

Rhine Holiday Markets

BASEL TO COLOGNE, 8 DAYS

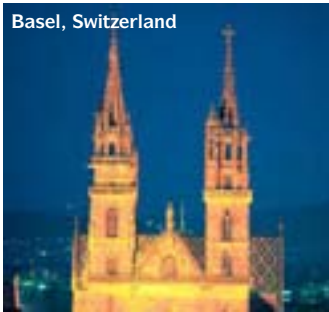
Rhine Holiday Markets River Cruise Package Includes:

- 7-night cruise in a riverview stateroom on the regal *River Queen*
- All meals onboard, prepared using the finest and freshest ingredients
- Complimentary fine wine, beer, and soft drinks during dinner; bottled water in your stateroom; and 24-hour specialty coffees and teas
- 6 shore excursions, fully hosted by English-speaking local guides
- State-of-the-art Quietvox portable audio headset system on all shore excursions
- Captain's Welcome & Farewell Dinners
- Captivating onboard local entertainment
- Signature lecture: "European Christmas Traditions"
- An experienced Cruise Manager and attentive, all English-speaking staff
- All transfers on arrival and departure days (please see transfer guidelines on page 128)

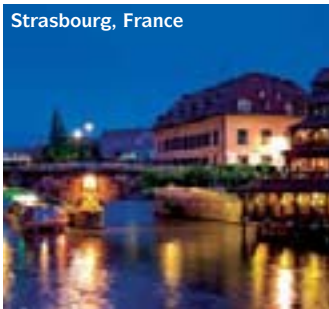
NZ\$ **3,075** per person,
From **3,075** per person,
cruise only



Rhine Holiday Markets



Basel, Switzerland



Strasbourg, France



Share in the joy of the season while cruising along the legendary Rhine through three wonderful countries

Switzerland, France, and Germany provide the perfect backdrop for this true connoisseur's Christmas Markets cruise. Visit the delightful Christmas Markets of Basel, Switzerland, and Strasbourg, France.

Then continue on to Germany—where many of our signature holiday traditions began—with stops in lovely Medieval villages such as Heidelberg, Mainz, Rudesheim, and Koblenz, and the majestic city of Cologne with its UNESCO Gothic cathedral. As you sail along the legendary Rhine, especially the 40 miles along the upper middle Rhine Valley (a UNESCO World Heritage Site), you'll be captivated by ancient fortresses, Medieval castles, and half-timbered villages—all set in a winter wonderland.

This cruise offers so much! The personality of each country shines even more brightly at this time of year because of each area's special holiday traditions. Share the joy and magic of the season and enter into a festive mood as you enjoy the cozy and intimate holiday atmosphere onboard your exquisitely decorated boutique hotel-style cruise ship.

Who will enjoy this cruise: Shoppers looking for unique gifts and Christmas enthusiasts looking for the origins of many traditions, including Christmas trees, gingerbread, candy canes, and St. Nick!



Basel to Cologne

Day	Port
Days 1–2	Basel (embark)
Day 3	Strasbourg
Day 4	Speyer (Heidelberg)
Day 5	Mainz, Rudesheim
Day 6	Cruising the romantic Rhine, Koblenz
Day 7	Cologne
Day 8	Cologne (disembark), transfer to the airport

Departure Dates:

December 7, 21

Cologne to Basel

Day	Port
Days 1–2	Cologne (embark)
Day 3	Koblenz, cruising the romantic Rhine, Rudesheim
Day 4	Rudesheim, Mainz
Day 5	Speyer (Heidelberg)
Day 6	Strasbourg
Days 7–8	Basel (disembark), transfer to the airport

Departure Dates:

November 30, December 14

Note: Christmas markets are generally open from the beginning of Advent until December 23. Uniworld reserves the right to substitute appropriate sights and excursions in keeping with the celebrations of the season.

Rhine Holiday Markets



Day 1: Basel

Arrive at EuroAirport Basel-Mulhouse-Freiburg where you'll be transferred to the ship. (D)

Day 2: Basel

Featured Excursion: Basel walking tour and Christmas Market

Your city walk introduces you to Basel, Switzerland's second-largest city. Over the centuries, it has been a center for banking, trade, and education, all of which are showcased by its striking Town Hall and exquisite patrician homes. Delight in Basel's Christmas Market in the heart of the historic Old Town, and visit the illuminated Christmas Street, which is beautifully decorated with over 100 Christmas trees. (BB, L, Captain's Welcome Dinner)

Day 3: Strasbourg

Featured Excursion: Strasbourg canal cruise and Christmas Market

Situated halfway between Paris and Prague, Strasbourg is known as "The Crossroads of Europe" and home of the magnificent, single-spire Gothic Notre Dame Cathedral and many beautiful half-timbered houses. See Strasbourg as it has been seen through the centuries—on a canal cruise. Cruise past the *Ponts-Couverts*, which are covered bridges linked by Medieval watchtowers once used for observation purposes. Admire the modern building that houses the European Parliament, and enjoy Petite France, which is especially picturesque at this time of year. And visit the oldest Christmas Market in France in a breathtaking setting right in front of Strasbourg's Gothic cathedral. (BB, L, D)

Day 4: Speyer (Heidelberg)


