

WWII

THE NATIONAL  
WWII MUSEUM  
TRAVEL

# WWII HISTORY FOR THE HOLIDAYS RHINE RIVER CRUISE

A HISTORIAN-LED VOYAGE ON THE RHINE FROM AMSTERDAM TO STRASBOURG

DECEMBER 1-9, 2027

Amsterdam | Nijmegen | Wesel | Cologne | Bonn | Mainz | Heidelberg | Strasbourg



Featuring Military Historians and Authors  
**John McManus, PhD**, and **James Fenelon**.  
Plus travel with an actor from *Band of Brothers!*



COLOGNE CATHEDRAL WITH VIEW OF THE CHRISTMAS MARKET AND THE RHINE RIVER

# ITINERARY

## Wednesday, December 1, 2027 **Embark in Amsterdam**

Independent flight arrivals into Amsterdam Airport Schiphol (AMS) / Embark *Transcend Connect* / Welcome Reception with featured historians and cruise staff / After-dinner viewing of *Band of Brothers* Episode 4, "Replacements" / Conversation with *Band of Brothers* actor and featured historians  
**Accommodations: *Transcend Connect* (R, D)**

## Thursday, December 2, 2027 **Nijmegen**

**Excursion Option 1 (Historical): British 1st Airborne**  
Airborne Museum Hartenstein / Arnhem Oosterbeek Airborne War Cemetery / John Frost Bridge / Lunch on own in Arnhem / Nijmegen Bridge walking tour / Waal River crossing / Sunset March *Touring can be half day (return to the ship for lunch) or full day (return to the ship for dinner).*

**Excursion Option 2 (Historical): American 101st Airborne**  
Nuenen / Zon Bridge / Lunch at Hotel Erica / Schoonderlogt Farm / Easy Company's "Crossroads"

**Evening Activities for All Guests:**  
Evening lecture onboard / After-dinner viewing of *Band of Brothers* Episode 5, "Crossroads" / Conversation with *Band of Brothers* actor and featured historians  
**Accommodations: *Transcend Connect* (B, L, D)**

## Friday, December 3, 2027 **Wesel**

Operation Varsity / 17th Airborne sites, including Diersfordt Castle, "Burp Gun Corner," and Haus Duden / Bombing of Wesel and British 1st Commando Brigade / Lunch at Hotel Wacht am Rhein / Memorial to the POW Enclosure Buderich / Driving tour of the crossing sites of US 30th Infantry Division  
**Accommodations: *Transcend Connect* (B, L, D)**

## Saturday, December 4, 2027 **Cologne**

NS Documentation Center / Walking tour of Old Town Cologne and the cathedral / Lunch and free time in center city to enjoy Christmas Markets / Evening lecture onboard *Touring can be half day (return to the ship for lunch) or full day (return to the ship for dinner).*  
**Accommodations: *Transcend Connect* (B, D)**

## Sunday, December 5, 2027 **Bonn**

**Excursion Option 1 (Full-Day Touring, Historical):**  
Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery / Hürtgen Forest / Included group lunch / Remagen

**Excursion Option 2 (Half-Day Touring, Historical):**  
Vogelsang International Place guided tour / Lunch onboard

**Excursion Option 3 (Full-Day Touring, Cultural):**  
Guided tour of Drachenburg Castle / Beethoven House and Museum / Free time in city center to enjoy Christmas Markets

**Evening Activities for All Guests:**  
Evening lecture onboard / After-dinner Beethoven concert  
**Accommodations: *Transcend Connect* (B, L, D)**

## Monday, December 6, 2027 **Koblenz**

**Scenic Cruising Day**  
Relax onboard while sailing along the Rhine and take in the



spectacular landscapes of Germany / Midday reception on the top deck to view castles, vineyards, and other notable landmarks / Additional activities include presentations by the featured historians and a screening of the 1970 film *Patton*  
**Accommodations: *Transcend Connect* (B, L, D)**

