassenaar – Amsterdam Airport

- M.C. Escher in Het Paleis, The Hague
- Museum Voorlinden, Wassenaar
- Transfer to Amsterdam Airport: ETA 1630hrs

We depart early this morning for The Hague to view the work of Dutch graphic artist, Maurits C. Escher (1898-1972), on display in the 18th-century Lange Voorhout Palace, the former Winter Palace of Queen Mother Emma of the Netherlands. The permanent exhibition includes photos, woodcuts and lithographs from various points of his career, including everything from the early realism to the later phantasmagoria. The palace also features works by Hans Van Bentem who creates mostly monumental sculptures and installations in ceramics, porcelain, crystal, glass, wood and bronze. Several of the palace rooms are decorated with his chandeliers designed in the shape of a skull, a spider and an umbrella.

Next, we visit Museum Voorlinden, a private museum owned by Joop van Caldenborgh surrounded with gardens by Piet Oudolf. Known, as the Caldic Collection, this is the largest private collection of modern and contemporary art in the Netherlands. Housed in a contemporary building designed by Kraaijvanger Architects, it contains paintings, sculpture, mixed media and photography, mostly from the 20th century. Highlights include *Swimming Pool* by Leandro Erlich, *Skyspace* by James Turrell, *Couple under an Umbrella* by Ron Mueck and works by Richard Serra, Maurizio Cattelan, Roni Horn and Maarten Baas. Following our guided tour of the museum and lunch at the café, we transfer to Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport where our tour officially ends at approximately 4.30pm. B

Accommodation

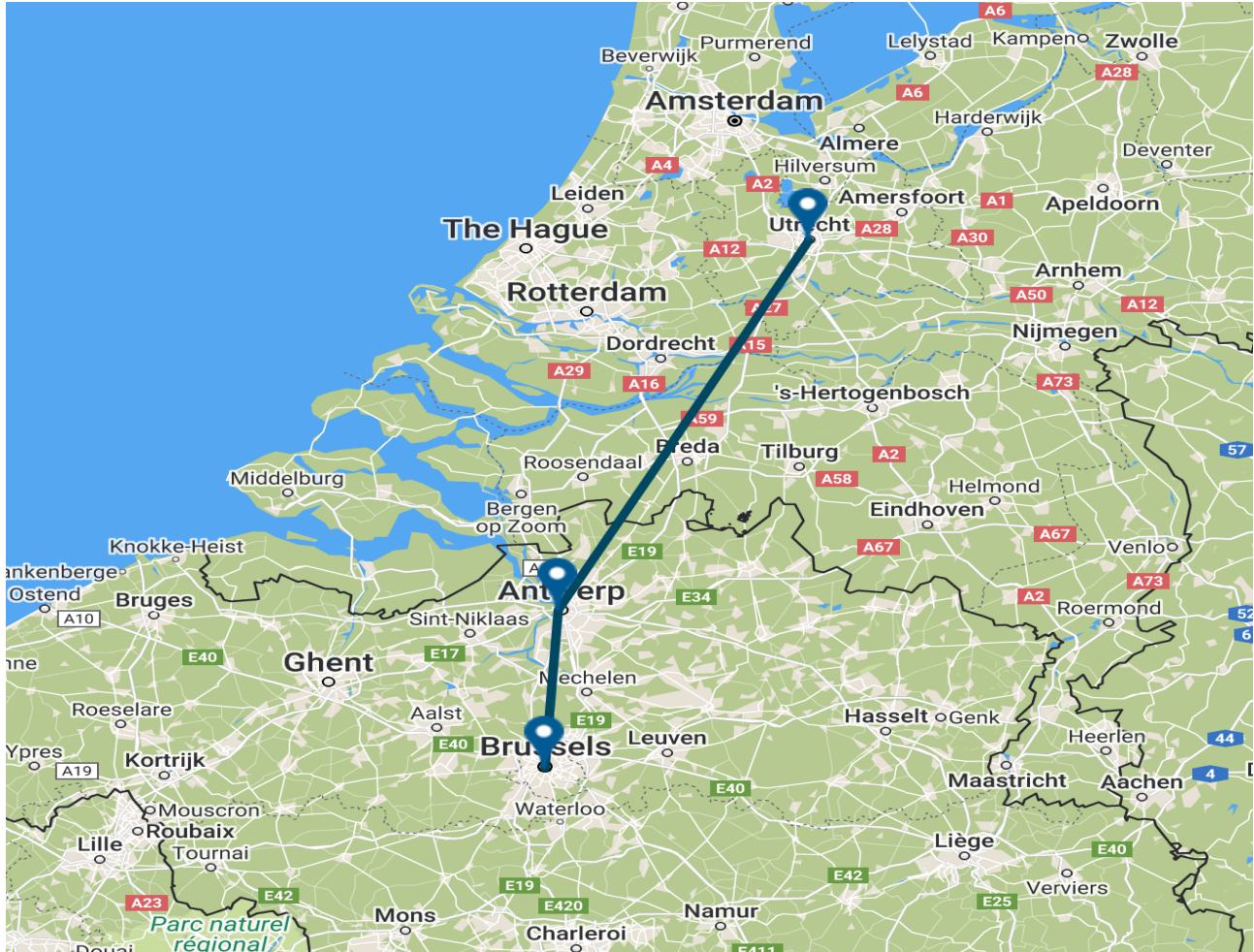
ASA has selected a range of 4-star hotels that are themselves historical buildings and are located in historical centres. All hotels provide rooms with en suite bathroom.

