

## RIVER CRUISES

## EUROPE'S FINEST FOUR & FIVE-STAR RIVER CRUISES 2017

- THIE WARLEN



cruiseco



The UK's Number One River Cruise Company now available in Australia Riviera Travel are delighted to introduce our award winning River Cruises to Australian passengers.

Available via Cruiseco Travel Agents, we look forward to welcoming you on board one of our unique European River Cruises.



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## Cruise Europe's most timeless and appealing waterways

For centuries people have travelled Europe's mighty rivers to trade, explore and sometimes conquer! Steeped in history and culture, flowing through stunning scenery they form natural links connecting the continent's greatest and most beautiful towns and cities, from the medieval to the modern. We cruise on the majestic Rhine and Danube - Europe's essential arteries studded by atmospheric cities like Coblenz and Vienna. Standing guard, you will see astonishing 'fairytale' castles whilst learning about mystical legends, historic strife and triumph. Plus there is the magical, meandering Moselle with its impossibly steep, riverside vineyards and the lesser known, yet equally beautiful River Main, twisting through Germany's rural heart. In France, the Rhône flows majestically from almost the Burgundy vineyards to Avignon and Van Gogh's Arles, in the heart of sunkissed Provence, whilst the Seine, from iconic Paris through countryside beloved by impressionist painters to medieval Rouen and historic Bayeux. Finally, there is the Douro with its dramatic terraced vineyards and with tourism being almost completely undeveloped, you feel you are discovering something the masses are unaware of! You see it all.

You experience all this in the most relaxing manner possible, on board the five-star MS Thomas Hardy, MS Emily Brontë, MS Oscar Wilde and MS Douro Elegance, all are brand new ships for 2017, the five-star MS Jane Austen, MS Charles Dickens, fabulous five-star MS Lord Byron, MS William Shakespeare, MS Douro Elegance, MS Swiss Corona and MS Swiss Tiara, or the four-star superior MS Swiss Ruby – some of the most spacious and luxurious ships gracing Europe's waterways. River cruising is such a wonderful way to explore Europe's very heart: you see and learn as much as you want from the comfort of your very own floating hotel!

No sea-sickness or rough water, whilst magnificent scenery slips past you relax, revelling in on-board luxury and superb dining. Explore delightful riverside ports with knowledgeable guides or at your own speed - it's all included!

### A Passion for People and Places

It's probably an overused phrase - and a brave claim - but we genuinely believe we are more passionate about our holidays than any other Tour Operator. Why? Firstly because we only operate to places we're truly passionate about and in a manner to match. After all, if we cannot be passionate about what we do, how can we expect our clients to be? Plus, within every aspect of our River Cruise Collection, we commit an inordinate amount of time to painstaking research, examining the tiniest detail, constantly evolving what we do and adding so many subtle touches. For example: 87% of our cabins boast French Balconies affording superb views; we offer breakfast in your cabin; on-board classical concerts when in Vienna highlighting the city's musical heritage and tea and coffee-making facilities in all cabins. All this, plus much more is included. Your holiday metamorphoses into not just a travel experience, but also one of genuine pleasure, education and entertainment.

We passionately offer you an unforgettable journey through time and culture, breaking through any obvious 'veneer' to the real destination beyond. Of course, you see the classic 'sights' at each stop, many with guided tours, but you also visit fascinating, probably more intimate places, perhaps less known but often even more intriguing.

Your included and substantial range of hugely informative tours are sometimes on foot, but at other times explore a little further afield to, for example, Salzburg, Prague and Switzerland's mighty, snow-clad Jungfrau so you learn and appreciate fully the countries through which you journey.

Another very important point is that as all our ships are exclusively chartered by us, a fact reflected in our itineraries, we avoid potentially irritating points such as multi-lingual commentaries. Our unique combination and our simple, honest approach have served us well over the years and illustrate with great clarity why so many of you voted for us, resulting in the prestigious travel awards we currently hold.

We realise to achieve perfection is an impossible dream, but the harder we continually try the more we will always exceed our clients' expectations!



### The unique Riviera style

Our clients often tell us we have a style unique in tour operating - a real family ambience; we have been told by clients 'it was like travelling with family' and 'it was like coming home'. This is exactly what we set out to achieve - most importantly treating our clients as individuals, tailoring our service to be flexible and catering for all needs. Our staff operate very much at the 'sharp end' with highly professional senior managers spending significant time overseas, researching, checking and often just meeting clients to ascertain your likes and equally important, your dislikes. There is simply no substitute for creating the very best possible holidays and offering the very best value for money. There's so much to see and experience on our cruises and if you want to take part in everything that's fine, but if not, that's fine too. If you want to see the sights on your own, no one will put any pressure on you not to. This is something our clients really appreciate – the freedom to explore.

### Independent choice

We're passionate about being an independent company - not part of a large, multinational, often impersonal organisation which easily allows long-term planning. This precious independence and our investment in research and people mean we're free to create the very best of superb cruises, whilst providing the best value for money. All our staff undergo intensive resort-based annual training, building unrivalled knowledge so they can advise you personally about your holiday, based on their own invaluable experience. This passion and commitment to quality, thoughtfulness and value are our guaranteed hallmarks.

With Riviera Travel, helpfulness with a smile comes as standard – we care about your holiday as much as you do! Add this to the awards we have received and why would you entrust your plans to anyone else?

### Tour Managers and Cruise Directors – bringing your River Cruise to life

Our regular clients constantly tell us our staff truly are outstanding. Selected for their extensive knowledge, being multi-lingual with a naturally caring disposition, and having outstanding organisational ability plus exceptional people skills, they are then thoroughly trained by us. All our cruises are managed by our Tour Directors and Managers, many of whom have been with us for over a decade, sixteen of them now for over twenty years! Caring, professional and reliable in the event of any problem, our clients say that being with them is like being with a trusted friend who clearly love the destinations: it's a passion, not just a job! You'll learn far more from our staff than you would from many guidebooks – and their enthusiasm and intimate knowledge brings your cruise to life.

### Price promise – no hidden costs or surcharges

Our holidays offer outstanding value for money; you miss nothing of importance and our fully comprehensive itineraries include the 'must see' sights and experiences, plus a whole host of less famous visits you will love. However many companies sell some of these as 'optionals' adding to your overall cost – but at Riviera Travel we don't have any optionals – unless they are free of charge!

Our pricing is transparent and clear. It includes essentials like taxes, "fuel" supplements and there are no hidden extras. We're proud that since our inception 30 years ago, we've never levied a surcharge – even when currency and fuel movements were excessive. Our 'no surcharge' guarantee means that whatever happens after booking, the price will not increase.

We hope you enjoy learning about our superb, high quality and exceptional value for money cruises as much as we've enjoyed creating them and genuinely hope to be of service to you and share our passion for travel!





# DINING TO EXCEED EXPECTATIONS

FROM SUMPTUOUS BREAKFASTS WITH OVER SIXTY OPTIONS, SUPERB BUFFET LUNCHES TO FINE FOUR COURSE DINNERS, DINING EXPERIENCES FEATURE INTERNATIONAL CLASSICS AND REGIONAL SPECIALITIES CREATING A MEMORABLE VOYAGE OF CULINARY DISCOVERY

A syou enter the restaurant the mouth-watering aroma of roasting Provençal lamb drifts tantalisingly from the galley. Smartly uniformed, friendly and intuitive waiting staff professionally guide you to your classically set table with its crisp white linen, premium quality European china, polished fine glassware and gleaming cutlery whilst freshly baked bread is immediately placed before you with effortless style. Welcome – you're at home. Quality dining is an integral part of your river cruise experience – and our ships take this to the highest five-star levels with superb cuisine prepared by a dedicated and highly professional brigade of chefs.

Take a stroll on the Sun Deck as the river gradually awakes, and enjoy Early Risers' tea or coffee and freshly baked pastries. The full breakfast buffet is a sumptuous affair with innumerable hot and cold options, plus a popular omelette station prepares dishes to order. Or if you prefer, why not enjoy continental breakfast in your cabin: breakfast in bed as enchanting scenery and riverside life drift gently by - priceless! Naturally complimentary tea and coffee are available throughout the day and a very comprehensive lunch buffet allows you to eat as little or as much as you wish from an extensive selection. Don't forget to leave some room for afternoon tea and the chef's special patisserie – it's just too tempting to ignore!

The day's culinary highlight is the splendid four-course dinner: entrée, soup, main course and dessert – all within the ambience of a high quality restaurant. Our carefully designed menus include international classics together with dishes reflecting the regions we pass through, with selections from local markets. In addition, the 'Welcome Dinner' enjoys an extended menu and towards the end of your cruise, the Captain proudly hosts his excellent 'Gala Dinner' featuring specialities of the countries and regions through which you've travelled.

Our clients constantly tell us they love our informal free seating and smaller tables policy, quite unlike the inevitable regimentation of many cruise ships which is exactly the atmosphere we are trying to achieve. Then there's the wine list. We take great pride in its excellent quality and style, including not only the classic choices but also an extensive range of local wines. Many of these are extremely well-priced, delightful hidden gems and rarely marketed outside their production area.

In addition to the main restaurant, on all five-star ships (apart from the MS Douro Elegance), the Stern Bar transforms to the 'Chef's restaurant' for dinner only, with huge panoramic windows and seating for just 24 diners. Here the chef presents his personal favourite signature dishes with a fixed menu using the finest of seasonal produce. This superb dining experience must be reserved on board.

Please indicate any special dietary requirements on booking.



### EXAMPLE OF THE FINE MENUS ON BOARD

Warm smoked duck breast with apple red wine chutney, mandarin and cranberry salad or Arugula strawberry salad grissini with Dutch smoked ham and white balsamic honey dressing

Foamy pumpkin soup with cinnamon croutons

or Bouillabaisse à la Marseillaise

Pan seared river perch with tomato vinaigrette, grilled parsnips, snow peas and pearl barley

or

Herb crusted rack of lamb with sweet rosemary sauce, mint jelly, horseradish flageolet beans, roasted tomatoes, dauphinoise potatoes

or Swiss chard and salsify gratin with garlic cream and oyster mushrooms

> Warm crisp pear tart Apple sorbet and cider foam or Fresh fruit or continental cheeses

> > Coffee or tea

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# FIVE-STAR MS EMILY BRONTË, MS THOMAS HARDY & MS OSCAR WILDE

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fter years of painstaking research to create the most perfect vessels afloat, a new era in river cruising dawns as we introduce three new, state of the art, 'all suite' ships. Swiss operated and truly world-class, we are absolutely delighted to present the five-star MS Emily Brontë, MS Thomas Hardy and the MS Oscar Wilde.

It is extremely difficult to convey just how extraordinary these outstanding ships really are and exactly what distinguishes them from similar vessels. It would be very easy to just say 'luxurious' but it's much more than that; we have deliberately avoided the current trend for a minimalist style where you could be anywhere in the world, creating instead a unique yet exquisite blend of understated taste, style and elegance at the highest level. Immediately striking is just how exceptionally spacious these new vessels are as you enter a gleaming, richly coloured marble-floored lobby, flooded with natural light from a stunning atrium above. Moving inside, exceptional creativity from Europe's finest design studio has produced a superbly balanced masterpiece of on-board style, utilising sustainable rich hardwoods, gleaming brass and polished copper, sparkling glass and intricate wrought iron. These ships are beautifully illuminated throughout – including the exterior and

imaginatively furnished with harmonious colour schemes, all designed to create the serene atmosphere reflective of the golden age of cruising which time after time you tell us you adore.

Restaurants rival the finest onshore establishments, taking fine dining to another level, complemented by delicate European porcelain, gleaming glassware and the intuitive service in which the Swiss excel. These superb vessels carry 44 in-house trained crew members serving just 169 guests (similar size vessels may

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carry well over 190 passengers) giving the ratio which our experience proves is concurrent with our first class service levels.

Furthermore your suite will easily exceed your expectations for not only will you enjoy the most discerning décor, so too the ship's dimensions afford the ultimate in space and comfort - a minimum 17 square metres (183 square feet), with upgrades available to 'Superior' and 'Deluxe' accommodation.

#### THE DECKS

As you are welcomed aboard the five-star pedigree is striking, with a remarkable feeling of spaciousness and harmonious design at every glance. The three fully air-conditioned accommodation decks including notably the lower deck – are all accessed by an attractive glass lift for your convenience or the wide elegant wrought-iron staircase. Above these is the magnificent Sun Deck - uniquely and illustrating yet again our considered depth of design, a second staircase amidships affords convenient Sun Deck access. Head on up to this truly spectacular deck and what could be better than watching life ashore slip by from the comfort of a sun lounger, perhaps under shade if the weather gets too hot! There's always the refreshing splash pool too or why not try your hand on the putting green. Then take a refreshingly

long drink and that book you've been meaning to read for ages on to the lovely terrace area at the fore of the ship, located right in front of the wheelhouse where you can view the Captain and his team skilfully navigating the twisting river and enjoy truly 'driving seat' views. Take a deep breath and relax into the pace of river cruise life – now you're really on holiday!

The Diamond Deck is where you will find the very heart of the ship - the superb panoramic observation lounge and bar; a lounge in every sense of the word, complete with plenty of comfortable leather armchairs and sumptuous sofas where you can sink into warmly colourful cushions in beautiful quality fabrics with a freshly made cup of tea. A thick wool carpet feels lovely underfoot and the tasteful contemporary lighting above creates a welcoming and refined ambience, further complimented by the discreet and intuitive service comparative to the finest five-star hotels. So just sit back with your favourite cocktail and take in the truly mesmerising view. After a superb dinner in the restaurant perhaps it's time for a digestif accompanied by the soothing tones of the ship's pianist or unwind with a book from the smartly wood panelled library. To the aft is the peaceful Bistro with its open kitchen and terrace – another perfect spot to appreciate the ever-changing scenery gliding by whilst

"THE SHIP'S CREW OF 44 SERVE JUST 169 GUESTS. SHIPS OF A SIMILAR SIZE MAY CARRY OVER 190 GUESTS SO YOU CAN RELAX IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT YOU WILL BE EXCEPTIONALLY WELL LOOKED AFTER" chatting with new found friends. Here in the evenings the chef presents his personal signature dishes to a small number of diners with menus varying according to the seasons; this intimate dining experience can be reserved on board at no extra charge. When the weather allows the panoramic windows may be fully opened on to the terrace to allow a delightful al fresco dining experience.

The ship's restaurant is located on the Ruby (middle) Deck and here you will experience not only exceptional first class cuisine, but also the most attentive yet discreet service from the ship's highly professional crew. So just sit back with a well-deserved glass of wine from the carefully selected wine list and delight in the wonderful elegance of your

surroundings; beautifully laid tables of just 4 or 6 guests, crisp linen, deep wool carpets and warm wood panelling abound to offer a delectable dining experience of the highest order.

On the Emerald (lower) Deck is the fitness centre, perfect for working off all those delicious meals or for something less strenuous treat yourself to a relaxing massage. So you will always look your best there is a hairdresser's too which also offers manicure and pedicure treatments.

Simply put, these world-class ships, elegant and refined in the truest sense, take the idea of river cruising to another level – it really doesn't get better than this!

#### **YOUR SUITE**

A gleaming wood door opens revealing your exceptionally appointed suite. At 17 square metres (183 square feet), its generous dimensions are amongst the largest you will find on a cruiser gracing any European river. Imaginatively designed and appointed to the highest specification, with all the luxury you would expect to find in a smart 'boutique style' hotel, your comfort

definitely won't be compromised on any level!

The gleaming marble bathroom features a powerful fully glazed shower with a large 'rainshower' head, superbly refreshing after a hard day's sightseeing. Clever design allows for ample space, and contemporary lighting,

complimentary cosmetics by 'Crabtree and Evelyn' and fluffy towels, makes preparing for the day ahead an absolute pleasure.

The chic styling of a talented designer's eye extends to the entire suite with generous use of hand-crafted tropical hardwoods blended with premium fittings, discreet thoughtful lighting and a colour scheme of calming neutral tones, creating an ambience to put you in the most relaxed frame of mind from the very first minute! A full size bed assures a good night's rest in crisp

cotton linen of the finest quality - a turndown service each evening adds the finishing touch. **Balcony suite** 

You will enjoy a particularly generous seating area with two chairs and a table, enabling you to unwind in comfort in the privacy of your own suite whilst a bow camera conveys live images of the ship's progress to your flat screen TV, ensuring you won't miss a thing. Careful consideration has been given to the tiniest details with individually controlled air-conditioning so you set the temperature that you desire, a hairdryer, safe, minibar, telephone and the convenience of tea (our meticulous planning even extends to familiar teabags!) and coffee-making facilities ensure a familiar home from home experience. Suites on the Diamond (upper) and Ruby (middle) Decks have 'French Balconies' – panoramic floor to ceiling sliding glass doors bringing riverside life just that little closer! Suites on the Emerald (lower) Deck have smaller fixed windows and are available for sole occupancy with no supplement. Single supplements apply for other suites and decks, all subject to availability.

#### **SUPERIOR SUITES**

Bringing your cruise to another level, why not upgrade to a Superior Suite available on the Ruby (middle) and Diamond (upper) decks. Substantially larger at 19.5 square metres (210 feet) and with the additional space devoted to the living area, you will immediately notice the benefit as you relax in your stylish surroundings. Of course the identical high quality furnishings and fittings as the standard suite

are evident throughout, again with stunning views from the panoramic floor to ceiling sliding glass doors.

#### **DELUXE BALCONY SUITES**

If you're looking to really spoil yourself, at a staggering 25.5 square metres (274 square feet), the world-class Diamond (upper) Deck Deluxe Balcony Suites are for you. Fifty percent larger than standard suites, they allow for an even more generous living area for the ultimate in space and comfort. In addition you will enjoy a private exterior balcony complete with table and chairs - perfect for an 'al fresco' breakfast should you wish or just a quiet morning coffee or a pre-dinner 'sundowner' whilst watching the world drift by. With the same fittings as standard suites, exquisitely and lavishly appointed to the very highest standard, plus complimentary soft cotton bathrobes and slippers adding the final little touch, this really is the epitome of river cruise luxury!

"SIT BACK WITH A WELL-DESERVED GLASS OF WINE FROM THE CAREFULLY SELECTED WINE LIST AND DELIGHT IN THE WONDERFUL ELEGANCE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS"

# FIVE-STAR MS LORD BYRON & MS JANE AUSTEN

ow can one adequately sum up the wonderfully elegant five-star MS Lord Byron, built in 2013, and its identical twin the MS Jane Austen, brand new for 2015? How can we describe these extraordinary vessels that are two of the finest ships of their type afloat anywhere in the world? Quite simply, every single aspect and element is designed to the highest possible specification and our own exacting standards to bring you the very best and most enjoyable river cruising experience, in the most luxurious comfort.

We have worked tirelessly with our Swiss partner Scylla AG, one of the world's most experienced luxury river ship builders with a pedigree stretching back over nearly 40 years, to design the perfect vessels, with virtually no expense spared.

You'll feel the unmistakable understated opulence of these extraordinary vessels as you board through the spacious, marble-floored lobby. Stylish furnishings using environmentally friendly materials are beautifully combined with the most advanced safety systems ... and the work of a wonderful designer's eye conjuring up the classic lines and sophistication of a luxurious ocean liner. As always, the finesse is in the detail - beautifully crafted tropical hardwoods, wrought iron, highly polished copper and brass, all beautifully illuminated then added to soft leather furnishings and imaginative colour schemes, promotes a subtle, chic ambience of exceptional

taste. Intuitive, unobtrusive service is graceful, efficient yet friendly as you might expect from Swiss operated ships with 35 staff serving just 140 guests. This outstanding ratio of 4:1 allows a personal touch which makes such a difference to your cruise. Plus unlike other vessels typically carrying up to 200 passengers, you'll enjoy simply far more space – as well as a smaller, more intimate dining experience.

#### **THE DECKS**

In addition to the spacious Sun Deck, there are three superb air-conditioned decks – the Diamond (upper), Ruby (middle) and Emerald (lower). A stylish glass lift and a wide, elegant wrought-iron railed staircase connect the Diamond and Ruby decks, whilst the Sun and Emerald Decks are accessed by staircase.

> On the Diamond Deck is the magnificent panoramic observation lounge, the heart of the ship with wonderful views through floor to ceiling windows of the ever-changing landscape as you move along the river. This is where the ship's superb design really is so

evident. You'll love the quality feel, the genteel ambience, the rich carpeting, the marble-tiled bar and the choice of sumptuous leather armchairs and soft modern settees. What could be better than to lose yourself in conversation with likeminded new friends, sip a coffee, perhaps play chess or bridge, or just relax whilst admiring the incredible scenery?

And after a delicious dinner, appreciate our pianist, a gentle dance perhaps on the purpose-designed dance floor, or just enjoy a quiet read in the peaceful Lido Bar at the rear of the

ship, ideal to while away an hour on a comfortable terrace absorbing the sights and sounds of Europe's great rivers.

ED BYRON

Stunning lounge, Jane Austen

On the Ruby Deck is the main restaurant – with cuisine of the absolute highest order, attentive service with just four or six people at most tables, and yet again the elegant surroundings of glass, marble, deep wool carpets and crafted hard-wood panelling evident throughout the ship.

The Sun Deck – and especially the forward viewing area - is perfect for watching the historic riverside villages, steep vine-clad valley sides and other scenic wonders glide serenely by. It's well equipped with plenty of comfortable outdoor chairs and sun-loungers, deck games including a putting green and giant chess, a small splash pool where you can cool off, and a full bar service. Sometimes we hold barbecues here too, weather dependent of course – a great way to meet new people over a glass of wine.

Another special feature is its purpose-designed spa. You can reserve the spa for your private use to take a sauna or use the steam room, or perhaps visit the onboard hairdresser (small additional fee).

"INTUITIVE, UNOBTRUSIVE SERVICE IS GRACEFUL, EFFICIENT YET FRIENDLY AS YOU MIGHT EXPECT FROM SWISS OPERATED SHIPS"

Luxurious restaurant, Lord Byron

Superior Suite bathroom, Jane Austen

Standard cabin, Jane Austen

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#### **YOUR CABIN**

At 15 square metres (161 square feet), your luxuriously appointed cabin is amongst the largest, most comfortable and best appointed on any European river cruise vessel – with all the high quality facilities you would expect from a top hotel, and more.

Open the fine wooden door and the chic elegance is immediately evident - an exquisite contemporary design using skilfully hand-crafted fine tropical hardwoods and premium fittings. A good night's sleep is assured in a full hotel-style bed, plus the finest crisp cotton bed linen, and of course an evening turn-down service is provided.

There's a generous seating area too, with two chairs and wardrobes, with an extremely clever design ensuring ample storage space. You have individually controllable airconditioning, hairdryer, safe, minibar, telephone plus that essential – tea and coffee making facilities! The finest pastel-coloured Italian fabrics, deep pile carpets and subtle lighting all combine to make your chic cabin a stylish home from home, beautifully appointed with every comfort you could possibly wish for. The gleaming bathroom is tastefully styled making generous use of marble with WC, a fully glazed shower, complimentary cosmetics and thick fluffy towels.

Your flat-screen TV receives satellite channels and an aft camera lets you enjoy the view without even leaving your cabin.

