

Virginia Law Foundation  Virginia CLE®

# JOURNEY TO HOLLAND

## RULE OF LAW IN THE NETHERLANDS



**May 2-8, 2024**

**Keukenhof - The Hague - Rotterdam - Kinderdijk**

**Optional 2 night extension in Amsterdam**

*By Invitation of the Virginia Law Foundation to Celebrate its 50th Anniversary*

**[www.cle-abroad.com/VLF50th](http://www.cle-abroad.com/VLF50th)**

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## INCLUDED

Accommodations, as selected

Daily ground transportation and walking tours

Select group meals at top restaurants (including tips)

Fully guided tours with local guides and specialists

Lecture series with local attorneys, academics, experts and influencers (CLE credits anticipated)

Admission to all venues / attractions in program

Travel Tips and Guidance  
Authentic Dutch & refined International cuisines

Curated Food & Beverage Tastings and culinary experiences

*Dietary restrictions will be accommodated. Food surveys will be distributed to participants at a later date.*

## NOT INCLUDED

Airfare to/from Netherlands

Airport transfers (except for those arriving on suggested flights and visiting Keukenhof on Day 1)

Suggested tips for drivers and local guide(s)

Additional meals not provided in itinerary

Incidentals / Individual hotel expenses (e.g., mini bar, room services, laundry fees)

Trip cancellation insurance



# YOU'RE INVITED



You're invited to join this exciting **cross-cultural tour** exploring Rule of Law and justice themes in Holland. We make home base in **The Hague (Den Haag)** - the political heart of the Netherlands as well the Center of International Law hosting institutions such as the **International Court of Justice (ICJ)**. Besides affording us **fascinating legal education with privileged access to institutions and experts**, the city's wide streets and numerous green zones make for an incredibly pleasant pedestrian experience with charming boutiques, cafes and fine dining abound.

The Hague is also ideally situated within reach of some of Holland's greatest attractions. We visit the renowned **Keukenhof** Spring garden to see the famous tulips in bloom (open only 8 weeks each year), the modern city of **Rotterdam**, and the iconic windmills of **Kinderdijk**.

Add two nights and explore **Amsterdam**, the 17th century capital of Holland known for its museums, fine dining, beautiful architecture, and unique nightlife.

Our group meals will be selected for their authenticity and **elevated culinary experiences** ensuring we make the most of every meal and taste the best of Dutch cuisine recognized for its purity, high quality, and honest presentation.

**Please note:** The program requires considerable walking and at times we will traverse uneven, "old world" cobblestone streets and stairs where an elevator may not always be available. Participants must be able to walk unassisted.

**CLE CREDITS ANTICIPATED**  
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# AT A GLANCE: NETHERLANDS

Day 1



Day 2



Day 3



Day 4



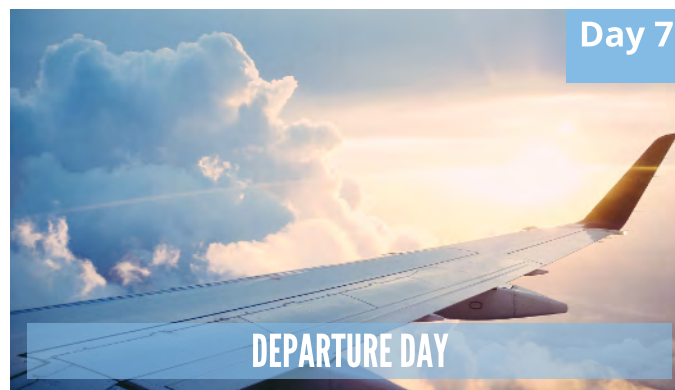
Day 5



Day 6



Day 7



# RULE OF LAW AT THE HAGUE

## OUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

### VIRGINIA LAW FOUNDATION

*Itinerary subject to change and final confirmations. Special requests are encouraged.  
Suggested air provided at a later date.*

#### Day 1 Thursday May 2

##### Morning

Delegates arrive **Amsterdam Airport Schiphol (AMS)**.

From the airport we travel to **Keukenhof** and see the iconic Tulips in bloom. For just a few weeks each year, *Keukenhof* opens its grounds to visitors to see one of the most beautiful spring gardens in the world. This world-famous park holds more than 7 million spring flowering bulbs, with over 500 growers presenting an enormous variety of flowers and their iconic tulips in bloom. Free time to explore the grounds on your own.

