

8 Days Rhine Getaway River Cruise

Basel to Amsterdam





VIKING INCLUSIVE VALUE

MORE FEATURES INCLUDED:

- One complimentary shore excursion in every port of call
- Free Wi-Fi (connection speed may vary)
- Beer, wine & soft drinks with onboard lunch & dinner
- 24-hour specialty coffees, teas & bottled water
- Port taxes & fees
- Ground transfers with Viking Air purchase
- Visits to UNESCO Sites
- Enrichment lectures & Destination Performances

ALL STATEROOMS INCLUDE:

- Outside staterooms with river view
- Bottled water replenished daily
- Voltage: 220V & 110V (US outlet), plus USB ports
- Queen-size Viking Explorer Bed with optional twin-bed configuration
- All Upper & Middle Deck staterooms have a full veranda or French balcony (a floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door)
- Private bathroom with shower; heated floor & anti-fog mirror; premium Freyja toiletries; robes & slippers (upon request)
- 40" or 42" flat-screen Sony® TV with infotainment system featuring Movies On Demand, plus CNBC, CNN, FOX & more
- Telephone, safe, refrigerator, hair dryer & individual climate control
- * All amenities on board Viking Longships; amenities vary on other ships.

















Itinerary

Day 1 — Basel, Switzerland

Welcome to Basel, on the Rhine River in northwest Switzerland. Transfer from the airport to your ship.* After boarding, enjoy time on your own getting acquainted with the city. Dinner is served on board.

(Dinner)

* Ground transfers are included with Viking Air purchase.

Day 2 — Breisach, Germany

Arrive in Breisach this morning, gateway to the Black Forest. Take a scenic excursion through the area's renowned mountain landscape, rolling meadows and dense forests. Once there, visit a local workshop to see a cuckoo clock-making demonstration, and learn how Black Forest Cake is made.

Return to your ship for lunch.

This afternoon, perhaps join an optional excursion to the quaint Alsatian town of Colmar to discover the storybook charm of its streets lined with medieval, Gothic and Renaissance buildings, and visit a fine arts museum.

Alternately, choose an optional excursion that explores Colmar's World War II history. Dine on board this evening and cruise on through the night.

(Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Included: The Black Forest (4 Hours)

Admire the dense, lofty fir forests of Germany's Schwarzwald, the fabled Black Forest.

Embark with your guide on a scenic drive through a mythical land of cuckoo clocks, glassblowing and timeless fairy tales.

Your panoramic route will take you through wineproducing villages, each of them cradled among the soft, undulating hills, bucolic woodlands and prolific vineyards of southwestern Germany.











Your journey culminates in a winding ascent up to the beautiful Hofgut Sternen hotel, a loyal keeper of Black Forest traditions.

During your visit, you may choose your immersion into Black Forest culture: take an invigorating forest stroll, attend a cuckoo clock demonstration, watch a glassblower at work, or learn to make the decadent Black Forest Cake for which this region is known.

After, return to your ship via Freiburg, a major university and ecclesiastical center.



Disembark this morning for your guided tour of Strasbourg. See the European Parliament and tour the interior of the city's famed cathedral.

Free time allows you to further explore this Alsatian city's blend of French and German cultures, resplendent churches, medieval covered bridges, verdant parks and handsome art nouveau and modernist architecture.

Alternately, join our optional excursion into Alsatian wine country for an informative winery tour and tasting.

Or, spend your full day exploring culinary Strasbourg on an optional excursion; as you explore the city and take in its sights, savor samples of the renowned Alsatian cuisine, from regional dessert specialties and meats to wine pairings with local foods.

Return to your ship for dinner and departure.

(Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Included: Strasbourg Highlights (4 Hours)

Get to know this delightful city steeped in equal parts French and German culture.

Join your local guide for a drive through the German Imperial District and the European Quarter, home of many institutions of the European Union and the Council of Europe.











Continue past remarkable Renaissance architecture, then proceed to the city center for a walking tour of the picturesque Petite France area, the former Tanners' District surrounded by the small III River and crisscrossed by charming canals.

Here, you will see the Old Customs House and the covered bridges with their defensive towers.

In Cathedral Square, view the magnificently restored Strasbourg Cathedral, towering above merchant houses. One of the finest of Europe's great Gothic cathedrals, it was the world's tallest building from 1647 to 1874.

You will have time to admire the great Gothic rosette window, beautiful red sandstone portal and remarkable astronomical clock.



This morning, disembark for an included tour to visit the historic town of Speyer and take in views of the imposing Speyer Cathedral, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Built in the 11th century on the site of a former basilica, the building's design influenced Romanesque architecture for centuries to come, and is the final resting place of eight German monarchs.

Alternatively, after breakfast, you may choose to disembark for a full day tour of Heidelberg, the home of Germany's oldest university, founded in 1386.

Visit the beautiful sandstone ruins of imposing Heidelberg Castle and admire the Neckar River Valley.

Continue with a walking tour through Old Town to Heidelberg's renowned gates and after lunch, rejoin your ship in Rüdesheim.

This evening, you can dine on board your ship or choose to experience one of our optional dinners on shore tonight.











Included: Speyer Walking Tour (3 Hours)

Enjoy a fascinating stroll through Speyer, home to the largest of the three Romanesque imperial cathedrals. It is believed that the Protestants earned their name here in 1529 after citizens and royalty drafted the "Protestation at Speyer," proclaiming their right to practice Christianity as they please. In 1689, Louis XIV's troops plundered Speyer and left it in ruins; over many decades, it was artfully rebuilt.

