The Jewels of the Rhine with Lucerne & Zurich Emerald Waterways

By

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Europe River Cruise Expert

Route Map From Emerald Waterways



Your Cruise Includes

- 7 nights on board an Emerald Cruises Star-Ship
- Airport transfers to and from the ship
- The services of an Emerald Cruises Cruise Director
- Port taxes and charges
- All tipping and gratuities

Included Tours

- Guided tour of Strasbourg
- Guided tour of Heidelberg
- Walking tour of Koblenz & a visit to Ehrenbreitstein Fortress
- Guided tour of Cologne's Old Town
- Canal cruise in Amsterdam

EmeraldACTIVE

- Guided bike tour in Breisach
- Guided hike from Mount Königstuhl to Heidelberg
- Guided bike tour to Waterland

EmeraldPLUS

- Guided tour of Freiburg with market tasting
- Visit to a local farm estate with cooking demo

Meals

- 20 superb meals including 7 Breakfasts (B), 6 Lunches (L), 7 Dinners (D)
- Including a Welcome and Farewell Reception & Dinner
- Complimentary wine, beer and soft drinks served with lunch and dinner on board

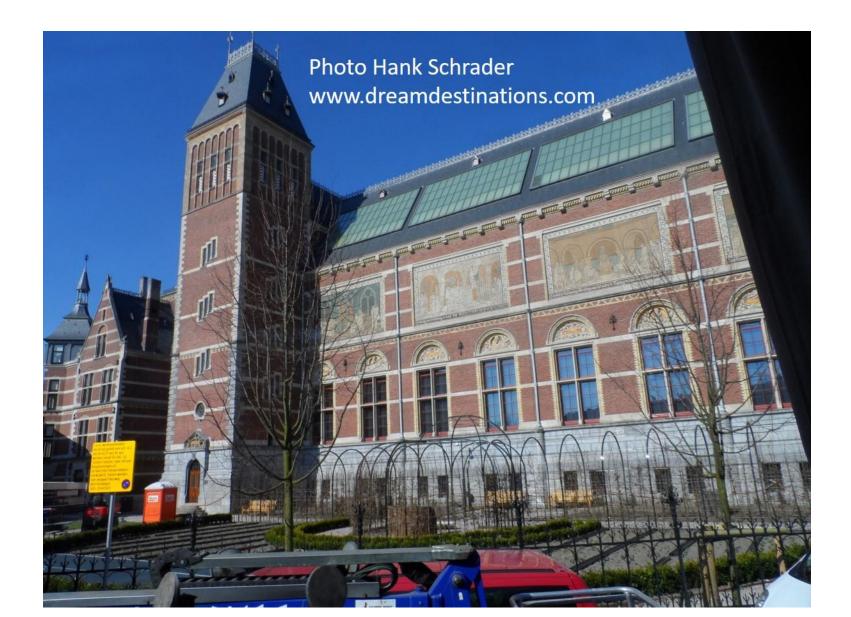
Day 1 - Amsterdam

- Welcome to Amsterdam, the capital of The Netherlands famous for world-class museums, artistic heritage and elaborate canal system.
- You will be met at the airport and taken to your centrally located hotel, with a two-night stay included in your itinerary.

Day 2 - Amsterdam

- This morning, your local guide will take you on a tour of Amsterdam, introducing you to a place of fascinating stories, spellbinding art and remarkable architecture.
- Amsterdam is considered one of the greatest small capitals in the world where your destination is never too far away.
- Your carefully planned walking tour will take you to one of world's greatest museums, the Rijksmuseum, hosting a collecting of over 8000 works including those of Dutch masters Rembrandt, Vermeer and Rubens.
- Included Excursion
- Walking tour of Amsterdam with Rijksmuseum visit
- Meals Included: Breakfast

Guided visit to the famed Rijksmuseum



Day 3 - Amsterdam

- Today, you will be transferred from your hotel to your contemporary Emerald Waterways Star-Ship.
- This evening, join your fellow guests for a welcome dinner on board.
- Meals Included: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 4 - Amsterdam

