

Cruise the RHINE RIVER

Share this
Journey with
FAMILY
Open to
Ages 7+



AMSTERDAM TO BASEL

SPONSORED BY



VirginiaTechforlife
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

JULY 10-18, 2017

Other dates available upon request



Inspiring Moments

A World Apart

The story of travel involves more than a ticket and a passport. It should weave together discovery, education and humanity, the best elements of any compelling tale. Your personal travel story begins with our commitment to delivering authentic experiences with local people.

The incomparable value of your journey lies in the personalized care you receive from your Travel Director and the knowledge you gain from expert guides and lecturers who call this area home.

By eliminating logistical worries, your multilingual Travel Director allows you to immerse yourself comfortably in your surroundings. This high-caliber professional makes you feel safe and important by creating a convivial, welcoming atmosphere.

The other important characters in this story are the guides and lecturers, whose regional expertise shines in their insider perspective and commentary.

With these specialists at your side, become intimately engaged in the rhythm of the community, adding a memorable Rhine chapter to the rich story of your life.

► **Make fun family memories** to be cherished for generations.

► Glide along **Amsterdam's picturesque canals**, built during the Dutch Golden Age.

► Witness magnificent Kölner Dom, **Cologne's world-famous cathedral**.

► Sail through the spellbinding **Rhine Valley** with its forested hills crowned by castles.

► Savor the **natural beauty of the fabled Black Forest** region.

► Enjoy **Strasbourg**, the quintessential Alsatian town, lined with half-timbered homes.

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Please join us as we embark on this seven-night, multi-generational adventure from Amsterdam to Basel, Switzerland. Unpack once on the new MS Amadeus Silver III, designed specifically for river cruising, and have more time and freedom to soak up the sights of Europe's great river cities.

Two Youth Directors will be an integral part of our Rhine River journey, helping to ensure that this adventure is fun, enlightening and relaxing for the entire family. Younger travelers will enjoy onboard games and activities while the ship is cruising, as well as specially designed family-oriented excursions.

We'll spend time in four countries: the Netherlands, Germany, France and Switzerland. Throughout the journey, we'll enjoy many highlights such as Amsterdam's quaint canals; Cologne's stunning Gothic cathedral; and the lovely Rhine Gorge.

Enjoy an intimate view of European history as we glide along this ancient trading route, and lose yourself in an old-world river lifestyle studded with medieval sites. Space is limited, so we encourage you to make your reservation today!

Sincerely,



Gwen Harrington
Director of Travel Programs
Virginia Tech Alumni Association

800-323-7373

vatech.ahitravel.com





Discover the timeless beauty of the Rhine with the people you love most. As you cruise this scenic ribbon of river through Holland, Germany and France, you'll see firsthand how the Rhine has served as the major trading route between northern and southern Europe for some 2,000 years. Soak up breathtaking scenery as you relax onboard, then simply step off the crisp, new Amadeus Silver III right into the heart of some of Europe's most beautiful, historic cities. Along the way, you'll witness fabulous cliff-top castles and ever-changing rural landscapes. Choose from among an array of excursions, from wine tasting in the Alsace region to family-friendly walking tours along cobblestone lanes. Seasoned staff, including two energetic Youth Directors, ensure that every family member has the adventure of a lifetime.

DAY ONE

IN TRANSIT

Depart your gateway city for Amsterdam, The Netherlands.✈



Rijksmuseum

DAY TWO

D

AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS

Upon arrival, transfer✈ to the pier and embark the MS Amadeus Silver III.

Excursion: *Canals of Amsterdam.* Glide through the canals of Amsterdam this evening to see major landmarks, including the Anne Frank House.

DAY THREE

B I L I D

AMSTERDAM

🧭 **PYC | Choose one of these excursions:**

• ***Amsterdam Sightseeing with Rijksmuseum.*** See the Royal Palace, Mint Tower, Skinny Bridge and Portuguese Synagogue.

