

# VIKING RHINE RIVER GETAWAY CRUISE

**June 7 - 14, 2024**

**8 Days | Amsterdam, The Netherlands to  
Basel, Switzerland**

## CASTLES & CATHEDRALS.

Discover the turreted fortresses, grand cathedrals, historic cities, medieval towns and spectacular scenery of the Middle Rhine.



### GROUP RATE:

Category F (window) starting at  
\$3,374 pp/double  
\$6,123 pp/single

Category D (French Balcony) starting at  
\$4,874 pp/double  
\$9,998 pp/single

*rates include port charges*

### PRE/POST Night Options:

*Request more information*

**AMSTERDAM** - 2-night pre land extension in Amsterdam for an additional \$699 pp/double.

**BASEL** - 2-night post land extension in Basel for an additional \$549 pp/double.

*Land pricing includes breakfast, guided city tours, Viking Host, and transfers to and from the ship.*

**Deposit \$500 per person**

**Air promotion \$999 economy class-subject to change based on booking date.**



*Free Spirit*  
TRAVEL VACATIONS AND EVENTS

**FREESPIRITVACATIONS.COM**

**480-926-5547**

# RHINE RIVER CRUISE - *ITINERARY*

**Day 1, AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS.** Arrive in Amsterdam, then transfer to your ship. After boarding, the afternoon is yours to relax or explore the city on your own. If your arrival schedule permits, you may wish to visit the Rijksmuseum, or the van Gogh Museum. (D)

**Day 2, KINDERDIJK, THE NETHERLANDS.** This morning we sail to Kinderdijk, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, for a tour of this ingenious network of windmills and other flood management devices. Learn why the windmills were built and see how they work. Enter a working windmill for a tour of its mechanisms and living quarters. Return on board for lunch and an enjoyable afternoon of Dutch diversions: sample handcrafted Dutch cheeses and jenever, a distilled juniper liquor, and take in a culturally enriching presentation on the Dutch Golden Age. We cruise through the night. (B,L,D)

**Day 3, COLOGNE, GERMANY.** Begin your day with a morning tour of Cologne. Stroll through Old Town past St. Martin's Church and see the Dom, Germany's largest cathedral and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Spend free time enjoying Cologne's atmospheric waterfront, or 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. Or, 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. (B,L,D)

**Day 4, KOBLENZ & RUDESHEIM, GERMANY.** Proceed along the Rhine, disembarking for a walking tour of Koblenz. Or, choose an optional excursion to tour the 700-year old Marksburg Castle, or a tour of Ehrenbreitstein Fortress. After lunch on board, sail the scenic Middle Rhine, a UNESCO World Heritage Site where turreted castles and fortresses overlook the river. Arrive in Rudesheim in the late afternoon. Spend free time in the pedestrian-only Drosselgasse and sample a glass of locally produced wine at one of the restaurants or wine bars. Dine on board your ship, or in town if you prefer. You may also choose to experience one of our optional dinners on shore tonight. We depart after midnight. (B, L, D)

**Day 5, SPEYER, GERMANY.** Cruise into midmorning. After lunch, enjoy an included tour to visit the historic town of Speyer and take in views of Speyer Cathedral, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. 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. After lunch, visit the historic town of Speyer on your way back to your ship. (B,L,D)

**Day 6, STRASBOURG, FRANCE.** We dock this morning in Kehl and disembark for a guided tour of Strasbourg. See the European Parliament and tour the interior of the city's famed cathedral. The afternoon is free to explore this Alsatian city's blend of French and German cultures, churches, medieval covered bridges, parks and 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. On board this evening, enjoy a Taste of Germany dinner event. (B,L,D)

**Day 7, 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. 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, 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. (B,L,D)

**Day 8, BASEL, SWITZERLAND.** After breakfast, disembark and proceed to the airport for your return flight. Or, extend your journey with 2 nights in Lucerne or Basel, or 3 nights in Lake Como. (B)

# RHINE RIVER CRUISE - *PRE/POST NIGHT OPTIONS*

## **EXTEND YOUR CRUISE WITH 2 NIGHTS IN AMSTERDAM**

Navigate Amsterdam's picturesque canals while discovering its cultural and architectural treasures. Witness the legacy of the Dutch Golden Age that lives on in the city's gilded manses and stroll through the Jordaan district, passing historic sites such as Wester Church and the Anne Frank House.

*Note: The Anne Frank House is very popular. If you plan to visit it, we advise purchasing your tickets well in advance online at the museum's website.*

### **Day 1**

Welcome to Amsterdam. Transfer from the airport to your hotel. The rest of your day is at leisure to explore Amsterdam's charming neighborhoods and sample some treats. A Viking Host is available to help you plan your time in Amsterdam so you can make the most of your visit.

### **Day 2**

After breakfast, embark on a walking tour through the charming streets of Amsterdam. Your afternoon and evening are free to enjoy Amsterdam's wonderful restaurants and many attractions; explore the city's art or historic museums; or take a stroll along the picturesque canals. This evening, dine in a local restaurant — Amsterdam offers many establishments in the "grand café" style and is also known for excellent Indonesian cuisine — and enjoy the city's lively nightlife. (B)

### **Day 3**

Today, you have additional time for touring or shopping. Later this afternoon, transfer to your ship to begin your river cruise. (Dinner is served on board your ship as part of your cruise itinerary.) (B)

## **EXTEND YOUR CRUISE WITH 2 NIGHTS IN BASEL**

Discover the city that stands at the point where France, Germany and Switzerland meet. See the lovely Middle Bridge, the Basel Cathedral and the winding cobblestone streets lined with medieval house and colorful fountains. Explore the many museums and art galleries.

### **Day 1**

Check in to your hotel, then take a guided walking tour through this historic city, visiting the Marktplatz, or Market Square, watched over by the ornate spires of the Town Hall, or Rathaus. Your afternoon is free to explore on your own, perhaps at the Barfüsser Church and its Basel Historical Museum. Or visit the Kunstmuseum, home to one of the largest and oldest collections of art in Europe.

### **Day 2**

Your day is free to explore this lovely riverside city, one of Switzerland's most important cultural centers. Perhaps you will stroll the scenic, tree-lined pathways of the Rhine promenade in Kleinbasel. Or cross the river via a traditional Rhine ferry, a motorless craft that uses the river's current and a pulley system to convey passengers between banks. Or take a day trip to Lucerne, only an hour's journey by train. (B)

### **Day 3**

After breakfast, check out of your hotel and proceed to the airport for your return flight. (B)