



June 18 to 29, 2024

Great European Journey

BY RIVER AND RAIL



GREAT EUROPEAN JOURNEY

Set off on an exhilarating European adventure steeped in storied history, grand architecture, and breathtaking scenery on this fabulous, 12-day, 10-night itinerary featuring a deluxe river cruise and unforgettable mountain journeys by rail.

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.

Switzerland's idyllic, pristine beauty is a special highlight during stays in Zermatt, a world-class resort town tucked high amid the Swiss Alps with the mighty Matterhorn as a backdrop, and Lucerne, one of the country's most beautiful medieval cities. On three panoramic train rides that traverse steep mountain terrain, feel immersed in the sweeping grandeur amid the crisp, alpine air. Once atop Mount Pilatus and the Gornergrat, you'll be rewarded with dazzling, soul-stirring landscapes that stretch across the horizon!

Front cover: Zermatt, Switzerland



Strasbourg, France



Dear Carolina alumni and friends:

Join fellow Tar Heels and friends for an exceptional, 10-night, European journey thoughtfully developed with the relaxed comforts of river cruising, the ease of luxury hotel stays, and the picturesque scenery of mountain railways. Bask in Switzerland's dramatic scenery with four nights in the Swiss Alps followed by six nights cruising your way along the winding Rhine and Moselle rivers through France and Germany.

Your explorations begin with two nights at the first-class HOTEL ALEX in Zermatt, Switzerland, and two nights at the deluxe HOTEL SCHWEIZERHOF on the shores of Lake Lucerne. While touring, experience three memorable train rides through the magnificent Alps. Then board the exclusively chartered AMADEUS QUEEN, where you can savor the unfolding riverside scenery of vineyards, castles, and fairytale towns as you relax on deck. Daily shore excursions introduce you to Strasbourg, France's Alsatian capital, and Heidelberg, Rudesheim, Koblenz, Cochem, and Cologne in Germany.

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

Go Heels and travel the world,

Audrey, Catherine and Douglass

Audrey Liles '13, Catherine Nichols '89 and Douglass Payne '04
Carolina Alumni Travel Office

Participation in this tour is a Carolina Alumni member benefit. Join or renew today at alumni.unc.edu/join

To secure your spot, call (877) 962-3980 or visit alumni.unc.edu/reserve



Conquering the Matterhorn

Jutting into the sky, this magnificent, jagged mountain has long been a magnet for mountaineers and alpine enthusiasts who gravitate to the challenge of ascending it. An iconic jewel of Switzerland, the Matterhorn rises to 14,692 feet, part of the Pennine Alps, or Valais Alps, along the Italian and Swiss border.

After numerous climbers attempted and failed the difficult ascent to the top from the Italian side and from Zermatt, British climber Edward Whymper, part of a seven-man group, became the first person to summit the peak in 1865. Tragically, four of his fellow climbers died during the descent. In 1871, Lucy Walker, a British mountaineer, became the first woman to ascend the Matterhorn; and American Meta Brevoort became the first woman to traverse the Matterhorn from Zermatt to Breuil in Italy.

Their accomplishments led to a surge in travel to Zermatt during the 19th century, as other climbers and nature lovers came to witness the Matterhorn's incredible beauty. Today, visitors to Zermatt can view bronze markers throughout town that commemorate the achievements of these early, pioneering alpinists.



LEGENDARY RAILWAYS OF THE SWISS ALPS



Remarkable feats of railway engineering have made it possible to travel through Switzerland's lofty mountains. PILATUS RAILWAY, the world's steepest cog railway, climbs and descends the craggy face of Mount Pilatus at a maximum gradient of 48 percent. First opened in 1889 under steam power, then electrified in 1937, it now features state-of-the-art electric cars. The GLACIER EXPRESS line, which debuted in 1930, penetrates the mountain barrier separating the Swiss cantons of Valais and Uri, gliding along a jaw-dropping route of towering bridges and mountain tunnels. The GORNERGRAT BAHN, built in 1898, was the country's first electric cog railway and is the second highest railway in Europe at 10,135 feet. Appreciate these impressive railways as they transport you right into the heart of Switzerland's wondrous landscapes of mountains, streams, glaciers, and gorges!



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.
- ◆ Meals included as noted in the itinerary (B,L,R,D).

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS



GOHAGAN & COMPANY



12-DAY/10-NIGHT ITINERARY

Depart Home City

Day 1

Depart your home city for an overnight flight.

Geneva, Switzerland/ Täsch/Zermatt

Day 2

Arrive in Geneva and enjoy a panoramic drive to Täsch. Then, board a shuttle train that takes you up to Zermatt, a cozy, car-free, mountain resort town nestled near the Matterhorn at 5,276 feet. Check into the first-class HOTEL ALEX and gather for a Welcome Reception, followed by dinner on your own. (R)

Gornergrat/Zermatt

Day 3

Today, revel in a ride aboard the GORNERGRAT BAHN, the world's highest open-air cog railway. Ascend through pine and larch forests, take in picture-perfect views of the Matterhorn,

and then alight at the Gornergrat, an alpine ridge at roughly 10,000 feet. Glorious, expansive vistas of snowcapped peaks await you! Enjoy free time and return to Zermatt at your own pace. (B)

Zermatt/Andermatt/ Lucerne

Day 4

Check out today and embark the celebrated GLACIER EXPRESS. Settle in for a marvelous journey as you glide amid ever-changing panoramas of lush mountains, tranquil valleys, and sparkling lakes. Arrive in Andermatt and savor a delicious lunch. Head on to Lucerne and check into the deluxe HOTEL SCHWEIZERHOF. Your evening is at leisure. (B,L)

