



National Trust *for* Historic Preservation

National Trust Tours



Masterpieces & Monuments of the Rhine **Basel to Amsterdam Aboard *Advance***

with Jennifer Dasal, Lecturer

October 31 – November 6, 2024



National Trust *for* Historic Preservation
National Trust Tours

Dear National Trust Traveler,

This November, as U.S. elections unfold back home, join the National Trust for a leisurely and luxurious cruise through Europe. Feel the romance of the Rhine River as you wind through Switzerland, France, Germany, and Holland. During a quiet time of year in this region, take your front-row seat aboard the brand-new, 55-cabin *Advance* riverboat as autumn paints the riverscapes in crimson and gold.

Beyond the enchanting beauty, you'll be enriched by Rhine Valley's millennia-old cultural heritage. Expert guides will usher you into a world that shaped history, from ancient Roman innovation to the invention of the printing press, from Renaissance art to the Protestant Reformation. Go behind the scenes at historic museum collections, Prussian hilltop castles, and some of the world's finest Romanesque and Gothic cathedrals with splendid interior frescoes and sculptures.

Gather for illuminating afternoon lectures from **Jennifer Dasal**, the art historian behind the acclaimed *ArtCurious* podcast. Begin your journey in Basel, Switzerland, home of the famous art fair and the world's oldest public art collection, dating back to 1661. Witness this historic gathering of masterpieces at the Kunstmuseum Basel. Come face to face with its works by Van Gogh, Klee, Picasso, and other masters with your expert guide.

You'll be dazzled by Strasbourg, the Alsatian capital straddling the French-German border, with its half-timbered houses and island of medieval churches. Ascend its showstopping, 466-foot-tall Strasbourg Cathedral, once the world's tallest building. In Mainz, Germany, the birthplace of Gutenberg, marvel at how its cathedral blends Romanesque, Gothic, and Baroque styles. Meet a master sommelier in a private garden to taste the region's renowned varieties: Riesling, Silvaner, Spätburgunder, and more. In Koblenz, Germany, stroll in the footsteps of Prussian royalty at their majestic summer residence, the 19th-century hilltop Stolzenfels Castle.

As a final stop before disembarkation in Amsterdam, go behind the scenes in one of Holland's oldest cities, Nijmegen, discovering remains of Charlemagne's castle. Step even further back in time to when ancient Rome dominated the Rhine Valley, joining an expert to admire their extraordinarily well-preserved artifacts at the Museum Het Valkhof.

We hope you join this luxurious riverboat cruise through the spectacular Rhine Valley, exploring millennia of treasures aboard the new *Advance*.



Advance

Sincerely,

Meg Annacone-Perez
Director, National Trust Tours



Activity Level:



Pace Level:

Visit Arrangements Abroad's website for more information about Activity and Pace Levels [here](#).

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a private, nonprofit membership organization dedicated to saving historic places and revitalizing America's communities. For more information, visit the Trust's website at www.savingplaces.org or phone (800) 944-6847 or (202) 588-6000.

CRUISE HIGHLIGHTS

SAIL leisurely along the picturesque **Rhine River** through Switzerland, France, Germany, and Holland aboard the luxurious, eco-friendly new **Advance**

EXPERIENCE the Rhine Valley's romantic allure as you cruise past **picture-perfect castles, terraced vineyards, and charming villages** that appear frozen in time

MARVEL at masterpieces by Hans Holbein the Younger, Van Gogh, Picasso, and other renowned artists at the 17th-century **Kunstmuseum Basel**, the world's oldest public art collection, with an expert guide

ASCEND the iconic, 466-foot-tall **Strasbourg Cathedral**, once the world's tallest building, and admire its stunning stained-glass windows and mesmerizing astronomical clock with an expert

GO behind the scenes at the **Mainz Cathedral**, a unique architectural blend of Romanesque, Gothic, and Baroque styles, and discover its collection of ornate funerary monuments of powerful archbishops

ENJOY an **exclusive wine tasting in a picturesque garden** in Mainz, Germany, joining an acclaimed sommelier to savor the region's renowned wines

JOIN an expert-guided tour of the splendid 19th-century **Stolzenfels Castle**, perched high above the Rhine River in Koblenz, Germany

UNCOVER the secrets of ancient Rome at the **Museum Het Valkhof** in Nijmegen, joining a scholar to explore an extraordinarily well-preserved collection of locally discovered Roman antiquities

STEP inside the magnificent Romanesque **Basilica of St. Castor** in Koblenz, dating back to the ninth century A.D.