## Tuesday, December 7, 2027 **Mainz**

**Excursion Option 1 (Historical):**  
Mainz Underground tour OR Mainz Citadel / Nierstein / Oppenheim, where Patton crossed the Rhine / Lunch and wine tasting at a vineyard

**Morning at Leisure or Excursion Option 2 (Cultural):**  
Morning at leisure on the ship OR morning at the Christmas Markets / Lunch and wine tasting at a vineyard  
**Accommodations: *Transcend Connect* (B, L, D)**

## Wednesday, December 8, 2027 **Heidelberg**

Campbell Barracks "Mark Twain Village" / Heiligenberg Thingstätte / German War Cemetery / Documentation and Cultural Center of German Sinti and Roma / Lunch onboard / Guided tour of Heidelberg Castle / Final conversations onboard with featured historians and speakers  
**Accommodations: *Transcend Connect* (B, L, D)**

## Thursday, December 9, 2027 **Disembark in Strasbourg**

Disembark *Transcend Connect* and transfer to Strasbourg Airport (SXB) OR join the post-tour (B)

# OPTIONAL PRE- AND POST-TOUR EXTENSION PROGRAMS

## CHOOSE BETWEEN 2 OPTIONAL PRE-TOUR EXTENSION PROGRAMS

### 1. Occupation and Resistance in Amsterdam *featuring Alexandra Richie, DPhil*

November 28 – December 1, 2027  
3 nights | Starting at \$3,899

Fly into Amsterdam | Corrie ten Boom House | Westerbork Transit Camp | Dutch Resistance Museum and city walking tour

*Accommodations: InterContinental Amstel (3 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch, 1 Reception, 1 Dinner)*



### 2. Dunkirk *featuring James Holland*

November 28 – December 1, 2027  
3 nights | Starting at \$3,899

Fly into Brussels | Transfer to Dunkirk | Evacuation beaches | Dynamo Museum | Lunch on *Princess Elizabeth* small ship | Fort des Dunes | HMS Crested Eagle / La Coupole V-2 facility | Ypres WWI touring en route to Amsterdam

*Accommodations: Radisson Blue Dunkirk (3 breakfasts, 1 Lunch, 1 Reception, 1 Dinner)*



## OPTIONAL POST-TOUR EXTENSION PROGRAM

### Patton's Third Army *featuring James Fenelon*

December 9–15, 2027  
6 nights | Starting at \$6,499  
2 NIGHTS STRASBOURG | 2 NIGHTS METZ | 2 NIGHTS REIMS

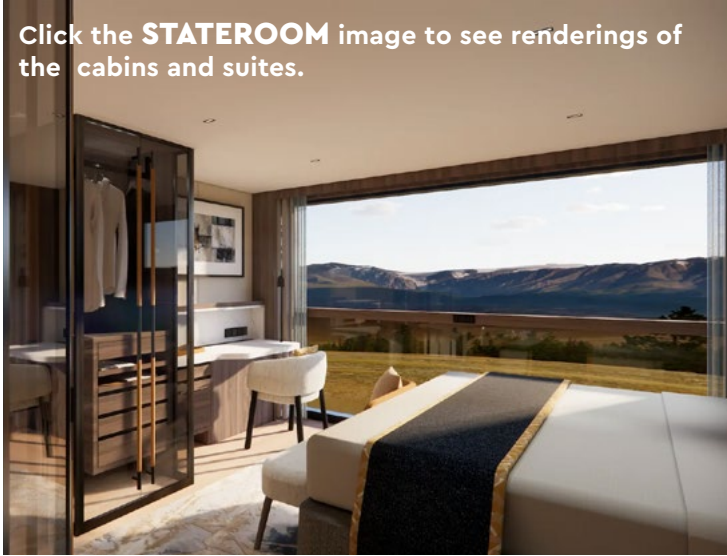
Colmar Pocket / Maginot Line Bunkers / Strasbourg Cathedral / Lorraine American Cemetery / Arnaville / Verdun / Reims Cathedral / Compiègne Armistice Museum



# TRANSCEND CONNECT

Exclusively chartered by The National WWII Museum's Educational Travel program, *Transcend Connect* is a brand-new luxury vessel that will launch on the Rhine River in summer 2026. We have configured the ship to offer six one-bedroom suites and 37 oversized staterooms. We invite you to explore the renderings online for the best viewing experience and the most up-to-date information. Contact the Travel Team for availability on cabin selections and to review our terms and conditions.

