

olivia™

THE TRAVEL COMPANY FOR LGBTQ+ WOMEN

AMSTERDAM TO SWITZERLAND RIVERBOAT CRUISE

APRIL 11-18, 2023
on board *Avalon Expression*

AMSTERDAM
COLOGNE | RHINE GORGE
RÜDESHEIM | MAINZ
HEIDELBERG | STRASBOURG
BREISACH | BASEL



Cruise the Rhine River with the women of Olivia, starting in the extremely LGBTQ-friendly city of Amsterdam and ending in delightful Basel.

How better to visit Holland, Germany, France, and Switzerland all within a week's time? Stroll along the canals learning about Amsterdam's amazing history, view fields of vividly colored tulips in bloom, experience castles on the Rhine, and enjoy the fabled Black Forest, where Cuckoo clocks are made. Included walking or city tours in most ports ensure you see the best of the best as you immerse yourself in the rich local cultures. Pastries, cheese, and chocolate will be treats for the taste buds along the way!





ITINERARY SUMMARY

Tuesday, April 11, 2023

Wednesday, April 12, 2023

Thursday, April 13, 2023

Friday, April 14, 2023

Saturday, April 15, 2023

Sunday, April 16, 2023

Monday, April 17, 2023

Tuesday, April 18, 2023

Amsterdam, the Netherlands (all aboard at 5 pm)

Amsterdam, the Netherlands

Cologne, Germany

Rhine Gorge and Rüdesheim, Germany

Mainz and Heidelberg, Germany

Strasbourg, France

Breisach, Germany

Basel, Switzerland (disembark)

**Itinerary is subject to change due to weather, locks, schedule, river traffic, and water levels.*

INCLUDED

- Accommodations for 8 days/7 nights on the *Avalon Expression*, one of the finest riverboats on the Rhine
- All meals while on board
- Champagne with breakfast; coffee, tea, and juices with all meals; beer, wine, and soft drinks with lunch and dinner
- Standard wifi in all cabins and public areas
- Olivia entertainment and programming as well as local entertainment
- Included sightseeing tours in each port
- Gratuities to ship crew and Avalon cruise director
- Group transfer from the ship in Basel to the Zürich airport on April 18, 2023
- Olivia staff assistance throughout

NOT INCLUDED

Flights to Amsterdam and from Zürich; transfer from the airport to the ship in Amsterdam; optional tours; alcoholic beverages, bottled water, and soft drinks (except where indicated); laundry; phone; travel insurance; and personal incidentals.





You'll find elegant, contemporary design and panoramic windows throughout the beautifully designed 166-passenger *Avalon Expression*.

The spaces to relax and unwind include the library, a beautiful bar, a lounge serving premium spirits (extra charge), a fitness center, hair salon, and the fabulous sundeck with a whirlpool and area for deck games. The ship's staterooms and suites are well appointed and among the largest available on any riverboat; almost every stateroom features sliding glass doors.

Fine dining on the *Avalon Expression* features European cuisine. Breakfast and lunch are served buffet style, and dinner is offered as sit-down menu service with open seating. The daily full buffet breakfast offers early- and late-riser options and includes sparkling wine, complimentary juices, and a made-to-order egg station. Lunch and dinner come with complimentary regional wines, beer, and soft drinks. Enjoy al fresco lunches in the Sky Bistro on the sun deck and the four-course chef-inspired dinners featuring regional cuisine. Premium coffees, cappuccinos, and lattes are always on offer, and you can make use of the self-serve coffee station as well.





Some of the other features and amenities you'll enjoy on board:

- Complimentary wifi access
- An entirely nonsmoking interior
- Elevator
- Laundry service (check pricing on board)
- Remarkable service throughout the cruise
- English-speaking crew

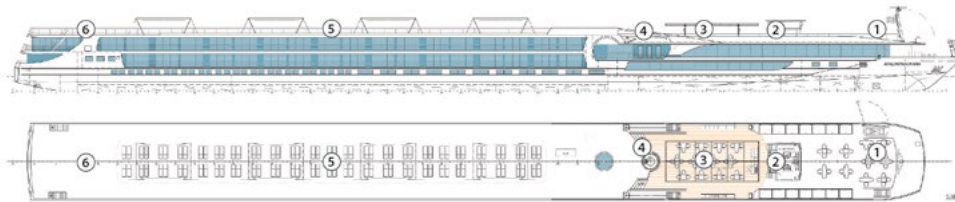


AVALON SUITE SHIPS[®]

