



Cruise Details

Name:	Rhine Enchantment, Milan to Amsterdam - Northbound
Reference:	TAUCKRTX202617052026
Operator:	Tauck
Cruise Type:	River
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	MS Grace
Regions:	Rhine
Departs On:	17 May 26
Departs From:	Basel
Arrives On:	27 May 26
Arrives At:	Amsterdam
Cruise Nights:	10
Total Vacation Days:	11

Itinerary

Day 1: Basel (Switzerland)

Tour begins: 6:30 PM. A transfer is included from Milano Malpensa or Milano Linate airports or Milano Centrale train station to Hotel Principe di Savoia, a splendid landmark building built in the 1920s, decorated in classic Italian and Art Deco style and centrally located on the Piazza della Repubblica. Join us this evening for a welcome aperitif and dinner, accompanied by live jazz / standards, at your hotel.

Arrives On: 17 May 26

Day 2: Milan (Italy)

You're off for a day's tooling around Lake Como, one of Italy's most beautiful lakes, in the shadow of the snowcapped Alps – a mecca for the well-heeled on holiday since ancient Roman times. An hour-long drive takes you to a nearby town, where you'll board a boat for bellissima Bellagio. Known as "the Pearl of the Lake," and you'll have a bit of free time to explore this gem as you wish. Take in

the lake views and explore the centuries-old buildings, stone lanes, and cobbled stairways lined with shops. A boat cruise shows you more of Lake Como, which the poet William Wordsworth described as "a treasure whom the earth keeps to herself." The forested shoreline is punctuated by small towns with ancient stone bell towers and opulent villas. Disembark your boat for a lakeside lunch at a local venue before heading back to Milan late this afternoon. Please Note: Touring on days 2 and 3 may be switched. No sightseeing will be impacted due to this change.

Arrives On: 18 May 26

Day 3: Milan (Italy)

Immerse yourself in magnificent Milan on an orientation and walking tour that includes; a visit to Piazza della Scala, one of the most famous opera houses in the world, Palazzo Marino and an outside visit to the incredible Gothic Cathedral of Milan, il Duomo, the third largest Catholic church in the world. It took 500 years to finish this forest of spires and pinnacles topped by the iconic statue of the golden madonnina. Steps from il Duomo, stroll through the city's premier gathering place, Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II, a.k.a. "the living room of Milan." This massive yet elegant shopping arcade, topped by an airy glass octagonal dome, was built as a symbol of Italian unity in the late 19th century and named after the first king of Italy. Your afternoon is free to explore as you please perhaps visiting Pinacoteca di Brera, a great art collection including works by Raphael, Bellini, Piero della Francesca, and Caravaggio... the fashion district between pedestrianized Via della Spiga, via Montenapoleone, via Manzoni, and Corso Venezia... or the Bohemian Navigli neighborhood of canal-side bars, restaurants, and shops. Tonight, you have reservations for a Tauck Exclusive – a private viewing of Leonardo da Vinci's famed mural, The Last Supper, which adorns the dining room at the Santa Maria delle Grazie convent (subject to availability; the day of visit may vary).

Arrives On: 19 May 26

Day 4: Basel (Switzerland)

After breakfast, drive to Lugano, Switzerland, where you'll enjoy some free time to explore a town that blends Alpine and Mediterranean beauty. Late afternoon, take the train to Basel, enjoying glorious alpine views along the way as you journey north through Switzerland. In Basel, embark your riverboat; attend a Discovery Briefing and enjoy cocktails in the lounge before dining onboard your ship.

Arrives On: 20 May 26

Day 5: Basel (Switzerland)

Today, explore the Swiss city of Basel with your choice of two immersive excursions. Set out on a guided walking tour highlighting Basel's world-class art and architecture – renowned for striking

contemporary works by celebrated international architects and boasting the highest concentration of museums in Switzerland. Your tour concludes with admission to one of the city's premier art museums. Alternatively, opt for a more active walking adventure that takes you deep into Basel's distinctive cultural traditions, complete with a tasting of local specialties along the way. Afterward, return to the ship for lunch or linger ashore to wander the storybook Old Town or stroll Freie Strasse, the city's elegant pedestrian shopping avenue. Return to the ship mid-afternoon, and continue cruising.

