

NOBLE CALEDONIA

CHRISTMAS  
OR  
NEW YEAR  
ON THE RHINE

Festive cruises between Amsterdam & Basle  
aboard the MS Royal Crown

21<sup>st</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> December 2019 & 28<sup>th</sup> December 2019 to 4<sup>th</sup> January 2020

If you are looking for a seasonal break, our cruise along the beautiful Rhine over Christmas or New Year may be of interest offering as it does a relaxing journey as we gently wind our way between the great city of Amsterdam and Basle in Switzerland. Ashore you will see a wonderful mix of the historic and cultural diversity of this region, witness stunning scenery and visit fairy-tale castles as well as Medieval towns and villages, all with their own unique history and adorned with twinkling lights and festive decorations. All this is achieved from the comfort of our floating hotel, the MS Royal Crown, and you can take life at your own pace and relax on board whilst sailing past ever-changing landscapes and enjoy the included guided excursions.

## Christmas & New Year on the Rhine

21<sup>st</sup> December 2019 to 4<sup>th</sup> January 2020

If you wish to celebrate both Christmas and New Year together, these cruises can be combined and booked as a 14 day cruise. For the combined cruise, day 8 will include a morning tour of Basle followed by lunch in a local restaurant. Full itinerary details can be viewed at [www.noble-caledonia.co.uk](http://www.noble-caledonia.co.uk)

Christmas in this region is a special time and our cruise has been planned to include Amsterdam, city of the 'Golden Age' with its artistic and historic treasures, Cologne with the opportunity to attend Midnight Mass in its magnificent cathedral and a relaxing Christmas Day sailing through the beautiful Rhine Gorge with a traditional dinner on board. Highlights of our New Year cruise include the charming spa town of Baden-Baden with its unique setting and ambiance, the historic cities of Bonn and Speyer, New Year's Eve celebrations on board in Mannheim with a special Gala Dinner and a leisurely start to 2020 as we cruise along the legendary Rhine followed by a wine tasting in the pretty village of Bacharach.



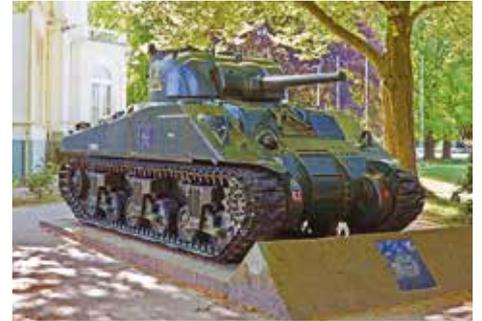
Stahleck Castle and the Rhine Gorge



Cologne Cathedral



Heidelberg's city gate



The 'Hartenstein' Airborne Museum, Arnhem

# CHRISTMAS ON THE RHINE

21<sup>st</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> December 2019

## The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Amsterdam, The Netherlands.** Fly by scheduled flight and on arrival transfer to the MS Royal Crown. After dinner this evening make your way to the lounge for some uplifting music by a string quartet. Moor overnight in Amsterdam.

**Day 2 Amsterdam.** After breakfast we depart on a canal cruise and admire the city from a glass-top boat as we glide past 17th century homes, churches and 16th century merchant houses. Return to the ship for lunch. This afternoon we visit the Rijksmuseum, arguably Amsterdam's most important art venue. Housing some of the greatest examples of Western European painting and decorative arts, it boasts works by Vermeer, Goya, and Rubens. This evening join your fellow travellers for welcome drinks and dinner.

**Day 3 Arnhem.** Arrive this morning into Arnhem. After breakfast join an excursion to visit the memorable Airborne Museum 'Hartenstein'; this renovated building houses the world's largest collection of militaria from Operation Market Garden. Return to the MS Royal Crown for lunch and sail towards Cologne.

**Day 4 Cologne, Germany.** This morning we arrive in to Cologne. Depart for a tour to see the city's famous cathedral; it is the largest Gothic church in northern Europe with the second tallest spire and largest façade in the world. Our guided tour will continue with a visit to a "Brauhaus" to sample some of the local Kolsch beer. This evening there will be the opportunity to attend Midnight Mass in Cologne Cathedral.

**Day 5 Christmas Day sailing through the Rhine Gorge.** Enjoy a relaxing day as we sail through the beautiful Rhine Gorge with good food and Christmas festivities on board.



**Day 6 Mannheim for Heidelberg.** From our berth in Mannheim, we set off after breakfast for an excursion to the University City of Heidelberg, with its Baroque style old town and castle, immediately conjuring images of romance and beauty. During our guided tour which will include a visit to the city's castle and gardens, we will stroll through Heidelberg's enchanting old town and see its Renaissance building, 'Zum Ritter', which survived the fire of 1693. Return to the vessel for lunch and sail this afternoon towards Strasbourg.

