



Spring in Maastricht

 **YOUTH
MUSIC**
OF THE WORLD



Performance Travel Ltd

SPRING IN MAASTRICHT
Sample itinerary



Sample Itinerary

Your hotel

NH Hotel Maastricht
Forum 110, 6229 GV Maastricht
T: 043 383 8280

SAMPLE HOTEL

Spring in Maastricht prides itself in providing only superior first class hotels. Your accommodations will have en-suite facilities, including bath and/or shower and W.C. and all of the usual amenities associated with a first class hotel, including full housekeeping services with linen and towel change, room service, direct dial telephone, flat screen TV with freeview, WIFI and personal safes.



DAY 1

6.55pm Depart the USA on flights to Europe. Dinner and breakfast will be served on your trans-Atlantic flight.

DAY 2

Arrive in Brussels. Once you have cleared customs you will be met by your tour assistant for the exciting week ahead.

Transfer by luxury motor coach to Maastricht. On arrival, check-in to your hotel. In the event that your rooms are not ready at this time, the hotel will store your bags securely until you have access.

11.00am Depart by coach to the Vrijthof Square.

There are a number of restaurants and eateries on the square where you will find something interesting for your lunch.

12.45pm Meet back on the Vrijthof Square, outside the theatre, where your local guides will be waiting.

1.00pm Begin a walking tour of Maastricht, which will take you back to the origins of this Roman City, ideally placed at the crossroads of Europe. You will have the chance to see the old Dutch city on one side of the Maas with its narrow cobblestone streets, ancient fortifications and town houses from the 17th century, and on the other side the

contemporary apartment buildings of the Wyck-Céramique area. You will pass beautiful old churches and see the main squares including the Vrijthof and The Market Square, the Town Hall and the parks in the city.

2.30pm The tour will end. The rest of this afternoon is at leisure for you to discover the City for yourself.

5.00pm Return to the Vrijthof Square where you will meet your coach for the transfer back to your hotel.

7.00pm Dinner will be served in the hotel restaurant in your hotel. Evening at leisure.

DAY 3

From 7.00am Breakfast is served (a buffet of hot and cold items will be available in the hotel restaurant).

8.30am Depart by coach for the Margraten Cemetary.

9.00am A short distance outside Maastricht, you will enter the village of Margraten, the site of the only American military cemetery in the Netherlands. The cemetery site has a rich historical background, lying near the famous Cologne-Boulogne highway built by the Romans and used by Caesar during his campaigns. It was also used by Charlemagne, Charles V, Napoleon, and Kaiser Wilhelm II.

In May 1940, Hitler's legions advanced over the route of the old Roman



highway, overwhelming the Low Countries. In September 1944, German troops once more used the highway for their withdrawal from the countries occupied for four years.

10.00am Continue on to Cologne, the fourth largest city in Germany.

11.15am Arrive in Cologne and start a guided walking tour of the city, past the most famous landmark, The Cologne Cathedral, and onwards through the historic centre of the city with its old, colourful houses, breweries, art galleries and cafes and restaurants.

1.15pm Independent lunch

2.30pm Travel by coach to the German city of Aachen, which was the winter capital of Charlemagne, Holy Roman Emperor from 800 to 814 AD. The city lies at the borders of Germany with Belgium and the Netherlands, forming the economic region called the Euregio.

3.00pm On your arrival in this charming Medieval City (Aix La Chapelle), the City of Charlemagne, you will be met by your guide for a walking tour, taking you past Aachen Cathedral and Town Hall, and through Aachen's historic Old Town with narrow lanes and historic squares and nearly 2000 years of history.

5.00pm Walk ends. There will be a little time available for independent sightseeing and shopping.

5.45pm Meet up again in the central market square, before going for dinner in the traditional Aachener Brauhaus, where the menu includes typical German regional specialities.

7.30pm Return to your coach for the short journey to Maastricht.

8.15pm Arrive back at your hotel.

DAY 4

7.30am Breakfast is served.

8.30am Depart your hotel by luxury motor coach for Amsterdam, one of the greatest small cities in the world. From its canals to world-famous museums and historical sights, Amsterdam is one of the most romantic and beautiful cities in Europe.

11.00am Boat tour.

12.00 noon Independent lunch in Amsterdam.

