Cruise Details

Name:	Wines of the Rhine & Moselle
Reference:	EMERALDEWGM220728-1
Operator:	Emerald Cruises
Cruise Type:	River
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	Emerald Sun
Regions:	Rhine and Moselle
Departs On:	22 Jul 28
Departs From:	Mainz
Arrives On:	29 Jul 28
Arrives At:	Mainz
Cruise Nights:	7
Total Vacation Days:	8

Itinerary

Day 1: Mainz (Germany)

Welcome to Germany. Upon arrival, you'll be met at Frankfurt Airport and then transfer to your award-winning Emerald Star-Ship in Mainz. Here, you'll be welcomed on board by your friendly captain and crew. Later, enjoy dinner on board with your fellow guests. Please book your flight to arrive into Frankfurt prior to 03:30 PM.

Arrives On: 22 Jul 28

Day 2: Rüdesheim (Germany)

Your first port of call is Rüdesheim, a delightful small town that's the 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. EmeraldPLUS
Visit to Schloss Johannisberg

Winery
Savour a refined wine experience at Schloss Johannisberg, one of the Rheingau's most historic estates overlooking rolling vineyards and the Rhine. During a guided tasting, you'll sample a selection of the château's wines while learning about the region's winemaking traditions and the estate's pivotal role in Riesling history. With elegant surroundings and expert commentary, this experience offers a memorable connection to Germany's celebrated wine culture. EmeraldACTIVE
Hike to Niederwalddenkmal
Enjoy an active hike through verdant vineyards to the Niederwalddenkmal, a stunning monument located in the Niederwald, near Rüdesheim am Rhein, in the German state of Hesse. This historical landmark overlooks the scenic Rhine Valley and was built in the late 1800s to commemorate the Unification of Germany DiscoverMORE
Rüdesheim walk with specialty coffee (extra expense)
Take a ride on a mini train before sampling the specialty coffee of the region. Observe a traditional Rüdesheim coffee presentation followed by a tasting. This specialty coffee drink with Asbach is a delicious indulgence for wine lovers and coffee fans alike.
Activity level: Easy, Duration: 2 hours

Arrives On: 23 Jul 28

Day 3: Bernkastel-Kues (Germany)

Founded around 3,000 BC, the charming town of Bernkastel nestles along the banks of the Moselle River and is home to beautifully preserved buildings that date back to 1416 AD and a historic medieval Old Town. Nestled in the Moselle wine region, Bernkastel is another major centre for wine production, especially Riesling and is also well-known as a health resort and birthplace of the philosopher, Nikolaus von Kues. Included Excursion
Moselle vineyard hike with wine tasting Experience Bernkastel-Kues from a new perspective on a scenic vineyard hike above the Moselle. Starting in the charming old town, pass through the historic Marktplatz Bernkastel before ascending gently into the surrounding vineyards. Follow panoramic trails overlooking the river and steep slopes, including views toward the renowned Bernkasteler Doctor. EmeraldACTIVE
Guided hike to Landshut Ruins
Alternatively, join an active hike up to the Landshut Castle Ruins, majestically resting atop a rocky ledge, behind Bernkastel. In its current form, Landshut Castle dates back to the 13th century, though its origins are said to be even older. Join your local guide and learn about this fascinating history, as well as admire the magnificent views from the castle and hilltop. DiscoverMORE
Wine Experience in Bernkastell (extra expense)
Complement your included excursion today with an exclusive wine tasting on the fertile banks of the Moselle River – a wine-making paradise. Bernkastel's charming setting is an inspiring location to sample local wines while learning about wine growing stories of the region.

Arrives On: 24 Jul 28

Day 4: Trier (Germany)

Step into the rich wine heritage of Trier, where viticulture has flourished for over two millennia. Introduced by the Romans, wine became an essential part of daily life, trade, and culture—traces of which can still be seen today at sites such as the Porta Nigra. Today, this legacy lives on in every glass—where ancient techniques meet modern expertise. A wine experience in Trier is not just a tasting, but a journey through history, connecting Roman origins with the vibrant wine culture of the present. Included Excursion
Trier’s Wine Stories
During today’s guided tour, Discover the rich history of Trier, Germany's oldest city, on a guided tour through its remarkable Roman heritage and charming old town. Stroll past iconic landmarks, including the Porta Nigra, the Cathedral, and the Main Market Square, while learning about over 2,000 years of fascinating history. The tour concludes with a visit to Germany's oldest wine cellar, where you'll experience the region's long-standing winemaking tradition and enjoy the unique atmosphere of this historic underground treasure. DiscoverMORE
Guided tour of Luxembourg (extra expense)
Enjoy a fascinating guided tour of nearby Luxembourg. Bordered by Belgium, France, and Germany, this small, landlocked country is the world's only remaining Grand Duchy. Resting on the crossroads of Germanic and Latin traditions, Luxembourg is known for its rich history, beautiful castles, delicious local cuisine and viticulture. The capital, Luxembourg City, is home to known for its World Heritage-listed historic Old Town and fortifications, as well as modern-day European Union institutions.
Activity level: Moderate, Duration: 3 hours

Arrives On: 25 Jul 28

Day 5: Cochem (Germany)

