

VIKING DAILY

Sunday, October 16, 2022

Weather: Partly cloudy. 74° F / 24° C

Sunrise: 7:48 AM | **Sunset:** 6:41 PM

Welcome on board!

We are delighted to welcome you to *Viking Kara* and look forward to serving you.

We hope to introduce you to some wonderful new discoveries, both ashore and on board, from surprising locations to fascinating cultural activities and events.

This daily newsletter outlines the day's destinations; it also provides a little background on some of the places you will visit, news of our onboard activities, important contact information for the ship, and sailing times.

We are happy to assist with special requests, large or small. Please contact Guest Services at ext. 0 should you have any questions.

Also, your health is our top priority. Please consider the following precautionary actions: (1) wear your mask, (2) wash your hands frequently, (3) maintain distance [of at least 1.5 m / 5 ft], and (4) cough or sneeze into a tissue or your elbow. If you have a fever, feel sick or are experiencing shortness of breath, please contact a Viking staff member immediately.

We hope you have a wonderful time!

Sincerely,
Your Viking Staff

If you have any special dietary requirements, please let the Maître d' know and we will be happy to assist. Bon appétit!

For safety reasons, guest access to the Sun Deck is restricted during lock transits and while sailing under low bridges.

AFTERNOON

11:00 AM–3:00 PM

Embarkation Buffet: A choice of salads, sandwiches and hot soup is served in the *Restaurant*.

1:30 PM & 3:30 PM

Welcome Walk: Join a local guide for some fresh air on a leisurely walk through Basel.

EVENING

5:00–6:15 PM

Drinks & Live Music: Join fellow guests for a casual get-together in the *Lounge*.

6:15 PM

Welcome Briefing: Join the management team of *Viking Kara* in the *Lounge* for a brief talk about the ship and what you can look forward to during your time on board.

7:00 PM

Safety Instructions: Your safety is of paramount importance to us. Please follow the instructions given on the PA system.

7:15 PM

Dinner: Executive Chef Hermi and Maître d' Nedko invite you to join us for dinner in the *Restaurant*.

9:00 PM

Cast Off! *Viking Kara* leaves Basel for Breisach, Germany.

9:00 PM

Evening Entertainment: We welcome you to the *Lounge* to enjoy an after-dinner drink with music featuring our onboard musician, Roberto.

Viking Kara

Contacts

Reception: +49 152 225 38 128

Program Director: +49 152 225 38 187

Ship Location

Basel, Switzerland

Wi-Fi Network: Viking Kara

Wi-Fi: Connect up to two devices (one per guest) simultaneously to your stateroom's complimentary Wi-Fi. To alternate between devices, use your PIN. Please note: Various factors on the rivers may result in slower online connectivity.

Reminder: Please practice the precautionary health actions daily. If you have a fever, feel sick or are experiencing shortness of breath, contact a staff member immediately.

Godmother Tradition

For more than 4,000 years it has been a maritime tradition for each ship that enters service to have a ceremonial godmother. Godmothers are entrusted with the guidance of the ship to and around her destinations, by blessing the ship for the safety of her crew and passengers throughout her journey. In addition to providing the blessing, godmothers traditionally break champagne against the ship's bow to formally christen her before the inaugural sail.



Laura Pfleumer

Laura Pfleumer has been fascinated with cruise ships from the time she was a little girl living in the lakeside community of Origlio, Switzerland. For 12 years, she attended the Rudolf Steiner School, founded by the well-known Austrian educational

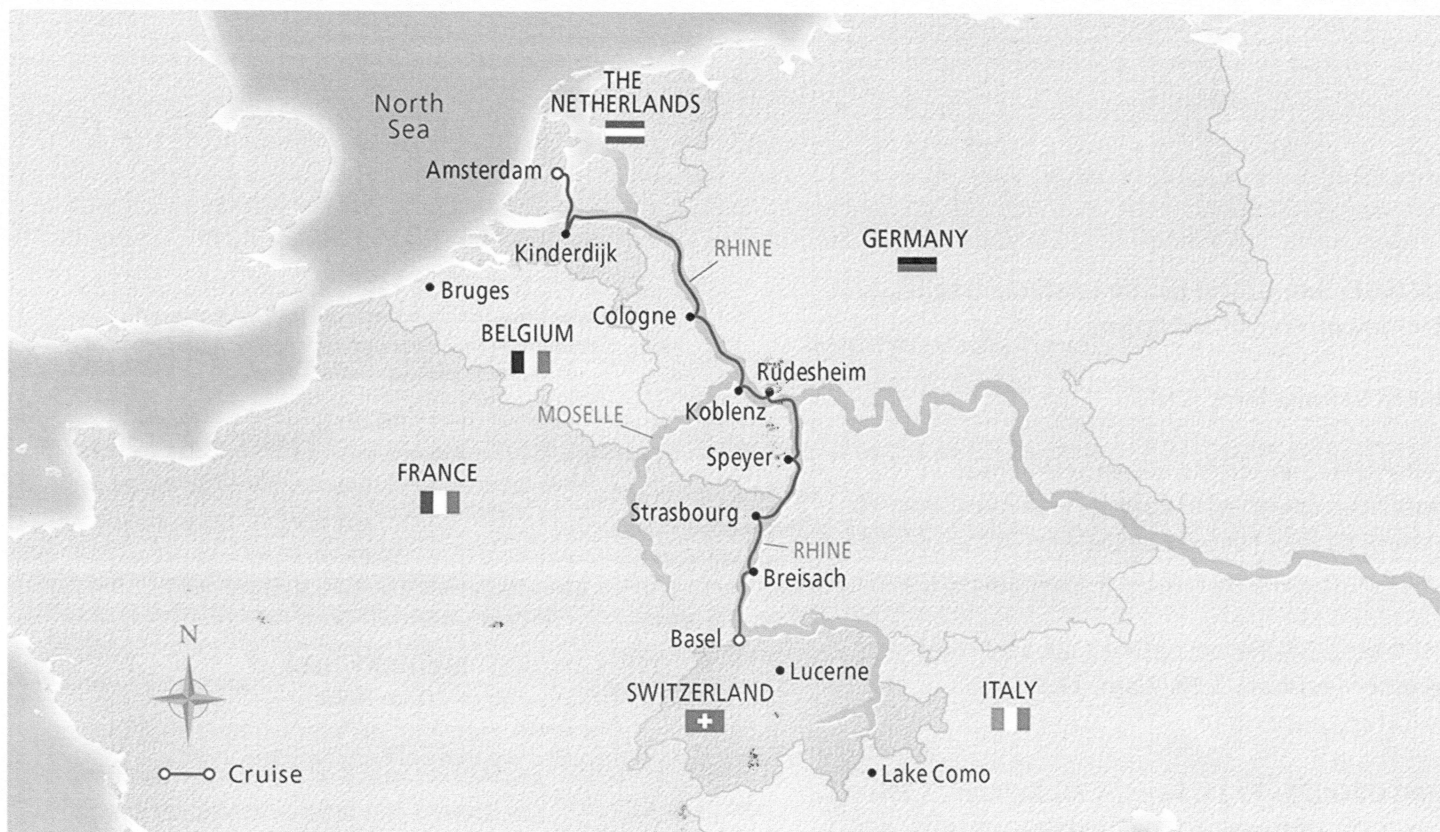
philosopher. Later, Ms. Pfleumer began working for UBS AG, Switzerland; and in two short years, became a UBS AG corporate client assistant, responsible for the daily bank business of Viking. Ms. Pfleumer can converse in Italian, French, German and English. She is now studying Spanish as well as business administration in Basel, the cultural capital of Switzerland. Yet, despite the many demands for Ms. Pfleumer's time, she still finds time to volunteer as a firefighter in her hometown of Origlio.

Kara—Valkyrie and Swan Maiden

Kara is one of the Valkyries or swan maidens. Legend says that if you can capture one, you can extract a wish from them. The Valkyries are warlike women, often depicted on horseback, armed with spears and led by Freya. They hover over the battlefield choosing who will be slain, before taking them to Valhalla. The Valkyries are messengers of the Norse god Odin, and when they ride, their armor causes the flickering lights of the aurora borealis.

Fast facts: The Rhine River

- The Rhine is one of Europe's predominant waterways, offering spectacularly picturesque cruising—particularly where it runs through the Upper Middle Rhine Valley, with its castle-topped hillsides, ancient towns, terraced vineyards and medieval ruins
- In 1932, the German encyclopedia Knauer's Lexikon mistakenly listed the Rhine River's total length as 1,320 km (820 miles) instead of 1,230 km (764 miles). This number found its way into numerous publications and became generally accepted until biologist Bruno Kremer of the University of Cologne discovered the error in 2010.
- The Germans respectfully refer to their country's longest and most important river as "Father Rhine"
- The Rhine begins as a small stream at the foot of the Swiss Alps before passing through Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Austria, France and Germany on its way to join the North Sea in the port city of Rotterdam, The Netherlands
- The Rhine serves as the border between France's Alsace region and Germany's Baden-Württemberg
- The natural border created by the Rhine River was used to denote the northernmost frontier of the Roman Empire
- Many UNESCO World Heritage Sites are located along the Rhine's riverbanks, including Germany's Speyer and Cologne Cathedrals and The Netherlands' windmills at Kinderdijk
- One of the Upper Middle Rhine Valley's most spectacular sights is the 430-foot Lorelei Rock, where the beguiling beauty of the maiden Lorelei was said to sink the ships of distracted sailors as they sailed along the river's jagged shorelines
- The Rhine is an important natural resource, providing a significant amount of the drinking water in southern Germany
- Today, ship travel between Basel and the North Sea is safe and convenient; however, that was not always the case. Castle-dwelling robber barons—who would raise and lower heavy chains spanning the length of the river to ensure that their tolls were duly collected—and burdensome customs stations used to make passage along the Rhine a troublesome affair. In the 14th century, there were 62 customs stations along the Rhine, and many cities had staple rights that enabled them to force every passing ship to unload and offer their cargo for sale to the local residents. These practices were brought to an end in 1831, when the Rhine Shipping Act was signed in Mainz and the Rhine could finally prosper as an international waterway.



Viking Kara | Basel, Switzerland to Amsterdam, The Netherlands | October 16, 2022 to October 23, 2022

Basel, Switzerland

Located where Switzerland, Germany and France meet, Basel reflects a fascinating blend of traditions. The city straddles the Rhine at the river's farthest navigable point, and an alluring cluster of old-town buildings huddles along the hilly riverbank. Around Market Square, guild houses recall Gothic, Renaissance and baroque splendor; the red-sandstone Rathaus, or Town Hall, is the centerpiece. Basel is equally a modern city with an enlightened spirit. More than 40 museums of art and culture lend modern polish to its history-rich streets. And there is no more refined way to sample it all than over cheese fondue or croissants.

Introducing Your Viking Staff

Maurice VOGELZANG

CAPTAIN

Responsible for guest safety and all nautical matters.

Francisco GRILO

HOTEL MANAGER

Supervises all onboard hotel operations.

Sam CORBIN

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Coordinates all excursions and onboard activities.

Zuzana BORCHOVA

HOUSEKEEPER

Manages the entire housekeeping staff and operations.

Nedko Dimitrov SEYKOV

MAÎTRE D'

Responsible for all food and drink operations.

Hermi MASAGCA

EXECUTIVE CHEF

Oversees the kitchen and the preparation of all meals.

Country profile: Switzerland

SIZE: 15,937 square miles—twice the size of New Jersey

POPULATION: 8.3 million (July 2018 est., CIA World Factbook)

LANGUAGE: Switzerland has three official languages: Swiss German, French and Italian

CURRENCY: Swiss franc (CHF)

GEOGRAPHY: Switzerland is one of the most mountainous countries in Europe, with more than 70 percent of its area covered by the Alps in the central and southern sections, and the Jura in the northwest.

