Rhine, Saar & Moselle Rivers
FEATURED THE ALSACE REGION

COMMONWEALTH CLUB TRAVEL
May 16 to 27, 2024
From Germany to Luxembourg and ending in France, you will delight in voyaging the gorgeous Moselle, Saar, and Rhine Rivers. Cruise on one of the finest boats to float on Europe’s sparkling waters on the exclusively chartered, deluxe AMADEUS BRILLIANT on this 12-day, 10-night special itinerary—with many spectacular hillside vineyards to admire along the way.

Relish in experiencing four UNESCO World Heritage Sites: The Gothic Kölner Dom Cathedral, the Roman ruins of Boppard and Trier, and La Petite France’s medieval charm. Bask in the stunning Art Nouveau architecture of Traben-Trarbach and the Neo-Gothic Reichsburg Castle in Cochem. Be awestruck by the storied history of winemaking in these notable river valleys and wind through the lovely Alsatian city of Strasbourg, France. Visit a local winery where the grapes are still grown using the ancestral process—meaning they are still handpicked and crushed by feet! Whether you are a wine enthusiast or not, this trip of a lifetime is sure to have something of beauty for everyone to fondly remember for years to come.

Front cover: Reichsburg Castle in Coche, Germany
Dear Club Members,

We invite you to traverse three countries and the western heart of the continent while traversing the gorgeous Moselle, Saar, and Rhine Rivers. Cruise aboard the exclusively chartered, deluxe AMADEUS BRILLIANT—one of the finest boats to ply the waters of Europe—from Cologne, Germany, through Luxembourg, to Strasbourg, France.

In this 12-day, 10-night exclusive itinerary—co-sponsored with several educational organizations including the National Trust for Historical Preservation, Columbia University, and the University of Miami Ohio—float along the storied UNESCO World Heritage-designated middle Rhine Valley, passing the hillside vineyards of many renowned wine regions and meandering through the lovely Alsation city of Strasbourg, France.

Delight in the opportunity to experience four UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including the majestic Kölner Dom Cathedral, Romanesque towns of Boppard and Trier, and medieval La Petite France. Admire the stunning Art Nouveau architecture of Traben-Trarbach and the Neo-Gothic Reichsburg Castle in Cochem. Relish in the rich history of winemaking in the river valleys and experience the fascinating culture with many fine tastings—even visit a local winery where the grapes are still crushed by feet!

This popular program is an excellent value with all excursions and deluxe accommodations included. Reserve now while the extended booking discount and space are still available.

Best regards,

Kristina Nemeth
Travel Director
(415) 597-6720

To secure your spot, call Commonwealth Club Travel at 415-597-6720 or email us at travel@commonwealthclub.org
The lands surrounding the glittering Rhine, Saar, and Moselle rivers are home to many wine regions, each offering a little something different for wine lovers, connoisseurs, and sommeliers alike. UNESCO-inscribed Domaine Croix Duplex offers 31 wines to taste from the Lavaux region, one of the largest wine-growing areas in Switzerland. Traverse along the Moselle River’s wine valley, which prides itself in producing quality white wine—among which are the well-known Riesling variety—in some of the coldest climates used for commercial winemaking. Be inspired by the spectacular vineyards surrounding Traben-Trarbach, one of the world's largest wine-trading hubs and home to special celebrations like the Mosel Wine Festival and the Mosel Wine Night Market. In the heart of the Mosel wine region, visit one of many wine cellars in famed wine town Bernkastel-Kues and enjoy a beautiful vineyard-surrounded stroll through Saarburg. Finally, savor the tastes of Alsacian wine from a local winery in its wine region along the Rhine River—wine made using only the ancestral process of handpicking and feet-crushing grapes.
Rebuilding for Greatness

Many of the architectural wonders that grace the areas near the Rhine, Saar, and Moselle rivers—once completely decimated—rose from their own ashes into the majestic sites they are known as today. Cologne Cathedral, also known as the Kölner Dom and the largest Gothic church in northern Europe, was out of commission for centuries following a 13th-century fire—however, restoration work for the church began in the 1820s and was spurred by a proponent of the Gothic Revival movement, with construction finishing up by 1880. The cathedral was damaged by Allied air raids in 1944 but was restored completely and back in regular use by 1956. Koblenz’s Romanesque architecture takes you back to its beginnings in 9 B.C.—most of the city was destroyed during World War II, though many of its historic buildings were restored and gave the city a more modern look. The Reichsburg Castle in Cochem, which was restored in a neo-Gothic style in the 19th century, was first built in 1000 by the Palatinate Empire and destroyed in the 17th century after French troops took over the town, with the castle still known for its iconic Renaissance and Baroque furniture. Traben-Trarbach’s Art Nouveau architecture was born partially due to the once independent communities joining together as one, thus the need for a bridge uniting the two towns arose. Transport back in time while admiring the Roman ruins in Trier and be enchanted by Saarburg’s “Little Venice” half-timbered and Baroque architecture—along with Vianden Castle, a feudal residence from the Roman and Gothic periods.

