

Charming Castles & Vineyards of the Rhine & Moselle Scenic River Cruises

By

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Overview

- Mighty castles and lush green vineyards
- *Witness the postcard-perfect scenery that graces the banks of the peaceful Moselle and mighty Rhine rivers.*
- As you journey along the Rhine River and its lovely tributary the Moselle, you will discover all the natural beauty that is on offer.
- Around every river bend is a captivating scene of historic buildings, crumbling castles, rolling vineyards or tiny villages.
- This itinerary gives you a wonderful mix of time to relax on board your luxurious Scenic Space-Ship, as well as ample opportunity to discover the rich history and culture along the banks of these incredible rivers.

Map From Scenic River Cruises



Day 1 - Frankfurt > Mainz

- Welcome to Germany.
- Upon arrival in Frankfurt, you will be transferred to Mainz, where you will embark your Scenic Space-Ship.
- Relax and raise your glass to the days ahead at this evening's welcome reception.
- **Meals Included:** Dinner

Day 2 - Koblenz

- Wake up this morning in Koblenz, located where the Rhine and Moselle rivers meet. Koblenz is a mélange of French and German cultures and one of Germany's oldest cities with a history spanning 2,000 years.
- Koblenz is surrounded by vineyards, forest and mountain ranges and is also known as the gateway to the Upper Middle Rhine Valley.
- This afternoon you will enjoy at leisure, while sailing along the Moselle. Relax in the sunshine on the Sun Deck as you enjoy the picturesque scenery rolling by.
- Download the Scenic Tailormade App to listen to river commentary and gain insight to the villages and sites you're passing.
- **Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 2 Koblenz Excursions

- Guided walking tour of Koblenz: Join your guide through one of the oldest cities in Germany.
- Explore the Florinsmarkt, the former political and economic center of the city.
- On your way through the winding streets of the old town, you will see impressive townhouses, each with its own unique history, charming squares and historic churches.

Guided tour of Burg Eltz: 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 armory, which exhibits nine centuries of artefacts.

Koblenz Biking Tour: Ride along the Moselle and Rhine River on your guided cycling tour using Scenic's complimentary e-bikes*.

- Let the bike do most of the hard work while you cycle past many city attractions and cross over the Rhine River twice, while learning the historic background of Koblenz from your local guide.

Koblenz, Germany Jesuit Square



Photo Anne Schrader
www.dreamdestinations.com

Deutsches Eck (German Corner) Koblenz



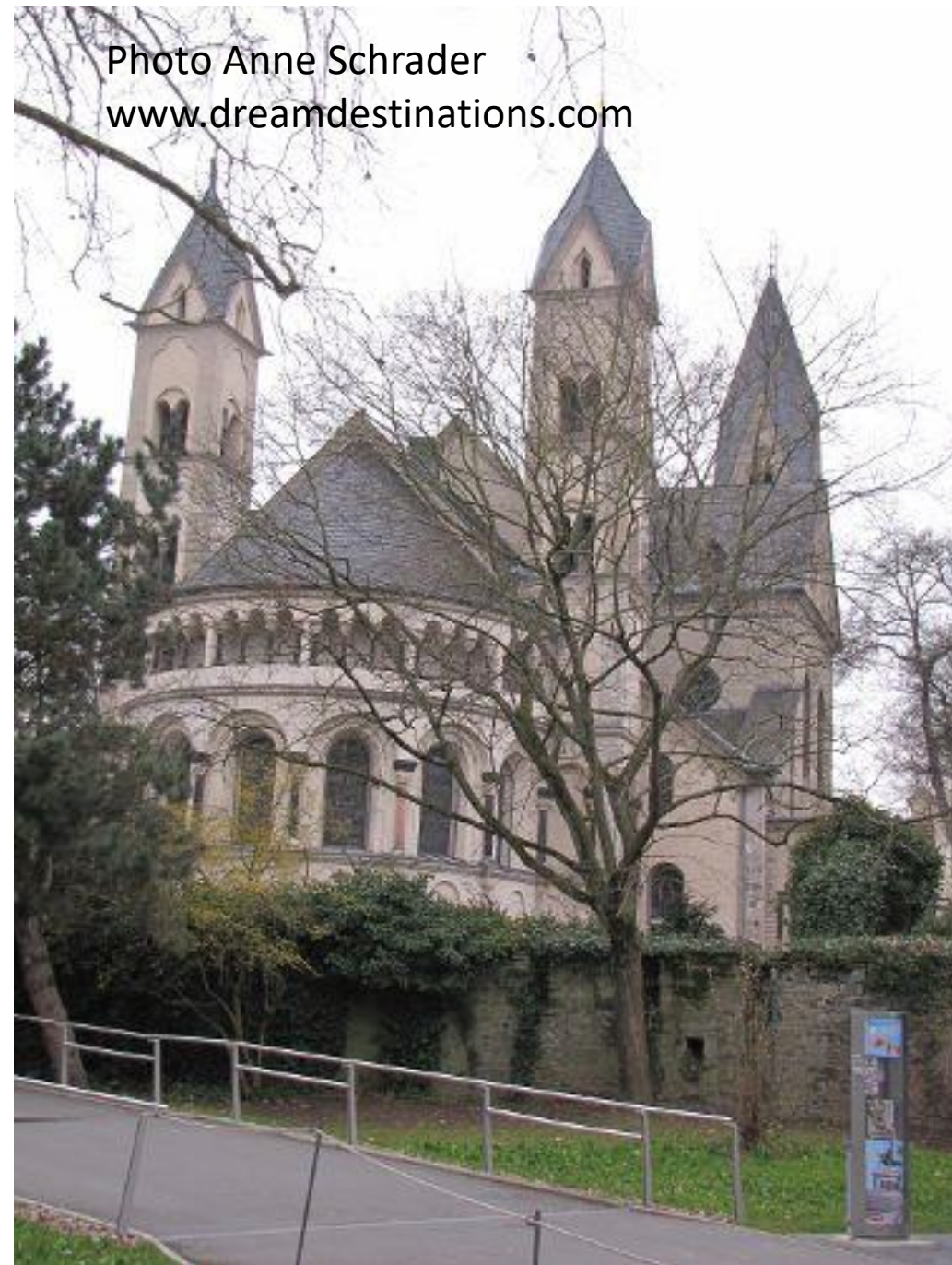
Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com

