

Friendship Force presents ...

Cruise in a group of 38-45 aboard our privately owned 140-passenger ships

Christmas Markets Along the Rhine

Switzerland: Basel • **France:** Kayserberg, Riquewih, Strasbourg • **Germany:** Plittersdorf, Baden-Baden, Speyer, Mainz, Koblenz, Cologne • **The Netherlands:** Nijmegen, Amsterdam

11 days from **\$2495**

River Cruise only



Airfare is not included in price, please call for airfare pricing.

IT'S INCLUDED

airport transfers, government taxes, fees, and airline fuel surcharges, unless you choose to make your own air arrangements

Accommodations for 10 nights aboard a private river ship with wireless Internet access now in all common areas and cabins

ALL meals: Daily breakfasts, 9 lunches, and 10 dinners—plus all onboard house beer & wine, as well as soft drinks

7 included tours with personal headsets, **up to 7 Christmas markets**, and **4 Exclusive Discovery Series events**—Home-Hosted *Kaffeeklatsch* • German Christmas Traditions discussion • *Stollen* baking demonstration • *Operation Market Garden* discussion

Local Program Directors, a Grand Circle Cruise Line exclusive: These dedicated experts are with you and your group of 38-45 travelers from beginning to end to provide insider's knowledge and the perspective that will enrich your experience

Gratuities for local guides and motorcoach drivers

Baggage handling for 1 piece of luggage per person, including tips

All port charges

5% Frequent Traveler Credit toward your next trip—an average of \$189



Reservations & Information **800-221-2610**

ITINERARY OVERVIEW

DECEMBER 1, 2019

Day 1 • Depart U.S.

Day 2 • Basel, Switzerland

Embark ship

Port Basel

Day 3-4 • France

Ports Breisach, Germany • Strasbourg

Included Tours Kayserberg •

Strasbourg

Day 5-6 • Germany: Upper Rhine

Ports Plittersdorf • Speyer

Included Tour Baden-Baden

Optional Tour Heidelberg

Day 7-9 • Germany: Middle Rhine

Ports Mainz • Koblenz

Included Tours Mainz • Koblenz

Optional Tour Rudesheim Dinner

Day 10-11 • Germany & The Netherlands: Lower Rhine

Ports Cologne • Nijmegen •

Amsterdam

Included Tours Cologne • Nijmegen

Day 12 • Return to U.S.

Disembark ship

MAXIMIZE YOUR DISCOVERIES & VALUE

OPTIONAL EXTENSIONS

all with FREE Single Supplements

Basel, Switzerland

3 nights pre-trip from \$645

Brussels & Bruges, Belgium

3 nights post-trip from \$795

PLEASE MENTION THIS
CODE WHEN BOOKING

G9-25992

www.gct.com/rxs2019

WHAT TO EXPECT

Group Size

- This trip has a group size of 38-45 travelers with a local Program Director exclusive to Grand Circle

Pacing

- 11 days, with 10 nights aboard a river ship
- Return flights often require departing in early morning hours

Physical Requirements

- Walk 1-3 miles unassisted and participate in 2-3 hours of physical activities each day, including stairs

- Not accessible for travelers using wheelchairs or scooters
- Travelers using walkers, crutches, or other mobility aids must travel with a companion who can assist them throughout the trip
- We reserve the right for Program Directors to restrict participation, or in some circumstances send travelers home, if their limitations impact the group's experience

Terrain & Transportation

- Diverse terrain and uneven walking surfaces, including steep and unpaved paths, hills, riverbanks, 25-50 stairs without handrails, and cobblestones
- Travel by 140-passenger river ship and 49-seat coach
- Changes in water-level depths may require adjustments to your itinerary, including your Strasbourg canal cruise

Climate

- Daytime temperatures range from 38-51°F during cruising season
- Rain, ice, snow, and wind are possible during the holiday season

YOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1 Depart U.S.

DAY 2 Arrive Basel, Switzerland • Embark ship

Arrive in Basel, Switzerland today. A Grand Circle representative will meet you at the Basel airport and assist you with your transfer to your river ship, which will be all decked out for the season. If you began your discoveries early with our pre-trip extension to *Basel, Switzerland*, you will join your main group today.

D—River Ship

DAY 3 Breisach, Germany • Kaysersberg, France

This morning, you'll sail toward Breisach, Germany, set just on the edge of the Black Forest.

Then transfer to Kaysersberg, France, to visit the Albert Schweitzer Museum, renowned for its extensive collection of memorabilia from the life of this 1953 Nobel Peace Prize winner, before heading the well-known "wine village" of Riquewihr.

Tonight, gather with your fellow travelers and Program Director onboard for a

Captain's Welcome Drink and Dinner as you cruise to Strasbourg.

