

# Majestic Rhine & Holland

# Day 1: Depart USA

We depart on our overnight flight to Amsterdam. Sit back, get some rest and enjoy the in-flight service.

#### Day 2: Welcome to Amsterdam

We arrive in Amsterdam and are met by our tour guide who will welcome us to Holland. We'll enjoy a city tour of Amsterdam as we explore the canals and visit to local flower market. This evening get to know fellow travelers over a welcome dinner at a local restaurant.

# Day 3: Ann Frank's House, The Hermitage and Rijksmuseum

This morning enjoy a visit to Anne Frank's House which is one of the 20th century's most compelling stories: a young Jewish girl forced into hiding with her family and their friends to escape deportation by the Nazis. The house Otto Frank used as a hideaway for his family kept them safe until close to the end of World War II. We spend the rest of the day visiting some of Amsterdam's out-

standing art, culture and scenery as we visit museums and take a canal cruise. Avoid the lines and gain skip-the-line entry to the Van Gogh Museum and Rijksmuseum, where you'll take narrated tours with an art historian guide to see and learn about masterpieces by Van Gogh, Rembrandt, Frans Hals, Johannes Vermeer and others. Outdoors, soak up Amsterdam's lovely waterfront sights on an optional 1.5-hour canal cruise, with a light lunch served on board.

## Day 4: Northern Holland

Start your day early to witness the largest flower auction in the world in the town of Aalsmeer where flowers and plants of every shape and size can be found. Afterwards we drive north to the town of Edam, world-famous for its iconic round wheels of cheese. Edam offers outstanding 7th century architecture. Enjoy a break for coffee at one of the cozy cafes in the center of town before we visit Dam Square, the Carillon tower dating back to 1561, City Hall and a visit to a traditional cheese warehouse. We continue north to the village of Enkhuizen for a visit to the Zuiderzee Museum.





Start off your visit by having lunch in one of the cute restaurants on the property. The open-air museum features authentic houses and buildings from nearby fishing villages dating back to 1880. We'll end our day in the charming village of Monnickendam. Stroll around the old center and enjoy a pre-dinner drink at one of the outdoor cafes before heading to dinner at stylish Restaurant Posthoorn. After dinner we return to Amsterdam for our dinner and overnight.

# Day 5: Explore Amsterdam & Embark

Enjoy a leisurely morning to rest at our hotel or explore Amsterdam on our own. This afternoon we'll transfer to our awaiting cruise where our cruise staff will cheerfully greet us. You can use the afternoon to get to know your new surroundings, and there are lots to explore on board! In the evening your cruise director will invite you to enjoy an exclusive welcome cocktail before you're treated to an elegant welcome dinner in the Panorama-Restaurant during your first evening on board.

# Day 6: Amsterdam & Volendam

After enjoying a generous breakfast buffet enjoy the optional combined 'Amsterdam and North Holland' tour highlighting some of the main sights in this Dutch harbor city before you set off on a



canal tour of some of Amsterdam's most romantic canals. A visit to Holland Waterland is included and then a bus transfer to the dreamy fishing village of Volendam where you can take a stroll around the picturesque town and visit a local cheese dairy to find out more about the traditional methods of cheese production in Holland. Your Amadeus vessel will be ready and waiting for you at midday in Volendam and will take you on to the south from here towards Germany.

# Day 7: Cologne

This morning you can savor fascinating views of Germany's most important waterway and enjoy the varied landscapes along the river while your vessel sails for Germany's Rhineland metropolis, Cologne. Arrive in Cologne this afternoon where you have the option for a city walking tour or explore on your own through Germany's fourth largest city. Highlights of the city include the Cologne Cathedral and University of Cologne.

## Day 8: Cochem

On the fifth day of your trip your Amadeus vessel will leave the Rhine briefly and take a detour along its largest tributary, the Moselle. After lunch we arrive in the small romantic town of Cochem in the Moselle Valley. The landscapes here are shaped by thousands of years of winegrowing and, in cultural terms, Germany's second smallest district town has a lot to offer. Enjoy the option to explore Cochem with a tour of the town, taking you into the historic center with its beautifully restored half-timbered buildings. After the tour there's a chance to sample the world-famous Moselle wines — a real treat. After returning to the vessel, we depart from the beautiful Moselle region in the evening and continue towards Koblenz.

