

THE ASSOCIATION OF FORMER STUDENTS

June 10 to 21, 2025

The Great European Journey



Alpine Peaks & Romantic Rivers

Set off on an exhilarating European journey steeped in storied history, grand architecture and breathtaking scenery on this fabulous, 12-day, 11-night itinerary featuring a deluxe river cruise and unforgettable Swiss Alpine adventure.

Discover the timeless beauty of the Rhine and Moselle Rivers as you wind through peaceful countryside past storybook towns, steeply terraced vineyards and forested hills crowned by castles. Engaging excursions and walking tours in your ports of call reveal the Old World splendor of renowned cities and towns. Step inside hilltop castles in Heidelberg and Cochem, and wonder at the epic scale and awe-inspiring facades of the cathedrals that tower over Cologne and Strasbourg. Glide along the canals of Amsterdam and the Rhine River Gorge, both UNESCO World Heritage sites, as are the bridges and watchtowers of Strasbourg's Ponts Couverts.

Switzerland's idyllic, pristine beauty is a special highlight during a stay in Engelberg tucked amid the Alps, with explorations of nearby Lucerne, one of the country's most beautiful medieval cities. On a panoramic train ride that ascends steep mountain terrain, and again on the cable car descent, feel immersed in the sweeping grandeur amid crisp, alpine air. From rivers to mountains, this will be a journey to remember!

Front cover: Lauterbrunnen, Switzerland



Strasbourg, France



Traveling Aggies

A PROGRAM OF
The Association of Former Students



Howdy, Ags!

Join us for an exceptional, 11-night European journey carefully crafted with the carefree comforts of river cruising and the ease of a luxury hotel stay. You'll wend your way along the Rhine and Moselle Rivers for seven nights through the Netherlands, Germany and France, and then bask in Switzerland's sensational scenery over three nights in the Swiss Alps.

Aboard the exclusively chartered, deluxe **Viva Enjoy**, savor the unfolding riverside scenery of terraced vineyards, castles and fairytale towns as you relax on deck. Daily shore excursions introduce you to Amsterdam, the Netherlands; Cologne, Cochem, Rudesheim and Heidelberg in Germany; and Strasbourg, the Alsatian capital, in France. Your fascinating explorations continue on land in Switzerland with three nights at the deluxe **Kempinski Palace Engelberg** as you delve into Basel, Lucerne and a full-day excursion to Lauterbrunnen, with its breathtaking views of three Alpine peaks.

This well-rounded itinerary, featuring guided excursions, luxurious accommodations and delectable cuisine on both water and land, has been an enticing favorite among travelers. Make plans today to secure your place on this Great European Journey for the best value!

Gig 'em!

Julie Scamardo
Manager of Traveling Aggies
The Association of Former Students

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 our tour supplier.

**To secure your spot, call Gohagan and Company at 800-922-3088
or visit gohagantravel.com/reserve**



Kempinski Palace Engelberg

Enjoy your stay in the **Kempinski Palace Engelberg**, a deluxe Belle-Époque resort. This luxurious haven of comfort is nestled in the heart of the Swiss countryside, surrounded by gorgeous alpine views. Enjoy the amenities and excellent service of Kempinski, the oldest European luxury hotel brand.

The 129 rooms and suites offer:

- Direct panoramic mountain views
- Double and single beds
- Pillow menu
- Luxurious bathrooms
- Touch panel for light and temperature control
- TV-video on demand
- Free Wi-Fi
- Nespresso coffee machines
- In-room safe
- Minibar



Indulge in an included breakfast buffet every day in the Cattani restaurant on-site. There's also the Wintergarden, the ideal place to savor afternoon tea; the historic Palace Bar; and cozy Cigar Lounge. The resort boasts a spa and fitness center, indoor and rooftop pools, hot tub, and for an extra charge, golf, tennis, bicycle rental and horseback riding.





Romance of the Rhine River Gorge

The Upper Middle Rhine Valley, nicknamed the Rhine River Gorge, is celebrated not only for its incredible natural beauty, but also for its connection to history and legend; it has inspired writers, artists and composers, especially during the Romantic era. Romanticism was a European intellectual movement of the late 18th and early 19th centuries — a reaction against the Industrial Revolution — focused on natural beauty, cultural history and philosophical thought. The Rhine River Gorge became a kind of touchpoint for this developing movement.

