

# RHINE CHRISTMAS MARKETS

## BASEL- AMSTERDAM



Experience the deep-rooted holiday traditions of Europe at its most festive time of year. From the iconic canals of Amsterdam to Switzerland's glittery cities, Lucerne and Zurich, get caught up in the magic of the holidays with visits to some of the world's most timeless Christmas Markets. Warm up with a mug of steamy glühwein while at the Cologne Christmas Market located in front of its UNESCO-designated Gothic cathedral. Let the "Capital of Noël," Strasbourg, the oldest and largest Christmas Market in France, captivate you the way it has for so many others for centuries.



### DATES: 2020 -

**AmaStella:** Nov 23, Nov 30\* | Dec 7, Dec 14\*, Dec 21 - **AmaMora:** Nov 22\*, Nov 29 | Dec 6\*, Dec 13, Dec 20\* - **AmaKristina:** Nov 23\*, Nov 30 | Dec 7\*, Dec 14, Dec 21\* - **AmaSiena:** Nov 25 | Dec 2\*, Dec 9, Dec 16\*

**DURATION:** 8 DAYS/7 NIGHTS

**EMBARK:** Basel (B)

**DISEMBARK:** Amsterdam (A)

\*REVERSE ITINERARY

**SHIPS:** AMA STELLA, AMA SERENA, AMA MORA, AMA KRISTINA

**FROM:** \$2,349 + Port Charges



**COUNTRIES: FRANCE, GERMANY, NETHERLANDS, SWITZERLAND**  
**RIVERS: RHINE**

## ITINERARY

### DAY 1- ARRIVE BASEL SWITZERLAND – EMBARK

NOTE: Itinerary operates as described here, or in reverse direction from Amsterdam to Basel. Embark the ship in Basel. Tonight, meet your fellow passengers on board. (D)

### DAY 2 - BREISACH, GERMANY

Visit the enchanting Alsatian town of Riquewihir beautifully dressed in her holiday finery with twinkling decorations and a lively Christmas Market. On your walking tour, admire historical architecture, as well as famous sights, such as the Dolder Gate. Alternatively, you may wish to visit Freiburg, founded in 1120, and home to Freiburg's Münster, a Gothic cathedral constructed of red sandstone, as well as its enchanting Christmas Market. Those wishing a more active excursion will want to cycle through the scenic countryside; or go on an excursion to the Black Forest, a magical land full of cultural traditions, as well as home to elaborate cuckoo clocks, striking half-timber houses, ruined castles and quaint towns. (B,L,D)



### DAY 3 - STRASBOURG, FRANCE

Strasbourg is even more alluring during the season of Advent. The Christkindelsmärik dates back to 1570, making it the oldest Christmas Market in France. Enjoy a panoramic bus tour that takes you past the

Parc de l'Orangerie, the European Parliament and the Place de la Republique.

Afterwards, walk through the historic town center on the Grande Île, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and through the lovely "La Petite France" district, where you will see the Cathédrale de Nôtre Dame with its famous astronomical clock and then visit the town's famous Christmas Market. You can also choose to explore Strasbourg's different districts by bicycle. During the afternoon, visit Gengenbach Christmas Market where every year the locals countdown to Christmas with a 24-day, larger-than-life Advent calendar. (B,L,D)



### DAY 4 - LUDWIGSHAFEN– RÜDESHEIM

you have the choice to explore two of Germany's historically rich cities, along with their festive Christmas Markets. Visit Heidelberg, a city that will capture your heart with its mighty castle and historic university. While here, wander along one of Europe's longest pedestrian shopping streets, the Hauptstrasse, soaking up the Yuletide celebrations at the town's Christmas Markets. Alternatively, you can explore one of Germany's oldest cities, Speyer, known for the largest Romanesque cathedral in Europe—a UNESCO World Heritage Site. You'll also have time to visit its Christmas Market in front of the "Old Mint" (Alten Münze) in the famous Maximilianstrasse, with a view of the romantic imperial cathedral (Kaiserdom). Later in the day, sail to Rüdesheim where you can taste local wine or



taste one of the town's special delights, Rudesheimer Coffee, ceremoniously made with brandy. (B,L,D)