- Brussels (4 nights): 4-star [Le Dixseptième](#) – a boutique hotel located in the heart of Brussels, a 2-minute walk from the Grand-Place and Central Station.
- Antwerp (3 nights): 4-star [Hotel 'T Sandt](#) – a boutique hotel located in the historic centre, a 2-minute walk from the Gothic-style Cathedral of Our Lady.
- Utrecht (3 nights): 4-star [Court Hotel](#) - a boutique hotel, in a renovated courthouse, located in the historic centre near the Dom Tower.

Single Supplement

Payment of this supplement will ensure accommodation in a single occupancy throughout the tour. In all hotels on this tour, this will be a double for single occupancy. The number of rooms available for single use is extremely limited. People wishing to take this supplement are therefore advised to book well in advance.

Tour Map



Tour Price & Inclusions

AUD \$8990.00 Land Content Only – Early-Bird Special: Book before 30 September 2025

AUD \$9390.00 Land Content Only

AUD \$1490.00 Single Supplement

Tour Price (Land Content Only) includes:

- Accommodation in twin-share rooms with en suite bathroom in the 4-star hotels
- Breakfast daily, lunches and evening meals as indicated in the itinerary, where: B=breakfast, L=lunch and D=dinner
- Drinks at welcome and farewell meals. Other meals may not have drinks included.
- Lecture and site visit program
- Public transport in Brussels and Antwerp as per the itinerary
- Entrance fees as per the itinerary
- Use of audio headsets during site visits
- Tips for the coach driver, local guides and restaurants for included meals

Tour Price (Land Content Only) does not include:

- Airfare: Australia-Brussels, Amsterdam-Australia
- Porterage at hotels
- Airport-hotel transfers
- Personal spending money
- Luggage in excess of 20kg (44lbs)
- Travel insurance



Fitness Criteria & Practical Information

Fitness Level 

Level 1 - Active

For people with active lives and good mobility

You must be able to:

- manage at least five hours of physical activity per day with ease.
- walk at a regular pace to explore cities (eg. Brussels, Ghent, Antwerp and Rotterdam) extensively on foot. Some days include walking tours of at least 5-7kms. Many walks include uneven terrain and cobbled streets.
- keep up with the group at all times.
- climb a few flights of stairs without duress.
- stand for one to two hours during visits to galleries and museums without the need to sit.
- board/alight coaches or public transport (eg. in Brussels) with steep steps unassisted.
- contend with a shower over a bath; walk-in showers may not be available at all hotels.
- manage your own luggage at hotels.

