

Luxurious Rhine River Cruise & Alpine Escape

European River Cruise
May 3 - 15, 2027 (13 Days)

Tentative Itinerary



Collins Tours is pleased to host you for a thrilling river cruise along the peaceful and elegant Rhine River aboard the AmaLucia with AmaWaterways. We begin our journey in Lucerne Switzerland nestled in the heart of the Swiss Alps for two nights before travelling to Basel to embark on our luxury river cruise. With multiple stops in Germany, France, and overnights in Amsterdam, this itinerary is full of exceptionally exciting destinations to be enjoyed at a leisurely pace. Our time in The Netherlands with two nights in central Amsterdam, a lively and cosmopolitan city known for its canals, will be well enjoyed. Live in luxury and meet new friends for this 5-star experience. After reading through this itinerary, I'm sure you will agree, Collins Tours has crafted another wonderful vacation for you.

Sincerely, Greg Collins – President & CEO

Day 1: Monday, May 3 - Overnight Flight, Canada - Zurich, Switzerland (D)

- For those who purchased Collins Tours Inclusive Airfare & Transfers, you will meet your tour manager at the Toronto Airport at the departure gate for your overnight Air Canada flight to Zurich. **NOTE: 1st checked piece of luggage is free for international flights (up to maximum of 50lbs). 2nd bag is an additional cost and based on weight. Additional fees apply for overweight and oversized bags. Carry-on luggage is free; your bag must be light enough that you can store it in the overhead bin unassisted with a maximum weight of 22lbs per carry-on bag.**
- Visit www.aircanada.com for more details on luggage fees. Luggage payment is paid directly to Air Canada and not included in tour package for overweight or 2nd pieces of luggage. Fees are charged on both outbound & return flights. Please be sure to read the important information section regarding Valid Passports (minimum 3 months valid after your last day in Europe) for check-in and traveling to Europe.
- Enjoy your overnight flight to Zurich, Switzerland with an in-flight meal & snack **(included)**.

Day 2: Tuesday, May 4 – Zurich - Continental Hotel Lucerne, Switzerland (Welcome Reception)

- Arrive in Zurich, Switzerland! Your tour manager will meet you at the baggage claim area after clearing immigration before boarding our private motorcoach for the drive to Lucerne. We will explore the beauty of the city with a guided walking tour, it is a perfect introduction to the mountains, water and charm that define this region. After an afternoon of sightseeing, we check in to the centrally located Hotel Continental Park, our home for the next two nights.
- This evening, join your tour manager and fellow travellers for a 1-hour “Welcome to the Alps” cocktail reception with wine and light appetizers **(included)**. Here you will have an opportunity to meet your fellow travellers and discuss the exciting tour ahead.
- Following our cocktail reception, feel free to enjoy the city and dinner at your leisure (on own).



Day 3: Wednesday, May 5 – Lucerne, Switzerland (B)

- Wake up and enjoy a delicious Swiss breakfast buffet this morning **(included)**.
- Today join your tour manager for a relaxing boat cruise on Lake Lucerne **(included)**, one of most pristine lakes in all of Switzerland! After your cruise enjoy the rest of the day for you to enjoy at your own pace. As one of Switzerland's most beautiful and inviting cities, Lucerne is surrounded by breathtaking alpine scenery and set along the shores of Lake Lucerne. From our hotel near the peaceful Vögeligärtli park, you are just a short walk from the city's charming Old Town, the famous Chapel Bridge, and the scenic lakeside promenade. Or perhaps you head up Mt. Pilatus by gondola or cogwheel railway, where you can take in wide alpine views and enjoy a taste of the high peaks.
- With a free time, you will have the opportunity to enjoy the relaxed Swiss atmosphere—whether by sitting in a local café, browsing small boutiques, strolling through cobbled streets, or simply relaxing in a nearby park.
- Dinner is on your own this evening.

