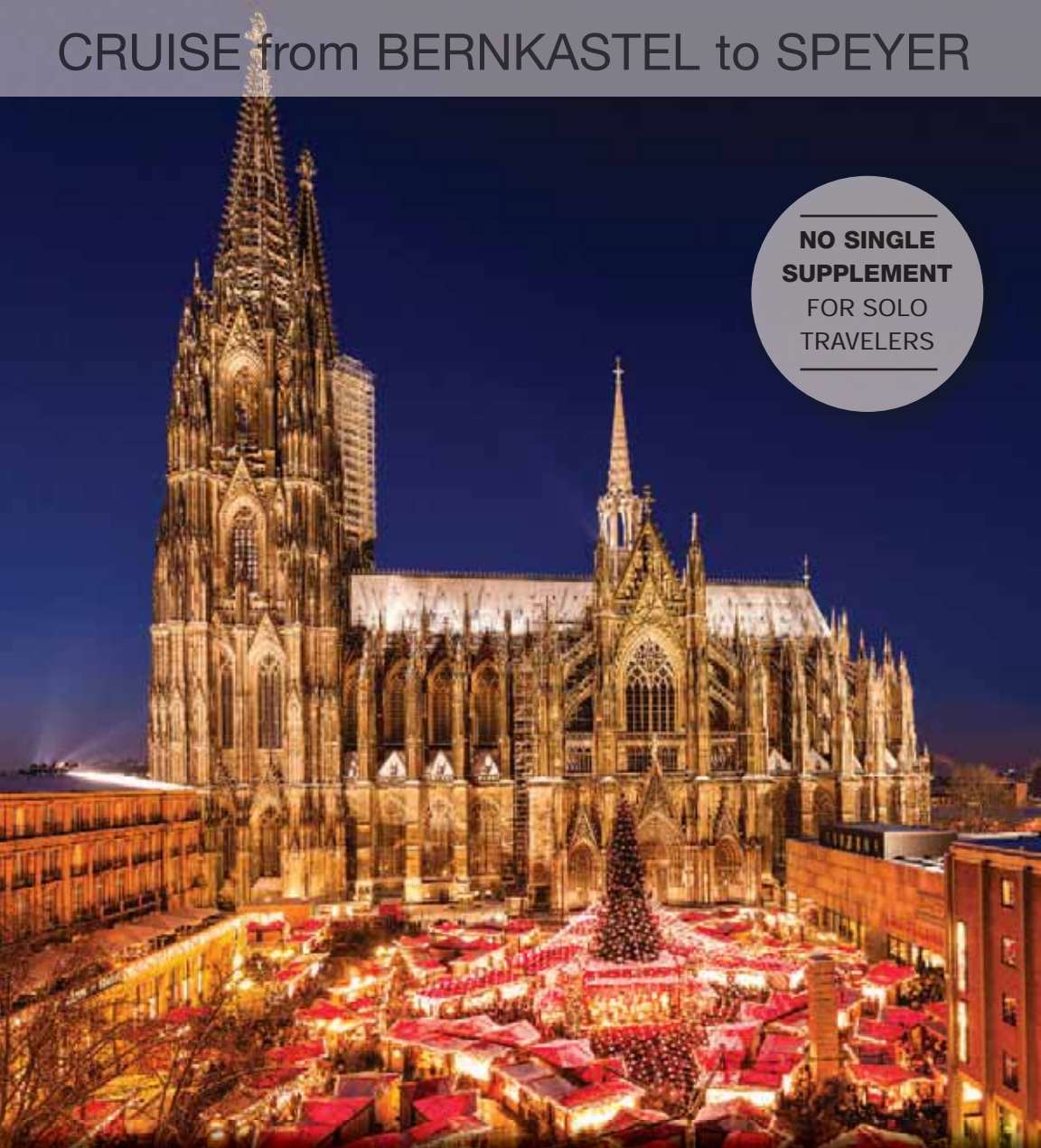


CRUISE from BERNKASTEL to SPEYER

NO SINGLE  
SUPPLEMENT  
FOR SOLO  
TRAVELERS



# HOLIDAY MARKETS

featuring PARIS

**SPONSORED BY**



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TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY®