B,L,D—River Ship

DAY 4 Strasbourg

Get acquainted with Strasbourg this morning as you enjoy an included boat tour around the *Grande Ile*, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. You'll then enjoy the afternoon to explore the city's Christmas markets on your own.

B,L,D—River Ship

DAY 5 Plittersdorf, Germany • Baden-Baden • Speyer • Home-Hosted Kaffeeklatsch

Travel by motorcoach to Baden-Baden. There, you'll walk through the Kurpark and drink in the therapeutic powers of the spa's famed waters. Rejoin your ship in Speyer in time for lunch. Next, take part in an **Exclusive Discovery Series** event when you join a local family for coffee, cake, and conversation during a Home-Hosted *Kaffeeklatsch*.

B,L,D—River Ship

DAY 6 Speyer • Optional Heidelberg tour

Join us for an optional full-day excursion to Heidelberg, a historic university town nestled between wooded hills at the edge of the Odenwald Forest and crowned with the ruins of Heidelberg Castle. In keeping with the spirit of the holidays, you'll also stop at Heidelberg's lively Christmas market.

Or spend the morning enjoying Speyer before an afternoon of sailing on to Mainz.

B,L,D—River Ship

DAY 7 Mainz • Optional Rudesheim Dinner

On an included walking tour, admire Mainz's grand architecture and its Gutenberg Museum. After lunch onboard, explore the festive *Christkindlmarkt* (Christmas market).

This afternoon, you can choose to spend a memorable evening at Rudesheim's renowned Drosselgasse wine alley. This optional tour includes dinner, locally produced wine, and live entertainment.

B,L,D—River Ship



DAY 8 Rhine River Valley • Koblenz

Cruise one of the most scenic stretches of the Rhine today. You'll learn about local holiday lore during an **Exclusive Discovery Series** discussion highlighting German Christmas traditions. This afternoon, arrive in the medieval city of Koblenz and discover a history that dates to ancient Roman times.

B,L,D—River Ship

DAY 9 Koblenz

This morning explore Koblenz and its festive Christmas market at your leisure.

While cruising to Cologne this afternoon, you'll learn how to bake *Stollen*, a traditional German bread made with fruit and nuts and topped with powdered sugar,

during an **Exclusive Discovery Series** demonstration.

B,L,D—River Ship

DAY 10 Cologne

Witness Cologne's many gems—from its Roman ruins to its magnificent Gothic cathedral (a UNESCO World Heritage Site)—as you stroll the streets of its Old City on an included tour. Spend an afternoon at leisure visiting the city's Christmas market.

B,L,D—River Ship

DAY 11 Nijmegen, the Netherlands • Amsterdam

Tour the Netherlands' oldest town, including its arching bridge that spans the Waal River—site of a hard-fought World War II battle during Operation

Market Garden. After lunch, join an **Exclusive Discovery Series** *Operation Market Garden* discussion.

Tonight, toast your holiday memories with your fellow travelers and Program Director at your Captain's Farewell Dinner.

B,L,D—River Ship

DAY 12 Return to U.S.

Transfer to the airport for your return home, or begin your optional extension in *Brussels & Bruges, Belgium*.

B

MAXIMIZE YOUR DISCOVERIES & VALUE WITH THIS **PRE-TRIP EXTENSION**

Basel, Switzerland

3 nights from **\$645**

FREE Single Supplement

IT'S INCLUDED

Accommodations for 3 nights

Daily breakfasts

Included tour with personal headsets: Basel

Basel tram day pass

Dedicated services of a Grand Circle Program Director

Gratuities for local guides and motorcoach drivers

All transfers

FEATURED HOTEL



Hotel Pullman Basel Europe • Basel Switzerland

This airy, modern hotel is within walking distance of the old city center, near highlights like the Cathedral Muenster. Enjoy drink and a meal in the hotel's charming bistro or gourmet restaurant. Each air-conditioned room has a private bath with a rain shower and contains a mini bar, telephone, TV, and free wireless Internet access.



ITINERARY

DAY 1 Arrive in Basel, Switzerland

When you arrive in Switzerland, you are met at the airport and transferred to your hotel in Basel. In the late afternoon, you'll be escorted on a walk in the vicinity around your hotel, followed by time to explore on your own. This evening, join your Program Director for a Welcome Drink and a briefing, and then enjoy dinner on your own.

Hotel Pullman Basel Europe or similar

DAY 2 Basel • Optional Bern excursion

Explore Basel as you please today. Or, join our optional tour to Bern, Switzerland's capital, where you'll take a walking tour through its historic center, and see how Swiss cheese is made. Then enjoy the evening making your own discoveries.

OPTIONAL TOUR: **\$115 per person**

DAY 3 Basel • Optional Bern excursion

You have the day to relax or explore Basel on your own with your included tram day pass. With more than 30 museums, the city is a well-known center of art and culture.

