Christmas Markets Cruise on the Romantic Rhine
the Netherlands • Germany • France • Switzerland

Departure Date: December 7, 2020

FREE AIRFARE
See back for details

9 DAY RIVER CRUISE HOLIDAY
Christmas Markets Cruise on the Romantic Rhine

9 Days • 20 Meals Enjoy a relaxing cruise on the Romantic Rhine, Europe’s longest river. Travel onboard the MS Emerald Destiny, exploring the wonderful Christmas Markets of Germany and France while absorbing the local, festive atmosphere at this magical time of year.

EXCEPTIONAL INCLUSIONS

- 20 Meals (7 breakfasts, 6 lunches, and 7 dinners)
- Air transfers on tour dates when air is provided by Mayflower Cruises & Tours
- Seven-night cruise
- First-class service by an English-speaking crew
- English-speaking Cruise Director onboard
- Shore excursions with English-speaking local guides
- Personal listening device for excursions
- All meals included with a variety of international cuisine
- New onboard Activity Manager will support all EmeraldACTIVE excursions and host daily onboard wellness activities, games, classes and evening entertainment
- Complimentary WiFi onboard
- All gratuities included
- Complimentary bikes onboard for use ashore
- $45 in Mayflower Money

CRUISE ACCOMMODATIONS

Days Two through Eight – Aboard the MS Emerald Destiny

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DAY 1 – Depart the USA
Depart the USA on your overnight flight to Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

DAY 2 – Amsterdam, the Netherlands
Welcome to Amsterdam! Upon arrival, you will be met at the airport and assisted with the transfer to the ship for embarkation. The day is at leisure to begin exploring Amsterdam and its Christmas markets on your own. This evening, join your fellow travelers for dinner onboard. Your Cruise Director will also conduct a port talk to review the activities and itinerary for the days ahead. Meal: D

DAY 3 – Koblenz, Germany
Today you’ll enjoy a glass-top canal boat tour through Amsterdam’s canals, passing historic merchant houses and delightful Christmas stalls along the way. Return to the ship for your first day sailing through the Dutch countryside, appreciating windmills and sailing through locks towards the Rhine River. Tonight, the Captain will be delighted to host a gala dinner. Meals: B, L, D

DAY 4 – Cologne, Germany
Seven markets transform picturesque Cologne into a winter wonderland over the Christmas season. Following a guided tour of the city, be sure to pay a visit to the shopping stalls around the Alter Markt, Neumarkt, Rudolfplatz and the cathedral, beneath which you’ll locate the Christmas tree. Decorated mugs hold steaming hot Glühwein, and local vendors sell handmade sweets and local delicacies. Don’t miss the mesmerizing ‘Stars at Night’ theme adopted around the Neumarkt, where looking up unveils a beautiful light display overhead. Meals: B, L, D

DAY 5 – Koblenz, Germany
Cruise to the 2000-year-old town of Koblenz, situated at the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle Rivers. Enjoy a tour of Koblenz...
and visit the Ehrenbreitstein Fortress on the opposite side of the river. In the old part of the city, six areas offer more than 100 glittering, festive, cottage-style stands and Lebkuchenherzen (traditional gingerbread hearts) to create a magical European Christmas experience. In the afternoon, sail through the spectacular Rhine Gorge, where a landscape of castles and quaint towns awaits. Don’t miss the infamous Lorelei rock and statue and other photo opportunities that abound around every bend. Meals: B, L, D

DiscoverMORE: Moselle & Cochem Castle Visit (additional expense)
NOTE: you can only choose either the included tour of Koblenz or the DiscoverMORE option as both tours operate at the same time.

DAY 6 – Mannheim – Heidelberg, Germany
Continue upstream to the town of Mannheim, located at the confluence of the Rhine and Neckar Rivers. Travel by coach to the medieval town of Heidelberg, where you will enjoy a guided tour. As your final port in Germany, don’t miss out on shopping for unique treasures at the Christmas Market in Heidelberg. Meals: B, L, D

EmeraldPLUS: Wine Tasting in Heidelberg

DAY 7 – Strasbourg, France
With a morning arrival in Kehl, travel by coach across the river to Strasbourg, the capital city of the Alsace Region in France. A local guide leads you on a walking tour through this picturesque town. Stroll along the Grand Ile and through the charming Old Quarter, ‘La Petit France’. Admire the historical city center and UNESCO World Heritage Site known for its medieval black and white timber-framed buildings, old tanning houses, baroque sandstone buildings, canals and river locks and its centerpiece, the gothic cathedral. Enjoy free time to visit the stalls of Strasbourg’s Christkindelsmärik, one of the oldest in Europe, before returning to the ship.

Meals: B, L, D

EmeraldPLUS: Guided Tour of Strasbourg
DiscoverMORE: Tour of Riquewihr (additional expense)

DAY 8 – Breisach, Germany
Visit a typical black forest village, full of charm, cuckoo clocks, and other German specialties. It perfectly encapsulates a traditional way of life, all amidst the backdrop of the holiday season. Meals: B, L, D

EmeraldPLUS: Black Forest Cake assembling presentation and tasting

DAY 9 – Basel, Switzerland to Zurich / USA
It’s time to bid farewell to the Captain and crew and depart for the Zurich Airport as you say goodbye to Europe and return home with lifelong memories of your Christmas Markets cruise along the Rhine River. Flights from Zurich must depart after 11:30am. Meal: B

Itinerary and vessel are subject to change.
Travelers Protection Plan (TPP) for River Cruises - $429 per person (optional)

This nonrefundable fee will provide a refund to you during the instance that you have to cancel your trip. The cancellation has to be for a covered reason (see Plan for details on coverage) and we have to be notified at least one day prior to departure. If you must leave the tour early due to personal illness or the illness or death of an immediate family member, TPP will provide a refund for any unused services after the departure of the tour. Other benefits include medical expenses for illness and injury, emergency transportation, 24 hour hot line and lost or stolen baggage assistance. Return air transportation is included ONLY if your air tickets are purchased through Mayflower Cruises & Tours. Please review the Plan for details on coverage.

Cancellation Charges Without Traveler’s Protection Plan (TPP)

- 91 days or more ........................................ Deposit Amount
- 90 days to day of departure ......................... 100% of the total tour
- No refund on unused portions of the tour

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Public Areas and Ship Amenities

1. Sun Deck with Deck Chairs
2. Navigation Bridge
3. Sky Barbecue
4. Golf Putting Green
5. Games Area
6. Retractable Glass Roof
7. Walking Track
8. Daytime Pool & Bar / Evening Cinema
9. The Terrace
10. Horizon Bar and Lounge
11. Elevator
12. Reception
13. Wellness Area
14. Fitness Area
15. Reflections Restaurant
16. Hairdresser

FREE ROUND TRIP AIRFARE from any US departure gateway when booked by November 30, 2019.

Air itineraries may not be available until documents are received. Air seats are assigned by the airline for the entire group. Seat changes can only be attempted upon receipt of tickets and documents at which time availability may be limited. If specific seat assignments are vital to your reservation, we recommend individual air reservations rather than booking air with the group.

2020 DEPARTURE DATE: December 7

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Plan and benefits offered and administered by Trip Mate, Inc.

FOR RESERVATIONS OR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mayflower Cruises & Tours
Group Sales Department
800-728-0724 x525
Reference Group #1203939, Baylor Alumni

revised 03-21-2019