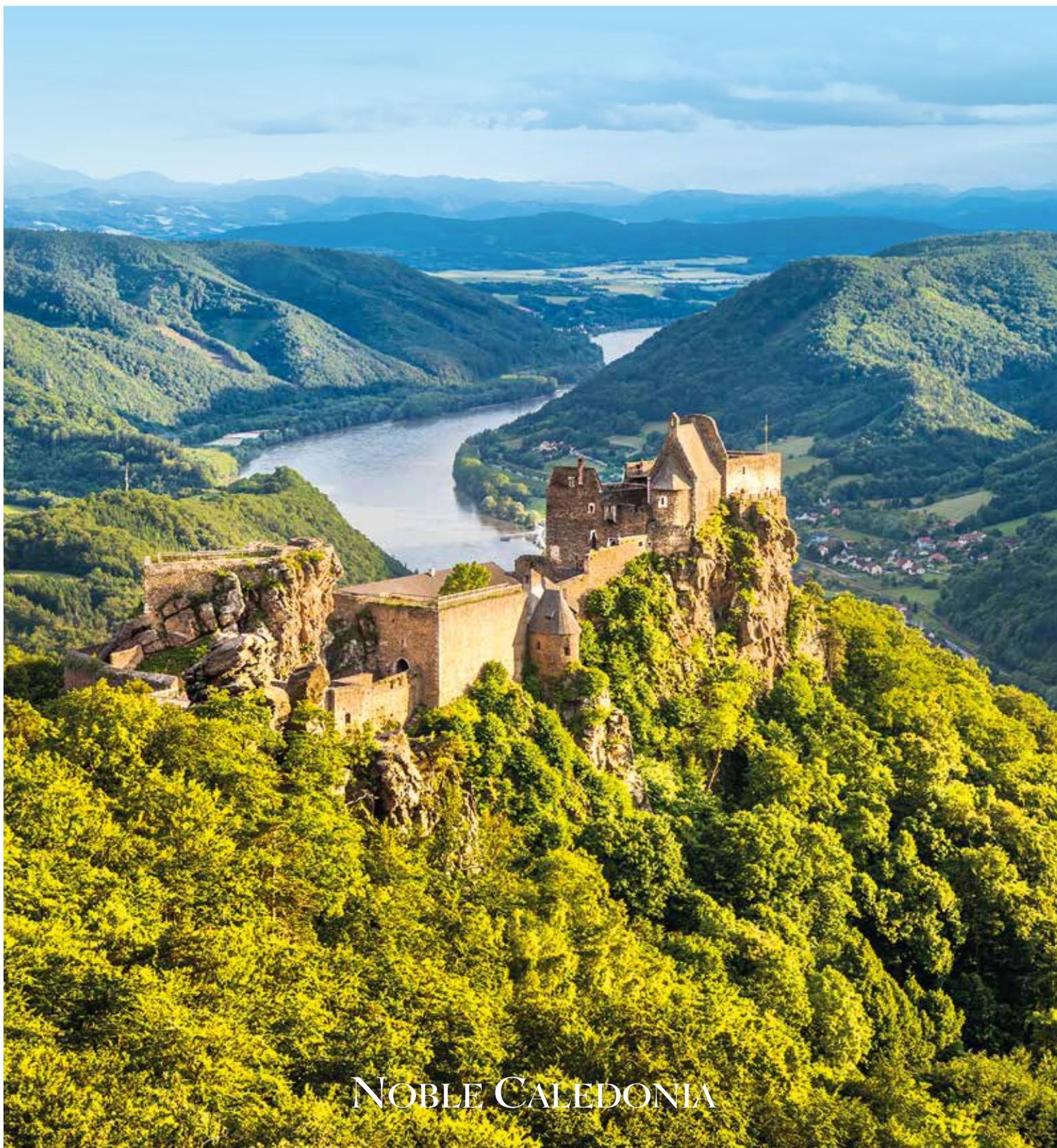


MS ROYAL CROWN

RIVER CRUISING ALONG THE
RHINE, MOSELLE, MAIN & DANUBE

2020



NOBLE CALEDONIA

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MS ROYAL CROWN

RIVER CRUISING AT ITS BEST WITH NOBLE CALEDONIA



Travelling across Europe by river offers an insight that cannot easily be had by more conventional forms of transport. The leisurely pace and quietness of the vessel allows you to be at one with your surroundings and the ever changing scenery and immediate accessibility of an area so steeped in history are just some of the many advantages of exploring by river.

We have been offering river cruises since our establishment in 1991 and in that time have witnessed an incredible growth in the number of vessels plying the rivers of Europe. The new, ultra-modern river cruise ships can accommodate hundreds of passengers, however, we have once again chosen to charter the charming MS Royal Crown for a series of cruises along the European Waterways in 2020. Built in 1996 to accommodate just 90 guests, she is in a class of her own and features exquisite furniture, expensive materials and Art Deco style cabins which give the vessel its unique atmosphere.

Our Guest Speakers, who will accompany you on board the MS Royal Crown will add to your enjoyment with informative talks and, after 25 years of operating cruises along the rivers of Europe, we have accumulated the very best of local guides for our excursions. Their enormous wealth of knowledge and their own individual views provide colour to our trips leaving you with a lasting memory of all you see. In addition to the excursions, we have included drinks with lunch and dinner, as well as gratuities in the price which makes for all-round ease and enjoyment when travelling aboard the MS Royal Crown.

Whether your main interest lies in history, politics, art, wine, music or simply enjoying the stately pace as we navigate through ever changing scenery, we believe we offer the most comprehensive range of river journeys along the Rhine, Moselle, Main and Danube for the genuine traveller.



Royal Suite

MS ROYAL CROWN

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.

YOUR 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, 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.



Premium Suite



Deluxe Suite



Lido Bar

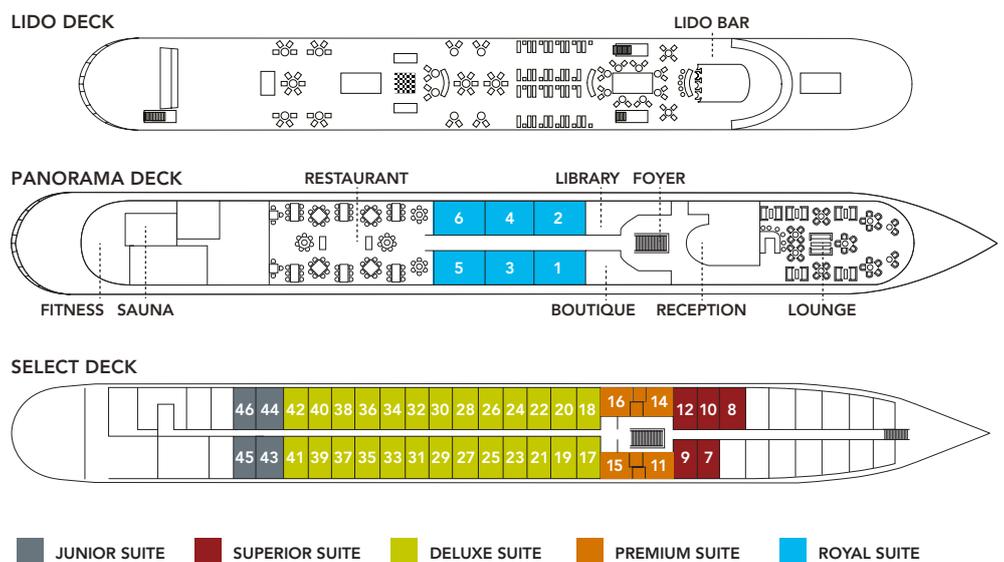


Cabin hospitality



Bathroom

DECK PLAN



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.



The Restaurant



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.

Farewell Gala Dinner

Appetiser

Salmon with honey mustard dressing
and fresh garden lettuce

Soup

Broccoli cream soup with gorgonzola croutons

Warm Appetiser

Grilled king prawn on saffron risotto with herb sauce

Sorbet

Cassis sorbet with sparkling wine

Main

Pink roasted slices of Beef Tenderloin served with béarnaise sauce,
gratin potatoes and fresh garden vegetables

Desserts

"Dessert Parade"

Baked Alaska MS Royal Crown

or

Cheese plate with crackers, nuts and grapes



Bar Lounge



Sun Deck

YOUR SPACE

The elegant Lounge Bar is defined by its 1930s 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 a 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 musician playing a Steinway & Sons grand piano. The huge Sun Deck on MS Royal Crown 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 under the umbrella 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.





The Lounge

SPRING FLOWERS & THE GOLDEN AGE OF DUTCH ART

A cruise exploring the art treasures & horticultural highlights of The Netherlands aboard the MS Royal Crown

15th to 25th April 2020 with Guest Speaker Hendrika Foster

& 25th April to 5th May 2020 with Guest Speaker Lydia Bauman

Spring is the perfect time of year to immerse yourself in the cultural and horticultural splendours of the Netherlands. During our voyage aboard the wonderfully comfortable MS Royal Crown, we will explore the countryside in some depth, visiting the magnificent flower displays of the Keukenhof, the historic Castle and Gardens of Middachten, the picturesque towns of the Zuider Zee, the Hortus Botanicus, the oldest botanical garden in the Netherlands and of course the art treasures of Amsterdam and The Hague.



April is the ideal month for such a journey, the bulbs will be at their best and the landscape touched by the arrival of spring. The itinerary we have designed is, we believe, a perfect mix of horticulture, history, art and Dutch lifestyle and makes for a colourful and endlessly interesting cruise.

