Sales Guide - Romantic Germany
Experience enchanting moments in the region around Rhine and Moselle
2016/2017
A warm welcome to Rhineland-Palatinate!

We hope that our Sales Guide will provide you with information about the tourist amenities and cooperation opportunities available here. The following pages provide suggestions and ideas about events and tourist attractions, examples of active or wine vacation packages and special offers from selected incoming partners.

Every holiday should be a pure pleasure. Rhineland-Palatinate, the most westerly area of Germany, on the border to Belgium, Luxembourg and France, welcomes guests with the utmost hospitality. Vineyards as far as the eye can see, almost 500 fairytale castles, palaces and ruins decorating the river landscapes around the Rhine and Moselle rivers, charming little towns with half-timbered houses, a wide range of cultural points of interest and a wonderful mild climate are all hallmarks of the Rhineland-Palatinate. It is a region full of historical highlights, while at the same time remaining a modern and active region. Museums, concerts, theatres and a multifaceted menu of events await all visitors. The picturesque scenery of the UNESCO World Heritage site Upper Middle Rhine Valley has been considered the epicentre of the romantic Rhine for over 200 years and is one of the most important transport routes in Europe. The valley is characterised by its uniquely high concentration of castles, making it both mysterious and historically inimitable. A central feature of this area is the mythical Loreley Valley near St. Goarshausen, where the song of a beautiful girl is said to have lured seamen into perdition.

A splendid bouquet

Viticulture was brought to Rhineland-Palatinate by the Romans over 2,000 years ago and has been thriving there ever since. The region produces around 70 percent of all German wine and is a real paradise for wine lovers and connoisseurs with the six wine regions of Moselle, Rhine, Ahr, Nahe, Palatinate and Rheinhessen, which includes the only German "Great Wine capital", Mainz. The Palatinate region boasts the biggest wine festival and even the biggest wine barrel in the world, located in the city of Bad Dürkheim. The outstanding winegrowing areas will not fail to delight with their award-winning wines. A special experience for any friend of wine is to visit the vineyards and learn about the traditions and history of German wine from the one person who really knows – the winemaker himself. The traditional wine festivals are additional highlights that anyone visiting the region in autumn should not miss, as well as the region’s award-winning wine architecture venues.

Outdoor deluxe

The natural beauty of Rhineland-Palatinate provides the perfect natural playground for a number of outdoor activities like hiking and biking. Few other German regions offer such a variety of terrains combined with certified, well-marked, high-quality walking trails and cycling routes, as well as accommodation designed to suit the active holidaymaker’s needs. The region’s most famous hiking trail is the Rheinsteig, well-known from documentaries featured by various television channels like the British BBC. Cyclists have the choice between several scenic routes following the Rhine, Moselle or Nahe rivers. Rhineland-Palatinate offers routes of different lengths and for all levels, providing groups and families countless options for a truly personalized dream vacation.
The Garden of Eden on the German Wine Route - and Germany’s „Great Wine Capital“

Route: From Mainz to Bad Dürkheim on the German Wine Route and onward to the French border.

Day 1: Get off to a great start in Germany’s „Great Wine Capital“ Mainz

Rheinhessen is the largest wine-growing region in Germany and is famous around the world for its quality wines. It is therefore no coincidence that Mainz has earned the honour of being one of the “Great Wine Capitals” of the world. Spend the day in Mainz, beginning with a guided wine tour in and around the historical city with its Roman past. Later in the afternoon, continue on to the Palatinate, the southernmost and most varied of the wine-growing regions. Travel south along the German Wine Route towards Bad Dürkheim, passing a sea of vineyards along the way. You will pass plenty of places of interest, including Limburg Monastery, the ruins of Hardenburg Castle and the world’s largest wine cask. Continue onwards towards Deidesheim and enjoy dinner at the Deidesheimer Hof, where Helmut Kohl, the former German Chancellor, often entertained prominent guests, including Margaret Thatcher and Mikhail Gorbachev. However, this is by far not all that this lovely little town has to offer: Deidesheim is part of Cittaslow, an international association that aims to improve the quality of life in towns. It also holds wonderful events, like the intimate Christmas market, an event that you should definitely try not to miss. Stay overnight in one of the neighbouring towns.

Day 2: Plenty to see and do along the German Wine Route

In the morning, drive to Neustadt and make a short detour to visit Hambach Castle, known as the “Cradle of German Democracy” since the Hambach Festival of 1832. Stop off for lunch in Sankt Martin, with its winding lanes in the village centre, followed by a visit to Villa Ludwigshöhe in Edenkoben, the summer residence of King Ludwig I of Bavaria. Continue to Venningen and visit the “Doktorenhof” vinegar estate. All the way along the route you can also purchase international award-winning quality wines from renowned wine estates. A profusion of picture-postcard wine-growing villages line the German Wine Route, with their red sandstone gateways lending them a Mediterranean ambience. One of them is sure to be the perfect place to bring your day to a relaxing end.

Day 3: A Mediterranean feel and historical monuments

Set off for Annweiler and the imposing Trifels Castle, the striking fortifications of which date back to the era of the Hohenstaufen and Salian dynasties. This is also where King Richard the Lionheart was imprisoned in 1194. Continue along the route to Leinsweiler where the spectacular scenery becomes more Mediterranean, with the sun bathing the inviting wine estates set in gently rolling vineyards in warm colours. Passing Klingenheim where you can visit the ruins of Landeck Castle, continue on to Bad Bergzabern, a spa resort with the very latest spa and wellness facilities and plenty of attractive places to stop off for lunch. In the afternoon, choose between cycling or walking in the surrounding area, visiting the German Wine Gate or venturing further afield to Alsat or the Vosges mountains in neighbouring France. Bring the day to a wonderful end with an overnight stay in the region.

Mediterranean climate, wine and kiwis

Looking for wine, sparkling sekt, secco or wine vinegar? Kiwis, lemons, figs or chestnuts? Then the lush and diverse Rheinhessen and Palatinate region with its Mediterranean climate and hospitable people is the place for you.

A suggested group trip:

- 3 nights’ accommodation with breakfast
- 1 x guided tour of Mainz
- 1 x wine-tasting with a guided vineyard walking tour
- 1 x guided tour of Bad Dürkheim
- 1 x guided tour of the ruins of Hardenburg Castle OR the ruins of Limburg Monastery
- 1 x visit/guided tour of Deidesheim Wine Museum
- 1 x dinner at Deidesheimer Hof
- 1 x visit to Hambach Castle
- 1 x lunch in St. Martin
- 1 x visit to Villa Ludwigshöhe
- 1 x tour of the Doktorenhof Estate including vinegar-tasting
- 1 x visit to Trifels Castle
- 1 x visit to Landeck Castle
- 1 guided tour of Bad Bergzabern

Itineraries and prices on request.
Incoming Service

You are looking for an experienced and reliable partner in Rhineland-Palatinate with extensive knowledge of the region? The Rhineland-Palatinate tourist board offers a broad range of incoming services, enabling you to make your planning as convenient as possible. We have built up a solid network of local partners unique to this region and are happy to include you in this network. Our service incorporates group travel, special interest tours, hotel reservations, wine tastings, river cruises, seminars, excursions, events, guided tours, transfers, transportation, hospitality programmes, technical visits and much more.

DID YOU KNOW THAT?

1. In 2013, the interactive multimedia visitor experience 'Romanticus' opened in Koblenz. The 800m² exhibition tells the story of the romantic Middle Rhine Valley with all its facets and unique features.
2. Rhineland-Palatinate is home to several vineyards which have won architectural awards, where visitors can attend wine tastings in spectacular surroundings.
3. Rhineland-Palatinate is constantly developing new hiking trails, such as the long distance hiking trail Moselsteig. This opened in spring 2014. The region’s first-class wines can be enjoyed at one of the many local taverns along the way.
4. Some of our offers for biking tours have been divided into two different price categories, providing you with the opportunity of an even better target group customisation.

Event Highlights

**AHR VALLEY**

**Historical Wine Festival • Heimersheim**

19 - 21 August 2016

The Middle Ages come to life once a year in the wine village of Heimersheim. During the Historical Wine Festival, craft stalls, street performers and musicians in colourful costumes create a unique atmosphere, which culminates in a historical parade through the festively decorated streets.