Best of all the Diamond deck (upper) and Ruby deck (middle) cabins all benefit from 'French Balconies' – full floor to ceiling sliding glass doors – literally your huge window on the world for the best possible views whilst cruising along the river. Standard Emerald deck (lower) cabins have smaller fixed windows and as a unique bonus are available for sole occupancy at no extra cost. Single supplements apply for other cabins and decks, all subject to availability.

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On-board spa with sauna and steam room

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#### **SUPERIOR SUITES**

For even more extra space, you can upgrade to a superior suite available on all decks featuring the same facilities as standard cabins but being larger at 18.5 square metres (199 square feet). The extra space is purely devoted to the living area, so you really notice the difference. For the ultimate in space and river cruise luxury though, on the Diamond (upper) deck there are four deluxe suites, at 22.5 square metres (242 square feet) a full 50% larger than a standard cabin, beautifully appointed and incredibly comfortable, plus for a final homely touch, soft cotton bathrobes and slippers. You will love them.

"A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP IS ASSURED IN A FULL HOTEL-STYLE BED, PLUS THE FINEST CRISP COTTON BED LINEN, AND OF COURSE AN EVENING TURN-DOWN SERVICE IS PROVIDED"

# FIVE-STAR MS WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE & MS CHARLES DICKENS

aunched in 2014, state-of-the-art, five-star MS William Shakespeare and its twin the MS Charles Dickens, brand new for 2015, were specially commissioned and designed to our exacting specifications, they are, without doubt, two of the world's finest river cruise ships. We have worked tirelessly with one of Europe's most experienced and respected luxury shipbuilders, Veka Group, to create the perfect ship, featuring many unique, ground breaking innovations. The finest of materials have been used in construction with virtually no expense spared; its sustainably sourced tropical hardwoods, highly polished brass and wrought iron fittings, thick pile high-quality carpets, luxuriously comfortable deep armchairs and settees will absolutely delight you. In addition their spacious layout, subtle and

tasteful lighting, elegant décor, luxurious cabins and excellent facilities are undoubtedly the very best on cruise ships today. Superb attention to detail continues outside the vessels, where the extensive use of glass and polished stainless steel complements the sleek modern profile perfectly. As the ships glide serenely through the water, they truly are a wonderful sight to behold!

As you would expect, both ships also incorporate the very latest in modern construction techniques and safety systems, ensuring your cruise is as comfortable and secure as possible. Finally they carry just 140 passengers and with 35 crew, a 4:1 ratio ensures excellent service levels. With many similar size vessels carrying 180 passengers or more, you will find the extra space, especially in the restaurant, very noticeable indeed.

#### **THE DECKS**

The four-deck design helps to enhance both ships' spaciousness and is typified by the delightful lobby on the upper deck. As you are greeted on board, you will appreciate the five-star quality of the warm-coloured wood and marble that has been extensively utilised, whilst above, the innovative atrium tastefully bathes the whole welcoming scene in natural light. There is also a lift and small boutique stocking those essentials which always run out whilst one is away!

Moving towards the front of the ship you will find the classically appointed lounge and bar, with a wide selection of comfortable and elegant seating. Here you can relax and enjoy the delights of the passing scenery through the superb observation windows on both sides of the vessel, whilst the forward facing panoramic bay window ensures the most extensive and uninterrupted viewing of any river cruise ship!

The welcoming bar offers a full range of drinks sourced from all over the world, including the finest wines and spirits. When the sun sinks slowly below the riverside hills this is the perfect place to relax and reflect on another day's experiences.

Then, as the evening progresses into darkness, subtle lighting evolves through

colour and intensity accompanied by gentle piano background music, creating a very special ambience. However should you prefer a good book to read you can always visit the library, which, with its leather-effect wall linings, offers a genteel environment reminiscent of the golden age of cruising. Elegant restaurant, MS Charles Dickens

To the rear of the ship is the stern bar, with large panoramic windows and outside seating, where again you can relax and enjoy, watching the passing scenery. Here, in the evenings the chef presents his personal signature dishes for just 22 diners – this intimate dining experience can be reserved on board at no extra charge.

Stairs and a lift lead down to the middle deck, where the culinary delights of a superbly elegant

restaurant are enhanced by sparkling crystal and crisp, highquality table linen. Here the ships' outstanding chefs will amaze you with superb fine dining of the highest order, using freshly prepared seasonal produce to create the very best of European cuisine.

The sumptuous breakfast buffet, with omelettes and fresh eggs prepared to order, guarantees a great start to the day and a lunchtime buffet ensures you can eat a full meal or something as simple as a fresh crunchy salad – just as you desire. Each evening's dinner features excellently executed dishes with silver service, plus a relaxed atmosphere and our 'open seating' policy that ensures your dining experience is one you will always look forward to.

Wonderfully illustrating the extraordinary attention to detail focussed on the ships' design is the use of special 'sound absorbent' paint on the restaurant ceiling to reduce noise levels whilst dining – remarkable!

"THE FINEST OF MATERIALS HAVE BEEN USED IN CONSTRUCTION WITH VIRTUALLY NO EXPENSE SPARED; THIS STUNNING VESSEL WILL ABSOLUTELY DELIGHT YOU" Another outstanding restaurant feature are the large tinted panoramic windows, so as you enjoy your epicurean adventure you will also be able to enjoy the scenery as it glides past – you miss nothing!

A further staircase descends to the lower deck, where a small but well equipped fitness suite is available for the energetic, whilst others may choose to plump for an invigorating sauna! There is also a hairdresser so you can always look your best or book a massage treatment (small additional fee).

Crowning the ship is the magnificent Sun deck, where you are very welcome to visit the Bridge except when berthing or navigating locks. You can discuss life on the river and view the fascinating technologically advanced array of 'state of the art' navigation and control equipment, whilst highly skilled officers guide all 110 metres carefully along the river. Of course the view from the sun deck is just wonderful, whilst the informal café style seating is an ideal place to relax with like-minded travellers. Just absorb the magical sights, sounds and unique river atmosphere whilst perhaps availing yourself of the attentive bar service. Or just relax on a sun bed and read a book, solve the crossword from a deck chair, take a dip in the whirlpool, play chess, try your hand on the putting green or admire the ever-changing kaleidoscope of stunning views passing by.

#### **YOUR CABIN**

The cabins are very tastefully appointed, featuring a wealth of mahogany, leather, marble and Italian soft furnishings, which blend together to create an ambience of true quality and elegance. In keeping with this theme, spacious marble bathrooms have a washbasin with plenty of space for cosmetics, a WC and a glazed shower with fittings by 'Grohe'. Cabins on the upper and middle decks have "French Balconies" with full floor to ceiling glazed doors. These have another unique innovative feature - a first on any river cruise ship. The doors slide completely away against the ship's side, effectively disappearing from view (excepting the safety barrier of course!), thus creating a true panoramic extension to your already large cabin area. From here you can enjoy the delights of fresh air and magnificent views whilst retaining your own privacy.

Stern lounge, MS William Shakespeare At 15 square metres (161 square feet) cabins are spacious (amongst the largest on European rivers) and well appointed with hotel standard beds (not bunks or berths), safe, telephone, hair dryer, tea and coffee making facilities plus individually controlled air-conditioning. They have flat screen TV with satellite channels and also receive images from a bow-mounted camera, so you can see exactly where you are cruising from the comfort of your own bed! Two chairs and a small table are provided for your convenience plus an umbrella for those hopefully rare, showery days. Tasteful lighting, subtly changing in harmony with the time of day is again a unique feature, whilst high quality bathrobes and slippers add the final elegant touch.

Cabins on the lower deck are slightly smaller at 14 square metres (151 square feet), but feature the same amenities apart from one armchair and table and have smaller, fixed windows. Cabins for sole occupancy are available on this deck at no supplement (subject to availability).

#### **DELUXE BALCONY SUITES**

Why not treat yourself to an upgrade? On the upper deck there are four unique deluxe suites of 22.8 square metres (245 square feet), featuring sliding glass doors leading to an outside balcony with table and chairs. With almost all the extra space being devoted to the living area, these suites represent exceptional comfort and luxury – taking your cruise to another level. Standard bathroom, MS William Shakespeare

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# FIVE-STAR MS SWISS CORONA & MS SWISS TIARA

Bar, Swiss Corona

The five-star Swiss Corona and its sister ship the five-star Swiss Tiara were built in 2004 and 2006 respectively utilising the most modern design techniques and latest in safety features, as their names suggest, are Swiss managed - and two of the finest such vessels adorning any European river!

Your first experience is the strikingly luxurious lobby, with beautiful polished

marble decks, adorned with rich hardwoods, tasteful brass fittings and classic wrought-iron staircases, recalling classic five-star hotels from the golden age of travel. Blend this with the ship's low passenger complement, just 140 guests (many similar size vessels carry nearly 200), with 35 crew, the ratio to passengers at less than 4 to 1 is very high, guaranteeing an excellent level of service and a more personal touch. Both ships have three airconditioned decks, Diamond (upper), Ruby (middle) and Emerald (lower). The Diamond and Ruby decks are connected by a standard lift. The Emerald deck and the large sundeck are accessible by a staircase, and there is a tasteful boutique stocking essentials.

SWISS TIARA

The main restaurant, where the art of haute-cuisine is alive and well, makes superb use of deep wool carpets, wood, glass and marble, whilst atmospheric lighting and tables, seating just four and six, combine to create a lovely ambience. Cuisine and service levels are of a similar standard to an onshore top-class restaurant. Unusually on river cruisers, both ships feature a sauna, steamroom and whirlpool.

Spa, Swiss Tiara

Restaurant, Swiss Corona

There are two lounges in which to relax, the Forward Observation Lounge, richly carpeted and furnished with comfortable leather chairs, settees and tables, whilst panoramic windows allow you to enjoy the passing scenery to great effect. With a full bar service, this is the place to relax after a wonderful day's cruising. During the evening, a pianist plays in the background to complete the genteel atmosphere. To the rear of the ship is the small and intimate Lido Lounge with a bar, a small library and outside armchairs where again you can quietly soak up the scenery.

"YOUR FIRST EXPERIENCE IS THE STRIKINGLY LUXURIOUS LOBBY, WITH BEAUTIFUL POLISHED MARBLE DECKS, ADORNED WITH RICH HARDWOODS, TASTEFUL BRASS FITTINGS AND CLASSIC WROUGHT-IRON STAIRCASES, RECALLING CLASSIC FIVE-STAR HOTELS FROM THE GOLDEN AGE OF TRAVEL"

From here stairs lead to the upper sun deck, which boasts plenty of deckchairs and sunloungers from where you can enjoy a drink as picturesque towns and vineclad hillsides, in all their wondrous beauty, glide by. Catch up on some reading or perhaps relax in the small splash pool. Just forward of the wheelhouse is the front sundeck, a quiet panoramic spot with an almost yachtlike ambience. Here you can observe life on the river, relax over a drink, chat with likeminded people and simply reflect on how pleasant life can be!

#### **YOUR CABIN**

The cabins are some of the largest, best appointed and most luxuriously furnished of any river cruiser anywhere in the world. Tastefully carpeted, they are spacious, 15 square metres (161 square feet) making them amongst the largest of such accommodation and most importantly, beds are hotel standard, not bunks or berths and a turn down service operates during dinner. The beds have the best mattresses whilst the linen is of the finest cotton with high quality pillows and are adjustable to find the perfect sleeping position, so you experience a real home-from-home. The well-appointed bathroom features a glazed shower cubicle not a curtain, plus of course WC, and complimentary cosmetics. There is a safe, mini-bar, tea and coffee making facilities, telephone, individual air-conditioning, hairdryer,

Superior Suite, Swiss Tiara

Lounge, Swiss Corona

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seating area with two chairs and plenty of storage space. The flat-screen TV features satellite channels so you can keep in contact with the world, whilst bow and aft cameras enable you to enjoy the view without even leaving your cabin!

On the Diamond (upper) and Ruby (middle) deck, all cabins feature floor-to-ceiling sliding patio-style 'French balcony' windows, whilst those on the Emerald (lower) deck have smaller fixed windows. On the Emerald (lower) deck, standard double cabins are available for sole occupancy at no extra cost. Single supplements apply for other cabins and decks, all subject to availability.

#### **SUPERIOR SUITES**

This is where both ships really show their true pedigree, with a limited number of superior suites of 18.5 square metres (199 square feet), giving that extra room for added comfort. They feature the window style relative to the deck on which they are located plus added space and more luxurious seating. In short your comfort is assured.

On the Swiss Corona, the superior suites on the Ruby (middle) and Diamond (upper) deck feature a bathtub with a shower over. Superior Suite bathroom, Swiss Tiara

# FIVE-STAR MSDOURO ELEGANCE

e are absolutely thrilled to announce that for 2017 our highly successful Douro cruise on Portugal's most spectacular waterway will be operated on a brand new state of the art vessel, the magnificent five-star MS Douro Elegance. Painstaking research over many months with our highly regarded Portuguese shipping partners, the first luxury ship operator on the Douro, who have been involved in river cruise ship building for over a quarter of a century, has resulted in the creation of a worldclass vessel which is without doubt one

of the most exceptional ships afloat on any European river. If cruising is an art, then this ship has truly mastered it; constructed with the very latest technology and a strong environmental ethic in mind, yet simultaneously retaining a classic, refined elegance reminiscent of cruising from a bygone era, this five-star, fully-air-conditioned river cruiser has been purposebuilt to fit the unique size limitations of the Douro's five locks and features all the facilities you would expect in a top-class hotel and more so your cruise will be as relaxing as possible and your stay on board will be a uniquely memorable one.

> Accommodating just 126 guests in the most exquisite of surroundings, the ship's spectacular design and high specification ensures this vessel feels exceptionally light and airy. The generous ratio of 3:1 guests per crew member ensures a first-class personal

The comfortable lounge

service plus the friendly 'small ship' feel so beloved of Riviera Travel cruise aficionados, enables the ever attentive crew to revel in taking care of all those little things – leaving you to simply sit back, relax and enjoy every minute of your sensational river cruise experience.

#### THE DECKS

Boarding via the welcoming entrance lobby on the Upper Deck, immediately you will be struck by the crisp, contemporary yet classically stylish décor befitting this five-star ship; its discreet lighting, sparkling surfaces and highly polished marble floors create a sophisticated, designer elegance which is reflected throughout the entire ship. Conveniently located alongside the entrance lobby is the reception desk where the helpful friendly crew are on hand to welcome you aboard. Complimentary tea and coffee is always available here too and there is a small boutique stocking a selection of essentials and souvenirs. Then forward you will find the magnificent lounge and bar,

the very heart of the ship, styled by a leading Portuguese designer and sumptuously furnished with elegant settees and comfortable armchairs; plump cushions in smart complementary fabric invite you to sink in and relax – your holiday starts here! Enjoy a freshly made cup of tea whilst soaking up the refined ambience, complemented by high quality fittings, thoughtfully positioned lamps, a thick wool carpet, beautifully polished hardwoods and fabulous fresh-cut flowers. A well-stocked bar with friendly professional staff taking delight in attending to your every wish in sampling local wines or preparing whatever takes your fancy completes the convival scene. So just sit

"THE EXCELLENT RATIO OF JUST THREE GUESTS PER CREW MEMBER ENSURES FIRST CLASS SERVICE AND CUISINE, PLUS THE FRIENDLY "SMALL SHIP" FEEL SO BELOVED OF RIVIERA TRAVEL CRUISE AFICIONADOS" back and enjoy the stunning view from the magnificent panoramic windows as the ever-changing river scenery slips effortlessly by. When evening falls, the subdued lighting creates the most gentile ambience so unwind over a digestif or perhaps take a turn on the dance floor to the soothing tones of the resident musician. There really can be few holidays quite as relaxing as this!

All three air-conditioned accommodation decks are connected by a lift for your convenience and an elegant wide staircase with gleaming handrail. Heading down to the Main (middle) Deck you will find the chic restaurant where your comfort is assured in high-backed chairs at impeccably laid tables with pristine linen cloths and fine cutlery. Tables seat just four to eight and in common with all our river cruises, we offer 'open dining' arrangements

giving our clients the freedom to sit wherever and with whoever they wish. This is a dining experience of the highest order and one to be savoured! Breakfast is a hot and cold buffet with a fine omelette station so your eggs are just how you like them – an early risers' breakfast is also available in the lounge. Lunch is another deliciously fine array but if you fancy a simple salad instead then that's available too or you may opt for a slightly more informal, lighter lunch either in the main lounge or up on the Sun Deck. The culinary highlight of the day though is the superb four-course dinner, served at your table by the most highlytrained, attentive yet discreet waiting staff who will attend to your every need without hesitation. Featuring the finest Portuguese, Mediterranean and International cuisine to delight your taste buds this will be a dining experience to remember as you enjoy a kaleidoscope of river views from the huge panoramic windows. If you feel like a little extra indulgence during your cruise why not book in for a special treatment in the ship's Spa which is also accessed on the Main (middle) Deck. Or for something a little more energetic, you will find a small fitness room on the Lower Deck – ideal for working off the ship's wonderful cuisine!

Accessed by stairs from the Upper Deck, head on up to the magnificent and spacious Sun Deck from where you can enjoy the stunning 360 degree views as they glide past from the comfort of your sun lounger whilst sipping a long refreshing drink or chatting with your fellow companions. You might choose to enjoy a glimpse of the wizardry 'on the bridge' as the Captain skilfully negotiates the twisting river with reassuring ease. When the temperature rises you will feel the benefit of the fantastic outdoor swimming pool – a rarity on a river cruiser. For many though, just to lean against the ship's rail and breathe in the invigorating river breeze whilst casting a relaxed eye over the fascinating scenes of life ashore or the wonderful river wildlife all around you, is what it's all about; this is surely the perfect antidote to the stresses of modern life so let us take you on the cruise of your dreams!



#### **CABINS**

As the very name suggests, all the outside facing cabins on the MS Douro Elegance are finished to an exceptionally high standard with superior quality fittings in the most refined taste and at 15 square metres (161 square feet) these are amongst the largest on any European river cruise. Chic styling is evident throughout from the moment you open your beautifully polished hardwood door and step inside your luxury home for the next 7 nights; polished wooden furniture is complemented by fine fabrics, in warm, relaxing colours, uniquely designed and created for the Ms Douro Elegance whilst 'hotel style' beds will ensure a good night's sleep in the finest crisp linens. The sparkling marble bathrooms, beautifully designed, all feature shower with fully glazed screen, WC plus fluffy towels and bathroom cosmetics. All cabins enjoy the benefit of individually controlled air-conditioning, a small desk, flat screen high-definition satellite TV, hairdryer, safe and telephone. Two chairs and a small table are provided for your convenience (except in Lower Deck cabins). Best of all, standard Cabins on the Upper Deck and Main (middle) Deck feature full floor to ceiling windows which slide down halfway so you can watch the stunning river scenery drifting past without leaving the comfort of your cabin! Standard Cabins on the Lower Deck are slightly smaller at 14 square metres (151 square feet) have smaller fixed windows and as a unique bonus, Stern Cabins on this deck are available for sole occupancy at no extra cost. Single supplements apply for other cabins and decks, all subject to availability.

#### SUPERIOR BALCONY SUITES

For something a little special, you may choose to upgrade to one of the Superior Balcony Suites; there are 6 available on the Upper Deck. These suites measure a substantial 22 square metres (237 square feet) for your additional comfort so you'll really feel completely relaxed in your stylish surroundings. There is a generous living area with two armchairs and a table, small desk and the addition of tea and coffee making facilities and cosy bathrobes. The Superior Balcony Suites feature the same high quality furnishings and fittings as the standard cabins and enjoy fantastic views from both a fixed floor to ceiling window and sliding glass doors allowing you to really bring the outside in! A private balcony with two chairs and a table enables you to enjoy an aperitif al fresco in the privacy of your own cabin whilst watching the delightful river-world go by.

#### **DELUXE BALCONY SUITES**

If you really fancy treating yourself to a little more indulgence by taking your cruise to another level again, the MS Douro Elegance also boasts 2 Deluxe Balcony Suites on the Upper Deck. These suites are a huge 30 square metres (323 square feet), offering the ultimate in space and comfort during your cruise. Tastefully furnished with the same high quality fittings as the standard cabins and Superior Balcony Suites with tea and coffee making facilities and bathrobes, most of the additional space is devoted to the living area where you will really notice the difference as you relax in comfort on the sofa or elegant armchair in the most sumptuous of settings. Plus a further treat - there is a walk-in wardrobe for that added sense of luxury! As well as the full floor to ceiling sliding doors which open out on to a private balcony with table and chairs, there are 2 additional floor to ceiling windows and a larger bathroom with twin wash basins. These really are the epitome of river cruise luxury and you will feel thoroughly spoilt!

"JUST SIT BACK AND ENJOY THE STUNNING VIEW FROM THE MAGNIFICENT PANORAMIC WINDOWS AS THE EVER-CHANGING RIVER SCENERY SLIPS EFFORTLESSLY BY. WHEN EVENING FALLS, THE SUBDUED LIGHTING CREATES THE MOST GENTILE AMBIENCE"

# FOUR-STAR SUPERIOR MS SWISS RUBY

Panoramic bar

SWISS RUBY

he luxurious Swiss Ruby is Swiss owned and managed and is one of Europe's few top-class vessels specifically designed to operate on the continent's smaller, more intimate rivers, which enables her to cruise through the centre of Paris – an experience you can't have on any of the larger ships. Maintained and managed to the most exacting standards as befits its flag, the highly trained crew do their utmost to ensure that your river cruise experience is as relaxing and enjoyable as possible. Originally launched in 2002 the interior has been completely rebuilt specifically for the luxury sector, featuring the very latest equipment, and the Swiss Ruby is much loved by her regular passengers for the warm friendly atmosphere, excellent design and exquisite public areas, superbly appointed cabins, high-class fittings and outstanding cuisine. With less than 4 guests to every crew member - a very high ratio for a river cruise vessel - care and personal attention

The classic restaurant

is assured. Plus with a passenger complement of just 88, you never feel crowded.

Luxury, spaciousness and ambience are very much in evidence as you board through the beautifully panelled entrance lobby. The high quality brass and wroughtiron fittings sparkle and reflect in the warm-coloured, highly polished marble floors – this is classic cruising of a very high standard. You find yourself in the tasteful reception and a small boutique will happily attend to your everyday requirements. This is the hub of the vessel and a staircase leads down to the Emerald





"CRUISE THROUGH THE CENTRE OF PARIS – AN EXPERIENCE YOU CAN'T HAVE ON ANY OF THE LARGER SHIPS" away the evenings with the gentle melodies of the resident pianist in the background, while you enjoy a glass of wine.

On the Emerald deck the ship's restaurant has a pleasantly intimate feel: with elegant wood panelling, tasteful lighting and top quality service, this is every inch the classy dining experience to match that of first-class establishments onshore. To promote a relaxed dining experience, as on all our river cruises, you can sit with whoever and wherever you wish, with tables ranging in size from four to six so you can be as private or sociable as you wish. The outer Sun Deck is a great place to read, relax and admire the ever changing kaleidoscope of stunning views as they pass serenely by, with drink in hand.