Fitness Levels

Please also view the fitness criteria required for our tours, graded from Level 1 to Level 3, at www.asatours.com.au/fitness-level/

All ASA tours are active programs suitable for people with a good level of mental and physical fitness and good mobility. They are not suitable for people who lack stamina, have difficulty walking at the group's pace or who have mobility issues. An unavoidable aspect of every tour is the need to manage walking, stair-climbing and standing for long periods of time.

It is a condition of travel that all participants agree to accept ASA's directions in relation to their suitability

to participate in activities undertaken on the tour, and that ASA retains the sole discretion to direct a tour participant to refrain from a particular activity on part of the tour. Before enrolling on an ASA tour please read the fitness requirements carefully.

Booking Conditions

ASA RESERVATION APPLICATION FORM

Please complete the ASA RESERVATION APPLICATION and send it to Australians Studying Abroad together with your non-refundable deposit of AUD \$1000.00 per person payable to Australians Studying Abroad.



Reservation Application

TOUR NAME _____
TOUR DATES _____

Please complete **one application, per person in block letters and sign**. Parental signature is required for participants under 18 years of age. Please mail this form with the appropriate deposit to: **P.O. Box 8285, ARMADALE, VICTORIA, 3143**. On receipt of this Reservation Application and deposit, ASA will process your booking and if approved, send you a tour confirmation.

Applicant Details (as in passport)

TITLE Mr ☐ Mrs ☐ Ms ☐ Miss ☐ Dr ☐ Other _____
FIRST NAME _____ Preferred FIRST NAME _____
MIDDLE NAME _____ SURNAME _____
POSTAL ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ COUNTRY _____ POSTCODE _____
TEL. (AH) () _____ TEL. (BH) () _____ Mobile Tel: _____
EMAIL address _____
Date of birth / / GENDER Male ☐ Female ☐

Passport Number _____ Expiry date / / Nationality _____
☐ Colour copy of my current valid passport enclosed ☐ I'm renewing my passport ☐ ASA has a colour copy of my current passport

Covid Certificate ☐ A copy of my current international certificate enclosed

Travel Plans

☐ I plan to leave Australia before the tour commences. Planned departure date / /
☐ I will be arranging my airfare independently and taking the Land Content Only option.

Tour Accommodation (rooming preferences)

I/we would like: ☐ a twin-bedded room ☐ a double-bedded room ☐ a room for sole occupancy
I am travelling: ☐ on my own ☐ with a friend/family member Travel Companion _____

Meals

☐ I do not have any specific dietary requests

Please **X** the box if you **CAN NOT** eat any of the following:

☐ fish ☐ poultry ☐ red meat ☐ dairy products
☐ eggs ☐ pork ☐ nuts
☐ Other _____

Allergies: Refer to the Medical Information

Correspondence

Your preferred method of correspondence ☐ Postal Mail ☐ Email Address _____

Emergency Contact Details

Note: this person **MUST** be available by telephone and be present in Australia for the duration of your tour with ASA

Name _____ Relationship to Traveller _____
Address _____
TEL. (AH) () _____ TEL. (BH) () _____ Mobile Tel: _____
EMAIL address _____

The purpose of seeking this information is to assist ASA to determine, where necessary, whether ASA is able to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate your specific needs and whether your health and safety (or that of your fellow travellers) is likely to be compromised given your choice of tour. It will also assist you and ASA if you fall ill or have an accident whilst travelling.