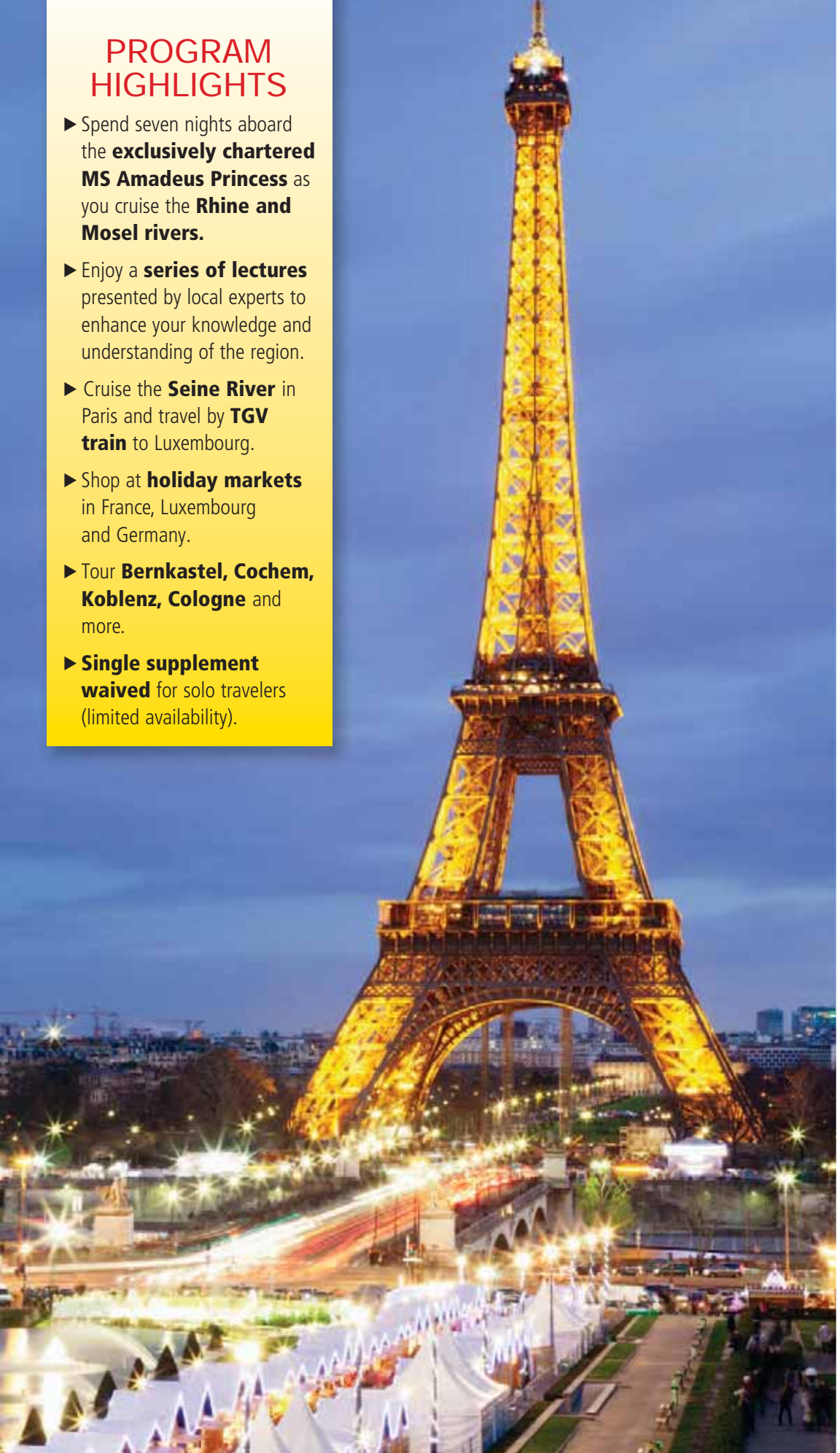
*Traveling Aggies*

**DEC. 6-17, 2016**



## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Spend seven nights aboard the **exclusively chartered MS Amadeus Princess** as you cruise the **Rhine and Mosel rivers**.
- ▶ Enjoy a **series of lectures** presented by local experts to enhance your knowledge and understanding of the region.
- ▶ Cruise the **Seine River** in Paris and travel by **TGV train** to Luxembourg.
- ▶ Shop at **holiday markets** in France, Luxembourg and Germany.
- ▶ Tour **Bernkastel, Cochem, Koblenz, Cologne** and more.
- ▶ **Single supplement waived** for solo travelers (limited availability).