RELIGION: 36.5% Roman Catholic, 24.5% Protestant, 5.9% other Christian, 5.2% Islam, 27.9% none/other/unspecified

ETHNIC GROUPS: 70.3% Swiss, 4.2% German, 3.2% Italian, 2.6% Portuguese, 21.7% other

GOVERNMENT: Federal republic with two legislative houses: the National Council and the Council of States.



Today in History

OCTOBER 16

1384

Despite being female, ten-year-old Jadwiga is crowned king of Poland to make it clear that she is a ruler in her own right rather than a mere queen consort.

1829

The Tremont Hotel in Boston opens; it is the 1st modern US hotel, featuring free soap, locked guest rooms, bellboys, a reception area and indoor plumbing.

1847

Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre* is published under the pseudonym "Currer Bell."

BIRTHDAY: 1854

Oscar Wilde

Irish novelist, playwright & celebrated wit; best known for The Importance of Being Earnest (d. 1900)

Have you considered our SILVER SPIRITS BEVERAGE PACKAGE?

This covers all house pouring wines; beers and liquors including cocktails, well drinks, mixers/long drinks and soft drinks throughout the day. We are pleased to provide a wide selection of regional and fine wines and brand-name liquors to complement your meals, or for the perfect nightcap.

For details and to purchase, please visit Guest Services.

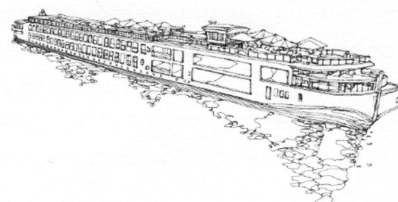


NAUTICAL TERM

— of the day —

SLUSH FUND

A slushy slurry of fat was obtained by boiling or scraping the empty salted meat storage barrels. This stuff, called "slush," was often sold ashore by the ship's cook for the benefit of himself or the crew. The money so derived became known as a "slush fund."



VIKING DAILY

Monday, October 17, 2022

Weather: Partly cloudy. 77° F / 25° C

Sunrise: 7:33 AM | **Sunset:** 7:03 PM

MORNING

4:30 AM

Welcome to Breisach: Viking *Kara* arrives in Breisach, Germany.

6:00–11:00 AM

Café Breakfast: Coffee and pastries are available at the coffee station in front of the *Lounge*.

6:00–11:00 AM

Continental Breakfast: A selection of beverages and breakfast items are available on the *Aquavit Terrace*.

7:00–9:00 AM

Breakfast: Enjoy a breakfast and a choice of dishes cooked to order in the *Restaurant*.

8:30 AM–12:30 PM

***Shore Excursion:** The Black Forest.

8:45 AM–5:30 PM

Optional Excursion: Into the Black Forest by E-Bike.

AFTERNOON

12:30 PM

Lunch: Join us for lunch in the *Restaurant* or on the *Aquavit Terrace*.

1:45–6:00 PM

***Optional Excursion:** Colmar WW II: Museum & Memorial.

2:15–6:15 PM

***Optional Excursion:** Medieval Village of Colmar.

EVENING

5:00–6:30 PM

Drinks & Live Music: Join fellow guests for a casual get-together in the *Lounge*.

6:15 PM

Back On Board: Please be back on board the ship by this time. We will depart Breisach for Kehl shortly thereafter.

6:30 PM

A Toast to Our Guests: Program Director Sam and Hotel Manager Francisco invite you to join them in the *Lounge* for a toast to welcome you on board.

6:45 PM

Port Talk: Program Director Sam invites you to the *Lounge* to find out about tomorrow's excursions and events. Alternatively, you may watch the briefing on your stateroom TV.

7:00 PM

Dinner: We invite you to join us for dinner in the *Restaurant*.

9:00 PM

Enjoy an after-dinner drink in the *lounge* with music featuring our onboard musician Roberto.

To avoid the payment process and delays at Guest Services on the last night of your cruise, we recommend that you provide your credit card information to Guest Services at your convenience during the cruise. We will use this to settle your account so you may disembark without any delay.

**Please bring your personalized ticket, the audio receivers and earpieces from your stateroom with you.*

Viking Kara

Contacts

Reception: +49 152 225 38 128

Program Director: +49 152 225 38 187

Ship Location

Breisach, Germany

Wi-Fi Network: Viking Kara

Wi-Fi: Connect up to two devices (one per guest) simultaneously to your stateroom's complimentary Wi-Fi. To alternate between devices, use your PIN. Please note: Various factors on the rivers may result in slower online connectivity.

Reminder: Please practice the precautionary health actions daily. If you have a fever, feel sick or are experiencing shortness of breath, contact a staff member immediately.

A time-honored tradition: The cuckoo clock

The origin of the iconic Black Forest cuckoo clock is shrouded in myth. One fable tells of a man from Bohemia (Czech Republic) who, while trudging through the forest selling wooden cuckoo clocks, happened to run into two clock peddlers from the Black Forest. The peddlers were so astonished at this new invention that they immediately bought one and brought it home to show their fellow townspeople, who until then had been using hourglasses and sundials to keep time. Another, more specific story tells of a clockmaker from the Black Forest village of Schönwald named Franz Anton Ketterer. This craftsman is often credited with being the first to incorporate the signature two-note call of the common cuckoo, a migratory European native whose arrival has long signaled the coming of spring, into the clocks.

In reality, primitive forerunners of the cuckoo clock can be traced to the mid-17th century, when residents of the timber-rich Black Forest region would craft and sell clocks as a means of generating income during the snowy winter months. By the 1800s, the mechanism needed to produce the distinctive “coo coo” sound—two wooden whistles through which air is pushed via a pair of bellows—had become a standard feature of the cuckoo clock, and by 1808 the Black Forest districts of Triberg and Neustadt boasted 582 clock peddlers and an astounding 688 clockmakers. In 1850, the duke of Baden founded a clockmaking school in the region in order to develop and distinguish the industry.

By this time, brass and metal had replaced many of the original wooden components, and two distinct styles of cuckoo clock came to dominate the market: the *Jagdstück*, or traditional style, and the *Bahnhäusleuhr*, or railroad style. Traditional cuckoo clocks feature elaborately carved nature scenes in an outdoor Black Forest setting; railroad-style clocks are shaped like a house, and were originally inspired by the dwellings of railroad gatekeepers. Other styles include the *Schilduhr* (“shield clock”), featuring a flat square wooden face topped with an ornately painted semicircle containing a door for the cuckoo, and the *Rahmenuhr* (“framed clock”), a painted Black Forest nature scene with a wooden frame out of which the cuckoo emerges.

In 1987, the Black Forest Clock Association was established to ensure the integrity of the area’s cuckoo clock-making tradition. An *echtheitszertifikat* (“certificate of authenticity”) from this organization is awarded only to clocks that had been crafted entirely out of wood from the Black Forest.

Country profile: Germany

SIZE: 138,000 square miles—nearly three times the size of England and slightly smaller than Montana

POPULATION: 80.4 million (July 2018 est., CIA World Factbook)

LANGUAGE: German

CURRENCY: Euro (EUR)

GEOGRAPHY: Numerous mountains, vineyards, wetlands and cliffs make Germany a country of contrasts. It is home to a mountainous south, flat land in the north and some low-lying islands and beaches, as well as rolling plains and rich farmland.

RELIGION: 29% Roman Catholic, 27% Protestant, 4.4% Islam, 39.6% other/none/unspecified

ETHNIC GROUPS: 91.5% German, 2.4% Turkish, 6.1% other

GOVERNMENT: Germany is a federal republic, led by both a president and a chancellor.

The Black Forest’s fairytale origins

Houses that seem made of gingerbread. Dark, mist-filled woods. Romantic castles and farmhouses that have not changed in centuries. When you come to the Black Forest region of southwest Germany, you can almost see Hansel and Gretel, Little Red Riding Hood, Rumpelstiltskin or Snow White scampering into the woods. The region has long been associated with these fairytales that came to us courtesy of the brothers Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm. The Grimm brothers were philologists and linguists whose goal was to collect, catalog and preserve the folklore that resonated with a romantic vision of German national culture. The truth is, while many of those tales were part of the Black Forest oral tradition, they were told all over Germany—and even beyond—and their origins are largely unknown. The tale of Cinderella, for example, was borrowed by the Grimms from the French author Charles Perrault. The Grimm brothers lived mainly in Steinau (Hesse), Göttingen (Hanover) and Berlin, but not in the Black Forest. The official Fairytale Road that traces their work stretches nearly 400 miles from Hanau to Bremen in the north. Even so, as you take in the dark beauty of the Black Forest, you will still feel the magic that rekindles your childhood nostalgia and sense of wonder.



Black Forest

Breisach, Germany

Breisach is built on a basalt rock outcropping in the Rhine plain, opposite its French sister city, Neuf-Brisach. Breisach is located in one of the warmest parts of Germany, across the river from French Alsace, which is famous for its wine growing. But Breisach, too, can boast about its wine: it is home to Europe's largest cellars, with a storage capacity of more than 160 million liters. The most prominent landmark of Breisach is the Romanesque-Gothic St. Stephen's Cathedral, built between the 12th and the 13th centuries. Its two towers are visible from throughout the city and from the Rhine.

More reasons to TRAVEL WITH VIKING

Explore the great rivers of the world with Viking. Our elegant, river ships sail through more than a dozen countries in Europe, Russia, Ukraine, China, Southeast Asia and Egypt. We look forward to welcoming you back on board.

Visit Guest Services to take advantage of your Cruise Certificate.

Black Forest bites: A taste of local delicacies

Thanks to its distinct location, the Black Forest boasts a number of local delicacies that are unique to the region.

Black Forest ham

A genuine Black Forest ham takes at least three months to achieve its particular smoky taste. Like a fine wine, the longer it has matured (or, in the case of ham, air-dried or smoked), the better its flavor. Like a true champagne, only ham from the Black Forest that has been prepared in the traditional way can call itself "Black Forest ham," or Schwarzwälder Schinken, as it is known in Germany. It is made from the best piece of pork—the hind leg—from which select pieces of meat are pickled by hand-rubbing them in either salt or brine to give them their appetizing red color. The salt dehydrates and preserves the meat as it is dried in the fresh forest air. The final touch involves smoking the pork over Black Forest timbers to produce an authentic ham.

Vesper

A typical regional snack that you may not have come across before is the vesper. Eaten either between meals as a snack, as breakfast or as a light evening meal, the vesper usually consists of hearty homemade sausage, smoked trout and Black Forest ham served with crusty farmhouse bread. As if that were not tempting enough, it is traditionally followed by a serving of Wässerli, or alcoholic fruit schnapps, made from cherries, plums, pears or greengages (a type of plum).

Rustic schnapps and brandies

Without a doubt, the ingredient that gives Black Forest cake its unique taste is kirsch—the delicious fruit brandy made from wild morello cherries that is at least 45% alcohol. Authentic Chriesiwässerli (cherry water) is hard to come by these days, as just one liter requires a good 22 pounds of the tiny, aromatic fruits that are hardly bigger than a blueberry. Little wonder, then, that a one-liter bottle could cost around 40 dollars. Today, there are approximately 14,000 approved distilleries in the Black Forest producing small amounts of schnapps, from simple fruit schnapps made from apples, pears or local plums to the queen of all fruit brandies, kirsch.

