



Christmas Markets Along the Rhine

Holiday magic in Düsseldorf, Strasbourg, Baden-Baden, Köln, Heidelberg, and Basel

1. ■ Arrive Basel

Tour begins: 4:00 PM, Basel. Transfers are included from EuroAirport Basel-Mulhouse-Freiburg to the riverboat. Guests who pre-stay in Basel will receive a transfer from their hotel; guests can also transfer from Zürich Airport or Zurich Hauptbahnhof (train station). Enjoy a welcome reception followed by dinner this evening. **Meals D**

2. ■ Mt. Pilatus, Lucerne and Basel

You'll have sightseeing choices today. On a full-day excursion to Lucerne, you'll first travel to Krams for a cable car up to Mt. Pilatus - the panoramic views are spectacular - followed by a free afternoon in Lucerne to spend as you please. Alternatively, stay in Basel and join us for a guided tour of the city that's highlighted by a visit to Basel's Christmas Market - thought to be one of the largest, and prettiest, in Europe. Everyone returns to the riverboat mid-afternoon; join us for dinner, then share some holiday spirit with your fellow travelers at our tree-trimming party. **Meals BLD**

3. ■ Strasbourg and the Christkindlmarkt

The unmistakable sights, sounds, flavors and smells of the Alsatian holidays surround you at Strasbourg's Marchés de Noël, the oldest and largest in France. Gain insights about holiday traditions from an expert local guide, followed by a walking tour of the breathtaking Christkindlmarkt. Join us for a festive dinner on the riverboat this evening. **Meals BLD**

4. ■ Black Forest and Baden-Baden

Take an "insider" tour of the Kurhaus, Baden-Baden's Belle Epoque casino; then explore the labyrinth of stalls in the Weihnachtsmarkt, enchanting with lights, music, and the tempting aromas of gingerbread and glühwein. **Meals BLD**

5. ■ The spirit of the season in Heidelberg

A day in romantic Heidelberg promises holiday cheer and insights about life here past and present. Tour Heidelberger Schloss, the castle ruins high above the city. Return by

Uniquely Tauck

- Spend a day in Old Town Heidelberg, touring Heidelberg Castle; enjoy the holiday traditions of Alsace in Strasbourg with a local story-telle, and visit holiday markets in La Petite France; and travel by gondola up Mt. Pilatus
- Walking tours include Lucerne, Köln, the spa town of Baden-Baden, and Rudesheim
- Unique sights includes a visit to Siegfried's marvelous Mechanisches Musikkabinet to view the mechanical musical instrument collection

funicular for a walking tour of the Old Town and its Christmas Markets, winding up with a traditional German lunch and free time. Enjoy a live performance on the ship tonight. Meals BLD

6. ■ Music, treats & more in Rudesheim

Arrive in Rudesheim; stroll the Christmas market, then walk or ride a mini-train (weather permitting) to Siegfried's Mechanisches Musikkabinett, a museum with an impressive collection of mechanical musical instruments. Enjoy a demonstration into how to make the special Rudesheim coffee - with a touch of local brandy mixed in - and a tasting. Spend the afternoon cruising the beautiful Middle Rhine Vally, with commentary. Meals BLD

7. ■ Köln (Cologne) and on to Düsseldorf

Arrive early morning in the historic city of Köln. Accompanied by a local guide, enjoy a guided tour of Köln's historic center and its Christmas Market beside the Gothic, twin-spired cathedral, followed by free time to explore. This evening, raise a glühwein toast to the end of your journey at the captain's farewell reception. Meals BLD

8. Homeward bound

Tour ends: Düsseldorf. Fly home anytime. Transfers are included from the riverboat to Düsseldorf Airport or the train station. Guests enjoying a post-stay in Düsseldorf will also receive a transfer from the hotel to the airport. Please allow at least three hours for airport check-in. Meals B

