Cruise Details

Name:	Rhine Enchantment, Amsterdam to Milan - Southbound
Reference:	TAUCKRTY202705052027
Operator:	Tauck
Cruise Type:	River
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	MS Inspire
Regions:	Rhine
Departs On:	05 May 27
Departs From:	Amsterdam
Arrives On:	15 May 27
Arrives At:	Milan
Cruise Nights:	10
Total Vacation Days:	11

Itinerary

Day 1: Amsterdam (Netherlands)

Tour begins: 4:00 PM, Amsterdam, Netherlands. Welcome to Amsterdam! Transfers are included from Schiphol Airport or Amsterdam Centraal Station to your riverboat, where embarkation will begin any time after 4:00 PM. Enjoy a welcome cocktail reception followed by a leisurely dinner as you settle into your floating hotel for a memorable weeklong cruise on the Rhine and a visit to Italy's sparkling Lake Como region and remarkable Milan.

Arrives On: 05 May 27

Day 2: Amsterdam (Netherlands)

Awaken in Amsterdam and disembark the riverboat to be introduced to this unique city in two distinct ways – on an orientation tour of the city center, and aboard a canal boat cruise. As you float through the city's 17th-century network of canals you'll pass under bridges, check out the distinctive houseboats, see the historic buildings lining the canals, and watch the locals navigate

the city on their bicycles. After your canal cruise, you'll have a choice of excursions. Choose from either a tour of the Rembrandt House Museum, the former home and studio of famed Dutch painter, Rembrandt van Rijn from 1639 to 1658 or a walking tour of the city's Jewish Quarter. This afternoon, your ship sets sail for Dusseldorf, Germany.

Arrives On: 06 May 27

Day 3: Düsseldorf (Germany)

Arrive this morning in Düsseldorf – one of Germany's wealthiest cities, known for its charming Altstadt (Old Town) on the riverfront; its modern avant-garde architecture; Königsallee ("the Kö"), a super high-end shopping street near Altstadt; and a lively promenade by the river. Walk off the riverboat into town for your choice of a "Taste of Dusseldorf" walking tour focused on the city's history, architecture and culinary traditions, along with some tasty local treats, or 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. Back aboard ship this afternoon, your riverboat continues on towards the Middle Rhine. As you cruise, enjoy an onboard lecture by your Tauck Director.

Arrives On: 07 May 27

Day 4: Wiesbaden (Germany)

Your ship arrives early this morning for a short stop in the town of Boppard. Here, enjoy a Tauck Director-led walk through the town highlighted with a cable car ride. This short, but scenic, chairlift ride takes you over 900 meters above the ground and offers outstanding views of the Rhine Valley, Rhine River and the surrounding area. Your ship departs early this afternoon for a bit of daytime cruising through the Middle Rhine Valley. An excellent time to enjoy your riverboat's amenities, and 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. Arrive this evening in the city of Wiesbaden. With a name that translates to "meadow baths", Wiesbaden is one of Europe's oldest spa towns, famous around the world for its hot springs, which have been in use since Roman times, and blossomed during the Middle Ages. Join us for tonight's Tauck Exclusive evening featuring dinner and entertainment at Schloss Biebrich, an 18th-century Baroque palace on the bank of the Rhine in Wiesbaden.Please Note: Some departures may have dinner at an alternate palace.

Arrives On: 08 May 27

Day 5: 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. Have dinner onboard tonight followed by some evening entertainment.

Arrives On: 09 May 27

Day 6: Strasbourg (France)

This morning, your riverboat arrives in historic Strasbourg, France – capital of the Alsace and known as the "Crossroads of Europe," home to the European Union's headquarters. You have two choices for exploring today. Take to the streets and explore Strasbourg on foot with a tasting at one of the local wine cellars, following lunch on your own. Alternatively, bicycling is a great way to explore the world around you. Explore Strasbourg by bike with visits to its Old Town, residential areas, the EU area and other modern developments (Note: for experience riders only). Return to Strasbourg this afternoon and continue cruising to Basel, Switzerland.

Arrives On: 10 May 27

Day 7: 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. You're off to Milan tomorrow.

Arrives On: 11 May 27

Day 8: Milan (Italy)

After breakfast, disembark and take a train to Lugano, Switzerland, where you'll enjoy some free time to explore a town that blends Alpine and Mediterranean beauty. Late afternoon, drive across the border into Italy for arrival in Milan, a city that reigns as a world capital of fashion and design, and check into your hotel, Westin Palace Milan. Dinner is on your own.

Arrives On: 12 May 27

Day 9: Milan (Italy)

You're off for a day's exploring 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. 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 owned by jet-setters and celebrities and is sure to be a highlight of your journey. Disembark in the town of Como for free time to explore as you wish and head back to Milan. Tonight, Milan is yours to explore as you wish.

Arrives On: 13 May 27

Day 10: Milan (Italy)

Immerse yourself in magnificent Milan on an orientation and walking tour that includes 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. The afternoon is free. You might want to take in La Scala, one of the most famous opera houses in the world, where Maria Callas sang her heart out… 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 mildly bohemian Navigli neighborhood of canal-side bars, restaurants, and shops. As you go, be sure to taste the traditional flavors of Milan – sipping a Campari bitter aperitif and sampling dishes like yellow risotto, cassoeula, and ossobuco. Join us this evening to cap a memorable journey with a farewell reception and dinner at the hotel.

Arrives On: 14 May 27

Day 11: Milan (Italy)

Tour ends: Milan. Fly home anytime; a transfer from The Westin Palace Milan to Milan Malpensa or Linate Airports OR Milan's Central Train Station is included. Allow a minimum of three hours for

flight check-in at the airport. For additional hotel nights in Milan, ask at booking.

Arrives On: 15 May 27

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