- Every narrow street and gabled façade in Amsterdam tells a tale of the Dutch Golden Age, a prosperous time when Dutch art was among the most acclaimed in the world.
- Today, relax during a glass-top canal boat tour through Amsterdam's elaborate UNESCO World Heritage-listed canal system, sailing through the city's medieval center and past Roman patrician houses.
- Alternatively, embark on a guided bike tour to Waterland, passing quintessential villages, traditional windmills and flower fields.
- Enjoy sailing through the countryside and towards the Rhine River this afternoon, perhaps enjoying a drink on the Sun Deck and watching the passing scenery before joining your captain for a gala dinner.

• EmeraldACTIVE

- Guided bike tour to Waterland
- Included Excursion
- Canal cruise
- Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Canal Boats, Amsterdam



Typical Gabled Houses as seen from a canal boat cruise in 2013.



Day 5 - Cologne

- Cologne is one of the oldest cities in Germany, effortlessly steeped in history and tales of the past, encapsulating a timeline that spans more than two millennia.
- Your included city tour will take you to the heart of its Old Town. As part of your exciting EmeraldPLUS experience, you'll get to uncover local delicacies and cultural gems meandering at your own pace along quaint historic streets while Seeking the treasures of Cologne.
- Included Excursion
- Guided tour of Cologne's Old Town
- EmeraldPLUS
- Seeking the treasures of Cologne
- Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Cologne Cathedral

Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com



Cologne Cathedral



German-Roman Museum Cologne



Hohenzollern Bridge Cologne



Christmas Markets in Old Market Square Cologne



Day 6 - Koblenz

- Immerse yourself in fairy tale-like surroundings today as we cruise to Koblenz, a town with a postcard-worthy backdrop of vineyards and mountain ranges.
- Your included walking tour of this Roman town will unveil the twintowered façade of the Church of Our Lady, the point at which two of Europe's great rivers meet at the German Corner and Ehrenbreitstein Fortress, one of the largest preserved fortresses in Europe.
- Enjoy sailing through the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Rhine Gorge this afternoon.
- Here, romantic castles sit atop tree-covered canyons and halftimbered medieval villages appear suspended in time.
- Included Excursion
- Orientation walk of Koblenz & a visit to Ehrenbreitstein Fortress
- DiscoverMORE
- Moselle Valley & Cochem Castle visit (extra expense)
- Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Deutsches Eck (German Corner) Koblenz