Day 4: Thursday, May 6 – Lucerne – Basel – Embark on AmaWaterways' AmaLucia (B, Welcome Reception, D)

- Enjoy a delicious buffet breakfast this morning.
- Following breakfast, we will make our way by luxury motorcoach to Basel, Switzerland. We stop for lunch (not included) along the way before embarking on our beautiful European River Cruise aboard AmaWaterways' AmaLucia.
- Your river cruise will bring both comfort and inspiration as you sail through Europe's most scenic waterways aboard the AmaLucia. This elegant 156-passenger vessel offers the perfect blend of warmth, style, and modern luxury. From free high-speed Wi-Fi, and an Entertainment-On-Demand system, you can stay connected or simply unwind with a movie after a day of exploring. Enjoy tapas and panoramic views in the sunny Main Lounge or savour exquisite cuisine in both the Main Restaurant and The Chef's Table specialty venue. When you are feeling active, take advantage of the walking track, fitness room, and complimentary bikes, or perhaps join an energizing class led by the onboard Wellness Host. When it's time to relax, enjoy the pool with its inviting swim-up bar or stretch out on the sun deck.
- Before dinner **(included)**, meet your tour manager and fellow travellers for a welcome reception **(included)**. We sail to Breisach, Germany overnight.
- After your welcome aboard reception, join your tour manger for a gourmet group dinner with wine or beer included!



Day 5: Friday, May 7 – Breisach, Germany (B, L, D) Choice of Included Shore Excursion – Choose One

- Located at the foot of Kaiserstuhl Mountain on the French German border, Breisach is your gateway to several different excursions depending on your interests. Step back in time with a visit to the enchanting Alsatian town of Colmar, which looks almost the same as it did in the 16th century. On your walking tour, admire historic architecture and perhaps get a glimpse of the Statue of Liberty, a small replica of the famous version in New York, to commemorate the sculptor's Colmar birthplace. Those wishing a more active excursion can cycle through the scenic countryside or go on a hike through the heart of the Kaiserstuhl, a volcanic region in the Rhine plain known for its unique landscapes, vineyards and exceptional biodiversity.
- This afternoon, we board the AmaWaterways' AmaLucia for our sail towards Strasbourg, France.
- Join your tour manager for another gourmet group dinner with wine or beer tonight aboard our beautiful sailing AmaLucia.

Day 6: Saturday, May 8 – Strasbourg, France (B, L, D) Choice of Included Shore Excursion – Choose One

- This morning, wake up in Strasbourg, the capital city of Alsace. Situated on the border of France and Germany, this city blends the cultures of both countries in a delightful way.
- Enjoy walking through the iconic UNESCO World Heritage “La Petite France” district, which appears to have been lifted straight from the pages of a fairytale. Wander through these charming streets and past the Cathédrale de Notre Dame with its famous astronomical clock. For the active adventurer, you can take a guided bike ride through this captivating city and Parc de l’Orangerie.
- This afternoon, we sail north towards Ludwigshafen, Germany.
- Join your tour manager for another gourmet group dinner tonight with wine or beer included.



Day 7: Sunday, May 9 – Ludwigshafen - Rüdesheim, Germany (B, L, D) Choice of Included Shore Excursion – Choose One

Overnight in Rüdesheim

- Ludwigshafen is your gateway to a choice of three excursions. Visit Heidelberg, the perfectly preserved medieval city nestled in the Neckar River Valley along Germany’s Castle Road. Discover the iconic red sandstone Heidelberg Castle and Great Vat, an 18th-century 49,000-gallon wine cask. For a more active adventure while in Heidelberg, join a guided hike up the Philosopher’s Path, aptly named during the Romantic Period, and be rewarded with panoramic views of the city. Or ride along the river Neckar to the medieval town of Ladenburg where you’ll have some free time to explore the shops and quaint Marktplatz. Alternatively, you can visit one of Germany’s oldest cities, Speyer, known for the largest Romanesque cathedral in Europe—a UNESCO World Heritage Site—and the medieval Altpörtel, Old Gate.
- Later in the day, we sail to Rüdesheim where you can visit Siegfried’s Mechanical Instrument Cabinet; or taste one of the town’s special delights, Rüdesheimer Coffee, ceremoniously made with brandy.
- Join your tour manager for another gourmet group dinner with wine or beer included.
- An overnight stay in Rüdesheim provides a very unique experience and lets you experience this lively riverside town at its best.

