

## Romantic Rhine Cruise

### River Cruise Northbound: Basel to Amsterdam

**10 DAYS: Sunday, October 20-Tuesday, October 29, 2019**

**From \$4,166 per person double occupancy Category E**

One of Europe's most legendary rivers awaits you on this exciting journey along the Rhine River, which begins in Switzerland and stops in France, Germany, and Holland! Board your vessel in Basel, Switzerland, then head for Breisach, Germany, located at the foot of the Kaiserstuhl Mountain on the French-German border. Here you'll find the gateway to Germany's Black Forest, an area of unrivaled natural beauty, best known for Black Forest ham, cherry cake, and the cuckoo clock. Continue your river cruise to Strasbourg, France, where you'll be amazed by the red-sandstone gothic cathedral with ancient murals and the fascinating astronomical clock. Also, stroll through the lovely La Petite France district with its quaint shops, delightful bistros, and peaceful waterfront promenade. Visit the ruins of Heidelberg's castle, towering magnificently over the city, and stop in Mainz for a guided walk and a visit to the captivating Gutenberg Museum. Next up is the charming wine town of Rudesheim, and a visit to the unique Siegfried's Mechanical Musical Instrument Museum to see the impressive collection of historical self-playing instruments. You'll pass through the dramatic Rhine Gorge—the most beautiful stretch of the Rhine River where ancient castles stand on cliffs 400 feet above the water. Last stop in Germany is Cologne—a 2,000-year-old city known for its gothic architecture and famous twin-spired cathedral. As an exclamation point to this wonderful Rhine river cruise, you'll spend time in Holland's popular, modern capital of Amsterdam. There is much to do with the world-famous museums and abundance of restaurants amongst the classic architecture and charming canals. The best way to see the treasures of this 700-year-old city is on a canal cruise along the elegant grachten lined with homes dating back to the city's "Golden Age."



**From \$4,166 per person double occupancy for Deluxe Stateroom, Category E**

**Cabin upgrades available: additional \$199-\$2,199 pp/do**

**Includes cruise taxes and port charges, pre-paid cruise gratuities and Avalon insurance.**

Day 1 Overnight flight from Boston

Day 2 Arrive Zurich, transfer to hotel for one nights' accommodations

Day 3 Transfer to Basel (Embarkation): Onboard welcome reception

Day 4 Breisach. Excursion to Black Forest: Choice of excursion to Black Forest, or guided tour in Colmar

Day 5 Strasbourg: Guided sightseeing, visit La Petite France district and the gothic cathedral

Day 6 Excursion to Heidelberg. Mainz: Guided tour of Heidelberg Castle, see the Great Vat; visit the Gutenberg Museum in Mainz

Day 7 Rudesheim–Rhine Gorge–Koblenz: Visit Siegfried's Mechanical Musical Instrument Museum in Rudesheim; special treat; scenic cruise through the Rhine Gorge; guided walk in Koblenz

Day 8 Cologne: Choice of "Cologne Highlights" walking tour, or Jewish Heritage walking tour

Day 9 Amsterdam: Canal cruise

Day 10 Amsterdam (Disembarkation): Your vacation ends this morning

**Day-By-Day Itinerary (B) = Breakfast (L) = Lunch (D) = Dinner**

**Day 1 OVERNIGHT FLIGHT FROM BOSTON**

**Day 2 ARRIVE ZURICH, TRANSFER TO HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS**

**Day 3 (D) BASEL, SWITZERLAND (EMBARKATION)**

Welcome to Basel. Your Suite Ship® is Ready for Boarding.

Guests must be on board ship by 5 pm.

Enjoy dinner and explore the ship on your first night on board.

**EVENING CRUISE TO BREISACH**

**Day 4 (B, L, D) BREISACH, GERMANY. EXCURSION TO THE BLACK FOREST**

**History, Artistry, and the Beautiful Black Forest**

**Classic**

Visit the charming village of Colmar on a Guided Tour of its half-timbered medieval and early renaissance buildings, OR:

**Discovery**

Join a full-day Guided Excursion to the magical Black Forest to experience the Vogtsbauernhof open-air-museum, visit an authentic water mill, and see a traditional Bavarian butter-making demonstration.

