



## Fire On The Rhine France Germany, & Switzerland 13 Days 11 Nights April 27<sup>th</sup> –May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011 \$ 2,999 per person double occupancy, single supplement \$549

This trip includes 4 star and superior class hotels, air transportation, all taxes, fees and surcharges at the time of printing; 11 breakfasts and 3 dinners, all admissions as indicated, reservations and tickets for the boat parade to experience the "Rhine in Flames" special event, a ride on the Glacier Express train, an excursion to the top of Mt. Schlithorn in Switzerland, visits to Neuschwanstein Castle and the Hofbrauhaus in Munich to see the show, tips for driver and local guides.



Each year in early May Germany holds a spectacular festival on the Rhine to kick off the Summer season. On Saturday May 7, 2011 The TE has reserved a limited number of tickets for the "**Rhine in Flames**" boat parade. Over 2000 Bengal red lights will guide over 60 illuminated boats, downstream to see 5 spectacular fireworks displays on seven mountains. The 26km stretch is an experience not to be missed. The evening ends with a giant fireworks display in Bonn. On the boat we have included a dinner and you can purchase the local beer and wine at reasonable prices. There will be a band with music and dancing. This is one of the most popular events in Germany; over a half a million people camp out along the Rhine. Tickets for the boats are difficult to get, they sell out fast and must be reserved about a year in advance. Act fast to secure your place on this trip. We have reserved only a limited number of spaces.

Along with the "**Rhine in Flames**" the trip will include many other highlights.

**Day 1. April 27<sup>th</sup>** Fly through the night to Germany meal drinks and movies included.

**Day 2. April 28<sup>th</sup>** Your adventure begins when we make a stop in Hidelberg Germany where you will have time to walk through the old town. One can grab a bite in a local beer hall and try a great local pint After our visit it is on to **Strasbourg**, on the French German border. The capital of Alsace, Strasbourg has covered bridges and towers from the former fortification. Major sights include the **Cathedral Notre-Dame de Strasbourg** and **La Petite France**, the most interesting quarter of Strasbourg. Its 16<sup>th</sup> Century houses are mirrored in waters of the Ill River. The city and architecture is more German than French and the food is spectacular. Why not try one of the specialties of the region. We will be staying in the center of the city with the important sights including the **Cathedral and La Petite Fance** in easy walking distance.

**Day 3 - April 29th** After breakfast there will be an included excursion along the **German/French wine road** to the small town of **Colmar**, one of the most attractive villages in Alsace. **Colmar** is filled with many medieval and early Renaissance buildings with half-timbered structures. We will include a wine tasting. Along the route there will be a stop in the beautiful small town of **Riquewihr**. It's well preserved walls and towers, great wine presses and old wells are sights to see and photograph.

**Day 4. April 30th Strasbourg-Rhine Falls-Lucerne.** Travel through the enchanting **Black Forest**. There will be a stop in a fairy tale village of **Lake Titisee** where you may come upon a little elf working on a cuckoo clock. This is one of the most beautiful parts of Germany. Don't forget to try the famous black forest cake with a cappuccino or beer. Our other stop will be at Schalfhausen to see the spectacular **Rhine Falls**. Upon arrival in the afternoon there will be time to start your exploration of **Lucerne**

**Day 5. May 1st** Today's excursion will take us on a short rail and cable-car ride journey up 9,734 feet to the top of the **Mt. Schilthorn**. to enjoy its 360 degree panorama. Some of you may remember the James Bond film "On Her Majesty's Secret Service." The most spectacular scenes were filmed here. You will also visit the alpine town of **Murren**. There will be time to explore the beautiful town of **Interlaken** before we return to **Lucerne**.