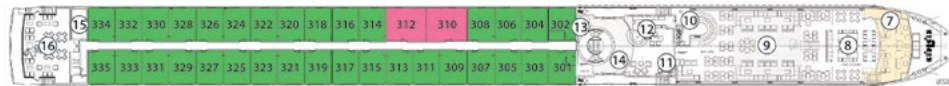
AVALON EXPRESSION[®] (2013)

Passengers: 166 | Crew Members: 47 | Length: 443 ft. | Decks: 4
 Royal Suites: 2 (300 sq. ft.) | Panorama SuitesSM: 65 (200 sq. ft.) | Deluxe Staterooms: 16 (172 sq. ft.)

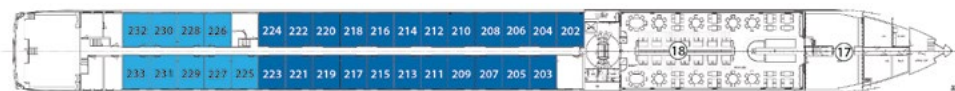
SKY DECK



ROYAL DECK



SAPPHIRE DECK



INDIGO DECK



AVALON EXPRESSION DECK MAP

DECK PLAN

- | | | |
|---|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Sky Lounge | 6 Deck Game Area | 13 Elevator |
| 2 Navigation Bridge | 7 Observation Lounge | 14 Atrium |
| 3 Sky Bistro | 8 Panorama Bistro | 15 Hair Salon |
| 4 Whirlpool | 9 Panorama Lounge | 16 Club Lounge |
| 5 Premium Lounge
Chairs and Shade
Awnings | 10 Bar | 17 Galley |
| | 11 Internet Corner | 18 Dining Room |
| | 12 Reception | 19 Fitness center |

CATEGORIES

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| Royal Suite | Royal Deck Royal Suites |
| Cat. P | Royal Deck Panorama Suites |
| Cat. A | Sapphire Deck Forward Panorama Suites |
| Cat. B | Sapphire Deck Aft Panorama Suites |
| Cat. D | Indigo Deck Aft Deluxe Staterooms |
| Cat. E | Indigo Deck Forward Deluxe Staterooms |

DELUXE STATEROOMS



DELUXE STATEROOM, CATEGORY E

EARLY BIRD \$3,599 PP REGULAR \$4,699 PP

Located on the Indigo deck, this Deluxe Stateroom features small windows above the waterline, a Comfort Collection bed that can convert to two single beds, soft and firm nonallergenic pillows, Egyptian super-combed cotton linens, flat-screen satellite TV with movie channels, telephone, minibar, full shower with glass doors, robes, slippers, writing desk and chair, and full-length closets. 172 sq ft.



DELUXE STATEROOM, CATEGORY D

EARLY BIRD \$3,699 PP REGULAR \$4,799 PP

Located on the Indigo deck, this Deluxe Stateroom features small windows above the waterline, a Comfort Collection bed that can convert to two single beds, soft and firm nonallergenic pillows, Egyptian super-combed cotton linens, flat-screen satellite TV with movie channels, telephone, minibar, full shower with glass doors, robes, slippers, writing desk and chair, and full-length closets. 172 sq ft.

PANORAMA SUITES



PANORAMA SUITE, CATEGORY B

EARLY BIRD \$4,799 PP REGULAR \$6,299 PP

Located on the Sapphire deck aft, this Panorama Suite features floor-to-ceiling windows, a Comfort Collection bed that can convert to two single beds, soft and firm nonallergenic pillows, Egyptian super-combed cotton linens, flat-screen satellite TV with movie channels, telephone, minibar, bathroom with marble counter, robes, slippers, writing desk and chair, sofa, and full-length closets. 200 sq ft.

