

SPECIAL
OFFER - SAVE
£500
PER PERSON

ROSES OF THE RHINE

A PASSAGE ALONG THE RHINE CELEBRATING THE REGION'S
SPLENDID GARDENS ABOARD THE MS RIVER CROWN
WITH GUEST SPEAKER ROSEMARY LEGRAND

26TH JUNE TO 10TH JULY 2027

NOBLE CALEDONIA

The long summer days of late June and early July are perfect for exploring the beauty of the Netherlands and Germany's spectacular gardens which will be in full bloom. Join us aboard the elegant 100-passenger MS River Crown as we journey along the Rhine visiting the region's most enchanting horticultural wonders with a plethora of historical, cultural and scenic delights to be enjoyed along the way.

Horticultural highlights of our river journey include the magnificent, moated house of De Wiersse in Arnhem and the rose garden in Westbroek Park which was created during the 1920s and features more than 300 varieties of roses. We will also discover delightful Ettenbuehl Castle and Garden including the rose garden which features over 10,000 flowers. Whilst in Mainz we will visit the beautiful rose gardens and Steinfurth, the oldest rose village in Germany. Here you can relax beneath the elegant rose arches and learn about the art and cultural history of the rose in the Rose Museum. Another horticultural highlight will be our visit to the Japanese Gardens of Leverkusen, with their 15,000 square metres of rare plants from many different parts of East Asia.

In addition to our garden visits, there will be guided tours to some of the region's most charming towns and cities including fascinating Strasbourg and picturesque Heidelberg. We will sample some of the local food and wines of the area including the traditional Black Forest gateau, wines from Alsace and the sparkling wine of Eltville. There will also be ample time to relax on board to observe everyday life on the banks of the Rhine, delight in the panoramic views of the passing scenery and attend the talks by our Guest Speaker.



GUEST SPEAKER – ROSEMARY LEGRAND



Rosemary is a former nursery owner and daughter of the late George Hyde, who was a hybridist of azaleas and rhododendrons. Many of his award-winning hybrid plants can be seen at the Royal Horticultural Society's gardens at Wisley, Surrey, the de Rothschild rhododendron gardens at Exbury, Hampshire, and the National Trust Gardens at Kingston Lacy in Dorset. Her enjoyment of photography is used to great effect in creating the atmosphere of the gardens she discusses in her range of illustrated talks. She has travelled extensively to gardens in many parts of the world. Rosemary is an experienced public speaker and has given presentations to a wide range of organisations since 1992. She is on the RHS Speakers Register, and a speaker for NAFAS. She wrote a number of contributions for the book 1001 Gardens You Must see Before You Die and articles for horticultural publications. She is the Chairman of the New Forest Branch of the Rhododendron, Camellia and Magnolia Group affiliated to the RHS.



Japanese gardens, Leverkusen



Strasbourg



Beethoven's House, Bonn



Cologne Cathedral



Rijksmuseum



Rhine Valley

THE ITINERARY

Day 1 London to Rotterdam, the Netherlands. Fly by scheduled flight to Amsterdam. On arrival transfer to the MS River Crown in Rotterdam. Moor overnight.

Day 2 Rotterdam. This morning, we depart for The Hague for a visit to the Rose Garden in Westbroek Park. The park was created during the 1920s according to a design by Pieter Westbroek. The rose garden contains approximately 20,000 rose bushes and more than 300 varieties of roses. Afterwards continue on to Delft, birthplace of Vermeer. We will have lunch in a local restaurant on arrival followed by a walking tour of this pretty town and a visit to see the Delft Blue Pottery.

Day 3 Coenhaven for Amsterdam. After breakfast, we will depart for a canal cruise to admire Amsterdam from a glass-top boat as you glide past 17th century homes, churches and 16th century merchant houses. Afterwards, we visit the Rijksmuseum, arguably Amsterdam's most important art venue. Housing some of the greatest examples of Western European painting and decorative arts, it boasts works by Vermeer, Goya, and Rubens. Enjoy the remainder of the afternoon at leisure and this evening join your fellow travellers for a special concert of music by a string quartet.

Day 4 Arnhem. After breakfast join a morning tour to the De Wiersse Castle which is surrounded by 38 acres of garden and 74 acres of landscape park and has been lived in and managed by the family since 1678. This beautiful historic garden features avenues and pergolas, fountains and statues, meadows and bridges over a gently flowing stream. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy a leisurely afternoon on board sailing towards Cologne.

Day 5 Cologne, Germany. This morning, we depart for a tour to see Cologne's famous cathedral which is the largest Gothic church in northern Europe with the second tallest spire and largest façade in the world. Return to the ship for lunch and a leisurely afternoon. Moor overnight.

Day 6 Cologne & Bonn. After breakfast there will be a choice of excursions. Depart on a tour to visit the Botanic Gardens which were established in the 19th century and are an extensive complex of gardens home to more than 10,000 species of plants. Alternatively, visit the Japanese Gardens in Leverkusen. These stunning gardens have 15,000 square metres of rare plants from many different parts of East Asia along with enchanting sculptures, ornate lanterns and arched gates. Return to the MS River Crown for lunch and sail to Bonn where our afternoon walking tour will include a visit

to Beethoven's House and will finish with a concert by pianist Martin Ivanov in the adjacent hall.