##### Afternoon

After our visit to *Keukenhof*, depart for **Welcome Lunch at Kom Eten** in *Hoogmade*. This lovely restaurant sits on a peaceful canal in a charming village not far from *Den Haag*. This husband [chef] and wife [sommelier] team create a unique dining experience using the freshest local ingredient. We also enjoy some organic local cheeses from a nearby farm. After lunch, we depart for **The Hague** by private coach.

Check into **Hotel Des Indes** (5\*/Premium) or **Carlton Ambassador/Eden Babylon** (4\*/Standard) or similar.

A short walk from our hotel, we board a **canal boat** for a panoramic orientation and Welcome to the Hague. After our cruise, we enjoy a bit of time for freshening up before our evening activities.

##### Evening

**Welcome Reception** with representatives of the *Haagse Orde van Advocaten (The Hague Bar Association)*. From our counterparts we learn about the well-developed **system of legal aid** in the Netherlands and the European Union.

*Remainder of the evening is free to rest and get acclimated to the time zone.*

#### Day 2 Friday May 3

##### Morning

#### INTRODUCTION TO DUTCH RULE OF LAW, POLITICAL SYSTEMS & CONSTITUTION WALK

This interactive presentation provides an engaging introduction to the Dutch political system and the unique political cultures in the Netherlands. Notable is that the **Dutch Constitution** plays an important role in the history of numerous locations throughout the city.

Guided **Walking Tour** of the Hague's city center and historic and political landmarks.

Tour of the medieval **Prison Gate Museum**. The museum tells the story of **crime and punishment** from the 15th century onward.

##### Afternoon

Lunch at **t'Goude Hooft** (The Good Student), the oldest inn in The Hague. Over the years, this institution has evolved into a rather eclectic dining establishment.

After lunch, optional visit to the **Mauritshuis Museum**, home to a fine collection of classical art from the age of **Rembrandt** including **Vermeer's** most famous work, *Girl with a Pearl Earring*, or visit **Escher in Het Paleis** to see the permanent collection of the renowned Dutch graphic artist's work.

*Coffee and refreshments served prior to afternoon lectures:*

#### WAR CRIMES & GENOCIDE IN THE DIGITAL AGE

We welcome a panel of distinguished international law practitioners and leading women in the field of international criminal law for an informative discussion on the **prosecution, defense and administration of justice** in war crime tribunals including the latest from **Ukraine**.

Following our first afternoon session, optional **Ethics seminar**.

*Remainder of the evening free.*



## Day 3 Saturday May 4

### Morning

Depart the hotel for our visit to the **Peace Palace**, home of the **International Court of Justice (ICJ)** and the **Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA)**.

#### THE FOUNDATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW AND THE HAGUE AS A CITY OF PEACE AND JUSTICE

Financed and maintained by the **Carnegie Foundation**, the Peace Palace was built in 1913 to house the PCA and a Library. Soon after, they were joined by the Permanent Court of International Justice, the official court of the **League of Nations**. After the Second World War, the League of Nations was dissolved and the United Nations was founded. The ICJ of the United Nations then took up residence in the Palace.

### Afternoon

Group lunch at **Bayonne** for Dutch-Spanish style tapas and pinchos.

After lunch, we visit the **International Criminal Court (ICC)** and/or the **National Monument Oranjehotel** – the name the Dutch attributed to the Scheveningen prison during the 2nd World War. The Germans detained over 25,000 people for interrogation and prosecution purposes. Those who violated regulations imposed by the Germans came from all of the Netherlands and included Resistance Members, Jews, Jehovah's Witnesses and those who were caught dealing on the black market or other economic offenses.

**Alternative for Non-Attorneys: Behind-the-scenes tour** with the Director of the Museum **Panorama Mesdag** featuring 19th-century artist **Hendrik Mesdag's** striking panoramic beach painting. Housed in a purpose-built museum, this cyclorama is more than 130 feet in diameter and over 45 feet high. From an observation gallery in the center of the room the cylindrical perspective creates the illusion that the viewer is on a high sand dune overlooking the sea, beaches and village of **Scheveningen** in the late 19th century.