GUEST SPEAKERS



Hendrika Foster – 15th April Departure

Hendrika was born in Yorkshire, of Anglo-Dutch parentage, and now lives in Hampshire. With a Dutch father, the Netherlands (including Belgium), its art and history, have long held a special fascination in what became with family, a second home. Hendrika's family can be traced to the end of the 16th century

in and around Dordrecht. In a city like Delft, largely unscathed in World War II, it is easy to slip back into the world of the newly independent Republic of the Northern Netherlands. A visit here is like stepping in and out of paintings by Vermeer. She loves driving through the countryside, where so much of landscape was known and loved by Ruisdael, and has changed very little. When asked to make a contribution in a book about 'special heroes' Hendrika wrote about Willem I of Orange. He gave his fortune, two brothers, a son and ultimately his life for this small country. The history of Holland is a wondrous story that she feels is a part of her heritage.



Lydia Bauman – 25th April Departure

Lydia Bauman is a Polish born artist and art historian. Educated at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne (BA in Fine Art) and Courtauld Institute of Art, London (MA in Art History, Distinction) she is now herself a passionate educator whose teaching is informed by her own understanding of the artists craft. She has acquired wide

experience of teaching through her engagement with numerous and varied adult education groups and through her work at the Tate Gallery, National Portrait Gallery and the National Gallery. She is the author of the forthcoming book "Great Themes in Art".

THE ITINERARY

Day 1 London / Bristol or Edinburgh to Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Fly by scheduled flight or travel by Eurostar train via Brussels. On arrival into Amsterdam transfer to the MS Royal Crown in Haarlem and embark. Moor overnight in Haarlem.

Day 2 Haarlem. After breakfast, depart for a morning walking tour of Haarlem, including the Windmill de Adriaan. Our tour concludes with a visit to the Frans Hals Museum, home to a spectacular display of 16th and 17th century portraits, still lifes and landscapes. Return to the MS Royal Crown for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore the city's pretty streets and café culture. Sail in the early evening towards Hoorn and tonight join your fellow travellers for the welcome drink and dinner on board.

Day 3 Edam & Marken. After breakfast we will visit two unique communities of the Zuider Zee. Our first call will be at Edam, a tranquil little town with drawbridges across canals and charming historic houses with lovely facades. Continue on to the fascinating village of Marken which was separated from the mainland after a storm surge in the 13th century. Here the houses and the traditional costumes are reminiscent of the past. In the past the island was flooded quite regularly and for this reason houses were built on stilts and on mounds. Spend an afternoon at leisure in the attractive 16th century town of Hoorn, sailing in the early evening towards Arnhem.

Day 4 Arnhem. Arrive this morning into Arnhem. After breakfast on board 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. Alternatively, you may like to visit the private art collection at the Kroller Muller Museum with its late 19th and 20th century



Amsterdam



Haarlem



Leiden



Keukenhof Gardens



Rijksmuseum



Delft

paintings. Return to the MS Royal Crown for lunch and enjoy a leisurely afternoon in Arnhem or you may like to join the included visit to the unique Middachten Castle & Gardens. Middachten has never been sold but has always passed from one generation to another. As a result, the interior of the castle still has many of the original household effects, including a large collection of portraits. The gardens, as they are now, came into being around 1900 when the garden architect, Hugo Poortman, brought back elements of the former Baroque style into the landscaped gardens, keeping trees in his "neo" Baroque garden. Sail in the evening towards Dordrecht.

Day 5 Dordrecht & Kinderdijk. Enjoy a relaxing morning cruise as we head towards Dordrecht. After lunch on board there will be an excursion to see the nearby marvellous Windmills of Kinderdijk, of which there are 19 in total, dating from 1740. The remainder of the day is free to explore Dordrecht with its old-world atmosphere and quaint shops, cottages and canals. Sail on towards Veere this evening.

Day 6 Veere & Middelburg. Today we explore Southern Zeeland, starting in the 13th century town of Veere. Formerly a seaport but now within a lake due to the Delta works carried out in the 1960s, it is a charming place with well-preserved houses and a marina. Enjoy free time here to explore at your own pace. Return to the ship and sail on to the lovingly restored Medieval town of Middelburg whose 12th century abbey is one of the oldest in the Netherlands. Join an afternoon guided walking tour on arrival. Sail this evening to Rotterdam.

Day 7 The Hague & Delft. From Rotterdam we depart for a full day tour. Our first stop will be The Hague for a visit to the beautiful Mauritshuis Museum with its marvellous collection of Dutch Golden Age paintings. Afterwards continue on to Delft, birthplace of Vermeer. We will have lunch in a local restaurant followed by a walking tour of this pretty town. Our tour will finish with a visit to see the Delft Blue Pottery. Return to the MS Royal Crown and moor overnight.

Day 8 Leiden. After breakfast we depart for the vibrant city of Leiden, a treasure trove of narrow streets and canals, lined with beautiful 17th century buildings, including ancient almshouses. On our walking tour we will see the old harbour, Beestenmarkt square and the charming Weddesteege, where the world-famous painter Rembrandt was born. We continue with a visit to the Hortus Botanicus, the oldest botanical garden in the Netherlands. Return to the ship for a late lunch and sail towards Amsterdam.

Day 9 Keukenhof Gardens. After breakfast we will drive from Amsterdam to the Keukenhof Gardens for a morning in this extraordinary horticultural heaven. With 32 hectares of flowers, more than seven million bulbs in bloom and 800 varieties of tulips, this is a truly unique and unforgettable experience. We will return to the MS Royal Crown for a late lunch followed by an afternoon at leisure in Amsterdam.

Day 10 Naarden & Amsterdam. After breakfast we will depart for the ancient fortified town of Naarden, one of the best-preserved in Europe with a fascinating history. A military work of art, it has the shape of a 12-pointed star and a double ring of moats. On arrival enjoy a walking tour, followed by some free time. After lunch on board, the afternoon is at leisure to either explore independently or join the tour to the Rijksmuseum. Housing some of the greatest examples of Western European painting and decorative arts, it boasts works by Vermeer, Goya, and Rubens. Here, Rembrandt's famous 'The Night Watch' hangs in the Hall of Honour. This evening join your fellow travellers for your farewell drinks and dinner.

Day 11 Amsterdam to London / Bristol or Edinburgh. Disembark after breakfast and return to the UK by scheduled flight or travel by Eurostar to London St Pancras.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £200 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

CATEGORY	DECK	BROCHURE PRICE	SPECIAL OFFER PRICE
Junior Suite	Select	£3195	£2995
Superior Suite	Select	£3295	£3095
Deluxe Suite	Select	£3595	£3395
Premium Suite	Select	£4095	£3895
Royal Suite	Panorama	£4595	£4395
Deluxe Suite for sole use	Select	£4495	£4295

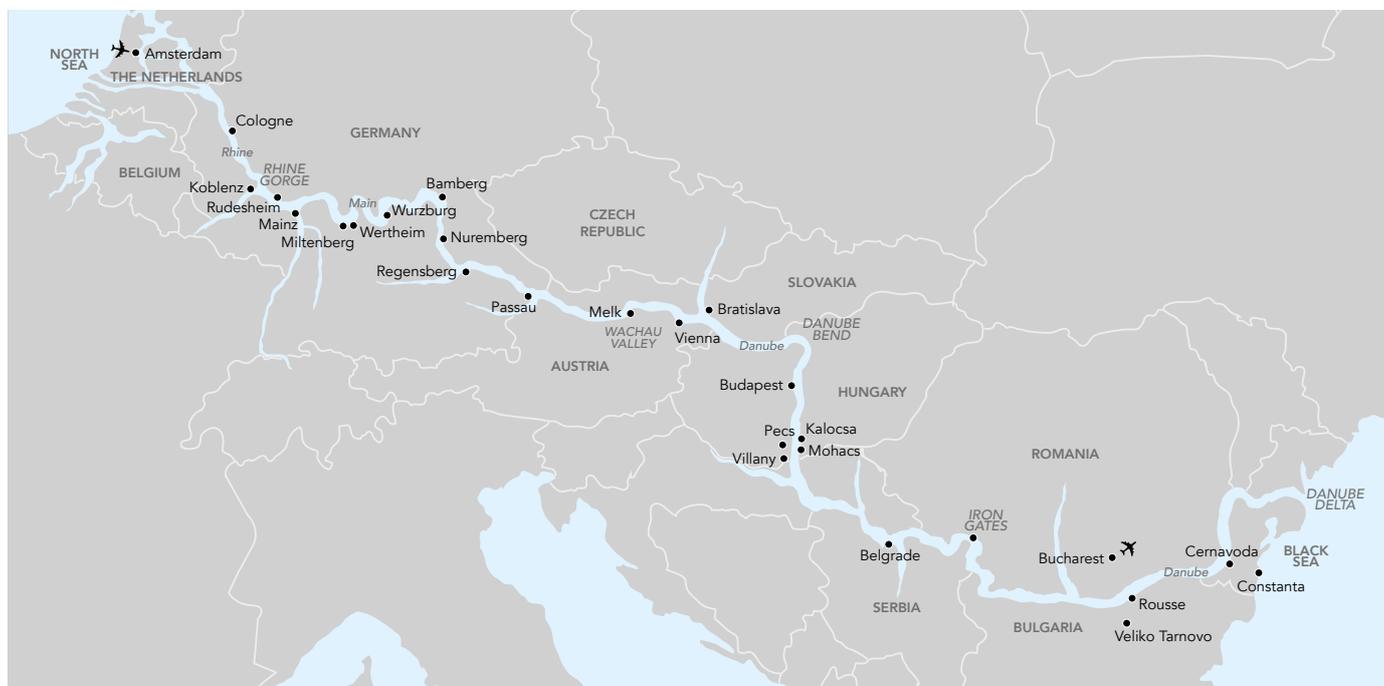
PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel or train travel • 10 nights aboard the MS Royal Crown on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch & dinner • Shore excursions • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Gratuities • Transfers • Port & airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

AMSTERDAM TO THE BLACK SEA

A journey across Europe with Guest Speakers Dr Katherine Lack and Olga Stone & highlight performances by London Festival Opera aboard the MS Royal Crown

5th to 28th May & 15th September to 8th October 2020



Join us aboard the charming MS Royal Crown for our ultimate grand tour of Europe as we sail clear across the continent, visit eight countries, travel more than 2200 miles and yet only have to unpack once. This is the perfect trip for those who enjoy seeing something new every day, as the MS Royal Crown transports you in considerable comfort between great cities, towns and villages, past ever-changing landscapes where the slow speed of the vessel allows us to absorb the views of town and country.

