deluxe cruises

Cruise Details

Name:	Jewels of Europe
Reference:	SCENICSTC180228-1W
Operator:	Scenic River Cruises
Cruise Type:	River
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	Scenic Opal
Regions:	Rhine, Danube and Main
Departs On:	18 Feb 28
Departs From:	Amsterdam
Arrives On:	03 Mar 28
Arrives At:	Budapest
Cruise Nights:	14
Total Vacation Days:	15

Itinerary

Day 1: Amsterdam (Netherlands)

Your journey begins in the picturesque city of Amsterdam. A labyrinth of narrow laneways and canals lined with beautifully preserved 17th century buildings and charming cafés, the city is a delight to wander.

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

Arrives On: 18 Feb 28

Day 2: Amsterdam (Netherlands)

Spend this morning exploring Amsterdam. The Netherlands’ capital is a treasure trove of architectural beauty, galleries filled with masterpieces, 16th-century canals, narrow cobbled laneways, and streets busy with cyclists. Often referred to as the Venice of the North, much of the World Heritage-listed canal system exists today as it did hundreds of years ago, lined with well-

preserved houses and intersected by charming bridges. Scenic Freechoice:
Discover more of the city on one of these excursions:

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.

Excursion to Schermerhorn and Alkmaar: Leave the capital to visit the village of Schermerhorn, home to a number of World Heritage-listed 16th-century windmills. Then travel to the charming town of Alkmaar, known for its historic buildings and picturesque canals.

Rijksmuseum visit: The iconic Rijksmuseum is one of the premier museums in the Netherlands and has more than 8,000 pieces in its collection, including works from Van Gogh, Rembrandt and Vermeer. Your local guide will give you an overview before free time to explore at your leisure.

Canal cruise: Amsterdam has more than 100 kilometres of canals. Stay warm as you see some of the most picturesque sights of the city on a one-hour cruise along these historic waterways. Admire Golden Age mansions, grand warehouses and narrow bridges.

Arrives On: 19 Feb 28

Day 3: Cologne (Germany)

Arrive in the 2,000-year-old city of Cologne early this afternoon. Cologne suffered extensive damage during World War II but was painstakingly restored over the following decades. Set out on a walking tour of the Old Town, admiring its historic buildings, beautiful squares and the World Heritage-listed Cologne Cathedral. Then enjoy some free time to explore the city on your own. Scenic Enrich
Gala dinner and classical concert at La Redoute: An exclusive experience awaits you this evening. Travel to Bonn and the magnificent La Redoute recital hall, built in 1792 by the last Elector of Cologne. Sit down to a lavish dinner accompanied by classical music whose previous guests include Queen Elizabeth II, Princess Diana and US Presidents. The ship will meet you in Bonn afterwards.

Arrives On: 20 Feb 28

Day 3: Bonn (Germany)

Arrives On: 20 Feb 28

Day 4: Koblenz (Germany)

Spend this morning in Koblenz. This historic hub is many things, a wine city, a fortress city and one of Germany’s oldest cities. Founded by the Romans more than 2,000 years ago it is strategically placed where the Rhine and Moselle rivers meet. Its long history ensures there’s something for everyone, from rich history to a mélange of French and German

cultures and beautiful scenery. It is, of course, also the gateway to both the romantic Rhine Valley and the beautiful Moselle Valley. Scenic Freechoice:
Choose to explore your way with today's Scenic Freechoice:

Walking tour of Koblenz: A guide will lead you on a journey through the old town's winding streets, charming squares, impressive townhouses and historic churches as well as the famed Florinsmarkt, the former political and economic centre of the city.

Winter winery visit: Learn about the production of 'Ice Wine' at a local vineyard. Taste some of the locally produced vintages while you discover what is required to produce this sweet wine.

Relax on board this afternoon as you cruise through the picturesque Rhine Gorge, where the landscapes could have been pulled from the pages of a fairytale. This 65 kilometre stretch of the river is dotted with some 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.

Arrives On: 21 Feb 28

Day 4: Port information not found

Arrives On: 21 Feb 28

Day 5: Miltenberg (Germany)

Relax on board this morning as you cruise towards Miltenberg. You may like to book a massage in the spa~ or relax in the exclusive Salt Therapy Lounge, which has natural anti-viral, anti-inflammatory and anti-bacterial properties.

