



2027 RHINE CASTLES & SWISS ALPS ASX

7-NIGHT AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS TO BASEL, SWITZERLAND CRUISE

Discover fairytale castles and historic vineyards as part of this spectacular Rhine River holiday fantasy. Explore the canal-laden city of Amsterdam in all its seasonal glory, with its neat rows of buildings and rich history. Wander the stalls of France’s oldest Christmas Market in Strasbourg and explore the restaurants, open-air wine gardens, and Christmas Market of Drosselgasse, the cultural heart of Rudesheim. Sail aboard an elegantly decorated ship through cities and towns brimming with beautiful decor, glittering Christmas trees and holiday spirit. Plus, enjoy festive onboard traditions and an exquisite holiday feast with all the trimmings on every Christmas Markets departure.

DAY	DESTINATION	YOUR ITINERARY
1	Amsterdam	RIVER CRUISE EMBARKATION
2	Amsterdam	Canal cruise Scenic cruising
3	Cologne	Cologne walking tour and Christmas Markets OR Cologne bike tour
4	Rhine Gorge Rudesheim	Castles along the Rhine scenic cruising Wine tasting and Christmas Market OR Gondola ride with Christmas Market OR Vineyards hike OR Guided bike tour of the Rheingau Siegfried’s Mechanical Instrument Cabinet OR Rudesheimer coffee
5	Ludwigshafen	“Romantic Heidelberg” tour and Christmas Markets OR Medieval Speyer and Christmas Markets OR Heidelberg Philosopher’s Path hike OR Ladenburg bike tour
6	Strasbourg	“The Gem of Alsace” tour with Christmas Markets OR Strasbourg bike tour

7	Basel	“City of Art” tour with Christmas Market OR Full-day Lucerne excursion with Christmas Markets* OR “Three Countries” bike tour Swiss wine tasting OR Castle visit OR Castle hike
8	Basel	RIVER CRUISE DISEMBARKATION

**Not combinable with other tours on this day.*

Day 1, AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS – EMBARKATION. Board your ship for your *Rhine Castles & Swiss Alps* cruise. (D)

Day 2, AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS. There are 165 canals in Amsterdam, and you’ll get enjoy some of them on your canal cruise. Later in the day, set sail out of Amsterdam. (B,L,D)

Day 3, COLOGNE, GERMANY. Enjoy cruising to Cologne, then join a guided tour through the enchanting Old Town, where you will see sites such as the Cologne Rathaus, Germany’s oldest town hall; the Fishmarkt, which dates back to the 12th century and the Great St. Martin Church. Then, visit one of Europe’s largest and most renowned Christmas Markets. Active guests will want to join a guided bike ride along the Rhine and through the historic Stadtgarten. (B,L,D)

Day 4, RHINE GORGE – RÜDESHEIM, GERMANY. Cruise through the captivating UNESCO-designated Rhine Gorge, the most stunningly beautiful stretch of the river before reaching the winemaking town of Rüdesheim. In the afternoon, join a wine tasting to discover the flavors of the town’s iconic vineyards. Afterwards, enjoy free time in the town, perhaps to explore the Drosselgasse, the town’s cultural heart, and the Christmas Markets. Or drink up the stunning views by soaring high above the vineyards with a gondola ride to the NiederwaldDenkmal and with free time visiting the Christmas Markets. For a more active adventure, hike through the town’s beautiful vineyards or join a guided bike tour along the scenic Rhine River. Later in the day, let Siegfried’s Mechanical Instrument Cabinet charm you with its remarkable collection of self-playing musical instruments; or taste one of the town’s special delights, Rüdesheimer coffee, ceremoniously made with brandy, coffee and whipped cream. (B,L,D)

Day 5, LUDWIGSHAFEN, GERMANY. Ludwigshafen is your gateway to a choice of four excursions. Visit Heidelberg, the perfectly preserved medieval city nestled in the Neckar River Valley along Germany’s Castle Road. Discover the iconic red sandstone Heidelberg Castle and Great Vat, an 18th-century, 49,000-gallon wine cask. Here you can also enjoy visiting some of the festive Christmas Markets. For a more active adventure while in Heidelberg, join a guided hike up the Philosopher’s Path, aptly named during the Romantic Period, and enjoy panoramic views of the city. Alternatively, you can visit one of Germany’s oldest cities, Speyer, known for the largest Romanesque cathedral in Europe—a UNESCO World Heritage Site—and the medieval Old Gate, Altpörtel. In your free time, you might choose to visit the Christmas Markets or Technik Museum featuring exhibits of vintage cars, military aircraft and even a submarine! (B,L,D)

Day 6, STRASBOURG, FRANCE. Strasbourg offers flavors of both France and Germany because of its borderline location. Enjoy a short drive to the Place de la République before walking through its iconic “La Petite France” district, lifted straight from the pages of a fairytale. Wander through charming streets past the Cathédrale de Nôtre Dame with its famous astronomical clock. During the tour you will receive free time to visit the Christmas Markets. Alternatively, take a guided bike ride through the city and Parc de l’Orangerie. (B,L,D)

Day 7, BASEL, SWITZERLAND. Enjoy getting to know Basel, Switzerland's third largest city. Long an important university, banking and trade center, Basel's glorious past is still evident in its medieval town hall, richly decorated market square and exquisite 18th-century patrician homes. Tour the city by foot or on a guided bike tour that takes you through three countries: Switzerland, France and Germany. Alternatively, you may opt to visit Lucerne and its Christmas Markets with a full-day excursion. In the afternoon, for guests who have not chosen the full-day Lucerne excursion, visit a local winery to sample Swiss wines, tour Wildegg Castle, a fortress built by the Habsburgs in the early 13th century that features a 3,300 square meter garden, or embark on an exhilarating hike to the castle. (B,L,D)

Day 8, BASEL – DISEMBARKATION. Bid farewell to Basel as you prepare for your journey home. (B)

(B,L,D) – Indicates Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner are included on this day.

Itinerary is subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, please refer to the itinerary schedule provided with your final documents.