Cruise Details

Name:	A Taste of the Rhine – A Wine Cruise
Reference:	SCENICAMBS110827-1V
Operator:	Scenic River Cruises
Cruise Type:	River
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	Scenic Ruby
Regions:	Rhine
Departs On:	11 Aug 27
Departs From:	Amsterdam
Arrives On:	18 Aug 27
Arrives At:	Basel
Cruise Nights:	7
Total Vacation Days:	8

Itinerary

Day 1: Amsterdam (Netherlands)

Fly from a choice of up to 6 UK airports for the start of your cruise.Welcome to Amsterdam and the start of your European journey. Getting lost in its labyrinth of narrow laneways and canals lined with beautifully preserved 17th century buildings and charming cafés is one of the great ways to spend a day.

Board your 5-star Scenic Space-Ship this afternoon, meet your fellow guests and raise a glass to the start of a fascinating journey into wine ahead of you at this evening’s welcome reception.

Arrives On: 11 Aug 27

Day 2: Amsterdam (Netherlands)

The capital of The Netherlands is a unique blend of history and art. From its ancient canals lined with gabled houses to its sprawling art museums; see the iconic works reimagined at the Fabriques des Lumieres, explore cobbled laneways on foot or join the locals on

bicycles outside of the city. Scenic Freechoice:
Discover more of the city on one of these excursions:

Excursion to Schermerhorn & Alkmaar: Windmills are an iconic feature of Dutch culture, Explore these outside the city, passing by the sweeping countryside landscape and explore the nearby villages of Schermerhorn, home to a number of windmills dating back to the 16th century, and Alkmaar on this excursion only with Scenic.

Walking tour of Amsterdam: Explore Amsterdam on foot, discovering the maze of canals and bridges in the city centre. Your guide will be covering history, modern lifestyle and Dutch culture. You also get to taste herring, a local delicacy not to be missed.

Fabrique des Lumières: Art springs to life in this impressive digital art installation, the largest in the Netherlands. Located in a former 19th-century gas works, pieces from renowned artists are projected onto the 17-metre-high walls, accompanied by music to create an immersive ambience.

Cycling tour: Amsterdam is known as the bicycle capital of the world. Take a small ferry to the outskirts of town for a biking tour. Your local guide will be on hand to offer information about everyday life of the Dutch people, many of whom you will see getting around on two wheels.

Arrives On: 12 Aug 27

Day 3: Cologne (Germany)

After cruising overnight, arrive in the 2,000-year-old city of Cologne this afternoon. The twin spires of its famous cathedral dominate the skyline – the largest cathedral in Germany it was one of the few sites in the city to survive the extensive bombing of World War II. You will set out on a walking tour to explore the Old Town (which was faithfully rebuilt after it was destroyed during the war), then enjoy some free time to discover the city with a late departure.

Arrives On: 13 Aug 27

Day 4: Rüdesheim (Germany)

Relax on board this morning as you cruise through the spectacular Rhine Gorge, a 65-kilometre stretch of the Upper Rhine Valley that has been given World Heritage status. Take in the dramatic landscapes, terraced vineyards and 40 hilltop castles and fortresses that span a period of 1,000 years. Look out for the Lorelei statue, dedicated to the tragic legend of a beautiful maiden.

Rüdesheim is a celebrated wine region nestled in Germany’s Rhine Valley, renowned for producing exquisite Rieslings. The area combines centuries-old winemaking traditions with stunning river views, making it a favorite destination for wine lovers seeking both exceptional flavors and countryside charm. Scenic Freechoice:
Choose to explore your way with this afternoon’s Scenic Freechoice:

Hike and Cable Car: A local guide will take you on an active hike through the rolling vineyards of Rüdesheim where you will marvel at the spectacular views of the countryside and Rhine River below. Your journey starts with a cable car ride up to the Niederwald Monument and the return leg is on foot.

/>Schloss Johannisberg - the birthplace of Riesling: Walk through history at Schloss Johannisberg. The estate boasts a wine growing history dating back over 1200 years and is famed as the birthplace of one of the oldest and noblest grape varieties in the world - Riesling. Learn about its history while you explore the beautiful property awarded second on the 2025 World's Best Vineyards list and taste exceptional local wines.

Siegfried's Musikkabinett Museum: A mini train is the ideal way to arrive at this quirky museum, where a local guide will introduce you to its weird and wonderful mechanical musical instruments. Afterwards, explore the surrounding streets on your own or take the cable car up to the Niederwald Monument.