TRAVELING WITH YOU



Jennifer Dasal is an art historian and the creator and host of the acclaimed [ArtCurious](#) podcast (2016–23), which introduced listeners worldwide to “the unexpected, the slightly odd, and the strangely wonderful in art history.” In September 2020, Dasal's first book, *ArtCurious: Stories of the Unexpected, Slightly Odd, and Strangely Wonderful in Art History*, was released by Penguin Books. Dasal is the former curator of modern and contemporary art at the North Carolina Museum of Art (NCMA), where she worked for 13 years. She earned a B.A. from the University of California, Davis, and an M.A. from the University of Notre Dame, both in art history. She also completed Ph.D. coursework in art history at Pennsylvania State University.

Masterpieces & Monuments of the Rhine

Basel to Amsterdam Aboard Advance

October 31 – November 6, 2024



Visit the majestic **Basler Münster**, the city's striking, red-sandstone cathedral. Completed in 1500, the cathedral has a delightful mix of Romanesque and Gothic architecture, including the ornate main portal.

Basel, the site of the renowned Art Basel fair, boasts a rich art history spanning centuries. In 1661, Basel became the first city to open a public art collection, which later evolved into the **Kunstmuseum Basel**. Join your expert guide on a visit to this historic institution, where you'll discover masterpieces from the Upper Rhine region dating from the 15th century to the present. Marvel at works by Renaissance master Hans Holbein the Younger, the unique painter who made his career in Basel.

The museum also features key works by Paul Klee, Pablo Picasso, Henri Rousseau, and Vincent van Gogh. Learn about the museum's fascinating history, including Basel residents' vote to purchase two major Picasso paintings in 1967, a move that so touched Picasso that he donated additional works to the collection. Return to the boat for a delightful dinner as the vessel gently departs this evening. L,D

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2: STRASBOURG, FRANCE

During breakfast, glide into **Strasbourg**, the capital of eastern France's Alsace region, straddling the border between France and Germany. With ancient Celtic and later Roman roots, Strasbourg thrived as a Free Imperial City within the Holy Roman Empire. Around 1440, Johannes Gutenberg developed the printing press here. The Protestant Reformation took root here in the 16th century, with John Calvin preaching in the city.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31: DEPARTURE

Depart for Basel on an overnight flight.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1: BASEL, SWITZERLAND / EMBARK ADVANCE

Upon arrival in Basel's crisp morning air, a group transfer whisks you to the quay, where *Advance* awaits. Basel's early history spans from Celtic settlements in the fifth century B.C. to Roman fortifications in the fourth century A.D. The University of Basel, Switzerland's first university founded in 1460, made the city a center of Renaissance humanism, book printing, and the Protestant Reformation.

After settling in, enjoy an energizing lunch on board. Start your walking tour at the **Basler Papiermühle** (Basel Paper Mill Museum), a museum dedicated to papermaking, printing, and writing, housed in a carefully restored medieval paper mill building from 1453.

Cross the iconic **Mittlere Brücke**, a 13th-century bridge adorned with colorful flags and flowers, and take in stunning views of the Rhine River and the city skyline.



Basler Papiermühle, Basel, Switzerland

After centuries of shifting between French and German control, Strasbourg now serves as the seat of the European Parliament, its glass-and-metal building a modern landmark in this ancient city. Discover Strasbourg's unique blend of French and German architectural styles. Start your walking tour at the 466-foot-tall **Strasbourg Cathedral**, a Gothic masterpiece completed in 1439 and once the world's tallest building.

Get an up-close look at the cathedral's intricately carved façade, a sight Victor Hugo called "a prodigy of the gigantesque and the delicate." Observe how hundreds of exterior sculptures create a mesmerizing interplay of light and shadow on the pink sandstone.