EINKARTE

WINE LIST

RTE DES VINS

ARTA DE VINOS

**CABINS** 

Cabins on the Ruby (upper) deck have French Balconies with full floor to ceiling sliding glass doors whilst on the Emerald (lower) deck cabins have large panoramic windows and as you would expect of a four-star superior vessel, they are extremely well appointed, being 12 square metres (129 square feet) in area, all are outward facing with high quality fittings. Most importantly they feature hotel-style beds and a turn-down service operates during dinner. This, combined with high quality bed-linen, ensures a comfortable night's sleep. A safe, hairdryer and flat-screen satellite TV are standard throughout. The well equipped

bathroom is extremely practical with a marble wash basin, fully glazed shower – not curtains, plus complimentary bathroom cosmetics, and of course, everything is air-conditioned. The ship's Swiss owners pride themselves on having one of the world's finest fleet of river cruisers and the Swiss Ruby is no exception to the four-star superior experience.

S. 1

Standard cabin Ruby deck

"THE SWISS RUBY IS MUCH LOVED BY HER REGULAR PASSENGERS FOR THE WARM FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE, EXCELLENT DESIGN AND EXQUISITE PUBLIC AREAS, SUPERBLY APPOINTED CABINS, HIGH-CLASS FITTINGS AND OUTSTANDING CUISINE" Sun deck

## Deck & Cabin Plans

## The MS Emily Brontë, MS Thomas Hardy

### & MS Oscar Wilde - five-star

2017 only - Rhine & Moselle; Rhine, Strasbourg & Heidelberg; Rhine Cruise to Switzerland; The Blue Danube; Cruise the Heart of Europe; Amsterdam, Volendam & the Dutch Bulbfields (MS Emily Brontë only); Bruges, Medieval Flanders, Amsterdam & the Dutch Bulbfields

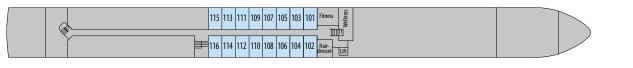
#### DIAMOND DECK (UPPER DECK)



#### **RUBY DECK (MIDDLE DECK)**

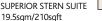
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236         234         232         220         226         224         222         220         218         216         214         212         210         208         206         204         202         Image: Contract of the set	Kitchen

#### **EMERALD DECK (LOWER DECK)**



DELUXE BALCONY SUITE SUPERIOR SUITE 25.5sqm/274sqft







#### SUPERIOR STERN SUITE DIAMOND DECK SUITE RUBY DECK SUITE EMERALD DECK SUITE 17sqm/183sqft

17sqm/183sqft

## The MS Lord Byron & MS Jane Austen - five-star

2016 Only - Rhine & Moselle; Rhine, Strasbourg & Heidelberg; Rhine Cruise to Switzerland: The Blue Danube: Cruise the Heart of Europe; Amsterdam, Volendam & the Dutch Bulbfields; Bruges, Medieval Flanders, Amsterdam & the Dutch Bulbfields 2017 Only - Burgundy; River Rhone & Provence

Rhine & Moselle; Rhine, Strasbourg & Heidelberg; Rhine Cruise to Switzerland; The Blue Danube; Cruise the Heart of Europe; Amsterdam, Volendam & the Dutch Bulbfields; Bruges, Medieval Flanders, Amsterdam & the Dutch Bulbfields

#### DIAMOND DECK (UPPER DECK)



**RUBY DECK (MIDDLE DECK)** 231 229 227 225 223 221 219 217 215 213 211 209 207 205 203 201 Restaurant 232 230 228 226 224 222 220 218 216 214 212 210 208 206 204 202 EMERALD DECK (LOWER DECK) 111 109 107 105 103 101 Wellness 112 110 108 106 104 102 DELUXE SUITE



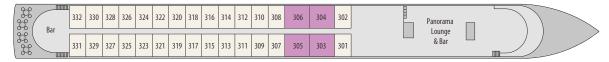
15sqm/161sqft

## The MS William Shakespeare & MS Charles Dickens - five-star

Rhine & Moselle; Rhine, Strasbourg & Heidelberg; Rhine Cruise to Switzerland; Cruise the Heart of Europe; The Blue Danube

Cruise the Heart of Europe; The Blue Danube 2017 Only - Rhine & Moselle; Rhine, Strasbourg & Heidelberg; Rhine Cruise to Switzerland

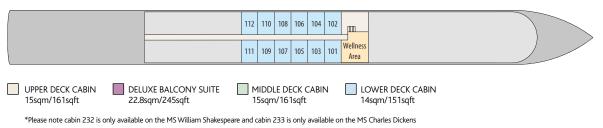
#### UPPER DECK



#### MIDDLE DECK

		232*	230	228	226	224	222	220	218	216	214	212	210	208	206	204	202		Restaurant	
	233*	231	229	227	225			219	217	215	213	211	209	207	205	203	201	┝╨	nestaurant	

#### LOWER DECK



## The MS Swiss Corona & The MS Swiss Tiara - five-star

SUPERIOR STERN SUITE

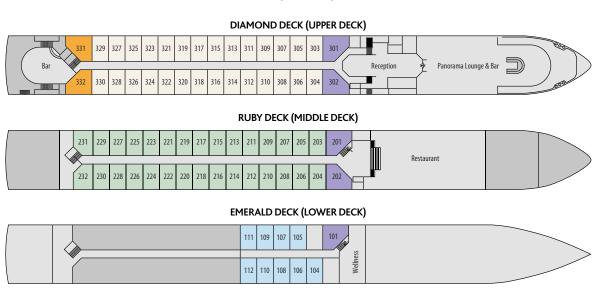
18.5sqm/199sqft

Burgundy; River Rhone & Provence

SUPERIOR SUITES

18.5sqm/199sqft

Medieval Germany; **2016 only** - Rhine Cruise to Switzerland; Rhine & Moselle; Rhine, Strasbourg & Heidelberg



DIAMOND DECK CABIN

15sqm/161sqft

RUBY DECK CABIN

15sqm/161sqft

EMERALD DECK CABIN

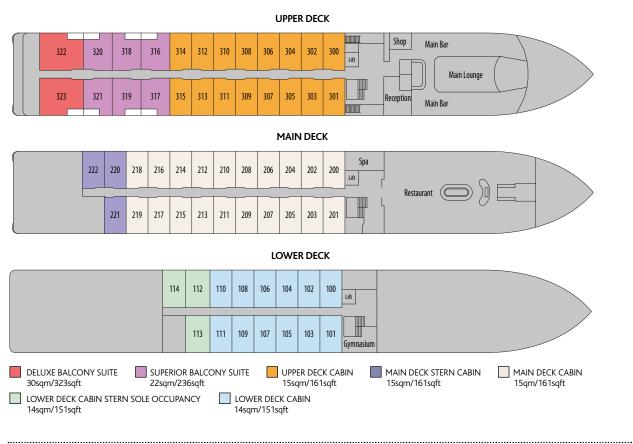
15sqm/161sqft

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## **Deck & Cabin Plans**

## The MS Douro Elegance - five-star

2017 Only - The Douro, Oporto & Salamanca



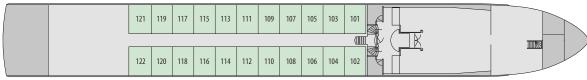
## The MS Swiss Ruby - four-star superior

2017 Only - The Seine, Paris & Normandy

#### RUBY DECK (UPPER DECK)

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1216	222	220	218	216	214	212	210	208	206	204	000

#### EMERALD DECK (LOWER DECK)



KEY: RUBY DECK CABIN EMERALD DECK CABIN

## BRUGES, MEDIEVAL FLANDERS, AMSTERDAM & THE DUTCH BULBFIELDS

- Tour of Amsterdam, one of the world's most unique cities
- Walking tour of Bruges, one of Europe's most perfectly preserved medieval towns
- Visit to Arnhem, famous for the 1944 battle vividly depicted in the film 'A Bridge Too Far'
- Tour of Antwerp, the city of Rubens and the 'Flemish Masters'
- Walking tour of Ghent, the 14th century's largest city in Western Europe

- Visit to Ypres and the First World War Battlefields
- Visit to the stunning Keukenhof Gardens - the heart of the Dutch Bulbfields
- Cruise along the Zuiderzee
- Price includes full-board from dinner on your arrival day until breakfast on your final day
- · Services of a cruise director and tour manager

Discover the artisanal traditions of what was once the world's greatest sea power, Rembrandt and Van Gogh's remarkable art and the old Zuiderzee



#### **DAY 1 - EMBARK**

Moored in Amsterdam, the dedicated crew will welcome you aboard your first-class floating hotel, ensuring you settle into your comfortable and extremely well equipped cabin and familiarise yourself with the ship.

#### DAY 2 - AMSTERDAM & HOORN

Breakfast is an institution on our river cruisers and you are always assured of a magnificent selection, the perfect start to the day. We are moored in the heart of fascinating Amsterdam, so we take a delightful sightseeing cruise around its picturesque canals – in classic glass-topped boats. The tour brings a real insight into Amsterdam's history, art and people, throughout history at the heart of European culture and commerce and often a fierce rival to British ambitions! You'll see a fascinating variety of gabled buildings along the charming waterfronts, slide beneath bridges immortalised by the great artists and hear about Old Masters like Rembrandt and heroes such as Anne Frank, whose diaries tell an extraordinarily moving story.

A splendid buffet lunch awaits your return as we slip away from the quayside towards the IJsselmeer the lake created when the Zuiderzee was dammed, then on to historic Hoorn, once a prosperous port of the Dutch East India Company. Reminiscent of another age, it is a delightful mix of imposing 15th to 19th century, brick-built mercantile warehouses, cobbled squares and twisting alleys. Hoorn's ships traded the world over, with one intrepid sailor even naming the southernmost tip of South America after his home town – Cape Horn! There's time to explore this intriguing spot before another splendid dinner.

#### DAY 3 - ARNHEM

One of the delights of river cruising is the

enchanting experience of awaking in a new world, the water gently lapping as the ship glides almost imperceptibly along. We are now deep in the heart of Holland passing flower bedecked houseboats, flocks of wildfowl and of course windmills! We soon arrive in Arnhem, once a member of the Hanseatic League, but since 1944 synonymous with the ill-fated battle so vividly depicted in the film 'A Bridge Too Far'. We visit the former British HQ at Oosterbeek, now an excellent museum and the poignant Commonwealth War Cemetery, the final resting place of so many. Back on board, we cruise along the mighty River Rhine, one of Europe's foremost waterways before enjoying another sumptuous dinner on board, as the riverside lights twinkle on.

#### **DAY 4 - ANTWERP**

ANNU

This morning there's a chance to marvel at the Captain's calm skill as he safely navigates the ship through the busy waters of the River Schelde, mooring in Antwerp whose picturesque main square is lined by the tall, gabled townhouses so typical of the 'low countries'. Once ruled by Spain, Antwerp grew immensely wealthy during its 16th century 'Golden Age' when it was Europe's largest port north of the Alps, with the profits invested in the city's art and architectural heritage. This morning we enjoy a sightseeing tour of this historic and vastly underrated city, birthplace of Rubens and steeped in history. This afternoon is free to explore as you wish and perhaps visit the Fine Art Museum with over 7,000 paintings including renowned works by Rubens, Jordaens and Van Dyck.

#### DAY 5 - GHENT & YPRES

Today we awake in medieval Ghent, once Western Europe's largest city and our picturesque base for the next two days. Ghent is a perfectly preserved medieval gem boasting: a gorgeously unspoilt waterfront; the imposing Gravenstein fortress towering above the river; a 13th century skyline punctured by the soaring belfry and Van Eyck's masterpiece 'Adoration of the Mystic Lamb' which decorates the cathedral. This morning we have a sightseeing tour and after lunch we visit Ypres, a name synonymous with the horrors of the Great War and the centre of British activity in Belgium. Almost totally destroyed Ypres is now a place of pilgrimage, peace and reflection. We learn about some of the places made famous during the fighting. You may wish to visit the excellent, 'In Flanders Fields' Museum in the heart of the beautifully restored town centre and a must for those interested in the decisions of the Generals and the extraordinary lives of the ordinary soldiers and civilians. We also visit Tyne Cot Cemetery and the infamous battlefield of Passchendaele. Ypres is the home of the Menin Gate, the incredibly moving memorial to the missing where the last post is played every evening.

However, this excursion is not compulsory so should you choose to have free time in Ghent, perhaps

ride in a horse drawn carriage, or visit one of the many other attractions, this afternoon is the ideal opportunity to do so.

#### **DAY 6 - BRUGES**

After breakfast we take the short drive to Bruges, one of Europe's most perfectly preserved medieval cities and have a guided walk of this beautiful town which really does carry its remarkable medieval legacy with charm and to perfection. The whole atmosphere of Bruges is pure romance with its streets crammed with fascination. It is so exquisitely compact, centred on the main square, dominated by the soaring Belfry and when the unique old Flemish chimes are heard, the atmosphere is idyllic. You can climb this tower and if you can face the 366 steps, the view is breathtaking. You will also see the City Hall, the old Law Courts and the Basilica of the Holy Blood in which is housed some of Jesus' blood. Another must is the Notre Dame Church which houses Michelangelo's beautiful Madonna and Child, carved in white carrara marble, plus of course the legendary chocolate shops!

You will be reluctant to leave this utterly enchanting place although the promise of more first-class dining in the ship's superb restaurant will not disappoint. This evening we leave Ghent returning to Holland.

#### DAY 7 - KEUKENHOF & AMSTERDAM

Early risers discover the ship making effortless progress along the delightful waterways and you experience the somewhat surreal effect of cruising above the height of the surrounding reclaimed 'polder'- it's almost like flying! Today we take you to the stunning Keukenhof Gardens, the heart of the glorious bulbfields. On arrival, nothing quite prepares you for the dazzling spectrum of colours stretched out before you, the countryside ablaze in a riot of colour unsurpassed anywhere else in the world. The art of the flower garden reaches breathtaking heights here, as you marvel at the tens of thousands of blooms set amongst a delightful landscape of shimmering lakes, ancient trees, flowering shrubs and beautiful water gardens. We rejoin our ship in Amsterdam and after lunch you are free to explore as you wish. Perhaps you may wish to admire the fine art of the Rijksmuseum, with its many works by the Great Masters, or the Van Gogh Museum housing the world's greatest collection by this genius of a man. Alternatively perhaps, relax in a pavement café absorbing Amsterdam's special atmosphere over a rich Dutch coffee, go shopping or just stay on board catching up on some reading; the choice is yours.

This evening is the Captain's Dinner, where the chef prepares his superb 'signature' dishes served in delightful surroundings, with chance to reflect on the fascinating places you have discovered, poignant stories you have heard and interesting, like-minded people you have met.

#### **DAY 8 - DISEMBARK**

After breakfast this morning your friendly crew bid you farewell before you disembark the ship.





# AMSTERDAM, VOLENDAM & THE DUTCH BULBFIELDS

- Canal tour of Amsterdam a city both vibrant and serene, with world-class art, picturesque canals and some of the world's most beautiful diamonds
- Visit to Keukenhof Park, the stunning setting for the bulbfields and arguably the world's finest floral display
- Experience six centuries of history in Volendam

   Holland throughout the ages
- Visit to Enkhuizen, 17th century port of the Zuiderzee
- Price includes full-board from dinner on your day of arrival until breakfast on your final day
- · Services of a cruise director and tour manager

The bulbfields kaleidoscope of colour, plus a vivid portrait of medieval Flanders with its amazing art and traditions, chocolate and artisanal beer, so near and so different



#### DAY 1 -EMBARK

Moored in Amsterdam, the dedicated crew will welcome you aboard your first-class floating hotel, ensuring you settle into your comfortable and extremely well equipped cabin and familiarise yourself with the ship.

#### DAY 2 - KEUKENHOF & HOORN

After your first breakfast on board, this morning we drive through the heart of the astonishing bulbfields themselves to the worldfamous Keukenhof Gardens and one of the real highlights of the tour. Nothing quite prepares you for the dazzling array of colours stretched out before you, as the flat fertile coastal plain is illuminated by a natural display unrivalled anywhere else on the planet. At Keukenhof, the art of the flower garden reaches breathtaking heights as you marvel at the dramatic pageant of hues in the seven million blooms set amongst a delightful landscape of shimmering lakes, ancient trees, flowering shrubs and beautiful water gardens covering a staggering 80 acres. The wonderful variety in design, colour and scent gives each individual garden a unique character and a wealth of inspiration for your own little patch back home!

We then return to the Lord Byron in time for a late lunch, as the luxurious Lord Byron gently cruises along the Markermeer, the southwestern part of the great IJsselmeer lagoon, created when the Zuiderzee dam was constructed, separating it from the North Sea. This mammoth engineering achievement reclaimed huge tracts of land using the unique Dutch talent for such projects, honed over hundreds of years of battling the mighty sea.

This afternoon we dock in the small town of Hoorn. Reminiscent of another age, it is a delightful mixture of 15th to 19th century leaning houses, imposing brick-built mercantile warehouses, cobbled squares and twisting alleys. Once its ships traded all over the known world, with one such intrepid sailor even naming the southernmost tip of South America after his home town – Cape Horn! We spend the night here so why not take a stroll after dinner.

#### **DAY 3 - VOLENDAM & ENKHUIZEN**

Today we take the short drive to the traditional fishing village of Volendam. This delightful village really is a picture of Holland as it used to be centuries ago. It retains much of its old-world charm and it is not hard to imagine the hardworking fishermen returning with the morning's catch and the women sat repairing their nets in front of the rows of quaint wooden cottages lining the picturesque waterfront. The villagers are renowned for still wearing traditional Dutch dress, including the ladies' white pinafores and curved bonnets, and you may catch a glimpse of them arm in arm, during an enjoyable stroll around the Doolhoof - the maze of tiny, narrow alleys and confusing jumble of houses nestling safely behind the waterfront dyke.

Returning to the ship for lunch, we watch the picturesque shoreline slide by as we cruise to Enkhuizen, nestling at the edge of the old Zuiderzee. During the 17th Century Golden Age the Netherlands dominated world maritime trade, becoming fabulously prosperous and Enkhuizen, as one of the country's principal ports was no exception. Merchants keen to spend their newly acquired wealth created the quaint town you see today and in celebration of this illustrious past, one of the county's best museums has been created, the Zuiderzee Museum. Here in a large park is a superb recreation of 19th century local life, with actors in period costumes demonstrating essential skills of the time in a truly authentic setting. There is a sail maker's, fish smokehouse, blacksmith's, clog maker's, a variety of shops, dressmaker's and a host of other fascinating things to experience should you wish. Of course if you prefer to stay aboard, catch up on some reading or enjoy a coffee in the comfortable ambience of the lounge, the choice is yours.

We are berthed here this evening too, so after dinner you can take an atmospheric walk along the quayside.

#### DAY 4 - AMSTERDAM

Expectation mounts as during breakfast we gently cruise into Amsterdam, one of the world's most fascinating, unique and beautiful cities. The classic glass-topped canal cruisers meet us, taking us on a sightseeing tour by this most appropriate of means – following the canals! The tour brings a real insight into Amsterdam's history, art and peoples which has been at the heart of European culture and commerce for many centuries and often a fierce rival to British ambitions!

You will see a fascinating variety of sights: gabled-roofed buildings along the picturesque canal-side waterfronts, outstanding museums, bridges immortalised by the great artists and the homes of Old Masters like Rembrandt and of the heroine Anne Frank, the young Jewish girl whose diaries tell such a poignant and extraordinarily moving tale of life under the Nazis.

After lunch on board, this afternoon is free to perhaps discover the interior of Anne's house, or just wander where your feet take you, ambling along the picturesque canals, dodging Amsterdammers astride their bicycles, the most popular means of transport here which adds to the wonderfully relaxed ambience pervading the city. For the more culturally minded, spend time in one of the world's great art galleries: the Rijksmuseum has an astonishing collection of 5,000 remarkable works by Vermeer, Rembrandt and a host of others, or perhaps, appropriately for Amsterdam, visit the nearby Van Gogh Museum with the world's

largest collection of masterpieces by this disturbed, yet genius of an artist. There is much of his early work here, together with such masterpieces as: Bedroom in Arles, The Wheatfield and of course, the iconic Sunflowers.

Alternatively you may prefer to simply relax in one of the unique pavement cafés absorbing Amsterdam's special atmosphere over a rich Dutch coffee, before returning to the ship for the Captain's very special dinner and a chance to chat with like-minded people, reflecting on the many and varied faces of Holland which has always reserved such a warm welcome for its British visitors.

#### **DAY 5 - DISEMBARK**

After breakfast this morning your friendly crew bid you farewell before you disembark the ship.



# RHINE, STRASBOURG & HEIDELBERG

- Guided tour of Koblenz
- Relax at your leisure in Boppard with ample time to take the cable car ride for stunning views
- Cruise through the spectacular Rhine Gorge
- Visit to Mainz capital of the Rhineland and once home to Gutenburg
- Guided tour of majestic Heidelberg, follow in the footsteps of philosophers and poets

- Enjoy a guided tour of historic Strasbourg – capital of Alsace
- Take a scenic drive through beautiful Alsatian countryside to the pretty town of Colmar
- Guided tour of Cologne and see its magnificent Gothic Cathedral
- Price includes full-board from dinner on your day of arrival until breakfast on your final day
- · Services of a cruise director and tour manager

A gorgeous contrast from tiny Boppard to sophisticated Heidelberg and medieval Strasbourg probably the Rhine's most attractive city



#### **DAY 1 - EMBARK**

Moored in Cologne's picturesque historic centre, the dedicated crew will welcome you aboard your first-class floating hotel, ensuring you settle into your comfortable and extremely well equipped cabin and familiarise yourself with the ship.

#### **DAY 2 - KOBLENZ & BOPPARD**

Take a peek out from your cabin this morning and you realise the ship has already slipped quietly away from Cologne. The gentle rippling water has begun casting its spell as the vine-covered valley sides, all aglow in the early sunlight, bid you a warm welcome to the charming Rhine. There's nothing quite like that feeling of anticipation when gliding alongside the promenade of a river port, snatching tantalising glimpses of what lies ashore and Koblenz, beautifully located at the confluence of the rivers Rhine and Moselle, does not disappoint. Founded by the Romans, you soon immerse yourself in two millennia of history: the city was captured by the Franks, becoming a residence of the German prince electors, was conquered by the French and fortified by the Prussians!

We live in more peaceful times now and today Koblenz is a romantic's dream, forest-covered hillsides dominate the skyline, whilst the lower slopes are strewn with the pretty, half-timbered buildings so typical of the Rhineland. Tiny streets and alleyways lead to intimate squares lined by traditional shops and tiny cafés, and this morning you will have a walking tour followed by free time. During your first relaxing lunch on board, you continue upstream, arriving in Boppard, beautifully situated on one of the river's most impressive and sweeping bends. Simply relax on board or take a stroll through the narrow old streets. The cool early evening is an ideal time to wander along the beautiful riverside Rheinallee promenade before thoughts turn inevitably to tonight's menu.

#### **DAY 3 - RHINE GORGE & MAINZ**

This morning you cruise through the revered Rhine Gorge where the waters narrow to one fifth their normal width and flow much more swiftly. The sheer valley walls soar 200 metres from the river's edge and magnificent birds of prey glide on the thermals above. Teutonic Knights built numerous redoubtable castles which crown the adjacent hillsides, at one time thriving on the tolls extracted from passing ships, now standing as silent ruins through this passage of history. So find a comfortable spot on the sun deck or in the forward observation lounge and enjoy the experience of cruising this famous stretch of water: this really is the magical Rhine of our imagination.

