Cruise Details

Name:	Berlin, Majestic Rhine & Glacier Express
Reference:	EMERALDESBZ130827-1B
Operator:	Emerald Cruises
Cruise Type:	River
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	Emerald Sun
Regions:	Rhine
Departs On:	13 Aug 27
Departs From:	Berlin
Arrives On:	26 Aug 27
Arrives At:	Zurich
Cruise Nights:	13
Total Vacation Days:	14

Itinerary

Day 1: Berlin (Germany)

Fly from the UK for the start of your cruise. Welcome to Berlin, the historic capital of Germany and steeped in momentous history. After being welcomed at the airport, you'll then be transferred to your centrally located hotel in Berlin, your home, for the next three nights. This evening, enjoy meeting your fellow guests and tour director for a convivial welcome drink.

Arrives On: 13 Aug 27

Day 2: Berlin (Germany)

Today, you'll have time to explore this intriguing German capital at leisure. Perhaps discovering the creative lifestyles of the Berlin residents and the vibrant arts scene, or savouring one of the many chic restaurants on offer throughout the city. Your tour director will be more than happy to help you plan your Berlin explorations during your stay. Included Excursion
Guided city tour of Berlin
You're invited to join a fascinating guided tour of Berlin, where you can discover for yourself how the city’s tangible history is evident along every street. Enjoy learning about the Berlin Cathedral and iconic Berlin Wall, a symbolic monument that represents how this city was once divided for nearly three decades and then reunited. DiscoverMORE
Tastes of Berlin (extra expense)
Delve into Berlin’s bold flavours on a tasting tour that celebrates the city’s culinary icons. Indulge in the sweet delight of a Berliner Pfannkuchen and savour the spicy kick of currywurst paired with tangy sauerkraut that showcases true German comfort food. All this is wonderfully complemented by a refreshing German beer - an authentic taste of Berlin’s vibrant food culture.
Activity Level: Easy, Duration: 1.5 hours

Arrives On: 14 Aug 27

Day 3: Berlin (Germany)

Today, you'll have the opportunity to explore Berlin at your own pace. You may wish to discover more of the historic architecture and modern landmarks found in numerous spots across the German capital. There are also several excellent museums worth visiting, including Berlin’s Museum Island. You could immerse yourself in the popular food markets in the city’s market halls, or browse the luxury shops along Kurfürstendamm, one of Berlin’s most famous avenues. DiscoverMORE
Guided tour of Potsdam (extra expense)
Step into the royal history of Potsdam with a visit to the magnificent Neues Palais, where grand halls, lavish interiors, and centuries of Prussian heritage bring the past to life—an unforgettable journey through one of Germany’s most stunning palaces.
Activity Level: Easy, Duration: 5 hours

Arrives On: 15 Aug 27

Day 4: Berlin (Germany)

This morning, after breakfast, you'll be transferred to the airport for your onward flight to Frankfurt. Upon arrival, you'll then be transferred to the luxurious surrounds of your Emerald Star-Ship in Mainz for the start of your exciting cruise. This evening, join your fellow guests for a welcome dinner on board.

Arrives On: 16 Aug 27

Day 4: Frankfurt (Germany)

Arrives On: 16 Aug 27

Day 4: Mainz (Germany)

Arrives On: 16 Aug 27

Day 5: Koblenz (Germany)

Your first port of call is Rüdesheim, a delightful small town and gateway to storied German wine culture and Rhine Valley history. A blend of medieval architecture and a lively, tourist-oriented atmosphere, Rüdesheim is celebrated for its fine wines, especially Riesling and Sekt (sparkling wine). Wine-making traditions here date back over a thousand years. Later, enjoy a Welcome Dinner on board your luxury Emerald Star-Ship with your fellow guests. EmeraldPLUS
Visit to Schloss Johannisberg Winery
This morning, you'll visit the historic Schloss Johannisberg Winery in the picturesque Rheingau wine region. Famous for its stunning vineyard views and centuries of Riesling production, the world's first Riesling winery comes steeped in history and is a must for wine lovers and those who appreciate quintessential vineyard scenery.