**Ahrweiler Christmas Market • Ahrweiler**

Every weekend in Advent

Visitors are enchanted by the Christmas market in Ahrweiler’s old quarter, which is often compared to a scene from a fairy tale. The town’s pretty timber-framed houses are beautifully illuminated, the stalls offer delicious Christmas fare and gifts, and the mulled wine is made with grapes from local vineyards. There is a midnight Christmas market on the third Advent weekend.

**EIFEL**

**Historical Castle Festival • Manderscheid**

27 - 28 August 2016

The Historical Castle Festival in Manderscheid is held against the impressive backdrop of two castle ruins. Every August visitors can travel back in time to the colourful Middle Ages, where knights on horseback test their skills with lance and bow in a tournament, while street performers and storytellers entertain their audiences with songs and fairytales. There is also a lively medieval crafts market.

**HUNSRÜCK**

**Hunsrück marathon • Emmelshausen, Kastellaun, Simmern**

26 - 28 August 2016, (always at the end of August)

The 16th RWIE Hunsrück marathon on the Schindenahmes Cycle Route from Emmelshausen to Simmern via Kastellaun.

**LAHN VALLEY**

**Flower parade • Bad Ems**

28 August 2016 (held annually)

Every year around 800 helpers decorate the 35 floats in this parade using one million dahlias. Brass bands and other entertainment accompany the procession as it winds its way through the streets.

**Wetzlar Festival • Wetzlar**

Annually, June - July 2016

Open-air performances on three stages with a varied programme featuring opera, concerts, plays, children’s theatre, comedy and musicals.

**MOSELLE-SAAR**

**Moselle Music Festival • Moselle**

Annually, July - October

The annual Moselle Music Festival takes place in the towns and villages along the Moselle. The 2016 festival will be the 31th such event. The festival presents a varied selection of classical concerts of international standard as well as a variety of wine-related events.

**Middle Moselle Wine Festival • Bernkastel-Kues**

01 - 05 September 2016

The attractions at the largest wine festival in the Moselle region include a spectacular firework display, a vintners’ parade, a large fairground and lots of exciting wine stalls in the streets and squares of the old quarter.

**CHRISTMAS MARKETS**

**Christmas Market • Trier**

21 November - 22 December 2016

The mighty cathedral and the market square, with its lovingly restored houses, present an impressive backdrop for Trier Christmas market, which features around 100 stalls selling Christmas ornaments, wooden toys and other crafts. The aroma of Glühwein and roasted almonds fills the air and the young and old look forward to meeting St. Nicholas and watching the puppet show.

For information concerning other enchanting Christmas markets in Rhineland-Palatinate, visit: www.romantic-germany.info/christmas-markets

**NAHLEN**

**Wine and Walking Festival • Bad Sobernheim**

17 September 2016

The Wine and Walking Festival (Weinwanderwegfest) in the Naheland wine region is traditionally held on the third Saturday of September. Along the festival route, you can sample the fine local wines. Growers will tell you all about their wines and the Nahe area. A walk through the vineyards offers panoramic views across the Nahe Valley.

**Romantic Christmas Market • Bad Münster am Stein-Ebernburg**

Every weekend in Advent

As darkness falls, a veritable sea of lights greets visitors to the Christmas market in the spa gardens of Bad Münster am Stein-Ebernburg. Ancient trees, lovingly decorated stalls and the pretty, half-timbered Kurhaus are spendent in the glow of thousands of lights.
Where hiking and cycling are a true joy

Hiking

Rhine in Flames • Koblenz
6 August 2016, 12 August 2017
www.rhin-in-flammen.com (held annually)
Every year, Rhine in Flames captivates hundreds of thousands of visitors who gather along the banks of the Rhine to enjoy the celebrations. It is an unforgettable experience when the towns, villages, castles and palaces of the UNESCO World Heritage Middle Rhine Valley are bathed in the magical glow of red Bengal lights.

Wurstmarkt - the World’s largest Wine Festival • Bad Dürkheim
2nd and 3rd weekend in September (held annually)
The Wurstmarkt in Bad Dürkheim is the world’s biggest wine festival. It owes its atmosphere both to the exciting funfair rides and the unique Palatinate welcome. Excellent wines, including local Sekt (sparkling white wine), flow freely at the festival.

German Grape Harvest Festival • Neustadt an der Weinstraße
30 September - 10 October 2016
The German Grape Harvest Festival (Deutsches Weinlesefest) in Neustadt an der Weinstraße lasts for nearly two weeks. Highlights include the Palatinate and German wine queens and Germany’s largest vintners procession. The German Wine and Sekt Fair allows visitors to compare products from all German wine regions.

Cycling

Rhineland-Palatinate is an excellent cycling region with a wide variety of well-marked routes. Leisurely bike paths stretch out for miles along the riverbanks and along old railway tracks. The bike paths following the courses of rivers such as the Rhine or Moselle offer not only beautiful panoramas but are also almost all climb-free. Steeper climbs await in the more mountainous areas of the Eifel and Palatinate regions and in the rolling hills of Rheinhessen, promising a challenge for even the fittest cyclists. Those looking for a more leisurely ride might consider doing these routes on a pedelec or electric bike. An extensive network of bike hire centres and charging stations can be found in these regions. Whilst the electric drive system of the e-bike allows you to ride without any pedaling at all, the pedelec has a motor to provide extra power – so some pedaling is still required! As you pedal along through forests, meadows and delightful little towns, look out for the castles and historical houses. Dotted along the various routes are cyclist-friendly accommodation providers whose quality and affordable prices help you to get the most out of your tour. Read more about our cycling holidays at www.romantic-germany.info/cycling.

Event Highlights

RHEINHESSEN
Mainz Midsummer’s Eve Fair • Mainz
23 - 26 June 2017
A four-day festival in Mainz city centre with culture, culinary delights and celebrations in honour of the city’s most famous son, Johannes Gutenberg.

ROMANTIC RHINE
Middle Rhine Music Festival
29 April - 11 September 2016
Every year, the prettiest towns and villages along the Middle Rhine set the scene for some unforgettable musical performances. Visitors can look forward to fantastic concerts featuring highly acclaimed artists and up-and-coming talents.

WESTERWALD
European ceramics market • Höhn-Grenzhausen
10 - 11 June 2016
The market attracts around 150 exhibitors from all over Europe who display everyday and ornamental ceramics, genuine salt-glazed stoneware, unusual clay pipes, ceramic jewellery and countless other ceramic creations.

Where walking leads to good wine, good food and good company

Whether it’s a pleasant, leisurely tour on climb-free trails or physically demanding scrambles up narrow, winding paths, Rhineland-Palatinate has all the right ingredients for a great walking holiday. On twelve outstanding and richly varied longdistance trails, you can see castles, fortresses and palaces, make new friends in traditional taverns, sample famous wines and enjoy mouth-watering cuisine. Along the way, of course, there is a whole world of countryside and unspoilt nature where you can relax and switch off. For a good night’s rest after a full day’s walking, choose from a wide selection of walker-friendly hotels, which are easily reached on foot, by bus, by train or hotel transfer. Read more about our walking holidays at www.romantic-germany.info/hiking.

Cycling fun for everyone

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Hiking at its best

The idyllic region of Rhineland-Palatinate is a hiker’s dream comes true. We have put together a collection of hiking packages including trips along the famous Rheinsteig and Saar-Hunsrück-Steig trails, through the Eifel, Westerwald and Palatinate regions, and along the Lahn River.