Your next port of call is historic Mainz, boasting the largest wine market in Germany, but its most famous son is Gutenberg, father of modern printing. You can visit the excellent museum housing a working reconstruction of the earliest press and outstandingly, two original 1452 Gutenberg Bibles, the first books ever printed in Europe! Enjoy dinner this evening as we pass by the lakes of the Kuhkopf nature reserve, one of the largest in the country and recognised for its vibrant bird life.

#### **DAY 4 - HEIDELBERG**

After breakfast, you take the short drive to nearby Heidelberg for a guided walking tour of this wonderful city. Its setting is second to none, nestling by the picturesque River Neckar, in a valley dominated by its imposing castle, high on a wooded hillside - a true fulfilment of the perfect medieval German landscape! The city is a maze of historic,

baroque and gabled buildings lining the river with its romantic old-town behind. Its 14th century university, one of the most prestigious in Europe lends Heidelberg that gentile atmosphere rather similar to Cambridge, with which the city is fittingly 'twinned'.

During the 19th century it was the centre of Germany's Romantic Movement, on the route of 'The Grand Tour' and visited, amongst many others, by the artist Turner who captured its splendours for eternity. During your guided walk you see the principal sights and after some free time to explore as you wish you rejoin the ship.

#### DAY 5 - STRASBOURG & COLMAR

By breakfast, you have arrived in France and the charming city of Strasbourg, capital of the fascinating Alsace region. The city is a complete delight: its centre largely unchanged since the 14th century, a mosaic of winding alleys and lanes lined with quirkily crooked, half-timbered houses.

During periods of its history Strasbourg has been both German and French, and you can see this influence in its language, cuisine and appearance, creating a truly individual city. This morning you have a guided walking tour of its enchanting old centre, including the Petit France quarter of picturesque canals lined with classic black and white buildings, the famous covered bridges and of course the stunning gothic cathedral. Victor Hugo described it as a "veritable tiara of stone," and it was once the tallest building in the world. Just south of Strasbourg lies a

picturesque wine route, virtually an open air museum of romantic medieval villages, cobbled streets and Renaissance châteaux strung like pearls on a necklace against a sweeping backdrop of rolling hills: it does not get much better than this.

You enjoy this most scenic drive, soon arriving in the lovely 16th century town of Colmar, the best preserved city in eastern France. Bisected by canals, it is a maze of former merchants' houses, antique shops and a monastery. The former wine exchange and the cathedral quarter is surrounded by pastel coloured half-timbered houses, displaying the intricate wrought iron hanging signs so typical of this area of Europe. Sit, enjoy a coffee, and watch the world go by or just wander where your feet take you. We return to the ship in Strasbourg for dinner.

#### **DAY 6 - RÜDESHEIM**

One of the benefits of life aboard a river cruiser is the sheer sense of relaxation it brings: time to catch up on some reading in the ship's library, perhaps enjoy a game of chess or improve your 'putting' on the Sun Deck. Why not enjoy a coffee with your likeminded travelling companions or simply watch the river traffic still using this artery so vital to the life of central Europe for the last 2,000 years.

A PARALLY NAME

In the late afternoon, you visit Rüdesheim, one of the most visited and liveliest towns on the river, owing its fame to the fact that it looks exactly as a Rhine town should. With its narrow, crooked streets leading down to the sweeping river and surrounded by wooded and vine-covered slopes. This is the heart of Riesling, one of central Europe's finest wines and Rudesheim is crammed with places to try this fruity refreshing drink. Rüdesheim is one of those places just to stroll around, enjoy a glass of wine, take in the scenery and reflect on life's more

pleasant moments. This evening the 'Captain's Dinner' will take place on board, where delicious specialities of the countries and regions we visit during our cruise will be served, hosted of course by the Captain himself.

#### **DAY 7 - COLOGNE GUIDED TOUR**

This morning, early risers can enjoy once again more marvels of the Rhine, as we pass through the gorge and the very confines of the river where the Rhine Maidens allegedly guard lost treasure, the "Rheingold". What better way to end your cruise than relaxing on the sun deck beneath dramatic, rocky, vineyard-topped valley sides, with impossibly perched castles at every turn, towering above the shimmering water below, feast your eyes on the magic around you that quite simply is the jewel of the Rhine.

The valley sides dissolve away and the hills begin to fade to the plain as the ship drifts gently onwards to Cologne whilst you enjoy your final delicious lunch. This afternoon you have a walking tour of the city during which you will learn all about its fascinating past plus the superb cathedral, the largest gothic structure on earth. It has Europe's most stunningly intricate stained glass, took 600 years to complete and when it was finally complete, it was the largest building on earth, remaining so until eclipsed by the Eiffel Tower.

We also see the vibrant and attractive old town, beautifully restored and boasting a plethora of excellent shopping and cosy bars, some of which still traditionally brew their own beer. This evening you enjoy an excellent final dinner on board as you reflect on the spectacular sights seen and wonderful places visited whilst travelling with us on this magical tour.

#### DAY 8 - DISEMBARK

This morning your friendly crew bid you farewell before you disembark the ship.



# RHINE & MOSELLE

- Guided tour of historic Koblenz
- Visit to Boppard, the picturesque 'Pearl of the Rhine'
- Time to explore the hillside town of Rüdesheim - the most famous of the Rhine's wine towns
- Cruise through the spectacular Rhine Gorge
- Stop in Cochem the historic centre of the Moselle wine trade
- Take a romantic stroll in the town of Bernkastel
- Tour of Trier once a key capital of the Roman Empire
- Guided tour of Cologne and see the stunning Gothic Cathedral
- Price includes full board from dinner on your day of arrival until breakfast on your final day
- · Services of a cruise director and tour manager

The bustling Rhine and serene Moselle, lined with ancient ruined castles, impossibly steep vineyards, sleepy half-timbered wine villages, all waiting to be discovered



#### prepared dinner, accompanied perhaps by one of the fine Riesling wines from the vineyards before you.

#### **DAY 4 - BERNKASTEL**

This morning the ship remains moored so after a leisurely breakfast you are free to explore Bernkastel. Wander the ancient streets to the delightful cobbled market square surrounded by some of the finest, most ornate half-timbered houses you will ever see many dating from the 15th century. Most famously, is the Pointed House, a jewel of the rustic middle class building tradition from the Middle Ages and a classic example of the Moselle vintner's dwelling.

As you slip your mooring during lunch and cruise back downstream, sit back and soak up the peaceful atmosphere of this magical river.

What a wonderful time this afternoon to relax in one of the comfortable deck chairs on the Sun Deck and really absorb the spectacular scenery in all its glory. Why not catch up on some reading in the ship's library or a game of chess perhaps? This evening, over dinner reflect on all that you have seen and what is still to come in the company of newly-made friends.

#### DAY 5 - KOBLENZ & BOPPARD

Early this morning the ship glides into port in the ancient city of Koblenz. Dramatically situated at the confluence of these two great rivers, this thriving, 2000-year-old city, with its mighty fortress is a delight to explore. You take a guided walk around the principal monuments and historic centre, discovering ancient squares, admiring beautifully restored historic house frontages and quaint hidden passageways. Koblenz will enchant you and it is an absolute joy to wander through its tiny streets, pausing to window shop whilst trying to resist the aroma of fresh coffee and cake drifting from the numerous traditional cafés, and all in such historic surroundings.

Back on board in time for lunch you cruise to Boppard, also known as the 'Pearl of the Rhine', a classically picturesque village,

#### DAY 1 - EMBARK

Moored in Cologne's picturesque historic centre, the dedicated crew will welcome you aboard your first-class floating hotel, ensuring you settle into your comfortable and extremely well equipped cabin and familiarise yourself with the ship.

#### DAY 2 - COCHEM

The first morning on board a river cruise is always a thrill, awakening to the gentle lapping of the water outside as the scenic valley sides slip silently past your cabin window – there is no other holiday experience quite like it. Take a leisurely breakfast in the ship's restaurant this morning – the pace on board is unhurried so you can linger over that extra cup of tea and completely unwind whilst the ever-changing scenes of life on the riverbank outside drift by.

You are cruising one of the most famous and dramatic waterways in Europe. Take to the sun deck for an invigorating stroll and watch the banks, studded with yet more picture postcard villages with tottering timber framed houses pass peacefully by. After a delicious lunch on board we arrive at delightful Cochem, in times gone by the centre of the Moselle wine trade, with unrivalled views of the castle crowning a mound covered in vineyards. You will have time to wander in this most charming town before stepping back on board for dinner.

#### DAY 3 - TRIER

Leaving Cochem, during breakfast this morning, you cruise further upstream, passing through four locks, which never cease to fascinate! You will be astonished by the dramatic valley sides, covered with reputedly the steepest cultivated vineyards in the world. The valley's gradient here means your progress is respectably sedate but never dull as you meander upstream through the heart of the Moselle's stunningly beautiful winelands. Enjoy the unfolding scene as the vineyards slip by en route to Zell.

After lunch you drive to Trier, the oldest and one of the most fascinating cities in Germany. Founded by the Romans, it was the capital of a huge portion of their empire, encompassing present-day Spain, France, Britain and parts of Germany. It had a population of a staggering 80,000, little different from today, the Emperor Constantine lived here and it boasted a range of buildings to match. It has one of the most impressive amphitheatres in existence, baths, a Roman bridge but best of all, the Porta Nigra, an immense fortified gate which formed the eastern border of the Roman Empire and towers above the surrounding medieval buildings. This is the largest and best-preserved Roman building north of the Alps and is an awesome testimony to their architectural genius. You enjoy a guided tour during which you learn all about the historical significance of the city.

We rejoin our ship in charming Bernkastel where the welcoming ambience of the ship's restaurant awaits for another meticulously located on a long, sweeping, looping bend of the river: a bustling stone quayside crowded with people going about their daily business, the cobbled streets, lined by typical half-timbered houses and cafés, leading to the town and its main square beyond. Founded by the Romans, as much of the area was, Boppard boasts the best-preserved Roman town walls in Germany. There will be time before dinner to explore this Rhineland gem.

#### DAY 6 - RHINE GORGE & RÜDESHEIM

Leaving Boppard, as the sun crests the surrounding hilltops, expectation rises at what lies in store today - this morning's cruise is a real highlight as you journey through the outstanding natural beauty of the world famous Rhine Gorge. Here, at every turn of the tortuous river, towering valley sides are crowned by the precarious ruins of castles, which once held sway over the fortunes of passing travellers. This is home to numerous medieval legends, tales of mysterious happenings and dark deeds that have been passed down by generations of sailors. The swirling waters of the bend are a reminder of the most famous legend of all: a beautiful maiden is said to have lured sailors on to the rocks with her feminine charms and alluring song.

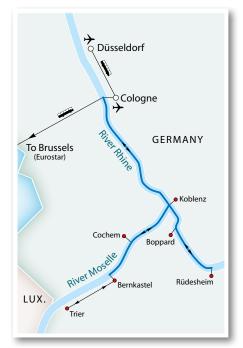
The villages drifting by, St Goar, Bacharach and Kaub are synonymous with wine production and one of the most enjoyable things on this cruise is sampling the best of local wines with local produce. During lunch we arrive in Rüdesheim, perhaps the most famous of all the Rhine wine towns with crooked houses sloping down from the wooded hillsides and terraced vineyards. A visit to the Asbach brandy distillery is rewarding (tasting assured of course) or you could perhaps take a trip on the unusual gondola lift with its spectacular views across the river.

Especially worth a visit is the excellent mechanical music museum: a superb collection of 350 intricate antique musical instruments and musical boxes from all over the world, many in working order, still playing the delicate sounds of yesteryear.

#### DAY 7 - COLOGNE

We have slipped our mooring early this morning and there is so much to see as the ship effortlessly glides downstream past pretty riverside towns backed by the rolling volcanic hills for which the area is renowned. You also see the railway bridge at Remagen, captured intact towards the end of The Second World War, thus arguably shortening the war in Germany. Passing the last riverside vineyards and half-timbered houses around Linz, you leave the last great historic strong point, before mooring in the heart of Cologne, in the shadow of the magnificent Gothic cathedral for which the city is so famous. It is a truly staggering building, taking 600 years to build and has the most intricate stained glass in Europe. This afternoon, you have a guided tour of the city with time to explore its delightful tree-lined squares and perhaps visit one of its famous bars, many of which still traditionally brew their

> own beer. This evening, the 'Captain's Dinner' will take place on board, during which delicious specialities of the regions you have visited during your cruise will be served,



hosted, of course, by the Captain himself. After dinner perhaps enjoy a final digestif in the bar whilst reflecting on all the memories made on this wonderful cruise.

#### DAY 8 - DISEMBARK

This morning your friendly crew bid you farewell before you disembark the ship.

# MEDIEVAL GERMANY, THE MAIN TO THE DANUBE

- Visit to Mainz capital of the Rhineland and once home to Gutenberg
- See the attractive medieval towns of Wertheim & Miltenberg
- Discover the Romantic Road plus picturesque and beautifully preserved 16th century Rothenburg
- Guided tour of medieval Bamberg, one of Europe's most beautiful small cities
- Enjoy a guided tour of elegant Würzburg
- Tour of Nuremberg steeped in modern and ancient history
- Visit to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Regensburg
- Price includes full-board from dinner on your arrival day until breakfast on your final day
- · Services of a cruise director and tour manager

Medieval Germany in its purest form, cruise the Main and Danube discovering the aptly named Romantic Road, the twisting streets of medieval Bamberg, enchanting Rothenburg and Roman Regensburg



#### **DAY 1 - EMBARK**

Moored in Mainz, the dedicated crew will welcome you aboard your first-class floating hotel, ensuring you settle into your comfortable and extremely well equipped cabin and familiarise yourself with the ship.

#### DAY 2 - MAINZ

After breakfast, whether you decide to take breakfast in bed or set yourself up for the day at the plentiful buffet, enjoy a morning exploring pretty Mainz, the capital of Rhineland-Palatinate and an important Roman city for 500 years. The 12th century Dom St Martin is a guintessentially Romanesque cathedral that mustn't be missed look out for the elaborate tombstones especially. And if one stunning church isn't enough, romantic St Stephen's is charming from the outside, but boasts a truly stunning interior, and will reward visitors with illumination in the incredible bright blue light that floods through the stained glass windows - a masterpiece by great artist Marc Chagall. For lovers of books and those keen to delve into the dusty chapters of history, the Gutenberg Museum is a must as it is home to two very rare Gutenberg Bibles, the first books ever printed. You can even try out Gutenberg's 15th century book printing technology for yourself in the Druckladen print shop - you'll agree it's a tricky skill to master!

Of course, as Mainz is also at the very heart of Germany's winelands, it would be rude to leave without sampling a local drop. Discover wonderfully olde worlde taverns among the pastel-clad and timber criss-crossed buildings of the Old Town or, if beer is more your tipple of choice, the vaulted chambers of the Eisgrub-Brau beer hall are a fine place to sample a mug of the local dark beer.

As the day progresses into afternoon, find yourself back aboard your elegant vessel, cruising by the mesmerising scenery along the banks of the Main River. Watch transfixed as evening encroaches and darkness falls upon the lush green landscape that surrounds you on all sides.

#### **DAY 3 - MILTENBERG & WERTHEIM**

Awake refreshed from your comfortable overnight cruise and peek out of your cabin window to find yourself greeted by a change of scenery. You're moored in pretty Miltenberg, one of Germany's best preserved Medieval villages, and a labyrinth of winding alleys and lanes beg exploration. Backed by dense, emerald-green forest, this picturesque stop off has something of a fairytale feel and comes complete with its very own castle nestled into the lush, tree-clad hillside. Admire the impressive gatehouse, which stands like a proud guardian to the village, and wander across the charming market place, lined by traditional 'fachwerk' buildings, instantly recognisable by their grids of timber framing. The story goes that locals were allowed unlimited free wood from the surrounding forests, hence the abundance of this architectural style! The trickling fountain, ornately carved from stone and complete with dancing cherubs, and the intricately detailed Gasthaus Zum Riesen, which claims to be Germany's oldest tavern, are highlights of this gorgeous square.

In the afternoon, pass under Miltenberg's red brick bridge and continue cruising to Wertheim, navigating the gentle meandering bends that characterise the River Main. Relax and take in the scenery while sipping your choice of tea or coffee (complimentary, naturally) or maybe something a little more fortifying from the bar.

Or watch the riverside scenes slip by from the privacy and comfort of your sumptuous cabin, many of which have French balconies allowing for incredible unhindered views.

**BRAANTAT** 

While Wertheim is completely off the main tourist trail radar, it's a delightful surprise to those who happen upon it on a Main River cruise, and all the better for its peaceful untouched quality. Pass the fishing boats riding at anchor whilst admiring the muted colours of the sage green, palest lilac and buttercup yellow houses opposite. A russet-walled 12th century castle overlooks the Old Town, surveying the church spires and turrets, and the patchwork of multicoloured buildings below. Peruse the quaint and colourful market square – looking out for the blink-and-you'll-missit Zobelhaus, a sure contender for the narrowest house in rural Germany!

This evening it's another delectable dinner, wellearned from all that discovery, and an overnight cruise to mesmerising Würzburg.

#### DAY 4 - WÜRZBURG & ROTHENBURG

Würzburg is quite a marvel, contrasting with the quaint towns and villages that you've encountered on your adventure so far. This elegant Bavarian city, founded in the 10th century as the centre of the kingdom known as Franconia, sits resplendent and impressive on the banks of the Main. Neat blocks of grand pastel buildings are peppered with the spires and domes of the city's many churches, chapels and cathedrals.

The true jewel in Würzburg's illustrious crown however is the Residenz, a truly stunning example of a Baroque palace that whisks you back in time to a more romantic age. This morning we have a tour of the city and then a delicious lunch served

on board, followed by a gentle cruise to Bamberg. Alternatively, you may take the option of a tour to Rothenburg, along the whimsical Romantic Road, which has Würzburg at its head – perfectly named, in view of the romantic sights which pass by as you travel further into this German fairy story. Arrive at spectacular 16th century Rothenburg, crowning a hill the views over the meandering river below are astonishing. Explore its narrow cobbled streets lined with tall gabled half-timbered houses surrounded by perfectly preserved medieval walls, before re-joining the cruise as it glides its way towards the wonder that is Bamberg.



Another new day, another breathtaking vista appears when you draw back the curtains in your cabin. Bamberg is undoubtedly one of the most beautiful small towns in the whole of Europe, and UNESCO has declared it a World Heritage Site by way of confirmation. Planned by Emperor Heinrich II in the 11th century as a Franconian capital as grand as Rome, Bamberg sits on seven lush green hills, akin to its Italian inspiration. Join the guided tour and take in the historic Old Town and impressive multi-spired cathedral. Although perhaps the most noticeable and intriguing landmark is Bamberg's Old Town Hall, which sits on an island in the middle of the sublime river, flanked by bridges either side. From here you can also see the riverside fishermen's houses known as Little Venice. On leaving delightful Bamberg, we join the Rhine-Danube canal a superb feat of German engineering which, as its name implies, guides us to that other great central European artery, the sublime River Danube. But before that and after lunch it's the steady meander to Nuremberg. Take the afternoon to enjoy the ship's



noon to enjoy the ship's five star facilities, while taking in the magnificent undulating landscape that you venture deeper into. Indulge in afternoon tea and perhaps chef's special patisserie, while being sure to leave room for the evening's splendid dinner.

#### **DAY 6 - NUREMBERG**

Wake in Nuremberg, having glided effortlessly through the night, and choose to either join the guided tour or explore at your leisure. History buffs will find this Bavarian city intriguing for its association with the Second World War, as the site of many prewar Nazi rallies and then, later, the International War Crimes Tribunal. However, it's impossible to hold this unfortunate blighted past against Nuremberg, when faced with its picture-perfect streets, enchanting castle (rebuilt after WWII bombings) and breathtaking landmarks, including the Church of St Lawrence, a towering example of stunning Gothic architecture, and the intricate Church of Our Lady (Frauenkirche) which boasts a working mechanical clock and overlooks the bustling Hauptmarkt Square with its legendary golden fountain. Taste the fairytale on market days with a bite of Nuremberg's famous gingerbread, perhaps purchasing a stash to spice up the biscuit tin back home!

Rest in luxury back aboard the ship after a busy morning of exploration and discovery, and press on through Germany's rural heart towards Dietfurt for a peaceful overnight mooring.

#### **DAY 7 - REGENSBURG**

As we sleep, the ship silently slips its moorings, cruising past Kelheim we join one of Europe's most gorgeous rivers, immortalised in verse, song and music, the majestic River Danube. Passing hills which seem to roll on endlessly for miles, we arrive at our final destination, Regensburg. Once Roman, and mercifully spared any war damage, the city is just wonderful and your heart literally lifts as you first catch sight of the city's iconic Old Stone Bridge. Roam this UNESCO World Heritage Site freely in the afternoon, perhaps visiting the Altes Rathaus (old town hall) complete with Medieval torture chamber in the cellar! It's impossible to miss the imposing cathedral of St Peter, which towers over the colourful Domplatz in all its Gothic glory, and Thurn und Taxis Palace, with its pristinely kept grounds, is a romantic highlight.

#### DAY 8 - DISEMBARK

After breakfast this morning your friendly crew bid you farewell before you disembark the ship.

# RHINE CRUISE TO SWITZERLAND

- Explore medieval Koblenz
- Visit to the pretty, romantic town of Rüdesheim - centre of the Rhineland wine trade
- Cruise through the spectacular Rhine Gorge
- An evening in Speyer dominated by the imposing basilica
- Guided tour of Strasbourg amazingly rich in a wealth of sights
- Visit to the old walled town of Breisach

- Tour of the beautiful Black Forest and lakeside town of Titisee
- Tour of some of the finest Swiss Alpine scenery, seeing the Jungfrau and the Eigerland the stunning lakeside town of Lucerne
- Price includes full-board from dinner on your day of arrival until breakfast on your final day
- Services of a cruise director and tour manager

After a few days of the breathtaking steep sides of the Rhine Gorge, the expanses of its rift valley and Switzerland's quintessential alpine peaks, home will seem a long way away



#### DAY 1 - EMBARK

Moored in Cologne's picturesque historic centre, the dedicated crew will welcome you aboard your firstclass floating hotel, ensuring you settle into your comfortable and extremely well equipped cabin and familiarise yourself with the ship.

#### DAY 2 - KOBLENZ

As you wake and enjoy a sumptuous breakfast, the real delights of this river cruise begin to unveil as the first rolling hills of the Rhine Valley drift silently past. Firstly you see the forested Siebengebirge (seven mountains), the inspiration for the Grimm's many legends including 'Snow White', just the overture for even more dramatic scenery as we head upstream. We pass the famous ruined bridge at Remagen, captured intact by the allies in a bold action towards the end of WWII, before finally crumbling into the waters below. The pretty waterfronts of riverside towns come into view and the first of the Rhine's vineyards shimmer in the morning sun as we glide gently into our mooring to visit picturesque Kohlenz

Founded by the Romans, the city is beautifully located at the confluence of the Rhine and its sister, the Moselle. Your afternoon is free to wander ashore and explore the many medieval buildings, housing a fine array of traditional shops and classic Rhineland cafés. There is much for the student of historic buildings to admire: the former mint, the Four Towers with their ornamental 17th century turrets and several fascinating squares and churches, including the 9th century Basilica of St Kastor.

