



National Trust for Historic Preservation

National Trust Tours

## **CRUISING THE RHINE**

### **Legendary Landscapes, History & Art aboard the 100-passenger *MS River Crown***

**June 17–26, 2027  
(10 days)**

The Riches of the Rhine cruises **eight nights on the *MS River Crown* from Basel to Rotterdam** (Amsterdam) for travelers preferring a shorter trip, while offering both a **two-night pre-trip extension in Basel** and a **three-night post-trip extension in Amsterdam**, for those wanting to explore more. The summer days of June are perfect for visiting the region's most enchanting gardens in full bloom, along with a plethora of artistic, historical, and scenic delights to be enjoyed along the way. We've planned excursion options throughout the cruise, all included in the tour price, resulting in small-group experiences and the opportunity to focus on what most interests your lecturer and organization.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- **Small Ship River Cruising:** Eight nights aboard the privately chartered and newly refurbished *MS River Crown*, with a maximum of 100 travelers.
- **Splendid Gardens in Full Bloom:** Visit the horticultural wonders of Ettenbuehl Castle's Garden, the rose gardens of Mainz, Leverkusen's Japanese Gardens, Cologne's Botanic Gardens, and historic De Wiersse Castle & Gardens.
- **Five UNESCO Treasures:** Cruise the dramatic Rhine Gorge where castles rise above vineyard-clad slopes, visit Cologne's Cathedral and Kinderdijk's windmills, and step back in time in Strasbourg & Heidelberg's historic centers.
- **Compelling Military History:** Visit the Maginot Line fortification near Strasbourg; strategically critical Allied Rhine River crossings; and Arnhem, where the unsuccessful Operation Market Garden unfolded with a chance to walk the Oversteek Bridge where American soldiers are honored.
- **World-Class Art & Design:** Explore medieval cathedrals and Renaissance squares to modern design in Basel and Cologne, with visits to top collections like the Unterlinden Museum, Kröller-Müller Museum, and Mainz Gutenberg.
- **Culinary Flare:** Raise a glass of wine at a private wine tasting in the heart of the Alsace wine region, learn about Cologne Kölsch beer from a brew master, and sample local specialties including a food tour in Heidelberg.

# CRUISING THE RHINE

Legendary Landscapes, History & Art aboard the *River Crown*

## ABOUT THE RIVER CROWN



We are delighted to have chartered the elegant 100-passenger *MS River Crown*, a spacious and well-designed vessel built in 2008 and currently undergoing a comprehensive upgrade to be completed by the end of 2025. The ship features a lounge, bar and restaurant all on the Upper Deck with large panoramic windows for viewing riverside scenery. Other amenities include a sun deck, sauna and fitness room.