Explore on your own this afternoon taking a bike from the ship or hiking up to St. Stephan's Cathedral.

**EVENING CRUISE TO STRASBOURG**

**Day 5 (B, L, D) STRASBOURG, FRANCE**

**Gothic Giants, Military Marvels, and Varietal Vintages**

**Classic**

Come along for City Sightseeing, including the city's gothic, stained-glass cathedral with its celebrated ancient murals and astronomical clock, and the magical La Petite France District.

You may choose to join a Guided Optional Excursion to the splendid Alsace wine country, or to the historic Maginot Line—an impressive installation of pre-WWII defensive fortifications designed to protect the eastern border of France.

Alternatively, enjoy a free afternoon sampling the local cuisine in Place Kléber, or pay a visit to one of Strasbourg's many wonderful museums.

**EVENING/OVERNIGHT CRUISE TO LUDWIGSHAFEN**

**Day 6 (B, L, D) LUDWIGSHAFEN, GERMANY. EXCURSION TO HEIDELBERG**

**Castle Walls and the World's Biggest Barrel of Wine**

Classic

Enjoy a Guided Tour to Heidelberg Castle to see the ruins of the magnificent renaissance treasure towering above the city, and its famed Great Vat, the "World's Largest Wine Barrel," OR:

**Active**

Join your Avalon Adventure Host for a hike up Philosophers' Way for an inspiring view of the city below.

Enjoy a brief cruise to Mainz this afternoon.

MAINZ

Turning the Pages of History

**Classic**

Enjoy a Guided City Walk including a visit to the Gutenberg Museum to see the captivating history of printing.

Enjoy live entertainment on board your ship this evening.

**OVERNIGHT DOCKING IN MAINZ**

**Day 7 (B, L, D) RÜDESHEIM—RHINE GORGE**

**Eat, Drink, and Be Merry in Wine Country**

**Discovery**

Take a Guided Tour of the incredible Mechanical Music Museum for a one-of-a-kind instrumental experience, OR:

**Active**

Take a Guided Hike through the vineyards with your Adventure Host, and enjoy the view with a cable car ride back down.

**Discovery**

Based on your departure date, enjoy either a Coffee Tasting or a Wine Tasting.

Relax on the Sky Deck for an afternoon cruise through the spectacular Rhine Gorge to Koblenz. Sail past the legendary rock of The Lorelei—where the siren of mythology sang songs to lure ill-fated sailors.

**KOBLENZ**

Travel Through 2,000 Years Of Monumental History

**Classic**

Take a Guided City Walk amid ancient fortress walls, towers, squares, and monuments.

**OVERNIGHT DOCKING IN KOBLENZ**

**Day 8 (B, L, D) COLOGNE**

**Prost! Celebrate in the Rhineland's Capital City**

**Active**

Join a Guided Walk with your Avalon Adventure Host this morning, OR:

**Classic**

Take a Guided City Walk of Cologne—with its soaring twin-steeped gothic cathedral, OR:

**Discovery**

Choose a Guided Walking Tour of Cologne's important Jewish heritage sites.

Don't miss the chance to enjoy free time over a glass of Kölsch pale lager—locally brewed for over 100 years!

**AFTERNOON/OVERNIGHT CRUISE TO AMSTERDAM**

**Day 9 (B, L, D) AMSTERDAM, HOLLAND**

**Colorful Amsterdam—with Canals, Crooked Houses, and Cuisine of a Golden Age**

**Classic**

Explore the iconic waterways of Amsterdam on a Guided Canal Cruise past stately homes of Amsterdam's "Golden Age."

During tulip season, you may take a Guided Optional Excursion to Keukenhof gardens—with more than seven million tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths, as well as other bulbs, planted each year.