1 AhrSteig trails
As you travel through the wild, romantic Ahr Valley, why not call in at one of the many vineyards or wine taverns? The red wine town of Ahnweiler with its romantic old town is also well worth a visit.
Offer: The tour includes six stages through the varied landscape of the Ahr Valley on the red and blue AhrSteig trails and 7 nights’ accommodation. Prices per person in a double room start from: € 460,00

2 Eifelsteig trail TOP TRAIL OF GERMANY
Under the slogan „Just you, the water and the rocks“, this tour takes you on a journey to the treasures of the Eifel region: volcanic craters, maars, tranquil valleys, rock formations, rivers and lakes.
Offer: The tour includes six overnight stays and the option to choose between three beautiful routes, each with five stages. Prices per person in a double room start from: € 378,00

3 Lahn hiking trail
Follow the Lahn River and enjoy dreamlike panoramas, small towns crowned by castles, wine tastings in the surrounding region and the thrill of hiking through the Rappbodellkamm gorge.
Offer: This hiking trail leads from Ditz to Lahneck, where the Lahn and Rhine rivers converge, and includes five overnight stays and four stages. Prices per person in a double room start from: € 397,00

4 NEW: Moselsteig trail LEADING QUALITY TRAIL - BEST OF EUROPE
The Moselsteig is a long-distance hiking route that follows the course of the German Moselle river and allows hikers to experience the variety of the Moselle wine-growing region.
Offer: The tour consists of seven stages and six overnight stays and can be booked for different sections of the River Moselle. Price per person in a double room from € 426,00

5 Premium hiking trails in the Palatinate region
Discover the three premium hiking trails leading through the Palatinate Forest, along the German Wine Route and around the Donnersberg Mountain, all of which pass by picturesque villages, spectacular rock formations, romantic castles and vineyards.
Offer: Different packages, from six overnight stays and four stages to eight overnight stays and seven stages, offer the perfect hiking experience for every taste. Prices per person in a double room from: € 299,00

6 RheinBergenWeg trail & Rheinsteig trail TOP TRAIL OF GERMANY
Pass by rugged cliffs in the central Rhine Valley, as well as UNESCO World Heritage sites and winding vineyards in the Rheingau region.
Offer: One of the most scenic parts of the trail leads from Koblenz to Bingen and can be walked in seven stages with eight overnight stays. Prices per person in a double room from: € 544,00

7 Saar-Hunsrück-Steig trail TOP TRAIL OF GERMANY
Experience a wonderful blend of nature and culture on the trail voted “Germany’s most beautiful” in 2009.
Offer: The tour includes eight overnight stays and seven stages leading, for example, from Idar-Oberstein, Germany’s gemstone capital, to the old Roman town of Trier. Prices per person in a double room from: € 540,00

8 Soonwaldsteig trail
Viewing towers such as those at Teufelsfels and the ruins of Koppenstein Castle give breathtaking panoramic views over the ridges of the Soonwald forest and a glimpse of the Upper Middle Rhine Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
Offer: Six stages through fairyland forests and scenic beauty. Prices per person in a double room start from: € 455,00

9 Westerwaldsteig trail TOP TRAIL OF GERMANY
A hike on the Westerwald-Steig will take you right through the low mountain ranges.
Offer: This hiking trail starts at Herborn and leads you to Hachenburg, in six stages with seven overnight stays. Prices per person in a double room start from: € 450,00

WHAT’S INCLUDED IN THE PRICE
• All rooms with shower/bath and WC
• Hotels and country hotels, sometimes inns or guesthouses
• Pick-up / transfer to start points (if no public transport available)
• Luggage transfer between hotels
• Tourist taxes
• Walking map
• Detailed description of tour
• Walking certificate
• Eifelsteig pin
• Travel costs for public transport not included

FEATURES OF THE TOUR
• 315 km, Kornelimünster to Trier
• 15 stages of between 15 km and 29 km
• Premium walking route

How to get here
By car or train to the first hotel on your tour.
Parking at hotels is sometimes free and sometimes a charge is applicable.
If travelling by train, take taxi from station to hotel.

Departure
Last night’s accommodation at finishing point of walking tour. Travelling by train: Travel home from station at end of tour. Travelling by car: Return to car at starting point.

Eifelsteig

The Eifelsteig is one of the Top Trails of Germany, offering an exclusive journey of discovery that takes in the treasures of the Eifel, with all its cultural heritage, serene valleys, bizarre rock formations, rivers and lakes. The 315 km route, which mostly consists of paths in their natural state, starts in the historical heart of Kornelimünster and follows the Moselle to the oldest city in Germany, the Roman imperial city of Trier.

Possible routes
A: Kloster Steinfeld – Daun (five stages, total distance approx. 110 km)
B: Daun – Trier (five stages, total distance approx. 100 km)

The length of the stages varies between 15 km and 29 km.

Tours start every Saturday/Sunday between mid-April and end of October. Start possible on other days by arrangement. Shorter distances and additional nights can also be booked.

Small surcharge of € 40,00, for just one or two participants.

Tour operator
Klein’s Wanderreisen

Prices: 8-day tour from € 378,00
Prices per person in double room with breakfast

Operators receive 15% commission on offer

Please note: Available all year upon request and subject to availability. Individual modules may vary according to the season. The tour operator’s terms and conditions apply. Prices valid for 2016. Prices for 2017 may vary.
Moselsteig

The Moselsteig is a long-distance hiking route that follows the course of the German Moselle river and allows hikers to experience the variety of the Moselle wine-growing region. Even the total length of the route makes hiking enthusiasts sit up and take notice: 365 kilometres of the very best hiking, split into 22 attractive stages. The starting point is in the Franco-German border town of Perl on the Upper Moselle, a landscape that cannot fail to enchant you with its space and openness, with views extending far into France and Luxembourg. Downstream, Trier, Germany’s oldest city, awaits you. The route continues along steeply sloping vineyards and through picturesque villages. Koblenz, the Deutsches Eck headland and the mouth of the Moselle finally mark the end of the Moselsteig Trail - or, of course, the starting point, depending on your individual plan.

Possible routes
A: Perl – Palzem – Nittel – Konz – Trier – Schweich (five stages, approx. 100 km)
C: Traben-Trarbach – Reil – Zell – Bern – Cochem (five stages, approx. 86 km)
D: Cochem – Pommern – Burg Eltz – Moselstein – Lothar – Koblenz-Gandorf Güls/Koblenz (five stages, approx. 80 km)

The length of the stages varies between 13 km and 24 km. All stages are available from March to November, starting every Sunday, Monday or Tuesday. Small transport surcharge of € 40.00 for just one or two participants.

Possible routes
A: Perl – Palzem – Nittel – Konz – Trier – Schweich (five stages, approx. 100 km)
C: Traben-Trarbach – Reil – Zell – Bern – Cochem (five stages, approx. 86 km)
D: Cochem – Pommern – Burg Eltz – Moselstein – Lothar – Koblenz-Gandorf Güls/Koblenz (five stages, approx. 80 km)

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Tour operator
Klein’s Wanderreisen

Rheinsteig

Narrow steep tracks, rugged rocks, rambling vineyards and shady valleys, combined with panoramic views of the Rhine Valley and across the slopes overlooking the Rhine - the Rheinsteig brings you close to nature. It offers the most beautiful gateway to the cultural wealth of the Rhine Valley. In the Upper Middle Rhine Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, there are over 40 castles, chapels, fortresses and convents.

Possible routes
A: Wiesbaden – St. Goarshausen (six stages, total distance approx. 110 km)
B: St. Goarshausen – Leutesdorf (six stages, total distance approx. 120 km)
C: Leutesdorf – Bonn (six stages, total distance approx. 100 km)
D: Koblenz – Rüdesheim or Rüdesheim – Koblenz (six stages, total distance approx. 120 km)

The length of the stages varies between 14 km and 22 km.

How to get here
Travel by car or train to the first hotel on the tour. Parking at hotels is sometimes free and sometimes a charge is applicable. (Details in travel documents.) If travelling by train, take taxi from station to hotel. Alternatively: Park your car at the last hotel on the tour and travel by train or Rhine ferry to the starting point.

Tour operator
Klein’s Wanderreisen

Prices: € 40.00 extra surcharge.

Operators receive a 15% commission.

Prices per person in double room with breakfast.

What’s Included in the Price

All rooms with shower/bath and WC
Hotels and country hotels, sometimes inns or guesthouses
Pick-up / transfer to start points (if no public transport available)
Luggage transfer between hotels
Tourist taxes
Walking certificate
Rheinsteig pin
Travel costs for public transport not included

Features of the Tour

Premium walking route
24 stages of between 12 km and 24 km
Premium walking route

Arrival (applies to all sections):
By car or train to the first hotel on your tour; parking is free at some hotels but charged at others! (Details in travel documents.) If travelling by train, take a taxi from the station to the hotel. Alternatively: travel by car to the last hotel on your tour and return by rail or Rhine ferry to your starting point.

Departure
Accommodation for the last night is at the finishing point of the walking tour. Travelling by train: Travel home from the railway station at the finishing point of your tour.

Travelling by car: Return to your starting point. You can also travel back to your car on a Moselle riverboat!

