

Dream Destinations



Your journey begins here!

Christmas Markets on the Rhine 2018

By

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AmaWaterways Cruise Specialist

Overview

- This cruise departs Basel, Switzerland on December 17, 2018 and cruises the Rhine up to Amsterdam, Netherlands, arriving on December 24, 2018.
- This is a great opportunity to visit 4 Europe Countries.
- The cruise ship is the AmaKristina, an 135 meter longship.

AmaKristina

Photo AmaWaterways



Stateroom Features

- 7 nights luxury accommodation in an outside stateroom (most with twin balconies)
- Computer for internet access
- Entertainment on Demand system featuring, movies, TV shows, news and music
- Mini-fridge, desk and sitting area
- Bottled water replenished daily

AmaKistina Twin Balcony Stateroom

Photo AmaWaterways



Category C French Balcony Cabin

Photo AmaWaterways



Category E Stateroom

Photo AmaWaterways



An Array of Amenities

- Personalized service from a highly trained Cruise Manager during both cruise and land programs
- Internet and Wi-Fi access
- Sun deck pool with swim-up bar and walking track
- Fitness room, massage services and hair salon
- Main Lounge with panoramic views and bar
- Daily entertainment including cultural performances

A pool with an outside bar



Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com

Award Wining Dining

- All onboard dining in a variety of venues
- Regionally inspired cuisine made with locally sourced ingredients
- The Chef's Table specialty restaurant
- Captain's Welcome Cocktail and Dinner
- La Chaîne des Rôtisseurs exclusive dining experience
- Unlimited fine wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner
- Unlimited sparkling wine and fresh juice with breakfast
- Tapas, sandwiches, snacks and refreshments served daily in the Main Lounge

A typical dinner meal in the main dining room



Photo Anne Schrader
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The Chef's Table Aft Dining Area



Photo Anne Schrader
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Aft Specialty Dining Room



Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com

Aft Specialty Dining Room Food



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Great Included Tours

- Immersive tours in every destination
- Gentle, regular, active and late-riser tour options
- Bike tours and hikes
- Limited Edition Tours
- Knowledgeable guides
- Personal headset for easy exploration

Day 1 Basel, Switzerland-

EMBARKATION

- Embark the ship.
- Tonight, gather on board for a “Welcome Aboard” Champagne Wine Toast as you commence your awesome itinerary through some of Europe’s most enchanting and historic regions. (D)

A typical welcome ceremony, with the Captain, the Hotel Manager, & Cruise Director



Day 1

- Before arriving to the ship, you might want to visit Basel.
- The town of Basel is known as a longtime center for banking, commerce and trade.
- Basel's glorious past is still evident in its medieval Town Hall and exquisite old homes.
- We sail for Breisach at 10 PM.

Basel Town Hall



Photo Anne Schrader
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The Rhine River at Basel

Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com



Christmas Markets Basel, Switzerland



Basel, Switzerland Christmas Market

Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com



Day 2 BREISACH, GERMANY

- Today, you have your choice of excursions:
- a scenic tour of the villages of Breisach and Freiburg.
- or a visit to the wine village of Riquewihr.
- or a guided bike tour of Breisach that takes you through the Rheinau woods.
- The ship sails in the afternoon to Strasbourg.
(B,L,D)

Freiburg—Historic Merchant's Hall in the Augustinerplatz.



Market at Munster Square, Freiburg



Photo Anne Schrader
www.dreamdestinations.com

Christmas Market Freiburg, Germany 2012



Christmas Market, Freiburg, Germany 2012

Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com



Day 3 STRASBOURG, FRANCE

- Alsace's principal city is situated on the Ill River where it flows into the Rhine at the German border. This morning, take a tour through this charming town lined with narrow cobblestone streets.
- Visit the "La Petite France" district, where you will see the sandstone Gothic Cathedral with its famous astronomical clock, timber-framed buildings, covered bridges and medieval watchtowers.
- As an alternative, take a guided bicycle tour (capacity controlled) past the Orangery, the town's oldest park, the European Parliament, and Place de la Republique.