Featured Excursion: Full-day Heidelberg and Christmas Market


Situated on the banks of the Neckar River, Heidelberg is one of Germany's most beautiful cities and one of the best-preserved Medieval cities in Europe. It is also home to one of Germany's oldest universities. Your tour of Heidelberg takes you past the romantic ruins of Heidelberg Castle, a once fortified Gothic castle, and through Old Town, which is all dressed up for the holidays. You'll have ample time to explore the Heidelberg Christmas Market, which spans over five squares. Marvel at the Christmas Pyramid rotating inside the tower at the Marktplatz, or take a ride on the carousel. (BB, D)


Day 5: Mainz, Rudesheim


Featured Excursion: Siegfried's Mechanical Music Museum

Enjoy the morning at leisure in the town of Mainz, once home to Johannes Gutenberg, inventor of the printing press. Stroll through Old Town and the city square, where you'll see Kaiserdom, St. Stephan's Church, and Kurfürstliche Schloss. Explore the St. Nicholas Christmas Market with the 1,000-year-old St. Martin's Cathedral as a backdrop. During the afternoon, cruise from Mainz to Rudesheim, located in the heart of the Rhine Valley. Rudesheim has been a magnet for romantics ever since the early 19th century. Its rolling hills, historical monuments, and winding alleyways are a real treat. While in Rudesheim, you'll visit Siegfried's Mechanical Music Museum and its unique collection of mechanical musical instruments, which is housed in one of Rudesheim's 16th-century mansions. (BB, L, D)


 Embark or Disembark

 Motorcoach

 Museum Visit

 Captain's Welcome Dinner

BB = Buffet Breakfast

 Music Concert

 Winetasting

 Dining Out

 Captain's Farewell Dinner

L = Lunch **D** = Dinner

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Day 6: Cruising the romantic Rhine, Koblenz

Featured Excursion: Koblenz walking tour and Christmas Market

In the morning, you'll cruise to Koblenz via the breathtaking 40 miles of the upper-middle Rhine Valley, recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. With its 40 castles strung like pearls on the hillside, and the famous Lorelei Rock, the valley is the perfect example of the romantic Rhine. Once you arrive in Koblenz, situated at the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle rivers, you'll begin your walking tour through romantic alleys with their half-timbered houses decorated for the season. You'll pass by St. Castor's Church, the Church of Our Lady, Schängel Fountain, and historic City Hall. Afterward, delight in the Koblenz Christmas Market with its dozens of wooden stands offering arts and crafts, spicy mulled wine, and sweet Christmas cakes, and watch the local children skating on the Christmas Market rink. (BB, L, D)

Day 7: Cologne

Featured Excursion: Cologne walking tour, cathedral visit, and Christmas Markets
Stroll through the narrow streets of Old Town as you make your way to the cathedral, the city's beloved landmark and a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site. Cologne boasts no fewer than five Christmas Markets, so we have planned an entire day in this city for you to discover these markets at your own pace following the tour. Be sure to visit the Cologne Cathedral Christmas Market, as well as Alter Markt in front of the City Hall, Neumarkt in Cologne's shopping area, and the Medieval Christmas Market in front of the Chocolate Museum. (BB, L, Captain's Farewell Dinner)

Note: No tours inside of the Cologne Cathedral on Sundays or Catholic holidays.

Day 8: Depart Cologne

Disembark the ship and transfer to Cologne Bonn Airport for your flight home, or extend your stay in lovely Lucerne.

Extend your vacation with this exciting pre- or post-optional extension



Lucerne – The world-famous and historic city of Lucerne is located in the heart of Switzerland, and is unrivaled in its pristine beauty, old-world atmosphere, and Swiss charm. Awesome peaks of the snow-capped Alps frame its shores. Medieval squares, frescoed houses, and ancient churches are nestled throughout. Fine shopping, great museums, and wonderful places to dine, all of which make Lucerne a perfect addition to your winter wonderland trip along the Rhine.



Included in your 3-day stay:

- 2 nights at the first class Astoria Hotel (or similar) with breakfast daily
- All transfers
- Expert local representative as host
- Lucerne walking tour and Christmas Market

Only NZ\$1,295 per person (single supplement NZ\$565)

Note: This extension is for cruises that begin or end in Basel. Arrival and departure transfers will be provided to/from Basel Airport.

Pay-In-Full Discount

PAY-IN-FULL at time of booking on or before **February 28, 2010** to **SAVE NZ\$1,500 per couple** (NZ\$750 per person) off cruise rates on suites or category 1 and 2 staterooms. **SAVE NZ\$1,000 per couple** (NZ\$500 per person) on category 3, 4, and 5 staterooms.

-OR-

Early Booking Discount

BOOK and DEPOSIT on or before **March 31, 2010** to **SAVE NZ\$500 per couple** (NZ\$250 per person) off cruise rates.

Pricing Details Per Person

Departure Dates	Cruise Only	Ship
Nov 30*	NZ\$3,225	<i>River Queen</i>
Dec 7	NZ\$3,225	<i>River Queen</i>
Dec 14*, 21	NZ\$3,075	<i>River Queen</i>

* On these dates cruise operates from Cologne to Basel.

- Port Charges: NZ\$159 - Prices shown above include cruise in Cat. 5, Moselle Deck.

- A limited number of singles are available for an additional supplement.

- Air fare is not included in these prices. Please contact us for details.

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To upgrade to a higher category, add the following per-person price below:

Category 4	NZ\$275	Category 1	NZ\$1,325
Category 3	NZ\$675	Suite	NZ\$2,250
Category 2	NZ\$999	See Deck Plan on page 123	