

# Cultural trips

on board the SWISS RUBY

Neckar · Saar · Elbe · Weser · Havel · Vltava · Oder

Come on board and discover new destinations on our unique routes and enjoy unforgettable moments!

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## See the world with different eyes ...

... we are sure you will see the world a little bit differently after a river cruise on the SWISS RUBY. With our exceptional cuisine, innovative itineraries, and diverse social program, specifically designed to complement the cultural richness of each location, your journey on our "culture ship" promises to be an enlightening experience full of exciting discoveries.

While cruising on the SWISS RUBY, you will have the opportunity to delve further into thrilling and unexpected experiences both on board and ashore. Our newest crime cruises, from Berlin to Bremen or from Bremen to Düsseldorf, are the perfect example. Each evening, you'll discover the world through the eyes of a serial killer, accompanied by Germany's most renowned profiler, Axel Petermann. You might even find yourself searching for clues during your next shore excursion - will you uncover the secrets of the Ripper of Magdeburg or the medieval murders in Braunschweig? We guarantee an exciting and suspenseful adventure both on land and on board.

Of course, we understand that not everyone wants thrills and chills all the time. That's why there are also plenty of peaceful and relaxing moments to be had on board the SWISS RUBY. Take in the stunning sight of the 500 listed buildings that make up the pictures-

Arno Reitsma Owner VIVA Cruises & Scylla Group

que city of Stralsund, which is a highlight on our new "Baltic Coastline meets Berlin" cruises. But if you are looking for more diverse destinations, we have got you covered as well. You can choose to explore Prague, Greifswald, Coblenz, or Meissen, all of which promise to be exciting and unforgettable experiences. So, join us in 2024 to discover all these magnificent destinations and more.

Our VIVA All-Inclusive package ensures that you can indulge in delicious culinary delights without worrying about additional costs. Our expert chefs craft exquisite menus that are paired perfectly with premium wines, giving your tastebuds a treat they won't forget. So, after a busy day exploring the sights between Spree and Vltava, Saar and Neckar, or Weser and Rhine, our ship's restaurant is the perfect place to unwind and reflect on your experiences. We can guarantee a relaxing and pleasurable experience on board the SWISS RUBY, where you can focus on enjoying all the breathtaking destinations we have lined up for you.

We are delighted to know you are holding our new "Cultural trips 2024" catalog in your hands – welcome to SWISS RUBY.

#### **ENJOY THE MOMENT!**

Andrea Kruse CEO VIVA Cruises

# Exclusively: inclusive.

Experience a world beyond the ordinary onboard where you can engage your senses through stimulating conversations with fellow travelers, exploring the excellent menu or indulging in your mini-bar.

We offer you VIVA All-Inclusive, which provides exclusive benefits without any additional costs. This ensures you can make the most of your river journey at the best value for your money!



Enjoy your river cruise experience to your preferences with VIVA All-Inclusive, which offers exclusive amenities included onboard.





Vegetarian and vegan cuisine

# **VIVA All-Inclusive**

Full-board dining is included with breakfast, lunch, and dinner featuring multi-course gourmet menus served right at your table.

Enjoy a complimentary selection of cold and hot non-alcoholic beverages, as well as a carefully curated selection of alcoholic drinks.

High Tea: Indulge in a range of sweet and savory treats such as scones, sandwiches, or macarons, complemented by an array of tea options, available once per voyage.



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Daily replenished minibar in your cabin and a reusable water bottle to use throughout your voyage



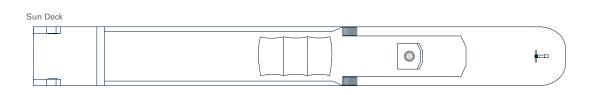
Wi-Fi and gratuities



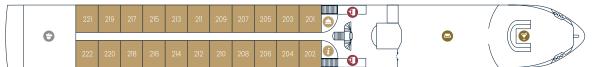
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Exclusivity without extra costs

