



# THE RHINE RIVER CRUISE

## SWITZERLAND - FRANCE - GERMANY - THE NETHERLANDS

*ABOARD THE LUXURIOUS  
5 STAR "M/S AMADEUS SILVER III"  
9 DAYS/7 NIGHTS*



The iconic waterways of Europe are calling on this enchanting river cruise! Enjoy an exceptional voyage along "Old Father Rhine", one of Europe's most captivating waterways, from Basel, gateway to the Swiss Alps to Amsterdam at the North Sea. Join us as we travel through four of Europe's most picturesque countries – Switzerland, France, Germany and The Netherlands. Explore their magnificent cities including Strasbourg, Heidelberg, Cologne, Amsterdam and beyond. Take in their diverse landscapes and impressive waterways, featuring a cruise across The Netherlands' IJsselmeer and along the Lorelei stretch of the Rhine with its splendid wealth of mythological associations.



Aventura World is the Official Travel Partner of the  
Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives

# THE RHINE RIVER CRUISE

## SWITZERLAND, FRANCE, GERMANY AND HOLLAND

### 9 DAYS/7 NIGHTS

(7) Cruise - Basel to Amsterdam

#### CRUISE PROGRAM



#### THE RIVERBOAT

The Amadeus Silver III is the third vessel in the Amadeus Silver line offering continued success of its sister ships while implementing a new concept of modern elegance, spaciousness, and attractive comforts. Public areas include the classic "Café Vienna", outdoor glass-shielded "River Terrace", Amadeus Club, Panorama Deck, Sun Deck with Lido Bar, Fitness Room, Hair Salon and Massage Room. 12 luxurious suites feature walk-out balconies and 72 standard cabins are equipped with luxurious bathrooms and walk-in closets. Majority of the cabins have automatically lowerable panoramic windows, offering a spectacular view of the passing scenery. The restaurant seats all passengers in one sitting and the experienced chefs serve both regional and international cuisines with a focus on fresh, local ingredients. The elegant Amadeus Silver III combines the luxuries of a 5★ hotel with innovative design and the first-class service provided by its dedicated crew.



#### DESTINATION HIGHLIGHTS

Pack and unpack only once • Deluxe accommodations • Gourmet cuisine • Riverboat experience • Hillside castles & storybook villages • Spectacular scenery & lush vineyards • Grand cathedrals, historic cities & medieval towns • Rhine Gorge, a UNESCO World Heritage site • Dutch ingenuity • Picture-perfect German riverside towns • Vibrant Basel • Sophisticated & multicultural French town of Strasbourg • Idyllic Rudesheim, winemaking town • Siegfried's Music Museum • 2,000-year-old city of Koblenz • Cologne, jewel of the Rhine • World famous Cologne Cathedral • Picturesque town of Cochem • Wine tasting • Romantic city of Heidelberg • Charming Speyer • Beautiful city of Amsterdam & canal cruise • Van Gogh Museum • Anne Frank House

#### CRUISE FEATURES

- **ROUND TRIP AIR TRANSPORTATION** - Air transportation from New York
- **DELUXE ACCOMMODATIONS** - 7 nights on board the deluxe M/S Amadeus Silver III. All staterooms are equipped with private bathrooms, air-conditioning, direct-dial telephone, and color TV with satellite channels
- **SUPERB CUISINE** - Superb dining with all meals included during your cruise (buffet breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea, dinner, and midnight snacks), coffee, tea, wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch/dinner (including Welcome cocktail reception with dinner and Captain's gala dinner)
- **WELCOME RECEPTION** - Captain's Welcome Cocktail Reception
- **DAILY ENTERTAINMENT** - Daily performances on board featuring folklore programs, music performances, lectures, and theme dinners
- **GREAT PORTS OF CALL** - We cruise to the fascinating and historic towns and cities of Basel, Strasbourg, Speyer, Rudesheim, Mannheim, Koblenz, Cochem, Cologne, Hoorn, and Amsterdam (overnight stay)
- **SIGHTSEEING TOUR PROGRAM** - Enjoy a city tour of Strasbourg, Rudesheim (including Music Museum), excursion to Heidelberg, city walk of Cologne, Cochem (includes wine tasting), North Holland excursion and city tour of Amsterdam with a canal cruise. Optional tours are available
- **PROFESSIONAL CRUISE DIRECTOR** - Assistance of an experienced cruise director on board
- **PROFESSIONAL TOUR GUIDE** - Assistance of a professional local guide during transfers from airport/boat/airport
- **BAGGAGE HANDLING AND TRANSFERS** - Baggage handling for one piece of checked luggage outside of the airport to the boat
- **DELUXE MOTORCOACHES** - Touring by private deluxe air-conditioned motorcoach
- **PORT TAXES & FEES** - All ship's port taxes and fees