Each port of call has its own unique character waiting to be discovered whilst on one of our guided excursions. From historic locations to iconic buildings, our itinerary is brimming with highlights including the grand cities of Vienna and Budapest; the picturesque towns along the Rhine and Main including Miltenberg and Rudesheim; wine tasting in Wurzburg and music performances. There will of course also be plenty of time to relax on board and enjoy some truly beautiful scenery especially whilst cruising through the dramatic Rhine Gorge and through the spectacular Iron Gates.

GUEST SPEAKERS



Olga Stone – Travelling on board from Amsterdam to Vienna

Olga Stone was born in Crimea, Ukraine. She graduated from the Odessa Conservatoire with distinction in piano, piano accompaniment and the teaching of music and then became a professional pianist and accompanist. Olga moved to the Isle of Man in 1998 and, in 2001, was elected a Fellow of Trinity College of Music

in London. Olga has performed in various venues around the world. She also teaches piano, Classics and Russian at King William's College (Isle of Man) and is the organist at St Andrew's Church, Isle of Man. Apart from degrees in Music, Olga has a MA in Classics and BA in the History of Arts and is a part-time History lecturer for the University of Liverpool and for the University of Chester.



Dr Katherine Lack – Travelling on board from Vienna to Bucharest

Kate originally trained as an agricultural scientist at Oxford, where she took a doctorate in 1985. More recently she has been a visiting lecturer in Medieval and church studies at Birmingham University, and this diverse background has encouraged her to explore the links between superficially different subjects.

Kate now lectures and leads training seminars on a range of historical subjects. Kate has written two books tracing historical journeys and their cultural background, and a biography of Duke Robert Curthose, all of which give an insight into life in the 'dark ages' and Medieval times.



Amsterdam



Melk Abbey



Prince Bishop's Residenz Palace, Würzburg



Cologne Cathedral

SPECIAL GUEST PERFORMANCE BY LONDON FESTIVAL OPERA



We are delighted that London Festival Opera will perform an Opera Celebration during your stay in Melk and Vienna. In the beautiful setting of Melk Abbey experience delightful arias and ensembles from *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Così Fan Tutte*, *Don Giovanni* and *The Magic Flute*. Also whilst in Vienna there will be two onboard performances; a costumed Opera Soirée with arias and ensembles from

Verdi, Bizet, Offenbach and Puccini, and a magical repertoire, "A Night in Vienna".

THE ITINERARY

Day 1 London / Manchester / Bristol or Edinburgh to Amsterdam, Netherlands. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Royal Crown. Moor overnight in Amsterdam.

Day 2 Amsterdam. After breakfast there will be a choice of tours; depart for a visit to 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. Alternatively, you may prefer to join the tour to nearby Zaanse Schans and see the historic windmills, distinctive wooden houses and artisan workshops. Return to the MS Royal Crown for lunch and sail towards Cologne. This evening join your fellow travellers for welcome drinks and dinner on board.

Day 3 Cologne, Germany. This morning we will cruise along the legendary Rhine. Pass Duisburg and Dusseldorf before arriving in Cologne for a tour to see the city's famous cathedral. The cathedral 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. Sail this evening.

Day 4 Koblenz & Rudesheim. Arrive in Koblenz for a morning walking tour of this historic commercial centre. Return to the ship and sail mid-morning through the dramatic Rhine Gorge to Rudesheim, passing romantic castles, lush vineyards and the infamous Lorelei rock. We will arrive into Rudesheim in the late afternoon and on arrival join the Winzerexpress mini-train to visit Siegfried's Musical Instrument Museum, home to one of Germany's most fascinating collections of automated musical instruments. Return to the MS Royal Crown for dinner, after which there will be some free time to perhaps visit to the town's lively Drosselgasse.

Day 5 Mainz. Arrive this morning in atmospheric Mainz where our guided walking tour will include the Hoefchen ("Little Court"), residence of the city's archbishops until the 15th century, the Kirschgarten with its romantic half-timbered houses and Marian-Fountain. Our tour will end with a visit to the Johan Gutenberg Museum. Sail at lunchtime as we enter the River Main.

Day 6 Miltenberg & Wertheim. During this morning's walking tour, see the pretty Franconian town of Miltenberg, known for its half-timbered Medieval houses. Return to the ship for lunch whilst sailing on to beautiful Wertheim. Enjoy some free time in this charming market town.

Day 7 Würzburg. Arrive this morning in historic Würzburg, the wine capital of Franconia. We will tour this lovely town including the magnificent Prince Bishop's Residenz Palace. Our visit will end with a wine tasting of local wines in the splendid cellars of the Residenz. Also see the old town with its collection of churches which range in style from Romanesque to Gothic, Renaissance to Baroque, before returning to the ship for lunch as we sail to Bamberg.



Germany's picturesque Rhine Valley



Schonbrunn Palace, Vienna



The half-timbered town hall, Bamberg



The Iron Gates Gorge



Budapest

Day 8 Bamberg. This morning we enter the Main-Danube Canal at Bamberg, one of Germany's most beautiful historic towns. Its geographical location, some 40 miles north of Nuremberg, was a key factor in preserving its magnificent architectural heritage from the ravages of war. Every European style from the Romanesque onwards has left its mark on Bamberg, each bequeathing at least one major building. We arrive around midday, and after lunch on board we will have a walking tour of this beautiful Medieval city. Return to the ship and sail in the early evening.

Day 9 Nuremberg. The city of Nuremberg's long and sometimes troubled history has left its mark on the city and there is plenty to discover during our morning tour. Three towering castles overlook Nuremberg, and its old city which is contained within vast walls is a joy to explore. Visit the World War II sites, including the Third Reich Party Rally Grounds and discover the city's spectacular Medieval architecture. Sail at lunchtime and continue cruising through the highest point of any commercial waterway in Europe, 1331 feet above sea level.

Day 10 Regensburg. Early this morning we enter the Danube River, arriving in Regensburg after breakfast. Join a guided stroll around historic Regensburg, and see the highlights such as the Old Town Hall, the World Heritage listed city centre and the ancient Romanesque Porta Praetoria. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at leisure.

Day 11 Passau. Arrive this morning in Passau, where the Inn and Ilz rivers join the Danube. Our guided walking tour will include the old town of this Bavarian city and the breathtaking Cathedral of St. Stephan which contains one of the world's largest church pipe organs. Enjoy an organ recital before returning to the vessel for lunch and an afternoon sailing.

Day 12 Melk & the Wachau Valley to Vienna, Austria. This morning we will reach the picturesque Wachau Valley, famous for its wine. We will moor in Melk under the shadow of the great Baroque Abbey, situated on a cliff high above the Danube. Enjoy a guided tour of the abbey followed by a performance by London Festival Opera featuring aria ensembles from *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Così fan Tutte*, and *Don Giovanni*. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon we sail through the beautiful Wachau Valley towards Vienna.

Day 13 Vienna. This morning there will be a choice of tours. A morning city tour of Austria's elegant capital will take us around the famous Ringstrasse and the Old Quarter including St Stephan's cathedral. Alternatively, you may prefer a visit to the impressive Zentralfriedhof (Vienna Central Cemetery), the second largest in Europe, and with honorary graves of renowned Austrian musicians, historians and politicians. We also visit the Church of St. Charles Borromeo, a significant Art Nouveau church building. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon is at leisure to explore this majestic city further. In the early evening there will be an onboard costumed performance by London Festival Opera, featuring an Opera Soirée with highlights from Verdi, Bizet, Offenbach and Puccini.

Day 14 Vienna. After breakfast join a tour to see Schonbrunn Palace and Gardens, the favourite summer residence of Maria Theresa. Return to the MS Royal Crown for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at leisure. In the early evening there will be a performance of "A Night in Vienna" by London Festival Opera on board.

Day 15 Bratislava, Slovakia. Arrive this morning in the Slovak capital of Bratislava. Join a guided walking tour of the city, formerly known as Pressburg, a former capital of Hungary. See the old quarter, the ornate Baroque Palace and the ancient city gates. Finish your tour with a visit to the beautiful Klarissen Church where a string quartet will perform a concert of music by Dvorak and Mozart. Return to the ship and cruise to Budapest arriving in the late evening.

Day 16 Budapest, Hungary. We have the day to explore Hungary's elegant capital. Spend the morning on an excursion that will include the old quarter, the Matthias Church and the Fishermen's Bastion. Return to the ship for lunch and an enjoy an afternoon at leisure. After dinner this evening, join your fellow travellers on deck to enjoy the wonderful "Budapest by Night" sailing as we depart towards Kalocsa.

Day 17 Kalocsa. Arrive this morning in charming Kalocsa, renowned for paprika production. Your tour of the Puszta district will include the town and a spectacular display of Hungarian horsemanship. Depart this afternoon for a relaxing cruise down the beautiful Danube, arriving in Mohacs in the early evening. Moor overnight.