#### Day 9: Koblenz & Rudesheim

We arrive in Koblenz in the morning. After breakfast enjoy an optional guided tour exploring this famous city in the 'German Corner' area. The tour takes you to the Church of our Lady, the St. Kastor Basilica and the water fountain at the town hall, a real landmark feature. Also included is a visit to the Kaiser Wilhelm monument in the 'German Corner' where the Rhine and Moselle rivers meet. After your trip the vessel passes along the most beautiful section of the Rhine on this trip, the legendary Middle Rhine Valley and its imposing Loreley Rock. We finally arrive in Rudesheim early in the evening for an optional tour of this small picturesque town. Visit 'Siegfrieds Mechanical Music Museum' with its curious self-playing musical instruments and visit the world-famous Drosselgasse before the vessel departs from Rudesheim again in the late evening.

## Day 10: Mannheim & Speyer

We arrive in Mannheim before breakfast and a special highlight of the cruise awaits here. In the morning enjoy an optional trip to the beautiful medieval city of Heidelberg which was particularly significant during the romantic period. A comfortable coach will take you on to Heidelberg's castle, still regarded as some of the most important Renaissance buildings to the north of the Alps. Heidelberg's old town is particularly charming in cultural terms because it was largely spared during the Second World War and its baroque old town survived unscathed. After the trip you'll be taken back to the vessel which departs from Mannheim around midday and arrives in Speyer a few hours later. This former Roman settlement is one of the oldest in Germany and is home to numerous cultural treasures and magnificent buildings which you can visit during an optional tour of the town. There is, for example, the 55 meter high 'Altportel' which was once the town's Jewish baths which were built in 1128. In the evening your captain will invite you to enjoy a festive gala dinner while vessel sails for France overnight.

# Day 11: Strasbourg

We arrive in Strasbourg in Alsace, France in the early morning. Enjoy an optional comprehensive city tour which will take you to some of the Europe's most important institutions such as the Eu-



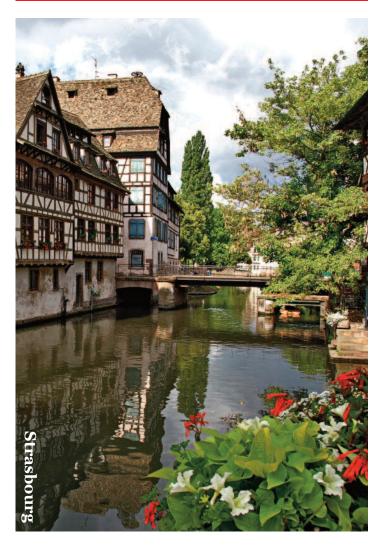
ropean Parliament, the Council of Europe and the European Court of Human Rights. Afterwards you can enjoy a stroll through the romantic old town of this Alsatian metropolis and pay a visit to the historic 'Petite France' quarter and Strasbourg Cathedral, the landmark of the city. Those who wish can take a comfortable boat trip along some of Strasbourg's many picturesque canals after the trip. Finally it's time to return to the vessel which sails from Strasbourg around midday. In the afternoon we recommended a visit to the sun deck or some time out in the Amadeus club where you can savor views of the beautiful Rhineland landscapes in a relaxed and cozy ambience.

# Day 12: Return Home

We transfer to the Basel airport and return home today.

**Price Includes:** All motor coach and land transportation, sightseeing, admissions, services of tour director and driver, lodging, meals as specified in tour itinerary, taxes, gratuities to bellhops and waiters at included meals.

**Not Included:** Cost of obtaining passports or visas, laundry, meals, beverages or sightseeing not included in the itinerary, travel insurance, gratuity to guide, driver, communication charges, & excess baggage fees. Port charges and gratuities to crew are not included on cruises.



# PRICE PER PERSON:

BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

Please contact us at 800.322.0788 or mail@pilgrimtours.com