#### OPTIONAL AMSTERDAM EXTENSION TOUR FEATURES

- **FIRST-CLASS ACCOMMODATIONS** - Hotel accommodations for 2 nights
- **SUPERB CUISINE** - 2 included meals consisting of 2 buffet breakfasts
- **SIGHTSEEING TOUR PROGRAM** - Sightseeing, including local guide and all entrance fees as follows: City tour of Amsterdam including the Van Gogh Museum, the Anne Frank House, and Vondelpark
- **PROFESSIONAL TOUR DIRECTOR** - Assistance of a professional Tour Director for the entire length of the tour
- **DELUXE MOTORCOACHES** - Touring by private deluxe air-conditioned motorcoach
- **BAGGAGE HANDLING AND TRANSFERS** - Baggage handling for one piece of checked luggage outside of the airport



**Day 1 Depart USA** Depart the US for Basel, Switzerland. Meals and refreshments are served on board.

**Day 2 Arrive in Basel** Today you arrive in Basel, Switzerland, and after clearing customs and immigration, you will be met by your Aventura World tour representative. Upon arrival you will travel to your riverboat – this will be your floating vacation home for the next seven nights. Enjoy some leisure time to explore and get to know the 5\* vessel...stroll along the sun deck, relax with a treatment in the spa, visit the onboard hair salon or make new friends over a cocktail at the bar. This evening you will be treated to a Welcome Cocktail Reception before dinner. (D)

**Day 3 Strasbourg - City Tour** Today you arrive in Strasbourg, France, the ancient capital of Alsace and one of Europe's most well-known and beautiful cities. Enjoy breakfast and then take a guided tour of the city. You will see the European Parliament building and tour the inside of the vast and famous cathedral, which features carvings as delicate as lacework. The richness and sheer density of Strasbourg's historic buildings have led to the entire city center being adopted as a UNESCO World Heritage site. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure or take an optional excursion to the Alsace countryside to explore romantic wine villages. Visit the local winery and sample some of the best local wines. Explore the idyllic town of Obernai, one of the rare Alsace towns to have retained its traditional character and charm, with fortified towers, half-timbered houses, and narrow lanes. (B,L,D)

**Day 4 Speyer /Mannheim - Tour of Heidelberg** Enjoy a morning at leisure or take an optional walking tour of Speyer, an old imperial city on the Rhine with a rich and turbulent past. Religious architecture steeped in history, impressive facades of various styles, winding alleys and romantic squares characterize it. The guided walk includes a visit to the city's impressive and spiritual cathedral. Over lunchtime a short sail to Mannheim from where we take an afternoon excursion to one of Germany's most beautiful cities, Heidelberg. Towering over the town is Heidelberger Schloss, a magnificent red sandstone ruin that once protected the city. A walking tour of the Old Town conveys the spirit that once lured writers and artists: Mark Twain, Victor Hugo and Robert Schumann, among others. The town is home to the country's oldest university, founded in 1386. Our guided tour includes a special visit to the city's imposing castle, a red sandstone ruin overlooking the Neckar River. The tour continues with a stroll through the enchanting old town to Karl-Theodor Bridge with its



imposing two-tower bridge gate. Next, we visit the Holy Ghost Church of the Late-Gothic period as well as the town hall and the "Zum Ritter" Renaissance building. Return to the ship and sail for Rudesheim this evening. (B,L,D)

