Recapture the magic of the holidays as you step into scenes that glitter with fairy-tale charm. Enjoy an adventure across Germany during the holidays as you sail on the Rhine and Main rivers from Cologne to Nuremberg. Cruise through picturesque valleys and visit cultural and historical landmarks. End your adventure in Munich, and make plans to explore its outstanding art museums, churches and parks. Along the way, enjoy a customizable journey with a choice of excursions in select ports of call as you escape the frantic pace and pressures of the holiday season at home and experience the season of Advent in Europe.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore the charming holiday markets in cities across Germany.
- Cruise along the Rhine and Main rivers for seven nights aboard the exclusively chartered MS Amadeus Silver.
- Spend three nights in Munich after your cruise, allowing ample time to explore the capital of Bavaria and its Christkindlmarkt.
- Witness four UNESCO World Heritage sites: Kölner Dom, the Middle Rhine Valley, the Würzburg Residenz and the city of Bamberg in Germany.
- Personalize your cruise with a choice of included excursions in select ports of call.
- Travel along the “Romantic Road” when journeying between Würzburg and Rothenburg.
- Spend a full day in Cologne.

INCLUDED FEATURES

Accommodations
- Seven nights aboard the first-class MS Amadeus Silver.
- Three nights in Munich, Germany, at the deluxe Hotel Bayerischer Hof.

Transportation
- All deluxe motor coach transfers in the Land/Cruise Program itinerary and baggage handling on these transfers are included.

Activities and Events
- Informative educational programs presented by local experts will enhance your insight into the region.
- All excursions as outlined in your program itinerary.
- Personal VOX listening device to hear every word from your expert English-speaking guides.
- Attend a Welcome Reception and Dinner.
- Gather for two Farewell Receptions and a Farewell Dinner.

Extensive Meal Program
- Enjoy 10 breakfasts, six lunches and seven dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with lunch and dinner.
- Sample authentic regional specialties during select meals at featured local restaurants.
- Take advantage of leisure time to try the local cuisine independently.

MANY INCLUDED EXTRAS

- Consultation services of a dedicated Passenger Service Representative prior to departure.
- Services of an experienced Travel Director throughout your stay.
- Tipping of excursion guides and drivers.
- Detailed travel and destination information to assist in planning.
- Complimentary travel wallet.
DAY 1 ~ IN TRANSIT
Depart for Frankfurt, Germany. +
+ Provided for AHI FlexAir participants.

DAY 2 ~ FRANKFURT, GERMANY | COLOGNE
Upon arrival, transfer* to Cologne and embark the MS Amadeus Silver.

DAY 3 ~ COLOGNE
Choose from two excursions here:
Excursion: Cologne's Magnificent Cathedral. Visit Kölner Dom, the city’s famous cathedral. It was damaged in World War II, but it was one of the few structures in town that survived.

Excursion: Jewish Heritage.
Recent excavation projects have started to reveal the city’s historic Jewish quarter. See the excavation sites and visit the Cologne City Museum.

Educational Focus: The Tradition of the Holiday Markets.

DAY 4 ~ KOBLENZ | RHINE GORGE
Excursion: Koblenz. Tour beautiful Koblenz. Explore its historic town center, with its winding lanes and picturesque squares. This afternoon, witness amazing views as the ship sails through the beautiful Rhine Gorge and passes Loreley Rock.

DAY 5 ~ MILTENBERG
Excursion: Miltenberg. Enjoy a walking tour of this city, home to a 13th-century castle. See half-timbered houses and a 16th-century fountain.

DAY 6 ~ WÜRBURG / ROTHENBURG
Excursion: Rothenburg & The Romantic Road. Step back in time along this storied route and enjoy time in Rothenburg, one of the Romantic Road’s prettiest towns and home to the German Christmas Museum.

DAY 7 ~ WÜRBURG
Excursion: Würzburg. Explore the Residenz, an 18th-century palace, then enjoy a walking tour of the historic city center. Stroll by St. Kilian’s Cathedral, Old Town Hall and the bustling market.

DAY 8 ~ BAMBERG
Choose from two excursions here:
Excursion: Bamberg. During a guided walking tour of Bamberg, wander under the grand rococo archway of the Obere Brücke.

Excursion: Culinary Delights. Visit a local bakery, a butcher shop, a deli and a candy store. Along the way, learn about and sample specialties. Tonight, gather with your fellow travelers for a Farewell Reception and Dinner on the ship.

DAY 9 ~ NUREMBERG | MUNICH
After breakfast, disembark the ship. Choose from two excursions here:

Excursion: Nuremberg. See the courthouse where the World War II trials were held. Visit the city’s renowned castle and the Hauptmarkt.

Excursion: Historical Tour. Explore the Documentation Centre Nazi Party Rally Grounds and see the courthouse used for the World War II trials.

Independent Exploration: Enjoy time at leisure this afternoon to browse the kiosks at Nuremberg’s holiday market. Then, enjoy a panoramic drive to Munich.

Excursion: Munich. See the highlights of Munich, home to the 1972 Olympiapark, the Bavarian National Opera and the Frauenkirche. Check in to the Hotel Bayerischer Hof.

DAY 10 ~ MUNICH
Independent Exploration: Spend the day at leisure in Munich, a town where the German spirit of gemütlichkeit abounds.

DAY 11 ~ MUNICH
Independent Exploration: Pursue your own interests as you explore the city’s many cultural sites. Later, recount your holiday adventure during a Farewell Reception.

DAY 12 ~ IN TRANSIT
Transfer to the Munich airport for the return to your gateway city.+

NOTE: The information presented is preliminary. Itineraries, included features and schedules are subject to change. Many excursions in this program involve an element of walking.

ENHANCE YOUR EXPERIENCE
Available at an additional cost

Salzburg, Austria. On Day 10, journey across the border into charming Austria and historic Salzburg. Picturesque cobbled streets wind around palaces, castles and 17th- and 18th-century houses. Above it all, Hohensalzburg Fortress towers 400 feet above the river.

ACCOMMODATIONS

MS AMADEUS SILVER
The state-of-the-art MS Amadeus Silver offers the utmost in service, safety and comfort. Step into the elegant reception area and immerse yourself in the ambience of a high-end hotel. Relax on the sun deck, indulge in a soothing massage, browse in the boutique or connect with friends at the Internet station. If you wish to be more active, practice your golf game on the putting green or exercise in the fitness room. Savor international cuisine at the restaurant’s breakfast and lunch buffets, and enjoy regional specialties at dinner. At the end of each day, return to the comforts of your cabin, appointed in bright, modern décor and featuring a river view, a satellite TV and a private bathroom with shower. Complimentary Wi-Fi is available, but access may be limited.

HOTEL BAYERISCHER HOF
Munich
Located in the city center within walking distance of major landmarks, the hotel offers stylish, luxurious rooms and amenities. Choose from five elegant restaurants, including Atelier, a two-starred Michelin establishment, Palais Keller, serving Bavarian dishes and Trader Vic’s, offering exotic Polynesian fare. Unwind at the Blue Spa, a peaceful oasis set in the lush rooftop garden. Enjoy the modern spa facilities, swimming pool and fitness studio. Complimentary Wi-Fi is available in all areas of the hotel.