Arrives On: 21 May 26

Day 6: Strasbourg (France)

Head into the Alsatian wine country for a choice of excursions. On one, drive along the bucolic Alsatian Wine Route to Colmar, France, passing through countryside where some of the world's best Rieslings are produced, en route to a quaint Alsatian village of half-timbered houses for a walking tour and free time on your own. Another option takes you to the streets of Strasbourg for a guided walking tour and time to explore on foot. Finally, choose an all-day bicycle excursion that explores Strasbourg, including Strasbourg Old Town and other residential neighborhoods.

Arrives On: 22 May 26

Day 7: Heidelberg (Germany)

Dock in the port town of Mannheim this morning, before heading out from the riverboat to Heidelberg for a guided visit to the splendid ruins of Heidelberg Castle, a sprawling red sandstone compound high above the city, a reminder of 600 years of history. While here, check out the Heidelberg Tun, the biggest wine barrel in the world, learn about centuries of movers and shakers, and the romantic story of the Elisabeth Gate, built in 1615 as a present from Elector Frederic V to his wife Elisabeth Stuart, the daughter of King James I of England. He had the triumphal arch secretly crafted in sections and put up as a whole the night before her birthday to surprise her the next morning. The views of the Neckar River Valley from the castle are unforgettable; your visit is followed an opportunity to explore Old Town Heidelberg. Board the riverboat in Mannheim and spends the afternoon cruising north. You'll have time to enjoy the gym, get a massage... or curl up in a chair on the Sun Deck with a snack and your favorite drink. Arrive in Wiesbaden and disembark for a Tauck Exclusive evening featuring dinner and entertainment at Schloss Biebrich, an 18th-century Baroque palace on the bank of the Rhine in Wiesbaden.

Arrives On: 23 May 26

Day 8: Remagen (Germany)

Enjoy a day of cruising along the Rhine, through the Middle Rhine Valley. Your Tauck Director provides commentary as you glide past sloping vineyards and rocky bluffs, sharing the stories of

the Lorelei Rock and the castles standing watch onshore. Dock this evening in a quaint middle town along the Rhine where you'll be able to go ashore with your Tauck Director for an orientation tour.

Arrives On: 24 May 26

Day 9: Düsseldorf (Germany)

Following a leisurely morning's cruise, arrive after brunch in Düsseldorf – one of Germany's wealthiest cities, known for its charming Altstadt (Old Town) on the riverfront, as well as for its avant-garde architecture. Walk off the riverboat into town for your choice of a walking tour focused on the city's history and architecture; a tour of Düsseldorf's MedienHafen sector, formerly an abandoned old harbor, this area was transformed to become one of the most modern sectors of the city, view it's spectacular architecture designed by renowned architects such as Frank Gehry as well as a bird's eye view of the city from the Rhine tower; or a bicycling excursion along the city's Rhine River waterfront. During some free time following the excursion of your choice, you might want to visit Königsallee ("the Kö"), the city's super high-end shopping street; if you're a classic car buff, check out the Classic Remise Düsseldorf, displaying vintage automobiles in a historic roundhouse for locomotives; or take a walk along the lively promenade by the river. Back aboard the ship this evening, enjoy a reception, the Chef's Signature Dinner, and a party hosted by the crew as your riverboat charts a course for the Netherlands.

Arrives On: 25 May 26

Day 10: Amsterdam (Netherlands)

Arrive late morning in Amsterdam and disembark for an introduction to the Dutch capital aboard a canal boat cruise. As you float through the city's 17th-century network of canals, enjoy dessert as you pass under bridges, check out the houseboats, and view the historic buildings lining the canals. After your canal boat cruise, enjoy an afternoon exploring the city as you wish – perhaps visiting your choice of the city's museums, or strolling through the "Nine Streets" in the heart of the canal district, popping into unique shops and galleries, sampling cheeses or trying out Amsterdam's famed coffee shops. Alternatively, following your cruise, your Tauck Director will offer you a choice of optional activities of which you can take part in. Return to the riverboat throughout the afternoon. During your final evening aboard ship tonight, join us for a farewell reception followed by dinner.

Arrives On: 26 May 26

Day 11: Amsterdam (Netherlands)

Tour ends: Amsterdam. Disembark by 9:00 AM. Fly home anytime; a transfer from your riverboat to Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport or Centraal Train Station is included. Allow a minimum of three

hours for flight check-in at the airport. For additional nights in Amsterdam, ask at booking.

Arrives On: 27 May 26

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

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