

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 Rüdesheim 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/ Rhine Gorge/ Rüdesheim	Day 5 – Mannheim/ Speyer
Day 3 – Mannheim/ Mainz	Day 6 – Strasbourg
	Day 7 – Basel



DATES IN 2025

5 Dec, 17 Dec



UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE

UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE features an authentic destination experience that leaves an unforgettable impression. In Germany, Christmas celebrations wouldn't be complete without Glühwein. Attend an onboard talk to learn about the beverage's long history and how recipes vary from city to city. Then, sample red, white, and rosé Glühwein, along with traditional Christmas Leckereien (goodies).

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 of the city's beloved Advent specialties. Tonight, meet your crew and fellow traveling companions at your first onboard dinner.

DAY 2 – KOBLENZ / RHINE GORGE SCENIC CRUISING / RÜDESHEIM

An easy start to the day is followed by mid-morning arrival in Koblenz, founded 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), where the Rhine and Moselle Rivers meet, or visit Marksburg Castle, one of the few castles along the Rhine that has never been destroyed. Head back to the ship for lunch and passage into one of the river's prettiest sections – the legendary Rhine Gorge. From atop the Vista Deck, you'll have unhindered views of the castle-dotted riverscape. Also enjoy a UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE Rüdesheimer Coffee-making demonstration, then try one yourself! Evening arrival in charming Rüdesheim, where the Winzerexpress train will transfer you to the jolly Christmas Market for shopping, holiday food specialties, and the chance to drink a Rüdesheimer Coffee in the very place it was invented!

DAY 3 – MANNHEIM / MAINZ

Discover the best of Mannheim today with RIVERSIDE CHOICE! How about a guided walk to hear about the city's unusual street layout, followed by a visit to the massive Baroque palace (second only to Versailles in size) and time at the Christmas Market for good cheer and great food. Another option is an outing to 14th-century Schwetzingen Palace. Later, a delicious lunch is served on board as you cruise to Mainz, where a months-long Carnival celebration occurs each year. With RIVERSIDE CHOICE, explore the beautifully decorated Old Town and stop at the thousand-year-old Romanesque cathedral and one of Germany's most historic Christmas Markets. As you warm yourself with a hot mug of Glühwein, admire the towering 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, you can wander through 700 years of art – including works by Monet, Picasso, and Rembrandt – at the Städel Museum, or take a guided 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

Your ship arrives back in Mannheim today for more time to explore this engaging "City of Inventions". You might like to join another RIVERSIDE CHOICE excursion (see options on Day 3). An outing is also available to Heidelberg with its 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, RIVERSIDE CHOICE offers an Old Town walking tour with a tasting of authentic German pretzels and time at the Christmas Market; a fascinating Jewish heritage tour; or time at the Speyer Technology Museum.

DAY 6 – STRASBOURG

Bonjour! A real treat today as you explore the French city of Strasbourg. Here, RIVERSIDE CHOICE offerings include a panoramic city tour and cruise along the atmospheric canals, a guided walk featuring the beautiful cathedral, or a trip to the unspoiled medieval village of 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 the Riverside Debussy and enjoy complimentary transfers to the airport, train station, or central hotel.