Operators receive a 15% commission.

Prices per person in double room with breakfast.

Prices:
7-day tour from € 426.00
8-day tour from € 497.00

Features of the Tour

Premium walking route
24 stages of between 12 km and 24 km
Premium walking route

Arrival (applies to all sections):
By car or train to the first hotel on your tour; parking is free at some hotels but charged at others! (Details in travel documents.) If travelling by train, take a taxi from the station to the hotel. Alternatively: Park your car at the last hotel on the tour and travel by train or Rhine ferry to the starting point.

Departure
Last night’s accommodation at finishing point of walking tour. Travelling by train: Travel home from station at end of tour. Travelling by car: Return to car at starting point. You can also return to your car by Rhine ferry.

Operators receive a 15% commission.

Prices per person in double room with breakfast.

Prices:
7-day tour from € 544.00
Great cycling

A variety of cycle route packages leading through beautiful scenery are available in Rhineland Palatinate, from the picturesque Rhine and Moselle rivers and vine-covered landscapes to the glorious hills of the Eifel and Hunsrück regions and the Westerwald Forest.

Relaxing tours along the Moselle & Saar – cycle routes for connoisseurs

Discover Roman cultural monuments and picturesque wine-producing villages along the winding banks of the Moselle between Trier and Koblenz.

Offer: 7 days and 6 nights in double room, from €434,00 per person

CHARACTER OF THE ROUTE
Level route along the banks of the Saar and Moselle, very easy cycling. Well signposted cycle network, mostly on both sides of the rivers.

WHAT’S INCLUDED
• Accommodation in selected hotels of the specified category
• Buffet breakfast or large continental breakfast
• Luggage transfer between hotels
• Carefully prepared route guides
• Detailed travel documents – route description, sights, restaurant recommendations
• 7-day service hotline

Tour operator:
bike-touring.de

PRICES:
Reduced prices
7 days/6 nights from €434,00
Prices per person in double room (extra nights can be booked in Trier and Koblenz)

Prices per person in double room
8 days/7 nights from €584,00
7 days/6 nights from €504,00

Tour operator:
bike-touring.de

Relaxing tours along the Moselle & Saar

Relax, unwind and recharge your batteries on a cycle tour – and where better than in one of Germany’s most beautiful winegrowing areas, the Moselle?

Using the excellent network of cycle paths, you will explore the broad Moselle valley, the great loops of the river and the dizzying steep sections of the Middle and Upper Moselle. In the mild, Mediterranean climate, exceptional wines thrive on the sunny steep slopes. The Moselle winegrowing region also includes the Saar, home to scenic cycle routes between extensive forests and bizarre rock formations. In Saarburg you can visit the attractive old town and see the waterfall in the town centre. The tour starts from Trier and Koblenz. Here you can discover cultural treasures spanning two millennia, from Roman times, the Middle Ages and more recent history.

Individual tour:
8 days/7 nights – approx. 260 km
7 days/6 nights – approx. 220 km

Dates 2016:
Tours start daily between
23 April - 15 October 2016

Tour operator:
bike-touring.de
Rhine & German Wine Route – Circular tour between Rhine & Palatinate Forest

This circular tour takes you from the heart of the German Wine Route to its southern edge, near the border with Alsace in France.

In the Rhine plain you will explore a varied landscape of scenic forests and huge tobacco-growing regions along the romantic ‘Alteinarmen’, lakes marking the former course of the river. You will travel through the winegrowing regions of Rhine-Hesse and the Palatinate, where you can enjoy an excellent wine or two at the grower’s own table in one of the numerous wine taverns or ‘Strausswirtschaften’. En route, amidst a cultural landscape that is over 2,000 years old, you will encounter splendid monuments of German history, such as the imposing cathedrals in Speyer and Worms and Schweizinger Palace with its beautiful grounds.

Individual tour:
8 days/7 nights – approx. 260 km: Neustadt an der Weinstrasse/environ – Bad Bergzabern – Gernsheim – Speyer – Worms – Bad Dürkheim – Neustadt an der Weinstrasse/environ
6 days/5 nights – approx. 155 km: Neustadt an der Weinstrasse/environ – Bad Bergzabern – Gernsheim – Speyer – Neustadt an der Weinstrasse/environ

Dates 2016:
Tours start daily between 19 March - 31 October 2016
Tour operator: bike-touring.de

PRICES:
8 days/7 nights from € 578,00
6 days/5 nights from € 398,00
Prices per person in double room (extra nights can be booked in Neustadt an der Weinstrasse and Speyer)

WHAT’S INCLUDED
• Overnight stay in selected 3-star hotels or hotels of a 3-star standard
• Breakfast buffet or extended breakfast
• Baggage transfer from hotel to hotel
• Perfectly prepared route planning
• GPS tracks on request
• Detailed travel documents – route description, sights, restaurant recommendations
• 7-day service hotline

CHARACTER OF THE ROUTE
Level route along the Rhine Valley. Slightly hilly terrain in the vineyards around Neustadt/Weinstrasse, but manageable even for inexperienced cyclists.

Parking in Neustadt/environ
Hotel car park, reservations may be required, free or approx. € 3,00 – 7,00 per day depending on hotel of arrival

Rail stations + airports
• ICE stations in Neustadt an der Weinstrasse and Mannheim
• Fraport Frankfurt, Frankfurt Hahn, Baden Airport

Bookable extras
• GPS tracks / routes
• Garmin Etrex GPS unit

WHAT’S INCLUDED
• Overnight stay in selected 3-star hotels or hotels of a 3-star standard
• Breakfast buffet or extended breakfast
• Baggage transfer from hotel to hotel
• Perfectly prepared route planning
• GPS tracks on request
• Detailed travel documents – route description, sights, restaurant recommendations
• 7-day service hotline

CHARACTER OF THE ROUTE
Level route along the Rhine Valley. End-to-end cycle network with suitable signposting on surfaced paths, away from traffic except in towns.

Parking in Speyer
Free hotel car park

Arriving/departing by train
ICE rail station in Mannheim, trains to Speyer, taxi fare from Speyer station to hotel approx. € 10 ICE rail station in Koblenz, taxi fare from hotel to station approx. € 10

Arriving/departing by air
For Speyer & Koblenz - Fraport Frankfurt, Frankfurt Hahn

Return transfer from Koblenz - Speyer
By rail from Koblenz - Speyer, departures every 30 mins, approx. journey time 2.5 hrs, approx. € 35,00 – 50,00/per person with bicycle

Dates 2016:
Tours start daily between 19 March - 31 October 2016
Tour operator: bike-touring.de

PRICES:
8 days/7 nights from € 648,00
Prices per person in double room (extra nights can be booked in Speyer, Mainz and Koblenz)
Wine, culture and culinary pleasures

What can be sweeter than a bouquet caressing the glass as its being poured? The best bouquet in Germany is a product of premium grapes cultivated in the Rhine and Moselle regions, where about 70% of German wines are produced. The flavours and the spirit of good taste are also reflected in the countless delicious specialties served according to traditional recipes as well as modern kitchen art. Try the wine and the complementary food directly from the vintners table. The wine traditions go back to Roman times and secure the quality that can only be achieved through experience. Wine festivals, wine fairs and, of course, the wine tasting itself, are all events not to be missed. Four festivals, wine fairs and, of course, the wine tasting itself, are all events not to be missed. Four wine areas derive their names from local rivers: the Ahr region, the Moselle-Saar region, the Rhine and the Moselle regions. The dramatic castles follow one after another high above the river. Wineries are the best places to enjoy the light, fruity and delicate wines grown in the excellent Rhineland-Palatinate soil. Read more about our wine holidays at www.romantic-germany.info/wine.

PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- 3 overnight stays with breakfast in a wine-themed double room
- Tasting of three Burgunder (pinot noir) grapes: Frühburgunder (pinot noir madeleine), Spätburgunder (pinot noir) and Grauburgunder (pinot gris)
- Winemaker’s snack
- Packed lunch and Red Wine Trail walking map
- Transfer to and from the Hohenzollern restaurant
- One romantic three-course evening meal
- Admission to the Ahr sauna

LEADING GRAPE VARIETIES OF RHINELAND-PALATINATE:

- Ahr: Pinot noir, Portugieser, Pinot Noir Frühburgunder, Pinot gris, Pinot blanc
- Moselle-Saar: Riesling, Elbling, Müller-Thurgau, Pinot noir
- Rheinhessen: Silvaner, Riesling, Pinot gris, Pinot noir, Gewürztraminer, Dornfelder
- Nahe: Pinot gris, Pinot blanc, Pinot noir, Riesling, Müller-Thurgau
- Palatinate: Riesling, Müller-Thurgau, Pinot gris, Pinot blanc, Pinot noir, Domänen, Portugieser, Burgunder, Gewürztraminer, Riesling, Elbling

Not to be missed:

- Former government bunker, Ahrweiler
- Roman villa, Ahrweiler
- Olbrück Castle, Niederdürenbach
- Maria Laach Abbey, Maria Laach
- Arb Museum, Remagen
- RosenMond garden festival, Bad Neuenahr
- Tete-a-tete with the Ahr pinot noir - Explore the idyllic ‘valley of red grapes’

At the foot of myth-enshrouded Landskron Castle, the gateway to the red wine paradise of the Ahr Valley, lies the elegant Burggarten wine estate. Discover the diverse appeal of the Ahr valley, from the sophisticated spa town of Bad Neuenahr to the half-timbered buildings in Ahnweiler, Germany’s red wine capital. A stroll along the famous Red Wine Trail is a particularly good way to enjoy the countryside that is dotted with steep vineyards, volcanic rock and traditional wine taverns.

Red wine romance at the 4-star Weinquartier Burggarten hotel

The wine estate run by the Schäfer family for four generations and the newly built vineyard hotel elegantly combine cutting-edge design with the traditional atmosphere of a winery. Here, deluxe accommodation is complemented by an informal ambience. The themed guest rooms are named after grape varieties, such as pinot noir, domina and pinot blanc.

Experience the fascination of wine

Get better acquainted with the Ahr pinot noir during a wine tasting at the winery or a romantic dinner amid the vines. Immerse yourself in the fascinating world of wine at the Burggarten wine estate.

WineLand special

Dine in the elegant ambience of the Hohenzollern Restaurant, surrounded by vineyards with views of the red wine town lit up at night. Let us spoil you with a romantic three-course meal and your own personal shuttle service.

Tour operator

Ahrtal-Tourismus Bad Neuenahr-Ahnweiler e.V.

PRICES:

€235,00

Price per person for two nights in a double room.
Full of flavour and a delight for the eyes: The Palatinate

The biggest wine barrel in the world, the largest wine festival in the world, the famous German Wine Route... there are so many good reasons to visit the Palatinate.

A wine area of outstanding quality

More and more people are discovering the Palatine region. This is not surprising, because its mild climate and its attractive scenery make this region an excellent destination for a relaxing holiday. And the outstanding wine from this region is becoming ever more popular as well.

Your Wine Empire delight

Discover the enchanting scenery of the Palatine region. Enjoy the southern European atmosphere that you can taste everywhere in our region. Wake up in the morning in a small wine village, enjoy an extensive breakfast and dream about what to do with the rest of the day. At least two gourmet highlights are on the programme and of course you will also taste some wine. And in between you will have the chance to enjoy the beautiful scenery and sweet treats on offer.

Tour operator:
Pfalz Touristik e.V.

PACKAGE INCLUDES

• 2 overnight stays with breakfast
• 3-course meal in the hotel
• 3-course meal in Reuter’s Holzappel restaurant in Pleisweiler-Oberhofen
• Wine tasting of 6 wines in Vinothek Meßmer in Burrweiler
• Tasting filled chocolates in Rebmann’s patisserie
• Detailed information

Not to be missed

• Palatia Jazz Festival
• Hambach Castle, Neustadt/Weinstraße
• Villa Ludwigshöhe, Edenkoben
• Speyer Cathedral (World heritage site), Speyer
• Historical Museum of the Palatinate, Speyer
• Pilgrimage routes for a slower pace of life

Not to be missed

• Palatia Jazz Festival
• Hambach Castle, Neustadt/Weinstraße
• Villa Ludwigshöhe, Edenkoben
• Speyer Cathedral (World heritage site), Speyer
• Historical Museum of the Palatinate, Speyer
• Pilgrimage routes for a slower pace of life

PRICES

from € 209,00

Price per person for two nights in a double room.

“Heart-and-soul Moselle” - Moselle holiday with an epiphany

“I-heart-and-soul Moselle” - this is what Moselle hosts of quality represent. Who hasn’t wanted to experience life at a winery just once, and get to know more about the origin of world-renowned wines? Come closer to finding out the secret of wine when you sample the current vintage wines and take part in a guided tour of the wine cellars. With the three-course meals, our hosts will convince you that “food is the way to someone’s heart” all along the Moselle River. Take a look in and let our certified Moselle hosts spoil you.

Dates 2016

· Bookable from mid-April until the end of October and on request
· Day of arrival: Monday (Saar-Upper Moselle region)
· Day of departure: Friday (Lower Moselle region)
· IMPORTANT: Arrival and onward journey in the region in own car essential.

Tour operator:
Mosellandtouristik GmbH

PACKAGE INCLUDES

• 4 overnight stays including breakfast in wineries under the MOSEL umbrella brand in rooms with a shower and a toilet (1 overnight stay including breakfast in each of four different wine companies on the Saar-Upper Moselle, Roman Wine Route, Central Moselle, holiday region of Cochem or Lower Moselle).
• Welcome drink typical for wine in all the accommodations
• A walk through each wine company including tour of the wine cellars and sampling current vintage wine.
• Two 3-course meals in MOSEL umbrella brand restaurants.
• 1 boat excursion from Bernkastel-Kues
• Information folder with many useful hints for your Moselle holiday

Not to be missed:

• Hikes on the Moselsteig trail
• Tours along the Moselle cycle route
• Adventure tours through Roman Trier (UNESCO World Heritage site)
• Bernkastel-Kues wine-growing town with a middle-aged town centre
• Cochem with its middle age market place and castle
• Fairy tale Eltz Castle
• Bremmer Calmont, the steepest grapevine trail in Europe
• Romantic Moselle town of Beilstein

PRICES

from € 345,00

Price per person for two nights in a double room.
The following pages list offers and packages from our incoming partners, which you can use as components to make up your own packages. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us via the various contact methods listed on page 35 should you have specific questions about individual partners. We would also be happy to put you in touch with the relevant businesses and establishments.

**Selected offers from our incoming partners**

**HOTEL DEUTSCHHERRENHOF ***

**WELCOME TO YOUR VACATION**

Welcome to the historic Hotel Deutschherrenhof, directly on the banks of the River Moselle. Where the Order of the Teutonic Knights once met, we now combine modern hospitality with a family-oriented atmosphere, offering 50 individually appointed rooms in our main building and guest annex.

**DISCOVER the Moselle region**

We provide the ideal starting point for all your exploratory tours: Europe’s loveliest hiking and cycling routes and a ferry landing stage lie directly on our doorstep! A wealth of different places of interest are also only a stone’s throw away. If you would be interested, we would also be happy to take you out on a thrilling hike through the vine estate or tempt you to a wine-tasting in our historic vaulted wine cellar.

**REST AND RECOVER**

Let your cares drift away in our new spa and wellness zone, overlooking the magical river landscape... whether you choose the Finnish sauna with river view, herbal biosauna, slate-clad steam bath, aroma bath or a beneficial massage.

Our restaurant team are on hand to spoil you with regional dishes by the open fireplace in the Rittersaal (Knickt) or in one of our many other rustically furnished rooms.

You’ll finally relax into holiday mood with a chilled glass of Riesling sitting overhanging the Moselle and its vineyards. We look forward to your visit!

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**BÜRGSCHATZ-HELVETIUM - QUALITY & AMBIENCE**

The 4-star hotel takes its name from Kastellaun, the ancient fortified town in the Hunsrück mountains. With a lovingly restored town environment, proximity to nature and plenty of leisure and shopping opportunities, it offers the perfect setting for a relaxing stay. The owner-managed hotel is perfect for a longer holiday, a short break or a seminar at the BurgStadt Business Center. The hotel has 59 rooms with international satellite TV and free Internet, minibars, safes and many other facilities. The 24 Comfort single rooms also have 2.1 m/7ft Futonex beds, French balconies, 32” LCD screens and air conditioning. In our restaurant our team serves up freshly prepared regional specialities and delicious creations. In the SKY bar and the new Red Baron lounge in the basement, you can watch live German and European football. NEW since 2014! ITAKEOFF – a visitor experience dedicated to flying with two professional flight simulators and passenger cabin for 24 passengers. Prepare to be surprised! Or if you’re looking for peace and relaxation and travelling by caravan or camper van, look no further than the BurgStadt CampingPark above the hotel with its quiet, well-maintained surroundings.