Your Program Director can help with suggestions for lunch and dinner that are on your own.

B—Hotel Pullman Basel Europe or similar

DAY 4 Return to U.S.

After breakfast this morning, transfer to the airport for your flight home

B

This extension may not be available on all departures. Additional taxes and fees apply. Ask your Travel Counselor for details. Basel, Switzerland is a post-trip extension on the reverse Amsterdam to Basel itinerary.

MAXIMIZE YOUR DISCOVERIES & VALUE WITH THIS **POST-TRIP EXTENSION**

Brussels & Bruges, Belgium

3 nights from **\$795**

FREE Single Supplement

IT'S INCLUDED

Accommodations for 3 nights in Brussels

Daily breakfasts

Included tours with personal headsets: Brussels • Bruges • Antwerp • Delft

Dedicated services of a Grand Circle Program Director

Gratuities for local guides and motorcoach drivers

All transfers



ITINERARY

DAY 1 Depart U.S.

DAY 2 Arrive in Brussels, Belgium

Upon arrival today, you'll be escorted on a walk in the vicinity around your hotel, followed by time to relax and explore Brussels on your own. This evening, join your Program Director and fellow travelers for a Welcome Drink. The rest of the evening is yours at leisure to make your own discoveries.

Hilton Brussels City Hotel or similar

DAY 3 Brussels

This morning, enjoy a tour of Brussels, which is known for two specialties—the production of delicious chocolate and the creation of beautiful and delicate lace—and you'll delve into these Belgian delights on an included city tour. The afternoon is then yours to make your own discoveries, and dinner is on your own this evening.

B—Hilton Brussels City Hotel or similar

DAY 4 Bruges

This morning, board a private motor-coach to Bruges, one of Western Europe's great medieval cities. You'll discover "The Venice of the North" on a guided walking tour. Then enjoy another classic Belgian discovery—lace—as you visit a local lace shop. Lunch will be on your own, and then you'll have free time to make your own discoveries.

B—Hilton Brussels City Hotel or similar

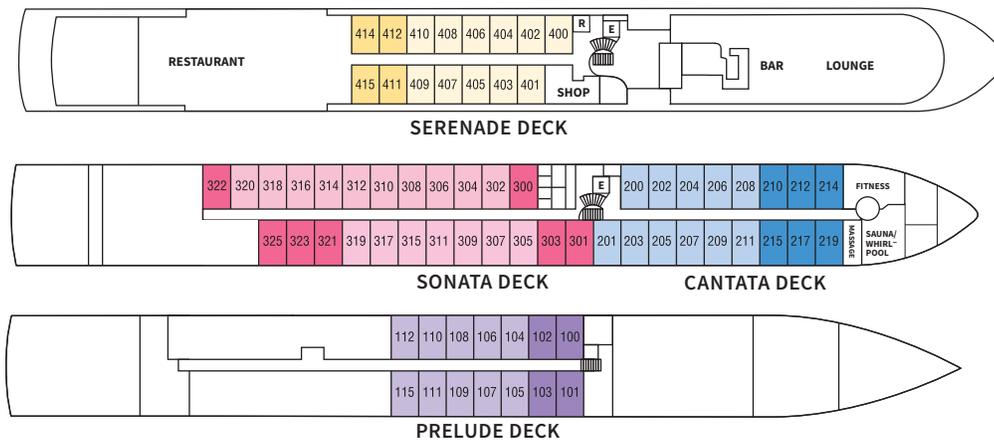
DAY 5 Brussels • Antwerp • Amsterdam

After breakfast begin your motorcoach transfer to Antwerp. You'll explore its well-preserved Old Town and stroll along the Meir (Antwerp's main shopping street), lined with wonderfully elaborate historic buildings. Then continue on to Delft, visiting a porcelain workshop to learn more about delftware, the iconic, bright blue glassware of the region. After lunch on your own and free time to explore Delft, continue on to Amsterdam where you will join your fellow travelers for your main trip.

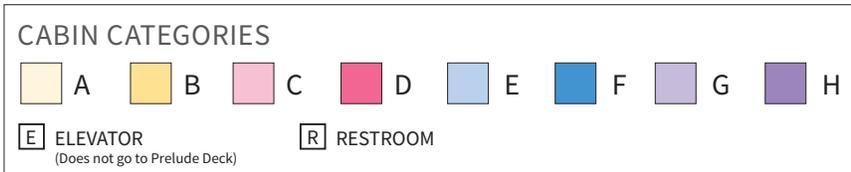
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M/S RIVER HARMONY