Deutsches Eck (German Corner) Koblenz



Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com

St Castor's Basilica Koblenz



Goerresplaz
Square
Koblenz. The
fountain is a
summary of the
2000-year
history of
Koblenz



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Burg Eltz

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Entrance to the courtyard area Burg Eltz



Photo Anne Schrader
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Treasury Burg Eltz

Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com



Day 3 - Bernkastel

- Another wonderfully preserved riverside town, Bernkastel is home to an atmospheric market square with buildings that date to the 13th century.
- It has one of the world's most famous Riesling vineyards, Bernkasteler Doctor, and the ruins of Landshut Castle sitting high above on a hill, where archaeological remains from the 4th and 5th centuries were discovered in 2012.
- **Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 3 – Bernkastel Excursions

- Walking Tour of Bernkastel: Discover the town of Bernkastel, settled on the banks of the Moselle River.
- Your expert guide will explain the local architecture and culture during a guided tour, and you will also have some time at leisure to discover Bernkastel on your own.
- Explore the pretty town with highlights including perfectly preserved half-timbered houses and the Renaissance-style Rathaus (Town Hall).

Excursion to Trier: Drive to Trier, a charming Roman city located near the Luxembourg border and the birthplace of Karl Marx.

- Explore this medieval town with a local guide to see the Porta Nigra, one of the best-preserved Roman gates in Germany, as well as the Trier Cathedral.

Wine tasting along the Moselle: The fertile banks of the Moselle River are a winemaker's paradise.

- Learn about the varieties that are grown and produced in this region at one of the most renowned wineries in the region.
- Guests will also have the opportunity to sample a selection of local wines.

Bernkastel

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Bernkastel

Burg Landshut Ruins

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Porta Nigra, Trier



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Porta Nigra Trier



Photo Anne Schrader
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This 2022 picture is a good example of how large and ornate the Trier Market Square is in the old town area. You can see the Market Cross and St. Peter's Fountain in the foreground. The tall spire in the center of this picture St. Gangolf's Church that was completed in 1509.



Photo Anne Schrader
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Another picture of the Market Square Trier



Day 3 Enrich Excursions

- This evening's Scenic Enrich

Classical Concert at Liebfrauenkirche, Trier: Tonight, you are in for a special treat with a private classical concert in the breathtaking surroundings of Liebfrauenkirche, located in the heart of the Roman city of Trier.

- The Liebfrauenkirche, or Church of Our Lady, has been listed as a UNESCO world heritage site since 1986. During the concert, you can admire the incredible architecture and intricate stained-glass windows of the church as you are seduced by magnificent pieces of classical music.

Day 4 - Cochem

- A medieval gem resting on the banks of the Moselle River, Cochem will make you feel as if you are stepping directly into a fairy-tale.
- The traditional town is nestled on the riverbanks, with pastel-colored buildings, half-timbered houses, cobbled laneways and an enchanting medieval hilltop castle surrounded by sloped vineyards.

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 of Scenic's e-bikes to explore the town of Cochem and the surrounding region.

