



Rhine Castles & Swiss Alps

Hosted by Scott Miller

AMA Waterways European River Cruise

From Basel to Amsterdam

Sailing Onboard the AmaSerena

July 17-25, 2022



\$3,999.00

*Rate is per person based on
double occupancy.*

*Optional Pre Cruise Lake Como
Package Available.*

Rhine Castles & Swiss Alps



Cruise From: Basel to Amsterdam

Discover fairytale castles and historic vineyards as part of this spectacular Rhine River cruise fantasy encompassing the Netherlands, Germany, France and Switzerland, as well as iconic landmarks and majestic mountain landscapes, this distinctive itinerary is truly a dream come true. We start in France's Alsace region in enchanting Strasbourg and take in spectacular panoramas of the Swiss Alps. One of the highlights of the trip is cruising through the UNESCO-designated Rhine Gorge, where 40 castles are strung like pearls along the river banks. Then it's off to Germany, where you'll discover not only the grand city of Cologne but charming villages like the winemaking hamlet of Rudesheim and the university town of Heidelberg. Finally, we explore the canal-laden city of Amsterdam, with its neat rows of buildings and rich history.

Cruise Includes:

- Transfer & Air To/From Chicago
- Round-trip Airport Transfers
- Cruise Accommodations
- Some Shore Excursions
- Limited Beverages
- Onboard Entertainment
- Wi-Fi Onboard
- Bottled Water on Excursions
- Prepaid Ship Gratuities
- All Taxes & Port Fees
- Hosted by Scott Miller of WJBC



Detailed Daily Itinerary

Day 1: Sunday, July 17, 2022 - DEPART CENTRAL ILLINOIS

Depart Central Illinois for Chicago O'Hare Airport and board our overnight flight to Europe.

Day 2: Monday, July 18, 2022 - ARRIVE BASEL - EMBARKATION

Arrive in Basel we will be met by an AMA Waterways representative in arrival hall and they will lead us to our motorcoach for transfer to the AmaSerena where you will check into your cabin. The rest of the day is yours to do as you like. Tonight, meet your fellow passengers at the Welcome Dinner. (D)

Day 3: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 - BASEL

Enjoy getting to know Basel, Switzerland's third largest city. Long an important university, banking and trade center, Basel's glorious past is still evident in its medieval town hall, richly decorated market square and exquisite 18th-century patrician homes. Tour the city by foot or on a guided bike tour that takes you through three countries: Switzerland, France and Germany. Later in the day, visit Lucerne, known for its Lion Monument – the figure of a dying lion carved into a hillside in memory of the Swiss Guards massacred during the French Revolution in 1792 – which Mark Twain described as “the most mournful and moving piece of stone in the world.” You'll also see Lucerne's spectacular medieval walls and towers, dating back to the 13th century. (B,L,D)

Day 4: Wednesday, July 20, 2022 - STRASBOURG

Strasbourg offers flavors of both France and Germany because of its borderline location. Enjoy a panoramic tour past the stunning Parc de l'Orangerie, the European Parliament and the Place de la République before walking through its iconic “La Petite France” district, lifted straight from the pages of a fairytale. Wander through charming streets past the Cathédrale de Notre Dame with its famous astronomical clock. Alternatively, take a guided bike ride through the city and Parc de l'Orangerie. (B,L,D)

Cruising Itinerary Continued

Day 5: Thursday, July 21, 2022 - LUDWIGSHAFEN

Ludwigshafen is your gateway to a choice of four excursions. Visit Heidelberg, the perfectly preserved medieval city nestled in the Neckar River Valley along Germany's Castle Road. Discover the iconic red sandstone Heidelberg Castle and Great Vat, an 18th-century, 49,000-gallon wine cask. For a more active adventure while in Heidelberg, join a guided hike up the Philosopher's Path, aptly named during the Romantic Period, and enjoy panoramic views of the city. Alternatively, you can visit one of Germany's oldest cities, Speyer, known for the largest Romanesque cathedral in Europe—a UNESCO World Heritage Site—and the medieval Old Gate, Altpörtel. Or pedal along the river Neckar to the picturesque medieval city center of Ladenburg and enjoy some free time to explore the shops. Later in the day, cruise to the charming village of Rüdesheim and let Siegfried's Mechanical Musical Instrument Museum charm you with its remarkable collection of self-playing musical instruments; or taste one of the town's special delights, Rüdesheimer coffee, ceremoniously made with brandy, coffee and whipped cream. (B,L,D)

Day 6: Friday, July 22, 2022 - RUDESHEIM

Join a wine tasting to discover the flavors of the town's iconic vineyards. Or drink up the stunning views by soaring high above the vineyards with a gondola ride to the Niederwalddenkmal. For a more active adventure, hike through the town's beautiful vineyards or join a guided bike tour along the scenic Rhine River. Later in the day, cruise through the captivating UNESCO-designated Rhine Gorge, the most stunningly beautiful stretch of the river before reaching Lahnstein, where you will enjoy a unique evening visit at Lahneck Castle. (B,L,D)

Day 7: Saturday, July 23, 2022 - COLOGNE

Enjoy cruising to Cologne. Join a guided tour through the Old Town and explore the UNESCO-designated Cologne Cathedral, one of Germany's most revered Gothic masterpieces. Continue to the Cologne Rathaus, Germany's oldest town hall, the Overstolzenhaus, and the Festival Hall. For a different view, visit a local tavern to taste its famous Kölsch beer, only made in Cologne, and reibekuchen mit apfelmus, potato pancakes typically served with applesauce. Active adventurers will want to join a guided bike ride along the Rhine and through the historic Stadtgarten. (B,L,D)

