MS RIVIERA RESPLENDENCE · RHINE CRUISE TO SWITZERLAND · DEPARTING 24 OCTOBER 2026

An important update on your holiday, and what we can offer instead

Your holiday departs on 24 October as booked, still runs for eight days, your outbound flight is unchanged, and you keep the MS Riviera Resplendence and the cabin you booked. The Rhine is too low for us to bring you up to Switzerland, so the cruise you booked is not running. What we can offer in its place is a cruise through the Netherlands and Belgium. It is a different holiday, and whether you want it is entirely your decision. We have sailed this trip with many guests this summer with positive feedback.

THE RIVER, AND WHY WE HAVE CHANGED YOUR ITINERARY

You fly out as booked and board at Düsseldorf, a little downriver of Cologne. Your last full day is a guided tour of Cologne and free time in Düsseldorf. On day 2 we spend the morning sailing the Dutch waterways to Amsterdam, where a glass topped boat takes you through the canal ring, and the evening brings traditional Dutch music in the lounge. Then comes Kinderdijk, where nineteen windmills have stood along the dykes since the 1730s, and after that Belgium: a morning in Ghent among its canals and cobbled towpaths, or a full day in Bruges with the Belfry, the Markt and the Basilica of the Holy Blood. Antwerp follows, with the gabled guild houses of the Grote Markt and the Brabo fountain, then Nijmegen, the oldest city in the Netherlands, before sailing onwards to Dusseldorf.

The Rhine above Cologne has dropped too far this month for a ship of this size to work it reliably, and we would not get you through to Switzerland, which is why the holiday now turns north and west instead. 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 SHIP, AND WHERE YOU JOIN HER

Nothing about your ship changes. You are on the MS Riviera Resplendence for the whole holiday, in the cabin grade you booked. The one difference is where you meet her: you board at Düsseldorf rather than Cologne, around twenty minutes from Düsseldorf airport or an hour and ten minutes from Cologne, and you leave her at Düsseldorf on day eight.

YOUR ITINERARY, DAY BY DAY

Coaching times are shown for every day. Most days are reached from the mooring on foot or by short shuttle; Bruges and the Düsseldorf afternoon are the two coach days. Operations will confirm pick up times before you travel.

Day 1	Embark at Düsseldorf or Cologne, close by. Flights as booked. **Coaching:** 20min from Düsseldorf airport or 1hr 10mins from Cologne airport
Day 2	**Morning:** Guided tour of Cologne spotting the magnificent dual-spired Gothic cathedral for which the city is so famous. **Afternoon:** After lunch, free time, in Düsseldorf's 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 **Coaching:** 30min
Day 3	**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 4	**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 5	**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 6	**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 7	**Morning :** Guided tour of Nijmegen revealing the city's rich history, charming streets and scenic riverside setting. **Afternoon:** We sail towards Dusseldorf. **Coaching:** None
Day 8	Disembark at Düsseldorf rather than Basel. Flights will be rebooked. **Coaching:** 20min from Düsseldorf airport or 1hr 10min from Cologne airport

Your outbound flight is unchanged. Because you now finish at Düsseldorf rather than Basel, we are rearranging your flight home and will confirm it with you.

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 what you have paid.

Voucher terms. Valid for six months from today: book within six months. 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. 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

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.