Lucerne/ Mount Pilatus

Day 5

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 adorned with 17th-century paintings. Afterward, continue to majestic Mount Pilatus, a massif with numerous summits. Ride by cable car to one summit and then ascend in a gondola up to Pilatus Kulm at 6,795 feet. From this vantage point, gaze in all directions at spectacular vistas of Lake Lucerne, forested countryside, and if the weather is clear, dozens of alpine peaks. Relish free time and lunch at the mountaintop complex. On your descent, appreciate the scenery on the other side of the mountain aboard the PILATUS RAILWAY, the world's steepest cogwheel train. Wrap up with a pleasant cruise across Lake Lucerne. This evening, make your own dinner plans. (B,L)

Lucerne/Basel/ Embark river boat

Day 6

Check out this morning and admire the scenery on the way to Basel, where you will enjoy a guided tour, lunch, and free time. Embark the AMADEUS QUEEN and join the Captain's Welcome Reception and Dinner later tonight. (B,L,R,D)

Chapel Bridge, Lucerne





Alte Brücke, Heidelberg



Kölner Dom, Cologne

Strasbourg, France

Day 7

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 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. (B,L,D)

Mannheim, Germany, for Heidelberg

Day 8

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)

Rüdesheim/Koblenz

Day 9

Arrive in the heart of Riesling wine country today. Take in the vineyards near Rüdesheim on a mini-train before sampling fine wines in town. Afterward, cruise through the enchanting Upper Middle Rhine Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage Site dotted with some 40 castles, and see the fabled Lorelei Rock. Stop for a walking tour in lovely Koblenz, founded by the Romans more than 2,000 years ago where the Rhine and Moselle Rivers meet. (B,L,D)

Cochem

Day 10

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)

Cologne

Day 11

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. Enjoy free time afterward and, if you'd like, go inside the cathedral to see the Shrine of the Three Kings, a gilded reliquary. This evening, attend the Captain's Farewell Reception and Dinner. (B,L,R,D)

Amsterdam, Netherlands/ Disembark/Return to Home City

Day 12

After breakfast, disembark the ship in Amsterdam and transfer to the airport for your return flight home. (B)



Rüdesheim vineyards



Bakery treats, Strasbourg



AMADEUS QUEEN This meticulously crafted river boat, launched in 2018, features all the comforts of a refined hotel. Throughout your voyage, feel pampered by the professional crew who provide attentive service, and dine on expertly prepared, delectable cuisine. Relax in the bright, comfy lounges with large windows for admiring the scenery, and take a refreshing dip in the indoor pool fitted with a retractable roof. The 81 stylish staterooms and suites are among the most spacious of any European river boat (172 to 284 square feet). The suites include a private balcony, and select staterooms feature a floor-to-ceiling window that lowers automatically to French-balcony height. Accommodations have 2 twin beds or 1 queen bed, individual climate control, a sitting area, and a private bathroom with shower.



2024 DEPARTURE DATE: June 18 to 29 (Tour Begins: June 19)

Category	LAND/CRUISE RATES <i>per person, based on double occupancy, excluding taxes</i>	Early Booking Rate through Dec. 27, 2023	Rates after Dec. 27, 2023
C4	Stateroom with small panoramic window. <i>Haydn Deck, midship.</i>	\$4,315	\$4,795
C1	Stateroom with small panoramic window. <i>Haydn Deck, midship.</i>	\$4,765	\$5,295
B4	Stateroom with floor-to-ceiling panoramic window that lowers to French-balcony height. <i>Strauss Deck, aft.</i> (limited availability)	\$5,215	\$5,795
B1	Stateroom with floor-to-ceiling panoramic window that lowers to French-balcony height. <i>Strauss Deck, aft and midship.</i> (limited availability)	\$5,935	\$6,595
A1	Stateroom with floor-to-ceiling panoramic window that lowers to French-balcony height. <i>Mozart Deck, aft and midship.</i> (limited availability)	\$6,385	\$7,095
Suite	Suite with private balcony (sliding glass doors with railing), sofa and bathrobes. <i>Mozart Deck, midship.</i>	\$7,105	\$7,895

Single supplements apply to the following categories, C1 and C4, at 160% of the per person double price and are subject to availability. Single price for all other cabin categories is at 200%.

Port taxes are an additional \$55 per person. Customers will be notified of any fuel surcharge fee prior to final payment. This fee will then be charged and collected by the vessel operating company while on board. Deck plans available upon request.

Reservations require a \$1,000 per person deposit.

To secure your spot, call (877) 962-3980 or visit alumni.unc.edu/reserve

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POST-PROGRAM OPTION

Amsterdam

June 29 to July 1, 2024 (Tour Ends: July 1)

Get acquainted with this captivating city graced with leafy canals and gabled houses on a 2-night, post-cruise extension at the deluxe **DOUBLE TREE BY HILTON AMSTERDAM CENTRAAL STATION**. Enjoy a cruise along its delightful, 17th-century waterways, designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and view acclaimed art by the great Dutch Golden Age masters at the Rijksmuseum. Venture to Hoorn, a picturesque, 17th-century harbor town and key Dutch East India Company port, and soak up the inviting ambience and historic architecture of Edam, legendary for its tasty cheese.

Price per person, based on double occupancy: \$1,095

Price per person, based on single occupancy: \$1,425

Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.



EARLY BOOKING SAVINGS UP TO \$1,580 PER COUPLE

Moselle River Valley



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