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**HOTEL SCHLOSS ENGERS ****

**CULTURE AND FINE FOOD AT SCHLOSS ENGERS ON THE RHINE**

The chateau on the banks of the Rhine was originally built as a hunting lodge by Johann Philipp von Walderdorff, the Archbishop-Elector of Trier. The best artists of the Rococo period created an architectural jewel with magnificent state rooms in a beautiful setting. Today the castle hosts concerts and cultural events and is home to a hotel and restaurant, conference centre, museum and much more. The hotel consists of three buildings with a total of 50 rooms (4 single and 46 double). Schloss Engers (17 rooms), Gladhaus Schloss Engers (18 rooms) and the 4-door Residenz Schloss Engers (15 rooms) with a small sauna facility which is open to all guests. All three buildings are situated just a few minutes’ walk apart. The extensive breakfast buffet is served in the historic vault restaurant in the castle, and in fine weather you can also eat outside on the Rhine Terrace. With a dedicated and experienced team, sophisticated dining, live music and creative decorations, any celebration is an unforgettable experience. The Rhine Terrace is the perfect place for a champagne reception or coffee and cakes, while the magnificent Garden Room makes an exquisite wedding venue.

The historic restaurant can also be booked for private functions. Schloss Engers offers five conference rooms for between 2 and 80 guests. The hotel complex allows meetings and social events to be combined so that guests do not have to travel far in the evenings. Our evening programme ranges from dinner in the restaurant and wine tastings in the castle’s historic vault restaurant to exclusive set menu evenings with theatre. And if you’re looking for active or sporty team activities, we are well-connected with local providers.

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**THE COMFORT HOTEL IN HUNSŘÜCK - QUALITY & AMBIENCE**

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WEINHOTEL DES RIESLING ZUM GRÜNEN KRANZ ****

IN THE HEART OF RÜDESHEIM’S OLD QUARTER

Zum Grünen Kranz, a hotel in the Rheingau specializing in active holidays, is the perfect destination for lovers of the great outdoors. As well as hiring out its own bicycles, the hotel manages a family-owned premium vineyard and a wine shop, which can organise various tours and wine-related activities for guests. A hotel for walkers and a certified stopping point on the Rhinesteig trail, the hotel provides superb catering, from a healthy-start breakfast buffet, and packed lunches to nutrition-packed gourmet dishes and fine wines in its restaurant and vine garden. With years of experience in the field of leisure, particularly cycling and walking tours, the hotel team provides guests with plenty of support and advice.

www.gruenerkranz.com

Eating and Entertainment

The wine kitchen serves fresh, regional and seasonal dishes, prepared according to traditional recipes and made from locally-sourced produce. The À la carte menu boasts a wide range of regional specialties, which are perfectly complemented by a selection of local and premium wines from the Upper Middle Rhine Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Distance to the cycle paths

- 0,1 km Radwanderweg Hessen
- 1,2 km Naherholungsgebiet - Bad Kreuznach - Klar-Oberstein

Fernwehreisen

- 0,5 km Europäischer Fernradweg - Mainz - Koblenz
- 0,1 km Radwanderweg Hessen

www.bad-ems.info

KAISERBAD BAD EMS

Bad Ems - the Emperor’s Spa

The imperial spa town of Bad Ems has one of the richest spa traditions in Europe. It is situated in one of Germany’s most attractive holiday regions. In the 19th century the cosmopolitan spa welcomed emperors, tsars, kings, artists and scholars. The list of eminent guests included Kaiser Wilhelm I, Tsar Alexander II, Fyodor Dostoyevsky, Richard Wagner, Jacques Offenbach, Victor Hugo and Goethe. Today, Bad Ems continues to make from locally-sourced produce. The À la carte menu boasts a wide range of regional specialties, which are perfectly complemented by a selection of local and premium wines from the Upper Middle Rhine Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

www.bad-ems.info

WEINENDE

FIND YOUR IDEAL WINE EXPERIENCE

Bad Ems is also famous for Germany’s biggest flower parade, held in late August, which attracts tens of thousands of visitors every year. Bad Ems is also famous for Germany’s biggest flower parade, held in late August, which attracts tens of thousands of visitors every year. Bad Ems is also famous for Germany’s biggest flower parade, held in late August, which attracts tens of thousands of visitors every year. Bad Ems is also famous for Germany’s biggest flower parade, held in late August, which attracts tens of thousands of visitors every year.

www.kaiserbademsgroup.com

Kaiserbad Group

GET MORE AT THE MOSELLE

FERIENLAND BERNKASTEL-KUES

The tour Bernkastel-Kues tourist regions offer everything that a holiday on the Moselle promises: Charming Moselle villages, the town of Bernkastel-Kues, a former county and the lovely Moselle-Hunsrück region. Half-timber houses of the Middle Ages characterize the historic old part of the town around the Bernkastel-Kues market place. Excellent cycling holidays have made Moselle wine famous all over the world. The best cycling holidays in the world thrice in the mild climate on the steep slopes. Wine connoisseurs will also enjoy themselves when they visit one of the winemakers’ Sträucherwein wine taverns. A stroll by the vine and vineyard walks will be a highlight of your Moselle holiday.

www.bernkastel.de

DIE WEINSTadt BINGEN

The ancient winegrowing town of Bingen am Rhein lies in the midst of vineyards and forests at the edge of the UNESCO World Heritage Site of the Upper Middle Rhine Valley, the jewel of the romantic Rhine. It is also uniquely situated at the meeting point of the four winegrowing areas of Rüdesheim, Nauheim, Mittelrhein and Rheingau.

www.bingen.de

Prices on request

www.romantic-germany.info
HOLIDAY REGION OF COCHEM/MOSELLE

For active holidays - Anything but ordinary! With its imposing castles, beautiful vineyards and picturesque villages, the area around Cochem at the Mosel has a fairy-tale quality. It’s a paradise for holidaymakers who like walking, good wine, and a wealth of culture. The holiday region of Cochem extends from Bremm at Caltmont, Europe’s steepest vineyard, to Moselkern - close to Eltz Castle.

The epitome of the romantic Mosel is Cochem, a small town with barely 5000 inhabitants, which is first recorded in 886 as ‘Villa Cochem’. If you stroll through the historic old town and climb the steep path to the Reichsburg, you’ll be rewarded with panoramic views of the Moselle Valley. You can then go on an unforgettable journey through time with a guided tour of the castle (March to November) followed by a medieval banquet in the historic cellar. Enchanting views can also be enjoyed from the Apollodrinweg trail in Valwig (approx. 2 1/2 hours), which takes its names from the many Apollo butterflies. Another jewel is the attractive Bedebien, used as a location for many German Films (such as Der Schleier der Dahurier starring Curt Jurgens). Known as the ‘Sleeping Beauty’ of the Moselle, with its marked square, the Klosterkirche and Mittelbrück Bridge, it makes the perfect fairy-tale ending to a holiday.

Distance from cycle routes: 0,05 km Mosel-Radweg
Distance from walking routes: 0,1 km Moselstieg
0,1 km Mosel-Hüttenweg
0,1 km Mosel-Erlebnis Route

More information about holidays in the Cochem/Moselle region is available from the tourist information office or on www.ferienland-cochem.de; www.cochem.de. Visit us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/ferienlandcochem

www.ferienland-cochem.de
Endertplatz 1
56812 Cochem/Moselle
Tel.: +49 (0) 2671/60 04-0
Fax: +49 (0) 2671/60 04-44
E-mail: info@ferienland-cochem.de

www.ferienland-cochem.de

PRECIOUS STONES AND GLITTERING TREASURES

One man, one year, one metre. That’s how long it took one prospector to dig one metre into the hillside to uncover sparkling gems from the hard mother rock. At the gem mines in Steinhaufenberg, agates, amethysts, rock crystals, jasper and smoky quartz have been mined for over 500 years. At the second point on your tour, you will visit the Historische Gewerbestraße, the last surviving agate grinding waterwheel, which dates from the 17th century. Watch the gem grinders at work and see how a red rock is transformed into a sparkling jewel. Then we continue on to the Idar district, where you can see some of the most beautiful heauxons and costliest jewels ever made at the unique German Gemstone Museum. Then we continue to the old town of Oberstein. Two imposing structures, Schloss Oberstein and Burg Bosselstein, tower high above the town like two sisters. They were home to brothers Emich and Wyrich, who were both so in love with the same woman that Wyrich pushed Emich out of a castle window to his death on the rocks below. At the place where he died, Wyrich built the Feierleitehre or chapel in the rocks’ as a sign of his remorse. This unique building is still the town’s emblem. After descending the many steps into town, we will visit the German Mineral Museum.