Outside of tulip season, join a Guided Optional Excursion to Zaanse Schans to see historic windmills and charming Dutch houses.

**OVERNIGHT DOCKING IN AMSTERDAM**

## Day 10 (B) AMSTERDAM (DISEMBARKATION)

Your vacation ends with breakfast this morning. Return flight to Boston.

### Notes

- In the event of water level problems or any problems of a technical nature, it may be necessary to operate the itinerary by motorcoach or to alter the program.
- Included visits and special features are subject to change. If a change is necessary, a substitute will be offered.
- Please check visa requirements with your local consulate(s); responsibility for obtaining visas rests with the traveler.

### Throughout the Ship:

- Complimentary Wi-Fi
- Panoramic windows
- Elegant, contemporary design & decor
- Friendly, English-speaking crew & Cruise Director
- Sky Deck with whirlpool, shade awnings, game area and premium lounges
- Covered Observation Lounge
- Club Lounge with 24-hour self-serve beverage station with complimentary cappuccinos, lattes, tea, hot chocolate & premium coffees, as well as treats throughout the day



Avalon has designed **included activities** with a choice of experiences. We invite you to select the tours, activities, and events that interest you most, so you can experience your cruise your way. There are 3 types of included shore excursion on every Europe cruise:

#### **Classic**

Your local expert is ready to guide you through the history and heritage of local destinations. You'll marvel at the legends, lore, and spectacular architecture of iconic and historic sites.

#### **Discovery**

We've found inspiring and interactive activities to speak to your interests - from cooking classes, to painting workshops - to immerse yourself in each culture you explore.

#### **Active**

Embark on energetic excursions to keep you in motion and on the go - from a guided jogging tour of Amsterdam, to biking, paddling, and hiking your way through scenic locales.

Plus independent exploration options and use of our exclusive AvalonGO APP.

### **Suites & Staterooms:**

- Comfort Collection Beds<sup>SM</sup> with choice of mattress firmness
- Egyptian super-combed cotton linens
- Bathrobes & slippers
- Premium L'Occitane bath products
- Large bathroom featuring shower with glass door
- Flatscreen satellite TV with free movie channels
- Individual climate control and in-room safe
- USB Ports
- Complimentary bottled water daily
- And, much more.

## **Health & Fitness:**

- Bikes
- Canoe, kayak and jogging excursions
- Maps for hiking, biking and jogging routes
- Fitness and wellness activities
- Fitbits®
- All through your Avalon Adventure Host<sup>SM</sup>

## **Dining**

- FlexDining® for more venue and seating options, including flexible seating times in our main Dining Room
- Avalon Fresh® healthy cuisine options at every meal
- Complimentary sparkling wine with breakfast; wine, beer, or soft drinks with every lunch and dinner
- Early and Late Riser breakfast options
- Daily full buffet breakfast with made-to-order egg station, hot and cold menu items
- Daily lunch buffet with pasta or carving stations
- Alternative light lunch or Sky Grill on the Sky Deck (weather permitting)
- Daily Afternoon Tea featuring tea, coffee, sweet treats & sandwiches
- Daily four-course a la carte dinner in the main Dining Room with choice of appetizers, soups, salads, entrees and desserts. Includes selections of regional recipes, Western dishes and vegetarian options.
- Enjoy a tasting menu with a view in the Panorama Bistro - a less formal "sit-down" atmosphere while mingling over several satisfying selections
- Captain's welcome & farewell receptions and dinners with sparkling wine and canapés
- Panorama Lounge featuring premium spirits and Avalon specialty cocktails, along with local entertainment special guests
- Cocktails available on the Sky Deck
- Fresh fruit available throughout the day

## **AVALON EXPRESSION**

Part of Avalon's cutting-edge fleet of Suite Ships®, the Avalon Expression came onto the river cruising scene with a bang. This gorgeous ship features two full decks of Panorama Suites<sup>SM</sup> with Wall-to-Wall Panoramic Windows that transform the living space into a unique Open-Air Balcony<sup>SM</sup>. With 200 square feet, Panorama Suites<sup>SM</sup> are more than 30% larger than the industry standard, affording you the incomparable opportunity to wake each morning facing the splendid passing scenery. Onboard amenities include an alternative light dining option in the Panorama Bistro, an expanded fitness center, complimentary Wi-Fi access, and a spacious Sky Deck with premium lounge chairs, whirlpool, and light al fresco lunches at the Sky Bistro on the Sky Deck.

