

#### 4 Fascinating Rivers Saar, Moselle, Romantic Rhine & Neckar 7 days – 6 nights

## Saarlouis, Bernkastel, Cochem, Koblenz, Rudesheim, Mannheim, Heidelberg, Eberbach, Strasbourg River Cruising, Relaxation, History, Culture

## Highlights:

- The charm of the romantic Rhine valley and the famous rock of the Lorelei
- Koblenz and its charming old town
- Rüdesheim and its Drosselgasse
- Heidelberg, city of Romanticism

## Day 1: Saarlouis

Passengers are welcome to board the ship at 1:30 p.m. After comfortably settling into your cabin, the ship will leave for Bernkastel-Kues. Enjoy a welcome cocktail with the crew before dinner.

## Day2: Bernkastel, Cochem

After we arrive in Bernkastel-Kues, enjoy time on your own or join our hostess for a walk through this famous wine town. The afternoon will be spent cruising. We'll remain in port overnight.

#### Day 3: Cochem, Koblenz

Enjoy time on your own in Cochem, or join us for an excursion for both packages: Guided tour of Cochem Castle. The afternoon will be spent cruising.

*Common excursion:* Transfer to Cochem castle by minibus in groups of about 25 passengers. The Reichsburg is built on a remarkable site, a steep vine-covered hill overlooking the Moselle. Guided tour of this magnificent castle dating from the year 1000, which was destroyed by French troops in the 17th century and entirely rebuilt according to old plans in a Neo-Gothic style. It is distinguished by its graceful towers topped with bell turrets. It is one of the few castles in Germany which, having been rebuilt after being destroyed, still has its original countenance today. After visiting the castle, you will have some free time in the town. The town of Cochem is interesting in itself, with its narrow winding streets, its carefully restored half-timbered houses with their slate roofs, the Town Hall square with its history-filled past, as well as ancient walls, gates and churches. Return to the boat on foot.

#### Day 4: Koblenz, Redesheim

The morning will be spent cruising. Excursions proposed. We'll begin to cruise during the night.

*Classic option:* You will start the visit with a tour and commentary of the Rüdesheim vineyards by mini-train, during which you will discover the famous vineyards already cultivated in the Roman period. During this tour, the history of winemaking in the region will be explained and you can enjoy a breathtaking view of Rüdesheim and the Rhine. The train will then stop right before the historical Bassenheimer Hof cellar, a seigneurial residence from the 16th century, where we'll indulge in a wine-tasting. A winemaker from the Störzel family cellar will guide you through a tasting of three different wines, from the driest to the sweetest, all the while telling you about the history of the cellar and winemaking in the Rüdesheim region, complete with local stories. Afterwards, our visit will continue on to the Museum of Mechanical Musical Instruments located 100m away from the cellar in an old building from the 15th century. The "Siegfrieds Mechanisches Musikkabinett" is the first German museum dedicated to self-playing musical instruments, which holds an impressive collection of no less than 350 mechanical musical instruments dating back to the 18th century to the 20th, all spread out on more than 4000 ft<sup>2</sup>. This is a vast collection, dating back three centuries, of fascinating musical instruments that function like computers, ranging from tiny, delicate music boxes to an enormous orchestrion. Tools and machines for the production of organ pipes, cardboard sheet music, rolls of sheet music and perforated disks are also on display in the collection. Whatever their age, museum visitors always take great pleasure in discovering this special music, the techniques from the past and how these instruments work. After visiting the Museum, you will have some free time to stroll through the streets of Rüdesheim ambling down the famous Drosselgasse, before making your own way back to the boat.



*Discovery option (at a supplement):* We'll go to the center of Rüdesheim to catch a gondola lift to the Niederwalddenkmal, a monument built in the 19th century to commemorate the first unification of Germany. From there, you'll have a great view of the small city, the vineyards and the Rhine. We'll hike through the vineyards to the Abbey of St. Hildegard, built in the early 20th century. You'll have some free time to explore the abbey before we return to the ship through the vineyards once more.

## Day 5: Mannheim, Heildelberg, Eberbach

Excursion for both packages: Tour of Heidelberg. The afternoon will be spent cruising. After we arrive in Eberbach, enjoy some free time in this former medieval city. We'll remain in port overnight.

