Holiday Markets Cruise
The Festive Rhine River
Basel to Düsseldorf

Inspiring Moments

- Relax on deck as the river's glorious scenery unfolds around you, vistas of clifftop castles, medieval villages and forested hills.
- Be immersed in the joyful spirit of the holiday markets amid festive music, fragrant aromas and colorful pageantry.
- Enjoy an exclusive musical treat in Heidelberg’s romantic old town.
- Delight in the quaint timbered houses and cobbled streets of Grande Île, the historic heart of Strasbourg.
- Gaze upward in awe at the soaring spires of Cologne Cathedral.
- Experience four UNESCO World Heritage sites.

Included Features

Accommodations (with baggage handling)
- Unpack once and cruise for 7 nights aboard the exclusively chartered, first-class MS Amadeus Silver III.

Extensive Meal Program
- 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches and 7 dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine, beer or soft drinks with lunch and dinner.

Your One-of-a-Kind Journey
- Visit 3 countries during this program.
- Discovery excursions and Personalize Your Journey PYJ choices highlight the local culture, heritage and history.
- Expert-led Enrichment programs enhance your insight into the region.
- AHI Sustainability Promise: We strive to make a positive, purposeful impact in the communities we visit.
- AHI Connects: Local immersion.
- Free time to pursue your own interests.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.

Itinerary

Day 1 Depart gateway city
Day 2 Arrive in Zürich and transfer to ship in Basel
Day 3 Breisach | Freiburg
Day 4 Strasbourg
Day 5 Mannheim | Heidelberg
Day 6 Rüdesheim | Rhine Gorge | Cologne
Day 7 Cologne
Day 8 Düsseldorf
Day 9 Disembark ship | Transfer to airport and depart for gateway city

Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions.
Activity Level: We have rated all of our excursions with activity levels to help you assess this program's physical expectations. Please call or visit our website for full details.

Flights and transfers included for AHI FlexAir participants.

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The University of Kansas

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**Discovery**

**AHI Connects: Musical Show.** In Heidelberg, attend an exclusive event at the elegant Palais Prinz Carl, featuring the stirring sounds of a professional trio who will perform an entertaining mix of holiday songs, arias and contemporary pieces.

**Holiday Markets.** Relish the warm holiday cheer as you explore festive wooden villages brightly trimmed with fresh pine boughs, red ribbons and twinkling lights that spring up in town squares across Europe during Advent.

**Freiburg.** Delight in a guided stroll through the historic center of this vibrant university city. See the 13th-century cathedral, the bright-red, turreted Merchants’ Hall and other landmarks. Then visit the colorful Christkindlmarkt, where marzipan and chestnuts are popular holiday treats.

**Heidelberg Castle and Town.** Visit the red-walled, hillside castle, noted for its giant 18th-century wine cask, and take in scenic views of the Neckar River valley and town below. Then walk through Heidelberg’s charming old town with your guide and savor traditional German dishes for lunch.

**Rhine Gorge.** Sail amid the Rhine’s most stunning scenery in the Upper Middle Rhine Valley, a gently curving, 40-mile stretch lined with more than 40 castles and fortress ruins.

**Glühwein Party.** Sample this tantalizing, hot, spiced holiday wine on the ship.

**Cologne.** On a guided old town walk, gaze up at the cathedral’s impressive façade and admire the decorative details inside. Enjoy free time at the holiday market outside.

**PYJ | A choice of unique excursions:**

- Breisach
  - Riquewihr and Wines of the Alsace
  - Colmar Markets

- Strasbourg
  - Strasbourg Panoramic Tour
  - Culinary Strasbourg

- Rüdesheim
  - Rüdesheim Walking Tour
  - Rhine Wine Tasting

- Düsseldorf
  - Düsseldorf and Holiday Markets
  - Aachen, City of Emperor Charlemagne

**Enrichment**

- German Holiday Traditions
- Castles and Legends of the Rhine

**UNESCO World Heritage**

1. Strasbourg, Grande-Île and Neustadt
2. Upper Middle Rhine Valley
3. Cologne Cathedral
4. Aachen Cathedral

**Electives**

We’ve designed engaging extensions to take you further afield.

- **Interlaken.** Revel in breathtaking Swiss mountains and lakes during a two-night stay at a deluxe hotel, plus take a guided walk in Bern’s atmospheric medieval quarter.

- **Berlin.** Get to know the city more intimately over three nights at a first-class hotel in the heart of the action. See Berlin’s top sites on a scenic tour and spend free time exploring some of the city’s 80 holiday markets!

**Accommodations**

**MS Amadeus Silver III**

The information in this flier is correct at the time of printing. Please visit our website to ensure that you receive the most current information.