YOUR INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCE

Free time means something different to every traveler. Some people like to linger in a cozy café, while others prefer to stay on the go. That's why we have designed an itinerary to allow you to craft your individual travel experience.



PERSONALIZE YOUR CRUISE | PYC | Included

Choose from a variety of excursions in selected ports based on your interests.



ELECTIVE EXPERIENCES | At an additional cost

Further your experience by immersing yourself in specially designed activities and extensions.

Check out our itinerary for more details. We've done the legwork. Now the choice is yours.



Medieval walls of Oberwesel



Amsterdam



Waterland

Visit the Rijksmuseum with its outstanding collection of masterpieces by famous artists such as Rembrandt, Vermeer and Frans Hals.

- **Waterland Bicycle Ride.** Bicycle through lush Waterland with its quaint fishing villages.
- **Canal District Walking Tour.** Discover the impressive Herengracht, the “Gentleman’s Canal” district, and its interactive museum. Set sail for Cologne this afternoon. During your voyage, a variety of engaging children’s activities will be offered while the ship cruises between ports.

Educational Focus: Contemporary Europe.

Review the current state of affairs in Europe, learn about the European Union, and discuss Europe’s future with a local expert.

This evening, join the Captain’s Welcome Reception and Dinner.

DAY FOUR B I L I D

COLOGNE, GERMANY

Excursion: Cologne. Explore Cologne’s Old Town, including the magnificent Gothic cathedral and Cathedral Square. Shop or linger in a café after the walking tour.

The afternoon is at leisure while cruising to Koblenz.


DAY FIVE B I L I D

RHINE GORGE | OBERWESEL

Sail through the storied Rhine Gorge, rich with castles and legends.

Educational Focus: Castles and Legends of the Rhine.

This celebrated river boasts some 50 castles, more than any other river in the world. The region is also rich with legends including the myth of Loreley, the siren who stole the hearts of sailors below. Gain a deep appreciation for this fairy tale locale with insight from our local expert.

 **PYC | Choose one of these excursions:**

- **Wines of the Rhine.** Visit a local winery in Oberwesel and enjoy tasting the region’s fine wines.

- **A Walk in Time.** Traverse ancient town walls, towers and stairwells that lead to breathtaking views of Oberwesel. See half-timbered houses and charming shops.

Enjoy free time to meander through the old town center this evening.

- **ELECTIVE | Castle Dinner.** Enjoy a traditional German dinner inside a medieval castle above the Rhine River this evening.



Heidelberg



Cologne



Freiburg

DAY SIX


B I L I D

SPEYER | HEIDELBERG

Spend the morning at leisure during your journey to Speyer.

Educational Focus: A European Perspective on Sports and Fitness.

Europeans love to stroll, hike, bike and embrace the great outdoors. This morning, gain insight into the European fitness mindset and learn what's new on Europe's professional sports scene.

 **PYC | Choose one of these excursions:**

• **Speyer Walking Tour.** This experience showcases Speyer, a town easily explored on foot. See its impressive cathedral, the burial place of the German emperors for almost 300 years. Stroll by the 13th-century Altpörtel, Speyer's medieval gate, and see the old town center.

• **Heidelberg Castle and Town.** Visit historic Heidelberg including the red-walled castle with its giant 18th-century wine cask. Soak up beautiful views of the Neckar Valley and city below, followed by a walk through the city center.


• **Hike up Philosopher's Way.** Visit the city center of Heidelberg, then cross the twin-towered Old Bridge over the Neckar River for an invigorating hike up legendary Philosopher's Way. Take in unforgettable views of Heidelberg Castle, the river and old town.

DAY SEVEN

B I L I D

STRASBOURG, FRANCE

The ship docks in Strasbourg this morning.

 **PYC | Choose one of these excursions:**

• **Strasbourg Panorama.** See the highlights, including Notre Dame Cathedral, Palais Rohan, and St. Thomas Church before a guided walking tour of the historic center.

