

SPECIAL
OFFER - SAVE
£200
PER PERSON

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

NOBLE CALEDONIA

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 Stefann Balle and his Stuttgarter Symphonic Quartet at Schwetzingen Castle and an onboard piano recital by the renowned artist Martin Ivanov.



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.

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 Bernkastel. Arrive this morning in Bernkastel, 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



Rembrandt's 'The Night Watch' - Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam



Half-timbered houses in La Petite France district of Strasbourg



The Reichsburg and town of Cochem

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 Vinothek 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 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



Speyer Cathedral



Black Forest



Heidelberg's city gate



Vollerads Castle and vineyards, Rudesheim



Beethoven's house, Bonn

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



ROYAL CROWN - RIVER CRUISING AT ITS BEST

We are delighted to have chartered the MS Royal Crown for a series of European river cruises in 2020.

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

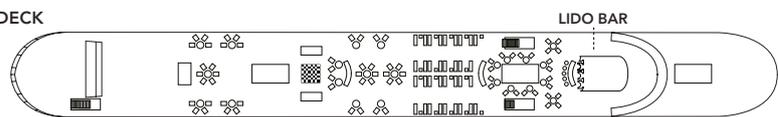
The elegant Lounge Bar is defined by its 30s inspired Art Deco style, with textured carpets, carved mahogany and plush sofas which create a comfortable and relaxed atmosphere. Experience unforgettable views from the large windows as you enjoy tea or coffee. The Lounge is also where our Guest Speakers 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

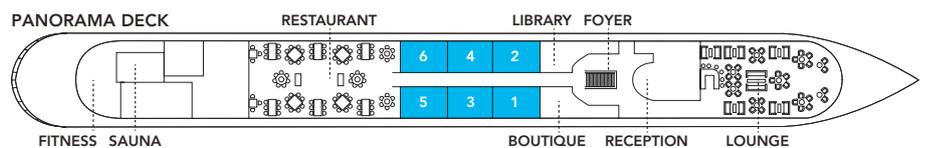
sauna with shower facilities, and a fitness room. There is also a small boutique and a library with a selection of books and games. Daily news sheets are also supplied.

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.



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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 town of Bernkastel and the Moselle Valley