Tourist-Information der Stadt Idar-Oberstein
Hauptstraße 419
56743 Idar-Oberstein/Höhland
Tel.: +49 (0) 6971/64-871
Fax: +49 (0) 6971/64-878
E-mail: toursinfo@idar-oberstein.de

www.idar-oberstein.de

MOSEL-TREFFPUNKT TRABEN-TRARBACH

Nestled in a unique landscape of river and vineyards, the twin towns of Traben and Trarbach are situated on the left and right banks of the Middle Moselle with a unique three-mile riverside promenade. The forest and vineyards gather round the two halves of the town like a vine-covered amphitheatre.

Associated with winegrowing and the wine trade since time immemorial, in the 15th and 20th centuries Traben-Trarbach was the world’s most important wine-trading town after Bordeaux. Its importance is shown by the magnificent art nouveau buildings in the town. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, cosmopolitan wine merchants built a wealth of structures in the art nouveau and Belle Epoque style. The town is also home to historic landmarks such as the Bridge Gates, the ruins of Grevenburg Castle and the once mighty fortress of Mont Royal. And for visitors hungry for more history and culture, Trarbach is home to the Museum of the Middle Moselle, the Haus der Biöum, the bicycle museum and the Buddha museum. Of course, no visit would be complete without the world-famous Moselle wines. There are wine tastings, wine festivals, vineyard tours, cellar tours all year round as well as the Moselle Wein-Nachts-Markt, a Christmas market with a distinctive wine flavour.

More information about holidays in the Traben-Trarbach area is available from the tourist information office or on www.traben-trarbach.de; www.idar-oberstein.de

www.traben-trarbach.de
Am Bahnhof 6
56841 Traben-Trarbach/Moselle
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Fax: +49 (0) 6541/83 98-39
E-mail: info@traben-trarbach.de

www.traben-trarbach.de

TOURIST-INFO IDAR-OBERSTEIN

www.idar-oberstein.de

www.ferienland-cochem.de

www.ferienland-cochem.de

Prices and packages on request

Prices and group rates available on request
TRIPS TO THE LORELEY

A cruise on one of these five, well-appointed pleasure boats is a special experience. The boats can carry more than 3,000 passengers per day and offer tours along the loveliest stretch of the river Rhine: the Middle Rhine Valley. Tours depart from Bingen and Rüdesheim and sail past Aschaffhausen, Bacharach, Kaub and the famous Loreley rock to the small, scenic towns of St. Goar and St. Goarshausen.

The fleet

The boats MFS Germania, MFS Valer Rhine, MFS Ehrenfels and MFS Bingen are a familiar sight on the Rhine. MFS Rhinus is a new addition to the fleet: a modern boat equipped with the latest technology and luxuriously fit out. The boats’ on-board restaurants offer a range of snacks and meals during all trips, as well as a wide variety of drinks, including regional wines.

Special offers

During the summer, children accompanied by their parents can travel for €5.00. Pensioners aged 80+ receive a 30% discount every day. School children and students can obtain a 50% discount upon presentation of valid school or university ID. In addition, passengers celebrating their birthdays receive a free ticket, valid on all the boats. Coach groups get a reduction of up to 30% on standard fares, as well as attractively priced meal deals on board. River tours through the Upper Middle Rhine Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, are offered three times a day and last for two hours, one way. A round trip takes four hours. Boarding points are at Bingen/Rüdesheim or St. Goar/St. Goarshausen. From April to October (summer timetable), the boats sail from Rüdesheim at 9.15am, 11 am and 2pm, and from St. Goar at 11am, 2pm and 4:10pm. From November to March, trips are available upon request.

Fare depends on route. Special net prices for tour operators.

KD GERMAN RHINE LINE

A FRESH WIND ON BOARD

KD’s wide range of excursion ideas on the Rhine, Main and Moselle „Cruise off!” KD’s latest programme readings like a guidebook of the best the Rhine, Main and Moselle have to offer: combining scenery, culture and high-quality events. KD’s range of excursions is all the inspiration you need for a short break. There’s something for everyone, from families to those who love culture, activity and festivals. The choice of routes and events is so varied as the landscapes and towns that the comfortable white ships of the fleet pass by. When it comes to leaving everyday life behind, KD have been the experts for over 190 years.

Cruises and culture

With KD you can combine a cruise with a cultural experience. It’s the only cruise operator to sail several times a day up and down the whole UNESCO World Heritage Site of the Middle Rhine. Whether you want to see the Loreley Rock, explore castles, try the KD nostalgic route with the Goethe, or take a trip to the Siebengebirge, the choice is wide and flexible.

For tour operators KD offers attractive special deals, free seats for guides, special package deals including a ship tour and group menu, and useful promotional material. To find out more, request a copy of the KD tour operator’s catalogue, which includes all offers and plenty of useful tips and information.

Visit us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/KDSchiffstouren

Price:
Special net rates for tour operators.

KD (Köln-Düsseldorfer Deutsche Rheinschiffahrt AG) is the market leader in river cruising on the Rhine and the most experienced river cruise company in the world, founded in 1826. Today, KD`s excursion fleet of 14 ships conquers the most beautiful destinations on the Rhine, Main and Moselle. The largest and most modern fleet on the Rhine, Main and Moselle.

Birkenhof-Brennerei GmbH

NEW TRADITIONS IN OLD BARRELS - TRADITION MEETS MODERNITY AT A REGIONAL DISTILLERY

Birkenhof-Brennerei is a traditional grain distillery that has been family-run since 1848. In 1999 it also began distilling fruit brandies. In addition to fruit, Birkenhof distils various German beers, herbs such as basil and sage, vegetables such as carrots and beetroot, various whisky distillates and even bread, but also classic fruit brandies such as Williams pear, plum, monsicherry and apple. Birkenhof brandies and liqueurs are always highly commended in national and international competitions, often finishing in the top places. The distillery’s proud collection includes the Bundeskronenpreis, presented by the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture, state awards from the Chamber of Agriculture, other awards and many gold medals.

Offer & activities

‘Distillery Discovery’ offer including an informative visit and a guided tour of the grain and fruit distilleries, where visitors can discover the differences between the two types of distillery. A guide will explain the wide range of equipment and techniques used. There will be an opportunity to taste Westerwald specialties, liqueurs and fine fruit brandies. At a gourmet evening, after a short informative tour and a “nosing” course, there will be an opportunity to sample some delicious food. Visitors can sample some of the finest fruit and grain distillates together with artisan cheeses, handmade chocolates, savoury hams and mouthwatering vol-au-vents. A first-class taste experience! In addition to the tours, packages can also be put together for small groups, for example the Distiller’s Olympiad, where the group is given challenges to complete (with a nosing course, sensory challenges, judging and measuring the grain, whisky tastings and much more). Small groups of 10 or more and larger groups of 80 or more can be catered for.

Price:
Gourmet evenings: € 35,00 (afternoons also possible)

Distillery Discovery: € 6,50
Generaldirektion Kulturelles Erbe Rheinland-Pfalz

MAINZ STATE MUSEUM – ONE OF THE OLDEST MUSEUMS IN GERMANY

VORZEITEN
Archaeological treasures in the Rhine and Moselle regions - Special exhibition: 21 May to 29 October 2017

70 years of state archaeology, 70 years of researching, securing and preserving.

