



**2026 SWISS ALPS & RHINE CASTLES – FESTIVE DELIGHTS
ATL**

7-NIGHT BASEL, SWITZERLAND TO AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS CRUISE

Discover fairytale castles overlaid with the winter holiday’s glow on this magical Rhine River cruise. Embark your ship in Basel before crossing the border into France’s Alsace region in enchanting Strasbourg. Then it’s off to Germany, where you’ll immerse yourself in the seasonal atmosphere of grand city such as Cologne as well as charming villages like the winemaking hamlet of Rudesheim and the university town of Heidelberg. Glide through the UNESCO-designated Rhine Gorge, where 40 castles are strung like Christmas lights along the riverbanks. Conclude your cruise by exploring the canal-laden city of Amsterdam, with its neat rows of buildings and rich history. Encompassing the Netherlands, Germany, France and Switzerland, as well as iconic landmarks and majestic mountain landscapes, this *Festive Delights* itinerary is truly a holiday wish come true.

Note: Select Christmas Markets will be open during select departures and may vary. For full details and dates, visit the tourism website for each city.

DAY	DESTINATION	YOUR ITINERARY
1	Basel	RIVER CRUISE EMBARKATION
2	Basel	“City of Art” tour OR Full-Day Lucerne excursion* OR “Three Countries” bike tour Wine tasting OR Swiss castle excursion OR Castle hike
3	Strasbourg	“The Gem of Alsace” tour OR Strasbourg bike tour
4	Ludwigshafen	“Romantic Heidelberg” excursion OR “Secrets of Speyer” tour OR Heidelberg Philosopher’s Path hike OR Ladenburg bike tour
	Rudesheim	Siegfried’s Mechanical Instrument Cabinet OR Rudesheimer coffee
5	Rudesheim	Gondola ride and wine tasting OR Vineyards hike OR Guided bike tour of the Rheingau

	Rhine Gorge	Castles along the Rhine scenic cruising
	Lahnstein	Exclusive Burg Lahneck Castle tour
6	Cologne	Cologne walking tour OR Cologne bike tour
7	Amsterdam	Canal cruise OR A Taste of Amsterdam**
8	Amsterdam	RIVER CRUISE DISEMBARKATION

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

***May be replaced with alternate tour based on docking location.*

Day 1, BASEL, SWITZERLAND – EMBARKATION. Embark your ship in Basel for your *Rhine Castles & Swiss Alps* cruise.

Day 2, BASEL – LUCERNE, 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, go on a full-day excursion to Lucerne to explore its medieval towers. In the afternoon, for guests who have not chosen the full-day Lucerne excursion, visit a local winery to sample Swiss wines, tour Wildegge 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 3, STRASBOURG, FRANCE. Strasbourg offers flavors of both France and Germany because of its borderline location. Enjoy walking through the 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. Alternatively, take a guided bike ride through the city and Parc de l’Orangerie. (B,L,D)

Day 4, LUDWIGSHAFEN, GERMANY – RÜDESHEIM, 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. 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. Or pedal along the river Neckar to the picturesque medieval city center of Ladenburg and enjoy some free time to explore the shops. Later in the day, cruise to the charming village of Rüdesheim and 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, RÜDESHEIM. Join a wine tasting to discover the flavors of the town’s iconic vineyards and drink up the stunning views by soaring high above the vineyards with a gondola ride to the Niederwalddenkmal. 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, cruise through the captivating UNESCO-designated Rhine Gorge, the most stunningly beautiful stretch of the river before reaching Lahnstein, where you will enjoy an exclusive evening visit at Burg Lahneck Castle. (B,L,D)

DAY 6, 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. End your city tour with a visit to a local tavern to taste its famous Kölsch beer. Active guests will want to join a guided bike ride along the Rhine and through the historic Stadtgarten. (B,L,D)

Day 7, AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS. There are 165 canals in Amsterdam, and you'll get to enjoy some of them on your canal cruise. Alternatively, get a taste of local flavor, passing iconic canals, gabled houses, narrow bridges and house boats while tasting Dutch specialties at one of Amsterdam's grand cafes. (B,L,D)

**Please note: A Taste of Amsterdam tour depends upon docking location and may be replaced with an alternate tour..*

Day 8, AMSTERDAM – DISEMBARKATION. Bid farewell to Amsterdam as you prepare for your return flight home.

(B,L,D) – 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.