The waterfront along the Moselle is stunning too, with the medieval Balduin bridge, staggeringly still in use. If you managed to resist the luscious cakes on offer from the beckoning pavement cafés then you'll be ready for your meticulously prepared dinner on board your ship, and afterwards perhaps a quiet stroll along the riverside promenade to the Deutsches Eck, 'German Corner', where the great rivers Rhine and Moselle meet.

#### **DAY 3 - RHINE GORGE & RÜDESHEIM**

Amongst the many twists and turns along its course, one of the most impressive and memorable on the Rhine is surely the huge looping 'S' bend at Boppard. This morning's cruise weaves around this long meander, guarded by the mighty Marksburg Castle.

Journeying further, you explore the most famous of all the river's reaches and a real highlight of the cruise, the dramatic Rhine Gorge: steep vineyards give way to almost vertical rocky outcrops, towering over 200 metres above the sweeping valley sides. Sailing past St Goar and the many ruined castles, you get a real sense of the myths of this historic river coming alive around you. No legend is more famous than that surrounding the Loreley Rock, where beautiful nymphs distracted hapless sailors luring them to their deaths in the treacherous waters.

After lunch you berth and visit Rüdesheim. The afternoon is free to relax in its bustling cafés, take a quiet stroll through the vineyards or maybe a cable car ride to the great statue of Germania, strikingly overlooking the river's exit from the gorge. There are some delightful corners in what is a classic Rhine wine village and the connoisseur of the grape will find some genuinely top class produce in the area. After dinner this evening, why not end the day with a small Asbach - the brandy locally distilled here in Rüdesheim – as you watch the last of the ferries crossing the river in the moonlight glow.

#### DAY 4 - SPEYER

Still sailing upstream, the Rhine is much wider and flatter now, with gently rolling hills and vineyards that are home to the Liebfraumilch wines. The river is much more gentle here and Oxbow lakes, long deserted by the river flow, are a haven for over one hundred species of bird life in one of Germany's largest nature reserves.

Today the ship berths in delightfully medieval Speyer, which you are sure to love. During the 16th century in nearby Worms, Martin Luther was excommunicated for his religious beliefs and banished from the Holy Roman Empire. His followers in Speyer protested at this and for the first time were called 'Protestants'. You can visit the neo-gothic Gedächtniskirche, built to commemorate this event and the huge, richly decorated Basilica, one of the finest Romanesque buildings in existence which when it was built was widely acclaimed as one of the finest in Christendom. Its crypt alone is the largest in Germany, with its pastel coloured sandstone pillars and striking marble floors is probably the most beautiful in the world and is the final resting place of several emperors and kings from Speyer's illustrious past. You also have some free time to explore as you wish before rejoining the ship.

#### **DAY 5 - STRASBOURG**

This morning, you gently cruise upstream, passing through two spectacular locks, which never cease to fascinate. Why not catch up on some reading in the ship's library, play chess or watch the scenery from the Sun Deck: relax and enjoy your wellearned break.

You soon arrive in France and Strasbourg, capital of the Alsace region, now one of the centres of the European Union. This afternoon, we will have a walking tour of its unique and picturesque 16th century old town, bisected by canals and a maze of narrow streets lined with timber-framed houses and sculptured portals plus the superb cathedral. Don't be surprised if, as the shadows lengthen, you're tempted to linger a while in a typical Alsatian café to sample some of the world famous wine for which the region is rightly renowned - maybe a Riesling or that particular speciality of Alsace, the spicy Gewürztraminer. This evening, the 'Captain's Dinner' will take place on board, serving delicious specialities of the countries and regions we visit during our cruise.

#### DAY 6 - BREISACH & BLACK FOREST

Your final day's cruising is spent gliding majestically between the ancient forested outcrops of the Vosges and the Black Forest, through the great rift valley, formed many millennia ago by massive geological forces. We arrive at the ancient town of Breisach whose historic heart is surrounded by immense stone ramparts.

This afternoon, you drive amidst some of central Europe's most stunning scenery. Rugged valleys full of white-water rivers and cascading waterfalls, rolling hillsides covered with huge, densely packed pine trees: this is the Black Forest at its best and exactly as you expect it to be. You visit the archetypical town of Titisee, nestling on the shores of its crystal clear lake.

Having rejoined the ship, the crew slip moorings, the sun sets over the imposing massif of the Vosges mountains and the riverside lights begin to twinkle as you restart our stately passage up river. You enjoy this evening's dinner cruise en-route to Switzerland and our next mooring at Basel.

#### **DAY 7 - LUCERNE & BERNESE OBERLAND**

For many today will be the highlight of the cruise. You firstly take the short drive to Lucerne; spectacularly nestled among stunning mountain views, it is by far Switzerland's most beautiful city and has been attracting well-heeled visitors for two centuries, one of the most famous being our very own Queen Victoria. You must take an invigorating stroll along the Chapel Bridge - symbol of the city, a unique covered wooden walkway crossing the lake supported by stilts, lined with colourful, flower-filled window boxes and a superb way to absorb Lucerne's rather regal atmosphere. The scenery becomes ever more dramatic and then as you enter the Bernese Oberland in central Switzerland, it becomes quite literally breathtaking! This is the grand Alpine heart of Europe and amongst the finest mountain scenery on earth, described by the composer Mendelssohn as 'the most wonderful of all in this unbelievably beautiful country'. On viewing the spectacular snow-capped peaks of the Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau you will be quite simply awestruck. We then ascend into the lofty scenery on the most scenic journey by mountain railway for more breathtaking vistas with the crystal-clear shimmering lakes reflecting the alpine meadows and lush forests below. This truly magical landscape will enchant you. Please note temperatures will be significantly lower at altitude even in summer months so it is advised that you pack suitable clothing.

#### **DAY 8 - DISEMBARK**

This morning your friendly crew bid you farewell before you disembark the ship.

PLEASE NOTE: on dates marked with an asterisk on the departure details, this tour operates in reverse order. You will experience the same tours and visits.



## CRUISE THE HEART OF EUROPE FROM THE RHINE TO

## THE DANUBE, VIENNA & BUDAPEST

- Admire the stunning scenery of the Rhine Gorge, Main and Danube
- Guided tour of 2,000 year-old Koblenz
- Stop in picturesque Boppard
- Rüdesheim a true Rhineland wine town
- Visit to Mainz once home to Gutenberg father of modern printing
- See Miltenberg & Wertheim some of Germany's best preserved medieval towns
- Guided tour of baroque Würzburg
- Walking tour of the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Bamberg
- Tour of Nuremberg steeped in ancient and modern history - including the site of the infamous Nuremberg Trials and Nazi rally grounds

- Stop in Passau the confluence of the Danube, Inn and Ilz rivers
- Visit Melk Abbey the majestic Benedictine monastery
- · Live classical quartet recital on board
- Guided tour of Vienna city of the Hapsburgs
- Guided tour of Budapest absorb the unique atmosphere
- Guided tour of Bratislava, capital of Slovakia
- Price includes full-board from dinner on your day of arrival until breakfast on your final day
- · Services of a cruise director and tour manager

Crossing half way across Europe, absorb amazing changes, incredible variety of medieval towns, UNESCO heritage sites, Gutenberg bibles, Marc Chagall's stained glass and sights too numerous to mention





#### DAY 1 - EMBARK

You fly to Düsseldorf or Cologne from where a coach will take you to the ship. Or you can take a late morning Eurostar from London St. Pancras International (exact times are indicated on the enclosed Departure Details sheet) arriving in Brussels approximately two hours later, where a coach will take you over the German border to your ship. Moored in Cologne's picturesque historic centre, the dedicated crew will welcome you aboard your first-class floating hotel, ensuring you settle into your comfortable and extremely well equipped cabin and familiarise yourself with the ship.

#### DAY 2 - KOBLENZ & BOPPARD

The first morning on a river cruise is always a thrill. Awakening to the gentle lapping of the water and the colourful valley sides slipping effortlessly past your cabin window, there really is no other holiday experience quite like it. We call at historical Koblenz, dominated by its immense fortress overlooking the confluence of the Rhine and the Moselle. This morning we take a guided walk around the old town exploring its twisting streets and picturesque squares.

During a delightful lunch we cruise to Boppard, 'Pearl of the Rhine', wonderfully situated on a sweeping meander, it really is one of the most attractive villages in the Rhineland. Its delightful stone quayside is lined by boats of all descriptions against a backdrop of archetypical half-timbered buildings and cobbled streets, all surrounded by Germany's finest Roman walls.

#### DAY 3 - RÜDESHEIM

Today, you experience one of the real highlights of your cruise, the passage through the Rhine Gorge. Here the valley narrows, the current is swifter and the towering valley sides soar to more than 1,000 feet, crowned at every turn of the tortuous river by the precarious ruins of castles that once held sway over passing mariners. We pass rocky outcrops and around endless twisting bends to the famous Loreley Rock, where legend has it, enchanting maidens lured unsuspecting sailors to watery graves. Next we call at Rüdesheim, a true Rhine wine town with many famous wines available to sample, as you wander the typical backstreets.

#### DAY 4 - MAINZ

This morning, we take the short cruise to the confluence of the rivers Rhine and Main at the fascinating town of Mainz. An important Roman city for 500 years, with the largest amphitheatre north of the Alps, it is home to the fine St Stephen's church where light flickers through beautiful blue stained glass windows with their intricate biblical figures – a masterpiece by the great artist Marc Chagall. Mainz's most famous son though is Gutenberg, father of modern printing, and there is an excellent museum where you can see two original Gutenberg Bibles, the earliest books ever printed in Europe. During dinner our ship cruises up the River Main.

#### **DAY 5 - MILTENBERG & WERTHEIM**

This morning, we cruise between dense forests to the beautiful small town of Miltenberg. Developing through the Middle Ages under the powerful protection of the nearby castle, surrounded by walls, it is one of Germany's best preserved medieval villages. During lunch we cruise around the first of the many meandering bends which so characterise the River Main, pausing at Wertheim, one of those towns which is a joy to stumble across - completely unknown on the mainstream tourist trail. Please note: when cruising from Mainz to Passau the sun deck is closed due to low bridges.

#### DAY 6 - WÜRZBURG

Linger over that second cup at breakfast this morning, whilst the endlessly changing river scenery slips past as we drift into our next port of call at the elegant Bavarian city of Würzburg, situated at the head of Germany's 'Romantic Road, with its grand pastel buildings hugging the shoreline. Sitting resplendent on the banks of this great river, we have a walking tour of this lovely city. A former seat of the Prince Bishops, their truly magnificent Residenz is one of Europe's finest Baroque palaces, constructed to compete with the greatest courts of the day such as Vienna and Versailles, which in artistic terms they more than succeeded in doing.

#### DAY 7 - BAMBERG

Today we visit Bamberg, quite simply one of the most beautiful small towns in Europe, easily on a par with Prague, and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The masterpiece you see today began its artistic journey during the 11th century, when the Emperor Heinrich II planned a capital as grand as Rome and selected Bamberg as the location for this, sited on seven lush green hills like its inspiration.

Although it never became as large as Rome, for its size it has a wealth of fine historic buildings. See the striking multi-spired cathedral, wander the fascinating tangle of lanes of the pretty Old Town lined with tall merchants' houses and explore the picturesque canal paths reminiscent of Venice.

#### **DAY 8 - NUREMBERG**

We call at Nuremberg today, an intriguing Bavarian city where history buffs will be fascinated by its associations with the Second World War, as the site of many pre-war Nazi rallies and later, the International War Crimes Tribunal which brought down the final curtain on that notorious regime. What is less well-known is that Nuremberg is regarded as the capital of Germany's First Reich, the era that lasted 1,000 years, and was central to the trade routes and power of the Roman Empire. However, today its picture-perfect streets and stunning landmarks such as the beautiful Gothic Church of St Lawrence and stunning castle, can only enchant the visitor here and there is plenty to admire about this historic city.

This morning, we include a guided tour taking in the great ramparts and many fine historic buildings from Nuremberg's Imperial Age including the Kaiserburg Castle, Craftsmen's Court, Church of St Lawrence and the Market Square with its beautiful fountain.

#### **DAY 9 - REGENSBURG**

This morning, we cruise along the Main-Danube canal to Kelheim and the Danube, one of the most famous and beautiful rivers in the world. We visit Regensburg, originally a Roman garrison guarding the most north westerly point of their empire, dominated by its imposing cathedral, the finest in Bavaria. This UNESCO World Heritage Site, thankfully spared any war damage, is a joy to explore so this afternoon, stroll along the iconic Stone Bridge and meander through the historic centre; see the Altes Rathaus, the town hall with its great Gothic hall where many of the great events in Germany's history were solemnised and be enchanted by the wonderful ambience of the place. Indeed Regensburg calls itself Germany's best preserved medieval city, and it is hard to argue as you wander amongst the glorious winding streets and alleyways.

#### DAY 10 - PASSAU

Another day dawns as our journey brings us to Passau, our last town in Germany, nestling as it does where the Danube gorge widens. After a leisurely breakfast, take the opportunity to relax on board, perhaps spend some time chatting with newly made friends in the convivial atmosphere of the ship's lounge or catch up on some reading from the comfort of your cabin whilst making sure to keep one eye on the superb backdrop slipping silently by outside your window as we cross into Austria. Synonymous with breathtaking scenery of course, this wonderful section of our fascinating journey is still something of a secret however, so sit back and relax as the Captain skilfully navigates us through the narrowing valley.

#### DAY 11 - MELK & VIENNA

On a striking and resplendent rocky bluff above the town of Melk is an enormous Benedictine Abbey which we visit this morning. This extraordinary building was originally a Hapsburg palace, and subsequently bequeathed to the Benedictine order during the 11th century. It has been a monastery ever since. Reconstructed in full Baroque style during the 18th century, the Abbey has many fine rooms and a stupendous library with more than 80,000 priceless volumes including many intricate medieval manuscripts.

As lunch is served we cruise downstream, through the delightfully picturesque Wachau Valley, before approaching our destination, the city of Strauss – Vienna. To celebrate the city's wonderful legacy we have arranged a classical recital on board by a quartet of talented musicians. To hear this exquisite music whilst in the city of its creation makes a wonderful finale to the day.

#### DAY 12 - VIENNA

Imagine Vienna and you think of a truly beautiful city, one of the real gems of Central Europe and one of the most musical cities in the world. It conjures up an image in the mind of imperial history, culture, ornate architecture, elegant cafés, aristocratic palaces, imposing cathedrals and everywhere the romantic music of the great composers. To be fair the reality is little different and there is an absolute wealth of things to see. Ruling much of Central Europe for centuries until its demise at the end of the First World War was the vast, multinational Hapsburg Empire with its capital, Vienna. For such a grand city, it is

quite compact and this morning we enjoy a guided tour of this most civilised of capitals which entered its golden age during the 17th century and over the next two hundred years today's showpiece city of magnificent buildings, galleries, churches and palaces was built. At the heart we have the lovely St Stephen's cathedral, then the Hofburg, the former Royal Court now a collection of museums and home to the crown jewels and the world's fourth largest art collection, relics of the Holv Roman Empire. the Vienna Boys' Choir and the famous Spanish Riding School. The rest of the afternoon is free for you to enjoy this wonderful city at your leisure.

#### DAY 13 - BRATISLAVA

This morning we explore Slovakia's fast emerging capital city, Bratislava. Until recently swathed in the drab uniformity of communism, the city has shrugged off its greyness, rekindling the splendour of its imperial past, so evident in its beautifully restored baroque old town. Wander the winding streets to the Main Square where you will find the former old town hall now housing a museum dedicated to the history of the city and where you may climb the tower for some lovely views. Equally impressive is the great 17th century fortress which dominates the city with its commanding expansive views across the Danube. Or head for the Primatial Palace with its fabulous Hall of Mirrors and rare collection of 17th century English tapestries or for something less strenuous perhaps enjoy a freshly ground coffee or homemade lemonade in one of the many bars of cafés.

This afternoon our cruise reaches another highlight as we navigate the dramatic Danube Bend, one of the most spectacular stretches of this mighty river. Winding its way through a narrow twisting valley, flanked by high mountains and verdant hillsides, have your camera at the ready for some quite exceptional river views as we pass ancient ruins of castles and historic towns. Our journey's end is reached as we cruise



into Budapest, enjoying spectacular views of this breathtaking city on our stately final approach.

#### **DAY 14 - BUDAPEST**

Rising refreshed you awake in this most beautiful of Imperial capitals which straddles the great river and we have the whole day to enjoy it. Dominated by the castle, Budapest is often called 'Little Paris of Middle Europe' and with its truly magnificent skyline of archaic spires and grand domes it's not hard to see why. Famous for the monuments that reflect both local culture and that of numerous foreign powers which ruled here for most of its existence, today, Budapest is a collage of ruins from Roman times, Turkish baths from the Ottoman Empire, palatial buildings, baroque churches plus some quite sensational architecture of the Art Nouveau era – all wrapped up in a wonderful atmosphere enhanced by the unique sound of Hungary's music and language.

We enjoy a guided tour seeing the main sights such as the iconic Parliament Building, a huge neo-Gothic palatial building which dominates the river bank with its soaring spires and magnificent central dome. You will have the rest of the day free to explore this majestic city at your leisure and with a host of fine museums and galleries on offer you will be spoilt for choice. Perhaps head back to the castle District to wander its ancient streets and enjoy the panoramic views of the city or take a well-earned break at one of the city's many cosy cellar cafés.

This evening the 'Captain's Dinner' will take place, serving delicious specialities of the countries and regions we have visited during our cruise. It will feel like you have been away from home for months, as you recall all the places you have visited, sights you have seen and people you have met, with your fellow travellers.

#### **DAY 15 - DISEMBARK**

After breakfast it's time to say goodbye to your crew.

## THE BLUE DANUBE VIENNA, BUDAPEST & SALZBURG

- Guided tour of Vienna, city of Strauss and home of the Hapsburgs
- · Live classical quartet recital on board
- Tour of baroque Bratislava, capital of Slovakia
- Cruise through the scenic Wachau, Austria's premier wine region
- Visit to Melk Abbey, central Europe's most spectacular baroque monastery, and one of its premier academic institutions
- Visit to medieval Dürnstein where Richard the

Lionheart was imprisoned whilst returning from the Crusades

- Tour of Salzburg, birthplace of Mozart and one of Austria's most beautiful cities
- Explore the amazing basilica at Esztergom, Hungary's oldest cathedral
- Tour of Budapest, Pearl of the Danube
- Price includes full-board from dinner on your day of arrival until breakfast on your final day
- · Services of a cruise director and tour manager

Europe's most cultured river, inspiration for Strauss and Mozart, classic Vienna and Salzburg. Lean on the ship's rail with drink in hand and think to yourself, 'it doesn't get better than this'





Moored in Budapest, the dedicated crew will welcome you aboard your first-class floating hotel, ensuring you settle into your comfortable and extremely well equipped cabin and familiarise yourself with the ship.

#### DAY 2 - ESZTERGOM

Experience one of the great delights of cruising as you awake in a completely different location. Overnight you have slipped upstream to Esztergom, Hungary's capital during medieval times and today the seat of the country's Archbishop. The town is internationally famed for its great Renaissance basilica, Hungary's largest church, standing sentinel over the Danube and boasting one of the world's largest altars plus a wealth of gold artefacts. You can explore the castle too, seat of the government until the 16th century Ottoman invasion. Nestling below, there are a myriad of exquisite baroque masterpieces of churches from which resonate the enchanting sound of talented choirs, adding to the unmistakable central- European atmosphere. This is the best of provincial Hungary and little changed since Hapsburg times. As you enjoy your first lunch on board, you gently leave Esztergom in your wake, affording a fascinating opportunity to compare the landscape, towns and villages of Hungary and Slovakia on either bank.

#### DAY 3 - BRATISLAVA

This morning, you explore Slovakia's fast emerging capital city, Bratislava, on a guided tour. Until recently swathed in the drab uniformity of communism, the city has shrugged off its greyness, rekindling the splendour of its imperial past, so evident in its beautifully restored baroque old town. Equally impressive is the great 17th century fortress commanding expansive views across the Danube. This afternoon you cruise into Lower Austria, a peaceful, bucolic region and home to some of the country's best wines. By now, the stresses of everyday life seem very distant as you absorb life on the river, children playing on the banks, young couples strolling arm-in-arm like generations before them, vignerons carefully pruning their vines, cobbled quaysides lined by half-timbered buildings teem with life - with no one giving you a second glance. You will marvel as the captain skilfully navigates the ship with such easy confidence along the serene river and into the fascinating locks as we cruise towards Dürnstein whilst enjoying another superb dinner.

#### **DAY 4 - DÜRNSTEIN & MELK**

Delightfully picturesque Dürnstein is principally famous for two things. Firstly for the amazing ice-blue baroque tower dominating the river and secondly, having been shipwrecked on his return from the crusades, Richard the Lionheart was imprisoned here, before being reluctantly ransomed for a huge sum by his brother, King John. After lunch, you visit the remarkable monastery at Melk.

Nothing quite prepares you for your first sight of this extraordinary, honey-coloured building, an enormous abbey standing resplendent above the surrounding countryside. Originally a palace it was gifted to the Benedictine Order in the 11th century and although reconstructed in baroque style it has remained a monastic school and monastery ever since. It is famed for its 200m long Emperor's Gallery lined with portraits of Austrian emperors, plus many fine rooms and a large library containing a unique medieval collection of manuscripts. Rejoining the ship, dinner is served during the last upstream cruise, through the pretty Nibelungengau, now immortalised in the music of Wagner.

#### DAY 5 - SALZBURG

Reaching Linz, you take the drive to Salzburg, once an independent state whose Archbishops turned it into one of the most sophisticated cities north of the Alps. The old town is delightful, displaying wonderful architecture dating from the medieval to 18th century, whilst one of Europe's largest stone fortresses, the Hohensalzburg dominates the skyline.

Spread below is a maze of tiny streets lined with the exquisite shops that make window-shopping so satisfying. Then there is the wonderful Hellbrunn Palace with its famous trick fountains and the natural beauty of the Mirabell Gardens is a must for the fan of things horticultural. With its genteel atmosphere of bygone times, surrounded by a magnificent Alpine backdrop, Salzburg is a superb spot to relax and explore at your leisure.

Salzburg's most famous citizen was Mozart, one of the greatest musical geniuses to have ever lived. He played the piano at three; could compose rudimentary music at five and wrote his first opera at fourteen. This morning, you have a guided tour seeing all the principal places of interest then you are free to enjoy the afternoon exploring the city as you wish, before returning to

the ship for dinner. By now you will have

completely immersed yourself in life aboard

ship, the gentility of it all, the peacefulness, the

you, the ever-changing shoreline of the variety

of countries through which we pass and the

stimulating conversation of your like-minded

images of elegance, fine music, sumptuous

baroque palaces, grand boulevards, noble

architecture and a rich tapestry of peoples

from all corners of Europe drawn to the city's

magnificent cultural heart. For two hundred

years until the First World War, Vienna was the

cultural centre of Europe and the huge array of showpiece buildings, galleries, aristocratic palaces

and baroque churches you see today were built.

long way away.