St Castor's Basilica Koblenz

Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com

Old Town Koblenz



Goerresplaz Square Koblenz



Fortress Ehrenbreitstein



Marksburg Castle



Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com

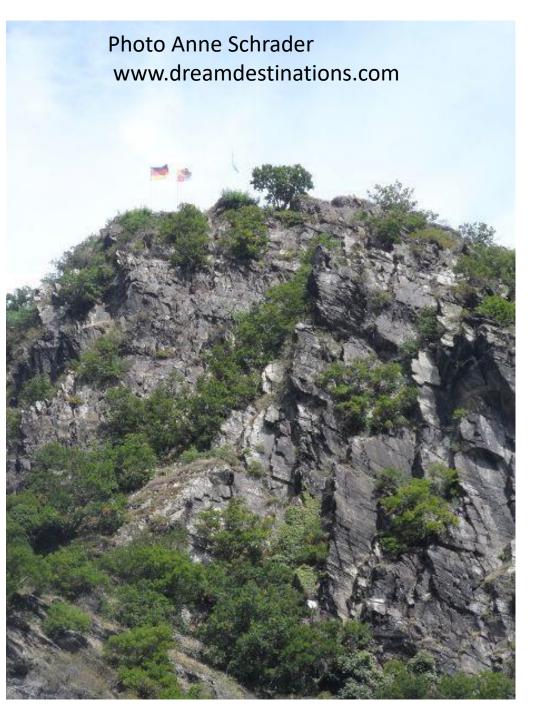
Maus (Mouse) Castle



Katz (Cat) Castle



Lorelei—this treecovered 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



Pfalzgrafenstein Castle (foreground) & Gutenfels Castle on the Hill



Reichenstein Castle



Day 7 - Ludwigshafen – Heidelberg

- This morning, you will discover Heidelberg.
- The idyllic UNESCO City of Literature has inspired the likes of Mark Twain and famed British artist William Turner.
- A guided tour of the town will unveil its rich history, starting at the Renaissance ruins of Heidelberg Castle, where the carefully curated gardens host serene water features, sculptures and colorful flowerbeds.

EmeraldACTIVE

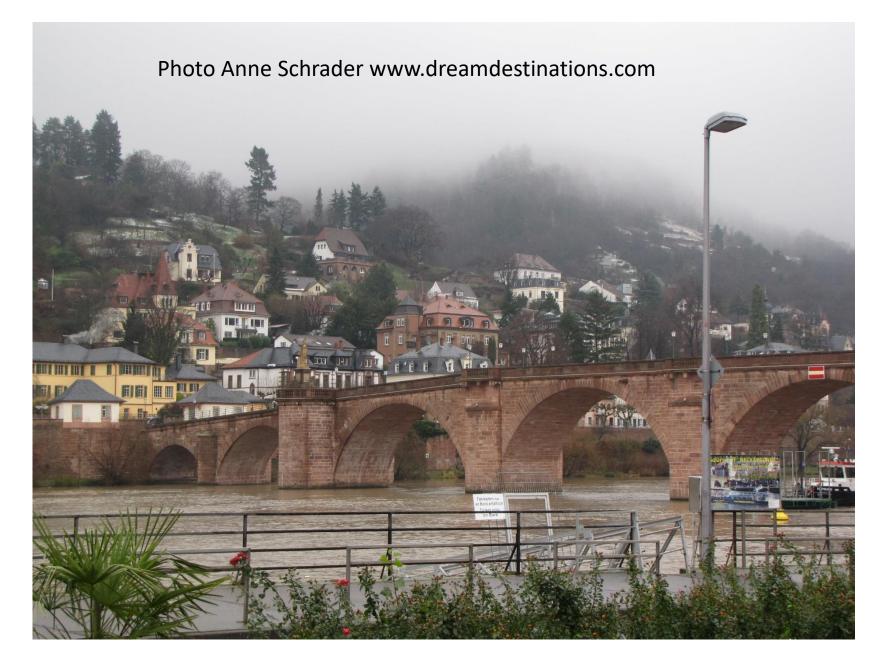
- Hike from Mount Königstuhl to Heidelberg
- Included Excursion
- Guided tour of Heidelberg
- DiscoverMORE
- Evening concert at Bruchsal Palace (extra expense)
- Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Heidelberg Castle in the Snow

Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com



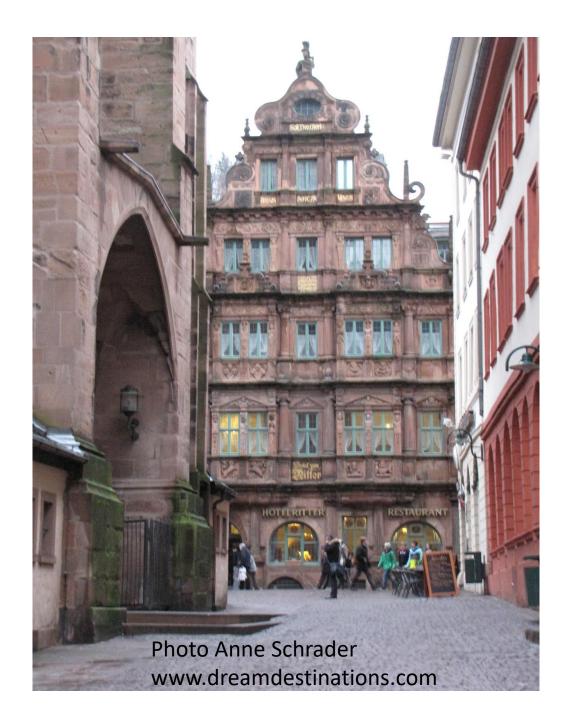
Old Bridge in Heidelberg



Old Bridge Gate Heidelberg



Haus Zum Ritter "House of the Knights" Oldest burger house in the city Heidelberg