- ASA reserves the right to decline your Reservation Application if this Medical Information section is not completed properly and may reject or cancel your reservation, or terminate your participation on any tour, if ASA subsequently learns that you have failed to make full and proper disclosure.
- ASA is committed to protecting the privacy of your personal information. ASA's privacy policy is available for viewing at www.asatours.com.au
- If ASA has any concerns about the information you have provided, it will contact you to request clarification before considering your Application.
- ASA requires you to consider carefully your limitations in light of ASA's Physical Endurance Star Rating System in ASA's Brochure and Itinerary when choosing your tour.
- If you are not likely to satisfy ASA's Participation Criteria (see below), ASA, in its sole discretion, may reject your Reservation Application.
- It is a condition of your tour that you agree to accept the directions of ASA's Tour Leaders in relation to your suitability to participate in activities planned on tour.
- ASA reserves the right to cancel your participation on a tour if your behaviour is in ASA's opinion causing undue distress or damage to any person or their property.
- If your participation is discontinued during a tour, ASA will assist by arranging your onward travel (if required) at your own cost, but you will not be refunded for forfeited parts of the tour.
- ASA tour groups are not accompanied by a medical practitioner. ASA recommends that you see your doctor for advice about your specific needs while overseas. You may also wish to contact a travel and vaccination clinic for advice. www.traveldoctor.com.au tel: 1300 658 444; www.travelvax.com.au tel: 1300 360 164.
- Travel insurers require you to declare all existing medical conditions.
- Please carry a complete list of medications with you during the ASA tour. Include **generic names** of each medication (consult your local pharmacy for information).

Please mark **X** in the YES or NO box to every question below and provide details where necessary:

Participation Criteria

To participate in an ASA tour, you must be reasonably fit, in good health and able to participate in all activities without assistance from Tour Leaders or other tour members. **You must also be fully vaccinated against Covid-19.** If you require assistance, a fit and able travel companion must undertake to accompany and assist you with all tasks for the duration of the whole tour. The responsibility of the Tour Leader is to ensure that the larger group enjoys a relaxing and informative journey, and he or she cannot be relied upon to provide ongoing individual assistance to any one guest.

- | | YES | NO |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Can you walk and stand unassisted for at least 2-3 hours a day in hot, humid conditions? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 2. Can you walk unassisted on and over uneven surfaces? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 3. Can you climb at least 3 flights of stairs and/or walk up and down steep slopes unassisted? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 4. Can you walk at a steady pace and no less than 1km every 15 - 20 minutes unassisted? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 5. Can you organise, manage and carry your own luggage? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 6. Can you follow and remember tour instructions and meet punctually at designated times and places? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 7. Can you administer your own medication? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 8. You do NOT have impaired vision or hearing which may impact your capacity to participate on this tour? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Mobility and Fitness

As many of ASA's international sites do not provide access to wheelchairs or similar mobility aids, we regret that ASA tours are not suitable for people who require the use of a walking frame, wheeled walker, wheelchair or motorised scooter.

1. Do you suffer from any medical conditions that may compromise your mobility and/or fitness to participate on this program? YES NO ☐ ☐
- If yes, please specify

If yes, how will you manage this on tour?

Allergies and/or Food Intolerances

ASA will make reasonable endeavours to organise meals to suit you, provided that you give ASA adequate notice of your specific dietary requirements or allergies. You may be required to research dietary alternatives, as not all destinations may be able to offer suitable food substitutes.

1. Do you have any food allergies or intolerances? YES NO ☐ ☐
- If yes, please specify

2. Have you ever had an anaphylactic reaction to anything? ☐ ☐
- If yes, please specify

Do you carry an epipen? ☐ ☐

3. Do you have any other allergies or reactions to anything, including medical drugs? ☐ ☐
- If yes, please specify

Existing Medical Conditions

You alone are responsible for managing any existing medical conditions, your medication and any medical equipment that you may need when on your tour. Please plan for contingencies and take extra medication, dietary supplements and/or fully charged batteries for medical equipment if your health and safety depends on these. You should take into consideration that power sources at some destinations may be unavailable, inadequate, inconvenient or unreliable.

1. Have you any significant medical conditions that may impact your capacity to complete this tour? YES NO ☐ ☐
- If yes, please specify

If yes, how will you manage this on tour?