**DAY 6 - VIENNA** 

observation of the wildlife constantly surrounding

Dominated by the striking multicoloured roofed St Stephen's cathedral, you have the Hofburg, travelling companions – home will seem a very the former royal court now a collection of museums, home to the Vienna Boys' Choir, the Spanish Riding School, the crown jewels and the world's fourth largest art collection. Then there Today will probably bring one of the highlights of are the Emperor's apartments and outstanding the cruise – Vienna, whose very name provokes medieval craftsmanship in the relics of the Holy Roman Empire including allegedly, the crown of Charlemagne himself.

This morning, your sightseeing tour offers an insight into why this can truly be described as one of Europe's great capitals, seat of the Hapsburg Emperors and home to some of the world's finest classical composers at the peak of their influence, including Beethoven, Brahms, Mozart and of course a whole family of Strausses. During



the afternoon you are free to explore as you wish. Take a stroll in the Stadtpark, with its huge Ferris wheel and the backdrop to many a 'cold war' spy thriller. Or for something quite different, visit the Schönbrunn

former royal palace and now a world-class range of outstanding museums and galleries. Perhaps though, just take a stroll through the fascinating side streets, enjoy a coffee and a slice of delicious sachertorte in one of the renowned pavement cafés, or admire the skill of the street entertainers and even the occasional opera singer.

This evening, we have arranged truly the 'icing on the cake': no visit to Vienna is truly complete without a live musical experience so after dinner, we have arranged for a recital on board. To hear this exquisite music whilst in the city of its creation makes a wonderful finale to the day.

#### DAY 7 - BUDAPEST

Dawn breaks and a glance along the shore as it slips gently past reveals Hungary's peaceful pastoral landscape, as you majestically cruise to Budapest. After lunch, you enjoy a sightseeing tour of the city. The twin cities of Buda, built around the hilltop fortress and Pest, were fought over through the centuries until the 17th century ousting of the Ottomans. A lasting legacy of Turkish rule is the plethora of thermal baths utilising the hot springs giving rise to the sobriquet "City of the Spas". Subsequently becoming an imperial city of the Hapsburg Empire, it attracted great cultural and commercial wealth. Explore Castle Hill, the city in microcosm: three churches, five museums and a theatre amongst streets and squares with their own special atmosphere and a dramatic view over the river, its banks dominated by the impressive neo-gothic Parliament building. Endless galleries, museums, outstanding art nouveau architecture and excellent shopping offer a fittingly elegant end to your Danube cruise. At this evening's gala dinner you sadly bid farewell to your travelling companions and reflect on all the inspirational places, sights and sounds you have experienced on a truly 'imperial' cruise.

#### **DAY 8 - DISEMBARK**

After breakfast this morning your friendly crew bid you farewell before you disembark the ship.

# THE DOURO, OPORTO & SALAMANCA

- Guided tour of the historic and atmospheric city of Oporto with visit to one of the best known port wine cellars
- Scenic cruising through the picturesque Douro Valley with its dramatic cliffs and lush vineyards
- Enjoy a full day excursion to historic Salamanca, a UNESCO World Heritage site, with guided tour and traditional Flamenco show
- Tour to the ancient castle and medieval hilltop village of Castelo Rodrigo with stupendous views

- Guided tour and tasting at the famous Mateus Palace and gardens
- Enjoy the unique ambience of a typical Portuguese quinta for dinner with specialties of the region
- Visit to the picturesque town of Lamego and its historic Sanctuary of Our Lady of Remedies church
- Price includes full-board from dinner on your day of arrival until breakfast on your final day
- · Services of a cruise director

Probably Europe's most undiscovered river in one of its most unspoilt corners; sleepy villages, medieval traditions and towns, the Fado, amazing wines, all set amidst the most incredible scenery



#### DAY 1 - EMBARK

Moored in Oporto, the dedicated crew will welcome you aboard your first-class floating hotel, ensuring you settle into your comfortable and extremely well equipped cabin and familiarise yourself with the ship.

#### DAY 2 - MATEUS PALACE

As dawn breaks the ship slips quietly away from Oporto and you will awake to the gentle sound of water lapping against the sleek hull and that most relaxing of travellers' joys as you witness the ship's stately progress upstream. Your first breakfast, you will be welcomed in the restaurant and immediately spoilt for choice, with the omelette station being a real favourite of many! Lingering over another coffee, you can really appreciate the scenery's beauty as we penetrate the delightful hilly hinterland, winding around seemingly impossibly steep bends. Even on the first day it is so apparent that the Douro is one of Europe's most photogenic river valleys with tourism being almost completely undeveloped. Furthermore the topography has prevented extensive riverside roads to be built. You already feel you are discovering something the masses are completely unaware of!

Lunch is served as the ship is approaching its first port of call at one of the river's few small towns, Peso da Régua. The observant will have already noticed that the lush covered hillsides have largely given way to an intricate patterned landscape of steeply terraced vine covered slopes, as we enter port wine territory. The climate has evolved too; leaving the Atlantic behind it is noticeably warmer and dryer. The topography has a much more Mediterranean appearance with browns and ochres replacing verdant greens. This afternoon we visit the magnificent Mateus Palace. Anyone familiar with Mateus Rosé, the wine with its characteristic "squashed" bottle shape, will have seen the palace featured on the label. Whatever your opinion of the wine, the palace is an impressive 18th century Baroque edifice beautifully mirrored in the stunning "reflecting pond", and the extensive "French" gardens are beautifully landscaped and decorated with elegant statues.

We then head for the vineyard town of Favaios where we visit the Quinta da Avessada, which houses an interactive museum showing all the stages of wine production from planting the vine, harvesting, the wine making process and finally tasting and labelling. We learn how they produce their Moscatel de Favaios, a sweet fortified wine – and naturally enjoy a tasting!

INDIMADEIR

DOURO

We have dinner here tonight before returning to the ship in Pinhão.

#### **DAY 3 - CASTELO RODRIGO**

The Douro was once a precariously wild river, rendering navigation extremely tricky for the traditional flat bottomed boats which often foundered. Today the river has been tarned by a series of locks and we navigate several of them, always intensely fascinating, the resultant almost loch-like river topography really enhances the valley's charm. Cruising into ever more rural territory towards the Spanish border, the river here is at its most peaceful, a perfect time to take a refreshing dip in the pool, or catch up on some reading perhaps with a cool pre-lunch glass of local vinho verde white wine. It's worth mentioning Portuguese wine is really outstanding but as the production is not huge, the higher quality wines tend to be consumed locally, so if you are a wine aficionado, experiment a little you are in for a real treat! We are now on the River Duero, as we have crossed into Spain, however the northern bank remains in Portugal! This afternoon we visit Castelo Rodrigo, a delightful 12th century

walled village tucked away in the peaceful border hills, whose church was a resting place on the pilgrim route to Santiago de Compostela – indeed it is said that St Francis himself stayed here. Perched atop a hill, the views are stupendous - stretching across almost deserted ochre-coloured hillsides. This evening is the Captain's Dinner where some superb local specialities are served.

#### DAY 4 - SALAMANCA

Today we visit historic Salamanca, a UNESCO World Heritage site, acknowledged by many Spaniards as one of the country's most beautiful cities and once seen it really is difficult to disagree. Renowned for the gorgeous rose-coloured hue emanating from almost universal use of local sandstone for its construction, the city appears to glow. Perched on a small hill on a bend in the serene River Tormes, it is a picture of tranquillity but, founded by the Romans, who built the still used 400 yard long bridge, Salamanca was repeatedly fought over by Hannibal, the Moors then the Duke of Wellington and Napoleon.

Salamanca is dominated by its two cathedrals and Spain's oldest university founded in 1215, which for four centuries was one of the civilised world's most important seats of study. The Spanish Inquisition's records are still kept here, and as early as the sixteenth century it boasted some twelve thousand students. You can see beautifully preserved lecture halls with their vaulted ceilings and you can imagine Christopher Columbus addressing the most learned men of the day or legal experts constructing the international laws originating here.

Over lunch you enjoy a traditional flamenco show, then explore as you wish. Whilst the buildings themselves dominate the skyline, their internal decoration is just as breathtaking. Visit the two cathedrals – the more recent dates from the 16th century! Salamanca is a wonderful place to just wander though: tiny streets, medieval squares, traditional shops, gardens, market and places all add to its atmosphere. The main square, the Plaza Mayor, is widely acknowledged as Spain's finest and the hub of Salamantine life, with plenty of cafés and places to sit and watch the locals go by and absorb the lovely atmosphere.

This evening we have a delicious, typically Portuguese barbecue, served on the sundeck (weather permitting) as the unmistakable sound of crickets and scents from the surrounding hillsides pervade the warm evening air.

#### DAY 5 - LAMEGO

The ship begins the cruise downstream, lending a different perspective to the now familiar terraced hills, with another chance to marvel at the much photographed tortuous hairpin bend at the confluence of the River Sabor. You'll notice how calm the waters are here, due to the various dams effectively creating the series of long thin lakes. Look out for the traditional, flat bottomed Rabelo boats as there are still a few of these preserved vessels sailing here.

This afternoon involves a little indulgence, as we visit one of the region's best quintas (vineyards) learning how legendary port is produced culminating in a tasting of the delicious final product!

We then take a short drive along sinuous roads to historic Lamego, home of Portugal's sparkling wine Raposeira and one of the first places to be re-conquered from the Moors in the 12th century. Visit the Sanctuary of our Lady of Remedies on top of the hill overlooking Lamego, before returning to our ship for dinner, after which we are entertained by a cultural group performing traditional Portuguese folk music.

#### DAY 6 - PESO DA REGUA & ALPENDURADA

Another relaxing start this morning with time to wander along the quayside at Peso da Regua, watching the occasional river traffic or enjoy a coffee in one of the many cafés. Back on board for lunch we continue on downstream, with further opportunity to relax, perhaps reflecting on the delights already discovered and those yet to come. Late this afternoon we berth at Entre-os-Rios, at the confluence with the Tamega River, visiting the 11th century Benedictine convent of Alpendurada. This stunning building retains many of its original Romanesque features, and the medieval kitchens are particularly impressive. Alpendurada is now a luxury hotel and we enjoy a delicious dinner in this lovely location before returning to the ship.

#### DAY 7 - OPORTO

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TRANSPORTER PROPERTY AND DESCRIPTION OF

This morning we arrive in Oporto, on quite a spectacular passage which takes us under many of the city's famous bridges. Originally Roman,

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COLUMN DESCRIPTION OF TAXABLE PARTY

Saleslash

Mateus Palace Douro Favaios Réa Porto Entre-Alpendurad os-Rios Pinhão Vega de Terrór iego **River Douro** de <mark>Gai</mark>a Barca d'Alva Salamanca Castelo Rodrigo PORTUGAL SPAIN

Oporto's wealth derived from its knowledge of the sea routes to India. Spices, silks and other fine goods made the fortunes used to build Portugal's second largest city. The city is obviously synonymous with Port wine and we will be guests of Cálem – one of the best known port brands in Portugal, learning the fascinating history of port wine and its close British connections. The wine is made from grapes still staggeringly trod by foot, then lovingly tended, sometimes for decades, before you can enjoy its subtle flavours. Of course you'll get the chance at the end of a fascinating visit to sample various styles.

We enjoy lunch on board before starting our sightseeing tour which unveils some of the city's major and more surprising sights. You'll experience the tangled lanes of the medieval quarter, the splendid Praça da Ribeira square, with its characteristic tiled town houses and fine views to the wine lodges across the river. One of the river's bridges was designed by Gustav Eiffel - and you can immediatelv see the connection

with his more famous Parisian creation! You'll gaze up at the city's imposing fortress, its fine cathedral and baroque Clérigos Tower. Wonderfully free of the chain shops dominating other countries, enjoy the tiny antiquated shops specialising in fine art, antiques, ceramics and some of the most wonderful cakes you'll ever taste.

This evening and after a final delectable dinner then perhaps the bar beckons and a chat into the evening with new-found, like minded friends, reflecting on the splendours of the remarkable River Douro, from its busy lower reaches to those beautifully peaceful terraced hillsides and the tiny unspoilt villages of the river's delightful heartlands - over a glass of port of course!

#### **DAY 8 - DISEMBARK**

After breakfast this morning your friendly crew bid you farewell before you disembark the ship.

## BURGUNDY, THE RIVER RHÔNE & PROVENCE

- Visit to Beaune, centre of the Burgundy wine region and wine tasting
- Cruise the spectacular Rhône valley
- Guided tour of Lyon, second city of France and its gastronomic capital
- Visit to charming Vienne
- Tour of the astonishing Ardèche Gorges

- Guided tour of Arles, with its extraordinary Roman remains and home of Vincent Van Gogh
- Visit to the Pont du Gard
- Tour of superbly preserved, medieval Avignon and the stunning Pope's Palace
- Price includes full-board from dinner on your day of arrival until breakfast on your final day
- Services of a cruise director and tour manager

From the lush green vineyards of Burgundy to the sun-kissed hills of Provence and the wild ruggedness of the Ardèche gorges to the medieval allure of Avignon - on this truly enthralling cruise every day is full of fascination



#### **DAY 1 - EMBARK**

Moored in Lyon, the dedicated crew will welcome you aboard your first-class floating hotel, ensuring you settle into your comfortable and extremely well equipped cabin and familiarise yourself with the ship.

#### DAY 2 - LYON

After our first splendid breakfast, we have a leisurely start enjoying a guided tour of Lyon, one of France's most interesting cities. The Rhône valley has been the route of choice for invading armies and peaceful traders since ancient times and nestling at the head of the valley at the confluence of two great rivers, the area cried out to be fortified. Founded by the Gauls, Julius Caesar made it his capital and the Emperor Claudius, conqueror of Britain was born here - Lyon was on the map! There are a host of their remains to see but the city came to prominence from the Middle Ages onwards, making a fortune from silk manufacture. Wealth poured in, funding the multitude of renaissance buildings, rich churches and one of Europe's most splendid town squares, the Place Bellecour, which today adds greatly to the city's character. Old Lyon is crammed with atmospheric antique shops and intriguing 'traboules' – narrow passages passing through actual houses which enabled silk merchants to reach the river more easily and today are just delightful to amble through. Lyon is also generally acknowledged as France's (and if you ask a local, that inevitably means the world's), gastronomic capital! In fairness it has much to commend it: nouvelle cuisine was invented near here and you literally trip over the ubiquitous and amazing food shops and restaurants, of which there are more per capita, than anywhere else in the world.

As you enjoy your first lunch, the ship quietly slips its moorings, cruising upstream, catching our first glimpses of the vine-clad slopes of the hazy green Beaujolais hills, as we approach one of the world's most famous wine producing regions. On our left we see the picturesque villages – Morgon, Fleury, Juliénas, Chénas and many more, whilst on the right, you may be lucky enough to catch a glimpse of snowy Mont Blanc – Western Europe's highest mountain. As the afternoon drifts into evening, the white wines of Mâcon now hold sway as we cruise past the town that gives them its name and what could be better than a cool crisp glass on the sundeck before retiring to the restaurant for this evening's culinary delights, prepared by the outstanding chef.

#### **DAY 3 - CHALON & BEAUNE**

Rising this morning, we are berthed in Chalon, the home of Niépce, the inventor of photography, and gateway to Burgundy. On this morning's tour we see the picturesque yet surprisingly tiny villages that read like a top restaurant's wine list - Meursault, Volnay, Pommard, Gevrey-Chambertin and many more, the source of some of world's most sublime wines. Nearby is medieval Beaune, Burgundy's wine capital, which is wonderful to just wander around and in its centre is the instantly recognisable Hotel Dieu with its multi-coloured tiled roof. A stunning building, built as a hospital in the 15th century, a prestigious annual wine auction takes place here, the considerable proceeds of which support the hospital to this day. Of course you cannot visit Burgundy without sampling its amazing wine, so we visit the cellars of one of the most traditional of winemakers for a tour and tasting, before returning to the ship for lunch.

#### DAY 4 - VIENNE & TOURNON

One of river cruising's great pleasures is the fascination of waking in a completely different location! Overnight, the ship has cruised almost imperceptibly south with breakfast in the ancient Roman stronghold of Vienne, established under Julius Caesar. Superbly located in a narrow section of the Rhône Valley where it turns sharply around a steep bluff, Vienne is a treasure trove of historic remains and a walk around will bring its story to life.

During another superb lunch, we enter perhaps the most picturesque section of the Rhône Valley as the river squeezes and twists through narrow defiles like Condrieu, St Rambert d'Albon and St Vallier, lined with wooded river cliffs, rising high to both sides. Traditionally these stretches were the most dangerous due to fierce currents and varying water levels and this afternoon is ideally spent on the sun-deck taking in the exceptional views as we navigate a series of locks which never cease to fascinate. Later we moor in the pretty provincial town of Tournon with its tree-lined avenues and across the river, the vine-covered hillsides produce Hermitage, yet another of the world's most revered wines - a fitting view as we enjoy another exquisite dinner.

#### **DAY 5 - ARDÈCHE GORGES**

This morning we cruise effortlessly downstream. Over to the left you catch glimpses of the Alps and as we approach Valence, the landscape gradually becomes less green with more ochres and magentas, whilst the houses have the sloping terracotta roofs resplendent of the Mediterranean and the heady aroma of the sweet air has the unmistakable scent of pine and cypress. You can only be in the midi, or as we call it - the South of France. Catch up on some reading or just laze in the sun whilst the temperature rises.

After lunch we explore one of France's most outstanding natural wonders, the Ardèche gorges, the scale of which is a fitting reminder of Mother Nature's awesome power. As the road twists and turns, steep cliffs make a thousand feet sheer drop

#### DAY 7 - AVIGNON As the morning light

to the torrential river below, eloquently snaking its way through stupendous natural formations cumulating in a natural rock arch carved by the wild waters of history. With caves, grottoes and natural sculptures, there are amazing views at every turn before returning to the gentler sides of the Rhône Valley and the ship in charming Viviers, a medieval town clustered around its Romanesque cathedral. The ship casts off through the famous giant lock at Bollène, as you relax over dinner.



#### of deepest Provence, amidst the rich warm stone of historic Arles. Although small in size, it was the key stronghold on the Roman road to Spain, one of the empire's richest possessions. Sea-going ships could reach here and the city became the capital of Gaul, Spain and Britain. Our guided tour will help you to appreciate the finer points of Arles' magnificent Roman remains, including the splendour of the great amphitheatre, the best preserved such building in the world and the source of most of our knowledge of Roman entertainment; the decorum of the theatre built by Augustus; the extraordinary atmosphere of the ancient necropolis - and the Forum, once the city's heart, where Constantine was installed as Emperor. The disturbed but great genius of an artist Van Gogh, lived here for two years during his most prolific period and, inspired by the light and beauty of the Provençal countryside, produced 300 works including the Sower, Café de Nuit, the Red Vines and of course, Sunflowers.

This morning you wake under the azure-blue skies

DAY 6 - ARLES & PONT DU GARD

After lunch we visit the amazing Roman aqueduct, the Pont du Gard, one of the wonders of the ancient world. No amount of fame can diminish the first sight of this 2,000 year old structure which the Romans considered to be the most important testimony to their greatness and indeed it was the highest bridge they ever built. The statistics are staggering: 900 feet long and 160 feet high. Some of the stones are 6 feet thick and no mortar was used in construction. Just to put this in perspective this is a greater span than the River Thames in London. The situation is lovely too, with pine and cypress covered hills adding to the harmonious setting. Rejoining the ship, we cruise along the Rhône during dinner passing the 13th century castle at Tarascon seemingly standing guard on the river banks.

As the morning light catches the red roofs of Avignon's majestic medieval skyline, it's a sight to behold over breakfast, after which we embark on a guided tour. Avignon's destiny changed during the 14th century, with the exile of the Pope's court here from Rome, bringing with it a century of prosperity. But to truly embrace the feel of historic Avignon you must imagine the rich furnishings, the sumptuous décor, the alleys and corridors teeming with Cardinals, Princes and Ambassadors plus countless pilgrims in the streets below eagerly anticipating benediction. The Pontiff commissioned a host of grandiose building projects and today, the city is immaculately preserved, nestling behind its almost intact 15th century walls and has more remarkable monuments, superbly decorated buildings, churches, chapels and convents than you can possibly count. Most important is the stunning Pope's Palace whose interior is a masterpiece of medieval architecture sumptuously decorated with outstanding frescoes and tapestries, whilst the private apartments are a must too.

After lunch, you are free to explore as you wish, perhaps the Petit Palais, casting a critical eye over the amazing 1,000 renaissance paintings including works by Botticelli and Carpaccio, or taking a stroll on the iconic 'Pont d'Avignon' the melody about which makes us all recall our first French lessons. It's our final afternoon so you may wish to do some shopping, or just find a quiet shady street café in a timeless Provençal square and reflect on the delights of the past few days. Perhaps though, return to the sumptuous surroundings of your ship – go on the sun deck and just contemplate the wondrous places you have seen and experienced over a quiet cup of tea!

This evening the Captain's Dinner takes place, serving specialities of the regions you have visited during your voyage of discovery through this fascinating country.

#### DAY 8 - DISEMBARK

After breakfast this morning your friendly crew bid you farewell before you disembark the ship.

**PLEASE NOTE:** on dates marked with an asterisk on the separate Departure Details, this tour operates in reverse order. You will experience the same tours and visits.

# THE SEINE, PARIS & NORMÁNDY

- Guided tour of historic Rouen
- Visit to Claude Monet's house and beautiful garden
- Explore Vernon, one of Normandy's most picturesque towns
- Guided tour of Paris
- See the Bayeux Tapestry
- Tour the D-Day Normandy Beaches
- Stop in Les Andelys, village of half-timbered houses and twisted alleys

- Visit to picturesque Honfleur, one of Normandy's most alluring fishing ports
- Cruise through the picturesque Seine Valley
- Visit Chateau Gaillard, Richard the Lionheart's huge castle
- Price includes full board (except one lunch), from dinner on your day of arrival to breakfast on your final day
- · Services of a cruise director and tour manager

From Paris we slip our moorings and commence our wonderfully scenic cruise along the beautiful and majestic Seine into the heart of one of France's most historic and picturesque regions, Normandy



#### DAY 1 - EMBARK

Moored on the River Seine, the dedicated crew welcome you aboard your first-class floating hotel, ensuring you settle into you comfortable and extremely well equipped cabin and familiarise yourself with the ship.

#### **DAY 2 - LES ANDELYS**

During the night the ship has slipped her moorings and as you enjoy your first sumptuous breakfast, you rapidly get used to the fascinating sensation of enjoying the most luxurious floating sightseeing experience as the landscape passes serenely before you. Rounding a sweeping bend, so typical of the River Seine, at Mantes la Jolie a huge Cathedral dominates the left bank and then straight ahead is an imposing medieval stone bridge, destroyed during the Second World War, never repaired and the first poignant reminder this region of France has been a battleground for centuries. Beyond Mantes, again typical of the Seine, almost resembling giant's teeth, the first of the picturesque chalk cliffs appear as the river meanders seawards. Stunningly beautiful villages like La Roche Guyon slide by, interspaced by verdant green countryside studded by countless cider orchards, half-timbered barns and contorted wooden farmhouses. We are truly in the heart of one of France's historic and stunningly attractive dukedoms - Normandy. The lower Seine Valley is characterised by a huge series of sweeping meanders and as you cruise through the almost tortuous chalk cliff lined valley you'll find it hard to work out if you've seen that hilltop before from another side – all part of the charm of a scenic river cruise. Whilst you are enjoying your first delicious lunch, the captain has skilfully berthed at Les Andelys, dominated by one of the most spectacular sights along the entire valley. The

fascinating Chateau Gaillard, a huge medieval castle guarding the apex of this particular river bend was ironically built by Richard the Lionheart to defend Rouen from the French! A much appreciated feature of our holidays is that cruises are well-paced allowing time to really absorb your ephemeral surroundings, so this afternoon you are free to explore the historic little town of Les Andelys as you wish. There's also the opportunity to join the tour visiting Chateau Gaillard itself, learning about its tumultuous history and enjoy the stupendous views across the river's bends and over the delightful Normandy countryside, probably the finest of the entire cruise.