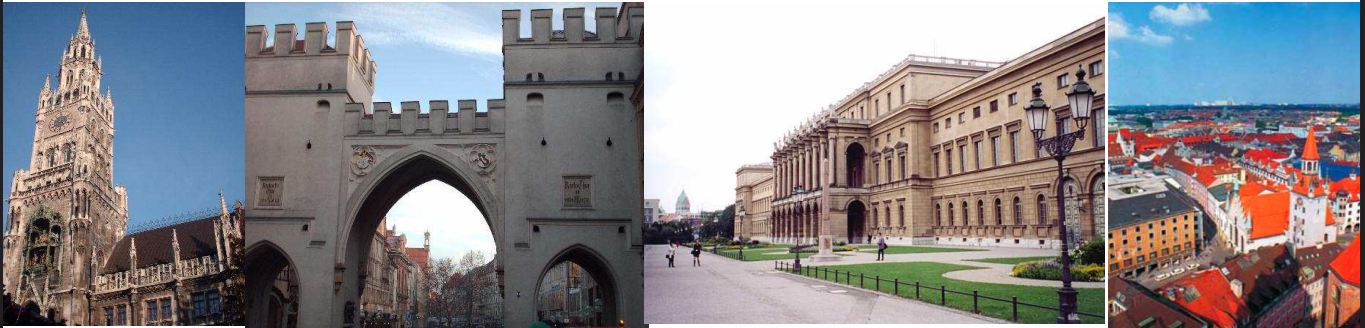
**Day 6. May 2nd** A spectacular portion of the **Glacier Express** route will be our included excursion today. The coach bus will take us to the small town of Andermatt to board the train to **Churn**. Spectacular scenery awaits you. The train will climb thousands of feet, punctuated by avalanche fences. Upon arrival in Churn there will be some time to explore one of the oldest towns in Switzerland. We return to **Lucerne** in the late afternoon.



**Day 7. May 3rd** Travel today through **Bavaria** on route to **Neuschwanstein Castle**. This fairy-tale castle of Ludwig took over 17 years to build. There is a copy of it in Disneyland. The outside is the most spectacular part of the Castle. We do plan to include a guided tour if time permits. This evening we head for **Munich**. Dinner included at a local restaurant.



**Day 8. May 4th** This morning a local guide will take us on a tour of **Munich**. There will be an included visit to **Nymphenburg Palace**. There will also be a visit to the Picturesque Old Town. You will walk along the **Marienplatz** and see the famous "**Glockenspiel Clock.**" Free afternoon to explore, shop and enjoy beer and a bratwurst. This evening we include a show and buffet dinner at the most famous beer garden the world, the **Hofbrauhaus**.



**Day 9. May 5th** We take the **Romantic Road** making a stop in **Dinkelsbühl or other town along the romantic road.** before reaching the famous medieval town of **Rothenburg ODT.** **Rothenburg** is the best preserved walled town in Germany. Here you will be brought back to the Middle Ages. There will be time to explore, walk the wall, and or visit the Criminal Museum or shop for beer mugs and other handcrafts. In the evening it should be possible take the Night Watchman tour and be brought back to the past. **Rothenburg** has many great restaurants and beer gardens. The TE will make recommendations and suggestions.

**Day.10. May 6th** There will be time in the morning to continue to explore **Rothenburg** before our departure for **Cologne.** When we arrive in Cologne there will be time to explore the city and waterfront. The Cologne Cathedral is one of the most spectacular in the world. Our hotel will be in the center of the city with easy walking distance to the sights and shops.



**Day 11. May 7th** Free morning in Cologne to sightsee and shop. In the early afternoon we depart for **Bonn** for some free time before our spectacular "**Fire on the Rhine**" cruise. This evening's spectacular will provide memories that will last a lifetime. The "Fire on the Rhine" Cruise with dinner will depart in the early evening and return about 11:00pm. Five towns will have spectacular fireworks shows ending in the largest one in Bonn. People from all over Germany and other countries line the shores of the Rhine. Tickets sell out very fast so we suggest that you sign up immediately if you are interested in this trip.



**Day 12. May 8th** On our last full day in Germany our coach bus will take us to visit small towns along the Rhine. The final stop will be in **Rudesheim**, the town with the smallest main street in the world. We will be visiting Germany when **Spargel**, the famous white asparagus is in season. It is a special delicacy that is served with hollandaise sauce. Once you try it you will probably want more.

**Day 13. May 9th** Early departure back to the US, with great pictures, memories and possibly a slight hangover.

**Fire On The Rhine**  
**France Germany & Switzerland**  
**April 27-May 9th 2011**  
**\$2,999pp dbl. occ.**  
**Single Supplement**  
**\$549**

Names(S) as they appear on passport \_\_\_\_\_

Roomate if any \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

To reserve space please send a \$100 nonrefundable deposit per person & a copy of your passport

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