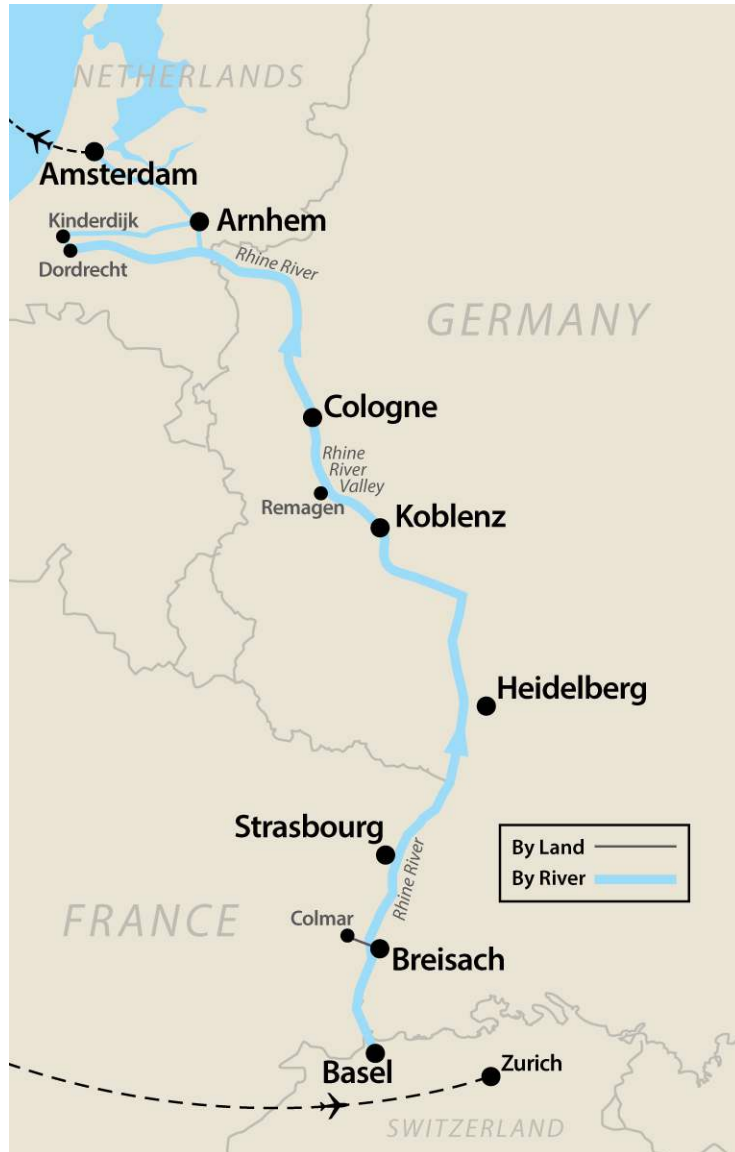


The ship's well-planned cabins span three decks. **Premium cabins** (167 sq ft) on the Middle and Upper Decks offer twin or queen beds and **floor-to-ceiling panoramic windows** that open to a French Balcony. **Deluxe cabins** (237 sq ft) on the same decks include a fixed double bed and a seating area with sofa, armchair and table, also with a French Balcony. The Upper Deck has **four Queen Suites** (323 sq ft) with a living room separated by sliding doors, a double bed, a spacious bathroom, and both a French Balcony and a private balcony. The Main Deck offers **five Standard single cabins** (130 sq ft) with portholes. All cabins provide ample storage, a writing/dressing table, TV, safe, hairdryer, small refrigerator and individually controlled air-conditioning.