During your second lovely dinner we unobtrusively slip our moorings, and what could be better than heading for the lounge and a chance to discuss first impressions of the Seine with your fellow guests over a digestif! The evening cruise is delightful, past yet more bucolic scenery, some of the finest France can offer. Should you wish why not visit the wheelhouse, the Captain is always delighted to explain to those interested, how the highly sophisticated navigation and safety systems operate – boys and their toys!

#### **DAY 3 - ROUEN**

We awake in Rouen, Normandy's historic capital, one of Europe's finest medieval cities and scene of many momentous events over the centuries. Pride of place belongs to its stunning cathedral immortalised by Claude Monet over 30 times! An eclectic mix of architectural styles with its soaring spire briefly make it once Europe's tallest building and is the final resting place of Richard the Lionheart and Rollo, William the Conqueror's grandfather. Rouen's beautiful tangle of medieval alleys are a revelation, wonderfully lined with antique shops, tasteful boutiques -as only the French know how, plus of course countless establishments offering culinary delicacies emphasising the country's outstanding gastronomic heritage. In the Place Vieux Marche is one of the city's most poignant spots; a simple garden of wild flowers marks where the legendary Joan of Arc was burned for her beliefs. Our tour sees all this and more.

During another superb lunch we cast off navigating yet more amazing meandering bends through chalk cliffs bisecting steep forest-covered hills designated areas of outstanding natural beauty and the sanctuary of deer and wild boar. Another spectacular sight soon greets us, the magnificent 11th century Jumiège Abbey, one of the highlights of the entire valley and whose consecration was attended by William the Conqueror himself. It's an amazing sight! Late afternoon, we moor in the pretty village of Caudebec, so after dinner perhaps take a stroll exploring this lovely spot with its typical market square and richly decorated church adorned with stone carvings so fine they are more resplendent of a cathedral.

#### DAY 4 - BAYEUX & ARROMANCHES

After breakfast you'll be ready for today's full day tour to learn about two of the most important aspects of European history, the D-Day landings in 1944 and the Bayeux Tapestry. (Please note lunch is not provided today). Bayeux itself is a delightful town, thankfully spared the ravages of war, so you can marvel at the many splendid buildings including the grandiose cathedral in addition to the wonders of the tapestry itself. Telling the tale of William of Normandy's expedition to invade England in 1066, this remarkable survivor which is actually embroidery rather than a true tapestry surely needs no further introduction and will bring back "fond" memories of many a school history lesson! The detail of embroidery is stunning and despite its age, the colours have hardly faded and it's easy to agree this is the finest relic there is from the European Middle Ages.

Mercifully peaceful today, this afternoon we visit some of the many thought-provoking monuments and places, part of the remarkable story of the D-Day landings of June 6th 1944, and the tumult that once rent asunder the now peaceful Normandy coast. We visit Gold Beach where the remnants of the extraordinary Mulberry Harbour are visible and a timely reminder of the ingenuity that was critical to this extraordinary enterprise. After a day recalling such momentous events and the truly remarkable stories that surround them, thoughts turn again to the culinary delights awaiting you in the elegance and refined comfort of the Swiss Sapphire's restaurant.

#### **DAY 5 - HONFLEUR**

Today we take the drive to perhaps the most picturesque spot on the northern French coast delightful Honfleur. Beautifully preserved, its old harbour, complete with both fishing boats and luxurious pleasure craft, is surrounded by a perfect waterfront of tall, pastel-coloured 18th century houses, many converted to seafood restaurants. Along the waterfront, watch the talented artists at work, capturing the delightful view for eternity whilst the intricate maze of streets behind are worthy of some exploration. The eaves of the tall, half-timbered buildings almost touch and on the streets below is an abundance of traditional shops selling all sorts of items such as antiques, books and fine foods. The locals stop, exchange a few words, kiss on both cheeks and continue on their way – archetypical provincial France. Honfleur's most famous son is Eugene Boudin, the forerunner of Impressionism whose most famous pupil was a certain Claude Monet who painted here many times.

Returning for lunch, the ship retraces the river's enchanting scenery, its meanders, ever-changing wildlife, country estates and forests all reflecting differing colours in the sparkling waters as the Swiss Sapphire cruises upstream. Villages slip by, birds glide on numerous thermals soaring from the surrounding cliffs and it's an ideal opportunity to join new friends for a chat as this ever-changing kaleidoscope slips by. Squeeze in a spot of reading on the Sun Deck or simply recline, let the gentle breezes so characteristic of the stately progress of a luxury river cruise vessel lull you into a relaxing doze. By this stage of your cruise you will be totally unwound and modern life will seem very distant.

#### **DAY 6** -**GIVERNY &** VERNON

A great delight of river cruising is the magical sensation of waking up in a different place to where you retired. Awaking this morning, the ship has moored in delightful Vernon, taking the short

Caudebec Arromanches Bayeux FRANCE

drive to Giverny visiting one of the world's most famous, probably its most photographed and almost certainly its most painted garden and the home of the great Impressionist artist Claude Monet, and it's ideally viewed in the delicate morning light. This is where the famous 'Nympheas' or 'Water Lilies' were painted. You can also see the renowned Japanese bridge too, still there after all these years with the flower garden preserved exactly how it was nearly a century ago. Absorb the tranquil atmosphere and wander entranced, as each image from that legendary portfolio of impressionism comes into frame, marvel at the light bouncing off the foliage of every hue and wonder at the dynamism in the reflections dancing off the water just as the great master himself once did.

After another leisurely lunch you can explore sleepy Vernon's quintessentially half-timbered Norman streets before our cruise to Paris. As the sun sets on the shimmering Seine and the Norman countryside recedes into dusk, it's a perfect time to reflect on your few days cruising amongst the creamy chalk cliffs and villages of this splendidly tortuous river, perhaps take in the cool of the evening air enjoying the unrivalled beauty of twinkling riverside lights reflected along the water's edge.

#### **DAY 7 - PARIS**

We have arrived in Paris and this morning we take a sightseeing tour of probably the world's most iconic city. Notre Dame, the Arc de Triomphe, Champs Élysées, Sacré-Coeur,

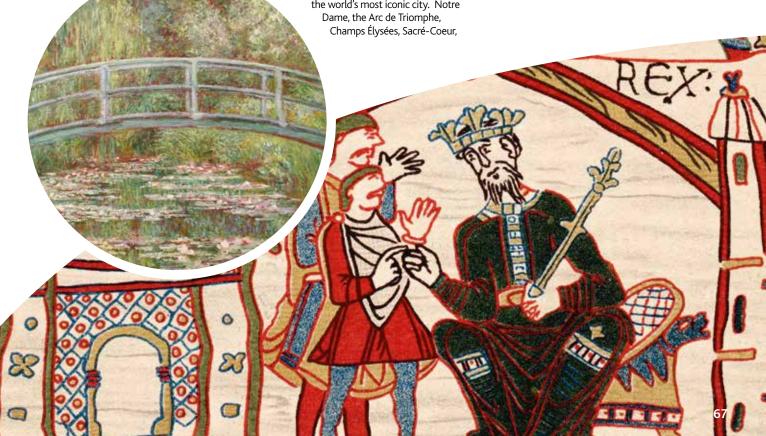
the Eiffel Tower you see these and much, much more. The grandiose Place de la Concorde, largest square in the city, shows off 18th Century French architecture at its best and just over on the left bank you'll find the Musée d'Orsay, home of the world's finest Impressionist art collection. The world famous Mona Lisa and the Venus de Milo, plus countless other stunning exhibits grace the Louvre. There is the eccentric and yet stylish Pompidou Centre famous for modern art and street entertainment. The Ile de la Cité is dominated by Notre Dame and the delicate spire of the sublime Ste. Chapelle. The variety is arguably unmatched.

After lunch you could visit fine shops such as the Galeries Lafayette and the smart arcaded Rue de Rivoli or perhaps just wander round bohemian Montmartre. Paris is everything you imagine it to be, romantic, inspiring, vibrant even outrageous, but best of all Paris is unique and a fitting finale to a wonderful cruise.

This evening is the Captain's Dinner, hosted of course by the Captain himself, a delightful experience featuring specialities of the regions through which we have travelled but probably tinged too with a little sadness in the knowledge that it is the last evening of our wonderful adventure.

#### **DAY 8 - DISEMBARK**

This morning your friendly crew bid you farewell before you disembark the ship.





# **Europe's Finest River Cruises**

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## How to Book

To make a booking, please call your local Cruiseco agent.

## AMSTERDAM, VOLENDAM & THE DUTCH BULBFIELDS

The price below is cruise only, per person sharing a twin cabin.

<b>MS Emily Bront</b> ë	Deck	Emerald (Lower)	wer) Ruby (Middle)		Diamond (Upper)					
Five-star	Cabin	Suite	Suite	Superior Suite	Suite	Superior Suite	Superior Stern Suite	Deluxe Balcony Suite		
	01/04/17	\$1,049	\$1,419	\$1,519	\$1,629	\$1,869	\$1,759	\$1,969		
	05/04/17	\$1,129	\$1,469	\$1,599	\$1,709	\$1,939	\$1,809	\$2,049		
	09/04/17	\$1,209	\$1,549	\$1,659	\$1,789	\$1,999	\$1,889	\$2,129		
	13/04/17	\$1,259	\$1,599	\$1,729	\$1,839	\$2,079	\$1,969	\$2,179		

SINGLE OCCUPANCY

On the lower deck there are a limited number of standard cabins available at No Single Supplement, subject to availability. For other cabins, price for sole occupancy is twice the per person rate for the relevant cabin as above.

### BRUGES, MEDIEVAL FLANDERS, AMSTERDAM & THE DUTCH BULBFIELDS

The price below is cruise only, per person sharing a twin cabin.

MS Emily Brontë	Deck	Emerald (Lower)	Ruby (Middle)		Diamond (Upper)				
Five-star	Cabin	Suite	Suite	Superior Suite	Suite	Superior Suite	Superior Stern Suite	Deluxe Balcony Suite	
	17/04/17	\$2,439	\$3,129	\$3,359	\$3,359	\$3,599	\$3,469	\$3,829	
	24/04/17	\$2,549	\$3,259	\$3,469	\$3,469	\$3,699	\$3,599	\$3,939	
	01/05/17	\$2,779	\$3,469	\$3,699	\$3,699	\$3,939	\$3,829	\$4,179	

#### SINGLE OCCUPANCY

## **RHINE & MOSELLE**

The price below is cruise only, per person sharing a twin cabin.

MS Emily Brontë	Deck	Emerald (Lower)	Ruby (Middle)		Diamond (Upper)				
Five-star	Cabin	Suite	Suite	Superior Suite	Suite	Superior Suite	Superior Stern Suite	Deluxe Balcony Suite	
	30/05/17	\$3,019	\$3,699	\$3,939	\$3,939	\$4,179	\$4,069	\$4,409	
	20/06/17	\$3,259	\$3,939	\$4,179	\$4,179	\$4,409	\$4,279	\$4,649	
	18/07/17	\$3,019	\$3,699	\$3,939	\$3,939	\$4,179	\$4,069	\$4,409	

MS Oscar Wilde	Deck	Emerald (Lower)	er) Ruby (Middle)		Diamond (Upper)					
Five-star	Cabin	Suite	Suite	Superior Suite	Suite	Superior Suite	Superior Stern Suite	Deluxe Balcony Suite		
	11/09/17	\$3,259	\$3,939	\$4,179	\$4,179	\$4,409	\$4,279	\$4,649		
	23/10/17	\$2,569	\$3,259	\$3,489	\$3,489	\$3,699	\$3,599	\$3,939		

MS Jane Austen	Deck	Emerald (Lower)		Rub	y (Middle)	Diamond (Upper)				
Five-star	Cabin	Standard	Superior Suite	Standard	Superior Suite	Standard	Superior Suite	Superior Stern Suite	Deluxe Suite	
	10/08/17	\$2,919	\$3,149	\$3,599	\$3,829	\$3,829	\$4,069	\$3,939	\$4,279	
	21/09/17	\$3,149	\$3,359	\$3,829	\$4,069	\$4,069	\$4,279	\$4,179	\$4,519	

MS Charles	Deck	Nickleby (Lower)	Oliver Twist (Upper)			
Dickens	Cabin	Standard	Standard	Standard	Deluxe Balcony Suite	
	02/05/17	\$2,779	\$3,489	\$3,699	\$4,179	
Five-star			·			

MS William	Deck	Romeo (Lower)	Othello (Middle)	Hamlet	(Upper)
Shakespeare	Cabin	Standard	Standard	Standard	Deluxe Balcony Suite
•	08/06/17	\$3,019	\$3,699	\$3,939	\$4,409
Five-star					

SINGLE OCCUPANCY

## **RHINE, STRASBOURG & HEIDELBERG**

The price below is cruise only, per person sharing a twin cabin.

<b>MS Emily Bront</b> ë	Deck	Emerald (lower)	Ru	by (middle)	Diamond (upper)				
Five-star	Cabin	Suite	Suite	Superior Suite	Suite	Superior Suite	Superior Stern Suite	Deluxe Balcony Suite	
	09/05/17	\$3,019	\$3,699	\$3,939	\$3,939	\$4,179	\$4,069	\$4,409	
	27/06/17	\$3,259	\$3,939	\$4,179	\$4,179	\$4,409	\$4,279	\$4,649	
	25/07/17	\$3,019	\$3,699	\$3,939	\$3,939	\$4,179	\$4,069	\$4,409	

MS Oscar Wilde	Deck	Emerald (Lower)	Ruby (Middle)		Diamond (Upper)					
Five-star	Cabin	Suite	Suite	Superior Suite	Suite	Superior Suite	Superior Stern Suite	Deluxe Balcony Suite		
1100-3001	07/08/17	\$3,019	\$3,699	\$3,939	\$3,939	\$4,179	\$4,069	\$4,409		
	02/10/17	\$2,779	\$3,489	\$3,699	\$3,699	\$3,939	\$3,829	\$4,179		

MS Jane Austen	Deck	Emerald (Lower)		Rub	y (Middle)	Diamond (Upper)				
Five-star	Cabin	Standard	Superior Suite	Standard	Superior Suite	Standard	Superior Suite	Superior Stern Suite	Deluxe Suite	
	31/08/17	\$2,919	\$3,149	\$3,599	\$3,829	\$3,829	\$4,069	\$3,939	\$4,279	
	26/10/17	\$2,339	\$2,569	\$3,019	\$3,259	\$3,259	\$3,489	\$3,359	\$3,699	

MS Charles	Deck	Nickleby (Lower)	Copperfield (Middle)	Oliver Tw	ist (Upper)
Dickens	Cabin	Standard	Standard	Standard	Deluxe Balcony Suite
	12/09/17	\$3,019	\$3,699	\$3,939	\$4,409
Five-star					

MS William Shakespeare	Deck	Romeo (Lower)	Othello (Middle)	Hamlet	(Upper)
	Cabin	Standard	Standard	Standard	Deluxe Balcony Suite
	18/05/17	\$2,919	\$3,599	\$3,829	\$4,279
Five-star					

SINGLE OCCUPANCY

## RHINE CRUISE TO SWITZERLAND

The price below is cruise only, per person sharing a twin cabin. Reverse itineraries are highlighted with an asterisk \*.

**MS Emily Bront**ë

F	ive	-s	ta	r
•			u	•

Deck	Emerald (Lower)	Ru	by (Middle)	iddle) Diamond (Upper)				
Cabin	Suite	Suite	Superior Suite	Suite	Superior Suite	Superior Stern Suite	Deluxe Balcony Suite	
16/05/17, 23/05/17*	\$2,939	\$3,649	\$3,889	\$3,889	\$4,099	\$3,989	\$4,329	
06/06/17, 13/06/17*	\$3,179	\$3,889	\$4,099	\$4,099	\$4,329	\$4,229	\$4,569	
04/07/17, 11/07/17*	\$2,939	\$3,649	\$3,889	\$3,889	\$4,099	\$3,989	\$4,329	
01/08/17, 08/08/17*	\$2,939	\$3,649	\$3,889	\$3,889	\$4,099	\$3,989	\$4,329	

### **MS Oscar Wilde** Five-star

Deck	Emerald (Lower)	Ru	by (Middle)	Diamond (Upper)				
Cabin	Suite	Suite	Superior Suite	Suite	Superior Suite	Superior Stern Suite	Deluxe Balcony Suite	
14/08/17, 21/08/17*	\$2,939	\$3,649	\$3,889	\$3,889	\$4,099	\$3,989	\$4,329	
28/08/17	\$2,939	\$3,649	\$3,889	\$3,889	\$4,099	\$3,989	\$4,329	
04/09/17*, 18/09/17	\$3,179	\$3,889	\$4,099	\$4,099	\$4,329	\$4,229	\$4,569	
25/09/17*	\$3,069	\$3,759	\$3,989	\$3,989	\$4,229	\$4,099	\$4,439	
09/10/17, 16/10/17*	\$2,839	\$3,519	\$3,759	\$3,759	\$3,989	\$3,889	\$4,229	

MS Jane Austen	Deck	Emerald (Lower)		Rub	y (Middle)	Diamond (Upper)			
Five-star	Cabin	Standard	Superior Suite	Standard	Superior Suite	Standard	Superior Suite	Superior Stern Suite	Deluxe Suite
	27/07/17, 03/08/17*	\$2,729	\$2,939	\$3,409	\$3,649	\$3,649	\$3,889	\$3,759	\$4,099
	17/08/17, 24/08/17*	\$2,729	\$2,939	\$3,409	\$3,649	\$3,649	\$3,889	\$3,759	\$4,099
	07/09/17, 14/09/17*	\$2,939	\$3,179	\$3,649	\$3,889	\$3,889	\$4,099	\$3,989	\$4,329
	28/09/17	\$2,839	\$3,069	\$3,519	\$3,759	\$3,759	\$3,989	\$3,889	\$4,229
	05/10/17*, 12/10/17	\$2,599	\$2,839	\$3,309	\$3,519	\$3,519	\$3,759	\$3,649	\$3,989
	19/10/17*	\$2,499	\$2,729	\$3,179	\$3,409	\$3,409	\$3,649	\$3,519	\$3,889

MS Charles	Deck	Nickleby (Lower)	Copperfield (Middle)	dle) Oliver Twist (Upper)		
Dickens	Cabin	Standard	Standard	Standard	Deluxe Balcony Suite	
	09/05/17, 16/05/17*	\$2,599	\$3,309	\$3,519	\$3,989	
-ive-star	29/08/17	\$2,839	\$3,519	\$3,759	\$4,229	
	05/09/17*, 19/09/17	\$2,839	\$3,519	\$3,759	\$4,229	
	26/09/17*	\$2,729	\$3,409	\$3,649	\$4,099	
	03/10/17	\$2,499	\$3,179	\$3,409	\$3,889	
	10/10/17*	\$2,259	\$2,939	\$3,179	\$3,649	

MS William Shakespeare	Deck	Romeo (Lower)	Othello (Middle)	Hamlet (Upper)		
	Cabin	Standard	Standard	Standard	Deluxe Balcony Suite	
	04/05/17, 11/05/17	\$2,599	\$3,309	\$3,519	\$3,989	
Five-star	25/05/17	\$2,599	\$3,309	\$3,519	\$3,989	
	01/06/17, 15/06/17	\$2,839	\$3,519	\$3,759	\$4,229	
	22/06/17	\$2,839	\$3,519	\$3,759	\$4,229	

### SINGLE OCCUPANCY

## **CRUISE THE HEART OF EUROPE**

The price below is cruise only, per person sharing a twin cabin. Reverse itineraries are highlighted with an asterisk \*.

MS	Emily	<b>/ Bro</b> i	ntë

Five-star

Deck	Emerald (Lower)	er) Ruby (Middle) Diamond (Upper)					
Cabin	Suite	Suite	Superior Suite	Suite	Superior Suite	Superior Stern Suite	Deluxe Balcony Suite
15/08/17	\$5,699	\$6,409	\$6,619	\$6,619	\$6,849	\$6,749	\$7,089
31/10/17*	\$2,939	\$3,619	\$3,859	\$3,859	\$4,099	\$3,969	\$4,329

### **MS Thomas Hardy**

Five-star

dy	Deck	Emerald (Lower)	Ruby (Middle)		Diamond (Upper)				
,	Cabin	Suite	Suite	Superior Suite	Suite	Superior Suite	Superior Stern Suite	Deluxe Balcony Suite	
	21/05/17	\$5,699	\$6,409	\$6,619	\$6,619	\$6,849	\$6,749	\$7,089	
	04/06/17	\$5,929	\$6,619	\$6,849	\$6,849	\$7,089	\$6,959	\$7,329	
	18/06/17*	\$5,929	\$6,619	\$6,849	\$6,849	\$7,089	\$6,959	\$7,329	
	02/07/17	\$5,699	\$6,409	\$6,619	\$6,619	\$6,849	\$6,749	\$7,089	
	15/10/17*	\$5,249	\$5,929	\$6,169	\$6,169	\$6,409	\$6,279	\$6,619	

MS Jane Austen	Deck	Emer	ald (Lower)	Rub	y (Middle)		Dia	mond (Upper)	
Five-star	Cabin	Standard	Superior Suite	Standard	Superior Suite	Standard	Superior Suite	Superior Stern Suite	Deluxe Suite
	27/04/17	\$4,329	\$4,539	\$5,019	\$5,249	\$5,249	\$5,459	\$5,359	\$5,699
	13/07/17*	\$5,249	\$5,459	\$5,929	\$6,169	\$6,169	\$6,409	\$6,279	\$6,619

MS Charles	Deck	Nickleby (Lower)	Copperfield (Middle)	Oliver Twist (Upper)		
Dickens	Cabin	Standard	Standard	Standard	Deluxe Balcony Suite	
	23/05/17	\$4,779	\$5,459	\$5,699	\$6,169	
Five-star	15/08/17*	\$5,249	\$5,929	\$6,169	\$6,619	

MS William	Deck	Romeo (Lower)	Othello (Middle)	Hamlet (Upper)		
Shakespeare	Cabin	Standard	Standard	Standard	Deluxe Balcony Suite	
	29/06/17	\$5,459	\$6,169	\$6,409	\$6,849	
Five-star	27/07/17*	\$5,249	\$5,929	\$6,169	\$6,619	
	10/08/17	\$5,249	\$5,929	\$6,169	\$6,619	
	21/09/17*	\$5,459	\$6,169	\$6,409	\$6,849	

### SINGLE OCCUPANCY

## THE DOURO, OPORTO & SALAMANCA

The price below is cruise only, per person sharing a twin cabin.

