

SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM GERMANY, SWITZERLAND & FRANCE

FRANKFURT TO FRANKFURT – 7 DAYS / 6 NIGHTS



MANNHEIM

Christmastime in Germany is the main ingredient of this delightful holiday cruise...with a dash of Switzerland and France thrown in for good measure! Begin and end in Frankfurt, Europe's bustling financial hub that still maintains its Old-World charm – including a Christkindlmarkt (Christmas Market) dating back to 1393! Visit Mannheim, home to one of the largest palace complexes in the world, and 2000-year-old Speyer, where many German emperors and kings were laid to rest. Then, immerse yourself in the wonders of Basel, a fascinating cultural melting pot where Switzerland, France, and Germany meet, and Strasbourg, whose storybook Petite France district includes the most beautiful canals winding through a postcard-like setting. And all along the way, you'll have time for merrymaking with the locals at the Christmas Markets!

ITINERARY

Day 1 – Frankfurt	Day 5 – Kehl/ Strasbourg
Day 2 – Mannheim/ Speyer	Day 6 – Mannheim
Day 3 – Strasbourg	Day 7 – Frankfurt
Day 4 – Basel	



DATES IN 2025

26 Nov, 8 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, Germany's "Mainhattan" and center of international business and finance. Embark the luxurious Riverside Debussy and relax as you settle in. If you arrive early, join our guided tour featuring an ascent up the Main Tower and time in the medieval Old Town, home to the Römer Town Hall and bustling 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 brilliant 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 famous castle. Guests who visit Heidelberg will rejoin the ship at the next port; all others will return to the ship for lunch and cruise on to 2,000-year-old Speyer, burial site of kings and Holy Roman Emperors. There, RIVERSIDE CHOICE offers a guided stroll through the Old Town with a tasting of authentic German pretzels and time at the Christmas Market for a merry mug of Glühwein! A Jewish heritage tour is another possibility, or a visit to the outstanding Speyer Technology Museum.

DAY 3 – STRASBOURG

Bonjour! Today is in France's unforgettable 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,



GREAT CHRISTMAS TREE, STRASBOURG

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

Welcome to Basel, a cultural capital since the Renaissance and home to no fewer than 40 museums! Notable figures like Erasmus, Nietzsche, Carl Jung, and Hermann Hesse had ties to the city, which shares its borders with Germany and France. Your RIVERSIDE CHOICE options are equally tempting, and you may have trouble deciding! Consider a half-day tour of this spellbinding city, or travel to beautiful Lucerne for an orientation, cruise across the lake, and journey up Mount Pilatus aboard the cogwheel train!

DAY 5 – SCENIC CRUISING / KEHL / STRASBOURG

Enjoy an easy start to your day, with plenty of time to enjoy the ship's amenities. After lunch, your ship docks in the German city of Kehl, right across the river from Strasbourg. There, you can join another exciting RIVERSIDE CHOICE excursion, like a tour featuring the European Quarter, where the European Parliament, Council of Europe, and other international institutions are based, along with time at one of Europe's oldest Christkindelsmäriks (Christmas Markets). See how the French celebrate in this "Capitale de Noël" (Capital of Christmas) as you wander among hundreds of wooden huts selling crafts, gifts, and mouthwatering Advent delicacies. Don't miss the 98-foot (30-meter) Great Christmas Tree, one of the tallest decorated natural Christmas trees in Europe!

DAY 6 – MANNHEIM

In the late morning, return to Mannheim, where RIVERSIDE CHOICE presents options galore! Stay local, return to magnificent Speyer, or visit Heidelberg if you missed it the first time. Regardless of where you spend your day, you can't go wrong!

DAY 7 – FRANKFURT

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