# EUROPE RIVER CRUISE



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Rhine River Cruise from Amsterdam

**Duration:** 8 days

Departs: 2023

Stay: 7 nights outside cabin

Travel style: Escorted river cruise

Booking code: ERRCG8M

Call 1300 168 910 to speak to experts at My Travel Experience

Email hello@mytravelxp.com

### 8 Days Rhine River Cruise from Amsterdam

#### About the holiday

Discover the magic of Europe on this river cruise through the Netherlands and Germany to Switzerland!

River cruising offers the unique opportunity to visit Europe's historic cities and charming villages as you sail the world's most beautiful waterways. Cruise aboard a sleek, modern floating hotel, equipped with features and amenities to make your voyage comfortable and carefree.

#### Why you'll love this trip...

- In Amsterdam, board a glass-top boat and cruise the winding canals
- Sail on the legendary Rhine to Cologne, capital of the Rhineland
- Discover 2000-year-old Koblenz, with its superb Romanesque architecture
- View mighty Lorelei Rock named for the siren "Lorelei" rising from the waters
- Stroll lanes filled with quaint wine taverns in the lively village of Rüdesheim
- Visit the Alsace capital of Strasbourg, designated a UNESCO World Heritage site
- Walk the cobbled streets of tiny Breisach, a city with over 4,000 years history

#### **Travel dates**

2023 - See our website for the lowest price departures between April & October

Departures are subject to confirmation at time of booking. Price will vary depending on your travel date. Please ask us for current rates or other river cruise itineraries.

Want to stay longer & see more? Maybe add flights?

Email hello@mytravelxp.com for more information or call 1300 168 910



#### River Cruise package includes:

- 7 nights outside cabin aboard the deluxe MS Monarch Empress
- 20 meals: 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 7 dinners
- Cruise director & activities host throughout cruise
- Services of local guides in all major cities
- Entrance fees per itinerary
- Cruise porterage
- Comfortable wireless earphones for enhanced touring during excursions

#### Package excludes:

International flights - contact us for the latest airfare deals
Airport & cruise port transfers - can be pre-purchased on request
Meals & sightseeing not specified in the inclusions or itinerary
Optional tours & activities
Personal items, such as drinks, snacks, laundry etc.
Gratuities for tour manager, crew, guides & drivers
Travel insurance is essential
Prices are based on twin share, please contact us for single rates

Subject to confirmation by river cruise company & local operators.

Cancellation fees & booking conditions apply.

Call 1300 168 910 or email hello@mytravelxp.com to ask about upgrading your cabin or adding flights

#### River cruise features & amenities:

- Welcome Dinner and Farewell Dinner
- Wine and beer with dinners
- Locally inspired recipes
- Early riser breakfast in addition to buffet breakfast
- Complimentary Wi-Fi access in public areas
- Self-serve coffee and tea station
- Lounge serving premium spirits (extra fee)
- Fitness centre
- Non-smoking ship interior
- Shore excursions conducted exclusively in English

#### **Itinerary:**

#### DAY 1, Sunday - Arrive in Amsterdam

Welcome to Amsterdam, Holland's sophisticated and modern capital. Make your way from the airport to the port. After arrival formalities, rest and relax on board, or begin your discovery of the many cultural sites this city has to offer. This evening, meet your Cruise Director and enjoy a gala Welcome Dinner as it sets the mood for your delightful river cruise

Overnight: River Cruise

Meals: Dinner

#### DAY 2, Monday - Amsterdam City Tour & Afternoon Cruising

Today's panoramic tour of 700-year-old Amsterdam introduces you to both the old and the new sections of this city. View the Royal Palace on Amsterdam's Dam Square, the Queen's official home-away-from-home. On to the Dutch National Monument dedicated by Queen Juliana as a memorial to the victims of WWII and to the unusual Skinny Bridge, once so narrow that pedestrians could not pass each other. Then, board a glass-top boat and cruise the winding canals for an up-close view of the stately historic homes, 16th-century warehouses and charming churches with striking bell towers. This afternoon, get acquainted with your fellow passengers as you cruise south for Germany

Overnight: River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### DAY 3, Tuesday - Cologne City Tour

Sail on the legendary Rhine to Cologne, one of Germany's largest cities and capital of the Rhineland, arriving as you enjoy lunch on board. Your walking tour of the city is highlighted by the soaring, twin-steeple Gothic cathedral that is the geographical and spiritual heart of the city.

Known for its vibrant art scene, Cologne abounds with cafes, galleries, shops and taverns. After dinner on board, time to explore Cologne's vibrant nightlife before setting sail

**Overnight:** River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### DAY 4, Wednesday - Morning in Koblenz & Afternoon Cruising

The ship docks this morning in Koblenz, located at the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle Rivers. Join a walking tour this morning and free time to explore the Romanesque architecture and imposing defensive towers of this 2000-year old city. Or, join the *optional* tour to the dramatic Marksburg Castle, the only hill castle on the Rhine that's never been destroyed and has been continuously occupied for over 700 years. At noon, set sail and enjoy a relaxing afternoon on board, taking in the spectacular vistas as the ship sails past castles perched on lofty cliffs, terraced vineyards and tiny villages. Pass the mighty Lorelei Rock on the eastern bank of the Rhine rising vertically from the waters, named for the siren "Lorelei" who bewitched sailors passing by. This evening, arrive in Rüdesheim, a lively village in the heart of the Rhine. After dinner, perhaps stroll along the lanes filled with quaint wine taverns

Optional: Marksburg Castle (AM)

Overnight: River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### DAY 5, Thursday - Morning in Mannheim & Afternoon in Speyer