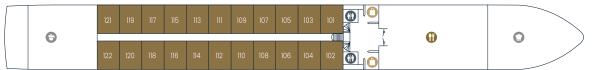




Diamond Deck No. 200



Emerald Deck No. 100





**Double Cabin** 







# Overview Cultural trips 2024

| Date             | Nights | Name                          | from        | to          | Code   | Page |
|------------------|--------|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------|------|
| 12.02 19.02.2024 | 7      | Crime Cruise to Bremen        | Berlin      | Bremen      | RUBY47 | 13   |
| 19.02 26.02.2024 | 7      | Crime Cruise to Düsseldorf    | Bremen      | Düsseldorf  | RUBY48 | 14   |
| 26.02 04.03.2024 | 7      | Crime Cruise to Berlin        | Düsseldorf  | Berlin      | RUBY49 | 14   |
| 08.03 15.03.2024 | 7      | Crime Cruise to Bremen        | Berlin      | Bremen      | RUBY47 | 13   |
| 15.03 22.03.2024 | 7      | Crime Cruise to Düsseldorf    | Bremen      | Düsseldorf  | RUBY48 | 14   |
| 22.03 29.03.2024 | 7      | Crime Cruise to Berlin        | Düsseldorf  | Berlin      | RUBY49 | 14   |
| 29.03 07.04.2024 | 9      | Elbe-Vltava Highlights        | Berlin      | Prague      | RUBY50 | 21   |
| 07.04 16.04.2024 | 9      | Vltava-Elbe-Spree Cruise      | Prague      | Berlin      | RUBY51 | 21   |
| 16.04 25.04.2024 | 9      | Elbe-Vltava Highlights        | Berlin      | Prague      | RUBY50 | 21   |
| 25.04 04.05.2024 | 9      | Vltava-Elbe-Spree Cruise      | Prague      | Berlin      | RUBY51 | 21   |
| 19.07 26.07.2024 | 7      | Magic Baltic Sea              | Berlin      | Stralsund   | RUBY52 | 23   |
| 26.07 02.08.2024 | 7      | Baltic Coastline meets Berlin | Stralsund   | Berlin      | RUBY53 | 23   |
| 02.08 09.08.2024 | 7      | Magic Baltic Sea              | Berlin      | Stralsund   | RUBY52 | 23   |
| 09.08 16.08.2024 | 7      | Baltic Coastline meets Berlin | Stralsund   | Berlin      | RUBY53 | 23   |
| 20.09 02.10.2024 | 12     | From the Weser to the Saar    | Bremen      | Saarbrücken | RUBY54 | 25   |
| 02.10 09.10.2024 | 7      | From the Saar to the Neckar   | Saarbrücken | Stuttgart   | RUBY55 | 25   |
| 09.10 16.10.2024 | 7      | Golden Season on Four Rivers  | Stuttgart   | Saarbrücken | RUBY56 | 26   |
|                  |        |                               |             |             |        |      |



## River Cruises with a combined discount.

Excitement and relaxation – you can enjoy both on SWISS RUBY. And if you combine individual routes with each other, for example from Berlin to Stralsund and also simultaneously book the return journey, you will also enjoy a **combination discount** of **5%**.





# Scene of the crime? On board and ashore. Our new Crime Cruises.

Duisburg-Ruhrort – that was the name of the first Schimanski crime scene ("Tatort") from 1981. And that's exactly where we'll be dropping anchor during one of our new crime cruises, visiting the original locations, where the "Schmuddel-Kommissar" made television history. Thus, we would also already be in the heart of our new Crime Cruise program. This year, you can expect plenty of suspense, both on board and on land: visit original crime scene ("Tatort") locations and historical sites of the witch hunt in Minden – or reconstruct the espionage affair at the court of King Frederick William I (1688 - 1740) in Potsdam. In the evening, popular crime novel authors and experts such as Axel Petermann, Knut Diers, Mario Beschekus, Tatjana Kruse, and Kathrin Hanke will whisk you away into the exciting world of perpetrators and victims. During Sybille Baecker's reading, an expert tasting of two Scotch whiskies is sure to make her Highland crime novel a particularly delicate case.



GMEINER

- Captivating readings
- Original scenes from Tatort
- Mysterious cases
- Scottish
   Whisky Tasting



## **Crime Cruise to Bremen**

| SWIS  | SS RUBY          | 7 Nights | I.      | RUBY47       |
|-------|------------------|----------|---------|--------------|
| Febru | Jary             |          | 12.02.  | - 19.02.2024 |
| Marc  | h                |          | 08.03.  | - 15.03.2024 |
| Day   | Port             | 4        | Arrival | Departure    |
| 1     | Berlin Spandau   |          | -       | 17:00        |
|       | Potsdam          |          | 19:00   | -            |
| 2     | Potsdam          |          | -       | 12:30        |
| 3     | Rothensee        |          | 12:00   | 20:00        |
| 4     | Wolfsburg        |          | 06:00   | 18:00        |
|       | Braunschweig     |          | 22:00   | -            |
| 5     | Braunschweig     |          | -       | 14:00        |
|       | Hanover Anderten |          | 19:00   | -            |
| 6     | Hanover Anderten |          | -       | 04:00        |
|       | Minden           |          | 12:00   | -            |
| 7     | Minden           |          | -       | 08:30        |
|       | Stolzenau        |          | 13:00   | 13:30        |
| 8     | Bremen           |          | 09:00*  | -            |

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|   | Codo   | Emerald Deck      | Diamond Deck      |  |  |  |
|---|--------|-------------------|-------------------|--|--|--|
| Cruise Title  | Code   | Double Cabin      | Double Cabin      |  |  |  |
| Crime Cruise to Bremen  | RUBY47 | <b>£1,150</b> p.p | <b>£1,295</b> p.p |  |  |  |
| VIVA All-Inclusive already included in the travel price. Cabins on Diamond Deck with French balconies. Cabins on Emerald Deck with window |        |                   |                   |  |  |  |

VIVA All-Inclusive already included in the travel price. Cabins on Diamond Deck with French balconies. Cabins on Emerald Deck with window (cannot be opened). Single cabin surcharge: 45% - limited contingent. Reduction for children: under 4 years: 100%, 4 to 10 years: 50%, 11 to 15 years: 30%. \*Disembarkation after breakfast.

