

RHINE CHRISTMAS INSPIRATION: FRANKFURT TO BASEL

FRANKFURT TO BASEL – 4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS



BASEL

The magic of Christmas in Central Europe awaits on this festive getaway along the Rhine. Board your luxury Riverside ship in Frankfurt, Europe's hub of finance and business. On to Mannheim, home to one of the largest palace complexes in the world; 2000-year-old Speyer, where many German emperors and kings were laid to rest; and charming Strasbourg, whose storybook Petite France district includes the most beautiful canals winding through a postcard-like setting. Enjoy the twinkling Christmas lights and cheery seasonal decorations at enchanting Christmas markets along the way – a great way to interact with the locals, shop for hand-crafted gifts, sample a variety of soul-warming Glühwein recipes, and indulge your tastebuds with delectable Advent treats. Your trip concludes in Basel, where Switzerland touches borders with neighboring Germany and France for a true melting pot of cultures and traditions!

ITINERARY

Day 1 – Frankfurt
DAY 2 – Mannheim/
Speyer
DAY 3 – Strasbourg
DAY 4 – Basel



DATES IN 2025

26 Nov, 8 Dec, 20 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 – FRANKFURT

Welcome to Frankfurt, known as Germany's "Mainhattan" for its international business and financial activity. Embark the luxurious Riverside Debussy and relax as you settle in. If you arrive early, join our guided tour of Frankfurt that includes an ascent up the Main Tower and time in the medieval Old Town, home to the iconic Römer Town Hall and bustling Frankfurt Christmas Market, which dates back to 1393 and attracts 3 million visitors annually. Tonight, meet your crew and fellow traveling companions during your first on-board dinner.

DAY 2 – MANNHEIM / SPEYER

First stop today is Mannheim, the City of Inventions where the Rhine and Neckar Rivers meet. 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, RIVERSIDE CHOICE offers an Old Town walking tour with a tasting of authentic German pretzels and time at



SPEYER CATHEDRAL & CHRISTMAS PYRAMID



STRASBOURG CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

the Christmas Market for a merry mug of Glühwein! Other choices include an enriching Jewish heritage tour, or a visit to the fascinating Speyer Technology Museum.

DAY 3 – STRASBOURG

A cheery "bonjour" as you arrive in the unforgettable 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 4 – BASEL

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