Day 7 Koblenz & The Rhine Gorge. We arrive in Koblenz this morning for a walking tour of this historic commercial centre that sits on the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle Rivers. Back on board the MS River Crown this afternoon we will cruise along the romantic Rhine. Enjoy the magnificent scenery including the Rhine Gorge with its striking hilltop castles and the legendary Lorelei Rock. Arrive in Rudesheim this evening.

Day 8 Eltville & Rudesheim. After breakfast, join a tour to the rose garden in Eltville Castle. The gardens were founded in 1979 and boast over 350 different types of roses including climbing roses which grow up to 35 feet high. We will also see the delightful display of Japanese roses. At the height of the summer more than 10,000 roses bloom in the gardens and in 1988 the town of Eltville was nominated a "Rose Town" by the Association of German Friends of Roses. However, Eltville is famous not just for its roses but also for its Sekt (high class sparkling wine). We will enjoy a tasting before returning to the ship for lunch during which we will sail on to Rudesheim. 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.

Day 9 Mainz. This morning, we visit the charming village of Steinfurth for the famous rose garden and museum. Steinfurth is the oldest rose village in Germany; in the district of Bad Nauheim roses have been cultivated for more than 150 years and shipped all over the world. The permanent exhibition "Rosy Times" tells of this tradition and of the art and cultural history of the rose in the Rose Museum. This afternoon we visit the rose garden in Mainz. The garden was founded in 1825 as part of a rose exhibition and was extended considerably in 1935 for another important rose exhibition. Now there are more than 100 different types of roses to be seen. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon enjoy a guided walking tour of atmospheric Mainz which 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 Johannes Gutenberg Museum. This evening, enjoy a string quartet concert on board before dinner.

Day 10 Speyer & Heidelberg. This morning, join a walking tour of Speyer which will include the mighty cathedral; the Romanesque Basilica was founded by Emperor Conrad II in 1030 and is one of the largest and most impressive



Breisach



Heidelberg



Basle

edifices in Germany. After lunch, we visit nearby Heidelberg where we have the afternoon to enjoy this most picturesque and romantic of German cities which is home to Germany's oldest university, dating back to 1386. Our tour will include the castle, a dramatically sited red sandstone ruin that dominates the city, the old town with its famous marketplace and the city gates.

Day 11 Baden-Baden. After breakfast, 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 lunch and spend a relaxing afternoon sailing towards Strasbourg.

Day 12 Strasbourg, France. After breakfast, our guided tour will introduce us to the delights of Strasbourg. Start with a cruise through the fascinating old quarter of Petite France where the River Ill splits into a number of canals. We will 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 MS River Crown for lunch and this afternoon join the tour to Alsace which will include a tasting of some of the region's splendid wines.

Day 13 Breisach, Germany. This morning, we arrive in Breisach, gateway to the Black Forest. After breakfast we will travel to Freiburg for a walking tour of this vibrant city. Explore the cobblestone streets, the spectacular Munster 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 make our way through the lovely Höllen Valley to the famous resort of Titisee-Neustadt, where we will enjoy delicious Black Forest gâteau before returning to the ship for lunch. This afternoon relax on board whilst we sail through the countryside of Alsace toward Switzerland.

Day 14 Basle, Switzerland. This morning, our excursion will take us to the old market square, with its brightly painted Town Hall, and along Minster Hill past many handsome 18th century houses to the Minster with its slender twin spires. The oldest part of the building dates from between the 9th and 13th centuries, although much was rebuilt in the Gothic style after

the 1356 earthquake. Return to the MS River Crown for lunch and this afternoon enjoy a visit to the Landhuis Ettenbuehl Garden. The Seidel family first considered their garden to be a hobby but soon their interest in roses became so keen that they began to collect roses on a large scale. Now there are several themed gardens in a delightful historically English style but the most important is the rose garden with over 10,000 flowers. This evening join your fellow travellers for farewell drinks and dinner on board.

Day 15 Basle to London. Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

VIDEO FOOTAGE

For further insight into what to expect from a cruise aboard the MS River Crown, please refer to the video section on our website for our ship tour video of the vessel.

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
Premium with French Balcony	Middle Deck	£7295	£6795
Premium with French Balcony	Upper Deck	£7495	£6995
Deluxe with French Balcony	Middle Deck	£8195	£7695
Deluxe with French Balcony	Upper Deck	£8495	£7995
Queen Suite with Balcony	Upper Deck	£9495	£8995
Standard Single with porthole	Main Deck	£7295	£6795
Premium with French Balcony for sole use	Middle Deck	£8495	£7995

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 14 nights aboard the MS River 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.