## **Crime Cruise to Düsseldorf**

| SWIS                      | SS RUBY    |  | 7 Nights | I            | RUBY48       |
|---------------------------|------------|--|----------|--------------|--------------|
| February 19.02 26.02.2024 |            |  |          | - 26.02.2024 |              |
| Marc                      | ch         |  |          | 15.03.       | - 22.03.2024 |
| Day                       | Port       |  |          | Arrival      | Departure    |
| 1                         | Bremen     |  |          | -            | -            |
| 2                         | Bremen     |  |          | -            | -            |
| 3                         | Bremen     |  |          | -            | 06:00        |
|                           | Ноуа       |  |          | 12:30        | -            |
| 4                         | Ноуа       |  |          | -            | 05:00        |
|                           | Minden     |  |          | 15:00        | 21:00        |
| 5                         | Münster    |  |          | 14:00        | -            |
| 6                         | Münster    |  |          | -            | 17:00        |
| 7                         | Duisburg   |  |          | 14:30        | 18:30        |
|                           | Düsseldorf |  |          | 21:30        | -            |
| 8                         | Düsseldorf |  |          | _*           | -            |
|                           |            |  |          |              |              |

## **Crime Cruise to Berlin**

| SWIS | SSRUBY I 7         | Nights I | RUBY49       |
|------|--------------------|----------|--------------|
| Febr | uary               | 26.02    | - 04.03.2024 |
| Marc | ch                 | 22.03    | - 29.03.2024 |
| Day  | Port               | Arrival  | Departure    |
| 1    | Düsseldorf         | -        | 19:00        |
|      | Duisburg           | 21:00    | -            |
| 2    | Duisburg           | -        | 12:00        |
|      | Herne Ost Schleuse | 21:30    | -            |
| 3    | Herne Ost Schleuse | . –      | 03:30        |
|      | Münster            | 10:00    | 16:00        |
| 4    | Minden             | 08:00    | 14:00        |
| 5    | Wolfsburg          | 08:00    | 14:00        |
|      | Rothensee          | 23:00    | -            |
| 6    | Rothensee          | -        | 09:00        |
|      | Burg (Magdeburg)   | 11:30    | 13:30        |
|      | Brandenburg        | 21:00    | -            |
| 7    | Brandenburg        | -        | 09:00        |
|      | Potsdam            | 13:00    | 17:00        |
|      | Berlin Spandau     | 19:00    | -            |
| 8    | Berlin Spandau     | _*       | -            |
|      |                    |          |              |

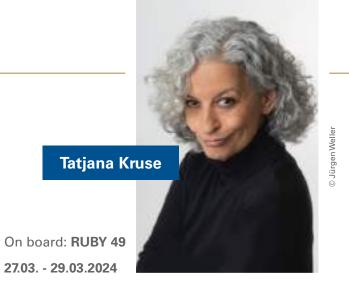
| Cruise Title   | Code   | Emerald Deck<br>Double Cabin | Diamond Deck<br>Double Cabin | All Info f<br>RUBY49 |
|--|--------|------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Crime Cruise to Düsseldorf   | RUBY48 | <b>£1,150</b> p.p            | <b>£1,295</b> p.p            | 回幾                   |
| Crime Cruise to Berlin   | RUBY49 | <b>£1,150</b> p.p            | <b>£1,295</b> p.p            | 날렸                   |
| VIVA All-Inclusive already included in the traver<br>(cannot be opened). Single cabin surcharge: 45%<br>years: 30%. *Disembarkation after breakfast. |        |                              |                              |                      |



# Authors - on board for you.



Braunschweig and Hanover, two cities that have a historical rivalry. And possibly, for that very reason, the ideal sDaye for Mario Beschekus and his Lower Saxony crime stories about the grumpy Detective Superintendent, Wim Schneider. And this much is certain: when it comes to showcasing exciting cases, there is hardly any other author who is better able to authentically utilize the feud between Braunschweig and Hanover. This is because Mario Bekeschus was born in Braunschweig in 1979, where he also spent his childhood and youth. After studying in Hildesheim, he moved to Hanover, where he is still living today. He has been working in a ministry since 2007. In the meantime, he has spent three years in the State Chancellery of Lower Saxony. To this very day, he has reMayned deeply attached to his hometown of Braunschweig, and he regularly visits family, friends and various favorite places there, and not only for research purposes.



The author, Tatjana Kruse, specializes in "crime fiction". She was born in Kirchheim in 1960 and spent her childhood in Schwabisch-Hall, where she still lives and works today. At the latest upon receipt of the prestigious Marlowe Literature Prize of the Raymond Chandler Society for a crime story, at the end of the 1990s, there was no more doubt that she could go far with her own texts. Today, Kruse is a popular author whose repertoire includes several novels. Among other things, she is a member of SYNDIKAT, an association for German-language crime literature, and the International Association of Crime Writers. She is also a regular quest at crime festivals in Germany, Switzerland and Austria. In 2005, she won the Nordfällen Prize, making her the house crime writer for the city of Flensburg for an entire summer.