- See the impressive Reichsburg Castle sitting proudly above the city and ride through winding streets past half-timbered houses.
- This afternoon you will set sail for Bernkastel.
- **Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Cochem, Germany

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Reichsburg Castle, Cochem

Photo Anne Schrader

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Main Square Cochem

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Day 5 - Rhine Gorge > Rudesheim

- Leaving Koblenz this morning you will cruise along the spectacular World Heritage-listed Rhine Gorge in the Upper Middle Rhine Valley towards Rudesheim. This 65-kilometre stretch of the river is dotted with some 40 hilltop castles and fortresses that span a period of 1,000 years. Sailing down this section of the river is like being transported through the pages of a fairy-tale book.
- The Rhine is abounded in myths and legends; folklore that has been passed on for generations, including the story of Lorelei. This enchanting female was betrayed by her sweetheart and spent her days bewitching men. As her punishment, she was sent to a nunnery, however on her way she jumped to her death in the river. Legend has her spirit casting spells on sailors who passed the rock, where a bronze statue sits today.
- This afternoon you will disembark in Rudesheim, a pretty town surrounded by steep vineyards that have been cultivating wine for a staggering two millennia. The charming town center 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.

Maus (Mouse) Castle

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Katz (Cat) Castle

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Lorelei—this tree-covered cliff inspired the legend of a love forsaken siren who lures sailors to their death by her enchanting song in this swift flowing, narrow part of the Rhine.



Schönburg Castle on the rock massif above Oberwesel

Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com



Pfalzgrafenstein Castle (foreground) & Gutenfels Castle on the Hill

Photo Anne Schrader
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Reichenstein Castle



Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com

Sailing into Rudesheim

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Day 11 Rüdesheim Excursions

- Siegfried's Musikkabinett Museum: From the pier take a mini train through the quaint winding streets of Rüdesheim 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 the 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.

E-bike ride to Schloss Johannisberg: Hop on an e-bike and get your heart racing with a cycling journey towards the beautiful estate of Schloss Johannisberg.

- Your route will take you through the stunning vines overlooking the Rhine River - the surrounding landscape, filled with spectacular views, is a destination in itself.

Siegfried's Mechanical Musical Instrument Museum

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Gondola Ride Rüdesheim



Germania Monument

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Germania Monument



Day 6 - Rastatt

- This afternoon your Space-Ship will dock in Rastatt, your base for today's explorations.
- Why not enjoy a coffee delivered to your suite by your personal butler and a hearty breakfast at Crystal Dining before your day of sightseeing.
- **Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 6 Excursions

- Excursion to Baden Baden: Located on the fringes of the Black Forest, this luxurious town was a favored summer escape during the Belle Epoque and is World Heritage listed as part of the Great Spa Towns of Europe.
- It oozes relaxation, has tranquil green spaces and pretty 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.

Schloss Favorite: Originally built as a hunting lodge and summer palace for Margravine Sibylla Augusta, who ruled Baden-Baden in the early 18th century when 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 Chinese porcelain, black lacquer work and Schwartz porcelain. It is the oldest of the German 'porcelain palaces' and the only one to survive intact to this day.

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.

Baden-Baden



Strasbourg



Photo Anne Schrader
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Strasbourg

Photos Hank Schrader



Strasbourg



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Day 7 - Breisach

- This morning is spent at leisure on board.
- Relax in your suite, many of which have a window that converts into a Scenic Sun Lounge, allowing you uninterrupted views to watch a rolling tapestry of river life as you cruise the river.
- Or you may wish to spend the morning in the exclusive Salt Therapy Lounge, which provides natural anti-viral, anti-inflammatory and anti-bacterial properties.
- We will arrive in Breisach this afternoon.
- 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 WWII but was meticulously rebuilt with its traditional cobbled streets and pastel houses.
- **Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 7 - Breisach

- Excursion to Colmar: Take an excursion over the French border to the colorful 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 colors and its town center is charming with cobblestoned streets and traditional architecture. In town, you'll get to taste traditional Flammkuchen, a flatbread that is the specialty of the region.

Wine tasting at Kaiserstuhl: Volcanic rocks make up a large part of the central and western Kaiserstuhl 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 wines.

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 center to see the Freiburg Minster, a 13th century cathedral that was one of only few that survived the bombings during the Second World War.

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.

- 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.

Photo Anne Schrader
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Freiburg—Historic Merchant's Hall in the Augustinerplatz.



Market at Munster Square, Freiburg



Photo Anne Schrader
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Day 8 - Basel > Zurich

- After a delicious breakfast, you'll be transferred to Zurich airport.
- Please book your flight to depart out of Zurich after 01:30 PM.
- *Safety helmets will be supplied and should be worn while riding e-bikes.
- ^Massage/spa treatments at additional cost.

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