



## Cruise Details

Name:	Charming Castles & Vineyards of the Rhine & Moselle
Reference:	SCENICGSMB300926-2
Operator:	Scenic River Cruises
Cruise Type:	River
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	Scenic Ruby
Regions:	Rhine and Moselle
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Departs On:	30 Sep 26
Departs From:	Basel
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Arrives On:	07 Oct 26
Arrives At:	Mainz
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Cruise Nights:	7
Total Vacation Days:	8

## Itinerary

### Day 1: Basel (Switzerland)

Welcome to Basel, widely known as the 'cultural capital' of Switzerland, where the crew of your Scenic Space-Ship will warmly greet you. Raise your glass to the marvellous cruise ahead of you at this evening's welcome reception.

Please book your flight to arrive into Basel prior to 03:00 PM.

Arrives On: 30 Sep 26

### Day 2: Breisach (Germany)

We will arrive in Breisach this morning. Located between the Rhine River and the Black Forest, Breisach is a food and wine destination that shares its border with the Alsace region. It was almost destroyed during World War II but was meticulously rebuilt with its traditional cobbled streets and pastel houses.

**Freechoice:** Choose from a wonderful selection of Scenic Freechoice experiences: Excursion to Colmar:

Take an excursion over the French border to the colourful town of Colmar, a unique Alsatian town that is often referred to as 'Little Venice' for its network of canals and bridges, originally used by fishermen and market gardeners. These quaint waterways are lined with half-timbered houses in an array of pastel colours, and its town centre is charming with cobblestoned streets and traditional architecture.

Wine tasting at Kaiserstuhl: Volcanic rocks make up a large part of the central and western Kaiserstuhl region thanks to numerous volcanic eruptions more than 16 million years ago. Because of its loose covered volcanic soils, the Kaiserstuhl is known as a very good wine-producing region. During your visit, sample some of these delicious drops.

Excursion to Freiburg: Located on the edge of the Black Forest, Freiburg is a picturesque city. Enjoy a guided walking tour through the lively medieval town centre to see the Freiburg Minster, a 13th century cathedral that was one of few in Germany to survive WWII bombings.

Chateau du Haut-Koenigsbourg: Sitting on a hilltop in the Alsace region of France, this 'royal castle' was constructed in the 12th century but was burnt down during the Thirty Years War in the 1600s. Left for 200 years in ruins, the castle was restored in the early 20th century and was classified as an historical monument. Visiting the castle will feel like stepping back to the Middle Ages.

Arrives On: 01 Oct 26

### Day 3: Rastatt (Germany)

Today your Space-Ship will dock in Rastatt, your base for today's explorations. Set on the northern edge of the Black Forest region, it has a well-preserved Baroque centre and a vibrant modern arts and theatre scene. After a morning luxuriating on board your Scenic Space-Ship, set off on an afternoon of sightseeing.

**Freechoice:**

Decide how you want to spend your day with these Scenic Freechoice options.

Excursion to Baden Baden: This luxurious town was a favoured summer escape during the Belle Epoque and is World Heritage-listed as part of the Great Spa Towns of Europe. It oozes relaxation, features tranquil green spaces, picturesque public gardens and grand historical architecture. Enjoy a walking tour, taking in the opulence of the town, including its famous casino and the remains of Roman baths.

Visit Schloss Favorite: This grand palace was originally built as a hunting lodge and summer palace for Margravine Sibylla Augusta, who ruled Baden-Baden in the early 18th century after her husband Louis William, Margrave of Baden-Baden, died of a war injury. The palace was only used for several weeks each year, and houses a large collection of fine porcelain. It is the oldest of the German 'porcelain palaces' and the last still intact.

Walking tour of Strasbourg: Enjoy a guided walking tour of the charming town of Strasbourg, seeing many of the most important sights of the city including the Cathedral, Petit France, the Grand Ile, and its many half-timbered houses and beautiful canals. Strasbourg is located on the border of France and Germany and ownership of the town has changed hands many times between the two countries. Due to this, Strasbourg is a unique mixture of both French and German architecture and culture. Drive to Strasbourg passing by many notable sites including the European Parliament. Please note:

this is an active walk.

Arrives On: 02 Oct 26

#### Day 4: Rudesheim (Germany)

Your Scenic Space-Ship will dock in the charming town of Rudesheim this morning. Surrounded by steep vineyards that have been cultivating wine for a staggering two millennia, Rudesheim is filled with half-timbered houses lining cobbled streets, quaint shops selling trinkets such as traditional Christmas ornaments and cuckoo clocks, as well as a smattering of wine taverns and open-air beer gardens.

