

ADVENTURES * BY DISNEP

Daily Adventurer

Day 5 Wednesday April 12th, 2017

The Rhine Gorge
Rhine Castles & Ruins

Rüdesheim



Sunrise & Sunset

Today's information Sunrise: 06:42 AM Sunset: 08:17 PM

Weather Forecast

Mostly Cloudy Minimum: 46°F / 8°C Maximum: 64°F / 18°C Today is Castle Day! In the morning, we dock in the wine town of Rüdesheim, famous for Riesling, taverns and Siegfried's Musical Cabinet Museum. The choice of tours today include a bike tour, a Gondola ride, a little wine tasting or perhaps a Rudesheimer café! In the late afternoon, we will then sail into the famous Rhine Gorge where more than 20 original castles are located. The sundeck will be the place to be.

Every time you leave the ship or return from shore, please remember to have your safety card scanned at the reception.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Docking Location:

Rüdesheim: Steiger 4



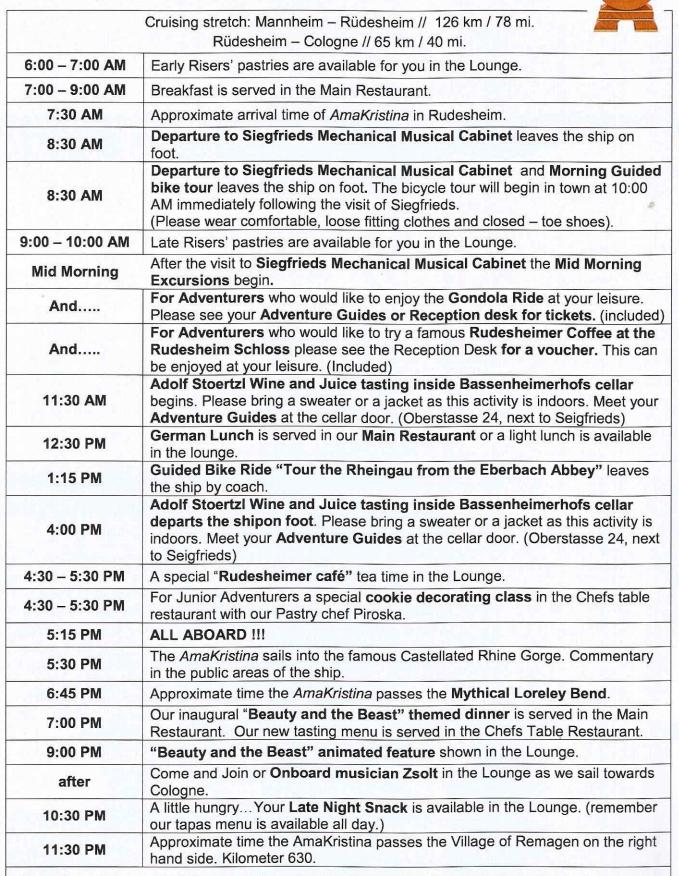
Ship Phone 0031 638 6946 68

Cruise Manager Phone 0049 160 5871 503



Your program today...

Cruise schedule is subject to change due to navigational conditions beyond our control



Out of respect to your fellow travelers sleeping below, jogging and other physical activity is not permitted on the sundeck after 10 PM or before 8 AM. Thank you!



THE RIVER RHINE

The Rhine is Europe's most important waterway. It flows from Switzerland to the North Sea, and is known by its four main sections: the High, Upper, Middle, and Lower Rhine.

The middle part of the Rhine is flanked by dozens of old castles. The passion for building castles skyrocketed around the 12th century. Every Lord wanted one for himself, of course. Castles cost a lot to build but they also made money for their owners, as each castle owner could demand custom money from whoever passed, no matter if by land or water.

The river has a total length of some 1320 km (820 miles) and a basin of over 250,000 sq. km (96,525 sq. miles). Along with Lake Constance it forms a reservoir of drinking-water for a population of some 30 million people. The Rhine can truly be described as an international river, since it traverses and borders no fewer than six countries: Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Austria, Germany, France and the Netherlands.

THE RHINE GORGE

Today's cruise surely is a highlight of your trip as we will cruise through Rhine Gorge, famous throughout the world for its castles. No other river in the world has a greater concentration of castles or castle ruins than the Rhine, especially between Koblenz and Bingen. You will see steep slopes, many covered by vineyards and dotted by castles, and picturesque villages such as Boppard and St. Goarshausen. While cruising through the Rhine Gorge, we also pass the famous Lorelei Rock, located in the narrowest and deepest stretch of the river. There are many stories about the Lorelei, so be sure to be on the sundeck when your cruise manager tells the tale and provides captivating commentary about the many sights along this famous gorge!