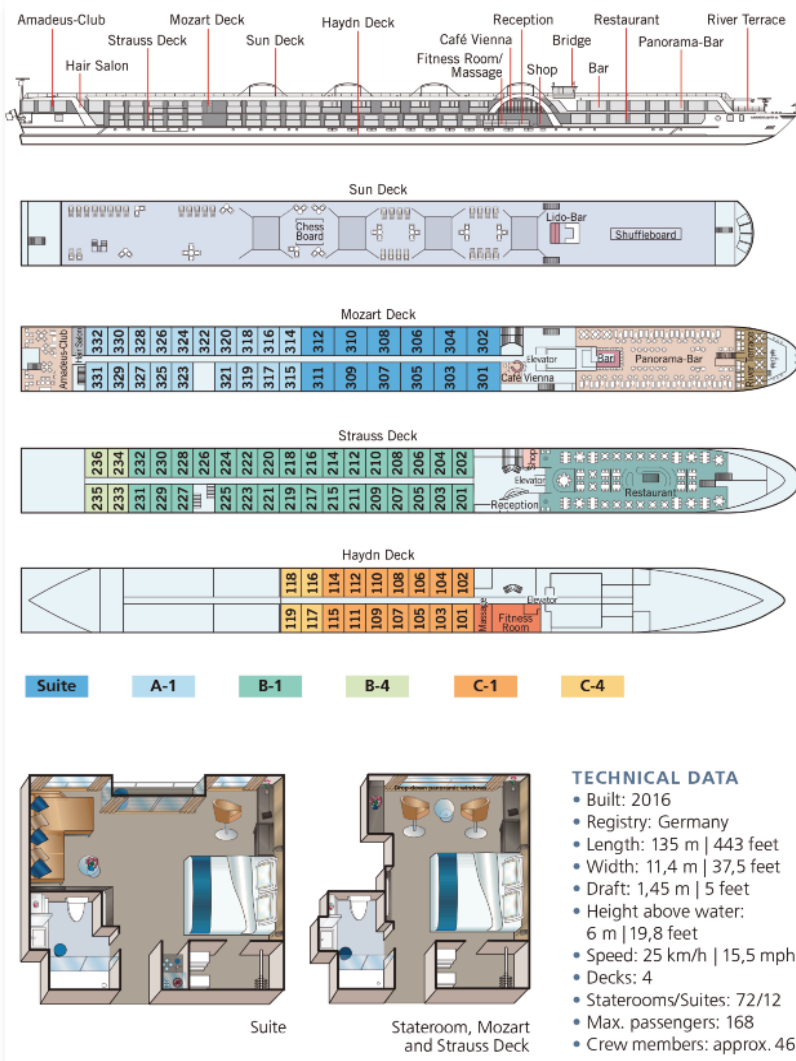
**Day 5 Rudesheim - City Walk/Koblenz** Spend the morning exploring the famed wine town of Rudesheim. Board the fun winemakers express passing the picturesque streets, alleys, and vineyards of Rudesheim to Siegfried's Mechanical Music Cabinet Museum, featuring beautiful automated instruments and pianos including one of the largest collections of mechanical music boxes, made from the 18th to the 20th centuries. Take some time to explore the town's long narrow street, the Drosselgasse, lined on both sides with wine taverns selling the local vintages. Over lunchtime enjoy a short cruise to Koblenz, one of Germany's oldest and most beautiful towns. Spend an afternoon at leisure or take an optional tour of Koblenz which will give you a chance to explore its historic highlights. Your insightful guide reveals the treasures of this town to you at every turn. From its old quarter that was rebuilt after suffering severe damage in WWII to the romantic streets between the Liebfrauenkirche (Church of Our Lady) and the St. Castor Basilica. From there, discover Emperor Wilhelm Memorial at the German Corner and the landmark Schaengel Fountain by the town hall. (B,L,D)