#### **DAY 5 - RÜDESHEIM – RHINE GORGE**

Your exploration of Rudesheim continues with your choice of excursions. Visit Siegfried's Mechanical Musical Instrument Museum or 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. Alternatively, you can join a guided bike ride through the town and along the Rhine River to Schloss Johannisberg; or hike through the town's beautiful vineyards. During the afternoon, set sail along the scenic Rhine River Gorge with its fabled legends and many castles. (B,L,D)



#### **DAY 6 - COLOGNE**

Join a guided tour through the enchanting Old Town. Explore the UNESCO-designated cathedral and then visit one of Europe's largest and most renowned Christmas Markets located in front of the cathedral. Alternatively, ride a bike along the Rhine and through the historic Stadtgarten; or visit a local tavern to taste Cologne's traditional Kölsch beer and Reibekuchen—potato pancakes served with apple sauce. (B,L,D)



#### **DAY 7 - AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS**

Begin your discovery of Amsterdam with a scenic canal cruise, followed by a walking tour to the Begijnhof, known for its historic Middle Ages building and concluding with a panoramic city tour that includes the Royal Palace and Westerkerk. (B,L,D)



#### **DAY 8 - DISEMBARKATION - DEPART AMSTERDAM**

Bid Farewell to Amsterdam and prepare for your homeward flight. (B)

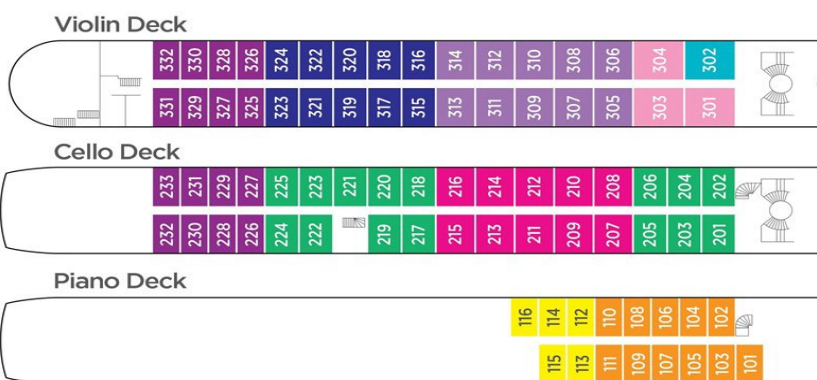




2020 RATES	Nov 22, 23	Nov 23	NOV 29	NOV 30; DEC 2, 7	DEC 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21	DEC 9, 16
BASE RATE – <b>CAT E</b>	\$3,099	\$3,099	\$3,199	\$3,299	\$3,299	\$3,299
<b>Early Booking Rate</b>	-	<b>\$2,349</b>	-	<b>\$3,049</b>	-	<b>\$2,799</b>
Plus \$189 per person Port Charges						

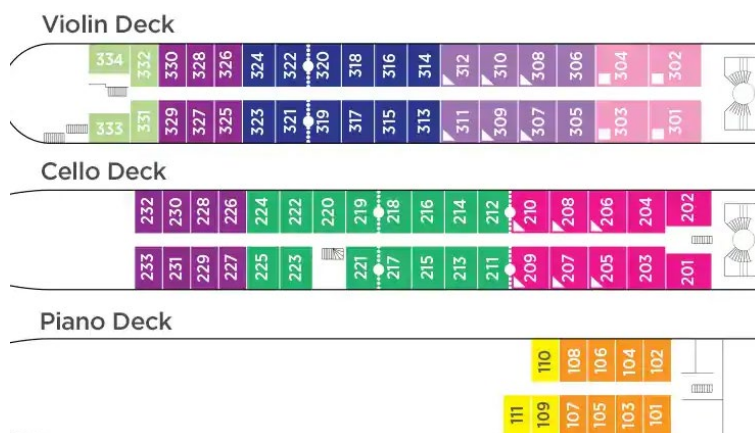
#### AMA SERENA

CATEGORY UPGRADE	D	C	BB	BA	AB	AA	AA+	SUITE
SUPPLEMENT - ADD	\$299	\$899	\$1,399	\$1,599	\$1,799	\$1,999	\$2,599	\$3,299



#### AMA KRISTINA, AMA STELLA, AMA MORA

CATEGORY UPGRADE	D	CB	CA	BB	BA	AB	AA	SUITE
SUPPLEMENT - ADD	\$299	\$599	\$899	\$1,399	\$1,599	\$1,799	\$1,999	\$3,299



**Reservations & Information**  
**1-855-EXPLOR1 (397-5671)**

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