INCLUDED FEATURES

♦ Transfers and luggage handling abroad if you purchased air through Gohagan & Company and your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
♦ Experienced, English-speaking local guides for included excursions.
♦ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
♦ Complimentary bottled water in your suite or stateroom and on excursions.
♦ Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
♦ Complimentary use of an audio headset during guided excursions.
♦ Automatic $250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
♦ Hospitality desk aboard the ship.
♦ Meals included as noted in the itinerary (B,L,R,D).
12-DAY/10-NIGHT ITINERARY

Depart Home City/ Frankfurt, Germany/ Cologne/Embark

Days 1 & 2
Arrive in Frankfurt after an overnight flight departing your home city and transfer to Cologne. Embark on the AMADEUS BRILLIANT and enjoy lunch on board before exploring Cologne’s Old Town and seeing the UNESCO World Heritage-designated Kolner Dom. Return to the ship for the Captain’s Welcome Reception and dinner onboard. (l,r,d)

Lorelei Passage/ Boppard/Koblenz

Day 3
Admire the splendid Rhine River while cruising the Lorelei Passage and see the quaint villages and castle-dotted hilltops. Stop in UNESCO-inscribed Boppard and see its ancient Roman remains at the Archaeological Park. Stroll through the town and see its storied past and modern-day present come together with its medieval Bingen Gate and current cozy cafés and shopping. See the Ritter Schwalbach Haus, one of the oldest houses in Boppard, and walk the narrow lanes and the Bingergasse formerly occupied by wine merchants. Later, take a stroll within Koblenz, positioned at the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle Rivers, and see its impressive Romanesque architecture. Join your fellow passengers for the Captain’s Welcome Dinner onboard the ship. (b,l,d)

Cochem

Day 4
Cruise the romantic Moselle River, the largest tributary of the Rhine River and known for its abundance of vineyards clinging to the steep sides. Enjoy a walking tour of charming Cochem with a visit to the Imperial Reichsburg castle. From the castle, take in the impressive view of its surrounding dreamy forests and vineyards before returning to the ship for lunch and dinner. (b,l,d)

Traben-Trarbach/ Bernkastel-Kues

Day 5
Lovers of Art Nouveau architecture will rejoice as they take in the beauty of Traben-Trarbach through a walking tour of the town. See splendid mansions once belonging to wealthy wine merchants before returning for lunch onboard the ship. Later, stroll through charming Bernkastel-Kues, known for its medieval marketplace and gabled houses including the Spitzhäuschen (Pointed House). Enjoy a wine tasting in one of the town’s many wine cellars before returning to the ship for dinner. (b,l,d)

Trier

Day 6
Saunter through the UNESCO-inscribed Roman sights of Trier, the oldest city in Germany. Admire sights like the Porta Nigra (Black Gate), dating back to the second century, and the Basilica of Roman Emperor Constantine—the largest single-room structure to survive from Roman times. See the 16th-century St. Peter’s Fountain, the ornate Rococo Prince Bishop’s Palace, and the Imperial Baths before enjoying lunch and dinner onboard. (b,l,d)

Saarlouis/Saarburg

Day 7
Explore Saarburg—an idyllic town surrounded by forests
and Saar Valley wine vineyards that remained after the Saar Castle above it fell to ruin from the Thirty Years’ War. See the town’s waterfall in the center of its “Little Venice” and stroll through this picturesque burgh before returning to the ship for dinner onboard. (B,L,D).

**Grevenmacher, Luxembourg/Luxembourg City**  
**Day 8**
Built between the 11th and 14th centuries, Vianden Castle is one of the largest and most astounding feudal residences of the Roman and Gothic periods. Visit the castle once occupied by the ancestors of the current Dutch and Luxembourg royal families and explore its beautiful grounds. Later, head over to Luxembourg City for lunch and discover its historic center. Take in its many stunning views on the Corniche—otherwise known as the “most beautiful balcony of Europe”—and at Constitution Square. Among the many amazing sights of this city tour include the Place d’Armes and the Neumünster Abbey. Join the Captain’s Farewell Reception and Dinner onboard. (B,L,R,D)

**Grevenmacher/Disembark/Strasbourg, France**  
**Day 9**
Disembark the ship at Grevenmacher and transfer via coach to Saarbrücken. Explore the city and its landmarks, including the Baroque Ludwig’s Church, along with the restored Saarbrücken Castle’s melange of Baroque, Classicist, and modern architectural styles. After lunch, transfer to Strasbourg, France, and check into the SOFITEL STRASBOURG HOTEL before enjoying dinner on your own. (B,L)

**Strasbourg**  
**Day 10**
Explore Alsace’s capital city Strasbourg, situated right on the Franco-German border. See Strasbourg’s jaw-dropping Notre-Dame Cathedral, which survived the French Revolution, the Franco-Prussian War, and both World Wars. Walk through the UNESCO-designated La Petite France, where medieval houses line cobblestone lanes and 13th-century bridges span serene canals. Enjoy the afternoon at your leisure and lunch and dinner on your own. (B)