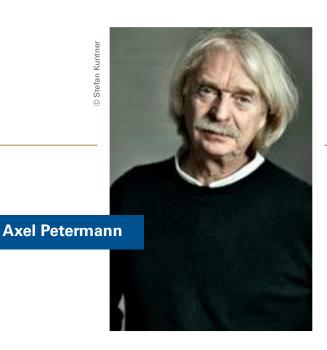
For a complete listing of the voyages and the authors that will be on board, visit **www.viva-cruises.de/krimi-kreuzfahrten**. Changes are possible.





On board: **RUBY 48** 21.02 - 22.02.2024

Having completed her degree in cultural studies in Lüneburg, Kathrin Hanke decided to make writing her profession: she worked for a radio station, wrote for newspapers, and ultimately decided to go into advertising copywriting, in addition to working as a ghostwriter. However, her true passion is storytelling, where she enjoys blending fiction with facts to create compelling narratives. In 2014, she decided to pursue a career as a freelance author in her hometown of Hamburg and has been working in this capacity ever since. Kathrin Hanke is a member of the association for German-language crime literature SYNDIKAT as well as the association Mörderische Schwestern e. V.



He originally joined the police force as a temporary replacement for his military service. But there, an unsolved murder case awakened his interest in crime solving. Today, Axel Petermann is Germany's most famous profiler. Since 2000, he has been a permanent advisor to the Bremen Tatort, assisting authors with criminalistic reflections, and today he has become a best-selling author himself. His books, such as "On the Trail of Evil" or "The Profiler" are based on true cases, and all made it onto the bestseller lists. Axel Petermann has been the host of the show "Autopsie - der Profiler" since 2016, and since 2018, he has been analyzing spectacular criminal cases together with psychologist, Katinka Keckeis, for the ZDFinfo series format "Aufgeklärt".

On board: RUBY 48

13.03 & 17.03.2024



## Criminally good. Exclusively for you!

Crime fans can look forward to exclusive specials: find out more about a profiler's work and enjoy first-class entertainment during a book reading. To find out who the other guests and highlights are that are awaiting you on board, visit our website at www.viva-cruises.com/krimi-kreuzfahrten.

# **Between the Vltava and the Elbe.**

It is the most famous musical river journey of all: "The Vltava" by Bedrich Smetana. The music describes the river as it swirls in rapids, flows on in a broad train towards Prague, and ultimately flows into the Elbe in its majestic course. Whether majestic or raging – on a cruise between Berlin and Prague, it is, first and foremost, the alternating play of forces of this river that has captivated many travelers.

Prague<sup>\*</sup> itself is certainly at the top of the list of the most popular city breaks in Europe. After all, the city is virtually bursting at the seams with art and culture, and is also a magnificent example of Gothic architecture. No less fascinating: Litoměřice – or: Leitmeritz, as it is called in our language – on the right bank of the Elbe. After just a few minutes, the many small stores, bakeries, and restaurants in the side streets around the Main Square will give you an idea of how lively this bustling little town is.

Along the Elbe River, we eventually pass such great cities as Dresden, Meissen, Wittenberg, Dessau, Magdeburg, Brandenburg, Potsdam, and, of course, Berlin. And apart from the many exciting shore excursions – it is above all this moment, when the ship slowly approaches the port of a next big city, that you will not forget so quickly.

\*Note: Depending on the water level, the trip goes to Prague Troy.

# Highlights

- Long stay in Prague
- Luther Hall in Wittenberg
- Many cultural highlights in Dresden
- City stroll in Potsdam

## Elbe-Vltava Highlights

| SWI  | SS RUBY I      | 9 Nights | l.      | RUBY50                    |
|------|----------------|----------|---------|---------------------------|
| Mar  | ch             |          | 29.03   | 07.04.2024                |
| Apri | I              |          | 16.04   | · 25.04.2024 <sup>B</sup> |
| Day  | Port           |          | Arrival | Departure                 |
| 1    | Berlin Spandau |          | -       | 16:00                     |
|      | Wusterwitz     |          | 22:00   | -                         |
| 2    | Wusterwitz     |          | -       | 06:00                     |
|      | Magdeburg      |          | 14:30   | 22:00                     |
| 3    | Wittenberg     |          | 10:30   | 16:30                     |
| 4    | Meissen        |          | 09:30   | 15:30                     |
|      | Dresden        |          | 20:00   | -                         |
| 5    | Dresden        |          | -       | -                         |
| 6    | Dresden        |          | -       | 13:00                     |
|      | Bad Schandau   |          | 19:00   | -                         |
| 7    | Bad Schandau   |          | -       | 13:00                     |
|      | Litoměřice     |          | 22:00   | -                         |
| 8    | Litoměřice     |          | -       | 06:00                     |
|      | Melnik-Hořín   |          | 13:00   | 13:30                     |
|      | Prague         |          | 22:00   | -                         |
| 9    | Prague         |          | -       | -                         |
| 10   | Prague         |          | _*      | -                         |

