

RHINE RIVER CRUISES

ROMANTICISM ON THE RHINE AND THE MOUNTAINS OF SWITZERLAND.

Our journey along the legendary Rhine begins in Cologne, where the towering cathedral leaves many in awe at its sheer size. In Cologne you will say farewell to life on land and check into your floating grand hotel. You will pass under the Rhine bridges as you head towards the Middle Rhine Valley, which in 2002 was named a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The splendor of this romantic river landscape is impossible to deny. 40 castles over a stretch of 40 miles – ruins, myths, legends and the magic cliffs of the Lorelei have inspired such master poets as Heine and Brentano. High over the sun-drenched Rhine Valley near Koblenz looms Sayn Castle, one of the last fairy-tale fortresses and the destination of one of our numerous land excursions. Amid the spectacular Baroque architecture, scenes of a feudal society of pleasure will be conjured up in your imagination.

The zest for life possessed by the people of the Rhineland will accompany us as we enter into the wine capital of Rudesheim, where Goethe once strolled this city’s narrow alleyways, undoubtedly stopping off to taste a local vintage or two. Very special culinary delights will be served by star chef Johann Lafer’s team at the nearby Strom burg castle. During a cooking show the gourmets from the Table d’Or will reveal their private secrets and tricks of the trade. Merci beaucoup, maîtres! The castle in Heidelberg, the Speyer Cathedral, the half-timbered houses of Strasbourg nestled together and its famous cathedral – on this trip your soul and senses will be moved by wonder after wonder. In the Black Forest, for example, we will spoil you with “Wine and Chocolate”. At the Gräfllich Wolff Metternich’schen winery, the cellar master will serve you top wines accompanied by some exquisite chocolate creations. A special treat for railroad enthusiasts is the ride on the classic train. While we treat you to Black Forest cake and coffee in the historic buffet car, fruit plantations and vineyards will slowly pass by. The final destination is Basel. How would you like to enjoy the view of the snow-covered Jungfrau peak from a helicopter as a finishing touch to your journey? You can decide on board, as is the case with so many of the excursions on this relaxed Rhine journey. And of course this cruise can also be enjoyed in the reverse direction, beginning in Basel and heading downstream to the Rhineland.

Cologne - Basel itinerary		5 Nights	
Jun 28	Jul 7 / 16 / 25	Aug 3 / 12 / 21	
Day	Port	arrival	departure
1	Cologne		10:00pm
2	Koblenz	8:00am	9:00am
2	Boppard	12:00pm	12:30pm
2	Rudesheim	5:00pm	11:59pm
3	Mannheim	8:00am	10:00am
3	Speyer	1:00pm	8:00pm
4	Kehl / Strasbourg	8:00am	11:59pm
5	Breisach	8:00am	11:59pm
5	Basel	8:00am	disembark

Basel - Cologne itinerary		4 Nights	
Jul 3 / 12 / 21 / 30	Aug 8 / 17 / 26		
Day	Port	arrival	departure
1	Basel		7:00pm
2	Kehl / Strasbourg	8:00am	11:00pm
3	Mannheim	8:00am	2:00pm
3	Rudesheim	7:00pm	
4	Rudesheim		8:00am
4	Koblenz	12:00pm	11:59pm
5	Cologne	8:00am	disembark



Rhine Valley