**Day 6 Cochem - City Walk with Wine Tasting** This blissful morning takes you on a scenic cruise along the Moselle River to Cochem, a quaint small town beckoning for you to explore on today's featured walking tour where you will take-in, among other sights, Reichsburg Castle, perched on a rock high above the town and Moselle Valley, dotted with vineyards and lush landscapes. Legend and folklore come to life as you make your way through its interwoven streets lined with charming cottages to reach the town square where half-timbered houses set the stage for discovering Cochem's beauty at its best. Today's dreamy adventure continues with a tasting of Moselle wines to close out this glorious day in Cochem. (B,L,D)

**Day 7 Cologne - City Walk** This morning is dedicated to the fascinating city of Cologne. Our ship will dock in a location that is within easy reach of the city center. Here, your city tour will take you to explore Cologne's most important sights, strolling along its quaint cobblestone corridors, and getting a true feel for daily life as you



# M/S Amadeus Silver III Deckplan



delve into the central old quarter. See the famous Cologne cathedral with its impressive spires that dominate the skyline situated in the splendid Roncalliplatz square, and discover the hay market and the old market. Board the ship again as we continue towards Amsterdam. Spend the afternoon on board and enjoy the breathtaking views as you sail towards Amsterdam. Tonight we will join together and celebrate at the included Captain's Gala dinner. B,L,D)

**Day 8 Hoorn - Holland Waterland/Amsterdam - City Tour with Canal Cruise** At midday, arrive at Hoorn for an overland excursion to the pretty little Dutch village of Volendam in the northern part of Holland. It was a major fishing port before the construction of the IJsselmeer dyke in 1932. Today the main street is lined with cafés and shops where many of the staff still wear traditional costumes, making for an authentic and exciting experience. Next, we head out to visit a local cheese farm and learn firsthand how acclaimed Dutch cheese is made. Later, a scenic bus ride takes you to Amsterdam for a city tour and canal cruise showing you some of Amsterdam's highlights from a local's perspective. With a knowledgeable private guide by your side, visit the "Dam," Amsterdam's central market square, dominated by the Royal Palace, as well as the famous Museum District. You will also see the Albert Cuyp Market, the beautiful buildings along the canal and the windmill on the Amstel.

This is followed by a one-hour boat trip on Amsterdam's famous canals, during which you will see many famous sights of Amsterdam from the water. Later in the afternoon rejoin your vessel in Amsterdam. (B,L,D)

**Day 9 Amsterdam to USA or extend your stay with an optional Amsterdam extension** After breakfast, you'll disembark in Amsterdam, Holland. Transfer to the airport for your flight home. (B)

## OPTIONAL AMSTERDAM EXTENSION

**Day 9 Amsterdam/City Tour** This morning you will have a walking tour showing you some of Amsterdam's highlights from a local's perspective. With a knowledgeable private guide by your side, learn about the city's tradition and see the Van Gogh Museum in the famous Museum District as well as the Anne Frank House and Vondelpark. The rest of the day is yours to discover Amsterdam's hidden treasures. You may choose to explore Museum Square, take a bike ride, or shop for colorful clogs and tulip bulbs. (B)

**Day 10 Amsterdam** This morning you can enjoy a full free day to experience Amsterdam. Shop for traditional Dutch gifts, wander Albert Cuyp, the largest street market in the Netherlands enjoy typical Dutch snacks. The day is yours. (B)

**Day 11 Amsterdam to USA** After breakfast transfer to the airport for your return flight home. (B)

(B) – Breakfast, (L) – Lunch, (D) – Dinner

Program, vessel and routing is subject to change.



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