

HOPS & HERITAGE: CRUISING THROUGH CENTURIES OF BREWING CRAFTSMANSHIP

BASEL TO AMSTERDAM – 8 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS



AMSTERDAM

This exciting Rhine River journey takes a fresh and fun look at one of Europe’s most popular beverages: beer! During this 8-day cruise, you’ll delve into the age-old histories and unique traditions of beer in Switzerland, France, Germany, and the Netherlands – as well as the future trends. Led by a seasoned beer sommelier, enjoy beer-focused talks, tastings, and pairings on board, as well as exclusive beer-focused dining events. On shore, visit local breweries, pubs, and establishments that highlight each port’s connection to beer over the centuries, including Amsterdam, which has been brewing its own form of “liquid bread” for 750 years!

ITINERARY

Day 1 – Basel	Day 5 – Cologne
Day 2 – Strasbourg	Day 6 – Arnhem
Day 3 – Speyer/ Mannheim	Day 7 – Amsterdam
Day 4 – Rudesheim/ Rhine Gorge	Day 8 – Amsterdam

DATES IN 2026

29 Jul



RIVERSIDE SIGNATURE EVENT

Further enhance your cruise with unforgettable experiences. As you cruise through the stunning scenery of Germany’s castle-filled Rhine Gorge, savor a 6-course, gourmet dinner where each course is paired with the perfect beer. Hosted by your onboard beer sommelier, you’ll learn when to contrast and when to complement a dish; which beers pair best with salads and desserts; which beers can be served as a palate cleanser; and more. Prost!



JAMES KELLOW

JAMES KELLOW – BEER SOMMELIER

Since 2013, James has shared his passion and expertise for beer through tastings, talks, and tours, guiding beer lovers through the complex world of hops, malts, and yeasts. As a seasoned beer sommelier, he is a proud member of the Guild of Beer Sommeliers and Guild of British Beer Writers, proving daily that beer is more than just a drink – it's a conversation, a journey, and a shared story.

DAY 1 – BASEL

Welcome to Basel on the Rhine, Switzerland's enthralling capital of culture. Embark the Riverside Debussy and relax as your personal Butler helps you settle into your luxurious Suite. Tonight, meet fellow shipmates during your first gourmet dinner on board.

DAY 2 – STRASBOURG

Arrive this morning in the unforgettable French city of Strasbourg, whose canal-laced historic center, the Grand Île (Grand Island), is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Join your beer sommelier, James Kellow, for a fun and fascinating beer-tasting walk through the Old Town. Along the way, hear how brewing became an official trade in Strasbourg in 1268, and how its Kronenbourg beer has been brewed here since 1664. Other activities? A relaxing canal cruise, exhilarating e-bike tour, or wine tasting in the medieval village of Obernai.

DAY 3 – SPEYER / MANNHEIM

First stop today is 2,000-year-old Speyer, one of Germany's oldest cities. Enjoy a guided walk and wine tasting in the Old Town; an enriching Jewish heritage tour; time at the Technology Museum; or even an outing to Heidelberg that rejoins the ship

at your next port. Return to the ship for lunch and a delightful cheese and beer pairing. In the afternoon, a stop in Mannheim features a fascinating tour through a local brewery, where centuries-old brewing traditions have been successfully merged with modern production techniques. Additional RIVERSIDE CHOICE excursions are also on offer – see the full list on our website.

DAY 4 – RÜDESHEIM / RHINE GORGE SCENIC CRUISING

Happy International Beer Day! With just a glance you'll see that you've entered one of the river's prettiest sections. Disembark in the atmospheric village of Rudesheim and join James for an exciting Breweries & Beer Gardens outing. Even though Rudesheim's reputation was built on wine, its beer scene is equally compelling, and you'll learn how the Rheingau region's brewing tradition is tied to its mining history, where miners favored robust beers that both refreshed and sustained them. Return to the ship for an afternoon of scenic cruising through the fabled Rhine Gorge, whose banks are adorned with one medieval castle after another – more than three dozen in total. Tonight is an exclusive RIVERSIDE SIGNATURE culinary experience as your beer sommelier hosts a 6-course beer-pairing dinner on board.



OLD TOWN STRASBOURG



COLOGNE SKYLINE

DAY 5 – COLOGNE

After-lunch arrival is in monumental Cologne, whose skyline is shaped by a dozen historical churches. The city's eternal legacy, though, stems from one in particular – its Gothic cathedral, the tallest twin-spired church in the world and home to the Shrine of the Three Magi. Make the most of your time here with a tour through the Old Town and cathedral visit; a palate-pleasing chocolate discovery; or a fun e-bike adventure. This afternoon, join James for a beer tour in charming local venues, featuring tastings of the city's famous Kölsch and other beer varieties.

DAY 6 – ARNHEM

While you slept, the ship crossed the border into the Netherlands, arriving after lunch in Arnhem, capital of the Gelderland province and site of the 1944 Battle of Arnhem. WWII enthusiasts are likely familiar with the John Frost Bridge (the infamous “Bridge Too Far”), as well as the Airborne Museum and Eusebius Church, all of which you can visit during our enriching RIVERSIDE CHOICE excursions. You can also embark on a fun guided walk with your beer sommelier that includes tours, tastings, and plenty of fascinating stories about Arnhem's rich beer history.

DAY 7 – AMSTERDAM

Your day begins with a glorious entrance into Amsterdam, a once tiny fishing village that grew into a major world port during the Dutch Golden Age. This is home to the Anne Frank House, Heineken Beer Experience, infamous “Red Light District”, and a vast maze of canals. Don't miss a final outing with your beer sommelier! As Amsterdam celebrates its 750th anniversary, you'll stroll with James through the Old Town to hear the city's beer story. Learn how beer helped shape the Dutch capital, and experience the brewing legacy for yourself during several thirst-quenching stops. Other excursions are available to the Rijksmuseum and Street Art & Graffiti Museum – plus, don't miss our beer-themed cruise along the romantic canals.

DAY 8 – AMSTERDAM

After breakfast, disembark your ship. For Riverside transfer details, see our website.



CANALS OF AMSTERDAM