

**WWII**  
THE NATIONAL  
WWII MUSEUM  
TRAVEL



WORLD AFFAIRS  
COUNCIL OF  
PHILADELPHIA  
& PARTNERS

# 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

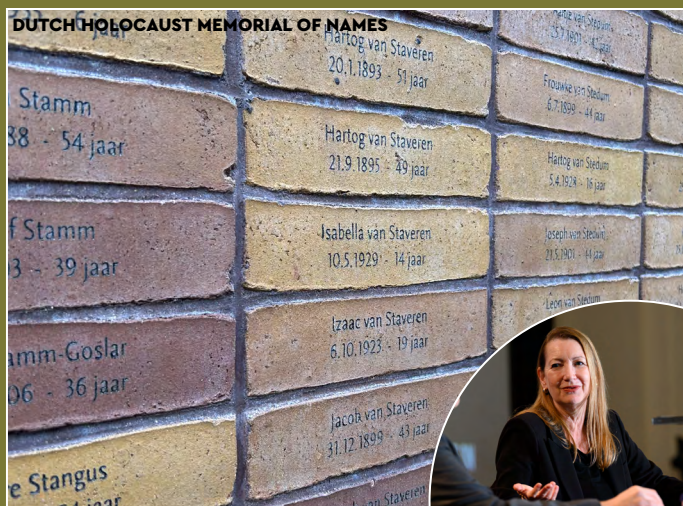
## CHOOSE BETWEEN 2 OPTIONAL PRE-TOUR EXTENSION PROGRAMS

### 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.

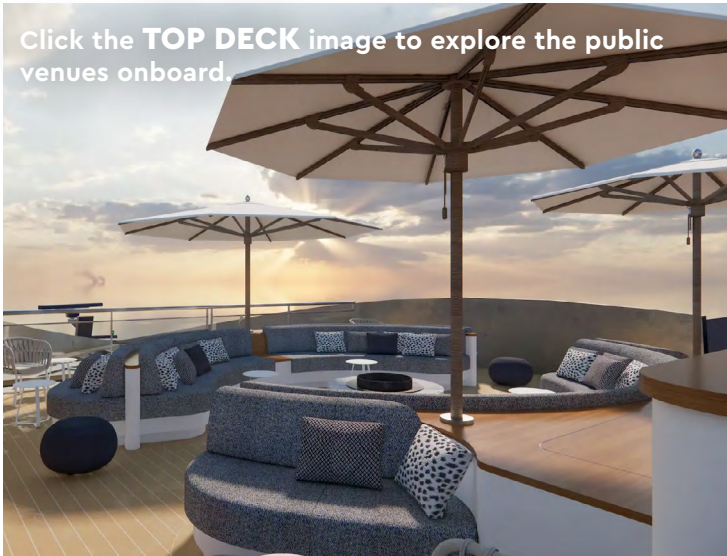
Click the **STATEROOM** image to see renderings of the cabins and suites.



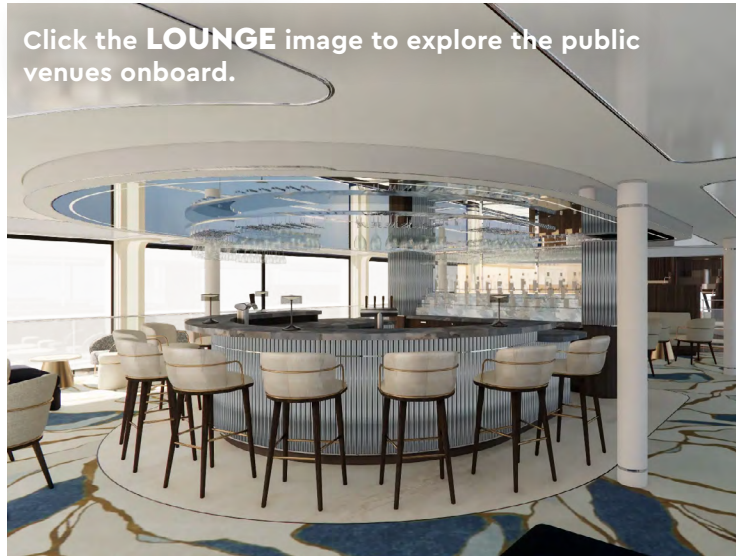
Click the **DINING** image to learn more about guest experiences while sailing.



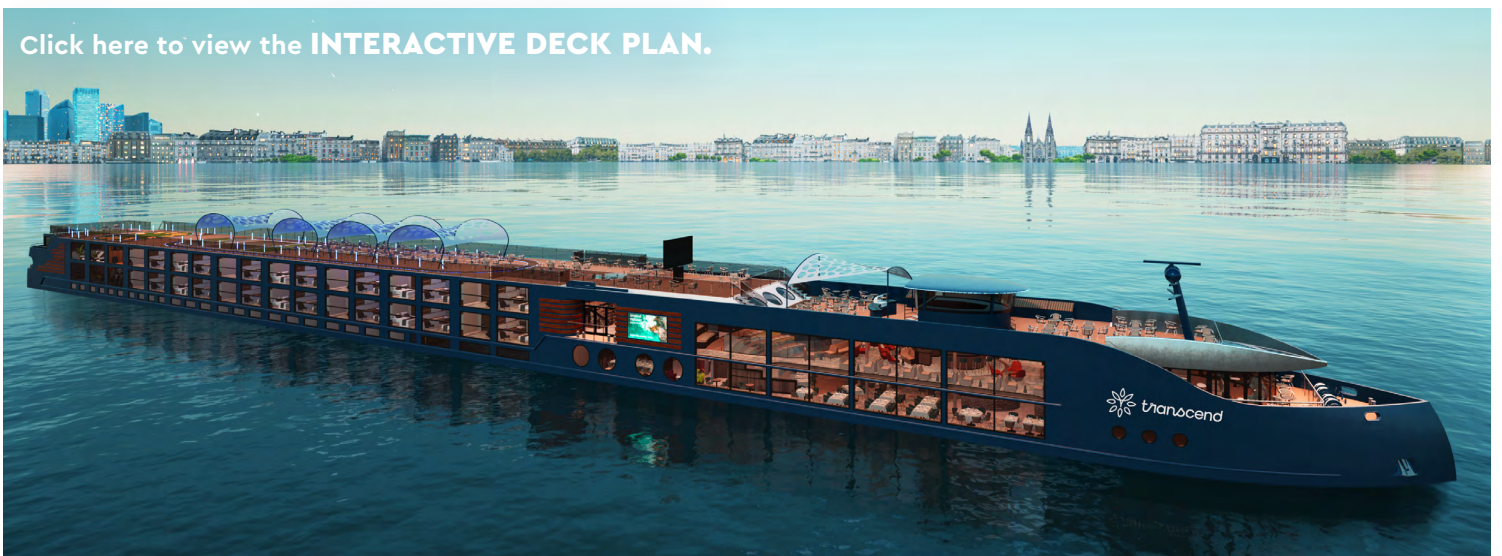
Click the **TOP DECK** image to explore the public venues onboard.



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.*



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!**