During your walk, you will marvel at the exterior of the red sandstone cathedral, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Eight emperors are entombed here, including some of the most notable Holy Roman Emperors. Reconstructed after Louis XIV's invasion, its six towers dominate the skyline.

Pass the Jewish courtyard, once home to one of the most important medieval synagogues, and Speyer's Altpörtel, or Old Gate, the last remains of the town's fortifications. There will also be time to stroll the city's charming, shop-lined main thoroughfare.

Day 5 — Koblenz, Germany

This morning, sail along the most scenic stretch of the Rhine, where turreted castles and fortresses overlook the river from their hilltop posts. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, this part of the Middle Rhine Valley is so beautiful.

Arrive in Koblenz this afternoon and disembark for a guided exploration of Koblenz on foot.

You may also join an optional excursion that offers a lively and informative tour of Ehrenbreitstein Fortress; or, choose to journey into Moselle wine country on an optional excursion, stopping for a tour and tasting at a local winery.

Return to your ship for lunch.

Later, enjoy some time in this charming town at the confluence of the Moselle and Rhine Rivers.











Included: Historic Koblenz (2 Hours)

Take a leisurely stroll around Koblenz and explore its historic past.

You will meet your guide and begin your tour at Deutsches Eck, the city's famed German Corner. Jutting into the waters like the prow of a ship where the Rhine and Moselle Rivers meet, this public park is home to a popular equestrian statue of Emperor Wilhelm I.

After time to admire the sculpture, continue your walk among the narrow streets. Visit Jesuitsenplatz, or Jesuit Square, in the heart of the Old Town and named after the religious order of the same name.

Admire the beautiful old school that sits on the eastern side of the square, and has been used as Koblenz City Hall since 1895. As you explore, your guide will point out influences from ancient Rome, the Middle Ages and the Napoleonic era.



Begin your day with a morning tour of Cologne, Germany's fourth largest city. Stroll through Old Town past St. Martin's Church and see the Dom, Germany's largest cathedral and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Spend your free time enjoying Cologne's atmospheric waterfront, or perhaps join an optional excursion on which you ascend to the Dom's roof for up-close views of the cathedral's architecture and bird's-eye vistas of Cologne.

Afterward, return on board for dinner.

Alternately, you may set off on an optional excursion to explore Cologne's spirited beer culture, sampling *Kölsch*, a light, crisp beer brewed only in Cologne, and enjoying a *brauhaus* dinner.

After, return to your ship for a late-evening departure.











Included: Cologne Walking Tour (2 Hours)

Learn about Cologne's heritage and view its iconic cathedral, towering over the city in all its Gothic splendor. Step into a rich past, following some of the city's preserved historic street patterns and hearing about its Roman and medieval history along the way.

As you stroll, your guide will regale you with tales of local folklore figures, Tünnes and Schääl, and the city's flourishing Jewish community.

In Old Cologne, pass the elegant silhouette of St. Martin's church and stop to view Cologne's magnificent Gothic cathedral, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Construction of this towering structure began in 1248 and continued in several stages over the next seven centuries.

The largest Gothic cathedral in Northern Europe, this magnificent church boasts two soaring spires and beautiful stained glass windows, and largely escaped the damage that ravaged the city and the rest of Germany during World War II.







Day 7 — Kinderdijk, The Netherlands

We sail along the Rhine during the morning hours. Admire scenic views and enjoy a morning of enjoyable Dutch diversions: sample Dutch cheeses and *jenever*, a distilled juniper liquor, and take in a culturally enriching presentation on the Dutch Golden Age.

This afternoon, your ship arrives in Kinderdijk, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Disembark for an afternoon tour of this ingenious network of windmills and other flood management devices. You learn why the windmills were built and see how they work, plus you enter a working windmill for a tour of its mechanisms and living quarters.

Board your ship for departure and dinner. Arrive in Amsterdam around midnight.





Included: Kinderdijk Windmills (2 Hours)

See the picturesque Dutch countryside and the original technological marvels of historic Kinderdijk, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

You will walk with your guide into the serene polder lands of South Holland. As you cross the dike to the windmills, you will notice that they in fact are at a lower elevation than your ship, as much of this part of The Netherlands is below sea level.

Built in the mid-18th century, these 19 windmills, the largest concentration in The Netherlands, stand like sentinels on a hushed landscape.

You will learn why they were built and see firsthand how they work, even stepping into a working windmill to observe its mechanics and living quarters.

Families who live in these mills are required to keep them in working order.

This excursion provides a revealing look at these marvelous buildings that helped shape the legendary Dutch landscape.

Day 8 — Amsterdam, The Netherlands

After breakfast, disembark and proceed to the airport for your return flight.* Or, extend your journey with 2 additional nights in Amsterdam; take time to explore the city's neighborhoods, museums and exciting nightlife.

(Breakfast)

* Ground transfers are included with Viking Air purchase.









* One shore excursion included per port; all others available at an extra charge. Itinerary is subject to change.



Custom Travel Experts 專業旅遊設計規劃

www.UnikkeTravel.com

Tel: **(626)910-5288** • Fax: **(626)910-5388** • Toll Free: **1-888-680-5688** 18472 Colima Rd., Suite 202F, Rowland Heights, CA 91748 CST # 2116316-40