The Rhine Gorge is the popular name for the Rhine Valley, a 65 km (41 mile) section upstream of Koblenz. It was added to the UNESCO list of World Heritage Sites in 2002 for a unique combination of geological, historical, cultural and industrial reasons.

Constrained in size, many of the old towns along the Rhine's banks retain a historic feel today. With increasing wealth, many castles appeared and the valley became a core region of the Holy Roman Empire. During the Thirty Years' War (1618 – 1648), many of the castles were left in ruins. In the 19th Century, the valley became part of Prussia and its landscape became the quintessential image of Germany.

SIGHTS YOU DO NOT WANT TO MISS TODAY

Castles:

Stolzenfels, Marksburg, Rheinfels, Cat Castle, Pfalzgrafenstein, Sooneck, Rheinstein

Villages:

Boppard, St Goarshausen, Kaub, Assmannshausen, Bingen, Bacharach

And of course the legendary Lorelei Rock!

WELCOME TO RÜDESHEIM

With a population of 7,000, this small and utterly charming port town is a must see on any Rhine river cruise! The town has a long history dating back to the Romans, proceeding through numerous conflicts and is now home of the famous wine "Riesling."

There is also no shortage of sights down at river level either. The eagle tower, the parish church of St

Jacob housing gravestones of the noble local families; the half-timbered houses and the cozy Market Place, site of the Rüdesheimer wine fest every August and a charming little Christmas market every December.

There are even the remnants of three castles in the center of town including the remains of the 12th century Brömserburg castle, which once belonged to the Archbishops of Mainz, now home to Siegfried's Mechanical Music Museum with a huge collection of self-playing musical instruments.

Along the quaint shopping and entertaining street of Drosselgasse you find several restaurants, cafes, shops, and traditional wine bars - so many in number that it is difficult to believe the entire street is only 150m (450 feet) long! It is no accident that wine has become so vital to the life of the town. It's been grown here since ancient times, when the banks of the Rhine formed part of the Roman Empire's borders. An area of such beauty that it appears in paintings by Turner and compositions by Wagner, so we are following in auspicious footsteps!

RÜDESHEIMER COFFEE

"Asbach" brandy is a specialty of Ruedesheim and a key ingredient in Rudesheimer coffee. A sip of this brandy is poured into a special mug, set on fire, doused with coffee and topped by whipped cream and chocolate flakes...something not to be missed! A popular souvenir from Rüdesheim: candies filled with Asbach brandy or the Rüdesheimer Coffee set, which includes the brandy, the mugs, and the recipe to make the coffee at home.

KOBLENZ

Koblenz is a lovely town of 110,000 inhabitants, located at the confluence of the Rhine and Mosel Rivers. The point where the two rivers meet is called Deutsches Eck, or the "German Corner". Here you will find an impressive monument dedicated to Kaiser Wilhelm I, who resided in Koblenz at one time and is quite a local hero.

The confluence of the Rhine and Moselle Rivers is dominated by the largest fortification situated anywhere along the Rhine River, the immense Ehrenbreitstein Fortress. Built over 1000 years ago, the fortress was destroyed several times throughout the ages and was finally rebuilt by the Prussians. Nowadays, it houses several museums as well as a youth hostel. The fortress is gloriously illuminated in the evening.



Rebecca Cline A Biography

Becky Cline joined The Walt Disney Company in 1989, and became a member of the staff of the Walt Disney Archives in 1993. Today, as Director of the Archives, Becky is charged with collecting and preserving all aspects of Disney history and making the material available to researchers from all areas of The Walt Disney Company as well as to historians, writers, documentarians and fans around the world. Her many responsibilities include maintaining and conserving the Archives' collections of historical documents, artwork, character merchandise, costumes, props and memorabilia. In the years since the Archives was established at the Walt Disney Studios in Burbank, California, it has grown from a one-person department to its current staff of twelve, and has come to be recognized as a model among corporate archives in the country.

In her position with the Archives Becky has also enjoyed participating in the research and development of many new and exciting programs and fan-based initiatives for The Walt Disney Company - most recently as part of the development and operations team for D23: The Official Disney Fan Club.

Born in Glendale, California, and raised in Los Angeles, Becky attended Glendale College and California State University Los Angeles, majoring in Theater Arts. After college, she worked for two years in the Rare Books Department of the Huntington Library in San Marino, California, where she received her first taste of library/archives work.

As an author, Becky has co-authored books and numerous articles on Disney history for magazines such as Disney's twenty-three, Disney Magazine, The Disney Channel Magazine, Persistence of Vision, The E-Ticket, and the Disney Insider Yearbook, as well as many other Disney internal publications and websites. She is also a frequent speaker on behalf of The Walt Disney Company, giving talks and presenting seminars on Disney history.