English poet Lord Byron made the Rhine area enormously popular in 1818 with his narrative poem, “Childe Harold’s Pilgrimage.” German poets also penned verses as tribute to the area, including Heinrich Heine’s famous “Die Lorelei,” set at the river’s Lorelei rock. English painter JMW Turner, among others, brought these beautiful river vistas to the canvas. And musical composers were likewise inspired. Franz Liszt famously set Heine’s Lorelei poem to music, and Schuman’s Symphony No. 3 was nicknamed the “Rhenish” symphony. Brahms’ Symphony No. 3 leads with a Rhine theme, carrying on the tradition of Lorelei, the elusive siren of the river.



INCLUDED FEATURES

- ◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad if you purchased air through Gohagan & Company and your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- ◆ Experienced, English-speaking local guides for included excursions.
- ◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- ◆ Complimentary bottled water in your suite or stateroom and on excursions.
- ◆ Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
- ◆ Complimentary use of an audio headset during guided excursions.
- ◆ Automatic \$250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
- ◆ Hospitality desk aboard the ship and in the hotel.
- ◆ Meals included as noted in the itinerary (B,L,R,D).



GOHAGAN & COMPANY



2025 | 12-DAY/11-NIGHT ITINERARY

Departure

Day 1 | June 10

Depart your home city.

Amsterdam, Netherlands

Day 2 | June 11

Enjoy a private cruise through Amsterdam's world-famous UNESCO-inscribed canals, which have been connecting the city since the early 17th century. Glide under iconic bridges and past brightly colored houses, stately stone buildings and hundreds of cyclists! Embark the **Viva Enjoy** and join the Captain's Welcome Reception and Dinner this evening. (L,R,D)

Cruising

Day 3 | June 12

As we sail to Germany, enjoy a relaxing day on board. (B,L,D)

Cologne, Germany

Day 4 | June 13

One of Germany's oldest cities, Cologne is renowned for its

magnificent Gothic cathedral, *Kölner Dom*, built over a period of more than 630 years. Admire the old town's top sites and the cathedral's impressive exterior on a walking tour. (B,L,D)

Cochem

Day 5 | June 14

Sail through a splendid, narrow section of the Moselle River lined with colorful towns and tiered vineyards, then dock in charming Cochem. Delight in its half-timbered houses on a walking tour, and visit hilltop Reichsburg Castle, which offers stunning river views. (B,L,D)

Rüdesheim/ Cruise the Rhine Gorge

Day 6 | June 15

Cruise through the enchanting Upper Middle Rhine Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage site dotted with some 40 castles, and see the fabled Lorelei Rock. Afterward, disembark in the heart of Riesling wine country.

Take in the vineyards near Rüdesheim on a mini-train before sampling fine wines in town. (B,L,D)

Mannheim for Heidelberg

Day 7 | June 16

Dock in Mannheim and journey to romantic Heidelberg to visit the Renaissance-era ruins of its grand castle overlooking the picturesque Neckar Valley. Take a walking tour in the lively old town filled with Renaissance and Baroque gems, such as the old bridge, Alte Brücke. (B,L,D)

Strasbourg, France

Day 8 | June 17

Discover the medieval grandeur of Grand-Île, the historic center of Strasbourg and a UNESCO World Heritage site, during a walking tour. See the bridges and towers of the 13th-century Ponts Couverts, and meander past the many half-timbered houses in the



Amsterdam, Netherlands



Alte Brücke, Heidelberg



Kleine Scheidegg, at the base of three Alpine peaks

canal-lined Petite France district, where tanners, millers and fishermen once lived during the Middle Ages. Visit Notre Dame Cathedral, an exquisitely ornamented Gothic beauty. This evening, attend the Captain's Farewell Reception and Dinner. (B,L,R,D)

Basel, Switzerland/ Disembark/Engelberg

Day 9 | June 18

Disembark in Basel, Switzerland's only port and a vibrant art hub. Enjoy a guided city tour and a lunch at a local restaurant. Marvel at the beautiful scenery as you transfer from Basel to Engelberg. Check in to the deluxe Belle Époque **Kempinski Palace Engelberg**. (B,L)