2. Do you require some form of powered medical aid, such as a CPAP machine? ☐ ☐

These machines may not be operable on certain international flights, modes of transport, in remote or other areas with inadequate or unreliable power sources without a fully charged independent long life battery or batteries.

Diabetics: You may be travelling and sightseeing for many hours at a time. Insulin dependent diabetics must carry extra supplies of insulin (as this medication cannot be obtained in some destinations), regulators, applicators, storage and refrigeration equipment, as well as any necessary supplements. Accommodation may not provide refrigerators in rooms.

3. Are you diabetic? ☐ ☐
- Are you insulin dependent? ☐ ☐
4. Do you suffer from travel sickness? ☐ ☐
- Remember to use an appropriate medication while on tour.

Declaration

I declare that: I have read and understood the ASA Tour Itinerary, Reservation Application and Booking Conditions. I am aware of ASA's terms as relating to refunds, cancellations, responsibility and liability. I understand that ASA relies upon this declaration when considering this Application. I accept the inherent dangers, risks and uncertainties in travel and those beyond ASA's control and understand they may occur before or during any tour. I have made full and complete disclosure and have not knowingly withheld any medical information about myself from ASA. I have completed this Reservation Application honestly and accurately. I warrant that I am able to participate independently in all activities described by ASA in the itinerary without assistance from any person.

I will advise ASA in writing if any aspect of my fitness and or health conditions change materially at any time before my departure date. I understand and accept that the itinerary, accommodation and lecturers scheduled for this tour may change.

I agree and consent that ASA may give my personal information in this Reservation Application to tour service providers and relevant authorities as required by law, but only for the purpose of making bookings with and engaging services associated with the tour. I understand that if I do not consent to the use of my personal information for this purpose, ASA will decline my Reservation Application.

In consideration of ASA's acceptance of my Reservation Application, I irrevocably release and indemnify ASA from all claims that I, or any other party, may have against ASA its employees, invitees, agents and contractors, however arising in respect of any loss, damage, injury, death or expense incurred in the course of booking, preparing for, travelling to, on and from or cancelling any tour.

I release and indemnify ASA with respect to:

1. Every general risk to which I or my personal belongings may be exposed in the course of preparing for, travelling to, on or from any ASA tour;
2. Every special risk, in particular medical risks, to which I may be exposed in the course of preparing for, travelling to, on or from any ASA tour arising from, including, but not limited to:
 - a. intermittent power cycles and/or the temporary or permanent loss of power (beware CPAP or any other medical machine users);
 - b. dietary, food or other allergies (ASA cannot guarantee that traces of items to which you are allergic are not present in food or drink you are served, medication you are administered or other substances with which you may come into contact);
 - c. any event or situation that may compromise the administration of necessary medication or my health, safety and wellbeing generally; and
 - d. any event or happening beyond ASA's control
3. All claims arising as a result of my or ASA's cancellation or termination of any tour, part of a tour or of my continued participation on a tour for any reason (subject to ASA's refund conditions below).

Limitation of Liability

ASA is not a carrier, event or tourist attraction host, accommodation or dining service provider. All bookings made and tickets or coupons issued by ASA for transport, event, accommodation, dining and the like are issued as an agent for various service providers and are subject to the terms and conditions and limitations of liability imposed by each service provider. ASA is not responsible for their products, services, terms and conditions. If a service provider cancels or does not deliver the product or service for which you have contracted, and does not give a refund, your remedy lies with the service provider, not ASA.

ASA will not be liable for any claim (e.g. sickness, injury, death, damage or loss) arising from any change, delay, detention, breakdown, border closures, cancellation, failure, accident, act, omission or negligence of any tour service provider or authority however caused (contingencies). You must take out such travel insurance as is available against such contingencies.

ASA's liability in respect of any tour cancelled or changed will be limited to the partial refund of amounts you have paid, less an administration fee of \$500 and other costs and charges of third party service providers. No compensation will be payable to you by ASA where ASA cancels or changes a tour, or any part of a tour.