## Howdy, Ags!

Cherished holiday memories are created through time-honored rituals passed down through generations. This year, we invite you to witness the unparalleled Yuletide traditions of three countries: France, Luxembourg and Germany. In Paris and Luxembourg, witness stunning seasonal displays and in Germany, explore holiday markets along the Mosel and Rhine rivers.

Your experience begins with three nights in Paris, a visit special to AHI Travel's Holiday Markets journey. Then embark on a seven-night cruise in Bernkastel. Along the way, you will be introduced to some of Germany's most charming towns and cities, where traditional holiday markets have been a part of annual celebrations for centuries. Explore the towns and enjoy ample free time to shop for Christmas gifts or mementos. New for 2016, enjoy a customizable journey with a choice of included excursions in select ports of call.

From magnificent scenery to engaging cultural opportunities, you will be enveloped in the Old World holiday spirit and be able to escape the frantic pace of the holidays at home as you experience the season of Advent in Europe. Space is limited on this memorable journey, so we encourage you to make your reservation today!

Gig 'em!

Jennifer Bohac

Jennifer Bohac '87, Ph.D.  
Director, Travel Programs  
The Association of Former Students

**800-633-7514**

**[AggieNetwork.com/Travel](http://AggieNetwork.com/Travel)**

**Koblenz**





## DAY ONE

### IN TRANSIT

Depart your gateway city for Paris, France.†

† Provided for AHI FlexAir participants.

## DAY TWO

### PARIS, FRANCE

Upon arrival, transfer† to the Paris Marriott Opera Ambassador Hotel. The remainder of the day is at leisure for you to experience Paris on your own.

Later, join your fellow travelers for a Welcome Reception.

## DAY THREE

**B**

### PARIS

**Excursion: Paris Panoramic Tour.** Travel along elegant boulevards as you see the city's acclaimed landmarks and get acquainted with the Parisian arrondissements, or districts.

**Independent Exploration:** Spend the afternoon pursuing individual interests or participate in the Optional Excursion to Versailles.

## | UNESCO |

The **Cologne Cathedral**; Germany's **Upper Middle Rhine Valley**; Trier's **Porta Nigra** and the **Cathedral of St. Peter and Church of Our Lady**; and the **Banks of the Seine in Paris** are featured UNESCO World Heritage sites.

## DAY FOUR

**B**

### PARIS

**Independent Exploration:** Spend the majority of the day at leisure. Explore the impressive art collections at the renowned Louvre or the Musée d'Orsay.

**Excursion: Seine River Cruise.** Later, enjoy some of Paris' most iconic sights, including the Grand Palace and Notre Dame Cathedral, from the Seine and see many of the magnificent bridges that span the river.

## DAY FIVE

**B | D**

### LUXEMBOURG | BERNKASTEL, GERMANY

This morning, depart Paris and travel to Luxembourg by TGV train.

## | PERSONALIZE YOUR CRUISE |

**New for 2016**, enjoy a customizable journey with a choice of included excursions in select ports of call. At no extra cost to you, we have enhanced the itineraries for our European river cruises to offer a personalized experience. Enjoy a bike ride along a vital waterway, explore the culinary and winemaking traditions of different regions, take a closer look at historic and cultural places and events, or tour the cities you have always dreamed of visiting. These excursions are detailed in the itinerary.



## Germany's Holiday Markets

During Advent, veritable villages of small wooden kiosks festooned with fresh pine branches, fluttering red ribbons and festive lights spring up in town squares across Germany. Although other cities have incorporated similar holiday markets, none compares to those in Europe's original Tannenbaum territory. In these Christkindlmarkets, which date from the Late Middle Ages, the aromas from bratwurst, fresh-baked pastries and simmering glühwein mix with the laughter of locals and tourists enjoying age-old Yuletide traditions.

Handcrafted treasures from local artisans are ideal for souvenirs or presents, but the true gift of the markets is experiencing the holiday merriment in a magical atmosphere.

**Excursion: Luxembourg Holiday Markets.** Each December, the Place d'Armes in Luxembourg transforms into a traditional holiday market. Stroll through the square and perhaps indulge in local specialties.

Then enjoy a scenic drive to Bernkastel.

Upon arrival at the pier in Bernkastel, embark the MS Amadeus Princess.

Later, join your fellow travelers on the ship for a Welcome Reception and Dinner featuring regional wines.