Welcome to Cochem, a delightful town in Germany’s Moselle Valley, known as the ‘Pearl of Moselle’ and celebrated for its wine industry, particularly Riesling wines. As well as brimming with many local vineyards and wineries, Cochem also delights with its well- preserved Old Town, striking medieval architecture and half-timbered houses, along with beautiful river scenery. EmeraldPLUS
Tastes of Moselle
Experience the flavours of the Moselle with a delightful journey through Cochem. This relaxed tour invites you to discover regional specialties, including a visit to the historic Cochem Mustard Mill, where artisanal mustard is still crafted using time-honoured methods. Continue with a stop at a local bakery to sample freshly baked treats, offering a taste of everyday Moselle life. The experience concludes with a refreshing stop at a local brewery while taking in the charming surroundings. A perfect blend of tradition, flavour, and local culture—this tour offers a true taste of the Moselle. EmeraldACTIVE
Guided e-bike tour around Cochem
Alternatively, if you feel more active, join a guided e-bike tour around Cochem, cycling through picturesque landscapes, verdant vineyards, and charming riverside pathways that reveal the breathtaking natural beauty of this

region. DiscoverMORE
Wines of the Moselle (extra expense)
Following your included morning tour, you’re invited to a family-run winery for a tasting of the local wines, while admiring the beautiful views of Cochem and the Moselle River. During your visit, you’ll learn about the esteemed viticulture of the region and what inspired many generations of wine-makers.
Activity level: Moderate Duration: 1.5 hours DiscoverMORE
Grand-Prix backstage experience (extra expense)
Step behind the scenes of the legendary “Green Hell” and uncover fascinating trivia and entertaining stories from more than 95 years of racing history. During guided experience, you’ll explore the historic paddock, the start & finish building, and the Media Centre. The highlight: an exclusive rooftop view from the pit building, offering a breathtaking panorama of the Grand Prix Track. Go beyond the grandstands and become a true Nürburgring insider.
Activity level: Moderate, Duration: 3 hours

Arrives On: 26 Jul 28

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’s also renowned for its World Heritage-listed landscapes and rich culture. Included Excursion
Walking tour with traditional wine tavern visit
Discover the charm of Koblenz on a relaxed walking tour through its historic old town, where narrow streets, lively squares, and centuries of history meet at the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle rivers. Stroll past highlights of the city’s heritage before ending your experience in a traditional wine tavern, where you’ll enjoy a glass of regional wine in a warm, authentic atmosphere. Surrounded by local character and Rhine wine culture, this is the perfect way to experience Koblenz at a slower, more flavourful pace. EmeraldACTIVE
Guided e-bike tour in Koblenz
Alternatively, if you’re feeling active, join today’s guided e-bike tour amid beautiful riverscapes beyond Koblenz. After crossing the Rhine River twice on different bridges, 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 insight into the area. DiscoverMORE
Visit to Marksburg Castle (extra expense)
Soaring above the town of Braubach, magnificent Marksburg Castle ranks as one of the principal sites of the World Heritage-listed Rhine Gorge. Regarded as the oldest intact castle on the Rhine River, you’ll discover this strikingly designed castle is wonderfully maintained inside and out. Explore within a series of typical interiors that include the castle kitchen, knight's hall, armoury and even an impressive wine cellar. The castle’s light-stone walls come protected by an outer fortress, with a single tower peering over the turrets and walls – resembling something out of the pages of a Brothers Grimm fairy tale.
Activity level: Difficult/Active, Duration: 3 hours

Arrives On: 27 Jul 28

Day 7: Mainz (Germany)

Welcome to Mainz, a city that impresses with its stunning Old Town, home to a central sandstone cathedral, medieval market squares and well-preserved, half-timbered houses. The town is well-known as the birthplace of Johannes Gutenberg, who invented the first printing press and manufactured his first books in the 15th century, including the Gutenberg Bible, revolutionising the way books were produced in this period. Included Excursion
Eberbach Abbey with wine tasting
Visit Eberbach Abbey, one of the best-preserved medieval monasteries in the Rheingau Region and regarded as one of Europe’s most important monasteries. Founded in 1136 by St. Bernard of Clairvaux, this was once one of the most active monasteries in Germany, boasting the nation’s largest medieval vineyard. As a key filming location for the 1986 film, 'In the Name of the Rose' (adapted from Umberto Eco's thrilling novel), Eberbach is a must-see. Today, the abbey continues its winemaking tradition, producing exquisite wines. During your visit, enjoy a Riesling wine tasting, savouring the region’s vibrant flavours. DiscoverMORE
Visit to Eberbach Abbey & wine tasting (extra expense)
Founded in 1136 by St. Bernard of Clairvaux, Eberbach Abbey is one of the best-preserved medieval monasteries in the Rheingau and is home to the largest medieval vineyard in Germany. During your visit, you can indulge in a riesling wine tasting, experiencing the vibrant flavours of the region.
Activity level: Easy, Duration: 3 hours DiscoverMORE
Gutenberg Museum visit & workshop (extra expense)
Gutenberg Museum, located at the heart of the Old Town, is one of the world’s oldest museums dedicated to the history of books and the printed word. On your guided tour, you’ll gain an in-depth look into the fascinating world of the printing press invented by Johannes Gutenberg in Mainz in the 15th century. The museum's precious collection includes two original Gutenberg Bibles that date back to the middle of the 15th century, widely regarded as some of the finest books of all time. You’ll also visit a workshop that offers hourly demonstrations revealing what the printing process would have been like in Gutenberg's day.
Activity level: Moderate, Duration: 3 hours

Arrives On: 28 Jul 28

Day 8: Mainz (Germany)

This morning, after breakfast, it’s time to bid farewell to your fellow guests and disembark your Star-Ship for your transfer to Frankfurt airport, leaving with cherished memories of the wondrous treasures of the Rhine and Moselle. 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. Please note: Preview itinerary subject to change.

Arrives On: 29 Jul 28

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

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