Church of the Holy Spirit Heidelberg



Golden Fleece Sign Heidelberg



Hauptstrasse—the main street in the old town of Heidelberg



Dirndls (Traditional Dresses) for sale in Heidelberg



Day 8 - Kehl – Strasbourg

- This morning, you'll dock in Kehl to be transferred by coach to the picturesque town of Strasbourg, where a medieval past is yours to discover among cobbled squares surrounded by halftimbered houses.
- Your included walking tour of the UNESCO World Heritagelisted Old Town will touch on many of Strasbourg's highlights, including the astrological signs that adorn the façade of the Maison Kammerzell and the idyllic historic scenery around Petite France.
- This afternoon, enjoy free time to explore Strasbourg at your leisure.
- Included Excursion
- Guided tour of Strasbourg
- Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Strasbourg



Colorful Shop in Strasbourg





Strasbourg Photos Hank Schrader



There are plenty of small places to eat



A narrow lane in Old Town Strasbourg



Photo Hank Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com

Medieval Watch Towers Strasbourg, France



Strasbourg



Palais Rohan Strasbourg

Photo Hank Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com



Take a Canal Boat Ride in Strasbourg. In the background is Vauban Dam which could flood the III River. It worked in the Franco-Prussian War of 1870.



Day 9 - Breisach - Freiburg

- Today, as part of your incredible EmeraldPLUS program, you will visit the city of Freiburg.
- Considered the 'Capital of the Black Forest', Freiburg has lovely sights that will amaze you.
- As part of your visit, you will also have the opportunity to sample authentic Black Forest delicacies.
- If you're feeling more active, you can choose to join a guided bike tour of Breisach.
- EmeraldPLUS
- Guided tour of Freiburg with tasting
- EmeraldACTIVE
- Guided bike tour in Breisach
- Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Freiburg—Historic Merchant's Hall in the Augustinerplatz.



Market at Munster Square, Freiburg



Day 10 - Basel – Lucerne

- Welcome to Switzerland and the quaint Rhine-side town of Basel.
- After breakfast, you will be transferred by coach to Lucerne, including a two-night stay.
- Meals Included: Breakfast

Day 11 - Lucerne

- Lucerne is known around the world for its spectacular setting, perfectly encapsulating a traditional Swiss city with a backdrop of snow-topped mountain ranges.
- Your morning will start with a guided tour of the city, touching on its well-preserved medieval Altstadt, delightful waterfront promenades and colorful buildings.
- Included Excursion
- A guided tour of Lucerne
- DiscoverMORE
- Train & cable car ride to Rigi Weggis (extra expense)
- Meals Included: Breakfast