# CRUISING THE RHINE

Legendary Landscapes, History & Art aboard the *River Crown*

## ITINERARY MAP



## CRUISING THE RHINE

### Legendary Landscapes, History & Art aboard the *River Crown*

#### ITINERARY OUTLINE

DAY	OVERNIGHT	HOTEL	ACTIVITIES
Thu June 17	Depart U.S.		Overnight flight to Basel, Switzerland
Fri June 18	Basel, Switzerland	<i>River Crown</i>	Arrive in Zurich and transfer to the ship in Basel; welcome reception & dinner on board. RD
Sat June 19	Breisach, Germany	<i>River Crown</i>	AM lecture; AM options 1) medieval town of Colmar, <b>Battle of the Colmar Pocket</b> and art of <b>Unterlinden Museum</b> ; or 2) <b>Ettenbuehl Castle and Garden</b> boasting over 10,000 flowers; afternoon of cruising to Strasbourg. BLD
Sun June 20	Strasbourg, France	<i>River Crown</i>	AM lecture; <b>Strasbourg's UNESCO World Heritage listed Old Town</b> ; cruising the canals of <b>Strasbourg's "Petite France"</b> in small local boats; PM options 1) <b>Fort Schoenenbourg</b> , a Maginot Line fortification; or 2) <b>wine tasting in Alsace</b> . BLD
Mon June 21	Heidelberg, Germany	<i>River Crown</i>	AM lecture; tour Heidelberg, the UNESCO City of Literature, the <b>Heidelberg Castle and garden (Hortus Palatinus)</b> ; <b>food tasting tour in the Old Town</b> ; PM options: 1) free time in Heidelberg; 2) Mainz with <b>Gutenberg Museum</b> with River Walk. BLD
Tue June 22	Rhine Gorge & Koblenz	<i>River Crown</i>	AM <b>cruise UNESCO protected Rhine Gorge</b> ; PM options: <b>Koblenz Old Town</b> including "German Corner," where the Rhine and Moselle meet; or 2) <b>Bridge Towers of Remagen</b> tour. BLD
Wed June 23	Cologne	<i>River Crown</i>	AM lecture; <b>Cologne's Old Town and Cathedral</b> ; PM options 1) <b>Netherlands American Cemetery and Gestapo headquarters</b> 2) <b>Kölsch beer tasting</b> with brew master; or 3) <b>Japanese Gardens in Leverkusen</b> ; overnight in Cologne to dine ashore. BLD
Thu June 24	Dordrecht & Kinderdijk, Netherlands	<i>River Crown</i>	Morning lecture; AM <b>UNESCO-protected Windmills of Kinderdijk</b> ; PM options: 1) walk through <b>artists' quarter</b> with canal-house visit; or 2) free time in Dordrecht's quaint shops, cottages and canals. BLD
Fri June 25	Arnhem	<i>River Crown</i>	AM options: 1) <b>Operation Market Garden</b> at Airborne Museum with walk on <b>Oversteek Bridge</b> ; 2) <b>Kröller-Müller Art Museum</b> with optional cycling in Park Hoge Veluwe; or 3) <b>De Wiersse Castle &amp; Gardens</b> . PM cruising to Rotterdam with farewell reception and dinner on board. BLD
Sat June 26	Amsterdam/ Home		Disembark this morning and transfer to Amsterdam Airport or embark on three-night Netherlands extension. B

## CRUISING THE RHINE

Legendary Landscapes, History & Art aboard the *River Crown*

### GENERAL INFORMATION

#### Retail Program Fees

Per person, sharing:

Premium Middle Deck, 167 sq ft; French balcony, queen or 2 twin beds .....	\$5,990
Premium Upper Deck, 167 sq ft; French balcony, queen or 2 twin beds.....	\$6,990
Deluxe Middle Deck, 237 sq ft; French balcony, queen bed, seating area .....	\$7,990
Deluxe Upper Deck, 237 sq ft; French balcony, queen bed, seating area.....	\$8,990
Queen Suite, 323 sq ft; private balcony & French balcony, queen bed, living room, separate tub and shower, double wash basin .....	\$9,990

Single Occupancy:

Standard Main Deck, 130 sq ft, portholes, single bed .....	\$5,990
Premium Middle Deck, 167 sq ft; French balcony.....	\$9,990

#### Program Length, Capacity:

10 days roundtrip from the U.S.

Minimum capacity: 50 passengers; Maximum capacity: 92 passengers (all sponsors).

**Fees Include: Eight nights aboard the *River Crown*** • Meals and excursions as specified in the itinerary • Comprehensive program of briefings, lectures and presentations • Shared airport transfers on group arrival and departure dates • Baggage handling • Gratuities to porters, waitstaff, guides and drivers • **Gratuities to shipboard personnel** • **Port charges** • Entrance fees • Welcome and farewell wine receptions • House wine, beer, and soft drinks with all lunches and dinners on board *River Crown* • Professional tour managers throughout the program

**Fees Do Not Include:** U.S. domestic and international airfare • Passport/visa expenses • Medical expenses and immunizations • Private airport transfers or airport transfers outside of group arrival and departure days • Travel and trip cancellation insurance • Excursions that deviate from the scheduled tour options • Airline baggage charges • Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals; liquor or soft drinks except as noted • Laundry or dry cleaning • Telephone, Internet and email charges • Room service • Other items of a personal nature

## CRUISING THE RHINE

### Legendary Landscapes, History & Art aboard the *River Crown*

#### Switzerland Pre-Trip Extension

**June 15–18, 2027**

Optional two-night pre-cruise extension in Switzerland, staying at the Grand Hotel Euler, an upscale boutique hotel offering opulent historic touches. Arrive Switzerland early to immerse yourself in the beauty of Basel and alpine scenery of Lake Lucerne. Visit several of Basel’s renowned chocolatiers to learn about the history and traditions that make Swiss chocolates some of the most sought after in the world. 2B/2L/1D