PANORAMA SUITE, CATEGORY A

EARLY BIRD \$4,899 PP REGULAR \$6,399 PP

Located on the Sapphire deck, this Panorama Suite features floor-to-ceiling windows, a Comfort Collection bed that can convert to two single beds, soft and firm nonallergenic pillows, Egyptian super-combed cotton linens, flat-screen satellite TV with movie channels, telephone, minibar, bathroom with marble counter, robes, slippers, writing desk and chair, sofa, and full-length closets. 200 sq ft.



PANORAMA SUITE, CATEGORY P

EARLY BIRD \$4,999 PP REGULAR \$6,499 PP

Located on the Royal deck, this Panorama Suite features floor-to-ceiling windows, a Comfort Collection bed that can convert to two single beds, soft and firm nonallergenic pillows, Egyptian super-combed cotton linens, flat-screen satellite TV with movie channels, telephone, minibar, bathroom with marble counter, robes, slippers, writing desk and chair, sofa, and full-length closets. 200 sq ft.

ROYAL SUITE



ROYAL SUITE

EARLY BIRD \$5,899 PP REGULAR \$7,669 PP

Located on the Royal deck, the Royal Suite features floor-to-ceiling windows, a Comfort Collection bed that can convert to two single beds, soft and firm nonallergenic pillows, Egyptian super-combed cotton linens, flat-screen satellite TV with movie channels, telephone, minibar, bathroom with marble counter and two sinks, robes, slippers, writing desk and chair, sofa, and full-length closets. 300 sq ft.



AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS

Tuesday, April 11, 2023 **(Embarkation)**

Welcome to Amsterdam! Guests may begin boarding any time after 8 am. Guests are welcome to relax with afternoon snacks and beverages in the lounge, but staterooms will not be ready until 5 pm. The day is free to enjoy the capitol of the Netherlands with its rich history of Dutch Masters in museums, or simply exploring the colorful streets and canals. After check-in at 5 pm, enjoy a reception, introductions, and your first dinner on board.

Wednesday, April 12, 2023

There is no better way to see the city than by canal boat, cruising through the grachten (canals) with their elegant, stately homes dating back to Amsterdam's "Golden Age." There will be free time in the afternoon to explore on your own or enjoy an optional tour. Afterward, your river cruise vessel sets sail for Cologne. Included canal boat tour.



COLOGNE, GERMANY

Thursday, April 13, 2023

Today enjoy a peaceful morning of cruising before reaching gay-friendly Cologne in the afternoon. Cologne is one of Germany's largest cities, with a river skyline dominated by the soaring twin spires of its magnificent gothic cathedral. The Germano-Roman Museum located next to the cathedral is a must for history buffs! Try a kölsch in one of the many beer taverns or shop for a bottle of 4711, the original eau de cologne. Choice of included Guided City Walk or Jewish Heritage Walk.



RHINE GORGE, AND RÜDESHEIM, GERMANY

Friday, April 14, 2023

The dramatic Rhine Gorge is the most beautiful stretch of this river. Pass the legendary rock of the Lorelei, where sweet songs of local beauties lured enchanted sailors to their doom. Here, join a local guide for a walking tour of the city that reveals an eventful past through its castles, fortress walks, towers, squares, and monuments. In Rüdesheim, a quintessential Rhine Valley wine town, Siegfried's Mechanical Musical Museum is a real surprise! Enjoy a special Rüdesheim coffee or wine tasting, then explore the Drosselgasse and pick up some souvenirs. Included museum and walking tour.

MAINZ AND HEIDELBERG, GERMANY



Saturday, April 15, 2023

Also strategically located at the confluence of the Rhine and Main Rivers is Mainz, with “civilized” origins dating back to around 38 BC. Today, this is Germany’s largest and most important wine market. Join your local guide for a guided walk through the Altstadt (old town), with its many intriguing shops and the whimsical Fastnachtsbrunnen (Carnival fountain) on the Schillerplatz, a tribute to the jesters at the city’s annual Carnival celebration. Gutenberg, father of modern printing, was born here—and you’ll visit the captivating Gutenberg Museum. After lunch, travel to Heidelberg, home to the oldest university in Germany. With a local guide, visit the imposing ruins of Heidelberg Castle, which towers magnificently over the city and is among the most important Renaissance structures north of the Alps. You’ll also see the famed Great Vat, believed to be the world’s largest wine barrel. At nearly 23 feet high and 28 feet wide, the cask holds over 58,000 gallons of wine—and has a dance floor built on top of it! You will probably want to try the most delicious hot chocolate at the YilliY café! Included excursion to Heidelberg.