Arrives On: 14 Aug 27

Day 5: Mannheim (Germany)

Arrive in Mannheim this morning. A large metropolitan centre, Mannheim still runs along its recognisable 18th-century grid pattern and is known for its grand Baroque squares, fountains and palace. It is also the gateway to the Pfalz (Palatinate) wine region, the second largest in Germany. It's Germany's sunniest wine region, making for some of the country's best Riesling. Your Scenic Freechoice excursions can take you into the town of Bad Durkheim in the Pfalz region to learn more. Scenic Freechoice:
Choose between these immersive Scenic Freechoice experiences today:

The essence of Riesling – Bad Durkheim: It's just a short drive through stunning vine-covered landscapes to Bad Durkheim. Visit the renowned property of Fritz Ritter, a ninth-generation family-owned vineyard that offers exceptional quality wine. Be guided around the vineyard before enjoying a tasting. (Note: a good degree of fitness is required.)

Orientation Tour of Heidelberg with free time: On the southwestern edge of Mannheim is Heidelberg, a town with Roman roots, one of the oldest universities in the world and the centre of the 18th century German romantic movement. Join a brief walking tour then enjoy time at leisure. (Note: the walk is not too strenuous but there are some stairs and uneven ground.)

Historical tour of Heidelberg: Learn more about the rich history of Heidelberg on this guided tour that takes you to Heidelberg Castle, one of the most important Renaissance structures north of the Alps. Then explore the town and enjoy some free time. (Note: the walk is not too strenuous but there are some stairs and uneven ground.) This afternoon a local wine expert will join you on board for an engaging lecture on viticulture accompanied by a tasting of regional wines.

Arrive in Rastatt this evening to be whisked away to a magical concert in a magnificent castle.

Arrives On: 15 Aug 27

Day 5: Rastatt (Germany)

Arrives On: 15 Aug 27

Day 6: Strasbourg (France)

The capital of the Alsace wine region is a captivating blend of France and Germany. It has a Gothic cathedral and an Old Town surrounded by a river, with sherbert-coloured, half-timbered houses bordering a complex network of canals. Strasbourg proudly wears its Medieval past while looking firmly towards the future and is known for its youthful energy and infectious spirit. Scenic Freechoice:
Choose from these Scenic Freechoice experiences today:

Vines and villages of the Alsace: The French Alsace region is a culturally diverse wine-growing area, sharing its border with Germany and Switzerland. Visit one of the region's most famous wine growing villages to do a tasting at a local wine cellar before exploring the neighbouring town of Obernai.

Walking tour of Strasbourg: Located on the border of France and Germany, Strasbourg has been influenced by both cultures. See the city's most important sites on foot, like the cathedral, Petit France and the Grand Ile as you learn how the two nations shaped this unique city. A late departure gives you plenty of time to explore.

Arrives On: 16 Aug 27

Day 7: Breisach (Germany)

There's lots of reasons Breisach is a must-visit food and wine destination. Not only does it share a border with the Alsace region, it's also located between the Rhine River and the legendary Black Forest. The town was meticulously rebuilt after World War II, complete with its traditional cobbled streets and pastel houses. Scenic Freechoice:
Explore the region with your choice of one of these Scenic Freechoice excursions:

Guided tour of Colmar: A walking tour of the cultural centre of the Alsace shows off Colmar's confluence of French and German architecture, lifestyle, and culture. A highlight of the tour is tasting a slice of the famed Kugelhopf cake at a local bistro.

Guided tour of Freiburg with tasting: It's location right on the edge of the Black Forest makes Freiburg a magical place to visit. Enjoy a guided walking tour through the lively Medieval town and sample delicious Black Forest cake.

The vines and wine of the Kaiserstuhl region: Thanks to numerous volcanic eruptions over 16 million years ago, the volcanic soil of the Kaiserstuhl produces excellent grapes. Which make even better wines. Sample them for yourself and taste the difference.

Walking tour of Breisach with wine tasting: Discover the charm of this Upper Rhine gem on a leisurely guided walk through its picturesque old town where pastel façades, cobbled lanes and centuries of history come to life beneath the hilltop cathedral of St. Stephansmünster. Then indulge in a tasting of delicious local sparkling wine. Return to your Scenic Space-Ship and toast to your final evening on board.

Arrives On: 17 Aug 27

Day 8: Basel (Switzerland)

Your cruise finishes this morning in Basel (Huningue). Savour one final breakfast on board before you disembark, taking with you a lifetime of memories of the wonders and wines of the Rhine.Transfer to the airport for your return flight to the UK. Please book your flight to depart out of Basel after 10:00 AM. Due to new restrictions on cruise ships at Amsterdam’s city docks, your cruise is now likely to embark and/or disembark at a port outside central Amsterdam. If your ship does not have a central Amsterdam docking, Scenic will provide a central Amsterdam meeting point and transfers to your ship as required. These changes are required by local authorities and are in line with our booking terms which allow changes to berthing or dock locations and ports where operationally necessary. You will be advised of the confirmed docking location prior to departure. 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.

Arrives On: 18 Aug 27

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

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