ASA reserves the sole discretion to cancel any tour or to modify itineraries in any way it considers appropriate and in the best interests of health, safety and wellbeing of tour participants. Tour costs may be revised, subject to unexpected price increases or exchange rate fluctuations.

Booking Conditions

DEPOSITS

A non-refundable deposit of \$1000.00 AUD per person is required to reserve a place on an ASA tour.

CANCELLATION FEES

If you cancel your booking the following charges apply:

More than 75 days before departure: your initial deposit of \$1000.00 is non-refundable.**

75-31 days prior 50% of total amount due

30-0 days prior 100% of total amount due

**\$500.00 of this amount (ie 50% of your deposit) may be credited to another ASA tour departing within 12 months of the original tour you booked. We regret, in this case early-bird discounts will not apply.

We take the day on which you cancel as being that on which we receive written confirmation of cancellation.

UNUSED PORTIONS OF THE TOUR

We regret that refunds will not be given for any unused portions or services of the tour, such as meals, entry fees, accommodation, flights or transfers.

WILL THE TOUR PRICE OR ITINERARY CHANGE?

If the number of participants on a tour is significantly less than budgeted, or if there is a significant change in exchange rates ASA reserves the right to amend the advertised price. We shall, however, do all in our power to maintain the published price. Occasionally circumstances beyond the control of ASA make it necessary to change airline, hotel or to make amendments to itineraries. We will inform you of any changes in due course.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

ASA requires all participants to obtain comprehensive travel insurance. A copy of your travel insurance certificate and the **reverse charge** emergency contact phone number must be received by ASA no later than 75 days prior to the commencement of the tour.

FINAL PAYMENT

The balance of the tour price will be due 75 days prior to the tour commencement date.

PLEASE READ THE ABOVE CAREFULLY, PRINT AND SIGN BELOW

☐ I accept the conditions on this booking form ☐ I have read the information about the physical requirements of the tour in the detailed itinerary and confirm that I am able to meet these requirements

Applicant's Signature

Print Full Name

Dated

Tour / Course Name _____

Name of Traveller 1 _____

Name of Traveller 2 _____

I have enclosed a payment to the value of \$ _____ (including CC or bank fee if applicable) for this tour

The above amount is payable for:

- ☐ Intention to Travel ☐ Tour Deposit
- ☐ Balance of Payment ☐ Upgrade from Intention to Travel to a Deposit
- ☐ Travel Insurance ☐ Other (eg. Airfares, Accommodation) _____

International Payments

Welcome to our international travellers! If you are making a payment and do not have an Australian bank account/credit card, we can only accept payment as follows:

- via credit card with the applicable fee - the credit card company/bank will set the exchange rate
- via bank transfer; please give your surname and tour code (eg. Smith 21705) as a reference and ask your bank to allow for all charges.

Bank cheques or personal cheques will not be accepted.

By Cheque (accept Australian cheques only)

Please make cheques payable to *Australians Studying Abroad*

Direct Deposit or Internet Banking

You will need to:

1. Provide your bank with ASA's bank details (see below) and the amount you wish to transfer OR make a direct deposit through any ANZ branch
2. Include any fees levied by the banks
3. Provide a reference number (Mobile or last name recommended).
4. Complete section below, including confirmation no. (given when transaction completed).

Australians Studying Abroad bank details

Bank ANZ
Branch 420 St Kilda Road, Melbourne Vic
Swift Code ANZBAU3M
BSB 013-423
Account No 3472-32759

Bank confirmation No. _____

Reference used: Mobile or last name recommended
_____Date Money Transferred

Credit Card Payment

Credit card fees apply: Mastercard, Visa & American Express 2%

Please debit my: ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ American Express

I authorise ASA to debit my credit card for the amount due plus the applicable fee as above

Credit Card Number _____

Expiry Date _____ Security Code (CVC) _____

Bank the Card is linked to (eg. NAB or ANZ) _____

Cardholders Name _____

Cardholders Billing Address _____

Postcode _____

State _____ Country _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Cardholders Signature _____