Day 18 Pecs & Villany. From the port of Mohacs, we will depart for a full day scenic tour of Pecs and Villany. The city of Pecs enjoys a fine position on the slopes of the Mecsek Hills. The visit will feature the sites associated with the city's Roman Ottoman Hapsburg past, as well as a short organ recital in the splendid Pecs Cathedral. Continue on to the town of Villany where we will enjoy lunch and a wine tasting. Villany is one of Hungary's top wine regions, known for its reds and rosés.

Day 19 Belgrade, Serbia. Spend today in this interesting city. A half-day tour highlights the city's main attractions, including the Kalemegdan fortress as it looms over the confluence of the Sava and Danube rivers, Saint Sava Cathedral, the largest Orthodox Church in the world, and Tito's Memorial. Our tour will finish with a superb local folklore performance before returning to the ship for lunch. This afternoon is at leisure. Sail in the evening.

Day 20 Cruising through the Iron Gates. Today the scenery becomes truly spectacular as we cruise through the Iron Gates, a narrow Danube gorge between the Carpathian and Balkan Mountains.

Day 21 Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria. From Svistov, we drive to Veliko Tarnovo, the capital of the second Bulgarian Kingdom from 1187 to 1393. The city formed a natural fortress, located on three hills surrounding the Yantra River. A palace, fortifications and churches were built into the terrain. Across the river, ancient stone houses seemingly perched on top of each other rise up the steep riverbank. After lunch in a local restaurant, visit the museum town of Arbanassi before we rejoin the MS Royal Crown in Rousse and sail in the evening.

Day 22 Constanta, Romania. Early this morning we arrive in Cernavoda at the entrance to the Black Sea Canal. Drive to nearby Constanta, a popular resort city. Its colourful history dates back to ancient Greek and Roman times. On a guided tour see the Museum of National History and Archaeology and the Museum of Ethnography. Return to the ship for a late lunch and sail in the afternoon along the snaking Danube as we make our way to the Black Sea.

Day 23 The Black Sea & Danube Delta. Awake early today to experience a sunrise cruise. Weather conditions permitting we hope to make a short voyage to the periphery of the Black Sea. Later we cruise to Mila 35, situated at the entrance to the Danube Delta and enjoy an afternoon boat trip into the delta wetlands. Tonight join your fellow travellers for a farewell dinner.



White Pelican, Danube Delta

Day 24 Bucharest to London / Manchester / Bristol or Edinburgh. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for your return scheduled flight to the UK. *Please note regional flights to the UK will be indirect.*

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £500 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

CATEGORY	DECK	BROCHURE PRICE	SPECIAL OFFER PRICE
Junior Suite	Select	£7295	£6795
Superior Suite	Select	£7395	£6895
Deluxe Suite	Select	£7695	£7195
Premium Suite	Select	£7995	£7495
Royal Suite	Panorama	£8495	£7995
Deluxe Suite for sole use	Select	£8695	£8195

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 23 nights aboard the MS Royal Crown on full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch & dinner • Shore excursions & music events as described • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest speaker • Performances by London Festival Opera • Gratuities • Transfers • Port & airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

POST-CRUISE BUCHAREST EXTENSION

28th to 31st May & 8th to 11th October 2020

Before returning to the UK, you may like to join our three night extension exploring the city of Bucharest with its wide, tree-lined boulevards, glorious Belle Époque buildings and a reputation for the high life (which in the 1900s earned its nickname of "Little Paris"). We will be based at the four star Park Inn by Radisson, a comfortable and centrally located hotel.

The Itinerary

Day 1 Cernavoda to Bucharest. Disembark the MS Royal Crown in Cernavoda and transfer to Bucharest (approx. 3 hours). On arrival there will be a panoramic city tour of the city's highlights followed by lunch at the Phoenicia Restaurant. Continue on to the hotel and enjoy an evening at leisure.

Day 2 Bucharest. After breakfast we set off for a visit to the Parliament Palace, the second largest administrative building in the world at 3.77 million square feet. This gargantuan construction is Ceausescu's most infamous creation and makes for a fascinating tour. After our tour we will have lunch in "Carul cu Bere", Bucharest's oldest beer house, with its colourful Belle Epoque interior, stained-glass windows and classic Romanian fare. This afternoon enjoy a walking tour of the Old Town, including a visit to Stravropoleos Church, Lipsclani Lane, Manuc's Inn and the Old Princely Court. The remainder of the day and evening will be at leisure.

Day 3 Bucharest to Snagov & Mogosoia. After breakfast at your hotel, depart for our visit to Snagov Monastery which was founded in 1408 by Mircea the Elder, Vlad Dracul's grandfather. Vlad, also known as Vlad Tepes is the historical character on whom Bram Stoker's book Dracula is based and is said to be buried here by the monks in 1476. Afterwards lunch will be in a local restaurant, and this afternoon we continue on to visit Mogosoia Palace, built in the 17th century in the Romanian Renaissance style. Return to Bucharest for an evening at leisure.

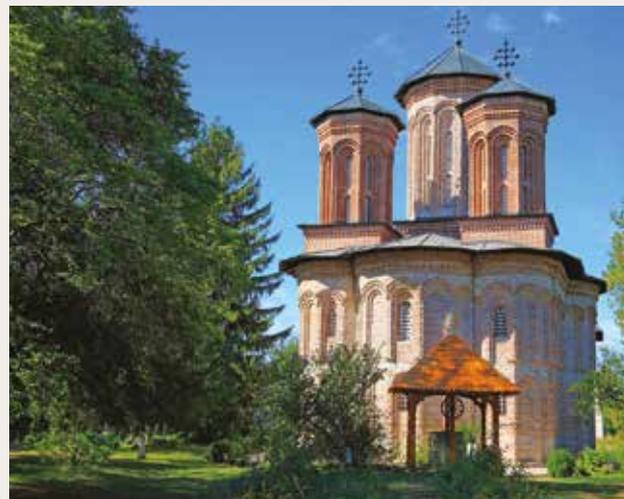
Day 4 Bucharest to London/Manchester/Bristol or Edinburgh. After breakfast at the hotel there will be a tour to the Village Museum, a fascinating open-air museum showcasing traditional Romanian village life. Return to the city for some free time before we transfer to airport for return scheduled flight to the UK. Please note regional flights to the UK will be indirect.

Prices per person Based on double occupancy

Twin: £795 Single: £945

Price Includes: Three nights hotel accommodation on bed & breakfast basis, lunch on days 2 & 3, drinks with included meals, excursions as described, Noble Caledonia Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers.

Not Included: Travel insurance, dinners daily, lunch on day 4.



Snagov Monastery

THE ENCHANTING DANUBE

A cruise from the Delta wetlands to Regensburg with musical & cultural highlights & Guest Speaker Professor Jeremy Black aboard the MS Royal Crown

28th May to 12th June 2020

Join us as we navigate the Danube River from the delta wetlands in the east to the romantic city of Regensburg in the west. We travel through the heart of Europe visiting seven countries; Romania, Bulgaria, Serbia, Hungary, Austria, the Czech Republic and Germany.



This is one of the world's great journeys, following as it does one of the most important trade routes since the earliest of times, linking the east with the west. We will journey through some of Europe's most beautiful landscapes, visiting the great historic cities of Budapest and Vienna, as well as picturesque riverside and inland towns. From the great comfort of our vessel we will cruise effortlessly, enjoying the varied scenery and architecture whilst learning more about a region that has seen more of its fair share of conflicts, revolutions and wars. The combination of music, traditional culture, wine tasting and folklore along the way makes for a fascinating trip. To enhance your holiday further we are offering a six-night pre-cruise extension in the magical region of Transylvania in Romania, offering the chance to visit some of the last untouched and least travelled areas of Europe.

GUEST SPEAKER



Professor Jeremy Black

We are delighted to be joined on board by Guest Speaker Jeremy Black. Jeremy is a prolific historian with specialties in world military history, the history of tourism, and both the 18th and 20th century. Educated at Cambridge and Oxford, he is Professor at Exeter having previously been Professor at Durham. He received his MBE for services to stamp design.



Decebal's Head sculpted in rock, Iron Gates Gorge

THE ITINERARY

Day 1 London to Bucharest, Romania. Fly by scheduled flight to Romania's capital city. On arrival transfer to Fetesti (approx. 2 hours) and embark the MS Royal Crown. Sail in the early evening.

Day 2 Danube Delta. The vast Danube Delta is one of the most important wetlands left in Europe and today we arrive at Mila 35, situated at the entrance to the delta. Here we join local boats and set off for our cruise to explore the wetlands. Return to the MS Royal Crown for lunch and sail this afternoon. Enjoy welcome drinks and dinner this evening.

Day 3 Constanta. Early this morning, arrive in Cernavoda at the entrance to the Black Sea Canal and drive to nearby Constanta, a popular resort city. Its colourful history dates back to ancient Greek and Roman times. On a guided tour we will see the Museum of National History and Archaeology and the Museum of Ethnography. Sail this afternoon towards Rouse.

Day 4 Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria. From Rouse we depart by coach for a full-day tour to Veliko Tarnovo, the capital of the Second Bulgarian Kingdom from 1187 to 1393. The city formed a natural fortress, located on three hills surrounding the Yantra River. A palace, fortifications and churches were built into the terrain. Across the river, ancient stone houses seemingly perched



Budapest



Palais Liechtenstein, Vienna



Durnstein

on top of each other rise up the steep riverbank. After lunch in a local restaurant we will visit the museum town of Arbanassi, famous for its 17th and 18th century architecture and the unique Church of the Nativity of Christ. We return to the MS Royal Crown at Nikopol and sail.