## Vltava-Elbe-Spree Cruise

| SW   | ISS RUBY     | 9 Nights | I RUBY51   |
|------|--------------|----------|--|
| Apri | il           |          | 16.04.2024 <sup>a</sup><br>04.05.2024 <sup>B</sup> |
| Day  | Port         | Arrival  | Departure  |
| 1    | Prague       | -        | -  |
| 2    | Prague       | -        | -  |
| 3    | Prague       | -        | 04:45  |
|      | Hořín        | 13:00    | 13:30  |
|      | Litoměřice   | 18:30    | -  |
| 4    | Litoměřice   | -        | 06:00  |
|      | Bad Schandau | 13:30    | -  |
| 5    | Bad Schandau | -        | 08:00  |
|      | Dresden      | 13:30    | -  |
| 6    | Dresden      | -        | 12:00  |
|      | Meissen      | 15:00    | 18:00  |
| 7    | Wittenberg   | 06:00    | 14:00  |
|      | Dessau       | 18:00    | 18:30  |
|      | Magdeburg    | 23:00    | -  |
| 8    | Magdeburg    | -        | 13:30  |
|      | Genthin      | 20:00    | -  |
| 9    | Genthin      | -        | 05:00  |
|      | Brandenburg  | 09:00    | 12:00  |
|      | Potsdam      | 17:00    | -  |
| 10   | Potsdam      | -        | 06:00  |
|      | Berlin       | 08:00*   | -  |
|      |              |          |  |

|   | 0                | 0.1    | Emerald Deck      | Diamond Deck      |
|---|------------------|--------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Cruise Title  | Season           | Code   | Double Cabin      | Double Cabin      |
| Elbe-Vltava Highlights  | A                | RUBY50 | <b>£1,395</b> p.p | <b>£1,550</b> p.p |
| Elbe-Vltava Highlights  | В                | RUBY50 | <b>£1,695</b> p.p | <b>£1,950</b> p.p |
| VItava-Elbe-Spree Cruise  | A                | RUBY51 | <b>£1,395</b> p.p | <b>£1,550</b> p.p |
| VItava-Elbe-Spree Cruise  | В                | RUBY51 | <b>£1,695</b> p.p | <b>£1,950</b> p.p |
| VIVA All-Inclusive already included in tl<br>(cannot be opened). Single cabin surch<br>years: 30%. *Disembarkation after brea | arge: 45% - limi |        |                   |                   |

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# From Berlin, out to the open sea.

Stralsund: one of the most beautiful historic cities in Germany. Wieck: a small, centuries-old fishing village. Peenemünde: a small village, with only 300 inhabitants. Szczecin: the Hanseatic city in Poland, with its St. James Cathedral built in 1693. In short, you could hardly find a more multifaceted and diverse river cruise. And on the water, too, on our route between Berlin and the Baltic Sea, you will experience just about everything that sea and inland navigation has to offer. You will travel along large and small canals, waters such as the Szczecin Lagoon or the Greifswald Bodden, rivers such as the Havel and the Oder, as well as the Peene River in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, which is a 20 km long estuary connecting the Szczecin Lagoon with the Baltic Sea. Finally, on the Baltic coast in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, you can breathe real sea air. If you would like to get to know the beauty of this area, its offshore islands, its unspoiled nature and some of the most beautiful Hanseatic cities in Germany, you should have a personal logbook with you on this trip to record the many experiences.



## Highlights

- Hanseatic City of Stralsund
- Canals, rivers, Bodden and coast
- Historic Szczecin and Wolgast
- Historical fishing village Greifswald/ Wieck

## Magic Baltic Sea

| swis | S RUBY   7       | Nights  | I RUBY52   |
|------|------------------|---------|------------|
| July |                  | 19.07   | 26.07.2024 |
| Augu | ıst              | 02.08   | 09.08.2024 |
| Day  | Port             | Arrival | Departure  |
| 1    | BerlinTegel      | -       | -          |
| 2    | BerlinTegel      | -       | 08:00      |
|      | Malz             | 12:30   | 13:30      |
|      | Eberswalde       | 19:00   | -          |
| 3    | Eberswalde       | -       | 05:30      |
|      | Oderberg         | 09:30   | 09:45      |
|      | Lunow            | 11:30   | 13:30      |
|      | Szczecin (Poland | ) 21:15 | -          |
| 4    | Szczecin (Poland | ) -     | 15:00      |
|      | Wolgast          | 23:30   | -          |
| 5    | Wolgast          | -       | 08:30      |
|      | Peenemünde       | 09:30   | 14:30      |
|      | Lauterbach       | 17:30   | -          |
| 6    | Lauterbach       | -       | 06:00      |
|      | Stralsund        | 09:00   | 13:00      |
|      | Vitte            | 17:30   | -          |
| 7    | Vitte            | -       | 07:00      |
|      | Wieck            | 09:00   | 14:00      |
|      | Stralsund        | 18:00   | -          |
| 8    | Stralsund        | _*      | -          |

