



# Christmas Markets Cruise on the Romantic Rhine

the Netherlands • Germany • France • Switzerland

Travel Dates: November 30 - December 8, 2026



# Christmas Markets Cruise on the Romantic Rhine



Charming canals meander through Amsterdam



Shop for unique treasures at the festive Christmas markets

**DAY 1 Depart the USA:** Depart the USA on your overnight flight to Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

**DAY 2 Amsterdam, the Netherlands:** Welcome to Amsterdam, a postcard-worthy destination of picturesque canals and cafés. Upon arrival, you will be met at the airport and transferred to your luxurious Emerald Cruises Star-Ship. After boarding, enjoy free time to independently explore the narrow cobbled streets and gabled houses of the Dutch capital. This evening, join your fellow guests for dinner onboard. **Meal: D**

**DAY 3 Amsterdam:** Board a glass-top canal boat for a tour along Amsterdam's UNESCO World Heritage canal system. Pass historic merchant's houses that reflect the bygone era of the Dutch Golden Age, as well as delightful Christmas stalls, surrounded by people in their finest knitwear drinking mugs of hot mulled wine. **Meals: B, L, D**

**DAY 4 Cologne, Germany:** Seven idyllic Christmas markets effortlessly transform the postcard-worthy city of Cologne into a winter wonderland during the Christmas season. Following a guided walking tour of the old town, enjoy free time to visit the ornate stalls of the Christmas market around the UNESCO World Heritage cathedral. Decorated mugs hold steaming hot Glühwein, and local vendors sell handmade sweets and local delicacies. This evening, enjoy local entertainment onboard. **Meals: B, L, D**

**DiscoverMORE:** Christmas traditions in Europe lecture onboard by Cruise Director

**DAY 5 Koblenz:** Arrive in the 2000-year-old town of Koblenz, an ancient city that looks as though it has been pulled from the

pages of a German fairytale. Enjoy a picturesque backdrop of snow-topped mountain ranges as your local guide takes you on a walk through open cobbled squares and along narrow streets. Your tour will include the German Corner at the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle rivers and idyllic panoramic views of the Rhine from Ehrenbreitstein Fortress. In the city center you'll find festive, cottage-style stalls of the Christmas market and Lebkuchenherzen (traditional gingerbread hearts) to create a magical European Christmas experience. This afternoon, cruise along the Rhine River and be sure to have your camera's ready as you cruise through the UNESCO World Heritage Rhine Gorge. Countless medieval castles, perched atop hills, line this section of the river with photo opportunities around every bend. See the infamous Lorelei statue and hear of her legend.

**Meals: B, L, D**

**DiscoverMORE:** Moselle & Cochem Castle Visit (additional expense)

**DAY 6 Ludwigshafen – Heidelberg:** From the port of Ludwigshafen, depart by coach for Heidelberg. Your guided tour of Heidelberg's rich history includes a wine tasting and a visit to the ruins of Heidelberg Castle, overlooking the Neckar River and a red-roofed skyline. A stroll along the cobblestone streets of the Old Town touches on the Church of the Holy Spirit and the oldest university in Germany, further enhancing your visit to this historic city. **Meals: B, L, D**

**DAY 7 Kehl – Strasbourg, France:** This morning, dock in Kehl for the short journey by coach across the river to Strasbourg, the storied capital of France's Alsace region. A local guide leads you on a walking tour through this picturesque town. Stroll along the Grand Île and through the charming Old Quarter, 'La Petit France'. Admire the historical city center and



The lovely Christmas markets in Strasbourg, France

UNESCO World Heritage Site known for its medieval black and white timber-framed buildings, old tanning houses, baroque sandstone buildings, canals, and river locks, along with its centerpiece, the gothic cathedral. Enjoy free time to visit the stalls of Strasbourg’s Christkindelsmärik, one of the oldest in Europe, before returning to the ship. Enjoy local entertainment onboard this evening. **Meals: B, L, D**

**DAY 8 Breisach, Germany:** Begin the day with a guided tour of Breisach, also known as the gateway to Germany’s Black Forest region. This afternoon, enjoy a scenic drive through the Black Forest Highlands on your way to the Hofgut Sternen complex located at the foothill of Ravenna Gorge, a place where history and tradition merge. This was the site where, in 1770, Marie Antoinette stopped with 52 beautifully decorated carriages on the way to her wedding to King Louis XVI. During this holiday season, see the picture-perfect Christmas market situated underneath the 130’ high Ravenna Viaduct where unique handcrafted regional items await your perusal. **Meals: B, L, D**

**EmeraldPLUS:** Guided visit to the Christmas Market at Ravenna Viaduct

**DAY 9 Basel, Switzerland – Zurich – USA:** It’s time to bid farewell to the captain and crew as you disembark the vessel and transfer to the Zurich airport, bringing memories of quintessential German villages adorned in holiday splendor, and souvenir treasures from your Christmas markets cruise along the Rhine River. **Flights to depart Zurich after 11:30am. Meal: B**

Itinerary and vessel are subject to change.