MS Douro	Deck		Lower Deck	Mic	dle Deck		Upper Deck	
	Cabin	Standard	Standard Stern Sole Occupancy	Standard	Standard Stern	Standard	Superior Balcony Suite	Deluxe Balcony Suite
Elegance	07/04/17	\$2,679	\$2,679	\$3,359	\$3,259	\$3,599	\$4,069	\$4,519
Five-star	14/04/17	\$2,919	\$2,919	\$3,599	\$3,489	\$3,829	\$4,309	\$4,749
	21/04/17, 28/04/17	\$3,149	\$3,149	\$3,829	\$3,729	\$4,069	\$4,519	\$4,989
	05/05/17, 12/05/17	\$3,359	\$3,359	\$4,069	\$3,939	\$4,309	\$4,749	\$5,229
	19/05/17, 26/05/17	\$3,599	\$3,599	\$4,309	\$4,179	\$4,519	\$4,989	\$5,439
	02/06/17, 09/06/17	\$3,599	\$3,599	\$4,309	\$4,179	\$4,519	\$4,989	\$5,439
	16/06/17, 23/06/17	\$3,599	\$3,599	\$4,309	\$4,179	\$4,519	\$4,989	\$5,439
	30/06/17	\$3,359	\$3,359	\$4,069	\$3,939	\$4,309	\$4,749	\$5,229
	07/07/17, 14/07/17	\$3,279	\$3,279	\$3,989	\$3,859	\$4,229	\$4,669	\$5,149
	21/07/17, 28/07/17	\$3,279	\$3,279	\$3,989	\$3,859	\$4,229	\$4,669	\$5,149
	04/08/17, 11/08/17	\$3,279	\$3,279	\$3,989	\$3,859	\$4,229	\$4,669	\$5,149
	18/08/17, 25/08/17	\$3,279	\$3,279	\$3,989	\$3,859	\$4,229	\$4,669	\$5,149
	01/09/17, 08/09/17	\$3,599	\$3,599	\$4,309	\$4,179	\$4,519	\$4,989	\$5,439
	15/09/17, 22/09/17	\$3,599	\$3,599	\$4,309	\$4,179	\$4,519	\$4,989	\$5,439
	29/09/17	\$3,599	\$3,599	\$4,309	\$4,179	\$4,519	\$4,989	\$5,439
	06/10/17	\$3,359	\$3,359	\$4,069	\$3,939	\$4,309	\$4,749	\$5,229
	13/10/17	\$3,149	\$3,149	\$3,829	\$3,729	\$4,069	\$4,519	\$4,989
	20/10/17	\$2,919	\$2,919	\$3,599	\$3,489	\$3,829	\$4,309	\$4,749
	27/10/17	\$2,679	\$2,679	\$3,359	\$3,259	\$3,599	\$4,069	\$4,519

#### SINGLE OCCUPANCY

Stern cabins on the lower deck are available at no single supplement, subject to availability. For other cabins, price for sole occupancy is twice the per person rate for the relevant cabin as above.

## MEDIEVAL GERMANY, THE MAIN TO THE DANUBE

The price below is cruise only, per person sharing a twin cabin. Reverse itineraries are highlighted with an asterisk \*.

MS Swiss Tiara	Deck	Emerald (Lower)		Ruby (Middle)		Diamond (Upper)		
Five-star	Cabin	Standard	Superior Suite	Standard	Superior Suite	Standard	Superior Suite	Superior Stern Suite
	20/05/17*	\$2,259	\$2,469	\$2,939	\$3,179	\$3,179	\$3,389	\$3,279
	27/05/17	\$2,359	\$2,599	\$3,049	\$3,279	\$3,279	\$3,519	\$3,389
	03/06/17*	\$2,469	\$2,709	\$3,179	\$3,389	\$3,389	\$3,619	\$3,519
	10/06/17	\$2,599	\$2,839	\$3,279	\$3,519	\$3,519	\$3,759	\$3,619
	17/06/17*	\$2,599	\$2,839	\$3,279	\$3,519	\$3,519	\$3,759	\$3,619
	05/09/17*	\$2,599	\$2,839	\$3,279	\$3,519	\$3,519	\$3,759	\$3,619
	12/09/17	\$2,599	\$2,839	\$3,279	\$3,519	\$3,519	\$3,759	\$3,619
	19/09/17*	\$2,469	\$2,709	\$3,179	\$3,389	\$3,389	\$3,619	\$3,519
	26/09/17	\$2,359	\$2,599	\$3,049	\$3,279	\$3,279	\$3,519	\$3,389
	03/10/17*	\$2,259	\$2,469	\$2,939	\$3,179	\$3,179	\$3,389	\$3,279

#### SINGLE OCCUPANCY

The price for sole occupancy is twice the per person rate for the relevant cabin as above.

#### PLEASE NOTE

Due to locks and low bridges the main part of the sun deck will be closed between Frankfurt and Regensburg. The other outside areas in front of the lounge, the lido bar and the lower section of the sun deck are still accessible.

### THE BLUE DANUBE

The price below is cruise only, per person sharing a twin cabin.

### **MS Emily Bront**ë

Five-star

Deck	Emerald (Lower)	Ru	by (Middle)	Diamond (Upper)			
Cabin	Suite	Suite	Superior Suite	Suite	Superior Suite	Superior Stern Suite	Deluxe Balcony Suite
29/08/17	\$2,809	\$3,489	\$3,729	\$3,729	\$3,939	\$3,829	\$4,179
05/09/17, 12/09/17, 19/09/17	\$3,019	\$3,729	\$3,939	\$3,939	\$4,179	\$4,069	\$4,409
26/09/17	\$2,919	\$3,599	\$3,829	\$3,829	\$4,069	\$3,939	\$4,309
03/10/17	\$2,679	\$3,359	\$3,599	\$3,599	\$3,829	\$3,729	\$4,069
10/10/17	\$2,439	\$3,149	\$3,359	\$3,359	\$3,599	\$3,489	\$3,829
17/10/17	\$2,229	\$2,919	\$3,149	\$3,149	\$3,359	\$3,259	\$3,599
24/10/17	\$1,999	\$2,679	\$2,919	\$2,919	\$3,149	\$3,019	\$3,359

### **MS Thomas Hard**

Five-star

ardy	Deck	Emerald (Lower)	Ru	by (Middle)			Diamond (Upper)	
	Cabin	Suite	Suite	Superior Suite	Suite	Superior Suite	Superior Stern Suite	Deluxe Balcony Suite
	02/04/17	\$1,759	\$2,439	\$2,679	\$2,679	\$2,919	\$2,809	\$3,149
	09/04/17	\$1,999	\$2,679	\$2,919	\$2,919	\$3,149	\$3,019	\$3,359
	16/04/17	\$2,229	\$2,919	\$3,149	\$3,149	\$3,359	\$3,259	\$3,599
	23/04/17	\$2,339	\$3,019	\$3,259	\$3,259	\$3,489	\$3,359	\$3,729
	30/04/17	\$2,439	\$3,149	\$3,359	\$3,359	\$3,599	\$3,489	\$3,829
	07/05/17	\$2,569	\$3,259	\$3,489	\$3,489	\$3,729	\$3,599	\$3,939
	14/05/17	\$2,679	\$3,359	\$3,599	\$3,599	\$3,829	\$3,729	\$4,069
	16/07/17, 23/07/17	\$2,679	\$3,359	\$3,599	\$3,599	\$3,829	\$3,729	\$4,069
	30/07/17, 06/08/17	\$2,679	\$3,359	\$3,599	\$3,599	\$3,829	\$3,729	\$4,069
	13/08/17, 20/08/17	\$2,679	\$3,359	\$3,599	\$3,599	\$3,829	\$3,729	\$4,069
	27/08/17	\$2,809	\$3,489	\$3,729	\$3,729	\$3,939	\$3,829	\$4,179
	03/09/17, 10/09/17	\$3,019	\$3,729	\$3,939	\$3,939	\$4,179	\$4,069	\$4,409
	17/09/17	\$3,019	\$3,729	\$3,939	\$3,939	\$4,179	\$4,069	\$4,409
	24/09/17	\$2,919	\$3,599	\$3,829	\$3,829	\$4,069	\$3,939	\$4,309
	01/10/17	\$2,679	\$3,359	\$3,599	\$3,599	\$3,829	\$3,729	\$4,069
	08/10/17	\$2,439	\$3,149	\$3,359	\$3,359	\$3,599	\$3,489	\$3,829

MS Jane Austen	Deck	Emerald (Lower)		Ruby (Middle)		Diamond (Upper)			
Five-star	Cabin	Standard	Superior Suite	Standard	Superior Suite	Standard	Superior Suite	Superior Stern Suite	Deluxe Suite
1 100-3101	11/05/17	\$2,439	\$2,679	\$3,149	\$3,359	\$3,359	\$3,599	\$3,489	\$3,829
	18/05/17, 25/05/17	\$2,679	\$2,919	\$3,359	\$3,599	\$3,599	\$3,829	\$3,729	\$4,069
	01/06/17, 08/06/17	\$2,809	\$3,019	\$3,489	\$3,729	\$3,729	\$3,939	\$3,829	\$4,179
	15/06/17, 22/06/17	\$2,809	\$3,019	\$3,489	\$3,729	\$3,729	\$3,939	\$3,829	\$4,179
	29/06/17	\$2,679	\$2,919	\$3,359	\$3,599	\$3,599	\$3,829	\$3,729	\$4,069
	06/07/17	\$2,439	\$2,679	\$3,149	\$3,359	\$3,359	\$3,599	\$3,489	\$3,829

MS Charles	Deck	Nickleby (Lower)	Copperfield (Middle)	Oliver Twist (Upper)		
Dickens	Cabin	Standard	Standard	Standard	Deluxe Balcony Suite	
	06/06/17, 13/06/17, 20/06/17	\$2,679	\$3,359	\$3,599	\$4,069	
Five-star	27/06/17, 04/07/17	\$2,679	\$3,359	\$3,599	\$4,069	
	11/07/17, 18/07/17, 25/07/17	\$2,439	\$3,149	\$3,359	\$3,829	
	01/08/17, 08/08/17	\$2,439	\$3,149	\$3,359	\$3,829	

MS William	Deck	Romeo (Lower)	Othello (Middle)	Hamlet (Upper)		
Shakespeare	Cabin	Standard	Standard	Standard	Deluxe Balcony Suite	
Five-star	13/07/17, 20/07/17	\$2,439	\$3,149	\$3,359	\$3,829	
	24/08/17, 31/08/17	\$2,439	\$3,149	\$3,359	\$3,829	
	07/09/17, 14/09/17	\$2,679	\$3,359	\$3,599	\$4,069	

#### SINGLE OCCUPANCY

## BURGUNDY, THE RIVER RHÔNE & PROVENCE

The price below is cruise only, per person sharing a twin cabin. Reverse itineraries are highlighted with an asterisk \*.

### **MS Lord Byron**

Five-star

Deck	Emera	ald (Lower)	Rub	y (Middle)		Diar	nond (Upper)	
Cabin	Standard	Superior Suite	Standard	Superior Suite	Standard	Superior Suite	Superior Stern Suite	Deluxe Suite
06/04/17	\$2,259	\$2,469	\$2,939	\$3,179	\$3,179	\$3,389	\$3,279	\$3,619
13/04/17*	\$2,259	\$2,469	\$2,939	\$3,179	\$3,179	\$3,389	\$3,279	\$3,619
20/04/17	\$2,469	\$2,709	\$3,179	\$3,389	\$3,389	\$3,619	\$3,519	\$3,859
27/04/17*	\$2,469	\$2,709	\$3,179	\$3,389	\$3,389	\$3,619	\$3,519	\$3,859
04/05/17, 11/05/17*	\$2,709	\$2,939	\$3,389	\$3,619	\$3,619	\$3,859	\$3,759	\$4,099
18/05/17	\$2,839	\$3,049	\$3,519	\$3,759	\$3,759	\$3,969	\$3,859	\$4,199
25/05/17*	\$2,939	\$3,179	\$3,619	\$3,859	\$3,859	\$4,099	\$3,969	\$4,329
01/06/17, 08/06/17*	\$3,049	\$3,279	\$3,759	\$3,969	\$3,969	\$4,199	\$4,099	\$4,439
15/06/17, 22/06/17*	\$3,049	\$3,279	\$3,759	\$3,969	\$3,969	\$4,199	\$4,099	\$4,439
29/06/17	\$2,939	\$3,179	\$3,619	\$3,859	\$3,859	\$4,099	\$3,969	\$4,329
06/07/17*, 13/07/17	\$2,709	\$2,939	\$3,389	\$3,619	\$3,619	\$3,859	\$3,759	\$4,099
20/07/17*, 27/07/17	\$2,709	\$2,939	\$3,389	\$3,619	\$3,619	\$3,859	\$3,759	\$4,099
03/08/17*, 10/08/17	\$2,709	\$2,939	\$3,389	\$3,619	\$3,619	\$3,859	\$3,759	\$4,099
17/08/17*, 24/08/17	\$2,709	\$2,939	\$3,389	\$3,619	\$3,619	\$3,859	\$3,759	\$4,099
31/08/17*	\$2,939	\$3,179	\$3,619	\$3,859	\$3,859	\$4,099	\$3,969	\$4,329
07/09/17, 14/09/17*	\$3,049	\$3,279	\$3,759	\$3,969	\$3,969	\$4,199	\$4,099	\$4,439
21/09/17, 28/09/17*	\$3,049	\$3,279	\$3,759	\$3,969	\$3,969	\$4,199	\$4,099	\$4,439
05/10/17	\$2,709	\$2,939	\$3,389	\$3,619	\$3,619	\$3,859	\$3,759	\$4,099
12/10/17*	\$2,469	\$2,709	\$3,179	\$3,389	\$3,389	\$3,619	\$3,519	\$3,859
19/10/17	\$2,259	\$2,469	\$2,939	\$3,179	\$3,179	\$3,389	\$3,279	\$3,619
26/10/17*	\$2,019	\$2,259	\$2,709	\$2,939	\$2,939	\$3,179	\$3,049	\$3,389

### **MS Swiss Corona**

Five-star

Deck	Emer	Emerald (Lower)		Ruby (Middle)		Diamond (Upper)			
Cabin	Standard	Superior Suite	Standard	Superior Suite	Standard	Superior Suite	Superior Stern Suite		
15/05/17	\$2,469	\$2,709	\$3,179	\$3,389	\$3,389	\$3,619	\$3,519		
22/05/17*	\$2,599	\$2,839	\$3,279	\$3,519	\$3,519	\$3,759	\$3,619		
29/05/17	\$2,709	\$2,939	\$3,389	\$3,619	\$3,619	\$3,859	\$3,759		
05/06/17*, 12/06/17, 19/06/17*	\$2,839	\$3,049	\$3,519	\$3,759	\$3,759	\$3,969	\$3,859		
26/06/17	\$2,709	\$2,939	\$3,389	\$3,619	\$3,619	\$3,859	\$3,759		
03/07/17*, 10/07/17, 17/07/17*	\$2,469	\$2,709	\$3,179	\$3,389	\$3,389	\$3,619	\$3,519		
24/07/17, 31/07/17*, 07/08/17	\$2,469	\$2,709	\$3,179	\$3,389	\$3,389	\$3,619	\$3,519		
14/08/17*, 21/08/17	\$2,469	\$2,709	\$3,179	\$3,389	\$3,389	\$3,619	\$3,519		
28/08/17*	\$2,709	\$2,939	\$3,389	\$3,619	\$3,619	\$3,859	\$3,759		
04/09/17, 11/09/17*, 18/09/17	\$2,839	\$3,049	\$3,519	\$3,759	\$3,759	\$3,969	\$3,859		
25/09/17*	\$2,709	\$2,939	\$3,389	\$3,619	\$3,619	\$3,859	\$3,759		

#### SINGLE OCCUPANCY

## THE SEINE, PARIS & NORMANDY

The price below is cruise only, per person sharing a twin cabin.

MS Swiss Ruby	Deck	Emerald (Lower)	Ruby (Middle)
Four-star Superior	Cabin	Standard	Standard
	10/06/17	\$3,019	\$3,489
	17/06/17	\$3,019	\$3,489
	24/06/17	\$3,019	\$3,489
	01/07/17	\$2,779	\$3,259
	02/09/17	\$3,019	\$3,489
	09/09/17	\$3,019	\$3,489
	16/09/17	\$3,019	\$3,489
	23/09/17	\$3,019	\$3,489

SINGLE OCCUPANCY

The price for sole occupancy is twice the per person rate for the relevant cabin as above.

### **All European Cruises Include**

Prices are per person, based on two people sharing a twin cabin with a limited number of single cabins available on all decks, at the relevant supplement. The price includes full board from dinner on your day of arrival until breakfast on your final day (except for one lunch on the Seine Cruise); if you choose to travel with us on any of the full day excursions by coach, a packed lunch will be provided. Anyone choosing to stay on the ship may of course have lunch in the restaurant; morning/ afternoon tea and coffee; all visits and excursions as mentioned in the brochure, coach travel as mentioned and the services of a Riviera Travel Cruise Director.

### Deposit

The deposit applicable for all river cruise tours is \$500 per person, with the remaining balance due 8 weeks prior to travel.

## HOW TO BOOK AND BOOKING CONDITIONS

#### WHAT'S INCLUDED IN YOUR HOLIDAY PRICE (PER PERSON)

- Cabin accommodation aboard your Riviera Travel luxury river cruise ship
- All meals from dinner on your day of arrival until breakfast on your final day (except for one lunch on the Seine Cruise)
- Visits and excursions specified in each individual cruise itinerary, with coach travel as mentioned (If you choose to travel with us on any of the full day excursions
- by coach, a packed lunch will be provided.)
- Services of a Riviera Travel Cruise Director.

#### **RESERVATIONS AND PAYMENTS**

Bookings on these river cruise holidays must be made with a Cruiseco travel agent. On confirmation of your booking, a written confirmation will be sent to your Cruiseco travel agent. An option will usually be given for 7 days. Before the option expires it will be necessary for you to pay a deposit of \$1,000 per person, or 10% of the holiday price per person, whichever is the greater.

The deposit secures your holiday as requested. Failure to pay the deposit by the option due date may result in the cancellation of your booking. Final payment is due 60 days prior to departure. If your booking is made within 60 days of departure, full payment will be due immediately.

In cases where payment is late, the booking will be treated as having been cancelled by you.

#### PRICES

The prices shown in this brochure are per person, in Australian dollars. Cruise fares are based on two people sharing a twin cabin. A limited number of cabins for sole occupancy are offered on all decks, subject to payment of the relevant single supplement. All prices are subject to change with or without notice.

#### WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED IN YOUR HOLIDAY PRICE

Airfares, accommodation before and after the cruise, passport and visa fees, insurances of all kinds, laundry, phone calls, beverages (except for those noted as being included), gratuities, items of a personal nature are not included in the holiday costs shown in this brochure.

Gratuities: It is customary aboard all cruise ships worldwide to give a gratuity at the end of a cruise, providing, of course, you have received good service. We would emphasise that the amount you give is entirely discretionary, and is then divided equally among the crew on board.

#### **ITINERARY CHANGES**

Riviera Travel reserves the right to amend the cruise itinerary at any time up to and during the voyage.

#### TRAVEL DOCUMENTATION

Travel documents will be sent to you approximately 7 – 10 working days prior to departure from Australia, provided full payment has been received. If you are departing Australia earlier, please ask your Cruiseco travel agent to request your travel documents in good time.

#### TRAVEL INSURANCE

Purchase of comprehensive travel insurance to cover medical, hospital, repatriation, cancellation expenses, etc is mandatory for this holiday. We recommend you obtain travel insurance before paying a deposit. Failure to obtain travel insurance will render you liable for cancellation penalties should you need to cancel your trip.

#### **BOOKING CHANGES**

A fee of \$50 per person will be charged for any revision or alteration made to a reservation after the booking is confirmed.

#### CANCELLATIONS AND CANCELLATION FEES

In the unfortunate event that you should have to cancel your holiday, Cruiseco must be notified in writing. The day that we receive this notice in writing will be considered the date that your cancellation has been made. Certain cancellation fees apply to your holiday if cancelled after a deposit or final payment has been made. Notice of cancellation must be made in writing to your Cruiseco travel agent. The following scale of charges will apply when notice of cancellation is given prior to sailing:

Period before the day of
departure within which
total notification is
received by Cruiseco

61 days or more 60 to 31 days 30 to 15 days 14 days or less Amount of cancellation charge as % of holiday price payable

Loss of deposit\* 80%\* 95%\* 100%\*

\*An administration fee of \$100 per person will apply to all cancellations. This fee, and the penalties above, will apply in addition to any cancellation service fees that may be levied by your Cruiseco travel agent.

#### OTHER CONDITIONS

It is your responsibility to ensure you have read all of the Booking Conditions and to provide valid travel documents. Be sure to ask your Travel Agent for advice concerning passport and visa requirements. Riviera Travel does not accept any responsibility if you cannot travel because you have not complied with any passport, visa or immigration requirements.

A minimum number of passengers is required for these cruises to operate. Should this not be achieved, Riviera Travel may cancel the cruise on which you are booked and refund all monies you have paid to them via Cruiseco.

In the event of circumstances beyond its control arising, Riviera Travel cannot accept liability or pay compensation where this causes a change or cancellation to your river cruise holiday. This means any event which Riviera Travel or its suppliers could not, even with all due care, foresee or avoid. Such events may include war or terrorist activities threatened or actual, civil unrest, closure of airports or seaports, industrial action, threatened or actual, adverse weather conditions, epidemics or pandemics, fire, high or low water levels on a river cruise and all similar events.

Neither Riviera Travel nor Cruiseco is responsible for the cost of any other travel arrangements affected due to cancellation or the rescheduling of your river cruise.

Whilst these cruise holidays shall impose no problems for people of any age in normal physical health, we should like to point out that many historical sites are visited and often walking tours of various places of interest are included. Some holidays, therefore, may not be suitable for guests of greatly impaired mobility. If you have impaired mobility you agree to advise us at time of booking.

You accept responsibility for the proper conduct of all members of your party. If, in the reasonable opinion of Riviera Travel, any person(s) is not suitable to continue the holiday because of health, whether mental or physical, unreasonable behaviour, damage to property or danger or significant annoyance to others, abusive/offensive behaviour to other guests, our suppliers, etc, then the cruise holiday may be terminated with immediate effect. Full cancellation charges will then apply and no refund will be given. Furthermore, Riviera Travel shall be under no obligation whatsoever to pay compensation or meet any costs or expenses (including but not limited to alternative accommodation and travel arrangements) you may incur as a result of your booking being terminated.

For all other booking conditions of Rivera Travel not specifically dealt with here, please refer to www.rivieratravel.co.uk

#### CRUISECO'S STATEMENT OF BUSINESS PRACTICE

Your Cruiseco travel agent should provide you with a copy of Cruiseco's "Statement of Business Practice" at time of booking.

#### **BOOKING ARRANGEMENTS**

Your booking arrangements are to be made by your Cruiseco Travel Agent and the person effecting the booking, shall be deemed to have accepted the booking conditions.

This brochure and contents are valid from 1 May 2016.

Riviera Travel is marketed and sold in Australia by Discovery Travel Centre Pty Ltd trading as Cruiseco

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