## **Included Amenities**

### **Avalon Suite Fleet**

- Complimentary Wi-Fi throughout the ship
- Panoramic windows throughout the ship
- Elegant, contemporary design & decor
- Friendly, English-speaking crew & Cruise Director
- Sky Deck with whirlpool, shade awnings, game area and premium lounges
- Covered Observation Lounge
- Club Lounge with 24-hour self-serve beverage station with complimentary cappuccinos, lattes, tea, hot chocolate & premium coffees, as well as treats throughout the day
- Elevator
- Non-smoking interior and staterooms

## Avalon Panorama Suites & Staterooms

- Open-Air Balconies<sup>SM</sup> and Wall-to-Wall Panoramic Windows in all Panorama Suites
- Comfort Collection Beds<sup>SM</sup> with choice of mattress firmness
- Egyptian super-combed cotton linens
- Bathrobes & slippers
- Premium L'Occitane bath products & hairdryer
- Large bathroom featuring shower with glass door
- Wide selection of free movie channels and English-speaking TV
- Individual climate control and in-room safe
- Full-size closet and mirror
- Additional under-bed storage
- Complimentary bottled water daily

## STATEROOMS & SUITES

### Avalon Deluxe Stateroom (Cat. D, E) - 172 sq. ft.

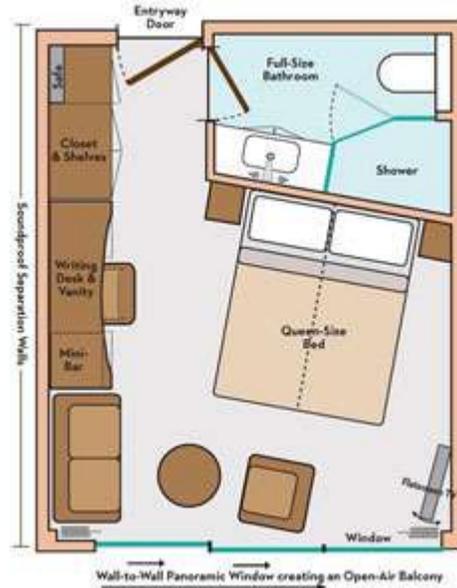


## Features

- Comfort Collection Beds<sup>SM</sup>
- Egyptian super-combed cotton linens
- Soft & firm pillows
- Choice of bed configuration
- Bedside tables with reading lamps
- L'Occitane bath products
- Easy under-bed luggage storage
- Alarm clock
- Bathrobes & slippers
- Complimentary bottled water
- Individual climate control
- Large mirror in bathroom
- USB Ports
- Full shower with glass door
- Vanity and lighted makeup mirror
- Luxurious mattress toppers
- European-style duvets
- Extra blankets

- Nightly turn-down service
- Hairdryer
- Spacious 3-door closets with shelves for ample storage
- Flatscreen satellite TV with English-speaking channels & over 100 free movie options
- Direct-dial telephone
- Well-stocked minibar
- In-room safe
- Elegant, contemporary design
- Complimentary Wi-Fi
- Two windows
- Writing desk and chair

