

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

The trip departs on 10 October as booked, on the same ship and in the same cabin, with your guided tour of Cologne and its cathedral still part of the holiday. The main change is that the Rhine route is not running, so you will sail through Holland and Flanders instead. Heidelberg, Strasbourg and Colmar are not part of this sailing.

THE RIVER, AND WHY WE HAVE CHANGED YOUR ITINERARY

You begin at Düsseldorf, just down the Rhine from Cologne, and sail north into the Dutch waterways for Amsterdam, with a canal cruise, free time and a night moored in the city. Then the windmills at Kinderdijk, and across into Flanders for a walking tour of Ghent or a full day in medieval Bruges, followed by Antwerp and its Grote Markt. Nijmegen and the quiet ground at Oosterbeek come next, and you finish with a guided tour of Cologne and a free afternoon in Düsseldorf.

The Rhine above Cologne is running too low this month for the route you booked. Downstream is a different river: the lower Rhine carries far more water, and much of your new route runs on canalised, lock controlled waterways where levels are managed rather than left to the weather. 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

Day 1	Embark at Düsseldorf or Cologne, close by. Flights remain as planned. Coaching: 20min from Düsseldorf airport or 1hr 10mins 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, 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: 1hr to Cologne
Day 8	Disembark at Düsseldorf. Coaching: 20min from Düsseldorf airport or 1hr 10min from Cologne airport

You join at Düsseldorf, just down the Rhine from Cologne. Your original flights stay the same.

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 return date: book within six months. Value based on your current holiday price. Valid on all 2026, 2027 and 2028 European river cruises.

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YOU WILL BE WELL LOOKED AFTER

Same ship, same cabin, same crew. Your Cruise Director and Cruise Host are with you throughout, and everything on board remains unchanged: exceptional dining, all inclusive drinks, local entertainment and immersive experiences.

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

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

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Any questions at all, please do call us.