

HOLIDAY MARKETS

from COLOGNE TO NUREMBERG

**November 27-
December 5, 2017**

From \$1,895

Port charges are an additional \$395 per person.

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include the AHI FlexAir (unless otherwise stated).



Recapture the magic of the holidays as you step into scenes brimming with joyous festivity on a river cruise in Germany. All along the Rhine and Main rivers, charming

towns are adorned in their holiday best with lively Christkindlmarkts set up in town squares. Cruise from Cologne to Nuremberg and sail through the Rhine Gorge, surrounded by breathtaking vistas of verdant rolling hills dotted with quaint villages. Step inside Cologne's majestic Gothic cathedral, and wander the opulent halls of one of Europe's finest baroque palaces in Würzburg. In medieval Rothenburg and Miltenberg, stroll the cobbled lanes as you admire the impressive half-timbered houses that line your path. Along the way, enjoy a customizable journey with a choice of excursions in select ports of call as you experience the season of Advent in Europe.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore the **charming holiday markets** in cities across Germany.
- Cruise along the **Rhine** and **Main rivers** for seven nights aboard the **exclusively chartered MS Amadeus Silver II**.
- Witness four **UNESCO World Heritage sites**: Cologne Cathedral, the Middle Rhine Valley, the Würzburg Residenz and the city of Bamberg.
- **Personalize your cruise** with a choice of included excursions in select ports of call.
- Travel along the **"Romantic Road"** between Würzburg and Rothenburg.
- Spend a **full day in Cologne**.

INCLUDED FEATURES

NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT FOR SOLO TRAVELERS

Accommodations

- **Seven nights** aboard the first-class **MS Amadeus Silver II**.

Transfers

- All deluxe motor coach transfers in the Cruise Program and baggage handling.

Activities and Events

- **Informative educational programs** presented by **local experts** will enhance your insight into the region.
- **All excursions** as outlined in your program itinerary.
- **Personal VOX listening device** to hear every word from your expert English-speaking guides.
- Attend a **Welcome Reception and Dinner**.
- Gather for a **Farewell Reception and Dinner**.

Extensive Meal Program

- Enjoy seven breakfasts, six lunches and seven dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with lunch and dinner.
- Sample **authentic regional specialties** during select meals at featured local restaurants.
- Take advantage of leisure time to try the local cuisine independently.

MANY INCLUDED EXTRAS

- Consultation services of a dedicated **Passenger Service Representative** prior to departure.
- Services of an experienced **Travel Director** throughout your stay.
- **Tipping** of excursion guides and drivers.
- Detailed travel and destination information to assist in planning.
- Complimentary travel wallet.

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

DAY 1 ~ IN TRANSIT

Depart for Frankfurt, Germany.†

† Provided for AHI FlexAir participants.

DAY 2 ~ FRANKFURT, GERMANY/COLOGNE

Upon arrival, transfer† to Cologne and embark the MS Amadeus Silver II. Tonight, enjoy a Welcome Reception and Dinner onboard the ship.

DAY 3 ~ COLOGNE

Choose from two excursions here:

Excursion: Cologne's Magnificent Cathedral. Visit Kölner Dom, the city's famous cathedral, during a guided old town walking tour. Topped by two ornately decorated spires, it was under construction for more than 630 years.

Excursion: Jewish Heritage Walk. Recent excavation projects have revealed the city's historic Jewish quarter. See the excavation sites and visit the Cologne City Museum.

Educational Focus: The Tradition of the Holiday Markets. Learn about Advent traditions in Germany and the rich history of the markets.

DAY 4 ~ KOBLENZ/ RHINE GORGE

Excursion: Koblenz. Stroll through this beautiful town where the Moselle and Rhine rivers meet, and see the Church of Our Lady, the Old Castle and the Old Merchant's Hall.

This afternoon, witness amazing views as the ship sails through the lovely Rhine Gorge and passes Loreley Rock.

DAY 5 ~ MILTENBERG

Excursion: Miltenberg. Take a guided walk through this picturesque town, home to a 13th-century castle, a 16th-century fountain and timber-frame houses along winding streets.