#### EXTENSION ITINERARY OUTLINE

DAY	OVERNIGHT	HOTEL	ACTIVITIES
Tue June 15	Depart U.S.		Overnight flight to Basel, Switzerland
Wed June 16	Basel, Switzerland	Grand Hotel Euler	Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel in the heart of Basel. This evening gather in the lobby to walk to a nearby restaurant for <b>dinner of Swiss specialties</b> . D
Thu June 17	Basel	Grand Hotel Euler	Travel this morning to delightful <b>Ettenbuehl Castle and Garden</b> , boasting a rose garden with over 10,000 flowers. Spend the afternoon on a <b>guided tour of Basel featuring several chocolatiers</b> to learn about the history and taste different styles and types of chocolate. Remainder of the day is free to enjoy dinner at one of the city’s many restaurants. BL
Fri June 18	Basel	<i>River Crown</i>	Travel this morning to <b>Lake Lucerne</b> , flanked by dramatic peaks, the lake is renowned for its alpine beauty. Embark on a <b>1.5-hour cruise of the lake</b> . Following lunch, transfer to the ship in the mid-afternoon. BL

#### **Approximate Extension Fee:**

Per person, sharing accommodations.....\$2,590

Single Supplement.....\$690

Above extension fee includes one tour manager but no organization staff.

#### **Extension Capacity:**

Minimum capacity: 10; Maximum capacity: 24

## CRUISING THE RHINE

**Legendary Landscapes, History & Art aboard the *River Crown***

### Holland Post-Trip Extension June 26–29, 2027

Optional three-night post-cruise extension in Amsterdam staying at the Sir Albert Hotel steps from Museum Square. Take in highlights of Amsterdam including guided visits to several world-renown museums: The Rijksmuseum, Van Gogh Museum, and the Anne Frank House, along with a boat cruise through the canals. Travel to Aalsmeer to witness the flower auction and Haarlem to visit the eclectic Teyler’s Museum in Haarlem home to exquisite Rembrandt and Michelangelo masterpieces and enjoy special access to the drawing and etching “cupboards.”  
3B/2L/1D

#### EXTENSION ITINERARY OUTLINE

DAY	OVERNIGHT	HOTEL	ACTIVITIES
Sat June 26	Amsterdam	Sir Albert Hotel or similar	Disembark and travel to Amsterdam for a city tour including a guided tour of <b>Rijksmuseum</b> ; following lunch embark on walking tour of “occupied” Amsterdam ending at the <b>Dutch Resistance Museum</b> ; cruise Amsterdam’s UNESCO World Heritage listed <b>canal network</b> before checking in to the Sir Albert Hotel, a beautifully designed boutique hotel with Green Globe certification steps from Museum Square. BL
Sun June 27	Amsterdam	Sir Albert Hotel or similar	Full-day excursion beginning with <b>Aalsmeer’s floral auction</b> , which sends blooms worldwide; continue to <b>Frans Hals</b> and <b>Teylers museums in Haarlem</b> , with a private tour of the rare drawings collections not open to the public at the latter; lunch at a local restaurant in Haarlem followed by free time in Amsterdam. BL
Mon June 28	Amsterdam	Sir Albert Hotel or similar	Morning guided visit to the <b>Van Gogh Museum</b> and the <b>Anne Frank House</b> , followed by lunch and an afternoon garden tour (exact gardens TBD). Farewell dinner at a local restaurant. BD
Tues June 29	Return to U.S.		Transfer to Amsterdam’s Schiphol Airport for return flights to the U.S. B

**Approximate Extension Fee:**

Per person, sharing accommodations..... \$3,290  
Single Supplement..... \$1,200

Above extension fee includes one tour manager but no organization staff. Fees and services are based on exchange rates as of November 2025 and are subject to change.

**Extension Capacity:**

Minimum capacity: 10; Maximum capacity: 24