



Autumn Along the Rhine: Munich's Oktoberfest

Fall foliage in color and Bavaria's most colorful festival

10 DAYS FROM \$7,490 | BEGINS AMSTERDAM

1. ■ Arrive Amsterdam & embark riverboat

Tour begins: 4:00 PM, Amsterdam. A transfer is included from Schiphol International Airport or Amsterdam Centraal Station to your riverboat; check-in time aboard ship is 4:00 PM for all guests. After a shipboard briefing, join us for a shanty choir performance and welcome reception followed by dinner aboard your riverboat. **Meals D**

2. ■ A taste of Amsterdam and its canals

Enjoy a private guided cruise aboard a canal boat along Amsterdam's 17th-century canals, the heart of the old city.

Take in the houseboats along the waterways, the curving bridges, the historic houses that line the banks - and watch Amsterdam's many bicyclists zipping through the streets bordering the canals. After lunch in a local restaurant, drive to Utrecht to reboard your riverboat. **Meals BLD**

3. ■ Old Town Düsseldorf

Spend the morning sailing to Düsseldorf, enjoying a talk by your Tauck Director. After lunch, dock in Düsseldorf, a city with a thriving fashion and art scene, and disembark for a walking tour of Old Town, stopping to sample local craft beers. You'll also have free time in town; possibilities include

Uniquely Tauck

- Experience the original and largest Oktoberfest celebration in the world from your reserved seats in an exclusive Oktoberfest brewery tent including a three-course lunch
- Mount Pilatus overlooks lakeside Lucerne - you'll ascend and descend by gondola and cogwheel railway (one of the world's steepest) for the views
- Experience Amsterdam on a canal boat cruise accompanied by a local guide; learn the stories behind key points of interest, from history's poignant moments to iconic architecture that led to the designation of the 17th-century Canal Ring Area as a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Take in the views of the river and town during a visit to Heidelberg Castle, riding a funicular back down to Old Town for a beer-pairing lunch at an award-winning brewery where you will meet the brew master and dine on regional fare



The only way to truly celebrate Oktoberfest is to go local - and that's what you'll do at the festive celebration in Munich.

checking out the modern buildings designed by some of the world's leading architects in the revitalized district along the Rhine, visiting Museum Kunstpalast, or strolling the city's high-end shopping street, Königsallee. Return to your ship for dinner. Meals BLD

4. Cruising along the Middle Rhine

Spend the day cruising along the Middle Rhine - "the Romantic Rhine" - passing countless castles and fortresses standing watch over the river. Your riverboat is surrounded by splendid scenery; lush vineyards cover the hillsides and



VOYAGE AT A GLANCE

7 Cruise Days

Day	Destination
1	Arrive Amsterdam Embark ms Inspire or ms Grace
2	Amsterdam
3	Düsseldorf
4	Cruising the Middle Rhine and Rüdesheim
5	Heidelberg
6	Alsace wine route
7	Mt. Pilatus and Lucerne
8	Disembark Basel / Munich Hotel Bayerischer Hof
9	Oktoberfest, Munich
10	Depart Munich



As a city, Düsseldorf is unique - it's a blend of Old World charm and a thriving center for finance and the arts - and craft beer, as you'll discover on a locally guided walking tour. In Strasbourg, a walking tour introduces you to the half-timbered houses of La Petite France.

historic towns line the riverbanks, seemingly unchanged by time. Enjoy entertainment onboard your ship this evening as you cruise to Mannheim for a morning arrival. **Meals BLD**

5. ■ A day in Heidelberg

Dock in Mannheim this morning for a drive to enchanting Heidelberg on the Neckar River. A guided tour of Heidelberg Castle introduces you to the picturesque ruins of a pink sandstone edifice centuries old, sprawling high on a hill with breathtaking views of the river. Take a funicular down the hill to Old Town Heidelberg for a Tauck Exclusive beer-pairing lunch of local dishes at an award-winning brewery where you'll meet the brew master. Return to your ship for dinner onboard at your leisure. **Meals BLD**