STRASBOURG, FRANCE



Sunday, April 16, 2023

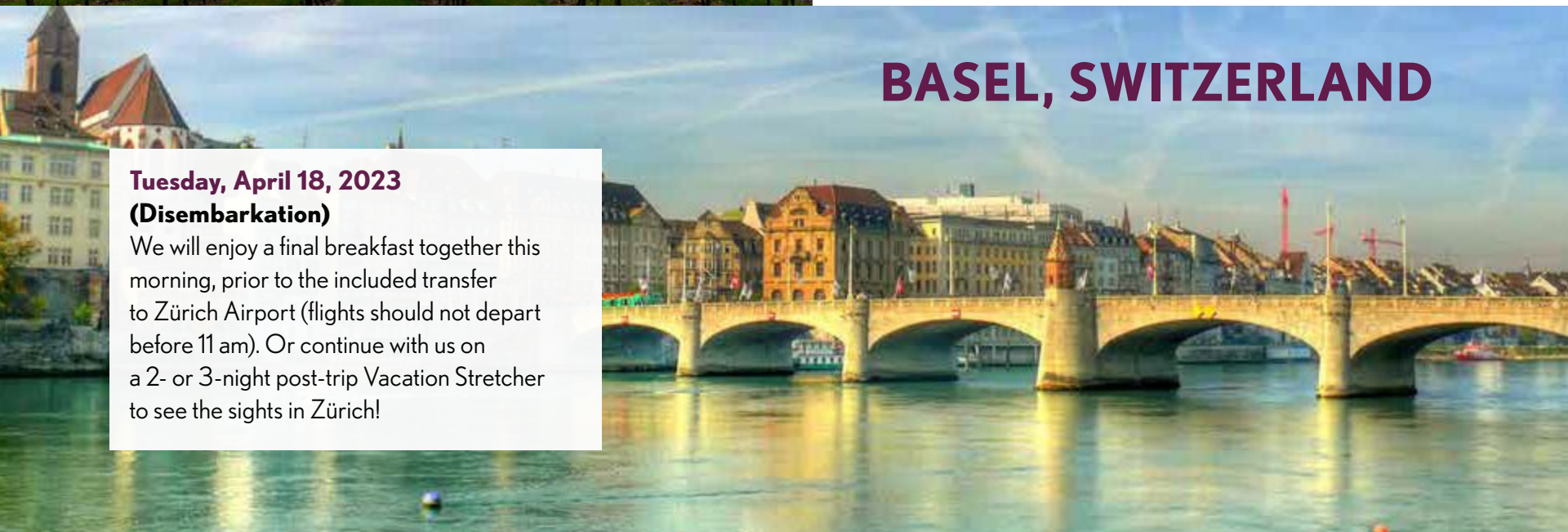
Situated on the border of France and Germany, Strasbourg blends the cultures of both countries in a delightful way. As capital of the Alsace region and seat of the Council of Europe and European Parliament, it is without a doubt an important city that manages to retain its historic charm. On your guided sightseeing tour, visit the monumental red-sandstone gothic Strasbourg Cathedral de Notre-Dame, with its ancient murals, stained-glass windows, and fascinating astronomical clock, as well as the magical La Petite France district, home to half-timber houses, quaint shops, inviting bistros, and a waterfront promenade. Also spend time exploring Place Kléber, a large historic square in the heart of the city, and Place Gutenberg in the heart of medieval portion of the city, which features a statue of Gutenberg. An optional excursion into Alsace wine country is available today. After dinner, enjoy an onboard woodcarving demonstration. Included canal cruise and walking tour of La Petite France district.



BREISACH, GERMANY

Monday, April 17, 2023

Located at the foot of the Kaiserstuhl mountain range on the French-German border, Breisach is the gateway to Germany's Black Forest region, an area of unrivaled natural beauty with its thick forests of pine trees. The area earned its name because the forests were so dense that locals described them as black. Surely the most well-known products from this region are Black Forest ham, Black Forest cherry cake, and cuckoo clocks. You may opt for an included visit to the workshop of a local woodcarver who produces clocks and other carvings or a visit to the open-air Museum of Vogtsbauernhof to see how life was lived in this area centuries ago.