DAY 6 ~ WÜRZBURG/ ROTHENBURG

Excursion: Würzburg. Explore the stately and lavish Residenz, an 18th-century baroque palace, then enjoy a walking tour of the historic city center. Stroll by St. Kilian's Cathedral, the Old Town Hall and the bustling market.

Excursion: Rothenburg and the Romantic Road. The Romantic Road connects scenic towns set among the forests and mountains of southern Germany. Step back in time to the Middle Ages and visit Rothenburg, one

of the route's prettiest towns and home to the German Christmas Museum.

DAY 7 ~ BAMBERG

Choose from two excursions here:

Excursion: Bamberg. Take a guided walking tour to see the town's Gothic and baroque architectural gems. Pass through the grand archway of the Old Town Hall, situated in the middle of a bridge over the Regnitz River.

Excursion: Culinary Delights.

Taste the mouthwatering specialties of the Franconian region and learn how they are prepared. Visit a local bakery, a butcher shop, a deli and a candy store.

DAY 8 ~ NUREMBERG

Choose from two excursions here:

Excursion: Nuremberg. See the courthouse where the renowned World War II trials were held. Visit the Kaiserburg Castle and the Hauptmarkt.

Excursion: Historical Tour. Explore the Documentation Centre Nazi Party Rally Grounds and see the courthouse used for the World War II trials.

Independent Exploration: Enjoy time at leisure to browse the kiosks at Nuremberg's holiday market.

Tonight, recount your holiday adventure with your fellow travelers at a Farewell Reception and Dinner on the ship.

DAY 9 ~ IN TRANSIT

Disembark the ship and transfer to the Munich airport for the return to your gateway city.†

NOTE: The information presented is preliminary. Itineraries, included features and schedules are subject to change. Many excursions in this program involve an element of walking.

ENHANCE YOUR EXPERIENCE

Available at an additional cost

Extension: Munich. Enjoy three extra nights in cosmopolitan Munich at the elegant Hotel Bayerischer Hof in the heart of the city. Take a scenic tour of Munich's highlights and explore on your own. Journey across the border into Austria to visit historic Salzburg. Marvel at the grandeur of its palaces, churches and 17th- and 18th-century houses on a guided walking tour. Visit Hohensalzburg Fortress overlooking the city and enjoy Salzburg's beauty from above.

ACCOMMODATIONS



MS AMADEUS SILVER II

The state-of-the-art MS Amadeus Silver II offers the utmost in service, safety and comfort. Step into the elegant reception area and immerse yourself in an ambience reminiscent of a luxury hotel. Relax on the sun deck, challenge a friend to a game of chess or shuffleboard, browse in the boutique or connect with family at the Internet station. Practice your golf game on the putting green, exercise in the fitness room or treat yourself to a soothing massage. Savor international cuisine at the restaurant's delicious breakfast and lunch buffets, and enjoy regional specialties with wine at dinner. In the evening, return to the comforts of your cabin, featuring a river view, a satellite TV and a bathroom with a shower. Wi-Fi is complimentary, but access may be limited.



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Reserve your Journey of a Lifetime today!

Send to: Office of Alumni Relations-MS 520
Rice Alumni Traveling Owls
Rice University
P.O. Box 1892
Houston, TX 77251-1892

Please contact Kylie Vincent at **713-34-TRIPS (87477)** to make reservations or with questions regarding this tour. Or fax this form to **713-348-5210**.

Program Desired: _____

Full Legal Name (exactly as it appears on passport)

(1) _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: _____ Rice Class Year _____

(2) _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: _____ Rice Class Year _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home: (_____) _____ Cell: (_____) _____

Sharing with _____ (Form sent separately)

I/we authorize you to make my/our reservations as follows:

Program (as listed above) and **AHI FlexAir**

I/we request the round trip AHI FlexAir from:

Departure City _____

- Please contact me regarding air options.
- Please send me information on upgrading my flights.

Program Only (as listed above)

I/we will make my/our own air arrangements and transfers.

Single Accommodations

- I prefer single accommodations at an additional cost (limited availability).
- I request assistance in securing a roommate but will accept a single, if one is available at this time, and pay the single supplement. Should a roommate be found, I understand the supplement will no longer apply.

