TRAVELER OF THE QUARTER



LORI LANZER

Traveling with Women of the Midwest

By: Lori Lanzer

Cobblestone streets along picturesque canals, kaleidoscopes of blooming tulips, art and history museums, chocolate, and beer... these are a few of my favorite things. They were all part of Women of the Midwest's Belgium & Netherlands tour.

My friend Sheryl and I recently returned from one of the most variety-packed sightseeing tours I have ever taken. It was interesting, fun, filled with bucket-list sights, and our lives were richer for having experienced it.

This was our first trip with Women of the Midwest. The itinerary offered a wonderful blend of activities and included all the must-see highlights. We were also drawn to the small group size. After recently traveling with a larger mixed group, I appreciated how a women-only group of twenty travelers felt more cohesive and comfortable. Through the private Facebook page and pre-trip video call, we became familiar with one another before ever meeting at the airport.

I admit that when we first met the group after an eight-hour flight, Sheryl and I wondered if we would fit in. We quickly learned that age does not diminish wanderlust. We bonded over our shared love of travel and new experiences, and everyone proved fun, relatable, and energetic.

Booking the tour was easy, and the Women of the Midwest team provided excellent personal service. Sheryl and I chose to arrive in Brussels a few days early, which I highly recommend. The team helped arrange our hotel and airport transfers, making the process seamless and stress-free.

One of the things I appreciated most was the attention to detail. The hotels were beautiful, centrally located, and within walking distance of many attractions. The restaurants offered delicious opportunities to sample local cuisine, while still providing time to explore independently. Transportation was equally comfortable. With a small group, everyone enjoyed extra space on the motorcoach.

Our local guide, Chantalle, was exceptional. Her knowledge, stories, and recommendations added tremendous value throughout the journey. She brought the history and culture of Belgium and the Netherlands to life and introduced us to experiences we might never have discovered on our own.

As independent travelers, Sheryl and I have often discussed planning trips entirely on our own. While those adventures have their appeal, this journey reminded us how valuable it is to have experts handling the logistics while we simply enjoy the experience. The Women of the Midwest Belgium & Netherlands tour was worth every penny spent and every minute saved. We returned home with wonderful memories, new friendships, and a long list of favorite moments. I have no doubt this will be the first of many journeys with Women of the Midwest.

Joyfully,
Lori Lanzer



Bruges



Kinderdijk



Keukenhof Gardens



Canal Cruise