BASEL, SWITZERLAND

Tuesday, April 18, 2023 (Disembarkation)

We will enjoy a final breakfast together this morning, prior to the included transfer to Zürich Airport (flights should not depart before 11 am). Or continue with us on a 2- or 3-night post-trip Vacation Stretcher to see the sights in Zürich!



AMSTERDAM

In Amsterdam, we will be offering pre-trip Vacation Stretchers, featuring a walking tour of the gay area of Amsterdam, a walking tour of the old town, and a visit to the Keukenhof Gardens.

VACATION STRETCHERS

We will be offering Vacation Stretchers in Amsterdam and Zürich. Detailed information on these pre- and post-trip packages will be available approximately 9-11 months before the trip.

ZÜRICH

In Zürich, we will offer post-trip Vacation Stretchers. The adventure continues in the Alps where you will take a tram up to Mount Titlis for a beautiful 360-degree view of the Alps, visit a cheese factory for lunch to try local specialties, and have the opportunity to make your own delicious chocolate bar at a Swiss chocolate factory (tastings included!).



VACATION STRETCHERS

CATEGORY

DELUXE STATEROOM, CATEGORY E

Located on the Indigo deck, this Deluxe Stateroom features small windows above the waterline. 172 sq ft.

DELUXE STATEROOM, CATEGORY D

Located on the Indigo deck, this Deluxe Stateroom features small windows above the waterline. 172 sq ft.

PANORAMA SUITE, CATEGORY B

Located on the Sapphire deck, this Panorama Suite features floor-to-ceiling window. 200 sq ft.

PANORAMA SUITE, CATEGORY A

Located on the Sapphire deck, this Panorama Suite features floor-to-ceiling windows. 200 sq ft.

PANORAMA SUITE, CATEGORY P

Located on the Royal deck, this Panorama Suite features floor-to-ceiling windows. 200 sq ft.

ROYAL SUITE

Located on the Royal deck, the Royal Suite features floor-to-ceiling windows. 300 sq ft.

PRICING PP

EARLY-BIRD: \$3,599

REGULAR: \$4,699

EARLY-BIRD: \$3,699

REGULAR: \$4,799

EARLY-BIRD: \$4,799

REGULAR: \$6,299

EARLY-BIRD: \$4,899

REGULAR: \$6,399

EARLY-BIRD: \$4,999

REGULAR: \$6,499

EARLY-BIRD: \$5,899

REGULAR: \$7,669

faq

ACTIVITY LEVEL

This trip requires some mobility without the use of a wheelchair or scooter, as most of the tours are walking tours for up to 3 hours, which may include walking on cobblestone streets and stairs. A 'Gentle Walkers' group is offered on most included walking tours, which accommodates those needing a little extra time and sometimes offers a shortened version of a tour, designed to encounter as few stairs as possible.

If you are bringing a portable wheelchair or collapsible travel scooter, you must be able to collapse it and store it in your cabin. It cannot be used to get around the ship, only while off the ship on tours that are wheelchair/scooter accessible. On tours, the usefulness of a portable wheelchair or scooter may be limited because we will be navigating cobblestone streets with hard curbs (no curb cutouts) and stairs.

If you have limited mobility, you are required to travel with someone who can assist you.

AIRFARE

Please check our airline discounts page for the latest discounts:

<https://www.olivia.com/airfare-specials>

FLIGHTS

Please check our Traveler Info page on [olivia.com](https://www.olivia.com) 12 months prior to your trip for the most up-to-date travel information.

All flights into **Amsterdam-Schiphol International Airport (AMS)** should arrive by 2 pm on April 11, 2023 to give yourself plenty of time to make your way to the ship.

All flights should depart the **Zürich Airport (ZRH)** in Switzerland after 11 am on April 18, 2023 to take advantage of the included group transfer from the ship to the airport. If your flight departs earlier, we cannot include you in the group transfer and you will be responsible to hire your own transport to the airport, which can cost €200 or more.



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CALL YOUR OLIVIA TRAVEL CONSULTANT
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