Arrives On: 17 Aug 27

Day 6: Koblenz (Germany)

Located at the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle rivers, Koblenz is one of the oldest cities in Germany, steeped in history and brimming with fascinating landmarks. It is also renowned for its World Heritage-listed landscapes and rich culture. Included Excursion
German beer garden experience
Experience the heart and soul of German hospitality with a visit to an authentic beer garden in Koblenz, where good company and freshly poured beer come together in a lively, relaxed atmosphere. Set beneath leafy trees or along the picturesque banks of the Rhine or Moselle, a local beer garden experience invites you to sip on local brews – like crisp Königsbacher or a smooth Bitburger – served in true German style. EmeraldACTIVE
Guided e-bike tour of Koblenz
If you're feeling active, join today's guided e-bike tour amid beautiful riverscapes beyond Koblenz. You'll leisurely cycle along the picturesque riverbanks. At certain spots along the way, your local guide will stop for a few minutes to provide fascinating insights into the area. DiscoverMORE
Eltz Castle Visit (extra expense)
Considered one of the most magical castles in Germany, Burg Eltz is perched on a rocky outcrop deep in a valley of the Eltz Forest. Unscathed by wars that have crumbled so many other castles in Germany, Burg Eltz is the epitome of a fairytale castle with eight towers and turrets. It has been under the ownership of the same family for over 850 years and contains many original furnishings and interiors to this day, including 15th-century murals. Inside the castle walls, you can visit the treasury and armoury, which exhibits nine centuries of artefacts.
Activity level: Moderate, Duration: 3.5 hours

Arrives On: 18 Aug 27

Day 7: Mannheim (Germany)

Mannheim is a lively university city along the Rhine, best known for its unique grid system, which is why it is often referred to as the ‘City of Squares’ (Quadratestadt). The city’s most famous landmark is the striking Baroque Mannheim Palace, one of the largest palaces in Europe. Included Excursion
Guided tour of Heidelberg
The enchanting UNESCO World Heritage City of Literature has inspired the likes of Mark Twain and famed British artist, William Turner. Today’s fascinating guided tour of the town will unveil its rich history, starting at the Renaissance ruins of Heidelberg Castle, where carefully curated gardens are still peppered with serene water features, sculptures and colourful flowerbeds. EmeraldACTIVE
Vineyards hike and wine tasting in Bad-Dürkheim
Visit the quaint wellness town of Bad-Dürkheim for an active hike through the beautiful vineyards. Afterwards, enjoy an orientation walk through town to visit the Fitz-Ritter Winery, which has been in the same family for nine generations. Here, enjoy a special wine tasting.

Arrives On: 19 Aug 27

Day 8: Rastatt (Germany)

Included Excursion
Guided walking tour of Baden-Baden
Whimsical Baden-Baden is a spa town that has been frequented by celebrities and royalty for centuries. Enjoy a guided walking tour of Baden-Baden, soaking in the nostalgic, elegant boutiques and timeless gardens. A historic Baroque town in Baden-Württemberg, located on the Murg River near the Black Forest, Rastatt is a former residence of the Margraves of Baden-Baden. It’s best known, however, for its 18th-century palace, the Favourite Palace, which hosted the 1714 Treaty of Rastatt, ending the War of the Spanish Succession. EmeraldPLUS
Evening Concert at Bruchsal Palace
Bruchsal Palace, also known as the Damiansburg, is a breathtaking Baroque Palace noted for its fine Rococo decoration. Made up of over 50 buildings, this impressive complex includes a three-winged residential building with an attached chapel, four pavilions separated by a road, some smaller utility buildings, and an impressive garden. This evening, in one of the palace’s most beautiful rooms, you’re invited to attend an exclusive private classical concert. DiscoverMORE
Entrance to the Casino (extra expense)
Step into a world of elegance and intrigue with a visit to the legendary Casino Baden-Baden, considered one of Europe’s most beautiful and historic gaming houses. With its gilded halls, crystal chandeliers, and ornate interiors inspired by French palaces, this 19th-century jewel has hosted royalty, artists and aristocrats for over 150 years.
Activity level: Easy, Duration: 1 hour DiscoverMORE
Baden-Baden spa experience (extra expense)
Escape to the heart of Germany’s Black Forest for a rejuvenating day at the world-renowned Baden-Baden spa. Famous for its healing thermal waters and elegant ambience, Baden-Baden offers an enchanting blend of wellness, history, and indulgence.
Activity level: Easy, Duration: 3 hours DiscoverMORE
Visit to Rastatt Palace & Gardens (extra expense)

Arrives On: 20 Aug 27

Day 9: Strasbourg (France)

Today, you'll arrive in Strasbourg, a city that promises much in the way of beautiful architecture. The World Heritage-listed Neustadt district is an iconic example of 19th-century German Imperial architecture. Strasbourg is also at the heart of the celebrated Alsace wine region. Included Excursion
Alsatian beer tasting
Discover the flavours of Alsace with a beer-tasting experience that blends French finesse and German brewing traditions. Sample distinctive local beers, from crisp lagers to aromatic ales, while learning about regional ingredients, brewing heritage, and the unique Alsatian beer culture.

