

An important update on your cruise, and where the ship sails instead

Low water on the Upper Rhine means your ship can no longer reach Switzerland, so rather than cancel your holiday, we have created a completely different eight day journey. In place of Switzerland, Strasbourg and the Rhine Gorge, you will explore Cologne's magnificent cathedral and old town, cruise Amsterdam's famous canals, see the iconic windmills of Kinderdijk and spend a full day discovering the cobbled streets, canals and medieval beauty of Bruges.

THE RIVER, AND WHY WE HAVE CHANGED YOUR ITINERARY

Our river cruise partner's nautical team and our own in house team check the gauges and the weather every day, and judge what they mean for your ship rather than the river in general. Downstream is a different river: the lower Rhine carries far more water and much of your new route is lock controlled, so levels are managed rather than left to the weather. It is the best plan we can give you rather than a promise, and your Cruise Director will tell you if anything changes.

YOUR ITINERARY, DAY BY DAY

Day 1	Embark at Düsseldorf or Venlo. Flights will be changed. Coaching: Dusseldorf embarkation 20min from Düsseldorf airport or 1hr 10mins from Cologne airport Coaching: Venlo embarkation 1hr from Düsseldorf airport or 1hr 30mins from Cologne airport
Day 2	Morning: Relax as we sail through the Dutch waterways that have shaped life in the Netherlands for centuries Afternoon: After lunch onboard, explore Amsterdam by taking a classic glass-topped boat tour through the network of canals Evening: Gather in the lounge for a delightful performance of traditional Dutch music, brought to life by talented local musicians Coaching: None
Day 3	Morning : Guided tour of Kinderdijk to explore the UNESCO-listed windmills Afternoon: Lunch onboard then, scenic sailing towards Ghent, witnessing the contrast of old and new, urban and rural Coaching: None
Day 4	Morning : Ghent or Bruges Option1: Morning local guided walking tour of Ghent. This Belgian treasure is bisected by a network of historic canals and cobbled towpaths. Lunch onboard then free time in Ghent. Option 2: Full day tour to Bruges. Visit the medieval heart, from the Belfry and colourful Markt to the Gothic Town Hall and Basilica of the Holy Blood. Have lunch at leisure Evening: A live guitar performance Coaching: 45min to Bruges, each way
Day 5	Morning : Guided tour of Antwerp. At its heart is the captivating main square – the Grote Markt – dominated by ornately gabled guild houses, the Renaissance town hall and opulent Brabo Fountain. Afternoon: After lunch onboard, a peaceful afternoon sailing Coaching: None
Day 6	Morning : Guided tour of Nijmegen revealing the city's rich history, charming streets and scenic riverside setting. Afternoon: After lunch onboard, a visit to Oosterbeek with Hartenstein Museum and Commonwealth war cemetery Coaching: None
Day 7	Morning: Guided tour of Cologne spotting the magnificent dual-spired Gothic cathedral for which the city is so famous. Afternoon: After lunch, free time to enjoy either: Dusseldorf - If we embark in Düsseldorf, you can explore the Old Town, known as the longest bar in the world with over 300 pubs and restaurants serving the local Altbier, a dark beer following a similar brewing process as Kölsch, or see the striking architecture in the modern Media

	Venlo - If we embark in Venlo, guests can enjoy time exploring this welcoming and easy-to-navigate town. Its attractive shopping streets, relaxed squares and lively café culture are all within easy reach, with independent boutiques and local delicatessens around the Parade and Klaasstraat. For a more leisurely option, the Maasboulevard offers a pleasant riverside walk with views across the River Meuse. Coaching: Dusseldorf 30 mins to Cologne, Venlo is 1hr 15 mins to Cologne
Day 8	Disembark at Düsseldorf or Venlo. Flights remain as planned Coaching: Dusseldorf embarkation 20min to Düsseldorf airport or 1hr 10mins to Cologne airport Coaching: Venlo embarkation 1hr to Düsseldorf airport or 1hr 30mins to Cologne airport

You join at Düsseldorf, just down the Rhine from Cologne on the Meuse River. We will book your new outbound flight. On the Bruges day you are ashore over lunch, so we give you €25 per person.

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 apology.

Travel, and take a voucher. A future travel voucher worth 75% of your cruise price.

Travel, and take cash and a voucher. A 15% cash refund now, plus a 30% voucher.

Move to next year. The same cruise next year, at this year's price.

Or cancel. We will refund everything you have paid.

*Vouchers valid for 6 months from today's date (book within 6 months). Value of the voucher is based on current holiday price
Valid on all 2026 and 2027 European river cruises*

READ ABOUT YOUR NEW CRUISE

This is a cruise we sell in its own right: [Cologne, Amsterdam, Kinderdijk & Medieval Flanders | Riviera Travel](#)

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. Once onboard you'll experience exceptional dining, all-inclusive drinks, local entertainment and immersive experiences all continuing as part of your holiday. The itinerary may be slightly 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**](https://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.