**Strasbourg/Colmar**  
**Day 11**
Spend the first half of the day exploring the Alsatian wine route and immerse yourself in the region’s renowned vineyards. Visit a local winery where grapes are only handpicked and feet-crushed. Following lunch and an Alsacian wine tasting, venture into Colmar to follow the steps of “Statue of Liberty” creator Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi and discover the city’s hidden wonders. Join your fellow travelers later for a farewell reception at the hotel before enjoying dinner on your own. (B,L,R)

**Strasbourg/Return to Home City**  
**Day 12**
After enjoying breakfast at the hotel, transfer to Frankfurt Airport and board your overnight return flight to your home city. (B)
### Category LAND/CRUISE RATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Early Booking Rate through Dec. 27, 2023</th>
<th>Rates after Dec. 27, 2023</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C4</td>
<td>$3,595</td>
<td>$3,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C1</td>
<td>$4,315</td>
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<tr>
<td>B4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suite</td>
<td>$6,835</td>
<td>$7,595</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Per person, based on double occupancy, excluding taxes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C4</td>
<td>Stateroom with small panoramic window. Haydn Deck, midship.</td>
<td>$3,595</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C1</td>
<td>Stateroom with small panoramic window. Haydn Deck, midship.</td>
<td>$4,315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B4</td>
<td>Stateroom with floor-to-ceiling panoramic window that lowers to French-balcony height. Strauss Deck, aft. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$4,765</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B1</td>
<td>Stateroom with floor-to-ceiling panoramic window that lowers to French-balcony height. Strauss Deck, aft and midship. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$5,215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A1</td>
<td>Stateroom with floor-to-ceiling panoramic window that lowers to French-balcony height. Mozart Deck, aft and midship. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$5,935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suite</td>
<td>Suite with private balcony (sliding glass doors with railing), sofa and bath robes. Mozart Deck, midship.</td>
<td>$6,835</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Single supplements apply to the following categories, C1 and C4, at 160% of the per person double price and are subject to availability.

Port taxes are an additional $55 per person. Customers will be notified of any fuel surcharge fee prior to final payment. This fee will then be charged and collected by the vessel operating company while on board. Deck plans available upon request.

To secure your spot, call Commonwealth Club Travel at 415-597-6720 or email us at travel@commonwealthclub.org

**2024 DEPARTURE DATE:** May 16 to 27 (Embarkation: May 17 at 12:30 pm)

**Amadeus Brilliant:** The elegant and meticulously crafted Amadeus Brilliant, newly renovated in 2020, features all the comforts of a refined and traditional hotel. The English-speaking, international crew provides warm hospitality. The Amadeus fleet has earned the “Green Globe Certificate” of environmental sustainability. The 76 stylish staterooms and suites are among the most spacious of any European river boat (107 to 236 square feet). Suites include a private balcony, and select staterooms feature a unique floor-to-ceiling window that lowers to French-balcony height at the touch of a button. Accommodations have two twin beds or one queen bed, individual climate control, sitting area, private bathroom with shower, and a minibar.
**PRE-PROGRAM OPTION**

**The Netherlands**  
*May 13 to 17, 2024 (Tour Begins: May 14)*

The historic heart of Amsterdam, laced with tree-shaded canals and stately 16th- and 17th-century merchant houses, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the perfect introduction to your voyage along the Rhine, Saar, and Moselle rivers. Visit the world-class Rijksmuseum and cruise the beautiful Amsterdam Canal. Enjoy a full-day excursion to quaint Edam, world famous for its cheese, and historic Hoorn, one of the great seafaring towns of the Golden Age. Accommodations are for three nights in the **Doubletree Centraal Station Amsterdam Hotel**.

*Price per person, based on double occupancy:* $1,095  
*Price per person, based on single occupancy:* $1,425

**POST-PROGRAM OPTION**

**Switzerland**  
*May 27 to 30, 2024 (Tour Ends: May 29)*

Enhance your main trip with an extension filled with wine and delicacy tasting opportunities. Stroll through Bern and visit the Baroque building Kornhaus, a former granary first built in the 15th century and now is an inviting restaurant. Enjoy a full-day excursion through the Montreux, Chillon, and Lavaux vineyards and taste delectable wines and local delicatessen at the Domaine Croix Duplex. Visit Chillon Castle, first built as a Roman outpost and was a prison during the Renaissance and Mannerism periods. Explore Gruyeres, known best for its iconic cheese-making and its beautiful medieval town center. Spend three nights at the **HOTEL ANGLETERRE & RESIDENCE** in the picturesque town of Lausanne.

*Price per person, based on double occupancy:* $1,095  
*Price per person, based on single occupancy:* $1,425

Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.
EARLY BOOKING SAVINGS UP TO $1,580 PER COUPLE

Riquewihr vineyard in the Alsace Wine Country

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