

An important update on your cruise, and where you will sail instead

The trip departs on 23 September as booked, on the same ship and in the same cabin, with **Cochem and its hilltop castle, storybook Bernkastel, a full day in Luxembourg and Rüdesheim** all still part of your holiday. The key change is that, instead of continuing along the Rhine, your holiday will now explore the **Moselle in much greater depth**, giving you more time among its vineyard lined valleys, riverside towns, castles and some of the most scenic stretches of river in this part of Europe, joining and leaving your ship in Koblenz rather than Cologne.

THE RIVER, AND WHY WE HAVE CHANGED YOUR ITINERARY

You will begin where the Moselle runs into the Rhine at Koblenz, then work your way upstream through the vineyards: Cochem beneath its castle, Traben-Trarbach, Bernkastel's crooked market square, and Trier, the oldest city in Germany. From Trier there is a full day over the border in Luxembourg, or a morning in Saarburg, before a whole day's sailing back down the river and a quiet morning at Treis-Karden. You finish with Koblenz and the Deutsches Eck, and a morning in Rüdesheim.

The Rhine is running too low this month for the second half of your itinerary. The Moselle is a different proposition: it is a lock controlled river, its level held by dams and locks rather than left to the weather, so it holds up far better in a dry spell. That is why we have built your holiday around it. Our river cruise partner's nautical team and our own in house team read the gauges daily, judging what they mean for your ship rather than the river in general; levels can move either way, and we will tell you promptly if anything alters.

YOUR ITINERARY, DAY BY DAY

Coaching times are shown for every day. Most of it, the airport transfers and the excursion coaching, is our usual programme; the ship moors in the heart of almost every town on this route, so the walking tours need no coach at all.

Day 1	Embark at Koblenz rather than Cologne. Flights as booked, then a coach to the ship. <i>Coaching: 1 hour 30 from Cologne, 2 hours from Düsseldorf</i> <i>Port: Koblenz</i>
Day 2	Morning: Enjoy scenic sailing from Koblenz to Cochem, leaving the meeting point of the Rhine and Moselle behind as the river winds through vineyard clad hills, castles and pretty riverside villages. Afternoon: Explore Cochem's picture perfect old town before an optional hike to the fairytale Reichsburg Castle, perched high above the Moselle with sweeping views across the valley. <i>Coaching: None</i> <i>Port: Cochem</i>
Day 3	Morning: Enjoy scenic sailing from Cochem to Traben-Trarbach, following the Moselle through steep vineyard covered hills, castle crowned slopes and storybook riverside villages. Afternoon: Enjoy a relaxed tasting of local wines, discovering the flavours, stories and winemaking traditions that give this region its character. <i>Coaching: None</i> <i>Port: Traben-Trarbach</i>
Day 4	Full day: Explore Luxembourg's dramatic old town and fortress on a guided tour, enjoy lunch at leisure, then return to the ship for an evening of relaxation. <i>Coaching: 1hr 30mins to Luxembourg, each way.</i> <i>Port: Traben-Trarbach</i>
Day 5	Morning: Enjoy scenic sailing from Traben-Trarbach to Bernkastel, winding past vineyard clad slopes, pretty Moselle villages and some of the river's most picturesque bends. Afternoon: Choose a guided stroll through Bernkastel's storybook old town, or stretch your legs on a rewarding two hour hike to the hilltop Landshut ruins for sweeping views across the Moselle. <i>Coaching: None</i>

	Port: <i>Bernkastel / Trier-Hafen</i>
Day 6	Morning: Discover Trier on a guided tour through Germany's oldest city, from its mighty Roman Porta Nigra to elegant squares, churches and centuries of history. Afternoon: Have some free time in Trier to enjoy the city or alternatively spend the afternoon enjoying the ship amenities. Coaching: <i>20 mins to Trier city each way.</i> Port: <i>Trier-Hafen</i>
Day 7	All day: Spend a leisurely day sailing back along the Moselle, with plenty to enjoy on board as the vineyards and riverside villages drift by, before arriving into Cochem at around 17:00. Coaching: <i>None</i> Port: <i>Cochem</i>
Day 8	Morning: Explore Treis-Karden on foot, discovering its historic streets, impressive collegiate church and fascinating local museum. Afternoon: Explore the spectacular Burg Eltz castle, or stay closer to the river and have extended time in Treis-Karden. Coaching: <i>30 mins to Burg Eltz castle</i> Port: <i>Treis-Karden</i>
Day 9	Morning: Enjoy scenic sailing from Treis-Karden to Koblenz, following the Moselle past wooded slopes, hilltop castles and peaceful riverside villages before reaching the Rhine. Afternoon: Explore Koblenz on a guided walking tour through its historic old town, before returning on board for a special Chef's Dinner to round off the day. Coaching: <i>None</i> Port: <i>Koblenz</i>
Day 10	Morning: Explore Rüdesheim and its charm, before returning to the ship for lunch. Afternoon: Enjoy free time exploring Koblenz at your own pace, with the option to ride the cable car across the Rhine to mighty Ehrenbreitstein Fortress for panoramic views over the city and rivers. Coaching: <i>1hr to Rudesheim</i> Port: <i>Koblenz</i>
Day 11	Disembark at Koblenz rather than Cologne, with airport coaches to both Cologne and Düsseldorf. Coaching: <i>1 hour 30 to Cologne, 2 hours to Düsseldorf</i> Port: <i>Koblenz</i>

Eleven days and ten nights on board, as booked. You join and leave the ship at Koblenz, and your flights are unchanged.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT IS UP TO YOU

We would love you to travel with us, and if you do there is something extra by way of a gesture from us.

Travel, and take a voucher. A future travel voucher worth 50% of your cruise price.

Travel, and take cash and a voucher. A 10% cash refund now, plus a 20% voucher.

Move to next year. Travel next year on a different sailing with a 10% discount off the price of the new holiday.

Or cancel. We will refund what you have paid.

Voucher terms. Book within six months of today. Value based on your current holiday price. Valid on all 2026, 2027 and 2028 European river cruises.

YOU WILL BE WELL LOOKED AFTER

Your Cruise Director, Cruise Host and crew will be with you throughout, just as planned, and everything you enjoy on board remains unchanged: exceptional dining, all inclusive drinks, local entertainment and immersive experiences. The itinerary is different, but the Riviera experience on board is very much the same.

For the latest on river conditions and our 5-point promise:

rivieratravel.com/update

And for day to day updates, join our low water Facebook group:

[Riviera Travel Official — Low water updates](#)

Any questions at all, please do call us.