This afternoon, dock in Miltenberg. Located on the banks of the River Main, this historic town is one of the best preserved in Germany, home to hundreds of pastel-coloured half-timbered houses and one of the country's oldest inns, Zum Riesen. Today is all about connecting with culture and meeting the locals, an experience that is unique to Scenic guests. Scenic Freechoice:
Choose from the following Scenic Freechoice tours that will immerse you in local life:

Wertheim tour and winery: Start your excursion in Miltenberg, another historic town filled with half-timbered houses for an orientation tour and some free time. Then travel to the nearby town of Wertheim am Main to visit a local winery to meet the winemaker and learn about the production process.

Gamburg Castle tour: Transfer to the town of Gamburg for a guided tour of Gamburg Castle. Here you will also meet the Baron and Baroness for a private reception and learn about their modern aristocratic life over a glass of sparkling wine.

Miltenberg hike: Be immersed in the elegant Franconian landscape on a guided hike through the hills and forests encircling Miltenberg. Led by an expert local guide, this active walk reveals panoramic views of the Main River, ancient vineyard terraces, and timeless villages. Along the way, discover the region's quiet charm and hear stories of its medieval past.

Tastes and treasures of Miltenberg: Step into the local life as you seek out the town's finest local producers, from artisanal butchers and bakers to independently run Schnapps producers, offering an authentic taste of Franconian

craftsmanship. Cobblestone lanes and half-timbered houses set the scene for a delicious journey of discovery.

Schnapps tasting: After an orientation tour and free time in Miltenberg, visit a local schnapps distiller to understand how this flavoured liqueur is produced. Enjoy a tasting of the multiple flavours.

Arrives On: 22 Feb 28

Day 5: Wertheim (Germany)

Arrives On: 22 Feb 28

Day 6: Würzburg (Germany)

With its lavish Baroque and Rococo architecture, you'll be captivated by glamorous Würzburg. This city straddles the Main River in the heart of Franconian wine country. Surrounded by undulating vineyards, Würzburg is home to a World Heritage-listed palace, a dominating hilltop fortress, the 15th century Old Main Bridge, and three universities, including Bavaria's oldest. Scenic Freechoice:
Spend this morning at your preferred pace with one of these Scenic Freechoice

Guided tour and Würzburg Residence: Visit the Würzburg Residence, a Baroque palace surrounded by manicured gardens, for a guided tour to see its many valuable paintings, tapestries and period furniture. Then take a short stroll into the city for some free time.

Romantic Road to Rothenburg: From Würzburg, drive by coach to Rothenburg along the famed Romantic Road, an important trading route during the Middle Ages. Take a guided tour of the well-preserved medieval old town and enjoy some free time to explore on your own. This afternoon, sit back with a drink on the Sun Deck or in the privacy of your suite as you enjoy the scenery while cruising towards to city of Bamberg.

Arrives On: 23 Feb 28

Day 7: Bamberg (Germany)

Dock in picturesque Bamberg after lunch. You could spend this morning relaxing in your spacious suite.

Built on seven hills, this World Heritage-listed town has surprises at every turn. Intersected by rivers and canals, Bamberg's Old Town is resplendent with cobblestoned streets and well-preserved medieval buildings. Admire the charming Town Hall which occupies an island on its own, a Gothic and Romanesque-style cathedral, and the Old and New Residences – comprising an episcopal palace, a quaint 'Little Venice' and a 12th century castle that teeters on the highest of the seven hills. Scenic Freechoice:
Stay in Bamberg or choose to explore further afield:

Guided tour of Bamberg Old Town: Bamberg is known for its charming World Heritage-listed Old Town, one of Europe's largest intact old town centres. Learn about its fascinating history as you wander through stunning

Medieval and Baroque buildings on a guided city tour.

Excursion to Coburg: Journey via coach to Coburg. Visit the impressive castle, which looks over the city, and is considered one of the largest and best-preserved forts in Germany. Its museum houses a large collection of carriages, weapons, armoury and paintings by renowned artists.

Guided tour of Neue Residence: Step behind the elegant facade of Bamberg's Neue Residenz. Explore the opulent Baroque and Rococo interiors, from the grand halls to the meticulously curated art collections. Enjoy the breathtaking views over the historic city, and gain insight into the rich heritage of the prince-bishops who once called this residence home.