Lucerne Switzerland



Lucerne, Switzerland



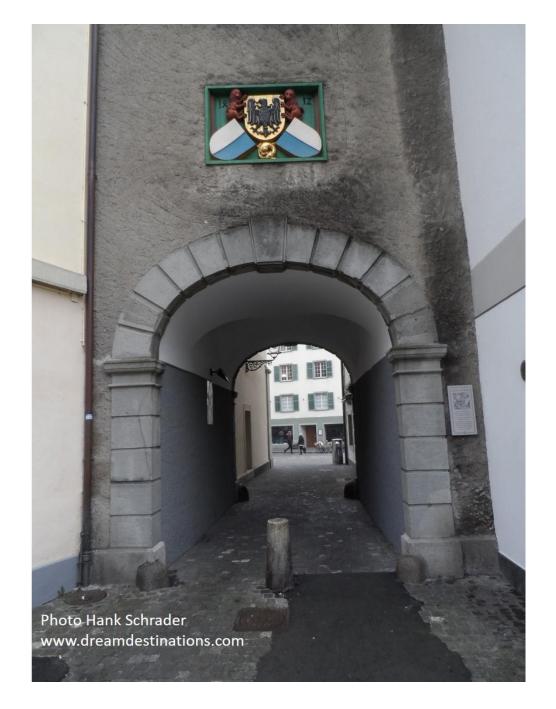
Decorated Building Lucerne, Switzerland



Outer City Walls



Old City Gate and watch tower



Decorated Building Lucerne, Switzerland



Lucerne, Switzerland



Lion Monument, Lucerne Switzerland



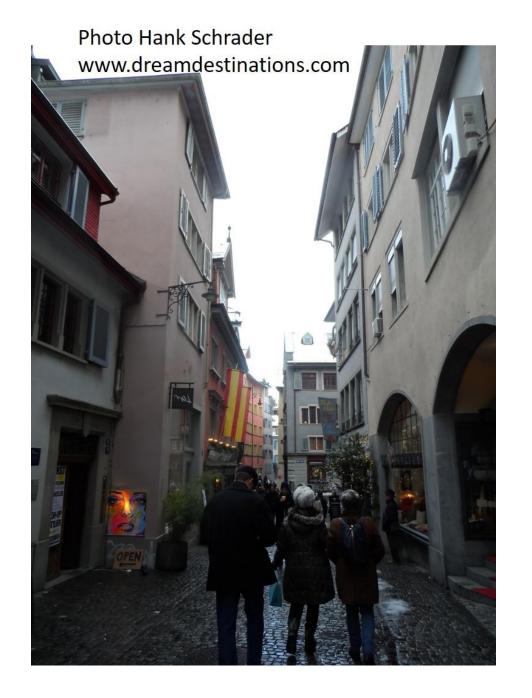
Day 12 - Lucerne – Zurich

- This morning, transfer by coach from Lucerne to the cosmopolitan city of Zurich, known for its towering church steeples, winding cobbled lanes and contemporary center
- When you arrive, enjoy a guided tour of Zurich, followed by free time to explore its delightful lakeside setting, perhaps discovering its famous old town.
- Included Excursion
- Guided tour of Zurich
- Meals Included: Breakfast

Old Town Zurich



Niederhof Street

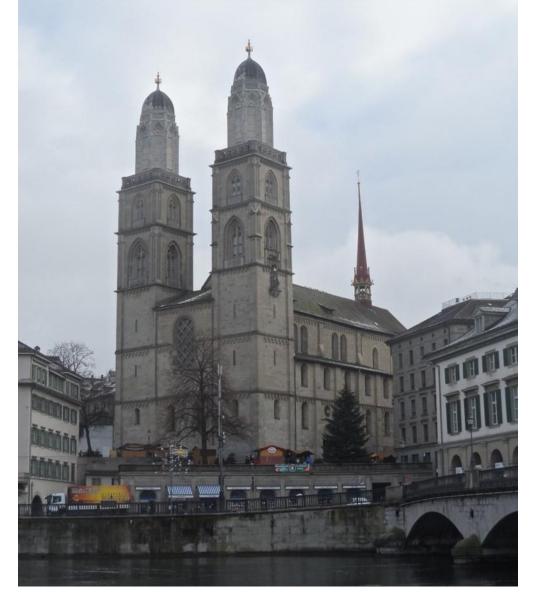


Merchant's Guild House



Grossmunster Church Zurich

Photo Hank Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com



Fraumunster Church Zurich



Munsterhof is largest old town square in Zurich



St. Peter Church Zurich.



St Peter Church Clock Face is the largest in all Europe



Day 13 - Zurich

- After breakfast, it is time to bid farewell to your fellow guests and transfer to the airport, passing a backdrop of mountains and forests on your way.
- 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 for further information.
- Meals Included: Breakfast

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