

Barrington Community School

presents

Escape to Amsterdam

8th Annual Super Bowl Getaway Weekend

February 4 - 8, 2006

Pack your bags for a great escape to the captivating city of quaint canals, Van Gogh, and Vermeer, as BCS proudly offers its 8th annual Super Bowl exodus with a long weekend getaway to Amsterdam.

Here is the Amsterdam of your imagination—languid, dreamy canals reflecting crisp 17th-century town houses and cobbled streets, an image that is picture-postcard-perfect, but still utterly authentic. This latticework of canals leads you deep into the historic heart of one of the world's most intriguing and vivacious cities and its assortment of attractions, from impressive architecture to world-class museums, all clustered in a charming center.

From its beginnings as a fishing village at the mouth of the Amstel River, Amsterdam developed in stages, each marked by the digging of new canals. We'll begin our visit with an orientation tour by canal boat (enclosed and heated) that highlights the city's major landmarks and culminates in a visit to the treasures of the Rijksmuseum, including an outstanding selection of Rembrandts. An early start on another morning takes us to the lively Aalsmeer Flower Auction, which ships flowers around the world. In your free time you'll have an opportunity to stroll the streets, take in the remarkable Van Gogh museum with its 200 paintings, visit The Hague and Vermeer's *The Girl with a Pearl Earring*, or explore Anne Frank's house and the first-rate Jewish Historical Museum.

Join Barrington Community School's director, Sandi Tinyk, for a marvelous escape to an old-world landscape brimming with stunning masterpieces—in other words, the perfect antidote to Super Bowl madness!



Amsterdam's meandering canals



Rembrandt's The Night Watch

The cost of this program, double occupancy is **\$1190** per person (single supplement **\$250**); land only (no airfare included) is **\$740**.

The following services are included:

- 1) Round-trip airfare on Northwest from Boston to Amsterdam. All taxes and fees included.
- 2) 3 nights accommodation in a first-class hotel.
- 3) Continental breakfast daily; 1 table d'hôte dinner; 1 *rijsttafel* dinner.
- 4) Local guide for morning sightseeing and Rijksmuseum.
- 5) All ground transportation as detailed in the itinerary.
- 6) Entrance fees to all sites featured in the itinerary.
- 7) Portage of one suitcase per person.
- 8) All customs fees, airport & hotel taxes & service charges.
- 9) Canal boat ride for sightseeing.
- 10) Transfer by private bus from Barrington to Logan Airport.

For further information & registration please contact:

Sandi Tinyk at the Barrington Community School

(401) 245-0432



Saturday, February 4th

Overnight: Flight

Afternoon departure from Barrington to Boston Logan Airport for Northwest Airlines direct, overnight service to Amsterdam.

Sunday, February 5th

Overnight:

Amsterdam

Upon our morning arrival in Amsterdam, we'll transfer to our city center hotel, wonderfully situated between the famous Leidsesquare cafes, terraces, and restaurants, and Museum Square, home to the superb Rijksmuseum, Van Gogh Museum, and Stedelijk Museum. You'll have an opportunity to unpack, relax, and begin to explore the city's intriguing jumble of antique streets and narrow canals, before we gather in

the evening for a relaxing dinner at the hotel. **(B, D)**

Monday, February 6th

Overnight: Amsterdam

A wonderful opportunity to see the city from a different perspective as we explore Amsterdam by canal boat on an orientation tour that highlights the major landmarks. Our sightseeing ends with a guided visit to the Rijksmuseum, an enormous arts collection that contains one of the most comprehensive selections of 17th century Dutch paintings in the world, including 20 or more Rembrandts and a fine assortment of Vermeers, in addition to an outstanding selection of medieval sculptures.

The afternoon and evening are free to explore the city on your own. Art lovers may choose to continue their art tour in the Museum Quarter—where the Rijksmuseum, the Van Gogh Museum, and the Stedelijk Museum (modern and contemporary art) are clustered together. Nearby Vondelpark, Amsterdam's loveliest park, offers an enticing landscape that includes more than 100 species of trees and a



The Rijksmuseum

network of ponds and waterways. In the evening you're free to sample one of the city's many fine restaurants. **(B)**



Aarlsmeer flowers ship worldwide

Tuesday, February 7th

Overnight: Amsterdam

An early start enables us to visit the lively Aarlsmeer Flower Auction. We'll view the entire operation from raised galleries that look into each of the five auction halls. The interplay of color, sound, and movement is extraordinary as flower carts, once purchased, are quickly moved to reach their worldwide destinations in a timely manner. In the afternoon you'll have time to explore the city on your own, crossing canals, and strolling along the Damrak, which once divided the "Old Side" of the medieval city from the "New Side."

The Kloveniersburgwal forms one of the most beguiling parts of the Old Center, with a medley of handsome old houses lining a beautiful canal. From here, it's a short walk to the Rokin, a shopping boulevard that leads to the Muntplein and the floating flower market. And you'll not want to miss Dam Square, flanked by two of the city's

most impressive buildings, the Royal Palace and the Nieuwe Kerk, built in early 15th century Gothic style, or the Anne Frank House, one of the city's most powerful and poignant destinations. In the evening, we'll gather to sample *rijsttafel*—a selection of six or eight Indonesian dishes (Amsterdam is acclaimed for the best Indonesian food outside Indonesia!). **(B, D)**



Van Gogh self portrait

Wednesday, February 8th

Overnight: Home

Morning departure from Amsterdam, Schiphol Airport, aboard Northwest Airlines direct service to Boston. Return bus transfer to Barrington. Alternatively, if you would like to stay on and spend Valentine's Day in Paris, please see our *Parisian Valentine* trip for details. **(B)**

Key to included meals: **B** = Breakfast, **L** = Lunch, **D** = Dinner

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