Black Forest cake

Famous around the world, Black Forest cake has never tasted quite as good as when eaten along the Rhine. With its layers of chocolate sponge cake, lashings of whipped cream, helpings of sour cherries and drizzle of the locally produced kirsch (cherry brandy), this delectable confection is beautifully moist, mildly sweet and surprisingly light. Resistance is futile.



Today in History

OCTOBER 17

1933

Albert Einstein arrives in the US as a refugee from Nazi Germany.

2016

Viking Star is welcomed to San Juan, Puerto Rico for the 1st time.

2017

Condé Nast Traveler readers name Viking the #1 River Cruise Line.

BIRTHDAY: 1900

Jean Arthur

American film actress; known for her roles in Mr. Smith Goes to Washington & Easy Living (d. 1993)

BIRTHDAY: 1915

Arthur Miller

American playwright; best known for Death of a Salesman & The Crucible (d. 2005)

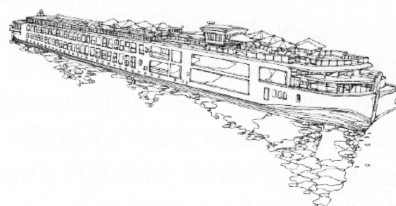


NAUTICAL TERM

— of the day —

BEAR DOWN

This is the action of sailing downwind rapidly toward another ship or landmark.



VIKING DAILY

Tuesday, October 18, 2022

Weather: Chance of rain. 65° F/ 19° C

Sunrise: 8:15 AM | **Sunset:** 6:49 PM

MORNING

6:00–11:00 AM

Café Breakfast: Coffee and pastries are available at the coffee station in front of the *Lounge*.

6:00–11:00 AM

Continental Breakfast: A selection of beverages and breakfast items are available on the *Aquavit Terrace*.

7:00–9:30 AM

Breakfast: Enjoy a breakfast and a choice of dishes cooked to order in the *Restaurant*.

8:00 AM

Welcome to Kehl: *Viking Kara* arrives in Kehl.

8:15 AM–12:30 PM

***Shore Excursion: Strasbourg Highlights.** Please sign up at the *Guest Services Desk* for the leisurely option.

At 8:15 AM our guides will walk with you to the motor coaches (approximately 15 minutes walk)

9:50 AM–5:00 PM

***Optional Excursion: Flavors of Alsace.**

AFTERNOON

12:30 PM

Lunch: Join us for lunch in the *Restaurant* or on the *Aquavit Terrace*.

1:30–6:00 PM

***Optional Excursion: Alsatian Wine Tasting.**

1:30–5:30 PM

***Optional Excursion: Mercedes-Benz Factory Visit.**

2:00–5:00 PM

Shuttle Service: We offer a free shuttle bus service into Strasbourg today; please visit *Guest Services* for details.

From Ship to Strasbourg: 2PM; 3PM

From Strasbourg to ship: 2:10PM; 3:10PM; 4:40PM

Please note that there is 20 minutes of walking to shuttle coaches.

EVENING

5:00 PM

Live Demonstration: Learn how to make Flammkuchen in the *Lounge* with Executive Chef Hermi.

5:30–7:00 PM

Drinks & Live Music: Join fellow guests for a casual get-together in the *Lounge*.

6:15 PM

VES Cocktail Party: If you are a guest who has sailed with Viking before, please feel free to join us in the *Lounge* for the Viking Explorer Society cocktail party.

6:45 PM

Back On Board: Please be back on board the ship by this time.

7:00 PM

Port Talk: Program Director Sam invites you to the *Lounge* to find out about tomorrow's excursions and events. Alternatively, you may watch the briefing on your stateroom TV.

7:15 PM

Dinner: Taste of Germany. Join us for a hearty German dinner in the *Restaurant* or on the *Aquavit Terrace* which will open 15 minutes after the *Restaurant* hours, while enjoying music from this country.

9:00 PM

Evening Entertainment: Game Night
We welcome you to the *Lounge* to enjoy Game Night, followed by music featuring our onboard musician, Roberto.

**Please bring your personalized ticket, the audio receivers and earpieces from your stateroom with you.*

Viking Kara

Contacts

Reception: +49 152 225 38 128

Program Director: +49 152 225 38 187

Ship Location

Kehl, Germany

Wi-Fi Network: Viking Kara

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Strasbourg Cathedral

Strasbourg Cathedral, officially called the Cathédrale Notre-Dame de Strasbourg, is a study in superlatives. Built between 1015 and 1439, it is acclaimed as one of the world's most beautiful examples of high or late Gothic architecture (though many sections are built in the Romanesque style). With a spire that soars 466 feet into the air, it is the world's sixth-tallest church and the highest extant building constructed entirely during the Middle Ages. Until 1874, it was the tallest building in the world, and it can be seen across the plains of Alsace as far away as the Black Forest and the Vosges Mountains. Monumental scale notwithstanding, the cathedral appears (in the words of Victor Hugo) as "a light and delicate marvel," a vision of breathtaking beauty with its lacy, pink sandstone façade, intricate decoration and exquisite sculptures, paintings and stained glass.

Step inside, and the entire interior is illuminated by majestic stained glass windows. These include the jewel-like rose window; and the Emperor Windows, or Kaiserfenster, a series of five windows dating from the 12th century that depict 19 emperors of the Holy Roman Empire. One of the most outstanding features is the Astronomical Clock, with sculptures that animate at different times of the day, including the 12 apostles, figures representing the stages of life, angels and more. The clock is extremely accurate, and shows the official and solar time, equinoxes, the date and day of the week, Zodiac signs, the phase of the moon and other astronomical data. The clock you see today was built between 1838 and 1842, based on the engineering of previous versions dating to 1352.

The visual grandeur is accompanied by a rich canon of history, secrets and folklore. For instance, during World War II, Hitler planned to turn the church into a monument to the German people. In preparation for this, the stained glass windows were secreted away in 74 cases and hidden in a salt mine near Heilbronn, Germany. They were rescued by the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives section of the United States military (the "Monuments Men") and returned in 1945. During the spring and fall equinoxes, a green ray of light shines through the stained glass depiction of Judas, running along the cathedral's meridian and illuminating the statue of Christ. And if you hear the wind rustling, legend says it is the exasperated Devil, whose vanity lured him inside the church to see his own artistic depictions, where he was trapped and is still held captive.

Country profile: France

SIZE: 212,000 square miles—roughly the size of Texas and four times the size of England

POPULATION: 67,364,357 (July 2018 est., CIA World Factbook)

LANGUAGE: French (official); also, the Provençal dialect is still in use sporadically in southern France

CURRENCY: Euro (EUR)

GEOGRAPHY: Two-thirds of France is covered by fertile plains, while forests cover the other third. The country's mountain ranges, including the Alps, Pyrenees and Massif Central, are found mostly in the south. The north is humid and cool, while the south is dry and warm.

RELIGION: 64.3% Roman Catholic, 4.3% Islam, 1.9% Protestant, 29.5% none/other

ETHNIC GROUPS: 76.9% French, 2.2% Algerian and Moroccan Berber, 1.9% Italian, 19% other

GOVERNMENT: France is a democratic republic, with the prime minister serving as the head of government.

Petit France: The jewel of Strasbourg

With its half-timbered houses, lacy canals and flower-filled squares, Petite France is part of Strasbourg's Grand Île UNESCO World Heritage Site and the city's most romantic spot. But the story behind the name is... well, not so romantic. When Strasbourg was a Free City of the Holy Roman Empire, the Grand Magistrate isolated the sick in the tanners' district. French soldiers were sent to the *Hospice des Vérolés* to be treated for syphilis, which they had contracted in Italy. The local people referred to it as "the French disease" and derisively called the hospital area "Petite France." Today, it is the city's most picturesque quarter. Cross over the four channels that flow through the heart of Petite France via the Ponts Couverts, defensive bridges that were once covered with wooden roofs. Admire the Vauban Barrage, a system of locks and dams built in 1690, and take in the panoramic views. St. Thomas Church has existed since the 12th century but became a Protestant church in 1529. Its interior includes the white marble tomb of the Maréchal de Saxe, decorated with animal figures representing the places in which he fought for King Louis XV. Be sure to visit the Tanner's Building, a riverside guild house that may be the most photographed structure in a quarter that is sure to keep your camera clicking.



Strasbourg's half-timbered houses

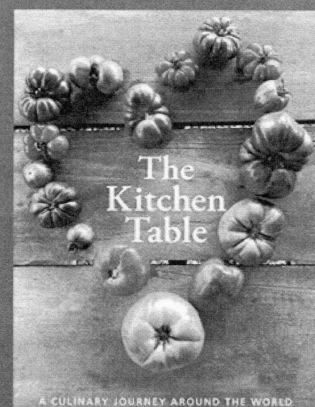
Strasbourg, France

The largest port on the Upper Rhine, Strasbourg is the cultural center of France's Alsace region. Thanks to its location at the border of France and Germany, it boasts a convivial mix of cultural influences. The well preserved Old Town is enclosed on all sides by the little Ill River, with sites so compact that it is easy to explore the "island" on foot. And there is plenty to explore: cobblestone streets lined with wooden houses and intersected by picturesque canals. Indulging in Alsatian café culture is central to any visit here; enjoy coffee and cake amid lovely half-timbered houses.

THE KITCHEN TABLE COOKBOOK

A culinary journey around the world

From Scandinavia to the Caribbean, discover some of our favorite recipes inspired by our travels and yours—many of which are served on board.



To learn more, visit the onboard shop near Guest Services.

Food for thought: Alsatian cuisine

Alsace has long been known for the high quality of its cooking, from home kitchens to cozy bistros to some of the top-rated, Michelin-starred restaurants in France. Based on locally grown crops, farm-raised animals and wild game, Alsatian cuisine successfully fuses hearty German fare with elegant French flair.

If you love fresh asparagus, be sure to visit this region during the spring. Alsace is famous for its white asparagus and is one of the few regions in France where this variety grows. The vegetable is traditionally eaten with ham and mayonnaise, and every restaurant in Alsace will offer a few asparagus dishes when it is in season.

Alsace's signature dish is *choucroute garni*, a savory mix of sauerkraut, onions and herbs braised in Riesling and "garnished" with several cuts of pork, such as bacon and smoked sausage. Another specialty is *flammekueche* or *tarte flambée*, a chewy flatbread smothered with lardons, onions and crème fraîche.

The most prominent cheese is Munster, a small, creamy cheese that is made using unpasteurized milk, often served with a sprinkling of cumin. Also popular is *bibeleskaes*, a cream cheese seasoned with garlic, onion, parsley and sometimes bacon. It goes well with a *bretzel*, the Alsatian version of a fresh-baked pretzel.

Alsace's patisseries will tempt you with a variety of beautiful éclairs, tarts, madeleines—and the quintessential Alsatian dessert, *kougelhof*. It is made from a brioche-type dough with dried fruits and nuts, and baked in a special round fluted pan.

You will have plenty of choices for washing down your hearty Alsatian fare. Alsace is the main beer-producing region of France, thanks primarily to Strasbourg breweries. Kirsch is the most common eau-de-vie; the locals make it out of elderberries, strawberries or whatever fruit is locally available. Alsatian wines are mostly white and display a strong Germanic influence. It produces some of the world's best dry Rieslings.

For traditional fare, look for small, family-run bistros or bakeries. Some of the best ones are nestled in old half-timbered houses, their window boxes bursting with red geraniums in summer. These old-style eateries may serve their food in rustic earthenware, and pour their excellent local wines out of blue-and-gray stoneware pitchers into green-stemmed wine glasses. Dining in Alsace is truly a feast for both the palate and the eyes.



Today in History

OCTOBER 18

1867

The US formally takes possession of Alaska after purchasing the territory from Russia for \$7.2 million.