MS RIVER CROWN

We are delighted to have chartered the elegant 100-passenger MS River Crown, a spacious and well-designed vessel. The vessel offers the luxury of space and the public areas feature panoramic windows providing marvellous views of the passing landscapes. The atmosphere on board is friendly and informal and within days you will have made new friends in the open-seating restaurant, on the shore excursions or whilst relaxing in the comfortable public areas. You will find yourself amongst like-minded people in an English-speaking environment and for those who seek peace and quiet, there will always be the opportunity to find a secluded spot on the Sun Deck, in one of the relaxing public areas or to simply rest in your well-appointed cabin. While on board you will be looked after by our team of experienced staff including a Noble Caledonia Cruise Director, Cruise Manager and Tour Managers, all of whom have years of experience cruising the rivers of Europe. In addition you will be joined by a Guest Speaker who will provide a series of interesting talks, and a pianist will play each evening whilst you relax in the lounge.

YOUR CABIN

The spacious cabins are arranged over three decks and are well planned and smartly furnished. Premium cabins on the Middle and Upper Deck measure 15.5 square metres and beds in these cabins can be configured as twin or double. Premium cabins have floor to ceiling panoramic windows which can be opened to a French Balcony providing wonderful views and access to fresh air. Also on the Middle and Upper decks are the Deluxe cabins with French Balcony which measure 22 square metres and feature fixed double beds along with a seating area comprising of a sofa, armchair and table. The four spacious, two room Queen Suites on the Upper Deck measure 30 square metres and feature both a French Balcony and separate balcony with chairs and a table, living room area with separable sliding door, a double bed and spacious bathroom with separate bath and shower. Finally, there are five Standard single cabins on the Main Deck which measure 12 square metres and feature portholes. All cabins include ample storage space, a writing/dressing table, television, safety deposit box, hairdryer, small refrigerator and individually controlled air-conditioning.

YOUR DINING

While the most beautiful river scenery passes by, you can enjoy delicacies created by the Executive Chef and his team. The elegant restaurant which features floor to ceiling windows has open seating, allowing you to sit where and with whom you like at each meal. In the morning for early risers, tea, coffee and pastries are available. Breakfast is served buffet style with a live cooking station for eggs and omelettes. Lunch is also a buffet with a selection of fresh salads, soup, hot dishes and desserts available, whilst dinner is a served four course meal. In addition, to enhance your dining experience, house wine, beer and soft drinks are included at both lunch and dinner. Afternoon tea is also provided with a choice of cakes and to finish the day, snacks are available in the lounge in the late evening.

YOUR SPACE

The spacious and elegantly decorated public rooms include the Restaurant and the Lounge and Bar which are located on the Upper Deck and feature floor to ceiling windows affording excellent views as you dine, relax or listen to the onboard lectures. In addition to the main lounge, there is also the Club which consists of two small lounges which are perfect if you are seeking somewhere quiet to relax with a good book and a tea or coffee. The Club is also where the small library is located along with some tables for playing bridge and board games. There is also the Atrium Lobby with comfortable seating where you can access tea and coffee 24-hours a day. The huge Sun Deck covers almost the entire length of the vessel with comfortable chairs and sun loungers and is the ideal location from where to watch the changing scenery when sailing. There is also a putting green and a large chess board on the Sun Deck for your enjoyment. For some time out, you can relax in the wellness area which includes a sauna, Jacuzzi, and some gym equipment.



The Restaurant



Queen Suite



Deluxe Cabin with French Balcony



The Lounge



Sun Deck

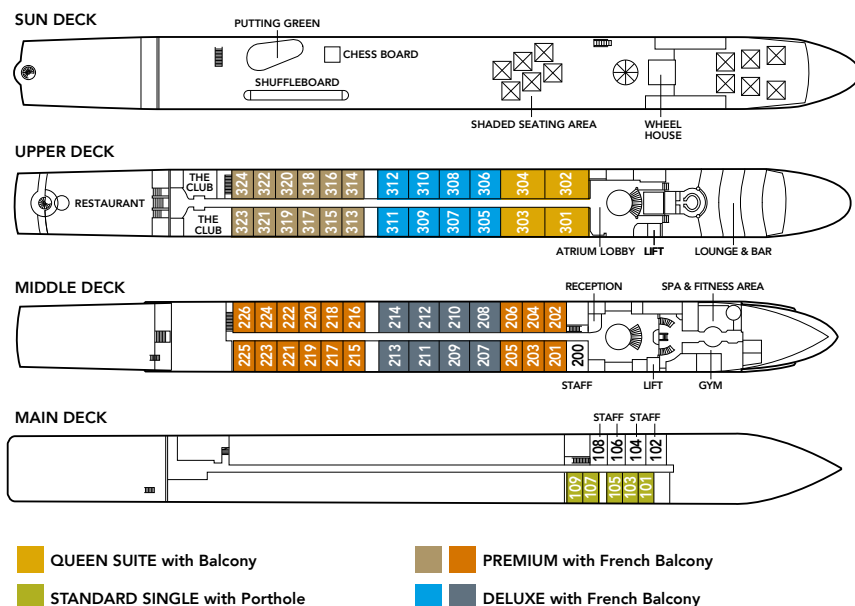


Premium Cabin with French Balcony



The Club

DECK PLAN



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All special offers are subject to availability. Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request.
Cover image: Rose garden, Germany.