### Evening

*Free evening / Dinner on your own or Optional Add-On to Scheveningen Beach.*

### Optional Add-On

*We continue to nearby Scheveningen Beach for time to walk the Boardwalk or the Sand Dunes.*

*Enjoy dinner at **Catch by Simonis on Scheveningen Harbour**. This family run business has been in operation since the end of the 19th century. A former eel smokehouse, Catch is known for international seafood recipes using a daily fresh supply from the local fish auction. We dine on the rooftop terrace overlooking the marina filled with sailboats.*

*After dinner, **The Pier SkyView**. This 160' foot ferris wheel has 36 closed cars that seem to float over the water. Enjoy a glass of bubbly as you take in the sweeping views of the dunes, the boardwalk and the sun setting over the sea.*

**9:30 PM**

*Return to the hotel by van or bus.*

## Day 4 Sunday May 5

### Morning

Board our bus and depart for the **UNESCO World Heritage site of Kinderdijk** and its iconic **Wind Mills**. The tour includes a multimedia presentation, hop-on/hop-off canal ride and time to explore the grounds on foot.

Return to Rotterdam with its dynamic skyline including the iconic, white **Erasmusbrug bridge** nicknamed 'The Swan'.

Lunch at the historic **Hotel New York**, the former headquarters of Holland-America Line. The property is a prominent fixture of the **Wilhelmine Pier** in contemporary **Rotterdam**.



## Afternoon

### US-EU & US-DUTCH TRADE RELATIONS

Over lunch we host a discussion highlighting major themes in US-EU relations and European economic issues, including **trade, macroeconomics, sanctions, energy, digital privacy, science and technology.**

Time permitting, we go to the top of the **Euromast** tower for stunning panoramic views over Rotterdam and surrounding areas, including a rotating glass elevator and a restaurant, or free time to explore the market halls of Rotterdam.

OR we visit the **Royal IHC Shipyard**, one of the largest shipyards in the world. We get up close and personal with some of the ships that are currently under construction or repair.

Return to the Hague.

## Evening

Den Haag Farewell Dinner.

## Day 5 Monday May 6th

### 8:00 am

Checkout and Board Bus for Amsterdam (*if on the extended program*).

On arrival in Amsterdam, we enjoy a **Walking Tour** of the trendy **Jordaan** neighborhood. The charming narrow streets and canals of this area are home to hip pubs & restaurants, indie boutiques & galleries and the **Noordermarkt** outdoor marketplace.

Visit the **Anne Frank House**. This tour offers a poignant view into the famous young diarist's life. Time permitting pre-tour, one of the Museum educators will take you through the history of Anne Frank in the context of the Second World War and the persecution of the Jews. Through this informative and interactive talk, you will be well prepared for your visit.

*Note: Museum visits are by appointment. Participants who separate from the group or arrive too late may not be granted entry.*

### 1:00 pm

Private **Lunch and Canal Cruise**. From the water, we have the best vantage point to see Amsterdam's most interesting Architecture.

### 3:00 pm

Group Check-In at the **Eden Hotel** (or similar)

Amstel 144, 1017 AE Amsterdam, Netherlands

## After Check-in, Presentation on GLOBAL HUMAN RIGHTS & ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Amsterdam is the international headquarters of **Amnesty International** and other prominent human rights NGOs.

## Evening

*Remainder of the evening free. Dinner on your own. This evening you may consider exploring Leidseplein, the bustling nightlife area located just steps from your hotel. The area is home to theaters, music venues, restaurants, bars and street performers.*

## Day 6 Tuesday May 7th

## Morning

### THE CASE FOR RESTITUTION OF STOLEN ART IN THE NETHERLANDS

There is a growing movement in the Netherlands to demand the return of stolen art. The **Goudstikker collection** is just one of many examples of art looted during World War II now subject to potential claims for restitution under Dutch law and an evolving public policy. In this lecture, we learn about the most significant cases against the Dutch government some of which have resulted in the successful return to the heirs of stolen art collections.

### 10:00 am

Guided visit to the **Van Gogh Museum**, the largest collection of the tragic painter's work, and the most visited museum in the Netherlands.

Guided visit to the **Rijksmuseum, the National Museum** of the Netherlands. Home to Dutch Masters such as Rembrandt and Vermeer, this massive collection currently exhibits 8,000 objects of art and history.

## Afternoon

*Lunch is on your own today.* On your last day in Amsterdam, enjoy as much free time as desired to sightsee, shop or enjoy the hotel amenities. After your museum visit, you may want to visit the high-end shopping area near **Museumplein** or stroll through **Vondelpark**

## Evening

Amsterdam Farewell Dinner.

## Day 7 Wednesday May 8th

*Optional morning activities depending on departure time.*

Participants will make independent transfers to Amsterdam Airport Schiphol (AMS).

**Participants who extend their stay before or after the program dates can request extra room nights at the group rate.**



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### QUESTIONS?

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