Today discover Mannheim, meeting point of the Rhine and Neckar Rivers, once the gathering place for classical composers. View the imposing red sandstone *Schloss*, Germany's largest Baroque palace and the Luisenpark, one of the loveliest parks in Europe. Alternatively, join the *optional* tour to Heidelberg, home to the oldest university in Germany and inspiration for some of the world's greatest writers and artists; tour the city and view the ruins of 12th century Heidelberg Castle before returning to the ship as it sails to Speyer. Here, stroll the lanes of this picturesque city founded by the Romans, with its prized red sandstone cathedral named a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Tonight, the ship sails for Strasbourg

Optional: Heidelberg City Tour (AM)

Overnight: River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### DAY 6, Friday - Strasbourg City Tour

A lovely day awaits you in the Alsace capital of Strasbourg, situated on the border of France and Germany, blending the cultures of both countries. Discover Strasbourg on the tour highlighting the city's center, designated a UNESCO World Heritage site. Of special note is the stunning Gothic Cathedral, an exquisite example of late Gothic architecture that houses one of the finest astronomical clocks in existence.

See the magical La Petite France district, home to quaint shops and charming bistros, Place Kleber, a large historic square in the center of the city and Place Gutenberg, dedicated to the inventor of the printing press. This evening, return to the ship as you sail toward Breisach in the Rhine Valley

**Overnight:** River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### DAY 7, Saturday - Breisach Walking Tour

Arrive this morning in the small city of Breisach that dates back over 4,000 years. On your walking tour along the cobbled streets lined with pastel-painted houses, it's hard to believe this town was mostly destroyed in WWII and then totally restored to its original beauty. View the towering Romanesque and Gothic St. Stephansmunster Cathedral, a highlight of the city. After lunch set sail for Basel. Tonight, at the Farewell Dinner, share wonderful memories of your Rhine journey with your newfound friends

Overnight: River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### DAY 8, Sunday - Depart Switzerland

This morning, disembark in Basel and make your way to the airport for your

departure flight **Meals:** Breakfast

#### Know Before You Book - High & Low Water

European river cruising has gained in popularity for very good reason. It's a relaxing and convenient way to experience Europe while enjoying the comfort of a deluxe ship. However, before making the decision to reserve your trip, please be aware of potential conditions which may impact your cruise.

While most of the time river cruises operate exactly as planned, weather conditions may result in high or low water levels which impact a ship's itinerary and, on occasion, render a ship unable to sail at all. On very rare occasions, other events such as heavy fog, a damaged lock, or an incapacitated vessel blocking the river, may impact a sailing. These events typically occur with little or no notice. In the event that a cruise is partially or completely impacted, the itinerary will be operated by deluxe motor coach, accompanied by a Tour Manager, with overnights in hotels.

When the option exists, the operator will "swap ships" with another vessel sailing in the opposite direction, retaining the sailing experience. Crew, ship and cabin configuration may differ. The itinerary will include as many of the originally scheduled sightseeing features as possible, considering the travel time and distances required, as well as meals. While it is not possible to recreate the more leisurely comforts of sailings, we will endeavour to provide a comparable itinerary. These alternative services will be provided at no additional charge.

#### Is This Trip Right for You?

This moderately active trip covers a fair amount of ground each day. Expect from three to four hours walking every touring day. The pace is moderate, however you will encounter some uneven surfaces, stairs, steps and significant slopes. There is a potential for a small number of sailings to be impacted by river water levels, or other factors which may impact safe navigation. This may cause part or all of the cruise itinerary to be operated by motor coach and may also involve hotel accommodations.

Please note: The day by day itinerary descriptions are intended as an indicative guide only. Travel by nature is unpredictable. Weather patterns, river levels, road conditions, public holidays, travel restrictions and many other factors may necessitate itinerary changes that are ultimately for the client's benefit. It is essential that clients are flexible in this regard.

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## MY TRAVEL EXPERIENCE BOOKING CONDITIONS

#### Please read the following information prior to making your reservation

Our full set of terms and conditions can be <u>viewed and downloaded on our website</u>, or supplied on request from our office. We highly recommend you read My Travel Experience booking conditions prior to making your holiday reservations. This is the contract under which both parties enter, therefore we request that you only make a booking if you agree with these conditions.

#### This is a summary in brief for our customers:

- 1. Upon making a reservation with My Travel Experience you will receive a booking form, which needs to be filled out and signed to confirm that you agree to the terms and conditions.
  - 2. Your booking will then be confirmed to you in writing and you will be required to pay a deposit to hold your reservation.
- 3. At this time, you must take out travel insurance for your holiday to protect you against any unforeseen circumstances.
  - 4. 120 days prior to departure you will be asked to make the balance payment for your trip (the exact due date for your travel supplier will be advised at the time of booking).
- 5. 10 days prior to departure you will be sent your travel documents electronically via email.

My Travel Experience operates a Client Trust bank account. This means that we do not hold your money. We pay the ultimate travel providers (Suppliers) of your travel services the funds for your holiday. The Suppliers include airlines, tour operators, cruise lines, transport companies, hotels etc. We are required to pay the Suppliers deposits and final payments to secure your booking and in some instances these items are non-refundable.

If you wish to cancel you must notify us of your cancellation in writing. We will then write to the Suppliers to cancel your booking and request a refund (if applicable) for any elements of your holiday that are refundable. You will need to make an insurance claim for any travel arrangements that are non-refundable. If you have any issues during the refund or cancellation process, you have 30 days to contact our office in writing to lodge a complaint so an immediate resolution can be found for you.

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