• **Petite France.** Discover the 16th- and 17th-century heritage of the lovely district Petite France, during a canal cruise and walking tour.



MS Amadeus Silver III

Launched in 2016, the MS Amadeus Silver III and its experienced crew provide the highest levels of service and comfort. Specially built for cruising Europe's rivers, this elegant vessel is the new sister ship to the award-winning Silver and Silver II of the Lüftner Cruises fleet. Designed in a contemporary style, the ship embodies elegance from its public rooms to its passenger cabins and suites. Bars and lounges feature large windows that offer remarkable broad views. The elegant Panorama Restaurant serves three meals each day and frequently features local specialties. Local wines are included with lunch and dinner daily. Relax on a lounge chair on the open sun deck. In the evening, return to your cabin or suite, and enjoy satellite TV and your private bathroom with shower. Select cabins feature connecting doors for family-friendly convenience. Complimentary Wi-Fi is also available, but access may be limited.


• **Culinary Strasbourg.** Discover the winstubs (local wine pubs) and Strasbourg's cuisine. Along the way, sample typical food and wine.

Independent Exploration: Craft your own family plans during free time in Strasbourg this afternoon.

DAY EIGHT B I L I D

BREISACH | FREIBURG, GERMANY

Pursue your own interests this morning while cruising to Breisach.

 **PYC | Choose one of these excursions:**

• **Riquewihr and the Wines of the Alsace.**

Visit and take a walking tour of this charming medieval French town. Enjoy a wine tasting.

• **Breisach and Freiburg.** In Breisach, see one of the largest wine cellars in Europe. Explore the Augustinerplatz in Freiburg, and visit the city's historic Gothic cathedral.

• **Black Forest Adventure.** Feel like a child again as you venture into the Black Forest, famous for fairy tales and fables. Explore Lake Titisee or go for a swim.

Tonight, enjoy a Farewell Reception and Dinner.



DAY NINE B


IN TRANSIT

Disembark the ship in Basel, Switzerland. Transfer✈ to the Zürich airport for the return flights to your gateway city.

Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions. Walking is required on many excursions, and surfaces may be uneven or unpaved.

✈ Provided for AHI FlexAir participants.

B/L/D denotes included breakfasts, lunches and dinners.

 Elective experiences available at an additional cost.



| ELECTIVE | **PRE-TRIP EXTENSION TO AMSTERDAM**

Kick off your adventures in Holland with two additional nights in the heart of picturesque Amsterdam. Stroll the old harbor with a guide and explore the recently refurbished National Maritime Museum, featuring a replica of the three-masted ship Amsterdam. Enjoy a full day at your leisure and then simply walk to your ship to embark on your cruise. Includes two nights at the Double Tree by Hilton Amsterdam Centraal Station; two breakfasts; museum admission; and the services of an expert guide and an AHI Travel Director.

Price: USD \$595 per person, double occupancy; USD \$990 single occupancy



| ELECTIVE | **POST-TRIP EXTENSION TO INTERLAKEN**

After your cruise, enjoy two nights in stunning Interlaken, Switzerland, a city nestled between two lakes and surrounded by majestic mountain scenery. Explore Bern, the vibrant capital of Switzerland, during a walking tour that includes free time. Get to know beautiful Interlaken on a full day at leisure. Take a boat ride or ascend the mountain peaks for jaw-dropping views. Includes two nights at the Victoria-Jungfrau Grand Hotel & Spa; two breakfasts; a walking tour of Bern; and the services of an expert guide and an AHI Travel Director.

Price: USD \$795 per person, double occupancy; USD \$1,345 single occupancy

Reserve your Cruise on the Rhine today!

Trip #:3-23287W

Send to: Virginia Tech Alumni Association
c/o AHI Travel
International Tower-Suite 600
8550 W. Bryn Mawr Avenue
Chicago, IL 60631



Please contact AHI Travel at **800-323-7373** with questions regarding this trip or to make a reservation.