**Day 7 Strasbourg, France.** After breakfast, take a morning guided tour which will introduce us to the delights of Strasbourg including the fascinating old quarter. Start with the Quai de la Petite France where the River Ill splits into several canals, see the Ponts Couverts, a series of wooden bridges dating back to the 13th century, the Place Gutenberg and the Cathedral of Notre Dame, the tallest Medieval building in Europe. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy an afternoon sailing. In the evening a string quartet will perform a concert of music by Dvorak. Join your fellow travellers for the farewell drinks and dinner.

**Day 8 Basle, Switzerland.** Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for your return scheduled flight to London.



'The Night Watch' - Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam



The Medieval Ponts Couverts, Strasbourg

## PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

**SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE UP TO £1200 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY**

CAT	DECK	CHRISTMAS OR NEW YEAR – 7 nights	
		Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
Junior Suite	Select	£2795	£2295
Superior Suite	Select	£3095	£2595
Deluxe Suite	Select	£3195	£2695
Premium Suite	Select	£3295	£2795
Royal Suite	Panorama	£3895	£3395
Deluxe Suite for sole use	Select	£3195	£2695



Vineyards of Bacharach and Stahleck Castle



Half-timbered houses, Colmar



Baden-Baden



Beethoven's house, Bonn



Heidelberg Castle and the Old Neckar Bridge

# NEW YEAR ON THE RHINE

28<sup>th</sup> December 2019 to 4<sup>th</sup> January 2020

## The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Basle, Switzerland.** Fly by scheduled flight and on arrival transfer to the MS Royal Crown for embarkation. Sail this evening towards Strasbourg.

**Day 2 Strasbourg, France.** After breakfast, there will be a choice of tours. Join a morning guided tour which will introduce us to the delights of Strasbourg including the fascinating old quarter. Start with the Quai de la Petite France where the River Ill splits into several canals, see the Ponts Couverts, a series of wooden bridges dating back to the 13th century, the Place Gutenberg and the Cathedral of Notre Dame, the tallest Medieval building in Europe. Return to the ship for lunch. This afternoon we visit the Alsace region for a wine tasting tour. Alternatively, join a full day tour to the charming town of Colmar. Colmar offers an exciting glimpse of 1000 years of European history with



its wonderfully preserved historical centre. Our tour will include a visit to the Unterlinden Museum, lunch in a local restaurant and wine tasting. This evening join your fellow travellers for the welcome drinks and dinner on board. Moor overnight.

**Day 3 Baden-Baden, Germany.** After breakfast this morning, we will drive inland to the beautiful spa town of Baden-Baden. This elegant Belle-Epoque resort is one of Germany's best-kept secrets. The spa assembly rooms and famous casino form the focal point of the town, both architecturally and socially. The old quarter is full of charming houses, exclusive boutiques and cafés and is fully pedestrianised. After a guided tour there will be some free time to wander around this remarkable town which somehow manages to retain its old-world charm and yet be very much of the 21st century. Return to the ship for a late lunch and sail in towards Speyer in the afternoon.

**Day 4 Speyer & Mannheim.** From our berth in Speyer, there will be a choice of morning tours. Join a tour to visit the University City of Heidelberg, with its Baroque style old town and castle, immediately conjuring images of romance and beauty. During our guided tour which will include a visit to the city's castle and gardens, we will stroll through Heidelberg's enchanting old town and see its Renaissance building, 'Zum Ritter', which survived the fire of 1693. Alternatively, take a short drive through the Palatinate countryside to the small town of Bad Dürkheim, a well-known spa resort and a major wine-growing centre. After a short-guided walk through the old town enjoy a glass of the excellent local wine. Return to the MS Royal Crown for lunch. Sail to Mannheim and tonight enjoy the New Year's Eve celebrations on board.

**Day 5 Bacharach.** Relax on board this morning as we cruise along the legendary Rhine. In the late afternoon we arrive into Bacharach, a charming and friendly town with historic buildings and the majestic backdrop of Stahleck Castle. Since the Middle Ages, Bacharach, named after Bacchus, the ancient Roman God of wine, has been the most important wine village in the Middle Rhine Valley. Enjoy a wine tasting ashore of the locally produced Rieslings.

**Day 6 Bonn.** This morning our walking tour will include a visit to Beethoven's House. The tour will finish with a concert by a string quartet in the adjacent hall. Return to the MS Royal Crown for lunch and sail in the afternoon.

**Day 7 Arnhem.** Arrive this morning into Arnhem. After breakfast on board join an excursion to visit the private art collection at the Kroller Muller Museum with its late 19th and 20th century paintings. Return to the ship for lunch and sail towards Amsterdam. In the evening join your fellow travellers for farewell drinks and dinner.

**Day 8 Amsterdam to London.** Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for your return scheduled flight to London.

