

AMAWATERWAYS®

2027 SWISS ALPS & RHINE CASTLES
AT

13 NIGHTS · 2 NIGHTS MILAN, ITALY AND 2 NIGHTS LAKE COMO, ITALY; 7-NIGHT BASEL, SWITZERLAND TO AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS CRUISE; 2 NIGHTS AMSTERDAM

Discover fairytale castles, historic vineyards and the stunning remnant of a world frozen over with glaciers as part of this all-encompassing Rhine River cruise and land fantasy. Start by spending time in Italy's vibrant Milan and beautiful Lake Como. Continue on to Basel before crossing the border into France's Alsace region in enchanting Strasbourg. Then it's off to Germany, where you'll discover not only the grand city of Cologne but charming villages like the winemaking hamlet of Rüdesheim and the university town of Heidelberg. You'll also enjoy cruising through the UNESCO-designated Rhine Gorge, where 40 castles are strung like pearls along the riverbanks. Conclude your cruise by exploring the canal-laden city of Amsterdam, with its neat rows of buildings and rich history.

DAY	DESTINATION	YOUR ITINERARY
1	Milan	Hotel check-in
2	Milan	Walking tour & Cathedral visit
3	Milan	Transfer to Lake Como
	Lake Como	Walking tour
4	Lake Como	Lake Como boat excursion to the "Pearl of Lake Como," Bellagio
5	Lake Como	Transfer to Basel
		Lucerne visit
		RIVER CRUISE EMBARKATION
6	Basel	"City of Art" tour
		OR Full-Day Lucerne excursion*
		OR "Three Countries" bike tour
		Swiss wine tasting
		OR Castle visit
		OR Castle hik
7	Strasbourg	"The Gem of Alsace" tour
		OR Strasbourg bike tour
8	Ludwigshafen	"Romantic Heidelberg" excursion
		OR "Secrets of Speyer" tour
		OR Heidelberg Philosopher's Path hike
		OR Ladenburg bike tour

	Rüdesheim	Siegfried's Mechanical Instrument Cabinet
		OR Rüdesheimer coffee
9	Rüdesheim	Gondola ride and wine tasting
		OR Vineyards hike
		OR Guided bike tour of the Rheingau
	Rhine Gorge	Castles along the Rhine scenic cruising
	Lahnstein	Exclusive Burg Lahneck Castle tour
10	Cologne	Cologne walking tour & Kölsch beer tasting
		OR Cologne bike tour
11	Amsterdam	Canal cruise
		OR A Taste of Amsterdam**
12	Amsterdam	**RIVER CRUISE DISEMBARKATION**
		Zaanse Schans visit
		Hotel check-in
13	Amsterdam	Walking tour
14	Amsterdam	Return flight home

**Not combinable with other tours on this day.*
***May be replaced with alternate tour based on docking location.*

Day 1, ARRIVE IN MILAN, ITALY. Arrive in Milan and check into your hotel.

Day 2, MILAN. Discover Milan's elegance on a guided stroll through its historic heart. Enjoy a visit to the Duomo, marveling at its Gothic interiors and ascending to the breathtaking rooftop terraces, and explore the majestic Sforza Castle, a Renaissance fortress with Leonardo da Vinci frescoes and extensive art collections. (B)

Day 3, MILAN – LAKE COMO, ITALY. This morning, you will depart Milan for Lake Como. When you arrive, be treated to a walking tour of Lake Como, a former glacial lake and popular resort area for the rich and famous since Roman times. Gaze at the azure waters and impressive villas that line the lakeside from the hills above and perhaps recognize the scenery from such Hollywood blockbusters as *Ocean's Twelve* and *Casino Royale*. (B)

Day 4, LAKE COMO – BELLAGIO. Let the wind tousle your hair as you board your boat for a scenic ride along Lake Como to its stunning pearl, Bellagio. This intimate village offers postcard-perfect views whether you choose to stroll along the lakeside or venture up hill to its cobbled streets. Browse the shops or sample the local fare at Bellagio's restaurants before returning to the boat. (B)

Day 5, LAKE COMO – LUCERNE – BASEL, SWITZERLAND. Check out of your Lake Como hotel and, en route to Basel, you will stop in Lucerne for a short orientation tour and free time for lunch. Once you arrive in Basel, embark your ship for your *Swiss Alps & Rhine Castles* cruise. (B,D)