Full Legal Name (exactly as it appears on passport)

(1) _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: _____

(2) _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: _____

(3) _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

(4) _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Relation to child (3): _____ (4): _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home: (_____) Cell: (_____) _____

Sharing with _____ (Form sent separately.)

Two-Night Pre- and Post-Trip Elective Extensions

Please make _____ reservations for me/us on the:

Amsterdam Pre-Trip Extension Interlaken Post-Trip Extension

I/we authorize you to make my/our reservations as follows:

Cabin Category Desired: 1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____

Land/Cruise Program and AHI FlexAir

I/we reserve the Land Program and request the AHI FlexAir to Amsterdam, The Netherlands, with a return from Zürich, Switzerland, to depart from:

Departure City

Please contact me regarding air options.
 Please send me information on upgrading my flights.

Land/Cruise Program

I/we will make my/our own air arrangements and transfers.

Single Accommodations

I prefer single accommodations at an additional cost (limited availability).
 I request assistance in securing a roommate but will accept a single, if one is available at this time, and pay the single supplement. Should a roommate be found, I understand the supplement will no longer apply.

Reservations are subject to availability and processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations to be paid in full by **April 26, 2017** (75 days prior to departure). Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal check, MasterCard, Visa, Discover or Amex. Make checks payable to AHI Travel.

Enclosed is a deposit of _____ (\$600 pp required) to reserve _____ place(s).

Accept my check made payable to **AHI Travel**.
 Charge my: MasterCard Visa Discover Amex

Card # _____

Expires _____/_____/_____

(Signature as it appears on credit card)

Please note: Any payment to AHI Travel constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out herein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.

NOT INCLUDED:Fees for passports and, if applicable, visas, entry/departure fees; personal gratuities; laundry and dry cleaning; excursions, wines, liquors, mineral waters and meals not mentioned in this brochure under included features; travel insurance; all items of a strictly personal nature.

MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL:The right is retained to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of this trip who, in the opinion of AHI Travel is unfit for travel or whose physical or mental condition may constitute a danger to themselves or to others on the trip, subject only to the requirement that the portion of the total amount paid which corresponds to the unused services and accommodations be refunded. Passengers requiring special assistance, including without limitation those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit and able to assist them, and who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance.

AIR TRANSPORTATION:The price of air transportation offered by AHI Travel is based on Advance Purchase Excursion fares. After tickets are issued, penalties up to 100% of the ticket price may be levied. If connecting flights are requested, special promotional fares may be used, in which case penalties of as much as 100% may be assessed by the airlines if reservations are changed or canceled after ticketing. After departure, if the reservations are changed, you will be charged the higher, all year Economy class fare. **VARIATIONS TO THE GROUP ITINERARY MUST BE REQUESTED NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.** Passengers who choose to make their own airline reservations independently will be wholly responsible for any airline fees or penalties incurred as a result of program cancellation and/or change in travel dates, or airline schedule(s).

BAGGAGE:Baggage restrictions vary according to the airline policy and the class of service flown. Details will be provided with your pre-departure information. Baggage allowances are subject to change by the carrier without notice. Excess baggage charges for additional or oversized/overweight pieces are expensive and not included in your trip price; plan your wardrobe accordingly. Transport of baggage and personal effects is at the owner's risk throughout the travel program.

AUTHORITY TO USE IMAGES AND AUDIO RECORDINGS:On occasion, AHI Travel obtains, from its staff, or from trip participants, photographic or video images of passengers and trip activities. By participating in this travel program, you authorize AHI Travel, without providing compensation to you, or obtaining additional approvals from you, to include photographic and video recordings of you, as well as voice recordings included with any videos, in AHI Travel's sales, marketing, advertising, publicity and/or training activities.