## **Baltic Coastline meets Berlin**

| SWI  | SS RUBY          | 7 Nights | I RUBY53   |
|------|------------------|----------|------------|
| July |                  | 26.07    | 02.08.2024 |
| Aug  | ust              | 09.08    | 16.08.2024 |
| Day  | Port             | Arrival  | Departure  |
| 1    | Stralsund        | -        | 16:00      |
|      | Vitte            | 19:30    | -          |
| 2    | Vitte            | -        | 07:00      |
|      | Wiek             | 09:00    | 14:00      |
|      | Stralsund        | 18:00    | -          |
| 3    | Stralsund        | -        | 12:00      |
|      | Greifswald/Wiec  | k 15:00  | -          |
| 4    | Greifswald/Wiec  | k -      | 06:00      |
|      | Peenemünde       | 08:30    | 11:30      |
|      | Wolgast          | 13:00    | 13:30      |
|      | Ueckermünde      | 18:30    | -          |
| 5    | Ueckermünde      | -        | 06:30      |
|      | Szczecin (Poland | l) 12:30 | -          |
| 6    | Szczecin (Poland | I) -     | 06:45      |
|      | Lunow            | 15:00    | 15:15      |
|      | Oderberg         | 17:50    | 18:10      |
|      | Eberswalde       | 23:30    | -          |
| 7    | Eberswalde       | -        | 08:00      |
|      | Malz             | 13:00    | 13:30      |
|      | Berlin Tegel     | 18:30    | -          |
| 8    | Berlin Tegel     | _*       | -          |
|      |                  |          |            |



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# Culture and nature between the Weser, Saar and Neckar rivers.

A river cruise to the southwest of Germany is one of the most popular trips in our program. Because, regardless of whether culture or nature – on these routes, you are sure to enjoy both to a particularly high degree. With Heidelberg, Bernkastel or Trier, for example, we head for cities where you can really sense even millennia of history. The well-preserved Roman monuments in Trier, such as the Porta Negra or the famous Roman Bridge, leave no doubt that you are in the oldest city in Germany. By contrast, a true spectacle of nature awaits you along the Saar: the river landscapes in Saarburg, Merzig and, above all, the famous Saar Loop in Mettlach, count among the most wonderful areas to marvel at from the water. And anyone who has seen the riverbanks lined with golden to deep red leaves in the autumn sunlight, knows what a fantastic play of colors such a river trip can offer, especially towards the end of the year.

## Highlights

- New Palace (Neues Schloss) in Stuttgart
- Trier, the oldest city in Germany
- Germany's oldest university in Heidelberg (14th century)
- River landscapes along the Saar



## From the Weser to the Saar

| SWI  | SS RUBY I 1     | I2 Nights I      | RUBY54    |  |
|------|-----------------|------------------|-----------|--|
| Sept | ember           | 20.09 02.10.2024 |           |  |
| Day  | Port            | Arrival          | Departure |  |
| 1    | Bremen          | -                | 16:00     |  |
|      | Ноуа            | 22:30            | -         |  |
| 2    | Ноуа            | -                | 05:00     |  |
|      | Minden          | 15:00            | -         |  |
| 3    | Minden          | -                | 14:00     |  |
| 4    | Münster         | 07:00            | 17:00     |  |
| 5    | Düsseldorf      | 11:00            | 19:00     |  |
| 6    | Coblenz         | 09:30            | 15:30     |  |
| 7    | Traben-Trarbach | 06:00            | 12:00     |  |
|      | Bernkastel      | 15:30            | -         |  |
| 8    | Bernkastel      | -                | 07:00     |  |
|      | Trier           | 13:30            | -         |  |
| 9    | Trier           | -                | 06:00     |  |
|      | Saarburg        | 10:00            | 16:00     |  |
|      | Mettlach        | 18:30            | -         |  |
| 10   | Mettlach        | -                | 12:30     |  |
|      | Merzig          | 15:00            | -         |  |
| 11   | Merzig          | -                | 07:00     |  |
|      | Saarlouis       | 09:30            | -         |  |
| 12   | Saarlouis       | -                | 06:30     |  |
|      | Saarbrücken     | 11:30            | -         |  |
| 13   | Saarbrücken     | _*               | -         |  |
|      |                 |                  |           |  |

## From the Saar to the Neckar

| SWI     | SS RUBY          | 7 Nights I       | RUBY55    |  |
|---------|------------------|------------------|-----------|--|
| October |                  | 02.10 09.10.2024 |           |  |
| Day     | Port             | Arrival          | Departure |  |
| 1       | Saarbrücken      | -                | 16:30     |  |
|         | Saarlouis        | 21:30            | -         |  |
| 2       | Saarlouis        | -                | 11:30     |  |
|         | Merzig           | 14:00            | 18:00     |  |
| 3       | Trier            | 01:00            | 13:00     |  |
| 4       | Treis-Karden     | 06:30            | 12:30     |  |
|         | Coblenz          | 19:00            | -         |  |
| 5       | Coblenz          | -                | 07:00     |  |
|         | Eltville         | 15:00            | 21:00     |  |
| 6       | Heidelberg       | 09:00            | 15:00     |  |
| 7       | Heilbronn        | 05:30            | 12:00     |  |
|         | Stuttgart Cansta | tt 22:30         | -         |  |
| 8       | Stuttgart Cansta | tt -*            | -         |  |
| Ó       | Stutigari Cansta | u -"             | -         |  |