Day 8: Monday, May 10 – Rüdesheim - Rhine Gorge – Lahnstein, Germany (B, L, D) Choice of Included Shore Excursion – Choose One

- Your exploration of Rüdesheim continues with your choice of three excursions. Take a gondola ride to the Niederwalddenkmal Statue, where you can enjoy panoramic views of the river. Afterwards, indulge your taste buds with a sampling of Riesling wines in the vineyards. If you prefer a more active adventure, hike through Rüdesheim’s vineyards, taking in views of the town, the Roman Bridge and Bromersburg Castle. Or join a guided bike ride through the town and along the Rhine River.
- During the afternoon, we set sail along the scenic Rhine River Gorge with its fabled legends and many castles to Lahnstein where you will enjoy a visit to Lahneck Castle.
- Join your tour manager for another fantastic gourmet group dinner tonight with wine or beer included.
- This evening, we set sail for Monheim, Germany!



Day 9: Tuesday, May 11 – Monheim – Düsseldorf, Germany (B, L, D) Choice of Included Shore Excursion – Choose One

2027 Luxurious Rhine River Cruise & Alpine Escape. Collins Tours



- Monheim is your gateway to the nearby city of Cologne, where you may join a guided tour of its enchanting Old Town where you will see sites such as the Cologne Rathaus, Germany's oldest town hall; the Fish market, which dates to the 12th century and the Great St. Martin Church. If you would like more time in Cologne, you may opt for a full day excursion, which includes ample free time to explore independently. In the afternoon, explore historic Düsseldorf on foot with a knowledgeable local tour guide. Alternatively, cover more ground with an active bike tour of the city.

- Join your tour manager for another fabulous gourmet group dinner with wine or beer included, discuss the adventure and dreams of your tour thus far!

- Tonight, we sail to Amsterdam, The Netherlands!

Day 10: Wednesday, May 12 – Amsterdam, The Netherlands (B, L, D) Choice of Included Shore Excursion – Choose One

Overnight in Amsterdam

- Begin your day in Utrecht, where you can explore this charming town on a walking tour or sip beer during a special tasting tour. In the afternoon, enjoy the beautiful scenery as you glide to Amsterdam.
- During your afternoon in Amsterdam, you may embark on a picturesque canal cruise throughout the city, giving you a closeup view of these inspiring waterways. If you prefer exploring the world with your taste buds, stroll past traditional canals, gabled houses, narrow bridges and house boats to taste Dutch specialties at a grand Amsterdam café.
- This evening, join your tour manager for our last group dinner onboard the AmaLucia with wine or beer included.

Day 11: Thursday, May 13 - Amsterdam, The Netherlands (B)

- After breakfast onboard the ship, it is time to say farewell to the AmaLucia and board our private motor coach for our transfer to our city centre hotel where we will drop our luggage.
- After dropping our luggage, we will be joined by a local guide for a city tour! This guided experience combines some walking and a classic canal cruise, offering a great overview of Amsterdam's hidden gems. Along the way, we will see iconic sites such as Dam Square, The Royal Palace, the Anne Frank House, the Basilica of Saint Nicholas, and more. We will make a stop during our tour for lunch (on own).
- After our guided tour, we check into our 4.5 star city centre hotel where your luggage will be waiting for you in your room. Your tour manager will handle the group check-in and will distribute your room keys.
- Dinner this evening can be enjoyed on your own. There are many options near our hotel for your convenience.



Day 12: Friday, May 14 – Amsterdam, The Netherlands (B, Farewell D)

- Wake up to a beautiful buffet breakfast this morning.
- Today is yours to enjoy Amsterdam at your own pace. You might stroll along the historic canal ring, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, lined with elegant merchant houses. Consider visiting the Anne Frank House for a moving look at the city's wartime history, or explore the Rijksmuseum, home to masterpieces by Rembrandt and Vermeer. If you prefer something more relaxed, wander through the Jordaan district with its cafés, boutiques and lively local atmosphere.
- This evening, we will gather one last time for our Farewell Dinner with wine and beer included and reminisce of our experience that began in Switzerland.