1962

James Watson, Francis Crick and Maurice Wilkins win the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for their work in determining the structure of DNA.

2017

Viking announces the keel-laying ceremony for its 6th ocean ship, *Viking Jupiter*.

BIRTHDAY: 1897

Isabel Briggs Myers

American psychological theorist; along with her mother, Katharine Cook Briggs, she originated the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (d. 1980)

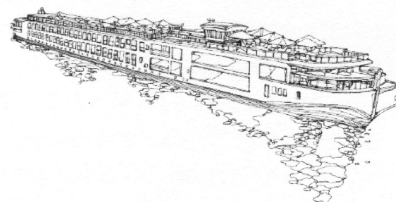


NAUTICAL TERM

— of the day —

UNDER THE WEATHER

If a crewman is standing watch on the weather side of the bow, he will be subject to the constant beating of the sea and the ocean spray. He will be "under the weather."



VIKING DAILY

Wednesday, October 19, 2022

Weather: Partly cloudy. 67° F / 20° C

Sunrise: 7:53 AM | **Sunset:** 6:28 PM

MORNING

6:00–11:00 AM

Café Breakfast: Coffee and pastries are available at the coffee station in front of the *Lounge*.

6:00–11:00 AM

Continental Breakfast: A selection of beverages and breakfast items are available on the *Aquavit Terrace*.

7:00–9:00 AM

Breakfast: Enjoy a breakfast and a choice of dishes cooked to order in the *Restaurant*.

8:00 AM

Welcome to Speyer: *Viking Kara* arrives in Speyer.

8:30 AM–5:30 PM

***Optional Excursion: Heidelberg Highlights & Lunch with University Students.**

8:45 AM–12:00 PM

***Shore Excursion: Speyer Walking Tour.** Excursion finishes in Worms.

Please sign up at the Guest Services Desk for the leisurely option.

8:45 AM

Cast Off! *Viking Kara* leaves Speyer for Rudesheim.

**Please bring your personalized ticket, the audio receivers and earpieces from your stateroom with you.*

AFTERNOON

12:00 PM

Stop in Worms: *Viking Kara* makes a brief stop in Worms where guests will join the ship after the excursion.

12:00 PM

Lunch: Join us for lunch in the *Restaurant* or on the *Aquavit Terrace*.

3:30 PM

Live Demonstration: Rudesheim Coffee. Coffee, brandy, sugar, whipped cream and dark chocolate—join us in the *Lounge* to learn how to make this delectable coffee.

Followed by

German Teatime: Relax with a cup of tea or coffee and enjoy a variety of German pastries in the *Lounge*.

4:30 PM

Presentation: Discover the World in Comfort with Viking. Join Program Director Sam in the *Lounge* to find out about different Viking cruises and the countries you can explore with us; you will learn about how to receive exclusive onboard discounts for future bookings.

5:00 PM

Port Talk: Program Director Sam invites you to the *Lounge* to find out about tomorrow's excursions and events. Alternatively, you may watch the briefing on your stateroom TV.

EVENING

5:15 PM Approximately

Welcome to Rudesheim: *Viking Kara* arrives in Rudesheim.

5:15–7:00 PM

Drinks & Live Music: Join fellow guests for a casual get-together in the *Lounge*.

5:45–9:30 PM

Optional Excursion: Wine Tasting & Dinner at Eberbach Monastery.

6:30–9:30 PM

Optional Excursion: Dine in Rudesheim.

7:00 PM

Dinner: We invite you to join us for dinner in the *Restaurant* on the *Aquavit Terrace* which will open 15 minutes after the *Restaurant* hours, while enjoying music from this country.

9:00 PM

Glassblowing Presentation: See a traditional German glassmaking family create an exquisite work of art from industrial glass in this captivating demonstration in the *Lounge*.

Followed with music by our onboard musician Leo.

Next Day - Thursday, October 20th

08:30 AM

Cast Off! *Viking Kara* leaves Rudesheim for Koblenz.

Viking Kara

Contacts

Reception: +49 152 225 38 128

Program Director: +49 152 225 38 187

Ship Location

Speyer & Rudesheim, Germany

Wi-Fi Network: Viking Kara

Wi-Fi Network: Connect up to two devices (one per guest) simultaneously to your stateroom's complimentary Wi-Fi. To alternate between devices, use your PIN. Please note: Various factors on the rivers may result in slower online connectivity.

Reminder: Please practice the precautionary health actions daily. If you have a fever, feel sick or are experiencing shortness of breath, contact a staff member immediately.

Naming the Reformation in Speyer

The German city of Wittenberg may lay claim to being the birthplace of the Reformation, since it was here in 1517 that Martin Luther wrote his "95 Theses" challenging abuses in the Roman Catholic Church (and according to legend, nailed them to the door of the city's All Saints' Church). But it was Speyer that gave this religious revolution its name, "Protestantism." The name derives from a letter of protestation signed by six princes and 14 representatives of Free Imperial Cities during the Diet of Speyer in 1529.

A "diet" was a formal assembly of electors, nobles and representatives from various states within the Holy Roman Empire, and its purpose was to negotiate and (to a certain extent) ratify laws. Speyer's protesting princes were reacting to events that had been set in motion eight years earlier. In 1521, the Diet of Worms (also called the Edict of Worms) had convened, and its major outcomes were the condemnation of Martin Luther as a heretic; the banning of his teachings; and the criminalization of any actions supporting Luther or his beliefs—actions that were punishable by death.

In reality, the Edict of Worms proved difficult to enforce. The emperor, embroiled in power struggles with Rome and the threat of Ottoman Turkey on the eastern front, was reluctant to fan the fires of religious strife within his domains. And many of his vassals, the empire's most influential princes, were increasingly sympathetic to Luther's ideas. The first Diet of Speyer, in 1526, placed the anti-Lutheran ban on hold until a national general council could be held. This allowed individual nobles to temporarily oversee religious affairs within their own territories—a great boon to the evangelical movement.

In 1529, a second Diet of Speyer convened as the Turks were pressing into Hungary. Charles needed a united front and had no further appetite for religious dissent. Sending his brother Ferdinand as his emissary, Charles intended to reassert the Edict of Worms, without the benefit of a general council. But six princes and 14 representatives objected with a letter of protestation demanding religious liberty, and by extension, the self-determination of individual imperial states.

Today in Speyer, you can pay your respects to both strains of religious thought by visiting the great cathedral (a UNESCO Site) where eight Holy Roman Emperors are buried; and the Memorial Church of the Protestation (Gedächtniskirche der Protestation).

The Imperial Cathedral of Speyer

Speyer's Imperial Cathedral is one of the world's finest and largest Romanesque cathedrals, and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Built between 1030 and 1061 by emperors Konrad II, Henry III and Henry IV, it was meant to impress not only with its size, but its pomp and majesty as well. Henry IV replaced the flat ceiling with groin vaults in the late 11th century, an innovative feat in its day. A restoration program in the 1950s returned the building to almost exactly its original condition. Stonemasons from Lombardy executed much of the architectural detail, including the dwarf galleries and ornamental capitals. The four towers symbolize the four seasons and the idea that the power of the empire extends in all four directions. Look up as you enter the nearly 100-foot-high portal, richly carved with mythical creatures. In contrast to Gothic cathedrals, whose walls are supported externally by flying buttresses that allow for a minimum of masonry and maximum of light, at Speyer the columns supporting the roof are massive. The Krypta lies beneath the chancel and is the largest crypt in Germany. Strikingly beautiful in its simplicity, it is the final resting place of four emperors, four kings and three empresses.

Speyer's Jewish heritage

Along with Mainz and Worms, Speyer was an important center of Ashkenazic Jewish spiritual and intellectual life. Though pogroms were a tragic reoccurrence throughout the city's history, there were also times when Jewish life thrived. In 1084, Speyer's Bishop Rüdiger Huzmann invited Jews to settle here from nearby towns. It was a business development move, since moneylending was forbidden for Christians and the city needed funds for the new cathedral it was building. In return, the Bishop offered rights and protections that until then were unprecedented in Europe. Today there are several reminders of Judaic life behind the Palatinate Historical Museum. Here you can see the synagogue remains from 1104, and the ruins of Germany's oldest (c. 1126) *mikva*, a 33-foot-deep ritual bath. The old cemetery was moved and destroyed several times, but artifacts from it are on display at the Museum SchPIRA. Interestingly, the museum name "SchPIRA" references the Jewish name "Shapiro," which derives from the variant names for Speyer, "Szpira" and "Spiro." Almost all of Speyer's Jews were murdered during the Holocaust. But in 1996, a resurgence began when some Jewish refugee families settled here from Eastern Europe after the fall of the Iron Curtain. The cornerstone of their new synagogue was laid in 2008.



Statue at Judenhof

Speyer, Germany

The quiet German town of Speyer lies on the west bank of the Rhine. The city features a Romanesque imperial cathedral, burial place of eight emperors including some of the most famous Holy Roman Emperors. Speyer was once a major Celtic center that traded hands several times between the Romans and the Huns. The term Protestant originated here at the Diet of Speyer in 1529, when 14 free cities of Germany and six Lutheran princes protested the Edict of Worms that had banned the writings of Martin Luther and labeled him a heretic and enemy of the state.

What is the next VIKING JOURNEY IN YOUR FUTURE?

The best time to plan your next Viking journey is while you are inspired by this one.

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Food for thought: *Sauerbraten*

Walk into just about any traditional German restaurant, and you are likely to see *Sauerbraten* on the menu, for this heavily marinated, tangy roasted meat entrée is considered the national dish of Germany. *Sauerbraten* is most often made from beef, but it can also be venison, pork, lamb or mutton and even horse meat. It is the process of marination that gives the roast its distinctive flavor. Meat is marinated for three to five days in a mixture of wine or vinegar, water, herbs and seasonings. This has the effect of tenderizing even the toughest cuts of meat, which is why *Sauerbraten* is most often made from a rump, chuck or bottom round roast. The roast is then browned in fat or oil, and slow-cooked in the marinade for four or more hours. As the meat releases its own juices into the marinade, you have the basis for a deliciously tangy gravy, and tender slices that practically melt in your mouth.

There are many regional variations for preparing *Sauerbraten*, but the basic recipe calls for a marinade of red wine vinegar and red wine, seasoned with peppercorns, juniper berries, thyme, cloves, nutmeg, mace and bay leaves. The meat is browned in a *mirepoix* of onions, carrots and celery or other aromatic vegetables; then simmered in its pot. The liquid gets strained and thickened, most often with a flour-based *einbrenne* or roux. Adding a pinch of sugar to this roux gives the meat a nice, all over sheen. Some cooks like to crumble gingersnaps or *Lebküchen* into the gravy, which delivers some sweetness and acts as a thickener, too.

In the Rhineland, many cooks like to add raisins to balance the tartness of the gravy. In other areas of Germany, sweet or sour cream is used to mellow the flavor. Along the Swiss border, it is common to use *Apfelwein* and apples in the marinade. The typical accompaniments to *Sauerbraten* would be red cabbage, potato pancakes or dumplings, or buttered *spätzle* , a homemade noodle.

For such a Germanic dish, *Sauerbraten* has some cosmopolitan roots. Legend says that Julius Caesar had barrels of meat marinated in wine sent to the German colony of Cologne, but those who like this fanciful notion may be disappointed to realize that Cologne was actually founded during the reign of Claudius. Other tales say that Charlemagne came up with the idea of preserving leftover meat in wine, and some credit St. Albertus Magnus for popularizing the dish. There is scant evidence to support any of these noble claims, but as with this delicious dish, one must take the sweet with the sour.