| Cruise Title   | Code   | Emerald Deck<br>Double Cabin | <b>Diamond Deck</b><br>Double Cabin |  |
|--|--------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| From the Weser to the Saar   | RUBY54 | <b>£2,995</b> p.p            | <b>£3,495</b> p.p                   |  |
| From the Saar to the Neckar  | RUBY55 | <b>£1,695</b> p.p            | <b>£1,950</b> p.p                   |  |
| VIVA All-Inclusive already included in the travel price. Cabins on Diamond Deck with French balconies. Cabins on Emerald Deck with window (cannot be opened). Single cabin surcharge: 45% - limited contingent. Reduction for children: under 4 years: 100%, 4 to 10 years: 50%, 11 to 15 years: 30%. *Disembarkation after breakfast. |        |                              |                                     |  |

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## **Golden Season on Four Rivers**

| SWIS    | SS RUBY             | 7 Nights | L                | RUBY56    |
|---------|---------------------|----------|------------------|-----------|
| October |                     |          | 09.10 16.10.2024 |           |
| Day     | Port                |          | Arrival          | Departure |
| 1       | Stuttgart Cannstatt |          | -                | -         |
| 2       | Stuttgart Cannstatt |          | -                | 05:00     |
|         | Ludwigsburg         |          | 08:30            | 09:00     |
|         | Lauffen             |          | 13:30            | 19:30     |
| 3       | Heidelberg          |          | 12:00            | 18:00     |
| 4       | Eltville            |          | 04:30            | 11:30     |
|         | Coblenz             |          | 15:30            | 21:30     |
| 5       | Bernkastel          |          | 15:00            | 22:00     |
| 6       | Trier               |          | 04:30            | 12:00     |
|         | Saarburg            |          | 16:00            | -         |
| 7       | Saarburg            |          | -                | 07:00     |
|         | Saarlouis           |          | 13:30            | 19:30     |
| 8       | Saarbrücken         |          | 01:30*           | -         |



| Cruise Title  | Code   | Emerald Deck      | Diamond Deck      |  |  |  |
|---|--------|-------------------|-------------------|--|--|--|
|   | Code   | Double Cabin      | Double Cabin      |  |  |  |
| Golden Season on Four Rivers  | RUBY56 | <b>£1,695</b> p.p | <b>£1,950</b> p.p |  |  |  |
| VIVA All-Inclusive already included in the travel price. Cabins on Diamond Deck with French balconies. Cabins on Emerald Deck with window |        |                   |                   |  |  |  |

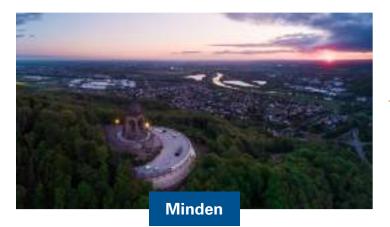
(cannot be opened). Single cabin surcharge: 45% - limited contingent. Reduction for children: under 4 years: 100%, 4 to 10 years: 50%, 11 to 15 years: 30%. \*Disembarkation after breakfast.







# **Excursions**



#### Weserbergland Tour

As Germany's second highest monument, Kaiser Wilhelm – or "Willem" for short – towers 268 meters high on the Wittekindsberg in Porta Westfalica. Reason enough to take a look at the famous landmark of the region and enjoy a magnificent view over the Porta Westfalica (Westphalian Gap) from there. After a short detour to the residential town of Bückeburg, you will return to Minden, where you can learn more about the 1200-year-old town and gain your own impression of the famous Weser Renaissance.

Trip: RUBY54



approx. 4,0 hours



#### **City Tour**

Magdeburg is both a Protestant and Catholic bishop's seat. Thus, it comes as no surprise that the Magdeburg Cathedral is the city's landmark. We will take you to the center of Magdeburg with a modern tour bus, where you can marvel at the most beautiful Art Nouveau ensembles, restored Baroque ensembles, buildings in the Zuckerbäcker style, the "Old Market" and, of course, the last Hundertwasser project in Germany, the "Green Citadel". With the tour bus and many new impressions, we will then return to the ship's pier.



Trip: RUBY50, RUBY51

You can find even more shore excursions online at www.viva-cruises.com. Subject to change without notice.



Balobarg/manotor

#### On the trail of Schimi and Börne

Discover original filming locations of the popular crime scene ("Tatort"): in Duisburg-Ruhrort, you will walk in the footsteps of Horst Schimanski, who attracted an audience of millions to the TV in the 80s. An equally "charming" tour guide provides the corresponding rowdy charm. Change of scene to Münster: in addition to interesting background information on the popular crime scene ("Tatort") with Professor Börne and Inspector Thiel, you will also learn about the dark past of current criminal cases in the otherwise tranquil Westphalia.





#### Espionage at the court of Frederick the Great

Look forward to a walk through Potsdam: from the pier to the city palace, to the Nikolai Church, to the Neumarkt and Dutch Quarter, and finally via the Garrison Church and the Marstall back to the ship. In the midst of this scenery, you will walk in the footsteps of Crown Prince Frederick, the eldest son of King Frederick William the Great – and above all: a spy in the service of Austria. On this excursion we will take you back to the 18th century, a time when espionage was part of everyday political life at the Prussian court.