**DAY SIX** **B I L I D**  
**TRIER | BERNKASTEL**

**Excursion: Trier.** Once an outlying capital city of the Roman Empire, Trier boasts a trove of ruins. See the Porta Nigra and visit imperial baths outside of Rome and a palace built by Constantine. See the Cathedral of St. Peter and Church of Our Lady and more treasures.

**Excursion: Bernkastel.** Explore this 700-year-old town, famous for its pretty market

square lined with half-timbered houses. See the late-Renaissance town hall, St. Michael's Church and more.

**Educational Focus: The Tradition of the Holiday Markets.** From Christmas trees to booths selling festive decorations and gifts, holiday customs abound in Germany. During this lecture, learn about Advent in Germany and the storied history of the markets.

**DAY SEVEN** **B I L I D**  
**COCHEM | KOBLENZ**

**Excursion: Cochem.** Explore medieval Cochem, situated scenically along a bend on the Mosel River. Its charm is enhanced by Reichsburg Castle on a nearby hilltop, as well as gates and other remnants of the 14th-century town wall. Enjoy a guided walking tour, followed by leisure time.

**Educational Focus: The Wines of the Mosel.** Learn about the Mosel Valley terroir, the climate, topography, soil, water and other

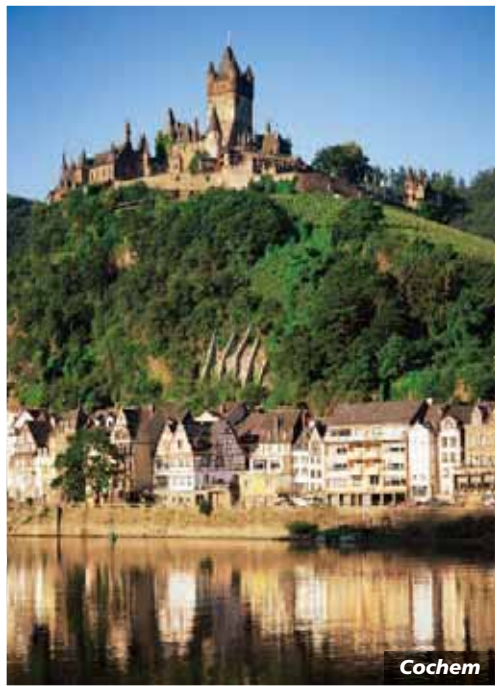




Loreley Rock



Cathedral, Speyer



Cochem

natural elements that help create the region's wines. Put your newfound knowledge to use with a tasting.

## DAY EIGHT

## B I L I D

### KOBLENZ | COLOGNE

**Excursion: Koblenz.** Enjoy a walking tour and see the town hall's fountain; the Church of Our Lady, with a Gothic choir and baroque towers; the Old Castle; and the Old Merchant's Hall.

**Excursion: Cologne.** Germany's oldest major city, Cologne takes pride in its vibrant cultural scene and its awe-inspiring Gothic cathedral. Topped by two ornately decorated spires, the church was under construction for more than 630 years. Contemplate its grandeur during a guided walking tour of the

old town. Then stop at the brightly adorned holiday market stalls situated just outside the cathedral. Perhaps pay a visit to the Wallraf-Richartz Museum of Art or the Cologne Chocolate Museum.

## DAY NINE

## B I L I D

### RHINE GORGE | RÜDESHEIM

Today, sail through the beautiful Rhine Gorge along the Rhine en route to Rudesheim, and pass Loreley Rock.

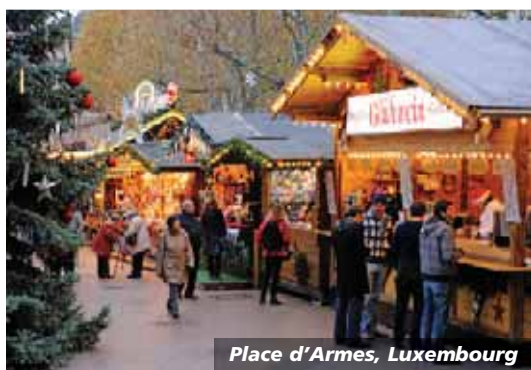
**Educational Focus: Castles and Legends of the Rhine.** The Rhine boasts more castles than any other river in the world. Learn about Loreley, the siren whose song bewitched many



Cathedral of St. Peter and Church of Our Lady, Trier



Notre Dame on the Seine, Paris



Place d'Armes, Luxembourg

sailors and caused ships to crash into the rocks, and many other tales. Gain a deeper appreciation for this storied region from our local expert.