Lauterbrunnen/ Grindelwald

Day 10 | June 19

Visit Lauterbrunnen, a valley of incredible vistas, and

Staubbach Falls, one of the highest, and most spectacular, free-falling waterfalls in Europe. Take an amazing cogwheel train ride up to Kleine Scheidegg, elevation 6,761 feet. This mountain pass is known for its stunning, unparalleled views of three mighty peaks—the Eiger, Jungfrau and Monch—which together make up a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Descend the mountain in a cable car through incredible alpine scenery to the picturesque village of Grindelwald. Spend time at leisure exploring this charming village and make your own plans for dinner. (B,L)

Engelberg/Lucerne

Day 11 | June 20

A compact city on Lake Lucerne and the Reuss River, Lucerne boasts wonderfully painted buildings, stately churches, and two medieval, covered

wooden footbridges. On a walking tour, see the imposing Water Tower and the famous Chapel Bridge with an inner roof gracefully adorned with 17th-century paintings.

Savor a traditional Swiss lunch, including fondue, at an authentic restaurant in town. Enjoy music and folklore entertainment during the meal. Wrap up with a pleasant cruise across Lake Lucerne. This evening, bid adieu to your fellow travelers at the Farewell Reception, then make your own dinner plans. (B,L,R)

Engelberg/Zurich/ Return to home city

Day 12 | June 21

After enjoying breakfast at the hotel, check out and transfer to the Zurich airport for your flight home. (B)



Rüdesheim vineyards



Chapel Bridge, Lucerne



Viva Enjoy

The newest member of the Scylla family is the **Viva Enjoy**, which debuts in 2024. Guests are welcomed on board by friendly, multilingual and international crew members who take care of guests' well-being and comfort from morning til night. The ship's appointments are luxurious, yet the feeling is relaxed and easygoing. All staterooms and suites are equipped with flat screen TV, included minibar, beauty products from RITUALS®, hair dryer, safe, air conditioning and en-suite bathrooms. The upper and middle deck staterooms and suites all have French balconies.



2025 DEPARTURE DATE

June 10 to 21
(Embarkation: June 11)

Category-Description		Standard Rate	Early Booking \$1,000 Savings*
Emerald	Quarter-height window that cannot be opened. 160 sq. ft. Lower Deck.	\$6,094	\$5,094
Ruby	Floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door and French balcony . 160 sq. ft. Middle Deck.	\$6,994	\$5,994
Diamond	Floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door and French balcony . 160 sq. ft. Upper Deck.	\$8,294	\$7,294
Suite	Luxury accommodations including sitting area. Large floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door and French balcony . 260 sq. ft. Upper Deck. (Limited Availability.)	\$9,494	\$8,494

***Early Booking Savings of \$1,000 are available when you book by 11/21/24 and pay in full at time of booking. If you pay only your deposit by early booking date, you still save \$500 per person.**

All rates are per person, based on double occupancy, including taxes. Single supplements apply to category Emerald for an additional \$1,000 and are subject to availability. All other categories are at 200%.

Port taxes in the amount of \$199 per person are included in the above prices. Deck plans available upon request.

Gohagan & Company reserves the right to correct errors or omissions and to change any and all fares, fees, promotions and surcharges at any time. Terms & Conditions are available at gohagantravel.com/terms/

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PRE-TOUR EXTENSION

Amsterdam

June 8 to 11, 2025 (Program Begins: June 9)

Get acquainted with this captivating city graced with leafy canals and gabled houses on a 2-night, pre-tour extension at the deluxe **DoubleTree by Hilton Amsterdam Centraal Station**. Enjoy a guided tasting tour through Amsterdam's many food stalls and specialty shops. Stop at a family-run farm located in the Beemster region, a UNESCO World Heritage site. During a private workshop, learn the basics of cheesemaking. Take a scenic drive through the polder and see the windmills at Schermerhorn. Soak up the inviting ambience and historic architecture of Edam, legendary for its tasty cheese. Finally, view acclaimed art by the great Dutch Golden Age masters at the Rijksmuseum.

Price per person, based on double occupancy: \$1,195

Price per person, based on single occupancy: \$1,495

Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.



Early Booking Savings* available | Save \$2,000 per couple!

Moselle River Valley



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