

**RED DEER ROYALS**  
**13 DAY PERFORMING TOUR TO HOLLAND, GERMANY & BELGIUM**  
**FEATURING THE 17<sup>TH</sup> KERKRADE WMC FESTIVAL**  
**JULY 20 – AUGUST 1, 2017**

**\*\*\*SUBJECT TO CHANGE\*\*\***

*Note: It is the responsibility of all participants to be in possession of the correct documentation to travel out of the country. Failure to do so will result in participants being denied entry/boarding and returned home at the expense of the individual. **Canadian Citizens require a valid passport** (authorities at your destination require that passports are valid for **3 months** beyond your return date). Ellison Travel & Tours recommends passports are valid for 6 months beyond your return date. **Groups are advised to obtain witnessed letters of consent for persons under 18 years of age.** Non-Canadians must check entry and transit requirements. Please notify the group leader at time of booking if you will be traveling with a passport from another country so we can check requirements and advise you accordingly.*

**Day 1 – Thursday July 20, 2017 – IN FLIGHT**

- Arrive **Edmonton International Airport** and check in the group (*international groups must check-in at least 3 hours prior to departure*)
- 6:25pm - Depart on **Iceland Air # 692 from Edmonton to Reykjavik, Iceland**
- Food for purchase on Iceland Air flights

**Day 2 – Friday July 21, 2017 – ARRIVE KERKRADE, NETHERLANDS**

- Purchase breakfast (food for purchase on Iceland Air Flights)
- 6:40am - Arrive **Reykjavik, Iceland** and proceed to your connecting gate (set your watches to local time)
- 7:40am - Depart on **Ireland Air # 500 from Reykjavik to Amsterdam**
- 12:40pm - Arrive **Amsterdam, Schiphol Airport**, clear customs and collect your luggage and equipment (set your watches to local time)
- Board coaches and depart for **Kerkrade, Netherlands** (approximately 3 hour drive)
- Arrive Kerkrade WMC Festival and register the group

**Day 3 – Saturday July 22, 2017 – KERKRADE FESTIVAL**

- Group will enjoy the **Kerkrade WMC Festival** (Festival schedule/program details to be advised)
- Watch other Marching bands perform in the Parkstad Limburg Stadion Kerkrade

**Day 4 – Sunday July 23, 2017 – KERKRADE FESTIVAL**

- Group will participate in the **Kerkrade WMC Festival**
- 1:27pm - **Red Deer Royals Marching Show Band performance at Parkstad Limburg Stadion** (*Marching, Marching Parade & Show Contest*)

**Day 5 – Monday July 24, 2017 – TO COLOGNE, GERMANY**

- Depart for **Cologne**, on the river Rhine (approximately 1 ½ hour drive)
- Arrive Cologne, a 2,000 year old city along the Rhine River in Western Germany
- Visit the **Gothic Cathedral**, a landmark of the city with its beautiful stained glass windows
- Afternoon **performance, on the square next to the central station of Cologne and the Cologne Cathedral - standing performance by the Red Deer Royals Marching Band (30 minute performance)**

#### **Day 6 – Tuesday July 25, 2017 – COLOGNE**

- Depart for **Phantasialand**
- Full day to explore the amusement park and fantastic shows

#### **Day 7 – Wednesday July 26, 2017 – to GHENT, BELGIUM**

- Depart for **Maastricht**, a university city on the southern tip of the Netherlands; its cobblestone old town is known for the Romanesque Basilica of St. Servatius and the Gothic style church Sint Janskerk (1 ½ to 2 hour drive)
- Arrive Maastricht with free time to explore; you may wish to see the Stokstraat quarter, The Our Beloved Lady Church, the old city walls and more...
- This afternoon meet at the pier to board your boat for a **boat cruise on the River Maas** that will bring you to the entrance of the **caves of the St. Pieterberg**, which is one of the historical treasures of the region. You will witness here a tremendous labyrinth of more than 20,000 passages. On the walls of the St. Pietersberg Caves you will find several interesting inscriptions.
- Arrive **Ghent**, it is the spiritual citadel of Flanders, a university town, the second-ranking Belgian port and a great industrial center. It is crisscrossed by canals and waterways, built as it is on numerous islets at the confluence of the River Leie and Scheldt.