Today in History

OCTOBER 19

1781

British General Charles Cornwallis surrenders to General George Washington at Yorktown, Virginia, ending the American Revolutionary War.

1901

Edward Elgar's *Pomp & Circumstance March* premieres in Liverpool; today, it is customarily played at US graduation ceremonies.

BIRTHDAY: 1850

Annie Smith Peck

American mountaineer & diplomat; 1st to scale Peru's highest peak (d. 1935)

BIRTHDAY: 1868

Bertha Knight Landes

American politician & activist; 1st female mayor of a major American city (Seattle) (d. 1943)

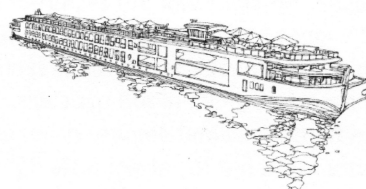


NAUTICAL TERM

— of the day —

OVERREACH

If a ship holds a tack course too long, it has "overreached" its turning point, and the distance it must travel to reach its next tack point is increased.



VIKING DAILY

Thursday, October 20, 2022

Weather: Partly cloudy. 62° F / 16° C

Sunrise: 7:37 AM | **Sunset:** 6:57 PM

MORNING

6:00–11:00 AM

Café Breakfast: Coffee and pastries are available at the coffee station in front of the *Lounge*.

6:00–11:00 AM

Continental Breakfast: A selection of beverages and breakfast items are available on the *Aquavit Terrace*.

7:30–9:30 AM

Breakfast: Enjoy a breakfast and a choice of dishes cooked to order in the *Restaurant*.

8:45 AM

Back On Board: Please be back on board the ship by this time. We will depart Rudesheim for Koblenz shortly thereafter.

9:00 AM

Scenic Sailing: Enjoy spectacular views and commentary by Program Director Sam as we sail along the Middle Rhine.

To avoid the payment process and delays at *Guest Services* on the last night of your cruise, we recommend that you provide your credit card information to *Guest Services* at your convenience during the cruise. We will use this to settle your account so you may disembark without any delay.

AFTERNOON

12:00 PM

Lunch: Join us for lunch in the *Restaurant* or on the *Aquavit Terrace*.

1:00 PM

Welcome to Koblenz: *Viking Kara* arrives in Koblenz.

1:00–4:15 PM

***Optional Excursion:** Medieval Marksburg Castle.

1:30–3:45 PM

***Shore Excursion:** Historic Koblenz.

2:30–4:30 PM

***Optional Excursion:** Ehrenbreitstein Fortress.

3:40–6:45 PM

***Optional Excursion:** Moselle Wine Tasting.

**Please bring your personalized ticket, the audio receivers and earpieces from your stateroom with you.*

EVENING

5:30–7:00 PM

Drinks & Live Music: Join fellow guests for a casual get-together in the *Lounge*.

6:45 PM

Port Talk: Program Director Sam invites you to the *Lounge* to find out about tomorrow's excursions and events. Alternatively, you may watch the briefing on your stateroom TV.

7:00 PM

Dinner: We invite you to join us for dinner in the *Restaurant*.

9:00 PM

Evening Entertainment: Koblenz String Quartet (live music). Classy and alluring – enjoy the lively performance of highly talented string players! Join them in the *Lounge* as for an unforgettable evening.

2:00 AM

Cast Off! *Viking Kara* leaves Koblenz for Cologne.

Viking Kara

Contacts

Reception: +49 152 225 38 128

Program Director: +49 152 225 38 187

Ship Location

Koblenz, Germany

Wi-Fi Network: Viking Kara

Wi-Fi: Connect up to two devices (one per guest) simultaneously to your stateroom's complimentary Wi-Fi. To alternate between devices, use your PIN. Please note: Various factors on the rivers may result in slower online connectivity.

Reminder: Please practice the precautionary health actions daily. If you have a fever, feel sick or are experiencing shortness of breath, contact a staff member immediately.

River portrait: The Middle Rhine

"Old Father Rhine," as Germans affectionately call their cherished river, begins as a trickle in the Swiss Alps. From these great heights, it flows 820 miles through several countries to the North Sea. The Upper Rhine carves out Germany's borders with Switzerland and beautiful French Alsace. In the heart of Germany, the Middle Rhine creates a stunning canvas of picturesque forests, vineyards and castles before leveling into the Lower Rhine, The Netherlands and the scenic Rhine River Delta.

Castles and wine take center stage—particularly along the Middle Rhine, brimming with remarkable beauty, history and culture. On the steepest riverbanks, grapes are still harvested by hand, a tradition dating back 2,000 years to when the Romans introduced viticulture to the area. Later, medieval noblemen built soaring castles to oversee trade, collect tolls and defend kingdoms from marauders and power seekers. Storybook villages rise along forested shores. Today, the Rhine—where renowned Rieslings, crisp chardonnays and other vintages are just a pour away—is one of Europe's most spellbinding rivers.

This river valley extends from the old Roman town of Koblenz, via the Lorelei Rock, to Bingen and Rüdesheim, and includes the steep vineyards that produce the famous Rhine wines. In the Romantic era, the Rhine not only carried goods and people from many different countries, but also served as a channel for the exchange of a wealth of cultural influences and ideas. Painters, poets, thinkers and naturalists ventured to the Rhine to interpret its many facets. The artwork born of the region is known today as "Rhine Romantic." Although its popularity peaked at the end of the 19th century, the beloved river is far from forgotten. In recognition of its status as one of the world's oldest and most magnificent cultural landscapes, UNESCO declared the Upper Middle Rhine Valley a World Heritage Site in 2002, stating that it is of "outstanding universal value."

Can you hear the maiden singing?

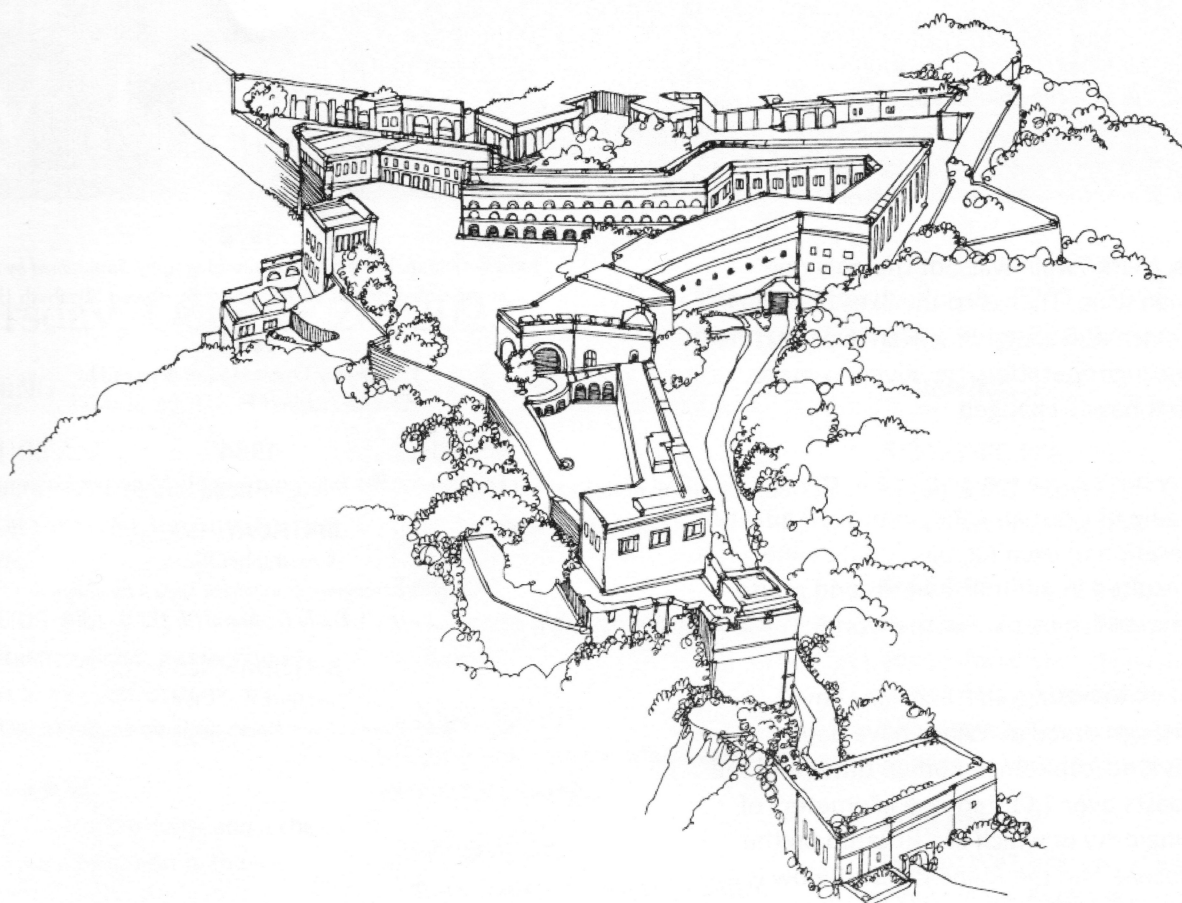
Above Koblenz, at a point where the Rhine narrows and is at its deepest, the steep Lorelei Rock rises from the water. According to legend, it was here that the beautiful Lorelei maiden used to sit and sing sweetly. Woe to the sailor who passed the rock at nightfall and was lured to his doom, transfixed by her beauty and song as the rapid water lashed his vessel against the rocks.

The Schängelbrunnen fountain, a spitting image

If you are in Koblenz and happen to be walking through Willi-Hörter-Platz, you might want to wear a rain hat or tote an umbrella. There is a locally famous statue here of a rascally boy that intermittently spits water at passersby from his fountain perch. The base of the fountain features bas-reliefs depicting little boys engaged in other forms of mischief. The Schängelbrunnen fountain was designed in 1940 by Carl Burger and is dedicated to the poet Josef Cornelius, who wrote the lyrics to the *Schängellied*, a song that is the anthem of Koblenz. But to understand the significance of the song, and the statue, you need to go further back. During the French occupation of 1794–1814, there was a profusion of boys born to French soldiers and German women. They were given the derisive nickname "Jean," which in the local vernacular morphed into "*Schang*" and then "*Schängel*." These street urchins were known for their pranks, and today all Koblenz-born citizens are called "*Schängel*." They have come to embrace the image of Koblenzers as being fun-loving, quick and clever, an identity that is celebrated not only in song: Keep watch for the image of the spitting *Schang* boy on manhole covers throughout the city.

Ehrenbreitstein, the Fortress of Koblenz

Set on a hill overlooking the Deutsches Eck, the "German Corner" where the Moselle and Rhine Rivers meet, Ehrenbreitstein is Europe's largest fortress. The hill upon which it rests was settled as far back as the 4th century BC, and a Roman fortification existed there around 400–500 AD. Construction on the current fortifications was begun around 1100 and expanded during the 16th century. In 1801, Ehrenbreitstein was partially destroyed by Napoleon, and the French occupied Koblenz for the next 18 years. The fort looms some 400 feet above the Rhine's left bank, but do not let its towering height deter you from visiting: you can make the half-mile journey to the summit on board a Seilbahn (cable car) from Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer street. Upon reaching the top, you will find restaurants, lovely gardens and viewing platforms, as well as several museums and multimedia exhibits on the fort's history, photography, archaeology, winemaking and more. It is also a popular setting for outdoor concerts and plays. Festung Ehrenbreitstein is the northernmost point of the Upper Middle Rhine Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



Ehrenbreitstein Fortress

Koblenz, Germany

Koblenz is a traditional German country town at the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle Rivers. Founded more than 2,000 years ago, this former trading settlement rests on a massif of the Middle Rhine Highlands. Its cobblestone streets, wood-beamed houses adorned with flowers, ancient market square and medieval churches recall the fairy-tale Germany of old. At the "German Corner," where the two rivers converge, a massive equestrian statue of Prince William I observes the lovely riverside scene. The famed Teutonic Knights set up their first base here in 1216. The Romanesque Basilica of St. Castor, Koblenz's oldest building, dates to 836.