Reservations are subject to availability and processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations to be paid in full 110 days prior to departure for Crystal Cruise programs and 75 days prior to departure for all other programs. Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal check, MasterCard, Visa, Discover or Amex. Make checks payable to AHI Travel.

Enclosed is a deposit of _____ (\$800 pp required for Crystal Cruise programs and \$600 pp required for all other) to reserve _____ place(s).

- Accept my check made payable to **AHI Travel**.
- Charge my: MasterCard Visa Discover Amex

Card # _____

Expires _____ / _____

(Signature as it appears on credit card)

Please note: Any payment to AHI International constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out herein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.

If you are interested in making independent travel arrangements in conjunction with this program, please contact AHI Travel at 800-323-7373 no later than 60 days prior to departure. *A nonrefundable service fee applies.*

ULTIMATE FLEXIBILITY-The AHI Travel Passenger Protection Plan offers an **Any Reason Cancellation** feature. Don't worry! Travel happy!

NOT INCLUDED-Fees for passports and, if applicable, visas, entry/departure fees; personal gratuities; laundry and dry cleaning; excursions, wines, liquors, mineral waters and meals not mentioned in this brochure under included features; travel insurance; all items of a strictly personal nature.

MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL-The right is retained to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of this trip who, in the opinion of AHI Travel is unfit for travel or whose physical or mental condition may constitute a danger to themselves or to others on the trip, subject only to the requirement that the portion of the total amount paid which corresponds to the unused services and accommodations be refunded. Passengers requiring special assistance, including without limitation those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit and able to assist them, and who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance.

AIR TRANSPORTATION-The price of air transportation offered by AHI Travel is based on Advance Purchase Excursion fares. After tickets are issued, penalties up to 100% of the ticket price may be levied. If connecting flights are requested, special promotional fares may be used, in which case penalties of as much as 100% may be assessed by the airlines if reservations are changed or canceled after ticketing. After departure, if the reservations are changed, you will be charged the higher, all year Economy class fare. **VARIATIONS TO THE GROUP ITINERARY MUST BE REQUESTED NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.** Passengers who choose to make their own airline reservations independently will be wholly responsible for any airline fees or penalties incurred as a result of program cancellation and/or change in travel dates, or airline schedule(s).

BAGGAGE-Baggage restrictions vary according to the airline policy and the class of service flown. Details will be provided with your pre-departure information. Baggage allowances are subject to change by the carrier without notice. Excess baggage charges for additional or oversized/overweight pieces are expensive and not included in your trip price; plan your wardrobe accordingly. Transport of baggage and personal effects is at the owner's risk throughout the travel program.

AUTHORITY TO USE IMAGES AND AUDIO RECORDINGS-On occasion, AHI Travel obtains, from its staff, or from trip participants, photographic or video images of passengers and trip activities. By participating in this travel program, you authorize AHI Travel, without providing compensation to you, or obtaining additional approvals from you, to include photographic and video recordings of you, as well as voice recordings included with any videos, in AHI Travel's sales, marketing, advertising, publicity and/or training activities.

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CANCELLATION-All cancellations for any reason will be subject to a \$250 per person administrative fee. You may choose, at the time of cancellation, to apply the withheld administrative fee to a future AHI Travel program that will operate in the current calendar year or year following. Cancellation from 120 days to 76 days prior to departure will result in forfeiture of 10% of the entire cost of the trip per person; 75-30 days, 50% of the trip cost per person; cancellation from 29 days up to the time of departure will result in 100% forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. **TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE IS AVAILABLE. AN APPLICATION WILL BE SENT AFTER YOU RESERVE.** All cancellations must be submitted in writing to AHI Travel. **CANCELLATION OF TRIP OPTIONS**-Purchases of optional excursions, trip extensions and additional hotel nights become fully non-refundable 45 days prior to departure. Air transportation and private transfer purchases are subject only to penalties assessed by the airlines and transfer suppliers.

NOTE: Program specific terms and conditions will be sent along with your confirmation mailing once we receive your reservation.

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