Arrives On: 24 Feb 28

Day 8: Nuremberg (Germany)

Arrive in Nuremberg, Bavaria's second-largest city, where the Old Town is protected by an ancient city wall. The city is dominated by one of the most significant imperial forts of the Holy Roman Empire, the 12th century Imperial Castle, which was the preferred residence of German kings.

Behind its charming facade, Nuremberg also has a turbulent history. During WWII, the city was favoured by the Nazis for party rallies and many of the anti-Jewish laws began here. By 1945, the city was reduced to rubble, including large sections of the Imperial Castle and Old Town. After the war, Nazi leaders were tried here for their war crimes. Scenic Freechoice:
Make your choice from today's
Scenic Freechoice experiences:

Guided tour of Nuremberg Old Town: Drive into Nuremberg's city centre, passing by the ancient city walls, then join your local guide for a walking tour of the Old Town to see the Imperial Castle, St. Egidien's Church and the market square.

World War II tour: Your local guide will highlight the main events that occurred in Nuremberg during the Nazi regime. Learn about this dark time in Germany's history and visit some of the most important sites.

Nuremberg's Castle and City Walls: The historic city of Nuremberg is yours to explore during this active walking tour. Follow the cobblestone streets surrounding the Imperial castle and admire the impressive city walls that remain since medieval times.

Arrives On: 25 Feb 28

Day 9: Regensburg (Germany)

You will arrive in Regensburg today. Boasting a staggering 2,000 year history, Regensburg has one of Germany's best preserved medieval town centres, with more than 900 of its Romanesque and Gothic buildings listed as World Heritage sites. Within its narrow laneways, the city lays claim to having the highest concentration of bars in the country. Scenic Freechoice:
Today, Regensburg offers a selection of Scenic Freechoice activities to choose from:

Walking tour of Regensburg: On the confluence of three rivers in Bavaria, Regensburg is known as the best-

preserved medieval city in Germany. Guests will join a walking tour with a local guide to see the old stone bridge, the Church of St James, and the Porta Praetoria.

Thurn und Taxis palace tour: Enjoy a guided tour of the magnificent Thurn and Taxis palace, followed by some free time. Thurn und Taxis is a German noble family who can trace their history back to the 12th century.

Bavarian beer tasting: Learn about intricacies of beer making and the region's rich brewing heritage. Visit a traditional brewery to taste a variety of distinctive Bavarian brews.

Arrives On: 26 Feb 28

Day 10: Passau (Germany)

Arrive in Passau early this morning. Set at the meeting point of three rivers and close to the border with Austria, it was an important trading point for centuries. It was also a significant town in the Holy Roman Empire, and the charming Old Town was mostly built by powerful prince-bishops in an Italianate style. Scenic Freechoice:
Take your pick from the following Scenic Freechoice excursions:

Full day excursion to Salzburg: Cross the border into Salzburg, Austria, a storybook city surrounded by alpine peaks and best known as the home of Mozart and The Sound of Music. On a guided tour, learn about its art and music scene, visit Mozart’s birthplace, and see the vast Hohensalzburg Fortress. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant and some free time.

Full day excursion to Ceský Krumlov: Journey to the Czech town of Ceský Krumlov, a World Heritage site brimming with charm. Explore with your local guide, admire the well-preserved Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque architecture, and enjoy lunch in a local restaurant.

Highlights of Passau: Join your local guide on a walking tour, admiring the brightly coloured buildings that line the waterways. Visit St. Stephens Cathedral, originally built in the year 450 but destroyed by fire in 1662 and rebuilt in the Baroque style.

Arrives On: 27 Feb 28

Day 11: Dürnstein (Austria)

Spend this morning in Dürnstein, a small and picturesque town in Austria’s Wachau Valley. Enjoy some free time to explore this World Heritage-listed village, perched on the edge of the Danube River and surrounded by ancient, terraced vineyards. Scenic Freechoice:
Today offers a variety of Scenic Freechoice excursions to choose from:

Göttweig Abbey: Founded in the sixth century, the abbey burned down during the 18th century and rebuilt to be one of the most magnificent in the Wachau Valley. Your local guide will show you its magnificent frescoes as well as the staircase, the largest Baroque staircase in Austria.