Day 5 Cruising through the Iron Gates. Today the scenery becomes truly spectacular as you cruise through the Iron Gates, a narrow Danube gorge between the Carpathian and Balkan Mountains.

Day 6 Belgrade, Serbia. A morning guided tour of Belgrade will visit the city's main attractions, including the Kalemegdan fortress as it looms over the confluence of the Sava and Danube rivers, Saint Sava Cathedral, the largest Orthodox Church in the world and Tito's Memorial. Our tour will finish with a superb local folklore performance before returning to the ship for lunch. Sail in the afternoon to Novi Sad for an overnight mooring.

Day 7 Novi Sad. After breakfast we depart for a visit of Novi Sad, in the Serbian northern province of Vojvodina. The city is rich in historic buildings including the fortress, Bishop's House, Clock Tower and numerous churches, some of which will be seen on our morning tour. Our exploration of Greater Novi Sad includes a wine tasting in nearby Sremski Karlovic where we sample some excellent wines of the former Yugoslavia. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon relax on board as we cruise towards Hungary.

Day 8 Pecs & Villany, Hungary. This morning we arrive in the port of Mohacs and depart after breakfast for a full day scenic tour of Pecs and Villany. The city of Pecs enjoys a fine position on the slopes of the Mecsek Hills and our tour will feature the sites associated with the city's Roman Ottoman Hapsburg past, as well as a short organ recital in the splendid Pecs Cathedral. Continue on to the town of Villany for lunch and wine tasting. Villany is one of Hungary's top wine regions, known for its reds and rosés. Thanks to the area's sub-Mediterranean climate, wines are full-bodied and spicy and of the highest quality. Sail in the early evening towards Budapest.

Day 9 Budapest. Arrive this morning and explore Hungary's elegant capital. Our guided tour will include the old quarter, a visit to the Matthias' Church and the Fisherman's Bastion, from where there are stunning views of the city. Return to the ship for lunch and an afternoon at leisure to relax or explore ashore at your own pace. Before dinner this evening there will be an onboard performance by Hungarian pianist Agnes Kovacs, and later a memorable "Budapest by Night" sailing as we sail on to Austria.

Day 10 Vienna, Austria. Enjoy a relaxing morning cruise and lunch on board. Arrive into Vienna and after lunch depart for a city tour of Austria's elegant capital that will take us around the famous Ringstrasse and the Old Quarter including St Stephan's Cathedral. Moor overnight in Vienna.

Day 11 Vienna. After breakfast depart for a morning visit to the Palais Liechtenstein, home to The Princely Collections. We will see masterpieces from the early Renaissance to the Biedermeier era, as well as beautiful tapestries, porcelain and furniture. Our tour ends with a classical concert by a string quartet from the Vienna Philharmonic in one of the palace's sumptuous ballrooms. Return to the MS Royal Crown for a late lunch and an afternoon at leisure. Alternatively join the tour to the Vienna Woods, including a visit to the Mayerling hunting lodge, where scandal once rocked the royal family, as well as the Cistercian Abbey of Heiligenkreuz. We will set sail this evening.

Day 12 Durnstein & Melk. Arrive this morning in the pretty town of Durnstein, where King Richard the Lionheart was imprisoned. Enjoy some free time ashore to explore and perhaps sample some of the town's delicious Marillenschnaps or strudel. We then sail on through the beautiful Wachau Valley towards the great Baroque Abbey of Melk, situated high above the Danube. On arrival in the afternoon depart for an excursion to see this imposing abbey, followed by an uplifting performance by a clarinet quintet. Return to the ship and sail this evening for Linz.

Day 13 Linz for Salzburg or Cesky Krumlov, Czech Republic. From the town of Linz a choice of full day tours will be available today. Enjoy a trip to the exquisite town of Cesky Krumlov set on the Vltava River in Bohemia's southern region, and one of the most picturesque in Europe. We will visit the stunning castle and take a walking tour of the Old Town, followed by some free time to explore at leisure. Alternatively, depart for Salzburg, birthplace of Mozart and famous for its architectural treasures and music festival. Our guided excursion will concentrate on Mozart's family and his musical contemporaries. Visits will be made to the house known as Tanzmeisterhaus where he spent his early life, and the Residenz. We also take a walk through the lovely gardens of the Mirabell Palace. Both tours include lunch in a local restaurant. Return to the ship and sail this evening towards Germany.

Day 14 Passau, Germany. Arrive this morning in Passau, where the Inn and Ilz rivers join the Danube. Our guided walking tour will include the old town of this Bavarian city and the breathtaking Cathedral of St. Stephan which contains one of the world's largest church pipe organs. Enjoy an organ recital before returning to the vessel for lunch and continue our cruise this afternoon towards Regensburg.

Day 15 Regensburg. Arrive this morning in Regensburg and after breakfast enjoy a guided stroll around Germany's largest and best-preserved Medieval city. See the twin-spired cathedral Dom St Peter, the treasury and the tower houses. Our tour will end with an inspiring A Capella performance. Return to the MS Royal Crown for lunch and an afternoon at leisure. This evening join your fellow travellers for the farewell drink and dinner.

Day 16 Regensburg to London. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to Munich airport for your return scheduled flight to London.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £200 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

CATEGORY	DECK	BROCHURE PRICE	SPECIAL OFFER PRICE
Junior Suite	Select	£4695	£4495
Superior Suite	Select	£4795	£4595
Deluxe Suite	Select	£5095	£4895
Premium Suite	Select	£5595	£5395
Royal Suite	Panorama	£6095	£5895
Deluxe Suite for sole use	Select	£6195	£5995

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 15 nights aboard the MS Royal Crown on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch & dinner • Shore excursions • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Gratuities • Transfers • Port & airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

PRE-CRUISE TRANSYLVANIA & ROYAL ROMANIA EXTENSION 22nd to 28th May 2020



Council Square, Brasov



Sibiu



Sighisoara



Biertan

Before joining the MS Royal Crown we are offering the opportunity to explore Transylvania with our six night stay. Transylvania is located in central Romania and is a region of exquisite countryside surrounded by the arc of the dramatic Carpathian mountain chain. The region is home to some of Europe's best-preserved Medieval towns which we will explore during our pre-cruise extension.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Sibiu, Romania. Fly by scheduled indirect flight. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to our four-star hotel for a three-night stay. Tonight, gather for the traditional bread and salt welcome, followed by a welcome drink and dinner at the hotel.

Day 2 Sibiu & Sibiel. After breakfast join a walking tour of colourful Sibiu a town visited by the Queen together with King Ferdinand in May 1919, followed by some free time before lunch in the old city. Later, drive to Sibiel, a pretty village situated 20 kilometres from Sibiu. Here we visit a unique and superb museum of glass painted icons, located in the old village church. This evening enjoy a traditional dinner during which we will be able to talk to our local hosts about Romanian daily life in a Transylvanian village. Return to our hotel in Sibiu.

Day 3 Sibiu & Alba Iulia. After breakfast depart for Alba Iulia, the town where Ferdinand and Marie were crowned Kings of the Great Romania. On arrival we visit the stunning White Citadel and the Coronation Cathedral, as well as the Unification Museum. Lunch will be in a local restaurant, followed by some time here at leisure. Return to Sibiu and dinner this evening will be at our hotel.

Day 4 Biertan to Sighisoara to Brasov. After breakfast depart for picturesque Biertan. Your first glimpse of the town's Medieval church is unforgettable; it towers over the square below, surrounded by vividly painted houses and backed by vineyards. On arrival we visit the UNESCO 14th century fortified church, once the home to the Lutheran Bishop of Transylvania. Continue on to Sighisoara and explore the Old Town with its cobbled streets and ornate churches. Enjoy lunch in "Dracula's House" restaurant followed by some free time. Continue on to Brasov where we will be staying for three nights. Dinner this evening will be at a local restaurant.

Day 5 Azuga to Bran to Rasnov. After breakfast depart for a city tour of Brasov, including the City Hall Square, St Nicholas Church and the Old City. Afterwards we continue to Azuga in Prahova Valley, home of the Royal Cellar which is the wine supplier for the Royal family. We will stop at a local vineyard for lunch and enjoy some wine tasting. After lunch we continue to the world famous 'Dracula's Castle', built as a fortress in 1212 by the Knights of the Teutonic Order. Vlad Tepes, better known as Vlad the Impaler, used the castle as headquarters for his incursions into Transylvania. Afterwards we head back towards Brasov with a stop enroute at the Rasnov Citadel, a historic monument and landmark in Romania. This outstanding citadel was first mentioned in documents in the 1335, built as a defense against invading Tartarian armies. Please note that the entrance to the citadel is a 15-minute uphill walk for those who wish to visit inside. Dinner will be under your own arrangements this evening.

Day 6 Brasov. After breakfast, visit the Black Church, followed by some free time in the Old City. Lunch will be under your own arrangements today with an afternoon at leisure. The farewell dinner tonight will be in the nearby resort town of Poiana Brasov.

Day 7 Brasov to Fetesti. After breakfast depart for a visit to the fairy-tale Peles Castle, built by King Carol I in the 19th century. We continue to Ploiesti and enjoy lunch on arrival before continuing on our journey to Fetesti, where we will embark the MS Royal Crown.

Prices per person Based on double occupancy

Twin: £1225 Single: £1575

Price Includes: Six nights hotel accommodation, meals as described, wine & soft drinks with lunch & dinner, excursions, gratuities, transfers.

Not Included: Travel insurance, dinner on day 5, lunch on day 6.