Step back to medieval Strasbourg as you wander through the picturesque **Petite France** neighborhood, where canals and cobblestone streets wind past charming half-timbered houses with flower-filled balconies. Explore the **Grande île**, the city's historic heart on an island. Don't miss the hidden gems of **Saint-Pierre-le-Jeune Church**, with its exceptional frescoes and serene cloister, and **St. Thomas's Church**,



Mainz Cathedral, Mainz, Germany

known as the "cathedral of Protestantism in Alsace" and home to a monumental 18th-century mausoleum by sculptor Jean-Baptiste Pigalle.

After lunch aboard *Advance*, enjoy the afternoon at leisure to wander Strasbourg's streets. As evening approaches, return to the ship for a departure under the setting sun, followed by dinner. B,L,D

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3: MAINZ, GERMANY / KOBLENZ

As you enjoy breakfast on board, the boat gracefully glides into **Mainz**, Germany. Founded as a Roman military fortress in the first century B.C., the city was a key military center and trading post along the Rhine River. In the fourth century A.D., Mainz became one of the earliest centers of Christianity north of the Alps, with its first Christian church.

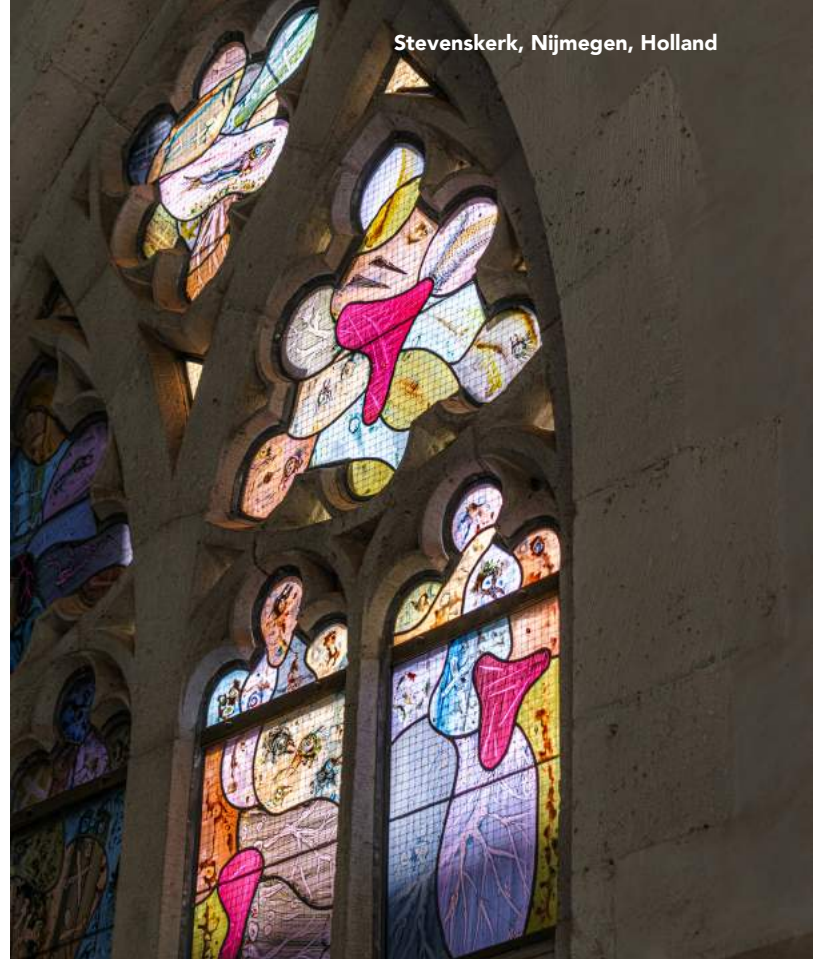
As the birthplace of Johannes Gutenberg, inventor of the movable-type printing press, Mainz played a pivotal role in the history of printing and publishing. The Gutenberg Bible, the first major book printed in the West using movable type, was produced in Mainz around 1455.

Join an expert to explore the **Mainz Cathedral** (St. Martin's Cathedral), a prime example of Romanesque architecture dating to 975 A.D. Explore its beautiful cloister and the ornate funerary monuments of the powerful archbishops. Then stroll through the **Old Town's charming streets**, lined with colorful half-timbered houses, historic churches, and lively squares, and stop at the bustling **Marktplatz** to sample local specialties or shop for souvenirs.

