

HOLLY HOLIDAY IN GERMANY, FRANCE & SWITZERLAND

DÜSSELDORF TO BASEL – 7 DAYS / 6 NIGHTS



FRANKFURT



Christmas can be a hectic time of year, but it's easy to keep the magic when you take a break aboard this exceptional Rhine cruise! Embark in Düsseldorf, home to a stunning rococo castle, and head to Koblenz, where the Rhine meets the Moselle in a “monumental” way. Explore Rudesheim and enjoy unmatched scenery as you cruise through the breathtaking Rhine Gorge. Additional stops in Mannheim and Speyer, Strasbourg in France, Basel in Switzerland, and other amazing cities provide great opportunities to experience some of Europe's famous Christmas Markets, where inviting wooden huts sell spirit-warming Glühwein and hand-crafted gift items! Add in the lively entertainment, gorgeous riverscapes, and traditional treats and this will be a Christmas to remember.

ITINERARY

Day 1 – Düsseldorf	Day 4 – Frankfurt
Day 2 – Koblenz	Day 5 – Mannheim/ Speyer
Day 3 – Rhine Gorge/ Rudesheim/ Mainz	Day 6 – Strasbourg
	Day 7 – Basel



DATES IN 2026

1 Dec, 13 Dec



UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE

UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE features an authentic destination experience that leaves an unforgettable impression. As you cruise through the scintillating beauty of the Rhine Valley, learn the secrets behind an authentic Rudesheimer Coffee! Watch a true expert concoct this world-famous beverage with flaming brandy, strong coffee, a dollop of thickly whipped cream, and other mouthwatering ingredients ... then, taste one yourself! You won't want to drink coffee any other way!

DAY 1 – DÜSSELDORF

Welcome to Düsseldorf, an international business and financial center ranked the sixth-most livable city in the world. Embark the luxurious Riverside Debussy and relax as your personal Butler helps you get settled in. Tonight, as your ship departs, meet fellow shipmates during your first gourmet dinner on board.

DAY 2 – KOBLENZ

A leisurely start to the day, followed by mid-day arrival in Koblenz, established as a Roman military post around 8 BC. A RIVERSIDE CHOICE selection of excursions offers a guided walk to the Deutsches Eck (German Corner) monument, where the Rhine and Moselle Rivers meet, or a visit to impressive Marksburg Castle. Your ship remains in port overnight, so feel free to spend time at the Koblenz Christmas Market after dinner. Against a backdrop of sparkling lights and aromas of roasted almonds, mulled wine, and gingerbread, browse the inviting artisan stalls and admire the Baroque Town Hall's colorfully lit windows that create an enormous Advent calendar!

DAY 3 – RHINE GORGE SCENIC CRUISING / RÜDESHEIM / MAINZ

The morning begins with scenic cruising through the Rhine Gorge, where dozens of medieval castles adorn both sides of the river. Don't miss our UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE Rüdesheimer Coffee demonstration and tasting. Before lunch, arrive in the cozy wine village of Rüdesheim, where the Winzerexpress train shows off the sights with commentary about the area's history and culture. Afterward, there's time to soak in the Christmas atmosphere along the Drosselgasse, a 15th-century cobblestone lane lined with Old World architecture. Consider warming yourself with a Rüdesheimer Coffee in the very place it was invented. Later, cruise on to Mainz, where an expert guide introduces you to the Old Town and one of Germany's most historic Christmas Markets. As you warm yourself with a hot mug of Glühwein, marvel at the massive wooden Christmas pyramid and Europe's largest hand-carved nativity scene!

DAY 4 – FRANKFURT

On today's agenda is Frankfurt am Main, Germany's inimitable "Mainhattan". With more than 300 global credit institutions, the European Central Bank, and Deutsche Börse, Frankfurt is a true hub of international finance. To get a true understanding of the city, wander through 700 years of art at the Städel Museum, or take a guided



LORELEY ROCK IN THE SCENIC RHINE GORGE

walk through the Old Town, including an ascent up the city's highest viewing platform and time at the Christmas Market, which dates back to 1393 and attracts 3 million visitors annually.

DAY 5 – MANNHEIM / SPEYER

First stop today is Mannheim, the City of Inventions! With a RIVERSIDE CHOICE selection of excursions, see Schwetzingen Palace, which was destroyed and rebuilt several times and today is a state-owned heritage site, or join an outing to Heidelberg, home to Germany's oldest university and legendary castle. Guests who visit Heidelberg will rejoin the ship at the next port; all others will return to the ship for lunch as it cruises on to 2,000-year-old Speyer. There, an Old Town walking tour features time at the Christmas Market for a merry mug of Glühwein! Other choices include an enriching Jewish heritage tour, or time at the fascinating Technology Museum.

DAY 6 – STRASBOURG

Bonjour! You've arrived in the unforgettable French city of Strasbourg. Enjoy a relaxing cruise along the atmospheric canals, get an inside look inside the beautiful cathedral, or visit medieval Obernai. Back on your ship later, enjoy a UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE onboard presentation about Glühwein, the region's popular hot mulled wine served at Christmas Markets far and wide. Sample three distinct varieties, accompanied by traditional Christmas treats.

DAY 7 – BASEL

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