RIVER DEEP & MOUNTAIN HIGH

A cruise along the picturesque Rhine & Moselle Rivers from Strasbourg to the Low Countries with Guest Speaker Dr Alan Borg aboard the MS Royal Crown

20th June to 2nd July 2020

The month of June is a wonderful time to explore Europe by river, the weather is warm, the evenings become longer, and the Rhine and Moselle's popular towns and cities are not yet busy with tourists. Join us aboard the MS Royal Crown as we cruise from Strasbourg to Amsterdam experiencing the captivating and diverse scenery along the route. Visit some enchanting ports of call such as the charming spa town of Baden-Baden with its unique setting and ambiance, the ancient city of Speyer, famous for its mighty cathedral, and the UNESCO city of Trier, with its Roman treasures. The fairytale castles and Medieval charms of the towns and villages we encounter during this detailed look at two of Europe's great rivers makes for a truly memorable voyage as we sail on to our final destination of Amsterdam.



GUEST SPEAKER



Dr Alan Borg

Alan began his career teaching history of art at Indiana and Princeton Universities. Returning to Britain in 1970, he became Assistant Keeper in the Royal Armouries in the Tower of London. In 1982 he became Director General of the Imperial War Museum, where he was responsible for the complete refurbishment and reinterpretation of the Museum, the

opening of the Cabinet War Rooms, the preservation of HMS Belfast and the development of Duxford Airfield as a major aviation museum. Appointed Director of the V&A in 1996, he undertook the redisplay of the entire sequence of British Galleries. He retired in 2001 and is currently Vice President of the Foundling Museum, and Librarian of the Priory of England and the Islands, the Venerable Order of St John. Awarded the CBE in 1991, he is also a Knight of the Order of St John. His publications include books on Romanesque art, the history of Arms and Armour, War Memorials and A History of Vauxhall Gardens.



Baden-Baden

THE ITINERARY

Day 1 London to Basle, Switzerland. Fly by scheduled flight to Basle. On arrival transfer to the MS Royal Crown in Strasbourg and embark. Moor overnight.

Day 2 Strasbourg, France. After breakfast 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 a number of 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 at leisure. In the early evening we will enjoy an onboard performance by the Stuttgart Symphony Quartet followed by welcome drinks and dinner. 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 the evening towards Speyer.

Day 4 Speyer & Rudesheim. Arrive into the handsome city of Speyer this morning. Enjoy a guided tour that will include a visit to the mighty cathedral. This Romanesque basilica was founded by Emperor Conrad II in 1030 and is one of the largest and most impressive edifices in Germany. Return to the MS Royal Crown for lunch and an afternoon cruising along the Rhine to Rudesheim where we will arrive in the early evening. Perhaps enjoy an after-dinner stroll ashore to explore the cobblestone streets of the vibrant Drosselgasse. Moor overnight.

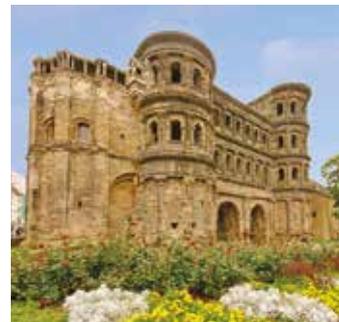
Day 5 Sailing the Rhine Gorge. We set sail this morning and cruise along the beautiful Rhine Gorge, regarded by many as the most romantic section of the Rhine, with its cliff hugging castles and vine clad hills. Arrive in the early evening at Cochem on the Moselle River, famous



The Moselle River Valley at Bernkastel



Spires of Cologne Cathedral



The Roman Porta Nigra, Trier



La Petite France district, Strasbourg

for its 11th century Schloss and the Reichsburg, and set impressively on a tree clad hill above a bend of the river. Moor overnight.

Day 6 Cochem & Cruising the Moselle. This morning enjoy a guided walking tour along Cochem's winding Medieval streets to see the Baroque Town Hall. Return to the MS Royal Crown for lunch and spend an afternoon relaxing on board as we sail towards Bernkastel situated in the heart of the Moselle Valley. We arrive here in the early evening for an overnight mooring.

Day 7 Bernkastel. After breakfast depart for an exploration of this lovely town and sample some of the locally produced wines. Return to the MS Royal Crown for lunch and an afternoon at leisure to explore ashore in this glorious location. Moor overnight.

Day 8 Trier. After breakfast on board we depart for our full day visit to the Roman city of Trier. Founded in the 4th century and reigned over by Constantine the Great, Trier has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1986. On arrival we will see the mighty Porta Nigra, a fortified gate

in the Roman town walls, as well as the High Cathedral of Saint Peter with its rich Treasury, and the skull of Emperor Constantine's mother, St Helena. Also see the Aula Palatina, a Roman basilica built in the time of Emperor Constantine, and the Church of Our Lady, dating from 1270. We will enjoy lunch in a local restaurant including a chance to sample some of the region's delicious wines. The afternoon is at leisure to explore Trier's pretty streets and view its lovely half-timbered buildings.

Day 9 Koblenz & Boppard. After a leisurely morning of cruising and lunch on board we will depart for a walking tour of this ancient and fascinating commercial centre with its monumental statue of William the Great, which marks the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle rivers. We then travel a short distance by coach to Boppard and enjoy some free time in this picturesque riverside town followed by a wine tasting. Return to the ship and moor overnight in Koblenz.

Day 10 Cologne. Sail this morning along the Rhine, arriving into the grand city of Cologne in the early afternoon. After lunch on board depart for a tour to see the city's famous cathedral. The cathedral is the largest



The Reichsburg and the town of Cochem



Open Air Museum, Arnhem

Gothic church in northern Europe with a total area of almost 8000 square metres, room for more than 20,000 people and the second tallest spire and largest facade in the world. Return to your ship and this evening we sail on towards Arnhem.

Day 11 Arnhem, The Netherlands. We arrive into Arnhem in the morning and will have a choice of morning excursions. Arnhem is well known because of the airborne paratrooper landings and the battles around the bridge over the Rhine. There will be an excursion to the Airborne Museum at Villa Hartenstein, the allied headquarters during the Battle of Arnhem, and nowadays dedicated to the historic military 'Operation Market Garden' in World War II. Alternatively, visit the fascinating "Open Air Museum" which offers a display of houses, mills and farmhouses depicting a history of traditional life in Holland. This evening we sail overnight to Amsterdam.

Day 12 Amsterdam. There will be a choice of guided tours today. Explore the city of the 'Golden Age' on an excursion which will include the incomparable Rijksmuseum with its splendid collection of old masters. Alternatively, visit the city's superb Maritime Museum and discover how the sea has shaped Dutch Culture. Return to the MS Royal Crown for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at leisure. This evening join your fellow travellers for farewell drinks and dinner.

Day 13 Amsterdam to London. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for your return scheduled flight to London.



Amsterdam

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £200 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

CATEGORY	DECK	BROCHURE PRICE	SPECIAL OFFER PRICE
Junior Suite	Select	£3795	£3595
Superior Suite	Select	£3895	£3695
Deluxe Suite	Select	£4195	£3995
Premium Suite	Select	£4695	£4495
Royal Suite	Panorama	£5195	£4995
Deluxe Suite for sole use	Select	£5245	£5045

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 12 nights aboard the MS Royal Crown on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch & dinner • Shore excursions • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Transfers • Gratuities • Port & airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

PRE-CRUISE BLACK FOREST EXTENSION

17th to 20th June 2020

Join us on our pre-cruise tour to Germany's Black Forest, a magical land full of cultural traditions. Home to elaborate cuckoo clocks, striking half-timbered houses and quaint towns, we will spend our time exploring some of the forest's highlights. Our base will be the city of Freiburg, a friendly town boasting a host of gabled townhouses, cobblestone lanes and cafe-rimmed plazas.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Freiburg, Germany. Fly by scheduled flight to Basle and on arrival transfer to our hotel in Freiburg (approx. 1 hour) for our three night stay. This evening join your fellow travellers for a welcome drink and traditional "Black Forest" dinner.

Day 2 Freiburg. After breakfast at the hotel we will depart on a walking tour of this vibrant city. Explore the cobblestone streets, the spectacular Minster with its 116-metre tall tower, and see its 'Bächle', or miniature canals, which were once used to supply water for drinking. After our tour, we visit a master baker, who will demonstrate how to make the famous Black Forest Gateau, followed by a sample of this delicious cake. The remainder of your day is at leisure to explore independently.

Day 3 The Pigtail Train & Titisee-Neustadt. This morning we will drive to the town of Blumberg and board the little Pigtail train. The German name, Sauschwänzlebahn, literally meaning pigtail, is derived from the course of the rail track, built between 1887 and 1890, necessary to keep the gradient of the line below 1%. Depending on the day, the wagons will be either pulled by a diesel or steam engine. The journey ends in Weizen and we will have lunch in a local restaurant, including a chance to sample some of the locally brewed beers, before we continue on to the pretty lakeside village of Titisee-Neustadt, where you will enjoy free time to stroll along the lakeside promenade or relax in one of the shoreside cafes. Return to Freiburg for an evening at leisure.

Day 4 Triberg to Strasbourg. After breakfast we will leave Freiburg and head to Triberg, the quintessential Black Forest town, with just over 5000 inhabitants. Home to world's largest cuckoo clock, Triberg is also famous for its waterfalls, the 'highest' in Germany with an overall drop of 163 metres and seven cascades. Enjoy a tour on arrival, followed by a relaxing lunch. Later we continue on to Strasbourg to embark the MS Royal Crown.

Prices per person Based on double occupancy

Twin: £995 Single: £1295

Price Includes: Three nights hotel accommodation, dinner on day 1, lunches on days 3 & 4, excursions, Noble Caledonia Tour Manager, transfers, gratuities.