### Panorama Suite (Cat. A, B, P) - 200 sq. ft.

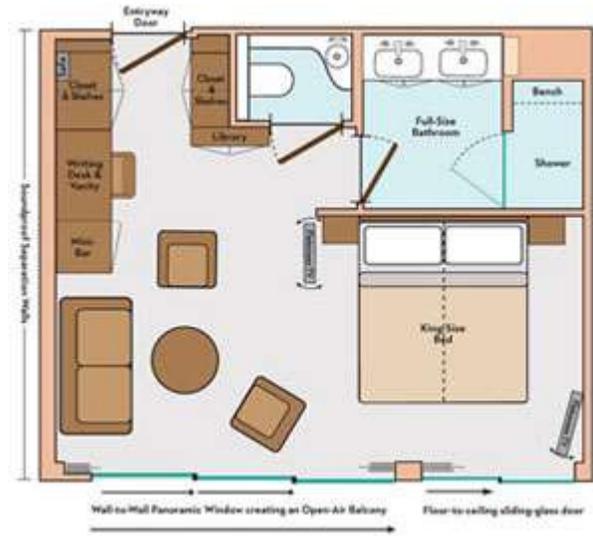


### Features

- Comfort Collection Beds<sup>SM</sup>
- Egyptian super-combed cotton linens
- Soft & firm pillows
- Choice of bed configuration
- Bedside tables with reading lamps
- L'Occitane bath products
- Easy under-bed luggage storage
- Alarm clock
- Direct-dial telephone
- Well-stocked minibar
- In-room safe
- Elegant, contemporary design
- Marble countertops in bathroom
- USB Ports
- 6-person sitting area
- Writing desk and chair
- Sofa
- Luxurious mattress toppers
- European-style duvets
- Extra blankets
- Nightly turn-down service

- Hairdryer
- Spacious 3-door closets with shelves for ample storage
- Flatscreen satellite TV with English-speaking channels & over 100 free movie options
- Make-up mirror
- Bathrobes & slippers
- Complimentary bottled water
- Individual climate control
- Large mirror in bathroom
- Complimentary Wi-Fi
- Wall-to-Wall Panoramic Window with Open-Air Balcony<sup>SM</sup>
- Full shower with glass door
- Vanity and lighted makeup mirror
- Coffee table