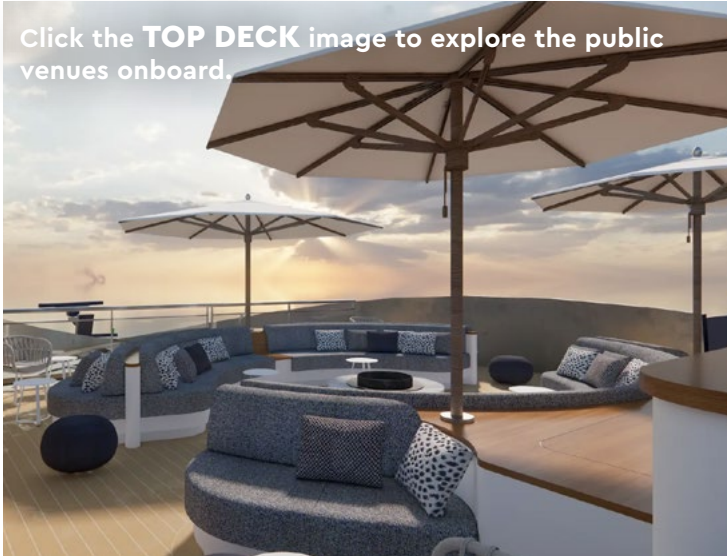
Click the **STATEROOM** image to see renderings of the cabins and suites.



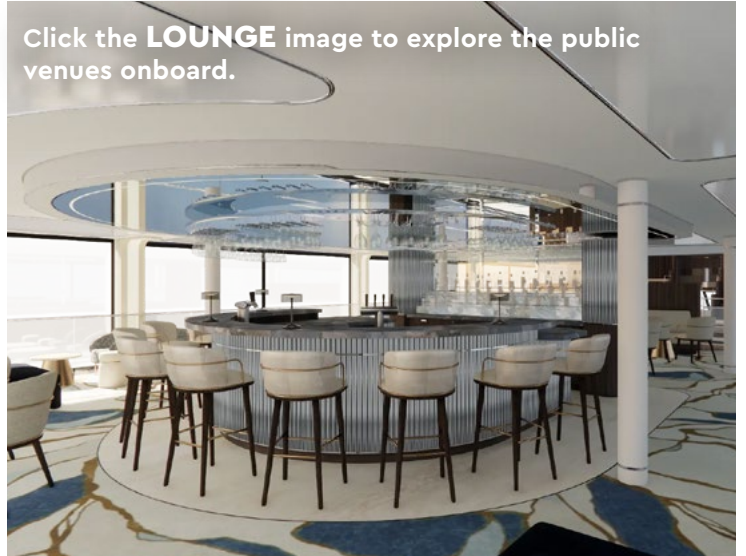
Click the **DINING** image to learn more about guest experiences while sailing.