**Independent Exploration:** Explore the holiday market in Rudesheim this evening.

## DAY TEN B I L D

### MAINZ | SPEYER

**Excursion: Mainz.** Located in Germany's largest wine-growing region, Mainz is considered the country's wine capital. Delight in its lovely, colorful architecture and quaint shops on a walking tour. Marvel at the majestic Mainz Cathedral with its six towers soaring above the landscape. Then take in the festive ambiance of its holiday market.

In the afternoon, cruise to Speyer.

## DAY ELEVEN B I L D

### SPEYER

**Personalize Your Cruise:** Choose from two included excursions in this port.

**Excursion: Romantic Heidelberg.** Visit the castle overlooking the Neckar River. See

the university, Germany's oldest institution of higher learning; the town hall; the market square; and the Ritter.

**Excursion: Mobile Mannheim.** Explore Mannheim, a town famed for its industrious spirit, where Karl Benz produced his first two-stroke automotive engine in the 1870s.

**Independent Exploration:** Spend the remainder of the day discovering Speyer. Stroll along Maximilianstrasse, the town's main street, and admire the sights, including the impressive Romanesque cathedral, on your way to the holiday market.

Tonight, join your fellow travelers for a Farewell Reception and Dinner.

## DAY TWELVE B

### IN TRANSIT

After breakfast, transfer✈ to the Frankfurt, Germany, airport for the return flight to your gateway city.

**Note:** Itinerary schedule may change due to local conditions. Many excursions in the program involve an element of walking. As this program takes place in late fall, AHI Travel recommends dressing warmly.

Included meals indicated each day as  
B | L | D = Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner.





## MS AMADEUS PRINCESS

From the elegant reception area to the airy cabins tastefully decorated in richly colored fabrics, the MS Amadeus Princess features a blend of superb accommodations combined with refined comfort. Each day brings a new culinary delight in the lovely Panorama Restaurant. During leisure time on board, relax and unwind on the sun deck, where comfortable lounge chairs overlook the passing riverside scenery. Each cabin is outward facing, offering superlative views of the breathtaking panoramas of your cruise. In addition, every cabin includes individual climate controls, a direct-dial telephone, satellite color TV, writing desk and chair, and a private bathroom with shower. Complimentary Wi-Fi is available.

### AHI EXCLUSIVE RIVER CRUISE EXTRAS

#### **All AHI River Cruises feature:**

- A first-class river cruise ship providing all outward-facing accommodations; friendly, personalized service; limited capacity; and exclusively designed sailing itineraries.
- Delicious dining aboard the ship featuring special extras such as morning coffee, wine with lunch and dinner and expertly prepared culinary specialties of the region.
- Expert local guides leading thoughtfully designed excursions to enrich your experience of the area.





# Reserve your Holiday Markets trip today!

**Trip #:3-22884W**

Send to: The Association of Former Students  
 Attn: Traveling Aggies  
 505 George Bush Drive  
 College Station, TX 77840-2918  
 Phone: 979-845-7514  
 Fax: 979-845-9263  
 Toll Free: 800-633-7514



Full Legal Name (exactly as it appears on your passport)

Guest 1: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Home: (\_\_\_\_\_) Cell: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Sharing room with \_\_\_\_\_ (Form sent separately.)

Name(s) you would like on your name badge(s):

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year \_\_\_\_\_

**I/we authorize you to make my/our reservations as follows:**

Cabin Category Desired: 1st choice \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd choice \_\_\_\_\_

**Land/Cruise Program and AHI FlexAir**

I/we reserve the Land Program and request the AHI FlexAir to Paris, France, with a return from Frankfurt, Germany, to depart from:

Departure City \_\_\_\_\_

- Please contact me regarding air options.
- Please send me information on upgrading my flights.

**Land/Cruise Program**

I/we will make my/our own air arrangements and transfers.

**Single Accommodations**

I prefer single accommodations (supplement waived, limited availability).

Reservations are subject to availability and processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations to be paid in full by **Sept. 22, 2016** (75 days prior to departure). Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal check, MasterCard, Visa, Discover or Amex. Make checks payable to AHI Travel.