Relax in a **picturesque wine garden for a private tasting**, savoring the flavors of regional wines such as Riesling, Silvaner, and Spätburgunder while enjoying the warm hospitality and convivial atmosphere. After lunch on board, the journey continues towards Koblenz, treating you to breathtaking countryside vistas as the sun begins its descent over the Rhine. Revel in some leisure time aboard before dinner. B,L,D



Strasbourg Cathedral, Strasbourg, France



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4: KOBLENZ

The Upper Middle Rhine Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, greets visitors with its rugged, unspoiled beauty and cultural history. At the heart of this valley, **Koblenz** has been a key center throughout history due to its location at the *Deutsches Eck*, the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle rivers. The Romans established a city here in 9 B.C., which later served as a Holy Roman Empire stronghold and a vacation spot for Prussian royalty.

Upon arrival in Koblenz, thread through the labyrinthine alleys to the city's oldest church, the ninth-century A.D. **Basilica of St. Castor**. A Romanesque masterpiece with ornate interior frescoes and stone carvings, the basilica played a crucial role in the division of the Carolingian Empire, setting the stage for the formation of the Holy Roman Empire and France. Explore the Romanesque **Church of Our Lady**, admiring the four distinctive onion-shaped towers that dominate the Koblenz skyline.

Take a guided tour of the majestic, 19th-century **Stolzenfels Castle** perched high above the Rhine River. Originally built as a medieval fortress, it was later transformed into a summer residence for Prussian royalty. Enjoy breathtaking views of the surrounding countryside. After lunch aboard *Advance*, the voyage continues towards Holland.

B,L,D

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5: NIJMEGEN, HOLLAND

Nijmegen, in the eastern Netherlands near the German border, began as a Roman military settlement around 98 A.D., making it the oldest city in the Netherlands. In the eighth century A.D., Nijmegen became an imperial residence under the Carolingian dynasty, with Charlemagne building a castle whose remains are visible at Valkhofpark. During the Middle Ages, Nijmegen grew prosperous as a member of the Hanseatic League, a powerful economic alliance of trading cities and guilds across northern Europe.

Upon arrival, delve right into the city's Roman roots on an expert-guided tour of the **Museum Het Valkhof**. Explore the museum's extensive collection of Roman antiquities, including ancient artifacts, sculptures, and everyday objects. You'll also discover the museum's medieval and modern art collections.

Embark on a walking tour through the city center and ascend to the hilltop **Stevenskerk** (St. Steven's Church), the city's oldest cathedral. Climb to the top of the church tower for breathtaking views of Nijmegen and the surrounding Waal River, and admire the church's impressive Gothic architecture and beautiful stained-glass windows.

After lunch back on board, enjoy afternoon leisure time. Stroll through the lush greenery and scenic walking paths of **Kronenburgerpark**, a tranquil oasis in the heart of Nijmegen, where you can see the remains of the city's medieval walls, towers, and moats. This evening, enjoy a festive farewell dinner on board as we depart Nijmegen.

B,L,D

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6: AMSTERDAM / DISEMBARK / RETURN

After breakfast, disembark *Advance* in Amsterdam and transfer to the airport for your flights home.

B

DISCLAIMER: *The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of National Trust Tours and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.*



Stolzenfels Castle, Koblenz, Germany

ADVANCE

With 55 luxurious staterooms and suites, this boutique river ship, built in 2017, was launched into service in 2023. No expense has been spared to create this vessel, which features stylish public rooms, elegant staterooms, and an expansive Sun Deck. Each stateroom includes a mini-refrigerator, satellite television, movies on demand, a coffee machine, a dressing table, a safety deposit box, and individually controlled air conditioning. Enjoy delicacies created by the Executive Chef and his team. The elegant Skylight Lounge and Bar is the focal point and social hub and features a range of comfortable seating along with a selection of books and games. With the floor-to-ceiling windows, you can experience the wonderful scenery while enjoying your choice of beverage.