## CRUISE ACCOMMODATIONS

**Days 2 through 8** – Aboard an Emerald Cruises Star-Ship



## Exceptional Inclusions

- **20 Meals:** 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches, and 7 dinners
- **Airport transfers** on tour dates when air is provided by Mayflower Cruises & Tours
- **Seven-night cruise**
- **First-class service** by an English-speaking crew
- English-speaking **Cruise Director** onboard
- Shore excursions with **English-speaking** local guides
- **Personal listening device** for excursions
- All meals included with a variety of international cuisine
- Complimentary **regional wines, beer and soft drinks** accompany onboard lunches and dinners
- **Onboard Activity Manager** will host daily onboard wellness activities, games, classes and evening entertainment
- Complimentary **WiFi** onboard
- **All gratuities included**
- Complimentary **bikes onboard** for use ashore

# Emerald Cruises Star-Ships

**Built:** 2014-20 **Speed:** 15.5 mph **Staterooms:** 19 **Suites:** 72 **Length:** 443 ft. **Crew:** 47

## SUN DECK



## HORIZON DECK



## VISTA DECK



## RIVIERA DECK



## Public Areas and Ship Amenities

- 1 Sun Deck with Deck Chairs
- 2 Navigation Bridge
- 3 Sky Barbeque
- 4 Golf Putting Green
- 5 Games Area
- 6 Retractable Glass Roof
- 7 Walking Track
- 8 Daytime Pool & Evening Cinema
- 9 The Terrace
- 10 Horizon Bar and Lounge
- 11 Elevator
- 12 Reception
- 13 Wellness Area
- 14 Fitness Area
- 15 Reflections Restaurant



**Owner's One-Bedroom Suite**

315ft<sup>2</sup>

**CAT SA**



**Grand Balcony Suite**

210ft<sup>2</sup>

**CAT S**



**Panorama Balcony Suite**

180ft<sup>2</sup>

**CAT A CAT B CAT C**



**Emerald Stateroom**

162ft<sup>2</sup>

**CAT D CAT E**

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		NOVEMBER 30, 2026		
CAT	STATEROOM / SUITE	DECK		
			PER PERSON TWIN	
			SINGLE ROOM ADD	
<b>E</b>	Emerald Stateroom	<b>Riviera</b>	\$4,274	\$2,925
<b>D</b>	Emerald Stateroom	<b>Riviera</b>	\$4,614	\$3,179
<b>C</b>	Panorama Balcony Suite	<b>Vista</b>	\$5,360	\$3,739
<b>B</b>	Panorama Balcony Suite	<b>Vista</b>	\$5,560	\$3,889
<b>A</b>	Panorama Balcony Suite	<b>Horizon</b>	\$5,700	\$3,995
<b>S</b>	Grand Balcony Suite	<b>Horizon</b>	\$6,450	N/A
<b>SA</b>	Owner's One-Bedroom Suite	<b>Horizon</b>	\$7,484	N/A

**Pricing includes local pickup (with 10 people), roundtrip MSP air, 20 meals, wine and beer with lunch and dinners on ship, gratuities to guides, drivers and ship staff and hosted by Sue!**

Air itineraries may not be available until documents are received. Air seats are assigned by the airline for the entire group and may not be available until airport check-in. Seat changes can only be attempted at the airport and may not be possible. If specific seat assignments are vital to your reservation, we recommend booking air on your own rather than booking air with the group.



## Travelers Protection Plan (TPP) for River Cruises - \$569 per person OPTIONAL

This nonrefundable fee will provide a refund to you during the instance that you have to cancel your trip. The cancellation has to be for a covered reason (see Plan for details on coverage) and we have to be notified at least one day prior to departure. If you must leave the tour early due to personal illness or the illness or death of an immediate family member, TPP will provide a refund for any unused services after the departure of the tour. Other benefits include medical expenses for illness and injury, emergency transportation, 24 hour hot line and lost or stolen baggage assistance. Return air transportation is included ONLY if your air tickets are purchased through Mayflower Cruises & Tours. Please review the Plan for details on coverage. Should you choose not to purchase our TPP, the following per person cancellation charges will be assessed for all tours and optional excursion costs:

- 91 days or more prior to departure: Deposit Amount
- 90 days to day of departure: 100% of total tour
- No refund on unused portions of the tour

**Exclusions:** Mayflower Cruises & Tours reserves the right to alter its Refund and Cancellation Policy when a substantial amount of cancellation or postponement of travel is attributable to: conditions resulting from an act of God, natural or man-made disaster, fire, government action, civil disorder, war, hostilities between nations, or unavailability of transportation through no fault of Mayflower Cruises & Tours. *Plan and benefits offered and administered by Trip Mate, Inc.*



FOR RESERVATIONS OR INFORMATION CONTACT:

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