Wachau Valley wine tasting: The Wachau Valley is one of the prominent regions for wine growing in Austria. Today you'll visit a local winemaker and learn about the age-old traditions of winemaking while sampling the delicious wines produced on site.

UNESCO Wachau Valley e-bike experience: Join your guide on a bicycle tour along the Danube to the quaint village of Krems. Pass by charming villages and rolling vineyard landscapes. You will have time to stop along the way to enjoy the breathtaking views of the Danube.

Arrives On: 28 Feb 28

Day 11: Krems (Austria)

Arrives On: 28 Feb 28

Day 12: Vienna (Austria)

Welcome to Vienna, the capital of Austria and a centre of art, music and culture. The city fostered the musical geniuses Mozart and Beethoven, and oozes charm with magnificent Baroque buildings, ample green spaces, a vibrant coffee-house scene, and masterpiece-filled galleries and museums. Scenic Enrich
Classical concert at Arsenal Military Museum: Take in the wonderful architecture of Arsenal Military Museum, while enjoying a glass of fine Austrian Sekt. Then be enthralled by an enchanting private Viennese evening concert featuring the timeless music of Strauss and Mozart.

Arrives On: 29 Feb 28

Day 13: Vienna (Austria)

Wake this morning with Vienna on your doorstep. A city full of grandeur, Austria’s imperial capital is famous for having the world’s most beautiful boulevard, The Ringstrasse, and for the legacy of the Habsburg monarchy. Slow down and spend a full day exploring Vienna or venture further afield. Scenic Freechoice:
Choose from today’s Scenic Freechoice activities:

Schönbrunn Palace: Explore Schönbrunn Palace, the former summer residence of the Habsburg family. Wander its ornately designed rooms, hear tales about the royal family that lives here and see the impressive gardens.

Guided tour of Vienna: Enjoy a leisurely by coach ride along the famous Ringstrasse, before passing by the stately Austrian Parliament. Then set off on a walking tour of Vienna’s historic downtown, admiring the grand City Hall, the majestic St. Stephen’s Cathedral, the lively Graben pedestrian street, and the renowned Vienna State Opera.

Excursion to Bratislava: Travel to Bratislava, Slovakia’s capital since independence in 1993. This modern multicultural metropolis has an intriguing history. The glorious Old Town and well-preserved hilltop castle contrast with its brutalist socialist architecture. Your local guide will show you Bratislava Castle, the Hlavné Námestie, the main square and the Old Town Hall.

Arrives On: 01 Mar 28

Day 14: Budapest (Hungary)

This morning you will arrive in Budapest, the capital of Hungary and one of Europe’s most diverse and vibrant cities. Divided by the Danube, with Buda on one side and Pest on the other, this city became united in 1873 when a newly built bridge connected the two. It’s an architectural treasure trove comprising styles from Gothic to Art Nouveau and everything in between. It is also well known for its hot springs and thermal baths and has a vibrant nightlife scene. Scenic Freechoice:
Choose from a range of Scenic Freechoice activities on offer this morning:

Budapest in depth: Explore this magical city by coach. Starting in Buda, see the Várkert Bazár before crossing the Margaret Bridge to the Pest side to see Széchenyi Square and Elizabeth Square. End your tour with a mesmerising piano recital at the Institute for the Blind.

Budapest’s past and present: This walking and coach tour will give insight on Budapest’s communist past and life today as part of the European Union, including the 1956 Hungarian revolution and the significant Jewish events that have shaped modern culture.

Hospital in the Rock: Go underground to explore the labyrinths of the Hospital in the Rock, set underneath the city's Castle District. The complex was built as a secret hospital during WWII and was later converted to a nuclear bunker.

National Opera House: Get a captivating glimpse into the stunning architecture and rich history of the Hungarian State Opera. Admire the opulent interiors and learn about its significance to Hungarian culture. This afternoon is at leisure. Your ship will remain docked in Budapest overnight, so you may like to head out and discover some of the city’s famed nightlife.

Arrives On: 02 Mar 28

Day 15: Budapest (Hungary)

Your journey concludes this morning. After one final breakfast on board, depart with cherished memories to last a lifetime. 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. Please note: Preview itinerary subject to change.

Arrives On: 03 Mar 28

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