RESPONSIBILITY:AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association do not own or operate any entity which provides goods or services for this program, and act only as agents for the independent suppliers of travel conveyance, transport, accommodations or other services. As a result, AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association are not liable for any negligence or willful act of any such person or entity or any third person. In addition and without limitation, AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association are not responsible for any delays, delayed departure or arrival, missed carrier connections, loss, death, damage or injury to person or property or accident, mechanical defect, failure or negligence of any nature whatsoever caused in connection with any accommodations, transportation or other services or for any substitution of hotels or of common carrier equipment, with or without notice, or for any additional expenses occasioned thereby. Dates, Program Details and Tour costs, although given in good faith and based on tariffs, exchange rates and other information current at the time of printing, are subject to change at or before the time of departure. No revisions of the printed itinerary or its included features are anticipated; however, the right is reserved to make any changes, with or without notice, that might become necessary, with the mutual understanding that any additional expenses will be paid by the individual passenger. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. If the entire program is canceled for any reason, participants shall have no claim other than for a full refund. By forwarding the deposit, the passenger certifies that he/she has no physical, mental or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for himself/herself or other passengers and accepts the terms of this contract set out herein and in more specific pre-departure passenger information. The airlines and other transportation companies concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event, during the time passengers are not on board their conveyances. The passage contract in use, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the company(ies) and the passenger and/or purchaser of this trip.

CANCELLATION:All cancellations for any reason will be subject to a \$250 per person administrative fee. You may choose, at the time of cancellation, to apply the withheld administrative fee to a future AHI Travel program that will operate in the current calendar year or year following. Cancellation from 120 days to 76 days prior to departure will result in forfeiture of 10% of the entire cost of the trip per person; 75-30 days, 50% of the trip cost per person; cancellation from 29 days up to the time of departure will result in 100% forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. Trip Cancellation insurance is available, go to www.alumni.ut.edu/travel to find out more. All cancellations must be submitted in writing to AHI Travel. **CANCELLATIONS OF TRIP OPTIONS:**Purchases of optional excursions, trip extensions and additional hotel nights become fully non-refundable 45 days prior to departure. Air transportation and private transfer purchases are subject only to penalties assessed by the airlines and transfer suppliers.

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LAND | CRUISE PROGRAM

July 11-18, 2017

Category-Deck	Full Price	Special Savings	Special Price
E-Haydn (Aft)	\$3,045	\$250	\$2,795*
D-Haydn (Midship)	\$3,145	\$250	\$2,895*
C-Strauss (Aft)	\$3,345	\$250	\$3,095*
B-Strauss (Midship)	\$3,445	\$250	\$3,195*
A-Mozart (Aft)	\$3,745	\$250	\$3,495*
Suite-Mozart (Midship)	\$4,245	\$250	\$3,995*

Suites feature a balcony. Categories A, B, and C feature a drop-down panoramic window. Categories D and E feature a window.

*Special Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel.

Value Added Tax (VAT) and Port Tax supplement is an additional \$395 per person.

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated). Single prices are available upon request (limited availability).

Special Family Pricing

Save \$1,000 on Children Ages 7-16 for each child accompanied by an adult.

Let us arrange your flights!

July 10-18, 2017

✈ **AHI FlexAir** | Our experts are ready to assist you in booking flights. Our personalized air program offers the following advantages:

- ▶ a **price guarantee** to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase
- ▶ arrival and departure **transfers** on most flights
- ▶ **flexibility** to change or cancel your reservations without penalty up to 60 days before departure on most flights
- ▶ discounted prices for business-class upgrades
- ▶ **assistance** in the event of schedule changes or delays
- ▶ flight insurance worth up to USD 250,000, subject to policy terms

Travel stress free with AHI FlexAir.