Not Included: Travel insurance, meals other than those described..



Titisee-Neustadt



RIVERS OF MUSIC

A cruise along the Rhine & Moselle Rivers from the Low Countries to Switzerland with highlight performances by London Festival Opera & Guest Speaker Canon David Nason aboard the MS Royal Crown

2nd to 14th July 2020

Join us for our summer cruise along the Rhine and Moselle as we highlight the wonderful music, wine and culture to be found along these majestic waterways. The mighty Rhine, for so long one of Europe's main trading routes contrasts beautifully with our exploration of the Moselle, surely one of the loveliest rivers in all Europe. We will also visit the historic city of Heidelberg on the Neckar River, one of Europe's great seats of learning.

Most trips on offer along the Rhine are based on four to six days and concentrate on only one section of the river. However, here you have a most comprehensive and scenic journey including the great wine producing areas along the Moselle, the historic cities of Bonn and Speyer, the enchanting towns of Boppard and Bacharach, and a scenic tour through Germany's mystical Black Forest. Added to these riches is a visit to Strasbourg in France, a fascinating place in the delightful Alsace region.

This detailed look at two of Europe's great rivers will offer a captivating and endlessly romantic journey. The scenery is stunning and an excellent combination of fairy-tale castles with Medieval towns and villages, all with their own unique history of artistic riches.

Added to the mix will be performances by artists from the splendid London Festival Opera. Performances include an Opera Gala performance at Bernkastel's Kloster Machern, a vocal and instrumental recital at Vollrads Castle near Rudesheim and a presentation of a 'Classical Soiree' at Mannheim Castle, which will feature celebrated arias and ensembles from the operas of Haydn and Mozart, performed in period costume. In addition, we will enjoy music by a string quartet on board whilst in Amsterdam and ashore in Bonn; a concert by Steffan Balle and his Stuttgarter Symphonic Quartet at Schwetzingen Castle and an onboard piano recital by the renowned artist Martin Ivanov.



Beethoven statue, Munsterplatz, Bonn

GUEST SPEAKER



Canon David Nason

Canon David Nason has recently retired from the role of Priest Vicar in Chichester Cathedral and that of Senior Master and Head of Classics in the Prebendal School, the Cathedral Choir School. These are posts that he held for twenty five years and during this time he could often be heard singing choral evensong on BBC Radio 3. For over ten years he also worked as a

'music host' for a travel company at the opera in Verona, lecturing to the guests and indulging in a personal passion for grand opera. David still has an active ministry as Chaplain to the Festival Theatre in Chichester and London and South East Region Chaplain for the Royal Air Force Air Cadets. In retirement he finds himself busier than ever taking Sunday services in churches around Chichester and fulfilling many speaking and playing engagements on opera, music and musical theatre.

LONDON FESTIVAL OPERA

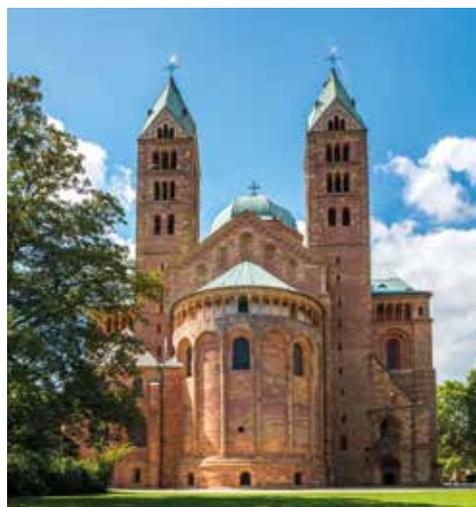


For many years we have been closely associated with the travelling opera company, 'London Festival Opera'. Bringing together established opera singers from major British opera companies, London Festival Opera has achieved a considerable reputation for presenting opera and music performances in a wide variety of worldwide venues. We have arranged many successful tours and cruises across Europe and

this opportunity to listen to highlights of some of the great operas in the most magical settings has proven to be amongst the most popular to date.



Cochem



Speyer Cathedral



Stahleck Castle



Half timbered house, Berncastel



Strasbourg

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.

Day 2 Amsterdam. After breakfast there will be a choice of tours today. Depart for a visit to 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. Here, Rembrandt's famous 'The Night Watch' hangs in the Hall of Honour. Alternatively, you may prefer to take a canal cruise and admire the city from a glass-top boat as you glide past 17th century homes, churches and 16th century merchant houses. Return to the ship and sail towards Bonn. This evening join your fellow travellers for the welcome drinks and dinner.

Day 3 Bonn, Germany. Relax on board this morning as we cruise along the legendary Rhine. Pass Duisburg and Dusseldorf before arriving in Bonn in the afternoon. 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 and sail in the evening.

Day 4 Cochem. Relax this morning and enjoy the lovely scenery of the Moselle Valley as we make our way to Cochem, where we will arrive in the early afternoon. The town of Cochem is famous for its 11th century Schloss and the Reichsburg, set impressively on a tree clad hill above a bend of the river. On the guided tour, walk along its winding Medieval streets and see the Baroque Town Hall. Sail in the evening.

Day 5 Berncastel. Arrive this morning in Berncastel, situated in the heart of the Moselle Valley. On our morning ashore we will explore this lovely town and sample some of its locally produced wine. After lunch on board, we will drive to nearby Kloster Machern for an Opera Gala performance by London Festival Opera, featuring the works of the great German, French and Italian composers. Return to the ship and sail in the afternoon, enjoying the views along the meandering valley.

Day 6 Boppard & Bacharach. Arrive this morning into Boppard, one of the prettiest towns along the Rhine. We will have the morning here at leisure to explore its myriad of cobbled streets and visit the 14th century Carmelite church. Return to the vessel for lunch and sail into Bacharach in the afternoon, 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 before returning to the ship and sailing on towards Rudesheim.

Day 7 Rudesheim. After breakfast today, depart on a tour to explore the cobblestone streets of the town's vibrant Drosselgasse and take a mini-train to Siegfried's Mechanical Music Museum. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon we depart by coach to nearby Vollrads Castle. This grand estate has been the Greiffendau residence since the 14th century and the making of wine on this site can be traced back to 1211. We will enjoy a visit to the Vintothek to sample some of their splendid wines. Afterwards, relax and enjoy a vocal and instrumental recital by London Festival Opera. Return to the ship and sail in the evening past the city of Mainz where the Rhine meets the Main.

Day 8 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 some free time. This evening we will depart for Mannheim Castle for London Festival Opera's presentation of a 'Classical Soirée', featuring celebrated arias and ensembles from the operas of Haydn and Mozart, performed in period costume. Sail in the late evening.

Day 9 Speyer. Arrive this morning in the handsome city of Speyer. Our tour here will include the mighty cathedral. This Romanesque basilica was founded by Emperor Conrad II in 1030 and is one of the largest and most



Basle

impressive edifices in Germany. Our tour will end with a concert by Steffan Balle and his Stuttgarter Symphonic Quartet at nearby Schwetzingen Castle. Return to the ship for a late lunch and some free time this afternoon to relax or explore ashore.

Day 10 Strasbourg, France. Enjoy a morning's cruise as we head towards Strasbourg, arriving in the early afternoon. After lunch on board, our guided tour will introduce us to the delights of the city, including the fascinating old quarter. Start with the Quai de la Petite France where the River Ill splits into a number of 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. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure. Early this evening we will sail towards Breisach.

Day 11 Breisach & The Black Forest. This morning we arrive in Breisach, gateway to the Black Forest. After breakfast we will depart for a scenic excursion through the area's mountain landscape, meadows and dense forest. During our tour we will ensure there is time to sample some delicious Schwarzwald Kirschtorte. Return to the MS Royal Crown for lunch followed by an afternoon at leisure in the pretty town of Breisach. Sail later this evening towards Basle.

Day 12 Basle, Switzerland. This morning there will be a guided walking tour of Basle, Switzerland's third most populous city whose borders also meet with France and Germany's. The Medieval appearance of Basle's historic quarter remains as impressive to the locals as it does to the tourists who come here each year and our tour will pass by its cathedral, the glorious guildhalls, Basle's manor houses and will end with breathtaking views from the top of Münster hill. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at leisure. Early this evening join your fellow travellers in the lounge for a delightful piano recital by the renowned artist Martin Ivanov, followed by a farewell dinner.

Day 13 Basle to London. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for your return scheduled flight to London.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £200 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

CATEGORY	DECK	BROCHURE PRICE	SPECIAL OFFER PRICE
Junior Suite	Select	£3795	£3595
Superior Suite	Select	£3895	£3695
Deluxe Suite	Select	£4195	£3995
Premium Suite	Select	£4695	£4495
Royal Suite	Panorama	£5195	£4995
Deluxe Suite for sole use	Select	£5245	£5045

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 12 nights aboard the MS Royal Crown on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch & dinner • Shore excursions & musical performances • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Transfers • Gratuities • Port & airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

POST-CRUISE LAKE CONSTANCE EXTENSION

14th to 17th July 2020

Continue your holiday after your cruise with a three-night stay in the romantic resort of Meersburg on Lake Constance in southern Germany. This extension is based at the Romantik Hotel Residenz am See. The particularly scenic location of Meersburg, which is built on a steep vineyard right by the lake, has been attracting tourists for centuries. Aside from its splendid geographic situation and romantic corners, Meersburg also has many museums and cultural treasures for you to explore at your own pace.

The Itinerary

Day 1 Basle to Lake Constance. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to Lake Constance (approx. 2.5 hours). We will stop en-route for a visit and light lunch at the beautiful petite Swiss town of Stein am Rhein. Continue on to our hotel and enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure.