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Stop by Guest Services today and learn how we can help you experience the most of your destination.

German wines

"The Germans are exceedingly fond of Rhine wines; they are put up in tall, slender bottles, and are considered a pleasant beverage. One tells them from vinegar by the label."—Mark Twain

For many years, Mark Twain was not the only one criticizing German wine. Thanks to the likes of fruity, sweet Liebfraumilch and cheap Blue Nun exports, it had a less than flattering reputation. However, in more recent years, that has all changed.

The 21st century has seen a massive rise in the popularity and sale of German wine. Improved quality and a new generation of exciting, passionate wine growers have resulted in multiple awards and praise from respected wine critics around the world.

As for the art of winemaking, the Germans have certainly had enough practice. Wines have been produced in this landscape since Roman times and the country now boasts over 1,000 square kilometers of vineyards, the majority of which are situated on the banks of the Moselle and the Rhine Rivers. Below is a basic guide to the wine varieties of the Middle Rhine.

WHITE

Riesling: The "queen of grapes" on the Middle Rhine where it enjoys perfect growing conditions. These late-ripening grapes produce exquisite, tangy, acidic wines with fine aromas and mineral notes.

Müller-Thurgau: The hilly vineyards along the Rhine allow this grape to develop a very bold, intense flavor. When served in the right glass, the wine unfolds a flowery, aromatic note of nutmeg.

Kerner: Kerner is one of the mid-to-early wine varieties on the Rhine. An assertive, fruity wine with a character similar to Riesling.

Grauburgunder (pinot gris): A bold, full-bodied, dry wine. Aromas of melon, honey and butter. It can also have smoky, spicy and mineral aromas.

RED

Spätburgunder (pinot noir): The best-known red grape variety from the Middle Rhine: bold, full-bodied and with a velvety, fiery taste.

Dornfelder: Dark-red wines with body, tannin and berry aromas.

Portugieser: If this grape is allowed to fully ripen, it can be soft, velvety and a wonderful deep color.



Today in History

OCTOBER 20

1972

John Betjeman, known for his autobiography *Summoned by Bells*, is appointed British Poet Laureate by Queen Elizabeth II.

1973

The Sydney Opera House, designed by Danish architect Jørn Utzon, opens.

1984

The Monterey Bay Aquarium opens in Monterey, California.

BIRTHDAY: 1632

Christopher Wren

English astronomer & architect; known for designing St. Paul's Cathedral (d. 1723)

BIRTHDAY: 1854

Arthur Rimbaud

French poet & adventurer; known for Illuminations (d. 1891)

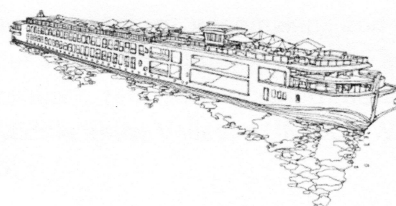


NAUTICAL TERM

— of the day —

GONE BY THE BOARD

This refers to anything seen to have gone overboard or spotted floating past the ship. "By the board" was considered lost at sea.



VIKING DAILY

Friday, October 21, 2022

Weather: Partly cloudy. 67° F / 19° C

Sunrise: 7:42 AM | **Sunset:** 6:57 PM

MORNING

2:00 AM

Cast Off! *Viking Kara* leaves Koblenz for Cologne.

6:00–11:00 AM

Café Breakfast: Coffee and pastries are available at the coffee station in front of the *Lounge*.

6:00–11:00 AM

Continental Breakfast: A selection of beverages and breakfast items are available on the *Aquavit Terrace*.

7:00–9:30 AM

Breakfast: Enjoy a breakfast and a choice of dishes cooked to order in the *Restaurant*.

9:00 AM

Welcome to Cologne: *Viking Kara* arrives in Cologne.

9:15–11:15 AM

***Shore Excursion:** Cologne Walking Tour.

9:45–1:00 PM

Optional Excursion: Cologne by Bicycle.

AFTERNOON

12:00 PM

Lunch: Join us for lunch in the *Restaurant* or on the *Aquavit Terrace*.

1:15–5:15 PM

***Optional Excursion:** Brühl UNESCO Palaces.

4:30 PM

Enrichment Lecture: Germany Today.

Join our guest lecturer Marcus in the *Lounge* as he discusses the daily life of a modern German citizen, covering topics such as average salaries, taxes and housing prices; education and the public transportation system; and cultural idiosyncrasies. Alternatively, you may watch the briefing on your stateroom TV.

EVENING

5:30–7:00 PM

Drinks & Live Music: Join fellow guests for a casual get-together with our onboard musician, Leo in the *Lounge*.

6:00–9:45 PM

Optional Excursion: Cologne's Beer Culture & Dinner.

6:45 PM

Port Talk: Program Director Sam invites you to the *Lounge* to find out about tomorrow's excursions and events. Alternatively, you may watch the briefing on your stateroom TV.

7:00 PM

Dinner: We invite you to join us for dinner in the *Restaurant*.

9:00 PM

Evening Entertainment: Game Night

We welcome you to the *Lounge* to enjoy Game Night, followed by music featuring our onboard musician, Robert.

9:45 PM

Back On Board: Please be back on board the ship by this time. We will depart Cologne for Kinderdijk shortly thereafter.

To avoid the payment process and delays at *Guest Services* on the last night of your cruise, we recommend that you provide your credit card information to Guest Services at your convenience during the cruise. We will use this to settle your account so you may disembark without any delay.

**Please bring your personalized ticket, the audio receivers and earpieces from your stateroom with you.*

Viking Kara

Contacts

Reception: +49 152 225 38 128

Program Director: +49 152 225 38 187

Ship Location

Viking O, Cologne, Germany

Wi-Fi Network: Viking Kara

Wi-Fi: Connect up to two devices (one per guest) simultaneously to your stateroom's complimentary Wi-Fi. To alternate between devices, use your PIN. Please note: Various factors on the rivers may result in slower online connectivity.

Reminder: Please practice the precautionary health actions daily. If you have a fever, feel sick or are experiencing shortness of breath, contact a staff member immediately.

Say it with padlocks

Lovers all around the world have unique ways of showing their affection for each other, but few are as enduring as the act of writing both your name and that of your beloved on a padlock, locking it onto a public fixture and throwing away the key. Though the exact origins of this practice are unknown, its worldwide popularity surged after the publication of the 2006 novel *I Want You*, by Federico Moccia, in which a pair of lovers affixes a bicycle lock to a lamppost and then throws the key into Italy's Tiber River.

Beginning in the first decade of the 21st century, these so-called "love padlocks" began appearing on bridges, fences and walkways across the globe—from Serbia to South Korea and China to the Czech Republic. One of the most impressive lock displays in the world can be found on the Hohenzollernbrücke bridge in Cologne, Germany, scenically set across the Rhine River—into which the keys to the locks are thrown in order to cement the lovers' eternal bond. Couples began affixing the locks to the bridge in 2008, and in just ten years their number grew to an astonishing 40,000 padlocks inscribed with couples' names and romantic messages. The locks themselves are often engraved, painted or decorated with beads, glitter or stickers. Should a pair of lovers find themselves spontaneously moved to participate in the tradition without a padlock handy, fear not—enterprising lock-selling locals can usually be found within the vicinity of the Hohenzollernbrücke. (It is important to note, however, that the city of Cologne will remove any locks that extend too far into the pedestrian or bike paths in the interest of public safety.) In addition to locks, bicycle chains, horseshoes and handcuffs are among the other objects of affection adorning Cologne's loveliest—and most lovestruck—bridge.

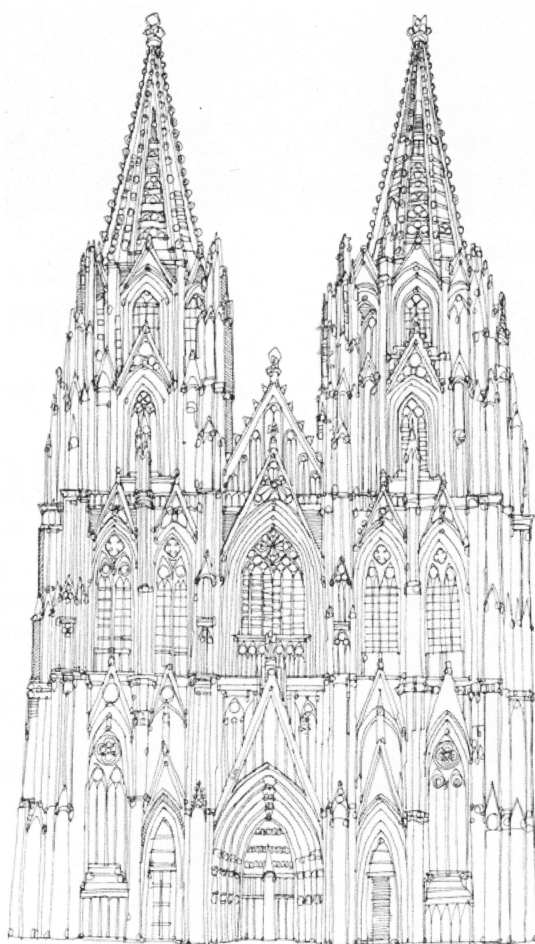
Romantic though the tradition may be, it is not without its detractors. Concerns have been voiced regarding the extra weight being added to the bridge and the potential structural damage that could arise from rusty locks. In 2014, a nearly 8-foot (2.4-meter) railing on Paris's Pont des Arts Bridge collapsed under the weight of its love locks, raising questions around how long the practice can realistically be sustained. The participants' love may last forever, but this 21st-century romantic tradition could, by way of necessity, be only a short-lived fling.

The shrine of the Magi

The incomparable Cologne Cathedral was begun around 1248 and took nearly seven centuries to be completed. But it all started with a small relic: the bones of the Magi, the three kings who paid homage to the infant Jesus. Ever since these relics arrived in Cologne (Frederick Barbarossa stole them from a church in Milan in 1164), thousands of pilgrims began flocking to the city to view them. In 1180, it was decided to place them in a golden sarcophagus, which was to be designed by famed goldsmith Nicholas of Verdun. In 1199, King Otto of Brunswick gifted the church with three golden crowns that were placed on the heads of the kings' remains. The shrine is the largest reliquary in the Western world, and stands some 60 inches high, 87 inches long and 43 inches wide. It is made of wood covered with gold and silver, and decorated with more than a thousand jewels and beads. The significance of the relics, the grandeur of the shrine, the size of the crowds it drew and the money it poured into the city were all factors that led to the construction of Cologne Cathedral in 1248. Today, the shrine stands behind the main altar in a passage that is large enough to accommodate many worshippers. Be sure to see it when you visit Cologne's magnificent Gothic cathedral, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The haunted architect of Cologne Cathedral

When you behold Cologne Cathedral, you may think it divinely inspired. But according to legend, the devil himself had a hand in it. The architect, Gerhard of Ryle, was supervising his workmen when a stranger appeared and said with a sneer, "You will never live to see its completion." Gerhard angrily replied, "I would bet the devil that I shall finish what I started!" The stranger, revealing his satanic identity, said, "Then you have wagered your soul, for before you finish I will dig a canal from Treves to Cologne, and have merry ducks swimming on it." The devil vanished and time passed with no signs of a canal. A relieved Gerhard continued working until, one day, the devil returned. He showed Gerhard an underground stream approaching Cologne, and boasted that ducks would soon swim on it. One night Gerhard muttered in his sleep, "Ducks will never swim underground without air holes at every mile. Satan will never think of this!" But his wife overheard him and Satan tricked her into revealing the secret. One day Gerhard stood atop the church's north tower and saw a silvery stream winding toward the city, with ducks paddling on it. Just as Satan reached to grasp his soul, Gerhard leapt from the tower. For centuries his spirit haunted the cathedral, until it was completed in 1880 and his soul was troubled no more.