AHI Travel has assumed all costs for the printing and distribution of this promotion. This program is exclusively arranged by AHI Travel, 8550 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., Suite 600, Chicago, IL 60631. No funds donated to The Association of Former Students or to Texas A&M University have been used in the production or mailing of this travel brochure; all such costs are covered by the tour supplier.

Enclosed is a deposit of \_\_\_\_\_ (\$600 pp required) to reserve \_\_\_\_\_ place(s).

- Accept my check made payable to **AHI Travel**.
- Charge my:  MasterCard  Visa  Discover  Amex

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expires \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

(Signature as it appears on credit card)

**Please note:** Any payment to AHI Travel constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out herein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.

**NOT INCLUDED:** Fees for passports and, if applicable, visas, entry/departure fees; personal gratuities; laundry and dry cleaning; excursions, wines, liquors, mineral waters and meals not included in this brochure under included features; travel insurance; all items of a strictly personal nature.

**MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL:** The right is retained to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of this trip who, in the opinion of AHI Travel is unfit for travel or whose physical or mental condition may constitute a danger to themselves or to others on the trip, subject only to the requirement that the portion of the total amount paid which corresponds to the unused services and accommodations be refunded. Passengers requiring special assistance, including without limitation those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit and able to assist them, and who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance.

**AIR TRANSPORTATION:** The price of air transportation offered by AHI Travel is based on Advance Purchase Excursion fares. After tickets are issued, penalties up to 100% of the ticket price may be levied. If connecting flights are requested, special promotional fares may be used, in which case penalties of as much as 100% may be assessed by the airlines if reservations are changed or canceled after ticketing. After departure, if the reservations are changed, you will be charged the higher, all year Economy class fare. **VARIATIONS TO THE GROUP ITINERARY MUST BE REQUESTED NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.** Passengers who choose to make their own airline reservations independently will be wholly responsible for any airline fees or penalties incurred as a result of program cancellation and/or change in travel dates, or airline schedule(s).

**BAGGAGE:** Baggage restrictions vary according to the airline policy and the class of service flown. Details will be provided with your pre-departure information. Baggage allowances are subject to change by the carrier without notice. Excess baggage charges for additional or oversized/overweight pieces are expensive and not included in your trip price; plan your wardrobe accordingly. Transport of baggage and personal effects is at the owner's risk throughout the travel program.

**AUTHORITY TO USE IMAGES AND AUDIO RECORDINGS:** On occasion, AHI Travel obtains, from its staff, or from trip participants, photographic or video images of passengers and trip activities. By participating in this travel program, you authorize AHI Travel, without providing compensation to you, or obtaining additional approvals from you, to include photographic and video recordings of you, as well as voice recordings included with any videos, in AHI Travel's sales, marketing, advertising, publicity and/or training activities.

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**CANCELLATION:** In addition to airline cancellation penalties, all cancellations for any reason whatsoever will be subject to a \$250 per person administrative fee. (Please note that you may choose, at the time of cancellation, to apply the withheld administrative fee to a future AHI Travel program that will operate in the current calendar year or year following.) Cancellation from 120 days to 76 days prior to departure will result in forfeiture of 10% of the entire cost of the trip per person; 75-30 days, 50% of the trip cost per person; cancellation from 29 days up to the time of departure will result in 100% forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. **TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE IS AVAILABLE. AN APPLICATION WILL BE SENT AFTER YOU RESERVE.** All cancellations must be submitted in writing to AHI International Corporation.

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# LAND | CRUISE PROGRAM

**Dec. 7-17, 2016**

Category-Deck	Full Price	Special Savings	Special Price*
E-Haydn (Aft)	\$3,245	\$250	\$2,995*
D-Haydn (Midship)	\$3,445	\$250	\$3,195*
C-Strauss (Aft)	\$3,845	\$250	\$3,595*
B-Strauss (Midship)	\$3,945	\$250	\$3,695*
A-Mozart (Aft)	\$4,145	\$250	\$3,895*
Suite-Mozart (Midship)	\$4,645	\$250	\$4,395*

The Mozart Suites, as well as Categories A, B and C, feature a drop-down panoramic window that provides a balconylike atmosphere. Categories D and E feature a fixed window.

\*Special Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel.

VAT and Port Tax supplement is an additional \$395 per person.

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated). **Single supplement waived for solo travelers!** This offer is limited, capacity controlled and tends to sell out quickly.