2.00pm Anne Franks House and additional sightseeing.

5.00pm Return to your coach for the short transfer to the spectacular Sea Palace restaurant, floating on the water in Amsterdam.

5.30pm A special 'Rijstafel' (rice table) banquet dinner will be served.

7.00pm Depart Amsterdam.

10.00pm Arrive back in Maastricht.

DAY 5

From 7.00am Breakfast is served.

8.30am Morning at leisure for personal shopping and sightseeing.

2.00pm Prepare for your performance this evening.

3.00pm Depart for the Bonbonniere, an 18th Century theatre and event location in the centre of Maastricht, near the Onze Lieve Vrouwplein.

3.30pm Rehearsal begins in the Mirror room, a spectacular golden room with impressive original chandeliers.

5.00pm Return by coach to your hotel.

5.30pm Dinner is served in the hotel restaurant.

7.00pm Depart by coach for the Bonbonniere.

8.00pm The concert begins.

9.00pm Return by coach to your hotel.

DAY 6

From 6.30am Breakfast is served.

8.00am Depart your hotel by motor coach for the city of Brussels, capital of Belgium and host to the headquarters of the European Union (EU). Since the end of the Second World War it has been a main centre for international politics, hosting principal EU institutions as well as the headquarters of the NATO, making the city home to numerous



international organisations, politicians, diplomats and civil servants.

9.30am Arrive in Brussels, and meet your guides for a one hour guided tour of the Grande Place and surrounding area. This jewel box of a square is arguably Europe's most ornate and most theatrical. From the early 15th century, the magnificent Gothic-era Hôtel de Ville dominates the square, it is nearly 300 years older than the surrounding guild houses, as it survived the devastating fires of 1695. You will also see the Manneken Pis (The Little Urinating Boy), the emblem of Brussels, which has drawn sightseers for centuries. After all the hype you may be underwhelmed by the minuscule statue!

11.00am Return to your coach for the journey to Bruges, the capital and largest city of the province of West Flanders in the Flemish Region of Belgium. The historic city centre is a prominent World Heritage Site of UNESCO, and it is sometimes referred to as "The Venice of the North" due to all of its canals. Bruges has a significant economic importance thanks to its port. At one time, it was the "chief commercial city" of the world.

1.00pm Lunch at leisure on arrival.

2.00pm Meet your guide in the main Market Square for a 90 minute walking tour of the City, to include views of the Basilica of the Holy Blood, The Old St John's Hospital, St Salvator's Cathedral, The City hall and the Concert Building. Time for independent shopping and sightseeing.

5.00pm Return to the Market Square and re-join the group, before walking a short distance

to the Maximiliaan van Oostenrijk Restaurant where a traditional Belgian dinner will be served.

7.00pm Return to your coach.

10.00pm Arrive back in Maastricht.

DAY 7

From 7.00am Breakfast is served.

9.15am Depart by coach for the Caves of St. Pietersberg.

10.00am Meet your guide, torch in hand, outside the caves before walking underground for a tour that charts the history of these mines, used for centuries of marl quarrying, and more recently as a hiding place for residents during the sieges of Maastricht in the second world war.

11.00am Tour ends. Board your coach and transfer back in to the city centre. Lunch at leisure.

2.00pm Depart by coach to the Conservatorium, for a rehearsal in the 'Willem Hijstek' hall, the venue for this evenings concert.

The conservatorium is home to the Maastricht Academy of Music, an internationally oriented music academy and part of the Zuyd University. It has over 400 students from 48 different nationalities studying classical, jazz and pop music.

The Willem Hijstek Hall is housed in the main building along Bonnefantstraat,

in the historical 'Jerkerkwather' neighbourhood and is used as the Academy's prime classical music hall due to its excellent acoustics.

2.30pm Rehearsal begins.

5.00pm Rehearsal ends, return by coach to your hotel.

6.00pm Dinner will be served in the hotel restaurant.

7.00pm Depart by coach for the Conservatorium.

8.00pm The 'Music for Maastricht' concert begins.

9.00pm Board your coaches for the return to your hotel.

DAY 8

Breakfast is served in the hotel restaurant/breakfast boxes.

Depart by luxury coach to the airport

Check in for your flight home

Lunch and snacks will be served on the flight home.

We wish you a safe journey home!