6. ■ Exploring France's Alsace countryside

Your riverboat arrives in Strasbourg, France, this morning, a great starting point for today's exploration of the picturesque Alsatian countryside. Blanketed with vineyards and dotted with historic wine villages, the Alsace has a unique personality - a blend of German and French influences - as for centuries the region has gone back and forth between the two countries. Since World War II, Alsace has been part of France, but the locals think of themselves as "Alsatian" first and foremost. A walking tour introduces you to the city, and historic treasures in La Petite France; discover regional specialties - and enjoy a wine tasting - at a local restaurant. Return to your riverboat for an afternoon and evening of cruising, then join us for the chef's signature dinner tonight in the Compass Rose dining room. **Meals BLD**



Oktoberfest Traditions

Don your dirndls and lederhosen for an authentic cultural experience that the locals celebrate with cheers and beers. Running September 21 through October 6, 2024, Oktoberfest is more than just an annual beer drinking event in Munich. It is the largest festival in the world with over 80 rides and attractions. In addition to the ever-flowing beer tents, there are culinary specialties to taste, games to play and music to dance to. Watch rhythmic traditional whip-cracking performances, link arms and sway to oompah bands and toast traditions centuries old.

7. ■ Mt. Pilatus and Lucerne

Dock in Basel this morning for a day in Switzerland. A drive brings you to the base of Mt. Pilatus for a gondola ride to the summit. Prepare to go from autumn to winter in less than half an hour! Take the world's steepest cogwheel train ride down the mountain, a thrilling experience through stunning scenery. Then it's on to the lakeside city of Lucerne for an orientation tour that reveals the Renaissance paintings inside the iconic covered Chapel Bridge and the poignant Lion Monument. Meet your riverboat in Basel and join us for a farewell toast before dinner tonight. **Meals BLD**

8. Lake Konstanz and Munich

Disembark your riverboat for a drive through Switzerland to Germany en route to the legendary city of Munich; spend time near Lake Konstanz en route. Upon arrival in the Bavarian capital of Munich, we'll take you to a local shop for a *trachten* fitting of a dirndl for the ladies and lederhosen for the gents so you will be authentically ready for the city's Oktoberfest festivities tomorrow. Settle in at your historic hotel, the Bayerischer Hof, before enjoying time at leisure to explore the sights and have dinner on your own. **Meals B**

9. The original Oktoberfest

This morning, get dressed up Bavarian style, in lederhosen or a dirndl, for a full Oktoberfest experience! There are "Oktoberfest" celebrations all over the world, but until you experience the festival in Munich, where the tradition began, you haven't really "done" Oktoberfest - a unique mix of beer consumption, Bavarian feasting, live brass bands, communal singing, and dancing. It all started in 1810 when a royal couple invited the citizens to their wedding festivities on the fields in front of the city. The event was so popular that it took on a life of its own. Today Munich's Oktoberfest is the largest festival in the world. Tauck has reserved seats for you in the center of the action, in one of the exclusive brewery tents for a three-course lunch, traditional Bavarian live music - including the *Ein Prosit* toasting song - and lots of fun. Word to the wise: the local breweries make an especially strong beer just for Oktoberfest, so pace yourself, or choose to drink a *radler* (half lemonade, half beer). A shuttle will run back to your hotel after lunch - or stay and enjoy the festival until evening. Gather with your fellow travelers for a farewell reception and casual dinner at your hotel tonight. **Meals BLD**

10. Journey Home

Tour ends: Munich. Fly home anytime. A transfer is included today to Munich Airport from Hotel Bayerischer Hof. Allow three hours for flight check-in at the airport. **Meals B**



Discover picturesque sites of lakeside Lucerne on an orientation tour, and the view from atop nearby Mt. Pilatus via gondola.