*Common excursion:* We'll leave from Mannheim by coach and head towards Heidelberg. This cosmopolitan, friendly, and vibrant city is made up of 15 distinct neighborhoods and is particularly attractive to families, students, business people, and researchers. Its high quality of life comes through to visitors, who feel genuinely at home here. We'll begin with a visit to the outside of Heidelberg Castle, where you'll be able to see the Renaissance ruins and parts of its restoration. The castle has a history that is almost as old as the city itself. From either the Great Terrace or the gardens, enjoy an amazing view over Heidelberg, the Neckar River, and the valley. Don't miss seeing the Heidelberg Tun, Built in 1751 by Prince Elector Karl Theodor, it housed the wine paid as taxes by the wine growers in the region. Legend has it that the permanently intoxicated court jester who guarded the cask, Perkeo, died after mistakenly drinking a simple glass of water. You can also enjoy a stroll through the castle gardens, once considered a masterpiece of their time. Built upon several terraces, they were made up of many flower beds, mazes, sculptures, heated greenhouse with orange trees, large ponds, waterfalls, and a man-made grotto. We'll then head for the Neckarmünzplatz, on the banks of the Necker River, and continue with a guided tour of the old city. We'll pass by the Church of the Holy Spirit, the most famous church in Heidelberg, whose steeple dominates the town. And then you can take advantage of some free time to wander through the streets and shops before returning to the coach. Return on board.

## Day 6: Eberbach, Mannheim

Enjoy some time on your own in Mannheim this afternoon. We'll return on board for our festive gala evening.

#### Day 7: Strasbourg

Enjoy breakfast before disembarking at 9:00 a.m.

# **Note:** For the safety of our passengers, the captain and crew of the boat may decide to modify the navigational itinerary.

Alcohol can damage your health. Please drink in moderation.

#### Your Cruise includes:

- 6 nights accommodation on board
- All meals included for Superb French Cuisine
- Unlimited complimentary onboard beverages
- Including beer, fine wine, spirits, mineral bottled water, soft drinks, specialty coffees and tea.
- Captain Welcome cocktail Reception
- Farewell Gala dinner
- Shore excursions with wireless audio system
  Port Talk
- On board professional entertainment & Crew Team show
- Assistance from our onboard multi-lingual host/hostess
- Free Wi-Fi on board

- Travel assistance and repatriation insurance
- Tips to on board personnel
- All port fees

#### Your Cruise does not include:

- International and Domestic airfares, taxes and fees
- Transfers between arrival/departure airports and peer(s)
- Other items not mentioned in the program
- Optional tours
- All items of a purely personal nature such as other drinks that is not specified, laundry, fax etc.
- Travel insurance
- Optional gratuities to cruise's personnel



## Cruise Prices:

Sailing Dates	Vessel Name	Main Deck		Upper Deck		Excursion Package*	
		Double	Single	Double	Single	Classic	Discovery
2017 Departures							
9/11-9/17	Leonard De Vinci	\$1,845	\$2,349	n/a	n/a	Included	**
2018 Departures							
5/12-5/18	Leonard De Vinci	n/a	n/a	\$2,139	\$2,875	Included	**
7/17-7/23	Leonard De Vinci	\$2,029	\$2,769	\$2,035	\$2,769	Included	**
8/17-8/23	Leonard De Vinci	\$1,805	\$2,539	\$2,035	\$2,769	Included	**

Prices are per person and may change without notice.

Sailing dates may not be available at time of booking due to heavy demand

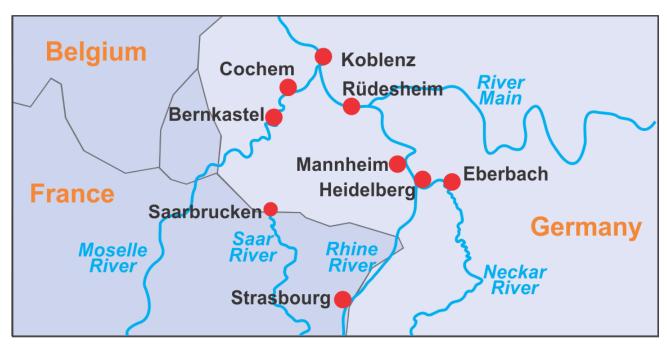
Capacity is controlled and specific cabins may not be available at time of booking.

## \* Package must be bought before departure

#### **Reductions:**

- Child discount (2-9 years) : 20%
- 3rd person discount in triple cabin: 30%

## Tour Code: DE\_ ASS\_AIPPS





# MS Leonardo de Vinci



The Leonard de Vinci is a friendly and comfortable ship with facilities that include a restaurant, lounge bar and dance floor, small library, gift shop and large sundeck. Passengers on the Leonard de Vinci tend to be 45+ and Europeans & Americans.

#### Specs:

- Year built: 2001
- Number of cabins: 72
- Capacity: 144 passengers
- Length: 361 ft. long
- Width: 37 ft. wide
- Power outlets: 220V electricity

Upper deck: 23 cabins

Main deck: 49 cabins

## **Onboard amenities:**

- Lounge-bar with a dance floor
- Bar

- Dining room
- Large sundeck with deckchairs
- Library
- Gift shop
- Central heating
- A/C
- Radar
- Radiophone
- Wi-Fi on board.

#### Cabin amenities: All cabins have:

- Private bathroom with shower
- Hair dryer
- Safe
- · Satelite TV