Cologne Cathedral

Cologne, Germany

An intriguing mix of old and new, Cologne reveals its Roman heritage in its city layout and the ancient ruins that lie scattered through the town. Cologne's modern plazas and Hohe Strasse, a pedestrian-only shopping zone, host welcoming shops, enticing restaurants and, of course, cologne boutiques. Of particular note is the city's 14th-century cathedral, a stunning example of Gothic artistry and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Spared Allied bombs during World War II, the cathedral's imposing twin spires are visible for miles; stained glass windows fill the interior with brilliant colored light. Its 509 steps lead to a 312-foot platform with astounding views.

Go behind the scenes.

**MAKE THE MOST
OF EVERY PORT.**

Experience your destination more fully. Our carefully tailored optional shore excursions take you beyond the iconic to reveal cultural traditions and natural beauty that too often go unseen.

You may have already booked on MyVikingJourney.com. If not, sign up at Guest Services. But hurry, space is limited.

Prost! (Cheers!)

Cologne is renowned for its wealth of places to eat and drink. Here, you will find everything from gourmet restaurants to more than 100 traditional brewpubs. Should you find yourself in an authentic German *brauhaus*, you can expect to find delicious hearty food and plenty of the city's famous *Kölsch*. This light, crisp beer—by law produced only in Cologne—is served chilled by waiters called *köbes* wearing the traditional costume of the brewery. They carry the *Kölsch* to your table on a circular tray called a “crown,” which has been specially designed for the *Kölsch* glasses (*stangen*). The glasses are small, but beware—this distinctive hybrid, with its signature ale-style fermentation and lager-style conditioning, is surprisingly strong, and if you do not put a mat over your glass to indicate that you have had enough, your drink will be swiftly refilled. Today, Cologne is home to more than a dozen *Kölsch*-brewing institutions; no matter which of them you choose, you can rest assured that your beer will be served fresh, as it is always brewed in small batches since it keeps well for only three months.

The history of Cologne's signature beer is an interesting one. In 1603, the city passed a law stating that only top-fermented beers—that is, ales—were to be brewed within its limits. The reasons for this are unclear, though many hypothesize that, without any means of refrigeration, the city's climate was not able to accommodate lager brewing's necessary fine-tuning of the beer's fermentation temperature. Whatever the logic behind it, this law allowed a few medieval styles of German ale—forerunners of today's *Kölsch*—to survive into modern times.

The first instance of the word *Kölsch* being used to describe the city's trademark brew can be traced to 1918. Though hit hard by strict rationing during World War I, within the next few decades over 40 breweries sprang up within the city; following World War II, only three remained, and it was several more decades before the beer scene in Cologne began to regain its former popularity. As for *Kölsch* itself, it did not truly begin to catch on until the 1960s; by the 1980s, the amount of *Kölsch* produced in the city had more than septupled, growing from 50 million to 370 million liters.

On March 6, 1986, 24 Cologne breweries came together to declare the name *Kölsch* reserved only for beer of this type produced within the city—a law and a tradition that has been carried on ever since. *Prost!*



Today in History

OCTOBER 21

1520

Ferdinand Magellan and his fleet reach Cape Virgenes, becoming the 1st Europeans to sail into the Pacific Ocean.

1879

Thomas Edison invents a working incandescent electric lamp.

1959

The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum of modern and contemporary art, designed by architect Frank Lloyd Wright, opens in New York City.

BIRTHDAY: 1772

Samuel Taylor Coleridge

English Romantic poet; known for The Rime of the Ancient Mariner (d. 1834)

BIRTHDAY: 1833

Alfred Nobel

Swedish chemist; inventor of dynamite & founder of the Nobel Prize (d. 1896)

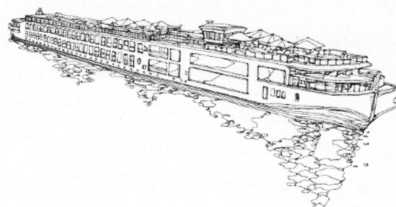


NAUTICAL TERM

— of the day —

ABOVE BOARD

This is anything on or above the open deck. If something is open and in plain view, it is “above board.”



VIKING DAILY

Saturday, October 22, 2022

Weather: Partly cloudy. 65° F / 18° C
Sunrise: 8:17 AM | **Sunset:** 6:03 PM

MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING
<p>6:00–11:00 AM Café Breakfast: Coffee and pastries are available at the coffee station in front of the <i>Lounge</i>.</p> <p>6:00–11:00 AM Continental Breakfast: A selection of beverages and breakfast items are available <i>on the Aquavit Terrace</i>.</p> <p>7:30–10:00 AM Breakfast: Enjoy a breakfast and a choice of dishes cooked to order in the <i>Restaurant</i>.</p> <p>10:00 AM Disembarkation Details: Please meet Program Director Sam in the <i>Lounge</i> to be briefed on details for your disembarkation. We request that at least one person per stateroom attend. Alternatively, you may watch the briefing on your stateroom TV.</p>	<p>12:30 PM Lunch: Join us for lunch in the <i>Restaurant</i> or on the <i>Aquavit Terrace</i>.</p> <p>2:00 PM Welcome to Kinderdijk: <i>Viking Kara</i> arrives in Kinderdijk.</p> <p>2:15–4:15 PM *Optional Excursion: Kinderdijk by Vintage Barge.</p> <p>2:15–4:15 PM Optional Excursion: Kinderdijk Windmills by Bicycle.</p> <p>2:15–6:15 PM *Optional Excursion: Kinderdijk Windmills & Dutch Cheese Making.</p> <p>2:20–4:30 PM *Shore Excursion: Kinderdijk Windmills. Group B leaves at 2:20 PM Group C leaves at 2:25 PM Group D leaves at 2:30 PM</p> <p><i>*Please bring your personalized ticket, the audio receivers and earpieces from your stateroom with you.</i></p>	<p>5:00–7:00 PM Drinks & Live Music: Join fellow guests for a casual get-together in the <i>Lounge</i>.</p> <p>6:30 PM Back On Board: <i>Viking Kara</i> leaves Kinderdijk for Amsterdam.</p> <p>6:45 PM Farewell Toast: Join Hotel Manager Francisco and Program Director Sam for a farewell toast to celebrate your Viking journey, new friends and happy memories.</p> <p>7:00 PM Dinner: We invite you to join us for dinner in the <i>Restaurant</i> or on the <i>Aquavit Terrace</i> which will open 15 minutes after the <i>Restaurant</i> hours.</p> <p>9:00 PM Evening Entertainment: Duo Cherry Pop (live music). Join us in the <i>Lounge</i> for a nostalgic musical journey as the Suited trio presents popular songs from the 1950s to the 1980s with a twist. Alternatively, you may watch the briefing on your stateroom TV.</p>

Viking Kara

Contacts

Reception: +49 152 225 38 128

Program Director: +49 152 225 38 187

Ship Location

Kinderdijk, The Netherlands

Wi-Fi Network: Viking Kara

Wi-Fi: Connect up to two devices (one per guest) simultaneously to your stateroom's complimentary Wi-Fi. To alternate between devices, use your PIN. Please note: Various factors on the rivers may result in slower online connectivity.

Reminder: Please practice the precautionary health actions daily. If you have a fever, feel sick or are experiencing shortness of breath, contact a staff member immediately.

Fast facts: Windmills

- A typical dictionary definition of a windmill states that it is “an apparatus that harnesses wind power for a variety of uses, e.g., pumping water and driving electrical generators.” Windmills are most closely associated with using wind to generate power to grind grain into flour.
- People who design, build or repair windmills are called “millwrights”
- A Greek engineer living in Roman Egypt in the 1st century AD is credited as the inventor of the windmill, using it to power a machine. His name stands as a reminder of the machine’s importance—he was called simply “Hero.”
- The Persians were also windmill builders, as the concept became widespread in the Middle East, China and India
- Windmills did not catch on in Europe until the 18th and 19th centuries, although there are references to mills (likely animal- or water-driven) in the 11th-century English manuscript *Domesday Book*
- The development of the post-mill saw windmills become even more efficient. The post-mill could rotate its head so that its sails faced the direction of the wind.
- It is said that “windmills built The Netherlands.” Without windmills, water could not have been drained away from the flat, marshy lands of Holland and farmers could not have grown fruit, vegetables or tulips.
- Of course, windmills have their disadvantages—they rely on wind to generate power and so are useless without it. This is why steam power replaced wind power and led to many windmills falling into disrepair. The ancient windmills that are still intact today are used mostly to decorate the landscape.
- The phrase “tilting at windmills” is used to describe the act of attacking imaginary enemies or fighting pointless battles. This expression originates from an incident in the book *Don Quixote*, written by Spanish author Miguel de Cervantes in 1605. Quixote is a retired country gentleman who becomes convinced that he is a chivalrous knight and embarks on several “adventures,” to the bemusement of all he meets. One passage in the book details how, while riding on his skinny old farm horse, he attacks windmills in the mistaken belief that they are giants.
- Puppet Windy Miller of the 1960s British television series *Camberwick Green*—a show about the daily goings-on in the fictional village of Camberwick—was superstitious and lived in a windmill. Whenever he wanted the wind to turn the sails, he simply whistled for good luck.

Country profile: The Netherlands

SIZE: 16,039 square miles—roughly twice the size of Wales and half the size of Indiana

POPULATION: 17 million (July 2018 est., CIA World Factbook)

LANGUAGE: Dutch

CURRENCY: Euro (EUR)

GEOGRAPHY: Few countries feature so much land below sea level; about half the country consists of reclaimed land, and an extensive range of sea walls and coastal dunes protect the land from the sea while levees and dikes along the rivers protect against river flooding. And few countries are as flat as The Netherlands, whose higher lands in the east and south contain only small hills.

RELIGION: 23.6% Roman Catholic, 14.9% Protestant (includes 6.4% Dutch Reformed, 5.6% Protestant Church of the Netherlands, 2.9% Calvinist), 5.1% Islam, 56.4% none/other/unspecified

Kinderdijk and the cat’s cradle

Kinderdijk means “children’s dike,” and it refers to a legend surrounding St. Elizabeth’s Flood of 1421, which took many lives. After the storm, a local boy went to inspect the damage at a dike that separated the Alblasserwaard and Grote Hollandse Waard. He was astonished to see a wooden cradle rocking on the water—and even more so to see a cat jumping back and forth on it, trying to keep it from tipping over. Inside was a sleeping baby girl, safe and dry. Another version places the story in pre-Christian times, when an old family matriarch might forbid a poor daughter-in-law from feeding a female newborn as a means of preserving scarce resources. This version holds that a kindly midwife allowed a drop of honey to fall onto the lips of a starving baby, because tribal law held that once a child had tasted food it could be saved. She then hid the little girl and called her Honigje, or “little Honey.” The child was often watched by a loving cat named Dubbeltje, and it was this cat who jumped into the cradle as the floodwaters rose, saving Honigje by rocking the cradle in the waves. The cat survived through all of her nine lives and finally expired along with her beloved and now elderly Honigje. They were buried together, and every year on St. Nicholas Day (December 6), Dutch children give their pet kitties new collars in honor of Dubbeltje.