**Freechoice:** Explore Rudesheim your way with your choice from today's Scenic Freechoice options.

**Siegfried's Musikkabinett Museum:** From the pier, take a mini train through the quaint winding streets of Rudesheim to Siegfried's Musikkabinett Museum where a local guide will introduce you to the weird and wonderful mechanical musical instruments. Afterwards, enjoy free time to wander around town or take the cable car up to the Niederwald Monument, where you'll have breathtaking views over the river. This 17th century statue was built to commemorate the unification of Germany.

**Hike & Cable Car:** Join a local guide for a hike through the rolling vineyards of Rudesheim, a wine region famous for its Riesling, and enjoy spectacular views of the countryside and Rhine below. After your hike, board the cable car to return to town.

Arrives On: 03 Oct 26

#### Day 5: Cochem (Germany)

You'll arrive in Cochem this morning. A historic gem resting on the banks of the Moselle River, Cochem appears straight out of a medieval romance. The traditional town is nestled on the riverbanks, with pastel-coloured buildings, half-timbered houses, cobbled laneways and an enchanting medieval hilltop castle surrounded by sloped vineyards.

**Freechoice:** Experience Cochem on foot or by bike with your choice from today's Scenic Freechoice experiences:

**Walking tour of Cochem:** Take a short transfer to Reichsburg Castle, which dates to the Middle Ages. Enjoy a guided tour of the castle, which features a knight's hall, trophy room and cellars, before wandering down to the Old Town, seeing many historic buildings along the way.

**Cycling tour of Cochem:** Join a local guide and hop on one e-bike to explore the town of Cochem and the surrounding region. See the impressive Reichsburg Castle towering above the city and ride through winding streets past half-timbered houses.

Return to your luxurious Scenic Space-Ship this afternoon and relax with a regional wine or beer in the Panorama Lounge & Bar as you cruise along the Moselle. If you feel like really winding down, head to the Wellness Centre for a relaxing massage.

Arrives On: 04 Oct 26

## Day 6: Bernkastel-Kues (Germany)

Your Scenic Space-Ship will dock in Bernkastel today. A wonderfully preserved riverside town, Bernkastel is home to an atmospheric market square with buildings that date to the 13th century. You'll find one of the world's most famous Riesling vineyards, Bernkasteler Doctor, and the ruins of Landshut Castle, where archaeological remains from the 4th and 5th centuries were discovered in 2012.

**Freechoice:** Elevate your Bernkastel visit with your choice of the following Scenic Freechoice experiences:

- Walking Tour of Bernkastel: Your expert local guide will explain the local architecture and culture of Bernkastel, and you'll also have some time to discover the town on your own. Highlights include perfectly preserved half-timbered houses and the Renaissance-style Rathaus (Town Hall).
- Wine tasting along the Moselle: The fertile banks of the Moselle River are home to a plethora of vineyards. Learn about the varieties grown here on a tour where you'll sample some of the delicious drops, including Riesling, for which the region is best known.

Arrives On: 05 Oct 26

## Day 7: Koblenz (Germany)

Perhaps enjoy a leisurely morning starting with coffee in your suite, delivered by your personal butler, as you start your day in Koblenz, a melange of French and German cultures and one of Germany's oldest cities. Located where the Rhine and Moselle meet, Koblenz has a history spanning 2,000 years. Start your day with a coffee delivered to your suite by your butler, followed by breakfast in Crystal Dining.

**Freechoice:** Enhance your time in Koblenz with your choice from the following Scenic Freechoice activities:

- Koblenz walking tour: Join your guide through one of the oldest cities in Germany. Explore the Florinsmarkt, the former political and economic centre of the city. On your way through the winding streets of the old town, you'll see impressive townhouses, charming squares and historic churches.
- Burg Eltz guided tour: 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 more than 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.
- Koblenz biking tour: Ride along the Moselle and Rhine River on your guided cycling tour using e-bikes\*. Let your bike do most of the hard work while you glide past many city attractions and cross over the Rhine River twice, while learning the historic background of Koblenz from your expert local guide.

Arrives On: 06 Oct 26

## Day 8: Mainz (Germany)

After a delicious breakfast, bid farewell to your newfound friends. You'll be transferred to Frankfurt airport where you'll depart for home with stories for life.

Please book your flight to depart out of Frankfurt after 11:30

AM.

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: 07 Oct 26

### Day 8: Frankfurt (Germany)

Arrives On: 07 Oct 26

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

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