

GERMAN CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS

DÜSSELDORF TO FRANKFURT – 4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS



MANNHEIM

Embark on a captivating journey during the Festive Season to experience the best of Germany's Christmas traditions. With Christkindlmarkts (Christmas Markets) in virtually every city, town, and village, this 4-day Rhine River cruise packs in a boatload of joyful experiences. Travel south from Düsseldorf, with stops in Koblenz, Rüdesheim, Mannheim, and Mainz. Savor the spirit-warming Glühwein (hot mulled wine) surrounded by Tannenbäume (Christmas trees) and cheery wooden stalls. You'll also have time to relax and marvel at a special gift from Mother Nature herself as you travel through the castle-filled Rhine Gorge – a passage you'll never forget. Bustling Frankfurt marks the endpoint of your jolly German adventure.

ITINERARY

Day 1 – Düsseldorf	Day 3 – Mannheim/ Mainz
Day 2 – Koblenz/ Rhine Gorge/ Rüdesheim	Day 4 – Frankfurt



DATES IN 2025

5 Dec, 17 Dec



UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE

UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE features an authentic destination experience that leaves an unforgettable impression. As you cruise through the Rhine Valley, watch an expert concoct an authentic Rüdesheimer Coffee with flaming brandy, strong coffee, a dollop of whipped cream, and other mouthwatering ingredients – then, taste one yourself!

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 you settle in – or, if you arrive early, join a guided Christmas foodie walk to taste some beloved Advent specialties. Tonight, as your ship departs Düsseldorf, meet your crew and fellow traveling companions during your first onboard dinner.

DAY 2 – KOBLENZ / RHINE GORGE SCENIC CRUISING / RÜDESHEIM

A leisurely start to the day with mid-morning arrival in Koblenz, established as a Roman military post around 8 BC. Here, you can join a RIVERSIDE CHOICE selection of excursions, like a guided walk to the Deutsches Eck (German Corner) monument, where the Rhine and Moselle Rivers meet, or a visit to impressive Marksburg Castle. Back on the ship for lunch and afternoon cruising into the Rhine Gorge, one of the river's prettiest sections. As your ship passes dozens of riverside castles, head up to the Vista Deck so you won't miss a thing. Also enjoy a UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE demonstration of how to make (and enjoy) a traditional Rudesheimer Coffee. Evening arrival in the wine village of Rüdesheim, where the Winzerexpress train will show you the sights



LORELEI



OLD TOWN, MAINZ

and provide commentary about the area's history and culture. Afterward, soak in the Christmas atmosphere along the narrow, cobblestone Drosselgasse, a 15th-century lane lined with Old World architecture. Consider warming yourself with a Rudesheimer Coffee in the very place it was invented!

DAY 3 – MANNHEIM / MAINZ

Two stops today, beginning in Mannheim, where the Rhine and Neckar Rivers meet. Join a RIVERSIDE CHOICE guided walk to hear about the city's unusual street layout, visit the massive Baroque palace (second only to Versailles in size), and head to the Christmas Market for good cheer and great food. Another option is an outing to stately, 14th-century Schwetzingen Palace, which over the centuries served as a fortress, hunting lodge, and summer palace! Later, enjoy a delicious lunch on board as you cruise to Mainz, where a months-long Carnival celebration occurs each year. With RIVERSIDE CHOICE, explore the charming Old Town – all decked-out for Christmas. During the guided tour, stops include the thousand-year-old Romanesque cathedral and one of Germany's most historic Christmas Markets. As you warm yourself with a hot mug of the local Glühwein, marvel at the 36-foot (11-meter) wooden Christmas pyramid and Europe's largest hand-carved nativity scene!

DAY 4 – FRANKFURT

After breakfast, disembark the Riverside Debussy and enjoy complimentary transfers to the airport, train station, or central hotel.