## AHI FLEXAIR

**Dec. 6-17, 2016**

Our personalized air program allows you to select your flights, routing, class of service and dates of travel in consultation with one of our experienced Passenger Service Representatives. Airfares will vary, depending on airline, routing and class of service. In most cases, transfers between the airport and hotel/cruise ship will be included on arrival and departure days. Your Passenger Service Representative will provide you with all of the details you need to guarantee your transfer. Book your air with us to ensure assistance in the case of schedule changes or delays that may impact your air travel plans. AHI FlexAir participants automatically receive flight insurance worth up to \$250,000, subject to policy terms.

## ITINERARY

- Day 1** Depart Gateway City<sup>†</sup>
- Day 2** Paris, France
- Day 3** Paris
- Day 4** Paris
- Day 5** Luxembourg | Bernkastel, Germany
- Day 6** Trier | Bernkastel
- Day 7** Cochem | Koblenz
- Day 8** Koblenz | Cologne
- Day 9** Rhine Gorge | Rudesheim
- Day 10** Mainz | Speyer
- Day 11** Speyer
- Day 12** Return to your gateway city.<sup>†</sup>

**NOTE:** This itinerary schedule may change due to local conditions. Many excursions in this program involve an element of walking.

<sup>†</sup>Provided only for AHI FlexAir passengers.



**800-633-7514**

**AggieNetwork.com/Travel**



## Accommodations

- Three nights in Paris, France, at the first-class **Paris Marriott Opera Ambassador Hotel**.
- Seven nights aboard the first-class **MS Amadeus Princess**. Embark from Bernkastel, Germany, and port in Cochem, Koblenz, Rudesheim, Mainz and Speyer.

## Transfers and Porterage

- All boat rides, train and deluxe motor coach transfers in the Land/Cruise Program itinerary and baggage handling on these transfers are included.

## Meals

- Enjoy an **extensive meal program**, featuring 10 breakfasts, six lunches and seven dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with lunch and dinner.
- Take advantage of leisure time to try the local cuisine independently.
- Attend **Welcome and Farewell Receptions and Dinners**.

## Your Exciting Travel Program

(For details, see the *day-by-day itinerary*.)

- **Informative educational programs** presented by local experts will enhance your insight into the region.
- **All excursions** as outlined in your program itinerary:
  - Cruise the Seine River in Paris.
  - See the Roman ruins of Trier and experience Bernkastel.
  - Visit the baroque town hall in Cochem and see its imposing castle.
  - Walk the winding lanes of Koblenz.
  - Visit the historic old town of Cologne.
  - Sail through the stunning Rhine Gorge.
  - Discover the holiday markets of Mainz and Rudesheim.

## Many Included Extras

- **Personal VOX listening device** to hear every word from your expert English-speaking guides.
- Consultation services of a dedicated **Passenger Service Representative** prior to departure.
- Services of an experienced **Travel Director** throughout your stay.
- **Tipping** of excursion guides and drivers.
- Detailed travel and destination information to assist in planning.
- Complimentary travel wallet.



### PARIS MARRIOTT OPERA AMBASSADOR HOTEL

The luxurious Paris Marriott Opera Ambassador Hotel puts guests exactly where they want to be: in the heart of Paris. Convenient to the Louvre and other beloved attractions, including the Eiffel Tower, the hotel boasts well-appointed guest rooms and suites, each finished in 1920s art deco style. The hotel also offers a restaurant, a fitness center and complimentary Wi-Fi.

### | OPTIONAL EXCURSION |

#### VERSAILLES

On **Day Three**, instead of an afternoon at leisure, take a scenic drive to explore France's grandest palace, including the Hall of Mirrors where the Treaty of Versailles was signed. Just a short trip outside of Paris, the baroque chateau was the kingdom's political capital and the seat of the royal court from 1682 until 1789.

**NOTE:** This excursion is available at an additional cost.



*Traveling Aggies*

The Association of Former Students  
Attn: Traveling Aggies  
505 George Bush Drive  
College Station, TX 77840-2918

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Paris



Bernkastel

# Experience the magic of the holiday season in Europe!

**AHI Travel's** mission is to deliver inspirational educational and cultural travel programs that delight travelers.

**With AHI you can rely on:**

- Experienced Travel Directors who attend to every detail of your journey.
- An exceptional travel value.
- Unique access to local sites.
- Flexibility and customization.
- Safety and security.



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