#### **Day 8 – Thursday July 27, 2017 – GHENT - DAY TRIP TO BRUGES**

- Depart for **Bruges, Belgium**, the Pearl of Belgium – Venice of the North! A town with beautiful decorated houses, cobblestone streets, and lovely flower boxes line the canals, old guildhalls and churches. Bruges is famous for its fine Belgian lace and chocolate.  
Upon arrival meet your **guides** for a **walking tour of Bruges**; you will see such sights as the Beguinage, the Church of Our Lady with Michelangelo's *Virgin and Child*, and the Market Square. During your tour you will stop at a chocolate store to purchase a treat!
- Attend a **Belgium Chocolate Workshop** followed by a visit to the **Chocolate Museum**
- **Performance by Red Deer Royals in the market square in Bruges (still standing performance)**

#### **Day 9 – Friday July 28, 2017 – GHENT – DAY TRIP TO YPRES**

- Depart for **Ypres**, one of the most powerful and flourishing Flemish towns in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. The rebuilt Lakenhalle (Cloth Hall) which was destroyed during WW1, is situated at the market square, surrounded by narrow streets. (approximately 2 hour drive)
- Meet your **guides** for a **tour of some of the significant sights along the Ypres Salient**.
- Visit the **St. Julien Memorial**, an 11 metre tall brooding soldier commemorating the famous battle that took place between April 22<sup>nd</sup> and April 24<sup>th</sup>, 1915...it was here that Canadians achieved fame for their bravery while enduring the first gas attack in modern warfare
- Visit the **Tyne Cot Cemetery and Memorial**. The Tyne Cot Cemetery is the burial ground for the Allied soldiers who perished on the Ypres Salient. It is the largest Commonwealth cemetery in the world containing the graves of 11,953 soldiers of various nationalities, including Canadians.
- Visit the **Essex Farm Commonwealth War Cemetery at Boezinge**, for a brief stop to visit the **John McCrae Memorial** – John McCrae was a native of Guelph, Ontario who served as a medical officer with the Canadian Army during World War 1 – In 1915 he composed the famous poem "In Flanders Fields" during a break in the fighting in Ypres.
- Walk to the **Menin Gate**...this ceremony takes place every night, rain or shine, in honour of the thousands of soldiers who went to the front, never to return. The gate is inscribed with the names of 54,896 Commonwealth soldiers who perished during World War I and have no known final resting place (you are invited to lay a commemorative wreath in their honour during tonight's ceremony)

8:00pm - **Performance by the Red Deer Royals – still standing performance**

#### **Day 10 – Saturday July 29, 2017 – TO THE HAGUE**

- Morning free in Ghent to further explore the impressive town in chaperone groups
- Visit the **St. Bravo's Cathedral**, with the Polyptych of the Adoration of the Mystic Lamb to admire the paintings of the brothers "van Eijck"
- Depart for **Kinderdijk**; around 1740 there were 19 or more sturdy mills built and they have been well preserved to the present day. You will see the windmills along the canals and amidst meadows and **visit a working windmill**
- Continue on to The Hague
- 4:00pm - **Red Deer Royals marching performance along the Boulevard of Scheveningen**

#### **Day 11 – Sunday July 30, 2017 – DAY TRIP TO AMSTERDAM**

- Depart for Amsterdam
- 11:15am - **Marching performance by the Red Deer Royals Marching Band at the Vondelpark in Amsterdam** – parade from the Museum Square, bordered by the Concertgebouw, Van Gogh and Municipal Museum and Rijksmuseum or standing performance at the music pavilion in the Vondelpark where locals and tourist go to relax.
- Afternoon free to explore Amsterdam in chaperone groups (suggestions will be provided)

#### **Day 12 – Monday July 31, 2017 – DAY TRIP TO AMSTERDAM**

- Depart for **Amsterdam**
- Morning **canal boat cruise**; Amsterdam is best seen from the water side; you will see the canal hours and many bridges
- Depart for the **Open Air Museum**
- Visit the Open Air Museum, **The Zaanse Schans** where you will see how wooden shoes are made, also cheese tasting is possible and you can visit one of the windmills

#### **Day 13 – Tuesday August 1, 2017 – HOME**

- 10:00am - Depart for the **Amsterdam Schiphol Airport**
- 11:00am - Arrive at the Amsterdam Schiphol Airport and check in the group
- 2:00pm - Depart on **Iceland Air # 501 from Amsterdam to Reykjavik, Iceland**
- 3:10pm - Arrive Reykjavik and proceed to your connecting gate (set your watches to local time)
- Food for purchase available on Iceland Air flights
- 4:45pm - Depart on **Iceland Air # 693 from Reykjavik to Edmonton**
- 5:25pm - Arrive Edmonton, clear customs and collect your luggage and instruments (set your watches to local time)
- **Welcome Home**

Please advise your group leader in advance of any allergy and/or dietary restriction, so that we can advise our suppliers of the request. Not every location may be able to accommodate allergy and/or meal requirements for unique circumstances.