Departure Information

Time to Place Your Luggage Outside Your Stateroom Door	Room Number & Colored Luggage Tag	Flight Number	Time of Departure from Ship
NIGHT PRIOR	Green Luggage Tag 341	DL9640	3:00 AM
NIGHT PRIOR	Light Orange Luggage Tag 320,324,328	DL9640	3:00 AM
NIGHT PRIOR	Blue Luggage Tag 210,212,214(1),330,339	DL71	4:00 AM
NIGHT PRIOR	Orange Luggage Tag 113,115,217,222,230,232,215,236, 315,321,327	DL9391, KL661, DL57, AA6435, BA429, DL143	5:45 AM
5:00 AM	Purple Luggage Tag 102,103,114,200,233,237, 301,305,329,334,336	AA203, AF5595, DL161, UA908, KL691	6:45 AM
7:00 AM	Grey Luggage Tag 106,117,202,205,216,224,323	UA8511, LH6842, KL611, DL179	8:00 AM
7:00 AM	Red Luggage Tag 104,109,112,118,121,125, 203,204,219,227,231,335,337	POST EXTENSION- AMSTERDAM	8:30 AM
8:00 AM	Blue Luggage Tag 312	POST EXTENSION- HAGUE	9:00 AM
8:00 AM	Brown Luggage Tag 116	DL75	9:00 AM
8:00 AM	Green Luggage Tag 226,228,235,311	DL257, UA969 KL6054	10:30 AM
Contact Guest Services for transfer arrangements.	Black & White Luggage Tag 107,108,110,111(1), 234,120,123,201,206,207(1),208(1), 209,211,213,221,223,225,229, 303,307,308,309,313,317,325, 331,332,333,338	TAXI AND INDIVIDUAL DEPARTURES	

Dutch cheese

Cheese—or *kaas*, in Dutch—has been serious business in The Netherlands for hundreds of years. In some towns, the cheese trade dates back to the 14th century. Traditionally, cheese makers delivered their products from their farms to the town square on market day, either by horse-drawn cart or by boat. There, the town's official "guild cheese porters," or *kaasdragers*, carried the cheese to the buyers' stalls on stretchers for sampling. Each stretcher could weigh 300 pounds or more! Then the clapping started. In this unique, ritualistic haggling process—called *handjeklap*—farmers and buyers shouted out prices and clapped each other's hands until a price had been agreed upon, at which point the two would shake hands. Then the porters lugged the cheese to the town Waag, or weighing house. Tons of cheese could change hands in a single day, and the whole procedure was quite an event.

The Netherlands' low, flat lands and abundant grazing pasture are packed with rich soil and kissed by a salty sea wind, making for a healthy diet for cattle. Edam and Gouda, each of which is named for the Dutch town in which it originated, are the most popular Dutch cheeses, together accounting for about three-quarters of The Netherlands' total cheese production. Their ongoing popularity has much to do with their packaging. Wrapped in a paraffin wax—red, yellow or black, depending on the cheese's age—these cheeses do not spoil; rather, they harden and become saltier.

Gouda is one of the oldest types of cheese in the world that is still in production, having first appeared in The Netherlands around the end of the 12th century. While young Gouda, aged no more than six months, works best as a sandwich topping, Netherlandsers prefer mature Gouda (aged at least six months) when eating cubes of it on their own or with mustard. Edam, which has been exported from Holland since the 14th century and was the world's most popular cheese for around 400 years, is softer and milder than Gouda and often eaten on its own as a snack, as part of a cheese board or in combination with fruit such as apples or pears.

Today, The Netherlands produce 1.4 billion lbs. (650 million kg) of cheese every year, two-thirds of which is exported—making this country that is less than twice the size of the US state of New Jersey the largest cheese exporter in the world.



Today in History

OCTOBER 22

1797

André-Jacques Garnerin makes the 1st parachute jump, leaping from a hot-air balloon at 3,200 feet and landing unscathed.

1836

Sam Houston is inaugurated as the 1st president of the Republic of Texas.

1881

The Boston Symphony Orchestra performs its 1st concert, featuring pieces by Beethoven, Gluck, Haydn and Schubert.

1936

The 1st passenger flight between the US and Hawaii lands safely.

BIRTHDAY: 1811

Franz Liszt

Hungarian Romantic composer & virtuoso pianist; known for his Faust Symphony (d. 1886)

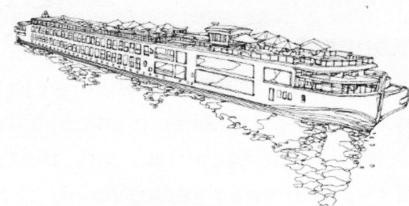


NAUTICAL TERM

— of the day —

OVERWHELM

This is the Old English term for "capsize" or "founder," as in a shipwreck.



VIKING DAILY

Sunday, October 23, 2022

Thank you for traveling with Viking on Viking Kara

It has been a pleasure to serve you, and a privilege to share your journey—we hope that you had a wonderful time. Should you be continuing to travel with us by land, we look forward to continuing to host you.

We wish you a safe and comfortable journey, no matter what your next destination may be.

Sincerely,
Your Viking Staff

Weather: Mostly cloudy 60° F / 15° C

Sunrise: 7:55 AM | **Sunset:** 6:59 PM

MORNING

3:00–11:00 AM

Café Breakfast: Coffee, juice and pastries are available at the coffee station in front of the *Lounge*.

4:00–10:00 AM

Continental Breakfast: A selection of beverages and breakfast items are available on the *Aquavit Terrace*.

Please place your luggage marked with your name in front of your stateroom door according to the given departure information list.

7:00–9:00 AM

Breakfast: Enjoy a breakfast and a choice of dishes cooked to order in the *Restaurant*.

By 8:00 AM

Please vacate your stateroom and settle your account at *Guest Services*. If you have already provided your credit card information for your account, please vacate your stateroom, enjoy your breakfast and we wish you a safe and comfortable journey.

Viking Kara

Contacts

Reception: +49 152 225 38 128

Program Director: +49 152 225 38 187

Ship Location

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Wi-Fi Network: Viking Kara

Wi-Fi: Connect up to two devices (one per guest) simultaneously to your stateroom's complimentary Wi-Fi. To alternate between devices, use your PIN. Please note: Various factors on the rivers may result in slower online connectivity.

Reminder: Please practice the precautionary health actions daily. If you have a fever, feel sick or are experiencing shortness of breath, contact a staff member immediately.

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*Your Day. Your Story.
With Viking.*

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Famous Dutch faces

Hieronymus Bosch (c.1450–1516): Born Jeroen Anthonissen van Aken, this Dutch painter's works are known for depicting humankind's evil side. Bosch used images of demons, half-human animals and machines to evoke a sense of fear and confusion in the viewer. Obscure even in his own time, his works make complex, dense and highly original use of symbolic figures and icons.

William Henry of Orange (William III) (1650–1702): Along with his wife (and first cousin), Mary, William III served as the namesake for Virginia's College of William & Mary. The twosome became joint sovereigns of England, Scotland and Ireland after the Glorious Revolution; in modern-day Northern Ireland, William III is often informally referred to as "King Billy."

Thomas Alva Edison (1847–1931): One of the most prolific inventors of all time, Edison's devices include the phonograph, the motion picture camera and the practical, long-lasting electric light bulb. His great-great-grandfather John Edison emigrated to the US from The Netherlands in 1730; given that Thomas Alva Edison was a direct descendant of the original Dutch settlers, he was able to obtain membership in the exclusive Holland Society, in which he remained active throughout his life. The oldest music award in The Netherlands, the Edison, was named after the famed inventor; winners receive a bronze statuette bearing Edison's likeness.

Margaretha Geertruida Zelle MacLeod (1876–1917): An exotic dancer and courtesan known by the stage name "Mata Hari," MacLeod was part of The Netherlands' Frisian minority. Her dramatic (fictional) backstory, tantalizing dancing and elaborate costumes quickly won favor among the turn-of-the-century Paris elite. During World War I, she was accused by the French secret police of being a spy for Germany, convicted and executed by firing squad.

M. C. Escher (1898–1972): Graphic artist Maurits Cornelis Escher is known for his often mathematically inspired woodcuts, lithographs and mezzotints. Despite his enduring popularity, his work was not immediately appreciated during his lifetime, and a retrospective was not held in Escher's native Netherlands until the artist's 70th birthday. Today, his unusual perspectives—including depictions of impossible objects and explorations of infinity—continue to exert their influence on science, art and popular culture.

THANK YOU FOR BEING OUR GUEST!

takk for at du er vår gjest!

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

City of charming canals, elegant gabled houses, splendid museums and abundant bicycles, the Dutch capital of Amsterdam is a delight to explore. Its patchwork of waterways forms about 90 islands connected by 1,500 bridges. The legacy of the Dutch Golden Age lives on in gilded manses and in the lush paintings of Rembrandt and other Dutch masters that adorn the Rijksmuseum, The Netherlands' grand repository of art and cultural history. Today, discovering Amsterdam is a pleasure best pursued on foot, following tranquil canals past charming narrow-fronted houses. Linger over classic Dutch pancakes, or take a *stroopwafel* to go.

Amsterdam by numbers

More than 50 museums: From the world-famous Rijksmuseum to obscure but fascinating smaller museums.

165 canals: With a combined length of 60 miles (100 km), the canals provide visitors with the best way to see the city.

302 statues & sculptures: From Rembrandt to Anne Frank and many diverse subjects in between.

1,281 bridges: Many can open to allow ships to pass. In Amsterdam, saying "the bridge was open" is a popular excuse for arriving late to school or work.

2,500 houseboats: In all shapes and sizes, from small, simple structures to custom-built multistory floating homes.

6,800 old buildings: An astonishing number of 16th-, 17th- and 18th-century structures—many of which line the canals.

881,000 bicycles: In the world's most bicycle-friendly city, 780,000 residents own more than 800,000 bicycles.

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To learn more, see Guest Services or visit viking.com.

Ship category: Mid-size ship 300–799 cabins. From August 2022 *Travel + Leisure*®, 2022 Travel + Leisure Holdco, LLC, a subsidiary of Wyndham Destinations, Inc. *Travel + Leisure* is published by TI Inc. Affluent Media Group, a subsidiary of Meredith Operations Corporation. Meredith Operations Corporation is not affiliated with Wyndham Destinations, Inc. or its subsidiaries. All rights reserved. *Travel + Leisure*® is a registered trademark of Travel + Leisure Holdco, LLC, a subsidiary of Wyndham Destinations, Inc. and is used under limited license. Viking Cruises is not affiliated with Wyndham Destination, Inc. or its subsidiaries.



Today in History

OCTOBER 23

1915

25,000 women march in New York City, demanding the right to vote; they are led by Dr. Anna Howard Shaw and Carrie Chapman Catt, founder of the League of Women Voters.

1946

The United Nations General Assembly convenes for the 1st time in New York City.

BIRTHDAY: 1835

Adlai Ewing Stevenson

American vice president & congressman (d. 1914)

BIRTHDAY: 1905

Gertrude Caroline Ederle

American swimmer; 1st woman to swim the English Channel, breaking the previous men's record (d. 2003)



NAUTICAL TERM

— of the day —

BETWEEN THE DEVIL AND THE DEEP BLUE SEA

The “devil seam” was the curved seam in the deck planking closest to the side of the ship next to the scupper gutters. If a sailor slipped on the deck, he could find himself “between the devil and the deep blue sea.”