Day 2 The Flower Island of Mainau. After breakfast we depart for a visit to the flower Island of Mainau, immaculately maintained and the perfect place to stroll and enjoy the gardens and beautiful scenery or relax in one of its cafés. The island has a Baroque palace, built in 1740, and there is also a substantial arboretum and an Italian Rose Garden laid with pergolas and sculptures. Return to the hotel and spend the remainder of the day and evening at leisure.

Day 3 The Zeppelin Museum, Friedrichshafen. After breakfast we will depart for Friedrichshafen to visit the fascinating Zeppelin Museum, with its centerpiece of a full-scale mock-up of a 33 metre section of the Hindenburg (LZ 129), the largest airship ever built, measuring an incredible 245 metres long. After our visit here there will be some free time in this delightful lakeside town. Return to our hotel in Meersburg and spend the remainder of the day at leisure.

Day 4 Zurich to London. Enjoy a morning at leisure before the afternoon transfer to Zurich airport for the return scheduled flight to London.

Prices per person Based on double occupancy

Comfort Twin with Lake View: **£795**

Superior Twin with Lake View: **£895**

Comfort Twin with Garden View for Sole Use: **£1295**

Price Includes: Three nights hotel accommodation with breakfast, excursions, light lunch on day 1, Noble Caledonia Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers.

Not Included: Travel insurance, lunch and dinner on days 2, 3 & 4.



Mainau



HIDDEN TREASURES OF THE NETHERLANDS

A cruise exploring the lesser known landscapes of Northern Holland including Lake Ijsselmeer & Friesland with Guest Speaker Hendrika Foster aboard the MS Royal Crown
3rd to 15th September 2020

Join the MS Royal Crown in Haarlem and discover the rural tranquillity of The Netherlands' northernmost provinces. Along our route we will explore the rich history and unique flora and fauna of this peaceful and unspoilt area, visit its picturesque towns and villages and encounter highlights of the region's glorious maritime past, and present. This is true Holland as the native Dutch would describe it.

Our journey begins in delightful Haarlem which today still retains much of its Medieval character of gabled houses and cobbled streets. We then cruise north to discover the shores of the Zuiderzee, sailing across the Ijsselmeer, the largest freshwater lake in The Netherlands. We will spend some time in the ancient seaport of Harlingen, with its age-old merchant houses, canals and atmospheric inner harbours, from where we can visit nearby Leeuwarden, famous as the birthplace of the World War I spy, Mata Hari. Also included are visits to the Afsluitdijk, Europe's longest dam, the Woudagemaal Steam Pumping Station and Batavia Shipyard, all great testaments to the immense engineering and building achievements of the Dutch nation. Fittingly, our cruise ends in Amsterdam, city of the 'Golden Age' with its artistic and historic treasures.



Ijsselmeer Harbour



Hoorn



Rijksmuseum



Edam Cheese Market



Haarlem



Marken



Enkhuizen

THE ITINERARY

Day 1 London / Bristol or Glasgow to Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Fly by scheduled flight or travel by Eurostar train via Brussels. On arrival into Amsterdam transfer to the MS Royal Crown in Haarlem and embark. Moor overnight in Haarlem.

Day 2 Haarlem. After breakfast, depart for a morning walking tour of Haarlem, including the Windmill de Adriaan (outside view), and the 17th century Church of St. Bavo, immortalised in the artwork of Dutch painters Pieter Saenredam and Gerrit Berckheyde. Our tour concludes with a visit to the Frans Hals Museum, home to a spectacular display of 16th and 17th century portraits, still lifes and landscapes. Return to the MS Royal Crown for lunch followed by an afternoon at leisure to explore the city's pretty streets. Early this evening we will sail towards Hoorn and tonight join your fellow travellers for the welcome drink and dinner on board.

Day 3 Hoorn. Arrive this morning in the attractive 16th century town of Hoorn. We will set off on a gentle walking tour, and see the bustling harbour, cheese warehouses and modern marinas, as well as monumental facades which tell of the history of this former Dutch East India Company town. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at leisure. Moor overnight in Hoorn.

Day 4 Edam & Marken. This morning we will experience two unique communities of the Zuiderzee. Our first call will be at Edam, a tranquil little town with drawbridges across canals and charming historic houses with lovely facades. We continue on to the fascinating village of Marken which was separated from the mainland after a storm surge in the 13th century. Here the houses and the traditional costumes are reminiscent of the past when the island was flooded regularly and for this reason, houses were built on stilts and on mounds. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon we sail on to Enkhuizen.

Day 5 Enkhuizen. After breakfast we will visit the fascinating Zuiderzee Museum which is dedicated to preserving the cultural heritage and maritime history from the old Zuiderzee region. Return to the MS Royal Crown for lunch and enjoy a leisurely afternoon to explore Enkhuizen with its well-preserved buildings dating back to the 15th to 17th century, and one of the largest marinas in the Netherlands. Moor overnight.



Harlingen Harbour

Day 6 Alkmaar. This morning we will depart for an excursion to Alkmaar. This engaging city holds a special place in Dutch hearts as the first town in 1573 to repel occupying Spanish troops; locals opened the locks and flooded the area with sea water, forcing the invaders to retreat. On arrival we will visit the beautiful old centre with its historic monuments, including the St. Laurenskerk, the oldest church in the city. Our tour will end with a visit to a cheese specialist for a tasting. There will be some free time to explore at leisure before we return to the ship for lunch and sail towards Harlingen. As we sail, make your way to the ship's lounge for a tasting of delicious local cheese and potent Boomsma Beerenburger, a drink traditionally drunk neat from a shot glass. Arrive this evening into Harlingen and moor overnight.

Day 7 Harlingen & Friesland. This morning we will explore Harlingen which is located in the Wadden region and is one of the oldest seaports of the Netherlands. On a walking tour we will discover this city full of merchant houses, inner harbours, bridges and canals and visit The Hannemahuis Museum, one of the oldest merchant houses in Harlingen and now a museum dedicated to the history of the city. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon there will be a choice of included excursions. Choose from a boat trip to nearby Vlieland, the smallest inhabited of the Dutch Wadden Islands with its tiny and beautiful village of Oost-Vlieland. Alternatively join a tour to the Stud Farm "Het Swarte Paert" to see the Frisian Horse. This majestic breed of horse is a joy to behold and has been highly valued since Roman times. During the visit we will learn about the history, breeding and culture of this distinctive purebred. Moor overnight in Harlingen.

Day 8 Franeker & Leeuwarden. After breakfast today we will depart for a morning tour to see the longest dam in Europe, The Afsluitdijk (the IJsselmeer Dam). This 32-kilometre long dam was built in 1932 and is still considered an architectural wonder of the world. Afterwards drive to nearby Franeker for a visit to the Eise Eisinga Planetarium, the oldest active planetarium in the world. See the extensive collection of historical astronomical instruments and visit the impressive interactive exposition 'Space'. Return to the ship for lunch followed by an afternoon at leisure in Harlingen. Alternatively you may choose to join the included tour to Leeuwarden, birthplace of the infamous World War 1 spy and exotic dancer, Margaretha Geertruida Zelle (Mata Hari). On arrival we will have a walking tour of the town, followed by some free time before returning to the ship. Moor overnight in Harlingen.

Day 9 Lemmer & De Weerribben-Wieden National Park. Enjoy a relaxing morning on board as we cruise to the port of Lemmer, arriving in the early afternoon. After lunch on board we set off for nearby Woudagemaal to see the Steam Pumping Station. It is exceptional as the largest and most powerful steam-driven installation for hydraulic purposes ever built and is a masterpiece of the work of Dutch hydraulic engineers and architects. Alternatively, for those who prefer nature, there will be an excursion to the nearby De Weerribben-Wieden National Park. On arrival enjoy a guided boat trip of this beautiful wetland region. Shaped by peat extraction from the 15th century, today the area covers 6000 hectares of nature, including reed beds, meadows and dense swamp forests. Return to the ship and moor overnight.

Day 10 Lelystad. Enjoy a morning cruising through this delightful area of Friesland, arriving into Lelystad around midday. After lunch on board we will depart for a visit to the extraordinary Batavia Shipyard, which transports us back to the Golden Age of shipbuilding. The first show-stopping reconstruction was of the 17th century VOC ship the Batavia – ten years in the making, it was completed in 1995. The Batavia was originally built in 1628 and destined to sail to and from the East Indies, but in June 1629 it was shipwrecked off the coast of Western Australia. Work is now underway on the reconstruction of De Zeven Provinciën, a 17th-century battleship once captained by Michiel de Ruyter. Return to the MS Royal Crown and sail on to Amsterdam for an overnight mooring.

Day 11 Amsterdam. After breakfast depart for a visit to 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. Here, Rembrandt's famous 'The Night Watch' hangs in the Hall of Honour. Return to the ship for lunch followed by an afternoon at leisure. Alternatively, you may wish to join the excursion to the imposing Muiden Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The castle was built around 1285 by Count Floris V, an ally of the French Court and later of the British King Edward.

Day 12 Amsterdam. This morning there will be a choice of included tours. Visit the extraordinary Maritime Museum, which offers a unique array of stimulating and interactive exhibits showcasing how the sea has shaped Dutch culture. Alternatively, depart for a canal cruise, one of the most enjoyable ways to see this unique city. Return to your ship for lunch and this afternoon is free to sightsee, shop or relax in one of the many vibrant city cafes. This evening gather for the farewell drink and dinner.

Day 13 Amsterdam to London / Bristol or Glasgow. Disembark this morning and return to your chosen UK airport by scheduled flight or by train to London St Pancras.

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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: The Rhine.