Upper Middle Rhine Valley



Cologne Cathedral

| UNESCO |

Four UNESCO World Heritage sites are featured in this comprehensive program:

1. **The 17th-century Canal Ring Area of Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht**, The Netherlands
2. **Cologne Cathedral**, Germany
3. **Upper Middle Rhine Valley**, Germany
4. **Strasbourg – Grand Ile**, France



Strasbourg — Grand Ile

800-323-7373

vatech.ahitravel.com

ACCOMMODATIONS

(With baggage handling.)

- Seven nights aboard the new MS Amadeus Silver III.

MEALS

- Enjoy an **extensive meal program**, including seven breakfasts, six lunches and seven dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with lunch and dinner for the adults.
- Take advantage of leisure time to try the local cuisine independently.
- Attend a Captain's Welcome Reception and Dinner.
- Gather for the Captain's Farewell Reception and Dinner.

YOUR EXCITING TRAVEL PROGRAM

- **Informative educational programs**, presented by local experts, will enhance your insight into the region.
- **Personal VOX listening devices** allow you to hear every word from your expert, English-speaking guides.
- Tipping of excursion guides and drivers.

• The following excursions:

- Cruise the canals of Amsterdam.
- Marvel at the majestic Cologne Cathedral and the city's old town.



Choose from a **selection of Personalize Your Cruise excursions** in these towns:

- **Amsterdam** | Rijksmuseum | Bike Ride | Canal Walking Tour
- **Oberwesel** | Wine Tour | Walking Tour
- **Speyer** | Speyer Walking Tour | Heidelberg Castle | Hike Philosopher's Way
- **Strasbourg** | Panoramic and Walking Tour | Petite France Walking Tour | Culinary Tour
- **Breisach** | Riquewihr Walking Tour and Wine Tasting | Breisach and Freiburg Tour | Black Forest Excursion



AHI TRAVEL EXPERTISE

From your reservation to your return home, we are here to ensure you have the adventure of a lifetime.

Before you go:

- ▶ **TRAVEL CONSULTANTS** | These experts stand ready to answer your questions about activities, meals, accommodations and more as they guide you through the reservation process.
- ▶ **PASSENGER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE** | Once you have reserved your spot, enjoy personalized assistance from this specialist, your one point of contact who will help you with everything from arranging flights to booking elective activities to fulfilling special requests.
- ▶ **TRAVEL INFORMATION** | Receive extensive destination information and travel tips compiled by our travel-savvy team to prepare you fully for your journey.

Once you arrive:

On the ground, four layers of top-quality professionals offer their insiders' perspective. From suggesting the best café or pub to sharing a laugh over the stories of the day, our dedicated team takes your adventure to the next level.

- ▶ **TRAVEL DIRECTOR** | Throughout your journey, you will be in the care of a seasoned AHI travel professional who will manage all the logistics, allowing you to relax and simply soak up the ambience. Resourceful, knowledgeable and attentive, your Travel Director helps to ensure you enjoy an unforgettable travel experience.
- ▶ **YOUTH DIRECTORS** | Onboard the ship, two energetic staff members will engage your young travelers in fun and creative activities, including games, crafts and special presentations on local traditions.
- ▶ **EXPERT GUIDES** | Who better to show you around than the people who live there? We've specially selected informed and enthusiastic local professional guides who understand the needs of our educated and curious travelers. Warm and genuine, they're ready to share their passion for their country with you.
- ▶ **LECTURERS** | Coming from all walks of life, our entertaining local lecturers open your eyes to history and current events. The breadth of their knowledge deepens your appreciation for the region and its heritage.





VirginiaTechforlife
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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Cruising the Rhine

Make fun memories on a Rhine river cruise with your family! Open to ages 7+.

Please call or refer to our website for the most current program information, discounts and pricing.

AHI Travel's mission is to deliver inspirational educational and cultural travel programs that delight travelers.

With AHI you can rely on:

- Experienced Travel Directors who attend to every detail of your journey.
- An exceptional travel value.
- Unique access to local sites.
- Flexibility and customization.
- Safety and security.



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