Strasbourg



Photo Anne Schrader
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Strasbourg



Photo Hank Schrader
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Christmas Market, Strasbourg, France



Photo Anne Schrader
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Day 4

- Arrive in Mannheim, & choose one of 3 morning excursions.
- Option #1 is a half-day excursion to the historic university town of Heidelberg, to visit the red-walled castle with its Great Vat (a 49,000-gallon wine cask) & enjoy beautiful views of the Neckar Valley & city below.
- Option # 2, enjoy a hike up the Philosopher's Path up to a panoramic view point of Heidelberg.
- Option #3 is a city tour of Speyer known for its cathedral, numerous churches and the medieval Altpörtel (Old Gate).

Heidelberg Castle

Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com



Old Bridge Gate Heidelberg



Photo Anne Schrader
www.dreamdestinations.com

Christmas Market, Heidelberg, Germany



Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com

Speyer, Germany

Photo Hank Schrader
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Day 4

- After dinner, you will have the opportunity to visit Siegfried's Mechanical Musical Instrument Museum, home to a remarkable collection of old robotic and self-playing musical instruments, or enjoy a tasting of Rüdesheimer coffee, a local specialty.
- The ship moors overnight. (B,L,D)

Rüdesheimer Coffee



Photo Hank Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com

Day 5

- This morning you will have the option to take one of three excursions:
- a Gondola Ride above the town to see the Niederwalddenkmal Statue followed by wine tasting with a local vintner,
- a guided hike through the town and surrounding vineyards,
- a guided bike tour along the Rhine River to one of Germany's best wine regions.
- Afterwards, you'll have free time to explore the Drosselgasse, the town's most famous and charming street, a narrow passage lined with shops and taverns.

Rüdesheim



Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com

Day 5

- In the afternoon, cruise through the Rhine Gorge, the most stunningly beautiful stretch of the river, with hillsides dotted with fairy-tale castles.
- In the evening, you will arrive at Koblenz and moor overnight (B,L,D).

Rhine Castles



Photo Anne Schrader
www.dreamdestination.com

Rhine River Gorge

Photo Hank Schrader
www.dreamdestinations.com



Photo Hank Schrader
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Koblenz, Germany



Photo Anne Schrader
www.dreamdestinations.com

Day 6 Cologne

- This afternoon, you will take a walking tour through the old part of the city and visit the cathedral in Cologne, famous for its university and legendary 13th-century Gothic cathedral.
- Afterwards, with free time, head to a local pub for a tasting of Kölsch, a distinctive yellow-hued beer brewed only in Cologne.
- This evening sail to Amsterdam and the ship moors overnight (B,L,D).

COLOGNE, Germany

Photo Hank Schrader
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Cologne Christmas Market

Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com



Day 7 Amsterdam

- The ship arrives in Amsterdam at 1 PM.
- Admire beautiful 17th-century homes, charming churches and 16th-century merchant houses on a guided canal boat cruise.
- Later, take a motor coach tour of Amsterdam, exploring the city's most notable sights, followed by free time in Amsterdam (B,L,D).

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

Photo Hank Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com



Canal Boats, Amsterdam

Photo Anne Schrader www.dreamdestinations.com



Why Use Us?

WE ARE RIVER CRUISE EXPERTS!

We have sailed on 14 Europe River Cruises and helped many folks select the perfect river cruise for their vacation.



Anne Schrader

- Certified Travel Counselor (CTC) & Accredited Cruise Counselor (ACC)
- Certified Destination Specialist Western Europe
- '86 U of Houston grad in hotel & restaurant management
- Earned over 20 specialty designations from individual travel vendors



Hank Schrader

- West Point '71, MS U. of Washington, MBA Long Island University
- Accredited Cruise Counselor (ACC)
- Certified Destination Specialist Western Europe
- AmaWaterways River Cruise Specialist
- Visited 81 countries—Europe at least 15 times
- Retired HS World Geography & AP Human Geography Teacher

Why You Should Use Us #1

- **#1 Reason—It costs you nothing for us to plan your travel!**
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- We will help **you protect your travel investment**
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Why You Should Use Us #2

- We will **research & advise** you on the **best possible trip**
- We are honest, hard working with one goal—**to serve you**—we will do what is best for you, not us
- We are small enough to give you **personalized service**, but big enough & experienced enough **to get you the right trip**



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