Day 5, BASEL – LUCERNE, SWITZERLAND. Enjoy getting to know Basel, Switzerland's third largest city. Long an important university, banking and trade center, Basel's glorious past is still evident in its medieval town hall, richly decorated market square and exquisite 18th-century patrician homes. Tour the city by foot or on a guided bike tour that takes you through three countries: Switzerland, France and Germany. Alternatively, you may opt to visit Lucerne with a full-day excursion. In the afternoon, for guests who have not chosen the full-day Lucerne excursion, visit a local winery to sample Swiss wines, tour Wildegg Castle, a fortress built by the Habsburgs in the early 13th century that features a 3,300 square meter garden, or embark on an exhilarating hike to the castle. (B,L,D)

Day 6, STRASBOURG, FRANCE. Strasbourg offers flavors of both France and Germany because of its borderline location. Enjoy a short drive to the Place de la République before walking through the iconic "La Petite France" district, lifted straight from the pages of a fairytale. Wander through charming streets past the Cathédrale de Nôtre Dame with its famous astronomical clock. Alternatively, take a guided bike ride through the city and Parc de l'Orangerie. (B,L,D)

Day 7, LUDWIGSHAFEN, GERMANY – RÜDESHEIM, GERMANY. Ludwigshafen is your gateway to a choice of four excursions. Visit Heidelberg, the perfectly preserved medieval city nestled in the Neckar River Valley along Germany's Castle Road. Discover the iconic red sandstone Heidelberg Castle and Great Vat, an 18th-century, 49,000-gallon wine cask. For a more active adventure while in Heidelberg, join a guided hike up the Philosopher's Path, aptly named during the Romantic Period, and enjoy panoramic views of the city. Alternatively, you can visit one of Germany's oldest cities, Speyer, known for the largest Romanesque cathedral in Europe—a UNESCO World Heritage Site—and the medieval Old Gate, Altpörtel. Or pedal along the river Neckar to the picturesque medieval city center of Ladenburg and enjoy some free time to explore the shops. Later in the day, cruise to the charming village of Rüdesheim and let Siegfried's Mechanical Instrument Cabinet charm you with its remarkable collection of self-playing musical instruments; or taste one of the town's special delights, Rüdesheimer coffee, ceremoniously made with brandy, coffee and whipped cream. (B,L,D)

Day 8, RÜDESHEIM. Join a wine tasting to discover the flavors of the town's iconic vineyards and drink up the stunning views by soaring high above the vineyards with a gondola ride to the Niederwalddenkmal. For a more active adventure, hike through the town's beautiful vineyards or join a guided bike tour along the scenic Rhine River. Later in the day, cruise through the captivating UNESCO-designated Rhine Gorge, the most stunningly beautiful stretch of the river before reaching Lahnstein, where you will enjoy an exclusive evening visit at Burg Lahneck Castle. (B,L,D)

DAY 9, COLOGNE, GERMANY. Enjoy cruising to Cologne, then join a guided tour through the enchanting Old Town, where you will see sites such as the Cologne Rathaus, Germany's oldest town hall; the Fishmarkt, which dates back to the 12th century and the Great St. Martin Church. End your city tour with a visit to a local tavern to taste its famous Kölsch beer. Active guests will want to join a guided bike ride along the Rhine and through the historic Stadtgarten. (B,L,D)

Day 10, AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS. There are 165 canals in Amsterdam, and you'll get to enjoy some of them on your canal cruise. Alternatively, get a taste of local flavor, passing iconic canals, gabled houses, narrow bridges and house boats while tasting Dutch specialties at one of Amsterdam's grand cafes. (B,L,D)

**Please note: A Taste of Amsterdam tour depends upon docking location and may be replaced with an alternate tour.*

Day 12, DISEMBARKATION – AMSTERDAM. Disembark from your ship, then enjoy a visit to Zaanse Schans, observing life as it used to be lived in the Netherlands. Authentic windmills, houses and shops were relocated to this picturesque area, creating a typical 17th- to 18th-century village. Later in the day, check into your hotel. (B)

Day 13, AMSTERDAM. Follow your guide through the charming capital of the Netherlands, with its iconic meandering canals, bridges and distinctive architecture. (B)

Day 14, AMSTERDAM. Bid farewell to Amsterdam as you prepare for your return flight home. (B)

(B,L,D) – Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner are included on this day.

Itinerary is subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, please refer to the itinerary schedule provided with your final documents.