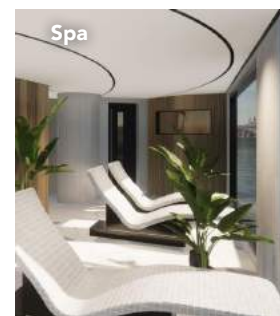
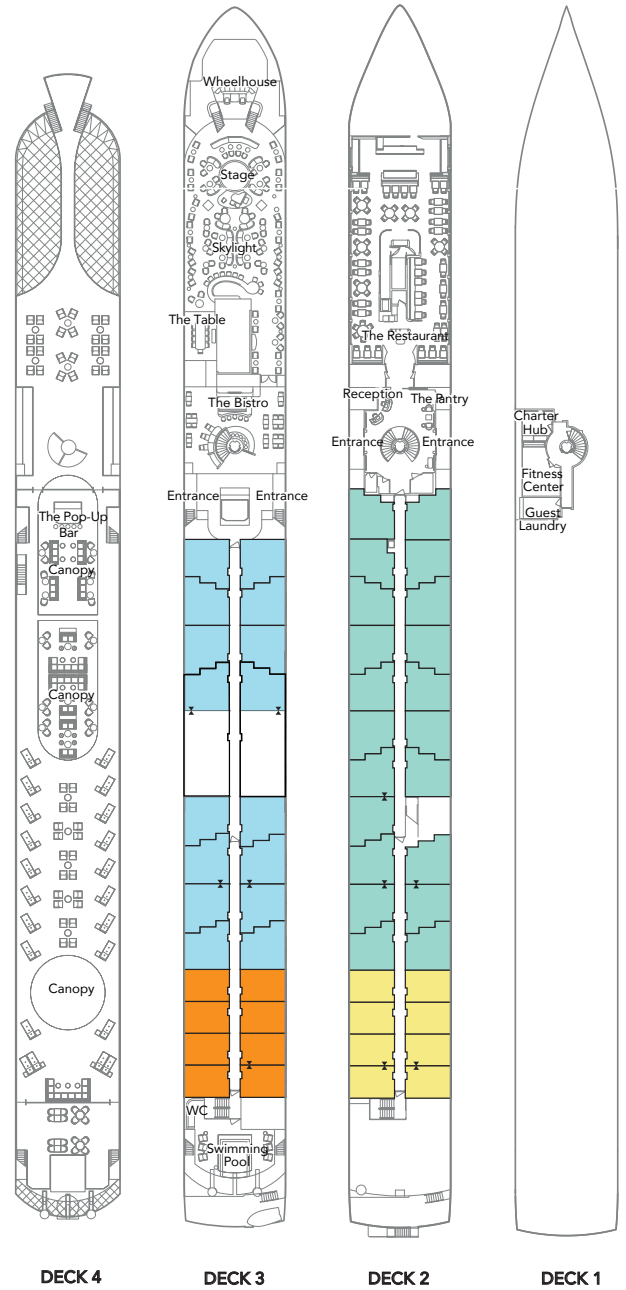
CRUISE RATES (per person)

Cabins	Decks	Double Rate	Single Rate
Stateroom 188 sq. ft / 17.5 sq. m.	2	\$3,999	\$4,799
Stateroom 188 sq. ft / 17.5 sq. m.	3	\$4,699	\$7,049
Large Stateroom 253 sq. ft / 23.5 sq. m.	2	\$5,699	\$8,549
Large Stateroom 253 sq. ft / 23.5 sq. m.	3	\$5,999	\$8,999

RATES INCLUDE

- Five nights cabin accommodations aboard *Advance* as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner). Bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with all meals; complimentary open bar aboard *Advance*
- Airport/pier/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation, and entrance fees for all included visits
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Taxes, service, and portage charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers

NOT INCLUDED IN RATES International airfare; passport/visa fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than what is noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; excess baggage; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.





Grande Île, Strasbourg, France

NATIONAL TRUST TOURS
MASTERPIECES & MONUMENTS OF THE RHINE ABOARD ADVANCE • OCTOBER 31 – NOVEMBER 6, 2024
RESERVATION FORM

RESERVATION INFORMATION

To secure your cabin, please call National Trust Tours at
888-484-8785.

A deposit of \$1,000 per person
(of which \$500 is non-refundable for administrative fees) is required.



Front cover: Basel, Switzerland

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Kronenburgerpark, Nijmegen, Netherlands