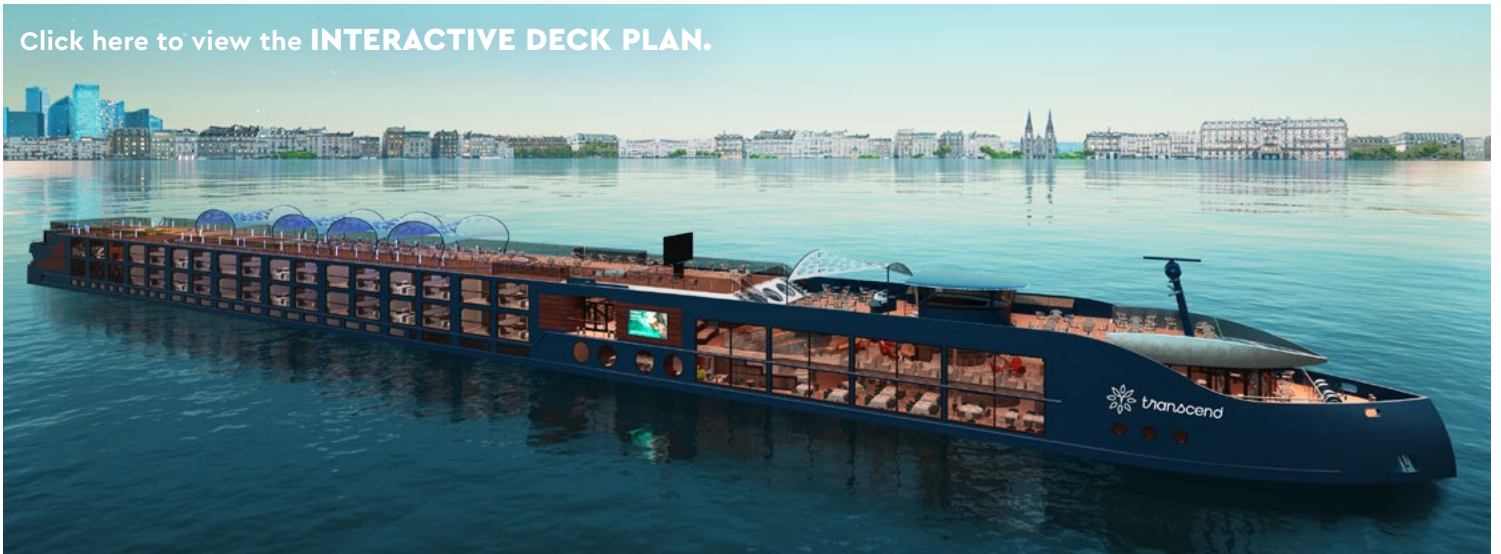
Click the **TOP DECK** image to explore the public venues onboard.



Click the **LOUNGE** image to explore the public venues onboard.



Click here to view the **INTERACTIVE DECK PLAN**.



## PRICING AND INCLUSIVE VALUE

**1-Bedroom Suites (6 available) | ~~\$17,999~~ \$16,999 per person based on double occupancy**  
**Deluxe Staterooms (37 available) | ~~\$14,999~~ \$13,999 per person based on double occupancy,  
~~\$15,999~~ \$14,999 single occupancy** \*\$399 per person taxes and fees are additional

- Nine-night cruise aboard the exclusively chartered *Transcend Connect*
  - Daily touring and nightly conversations with featured cruise historians and *Band of Brothers* actor
  - A custom collection of “design your own journey” included shore excursions
  - Full-time logistical tour managers
  - Expert local battlefield guides
  - All meals aboard *Transcend Connect*
  - Beer, wine, spirits, coffee, water, tea, and soft drinks throughout the cruise
  - Personal listening devices on all included excursions
  - Entrance fees to all sites, museums, and attractions on included excursions
  - Video oral history presentations from the Museum’s collection
  - Private, air-conditioned motor coach transportation on all shore excursions
  - Roundtrip airport transfers (when arriving and departing on scheduled group tour dates)
  - Gratuities to shipboard crew, guides, drivers, and porters
  - Informative specially curated keepsake guidebook including useful battlefield maps and archival images to be used throughout your journey
  - Personalized luggage tags and customized name badge
- \*Airport transfers are included with additional hotel nights if booked through the Educational Travel Department.*

Troops with the US First Army’s 3rd Armored Division advance through the ruins of Cologne, Germany, toward the undamaged cathedral in March 1945. From the Collection of The National WWII Museum.



For tour questions or for more information, the Travel Sales Team is available Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. CT.

Call: 1-877-813-3329 x 257 | Email: [travel@nationalww2museum.org](mailto:travel@nationalww2museum.org)

**CLICK HERE  
to  
BOOK NOW!**