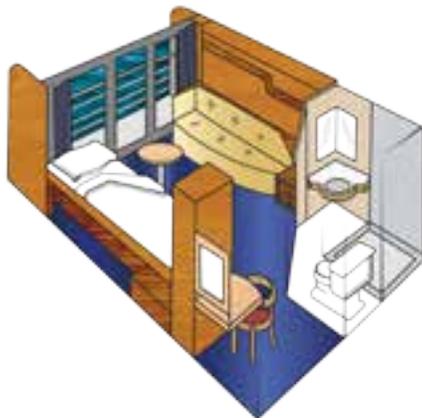
Registry: Malta
Width: 38 ft.
Length: 366 ft.
Passenger capacity: 140
Crew/Nationality: 34/International
Decks: 4
Number of cabins: 70—all outside
Elevator: Yes



Please note: Only Serenade Deck cabins have private balconies. The Sonata and Cantata decks are separated by a flight of stairs. Elevator runs from the Cantata and Sonata decks to the Serenade Deck. There is no elevator access to the Prelude Deck.

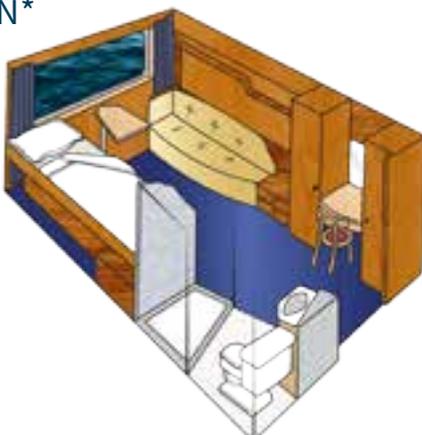
CABIN FEATURES

SERENADE DECK CABIN



- 160-sq.-ft. non-smoking outside cabins with a river view—Serenade Deck cabins include a private 16-sq.-ft. balcony with table and chairs
- Two stationary twin beds converted to sofas each day, and back to beds each evening
- Private bath with shower, hair dryer, shampoo & soap
- Individual heating & air conditioning controls
- Flat-screen color TV & radio, including CNN, movies & a “view from the bow” camera looking from the front of your ship
- Direct-dial telephone with emergency call buttons
- In-room safe

CANTATA/SONATA/PRELUDE DECK CABIN*



**Please note: Prelude Deck cabin features the same layout with a small upper window.*

WATCH VIDEOS & FILMS ONLINE

Learn more about *Christmas Markets Along the Rhine*

Trip Experience



Watch travelers immerse themselves in Old World holiday traditions as they explore enchanting Christmas markets.

Trip Itinerary



Get more information about your detailed itinerary, like optional tours, exclusive Discovery Series events, and more.

Program Director



Hear Kevin Kreuzer talk about the many beautiful Christmas markets of Germany, especially his favorite in Baden-Baden.

Christmas Markets Along the Rhine

Good Buy Plan The earlier you pay, the more you save

Here's how you'll save with our exclusive Good Buy Plan:

DECK

A	Serenade Deck	\$2745
B	(Top Deck w/balcony)	\$2745
C	Sonata Deck	\$2695
D	(Middle Deck w/picture window)	\$2695
E	Cantata Deck	\$2645
F	(Middle Deck w/picture window)	\$2645
G	Prelude Deck	\$2545
H	(Lower Deck w/small window)	\$2495

airfare will be priced separately depending on the departure city. Please call for airfare pricing.

We do not offer international airfare.

Deposit: \$500 per person.

Single Supplement: \$495. Single accommodations are limited. To avoid the single supplement, ask about our Roommate Matching Service.

Months That You Pay in Full Prior to Your Final Payment Due Date (90 days prior to your departure date)	Guarantee Your Price and Receive:	Good Buy Plan Savings:
9 months	7.5%	\$375
8 months	6%	\$300
7 months	5%	\$250
6 months	4%	\$200
5 months	3%	\$150
4 months through final payment due date	\$50 off	\$50

Good Buy Plan savings is calculated based on total reservation cost

For more information, visit www.gct.com/gbd

GOVERNMENT TAXES AND FEES The following government taxes and fees are now included in your airfare price. **Government and other authority taxes and fees: September 11th Security Fee** of up to \$2.50 USD applies per passenger, per flight segment (maximum charge per trip—\$5.00 USD one-way, \$10.00 USD round trip). A flight segment is defined as one takeoff and one landing. **Passenger Facility Charge (PFC)** of up to \$18 per passenger. **Federal Domestic Flight Segment Fee** of up to \$3.70 USD applies per passenger, per flight segment (defined as a takeoff and a landing). **U.S. or International Departure and Arrival Charges** of up to \$200 USD may apply depending on itinerary. On select itineraries that include the purchase of a pre- and/or post-trip extension, U.S. or international departure and arrival charges of up to \$300 USD may apply. Call for details. Standard Terms & Conditions can be found on the web at www.gct.com/tc.

Reservations & Information:

Call Toll-Free: 1-800-597-2452 • Press 2



PLEASE MENTION THIS
CODE WHEN BOOKING

G9-25992