## Royal Suite - 300 sq. ft.

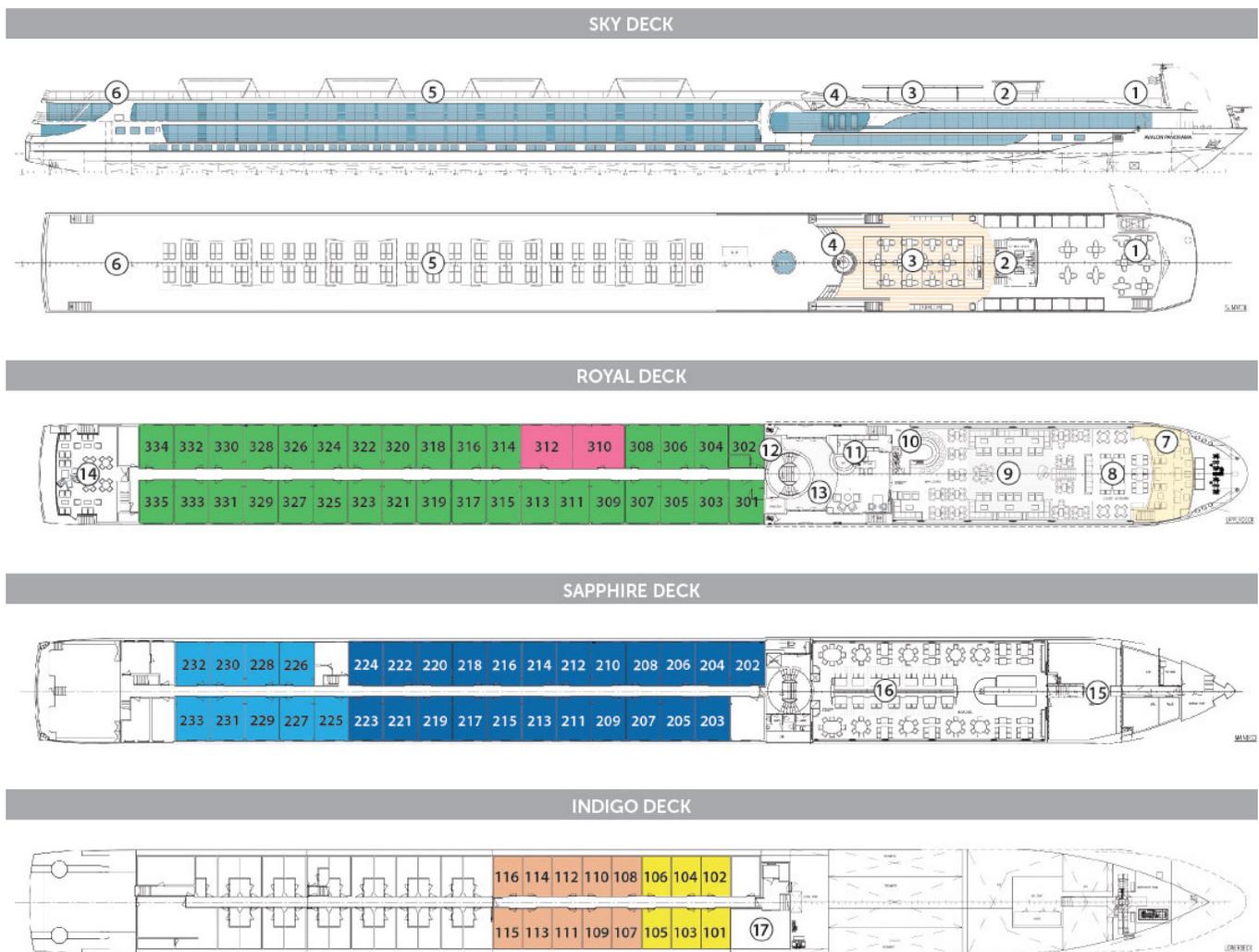


## Features

- Comfort Collection Beds<sup>SM</sup>
- Egyptian super-combed cotton linens
- Soft & firm pillows
- Choice of bed configuration
- Bedside tables with reading lamps
- L'Occitane bath products
- Easy under-bed luggage storage
- Alarm clock
- Direct-dial telephone
- Well-stocked minibar
- In-room safe
- Elegant, contemporary design
- Marble countertops in bathroom
- USB Ports
- 6-person sitting area
- Writing desk and chair
- Sofa
- Double sinks
- Luxurious mattress toppers

- European-style duvets
- Extra blankets
- Nightly turn-down service
- Hairdryer
- Spacious 3-door closets with shelves for ample storage
- Flatscreen satellite TV with English-speaking channels & over 100 free movie options
- Make-up mirror
- Bathrobes & slippers
- Complimentary bottled water
- Individual climate control
- Large mirror in bathroom
- Complimentary Wi-Fi
- Wall-to-Wall Panoramic Window with Open-Air Balcony<sup>SM</sup>
- Full shower with glass door
- Vanity and lighted makeup mirror
- Coffee table

## DECK PLANS



### DECK PLAN

- |   |                      |                   |
|---|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Sky Lounge                                    | 6 Deck Game Area     | 12 Elevator       |
| 2 Navigation Bridge                             | 7 Observation Lounge | 13 Lobby          |
| 3 Sky Grill                                     | 8 Panorama Bistro    | 14 Club Lounge    |
| 4 Whirlpool                                     | 9 Panorama Lounge    | 15 Galley         |
| 5 Premium Lounge<br>Chairs and Shade<br>Awnings | 10 Bar               | 16 Dining Room    |
|   | 11 Reception         | 17 Fitness Center |

### CATEGORIES

- Royal Suite** Royal Deck | Royal Suites
- Cat. P** Royal Deck | Panorama Suites
- Cat. A** Sapphire Deck Forward | Panorama Suites
- Cat. B** Sapphire Deck Aft | Panorama Suites
- Cat. D** Indigo Deck Aft | Deluxe Staterooms
- Cat. E** Indigo Deck Forward | Deluxe Staterooms