Trip: RUBY47, RUBY49

# **Excursions**



#### **Chorin Monastery**

Founded in 1258, the Gothic Chorin Monastery is a former Cistercian abbey near the village of Chorin. Restoration work, which still has not been completed to this day, makes the building a real magnet for visitors. You can reach the monastery by bus from Oderberg passing the new ship lift Niederfinow (photo stop). During a guided tour of about 60 minutes, you will learn more about the history of the building and the life and work of the monks. Passing the romantic Parsteiner See, the tour continues to Lunow for re-embarkation.



approx. 4,0 hours

 Greifswald

#### **Eldena Monastery Ruins with City Tour**

The origins of Eldena Monastery date back to 1199. The paintings by the romantic painter, Caspar David Friedrich, who repeatedly depicted the ruins in his works at the beginning of the 19th century, brought increased attention to the monastery ruins. Thus, from 1828 to 1832, a generous park was laid out around the monastery grounds. Your trip to the monastery will guide you past the University of Greifswald and through the Hanseatic city of Greifswald, where you will find out more about personalities of the city such as Caspar David Friedrich.

Trip: RUBY53



approx. 3,5 hours

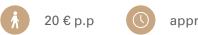
Trip: RUBY52, RUBY53

You can find even more shore excursions online at www.viva-cruises.com. Subject to change without notice.



#### **City Tour**

Stralsund is definitely one of the most beautiful Hanseatic cities in Germany. On a walk through the city, you will stroll from the harbor to the Old Town Island - a UNESCO World Heritage Site. You'll see wonderful brick architecture from eras gone by, pass the "House of Pregnant Men," which will reopen in 2024, and learn about Germany's oldest playing card factory. In Ossenreyerstrasse, you will discover the cradle of German department store culture, and at fishmonger, Rasmus, you will enjoy the truly original Bismarck herring.



approx. 2,0 hours



#### **City Tour**

For many, the "City of a Hundred Spires", as Prague is sung about, belongs counts among the big cities of Europe that you definitely have to see. We will take you directly to the center of the "Golden City" by bus. Prague Castle, the Old Town, the Jan Hus Monument, Wenceslas Square, Charles Street or the famous Charles Bridge are just some of the many highlights waiting to be discovered by you on this special excursion.



Trip: RUBY50, RUBY51

Trip: RUBY52, RUBY53

# **Excursions**



#### **Coblenz with Ehrenbreitstein Fortress**

You can look forward to a stroll through the many small alleyways of Coblenz's old town before heading across the Rhine to Europe's second largest preserved fortress: the Ehrenbreitstein Fortress. Here, the cable car is certainly not only the fastest, but also the most exciting way to reach this imposing structure. The view from this lookout point over the mouth of the Moselle and the Rhine is an absolute must-see. However, there are also many interesting facts about the thousand-year history of Ehrenbreitstein Fortress.





#### **Dresden: Moritzburg Castle**

After a short stop at "Pfund's Molkerei", a tour bus will take you to Moritzburg Castle – "the most beautiful dairy in the world". During a short walk, you will first get to know the castle grounds. The highlight is the visit of the castle with the permanent exhibition about the life at the court of August the Strong and the world-famous feather room. In winter, don't miss the special exhibition "Three Hazelnuts for Cinderella", as this Christmas movie was filmed on the grounds and in the castle.



Trip: RUBY54, RUBY55, RUBY56

Trip: RUBY50, RUBY51

You can find even more shore excursions online at www.viva-cruises.com. Subject to change without notice.



#### Werner Freund Wolf Park

One of the most fascinating excursions in the program: the Werner Freund Wolf Park. Here you can experience European gray wolves from Lithuania, white polar wolves, Canadian timber wolves, as well as Mongolian wolves up close. The enclosure is named after its founder, who also managed it until his death in 2014. Since then, Tatjana Schneider has been guiding visitors through the park. She raised the animals and can even lure them in when she intones her wolf howl. Learn that these animals are not beasts and will not attack humans unless they become dangerous to them.





## Ride on the historic Kirnitzschtal Railway to the Lichtenhain Waterfall

Bad Schandau is a real pearl on the banks of the Elbe River in Saxon Switzerland. After a short walk from the pier to the spa park, take a historic streetcar to the Lichtenhain Waterfall. This is one of the most popular tourist attractions in this region. There, the ride leads through the beautiful Kirnitzschtal valley, past impressive rock formations of the Elbsandsteingebirge. Afterwards, all hikers will make their way to the Kuhstall: an 11-meter-high, 17-meter-wide and 24-meter-deep rock gate, through which you can reach a great lookout point over the Saxon rocky landscape.



Trip: RUBY50, RUBY51

#### Trip: RUBY54, RUBY55

# **Enjoy the Moment.**

Additional information can be obtained from your preferred travel agency, or online at www.viva-cruises.com.

We are also happy to hear from you personally via email at info@viva-cruises.com or over the phone at +44 (0) 330 818 7271.

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