A good reason to celebrate: In its Mainz State Museum, the Rhineland-Palatinate Cultural Heritage Directorate General (GDKE) will show the special exhibition titled VORZEITEN - archaeological treasures in the Rhine and Moselle region from May to October 2017. Spectacular finds and unique exhibits make this special exhibition something really special. The finds made by the state archaeologists cover the period from Earth’s geological beginnings up to the present. The journey through time begins more than 400 million years ago with unique fossils from a past ecological system. It continues with the exhibit of a Neanderthal skullcap and chronological bronze metal finds through to finds in the great Roman metropolises of Mainz and Trier. New exhibits originate from the time of Karl the Great and the Second World War. The focus of this exhibition is on human encounters, both cultural and military, and on migration. Along with the exhibition, an exhibition for children and a demonstration excavation have been organised in the inner courtyard of the State Museum.

Opening times: Tues.: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m., Wed.-Sun.: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Closed on Mondays. Please take note of the holiday schedule.

The museum is fully accessible.

Generaldirektion Kulturelles Erbe Rheinland-Pfalz
Landesmuseum Mainz
Große Bleiche 48 - 51
56116 Mainz
Tel.: +49 (0) 6131 / 58 57-210
e-mail: landesmuseum-mainz@gdke.rlp.de

Price: € 6,00
(for groups up to 10 persons € 4,50)

www.landesmuseum-mainz.de

RHINELAND STATE MUSEUM IN TRIER

NERO - EMPEROR, ARTIST AND TYRANT
Special exhibition 14 May - 16 October 2016

More than anything else, the last few years of Nero’s reign characterise the image we have today of the tyrant, persecutor of Christians and arsonist. This impression already originated in the writings of ancient world authors such as Tacitus and Sueton, aristocrats whom Nero confronted with ignorance. The exhibition shows his rise to become heir to the throne, his rule and its brutal end.

For a long time, Nero was very popular with the people. He only lost touch with reality as his reign progressed. His development from a young heir apparent full of hope to a hated tyrant is vividly illustrated in the exhibition. Nero’s rise to power, his rule and its brutal end are depicted through a wealth of unique exhibits. The exhibition also shows his rise to become heir to the throne, his rule and its brutal end.

Opening times: Tues. to Sun., 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Daily for registered groups (including Mondays), 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Every Monday there are guided tours for individual visitors in all three museums.

Tip: Nero ANCIENT WORLD BASIC TICKET

Price: € 12,00
(for groups up to 12 persons € 11,00)

www.landesmuseum-trier.de

TRIFELS CASTLE

RICHARD THE LIONHEART - PRISONER IN TRIFELS CASTLE
Special presentation April to November 2017 at Trifels Castle in Annweiler

When returning from the third crusade, Richard the Lionheart was captured by Leopold V. of Austria near Vienna and handed over to Emperor Heinrich VI, who took him to Trifels Castle, considered to be one of the safest Staufer places. Even the most important symbols of imperial power, the imperial regalia, were released in Trifels Castle. Richard’s captivity might have been ended and why Trifels was the place chosen as a prison.

Don’t miss out on the traditional castle festival to be held at Trifels Castle on 17 and 18 June 2017.

Opening times:
November - March: Sat., Sun. and public holidays: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
April - October: daily from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Price:
Combined ticket:
Adults (2 cable car trips and entrance to the Fortress and Landesmuseum) € 11,80
(for groups up to 10 persons € 11,00)

Generaldirektion Kulturelles Erbe Rheinland-Pfalz
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www.diefestungehrenbreitstein.de

www.d ieifieeastungenhrenbreitstein.de
www.sieibahn-koblenz.de

KOBLENZ STATE MUSEUM - EHRENBREITSTEIN FORTRESS

COWBOYS & INDIANS – MADE IN GERMANY
Special exhibition 9 April - 29 October 2017

An exhibition by the Baden State Museum in Karlsruhe in Koblenz State Museum

As of spring 2017 the motto in Koblenz State Museum will be: Watch out: Cowboys & Indians! Wild West at Ehrenbreitstein Stronghold. From 9 April 2017, Koblenz State Museum will be showing a major family exhibition on “Cowboys & Indians – Made in Germany”. The inside and outside of Koblenz State Museum will be converted to a never-before-seen Western town and avey village scenario until October 2017. The exhibition traces the standard idea of redskins and white men, targeting small and big Wild West enthusiasts.

The exhibition is an adventure for anyone who visits it thanks to its typical Wild West scenery. Visitors can expect many media stations, a cinema, a comprehensive support programme and an audio play created especially for children.

Opening times:
April - Oct.: daily from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Nov.-March: Sat., Sun. and public holidays 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Tickets for the Ehrenbreitstein Stronghold cultural ensemble including Koblenz State Museum (from 1 January 2017): € 7.00 (for groups up to 20 persons € 5,50)

www.burgen-rlp.de
UNESCO World Heritage treasures
Rhineland-Palatinate is a treasure chest filled with historical places and UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including Speyer Cathedral, a number of Roman monuments, most of them situated in Trier, the romantic Upper Middle Rhine Valley, with its unique concentration of castles and palaces, and, last but not least, parts of the Roman, Upper Germanic-Rhaetian borderline, known as Limes.

Historical fairytale castles, palaces and fortresses
Walls full of tales and an undeniably magical atmosphere work together to make a visit to one of the many castles and palaces of the region an exceptional experience. Some grand examples include the Trifels Castle, which was the former prison of King Richard the Lionheart, the Reichsburg Castle at Cochem and the Eltz Castle, which is hidden mysteriously in the forest. Also worth mentioning are the Manderscheider Castles and their dramatic past, the noble Ehrenbreitstein Fortress in Koblenz and the medieval Marksburg Castle, the only castle in the Middle Rhine that has never been destroyed.

Legendary Rhine & Moselle cruises
The renowned route from Koblenz to Bingen is one of the most beautiful parts of the Rhine River. Once experienced, such a tour, with the riverboat passing steep cliffs, vineyards, romantic castles and cozy villages, will never be forgotten. A truly magical cruise is the winter cruise, which takes visitors from one traditional Christmas market to the next. There are various starting points for the river cruises, mostly departing on a daily basis in the summer season.

Festivals, wine tastings and modern wine architecture
The exquisite wine traditions of Rhineland-Palatinate are well appreciated amongst wine lovers around the world. The traditional wine festivals in autumn are highlights not to be missed. Several wine tastings are offered by winemakers throughout the region, and visitors have the option to stay at the vineyard and work with the winemaker to learn more about wine production itself. The popular subject of wine architecture is well represented in the region with numerous award-winning venues, perfect for wine tastings in exceptional surroundings.

Action at the “Green Hell” Nürburgring
The extension of the spectacular racetrack Nürburgring, with its well-known “Nordschleife”, turned the venue into a year-round family attraction with features suitable for all generations. Apart from the popular Formula 1, Oldtimer races and other events, the fascination of motorsports can also be experienced in the interactive amusement park “ring°werk”. One can also enjoy the latest movies in the „ring“kind. Heart palpitation, action, highspeed entertainment and educational events – this is the new Nürburgring!

Dreamlike landscapes and almond tree blossoms
Rhineland-Palatinate contrasts with its beautiful nature. Full of contrasts, the region boasts both volcanic cones and crater lakes in the Eifel, which testify to once-conflagrant times, as well as a veritable Garden of Eden in the Palatinate, with almond trees of astounding beauty when they blossom during spring, as well as lemons and oleander, which all thrive due to the mild climate. Networks of long distance hiking trails and the so-called “Dream Routes” (nature-orientated circuit trips), as well as a number of well-marked biking trails make it possible to discover these manifold landscapes in an active way.

Traditional spas with regional grape seed specialities
Rhineland-Palatinate looks back on centuries of health and spa traditions thanks to the Romans, who made use of the curative forces of the local nature. The various health resorts, the beneficial mineral and thermal springs and the luxurious spas offer the perfect surroundings for a break from everyday life. Applications like a peeling mask with grape seeds, a massage with grape seed oil or the “Eifelkräuterfango”, only available in the Ahr Valley, are just a few examples of the beauty secrets of the region.
How to get here:
Fly to Frankfurt-Hahn, Frankfurt am Main, Cologne-Bonn, Zweibrücken or Saarbrücken. The area can be easily accessed by train via Luxembourg, Cologne and Frankfurt. By car, take the A1, A3 or A61 and you’ll soon be in Rhineland-Palatinate.

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