ONLY

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR – 14 NIGHTS

Brochure Price Special Offer Price

£5195	£3995
£5595	£4395
£5795	£4595
£5995	£4795
£7195	£5995
£5795	£4595

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel • Seven or 14 nights aboard the MS Royal Crown on full board • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch & dinner • Shore excursions • Cruise Director • Tour Manager • Guest Speaker • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes • Airport taxes.  
**Not Included:** Travel insurance.

+44 (0)20-7752 0000



## ROYAL CROWN - RIVER CRUISING AT ITS BEST

We are delighted to have chartered the MS Royal Crown for our festive cruises over Christmas & New Year.

This elegant vessel combines the nostalgic charm of the 1930s with the comfort and service of a four-star vessel. No expense has been spared to create not only a vessel that is beautiful to look at, but also a great joy to travel on. Spacious teak decks, elegant public rooms and staterooms with mahogany, rosewood and marble, together with rich fabrics and specially designed furniture, all blend together to create a unique river vessel.



Built in 1996 and refurbished in 2010, the 90 passenger MS Royal Crown was designed for the rivers flowing through the heart of Europe. Exquisite furniture, expensive materials and accessories give the vessel its unique atmosphere. Facilities on board include a library, boutique, fitness area, lounge with panoramic views and a restaurant with open seating.

Outside there is a large Sun Deck, Lido Bar, a putting green and large scale chessboard. On board the efficient air-conditioning system ensures a comfortable temperature. Two powerful engines propel the vessel up to a speed of 12 knots.



Royal Suite



Premium Suite

### YOUR CABIN/SUITE

MS Royal Crown has 45 suites which range in size from 145 square feet to the spacious Royal Suites which measure 200 square feet. All suites are fitted with spacious rosewood cupboards, a dressing table, satellite TV and radio, a safety deposit box, individually controlled air-conditioning and en-suite facilities with shower and hairdryer. Suites on the Select Deck have portholes and the Royal Suites on the Panorama Deck have large windows.



Lounge



Restaurant



Deluxe Suite



Friendly service



Sun Deck

## YOUR DINING

While the most beautiful river scenery passes by, enjoy delicacies created by the Executive Chef and his team. The restaurant has open seating, allowing you to sit where and with whom you like at each meal. In the morning breakfast is served buffet style, lunch is a delightful buffet with hot and cold choices and dinner is a served four course meal. In addition, house wine, beer and soft drinks are included at both lunch and dinner.

## YOUR SPACE

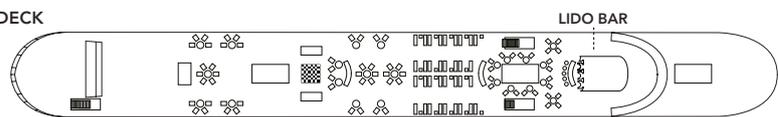
The elegant Lounge Bar is defined by its 30s inspired Art Deco style, with textured carpets, carved mahogany and plush sofas which create a comfortable and relaxed atmosphere. Experience unforgettable views from the large windows as you enjoy tea or coffee. The Lounge is also where our Guest Speakers will entertain you with informative presentations. In the evenings, let the day come to an end with a choice of beverages from the extensive menu accompanied by a pianist playing a Steinway & Sons grand piano. The huge Sun Deck covers almost the entire length of the vessel, interrupted only by the bridge and the Lido Bar (open when weather permits) where you can enjoy a drink such as fresh juice, a milkshake, or even a cocktail. Recline on a sun lounger and

read a book or watch the changing scenery. There is also a putting green and a large chess board for your enjoyment. For some time out, relax in the wellness centre which includes a

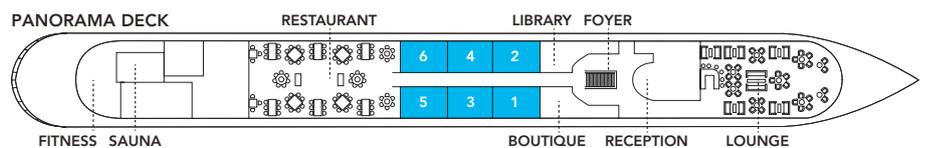
sauna with shower facilities, and a fitness room. There is also a small boutique and a library with a selection of books and games. Daily news sheets are also supplied.

## DECK PLAN

### LIDO DECK



### PANORAMA DECK



### SELECT DECK



JUNIOR SUITE
  SUPERIOR SUITE
  DELUXE SUITE
  PREMIUM SUITE
  ROYAL SUITE

Please note that Junior, Deluxe & Superior Suites have fixed twin beds. Premium and Royal Suites have fixed double beds with separate mattresses and duvets, so can be made up as twins if required.



# NOBLE CALEDONIA

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Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request. Ports subject to change and water levels. All special offers are subject to availability.  
 Cover image: Half-timbered houses decorated for Christmas in Petite France, Strasbourg