Day 13: Saturday, May 15 – Flight to Canada (B)

- Our time in Europe ends this morning with our final breakfast.

- For the passengers who have chosen our airfare package, you will enjoy complimentary private motorcoach transportation to the airport.
- For those who have made their own flight arrangements, thank you for joining us in what has surely been a wonderful adventure along the rivers of Central Europe. Safe Travels!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Tour itineraries are **ONLY** a guideline and may need to be modified by your tour manager. Times on tour itineraries are only estimates as various unforeseen factors, such as weather, traffic, mechanical issues, emergencies, construction, mechanical delays, disruption or delays in transportation, or “Acts of God,” can influence tour timing. Collins Tours is not responsible or liable for reimbursements, credits, refunds or additional costs in transportation, meals, or flights, for delays caused by unforeseen events, outcomes and overall changes described above or circumstances not described above yet causing similar or changes in overall tour itineraries. No refunds or reimbursements will be offered in the event of any such occurrence.
- Canadian citizens are required to have a **valid passport** that is good for at least **THREE MONTHS AFTER** your last day in Europe. Citizens of other countries must verify their required documentation for entry into Europe.
- **Baggage allowance details:** For all Air Canada flights to and from Europe: You are allowed one personal and one carry on item at no charge (max dimension: 23 cm x 40 cm x 55 cm). You are also allowed one free checked bag (max weight 23 kg; \$100 fee for overweight bag). Second checked bag is \$100 CAD each way.
- Currency used in Switzerland is the **Swiss Franc**; in France, Germany and The Netherlands is the **Euro**. Duty Free Rules allow you to claim \$800 CAD per person when you have travelled outside Canada for at least 48 hours.
- All liquids and gels that you are planning to bring on board an airplane must be 3oz or less and sealed in a Ziploc bag and kept in your carry-on. Keep prescription medication in original container or carried with you.
- Collins Tour is not responsible for lost or stolen baggage and/or personal items.
- Collins Tours & Consulting Ltd is not responsible for any flight delays, schedule changes, flight gate changes, acts of God, mechanical issues, any emergencies, or any missed connections due from any such events described above or unforeseen circumstances arising not described above, yet may cause similar outcomes or delays. Collins Tours & Consulting Ltd is not responsible for providing additional transportations costs, if necessary, reimbursements or credits for these additional expenses, loss of use, loss of hotel nights, meals, transportation arrangements, or any portion of your planned vacation you have that may or may not be missed. These costs, if any, will be paid directly by the traveler and submitted through the appropriate person’s travel insurance for reimbursement of expenses. Please contact our office if you need assistance with all-inclusive medical insurance, trip cancellation and interruption coverage. Collins Tours & Consulting Ltd does not anticipate any such concerns or events and only wishes for everyone to ensure proper travel insurance has been purchased in advance.
- **REMEMBER**, your tour manager handles hotel check in/check out procedures, overall group management (e.g. timely transitions, itinerary planning), and group representation with airlines, hotels, group activities, Customs and Immigration, and overall operation of each tour. We work hard to ensure that everyone enjoys his/her experience to the fullest. **Gratuities for your Tour Manager are not included in your tour price.** Tipping is your way of saying “Thank You,” for a job well done.
- **Here are our guidelines on Tipping Etiquette:**
 - Collins Tours Manager - from \$8 CAD - \$9 CAD per person, per day
 - Bus driver €4 - €5 per person per day
 - Private city tour guides - €3 per person, per day

Hotel Contact Information:

Lucerne – Hotel Continental Park, Murbacherstrasse 4, 6003 Luzern, Switzerland. Ph: +41 41 228 90 50
Amsterdam – TBA city centre hotel



Thank you for traveling with Collins Tours.
We look forward to assisting you with all your future travel plans!