Arrives On: 21 Aug 27

Day 10: Breisach (Germany)

Included Excursion
Guided tour of Colmar
Commence your magical morning with a tour of Colmar. As you walk down the quaint cobblestone lanes, it's easy to imagine the characters from the Grimm's Fairy Tales here, where half-timbered façades are adorned with window boxes full of colourful blooms. EmeraldACTIVE
Guided e-bike tour to Colmar
If you're feeling active, embark on a guided e-bike tour from the German town of Breisach to the French town of Colmar. DiscoverMORE
Guided tour of Freiburg with market tasting (extra expense)
Spectacular and historic Freiburg sits on the edge of the mountainous Black Forest. Founded in 1120, the city claims to be the sunniest in Germany. Life in this vibrant university city centres on the Altstadt's cobbled and arcaded Rathausplatz (City Square), lined with Gothic churches and civic buildings interspersed with buzzy cafés and bars. Enjoy a fascinating guided tour of the city and sample some local delicacies during a visit to a local market, such as Black Forest ham.
Activity level: Easy, Duration: 5 hours

Arrives On: 22 Aug 27

Day 11: Basel (Switzerland)

This morning, after breakfast, it's time to say farewell to your fellow guests and crew as you disembark your luxury Emerald Star-Ship in Basel (Huningue). From here, you'll be transferred by coach to Zermatt, stopping along the way in Montreux. Once you've arrived in Zermatt, settle into your centrally-located hotel for your included two-night stay. Later, enjoy a welcome drink with your Tour Director and fellow guests, setting the scene for the exciting days ahead.

Arrives On: 23 Aug 27

Day 11: Zermatt (Switzerland)

Arrives On: 23 Aug 27

Day 12: Zermatt (Switzerland)

Soak up the delightful sights of Zermatt on today’s included morning tour. Later, you may wish to join an optional Emerald DiscoverMORE excursion or continue exploring this charming alpine village at your own pace. Although best known as a world-famous ski resort, with a dramatic backdrop of the iconic Matterhorn and spectacular mountains, there is so much more to discover in Zermatt along its quaint and car-free streets. Your tour director will be more than happy to help you plan your explorations and answer any questions that may arise. Included Excursion
Guided city tour of Zermatt
Bask in the fresh mountain air and explore delightful Zermatt as you join today's included tour. As you delve into this celebrated ski resort village, your local guide will share captivating stories and insider knowledge that reveal Zermatt's rich history and unique character. From traditional chalets to sweeping alpine vistas, every corner of Zermatt reveals a postcard-worthy view. DiscoverMORE
Visit to Gornergrat Matterhorn (extra expense)
The Gornergrat is a viewing point platform, where today, you can enjoy unobstructed and spectacular views of the iconic Matterhorn mountain. To reach the Gornergrat, you’ll board the Gornergrat Bahn, the world's first fully electrified open-air cog railway. Today, you’ll ride a modern and eco-friendly version – considered Europe's highest – which transports passengers directly from Zermatt Station to the summit of the Gornergrat, 365 days a year.
Activity level: Easy, Duration: 2.5 hours

Arrives On: 24 Aug 27

Day 13: Zermatt (Switzerland)

After breakfast, board the incredible Glacier Express Train from Zermatt to the charming town of Chur. From here, you’ll enjoy a comfortable coach ride to Zurich.

The vibrant city of Zurich, Switzerland’s cosmopolitan capital, is renowned for its glimmering lake, charming Old Town streets and rich Swiss culture. Your day concludes with an included one-night stay in a centrally-located hotel in Zurich Included Excursion
Glacier Express 2nd class train from Zermatt to Chur
Embark from Zermatt on the world-famous Glacier Express Train for a panoramic journey to Chur. Along the way, you'll be treated to breathtaking views of Switzerland’s dramatic Alpine landscapes.

Arrives On: 25 Aug 27

Day 13: Zurich (Switzerland)

Arrives On: 25 Aug 27

Day 14: Zurich (Switzerland)

This morning, after breakfast, it’s time to bid farewell to your fellow guests and beautiful Zurich as you are transferred to the airport for your return flight to the UK, leaving with treasured memories of magnificent alpine landscapes and traditional Swiss delights. This itinerary is a guide only and may be amended for operational reasons such as high and low water. As such, the cruise may operate altered from that stated above. Please refer to our terms and conditions for further information.

Arrives On: 26 Aug 27

For more information on this cruise, please call +44 (0)1202 767926.

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