Day 8: Sunday, July 24, 2022 - AMSTERDAM

There are 165 canals in Amsterdam, and you'll get to enjoy some of them on your canal cruise. Alternatively, delve into the city's Jewish heritage with a visit the 17th-century Portuguese synagogue and the Jewish Historical Museum, as well as a walking tour of Amsterdam's Jewish District. (B,L,D)

Day 9: Monday, July 25, 2022 - DISEMBARKATION

Bid Farewell to Amsterdam and prepare for your homeward flight. (B)

Upgrades, Customizations & Cruise Extensions

If you are interested in getting upgraded seats on your flight, adding land tours to this cruise or simply purchasing the pre-and post cruise options available with Ama Waterways we are happy to help. AMA Waterways offers 2 Night Hotel Stays either before or after your cruise. They also have a special 3 night pre-cruise extension in Lake Como for 1500 per person. Please note that the cost for these add-on services is not part of your package. By adding to the cost of your trip it should be expected that your insurance amount will also increase as the rate is based on total cost of trip. Lastly, when you extend your trip you will be responsible for your own transfers as they will no longer be included in your package. There is no refund of unused portions of the package such as transfers.



Rhine Castles & Swiss Alps

Sailing Itinerary from Basel to Amsterdam

Day	Date	Time	Activity	Port of Call	Country
Mon	07/18/2022	03:00 PM	EMBARK	BASEL	SWITZERLAND
Mon	07/18/2022	11:59 PM	OVERNIGHT	BASEL	SWITZERLAND
Tue	07/19/2022	06:30 PM	DEPARTURE	BASEL	SWITZERLAND
Wed	07/20/2022	09:00 AM	ARRIVAL	STRASBOURG	FRANCE
Wed	07/20/2022	11:00 PM	DEPARTURE	STRASBOURG	FRANCE
Thu	07/21/2022	08:00 AM	ARRIVAL	LUDWIGSHAFEN	GERMANY, FED...
Thu	07/21/2022	02:00 PM	DEPARTURE	LUDWIGSHAFEN	GERMANY, FED...
Thu	07/21/2022	07:30 PM	ARRIVAL	RÜDESHEIM	GERMANY, FED...
Thu	07/21/2022	11:59 PM	OVERNIGHT	RÜDESHEIM	GERMANY, FED...
Fri	07/22/2022	12:30 PM	DEPARTURE	RÜDESHEIM	GERMANY, FED...
Fri	07/22/2022	04:00 PM	ARRIVAL	LAHNSTEIN	GERMANY, FED...
Fri	07/22/2022	11:59 PM	OVERNIGHT	LAHNSTEIN	GERMANY, FED...
Sat	07/23/2022	06:30 AM	DEPARTURE	LAHNSTEIN	GERMANY, FED...
Sat	07/23/2022	01:00 PM	ARRIVAL	COLOGNE	GERMANY, FED...
Sat	07/23/2022	07:00 PM	DEPARTURE	COLOGNE	GERMANY, FED...
Sun	07/24/2022	01:00 PM	ARRIVAL	AMSTERDAM	NETHERLANDS
Sun	07/24/2022	11:59 PM	OVERNIGHT	AMSTERDAM	NETHERLANDS
Mon	07/25/2022	09:00 AM	DISEMBARK	AMSTERDAM	NETHERLANDS



Sailing on the AmaSerena



AmaSerena is a regal river ship built in 2015 with 81 staterooms accommodating up to 162 passengers and 51 crew. Each balcony stateroom is built to maximize scenic views. Amenities include Entertainment-On-Demand, unlimited Wi-Fi, movies, music and more. Outside of the luxury cabins, guests can choose a quiet respite in the inviting library or head to the Main Lounge for cocktails and conversation. Both venues are designed with fabrics in rich reds that call to mind full-bodied Merlots. For a bit of whimsy, the Sun Deck boasts a giant chess set, or you can take a dip in the refreshing pool. As a member of La Chaîne des Rôtisseurs, the exclusive international culinary society, AmaSerena also offers exquisite, locally-sourced cuisine in the Main Restaurant or at The Chef's Table.



Award-Winning Dining

Savor exquisite cuisine at a variety of dining venues, like the Main Restaurant and The Chef's Table. You can also order delicious tapas between meals in the Main Lounge.



Inviting Public Spaces

With fewer guests on board, you can enjoy the luxury of space to unwind, relax and reconnect with your loved ones. Our public areas, including lounges and restaurants, are never overcrowded.



Sun-Deck Pool

Soak up some rays or take a dip in our refreshing pool with a swim-up bar as we pass by centuries-old castles, charming villages and other breathtaking scenery.

Life Onboard the Ama Serena

THE LUXURY OF MORE

AmaWaterways, we love what we do — providing our guests with the best travel experiences possible. In fact, “Ama” is derived from the Latin word for “love.” It is a concept that permeates every aspect of our river cruises, from the design of our ships to the development of our itineraries to the high levels of service we deliver to our guests. It is a philosophy that drives our attention to detail, constant innovation and culture of always making our guests our top priority. It is the reason our guests all have a story about why it was the best cruise they’ve ever taken. When you sail with AmaWaterways, you will experience the luxury of more – more ways to discover, more ways to indulge and more onboard amenities. With an award-winning fleet, critically acclaimed dining and unique tour options, you will have the trip of a lifetime on our cruises.

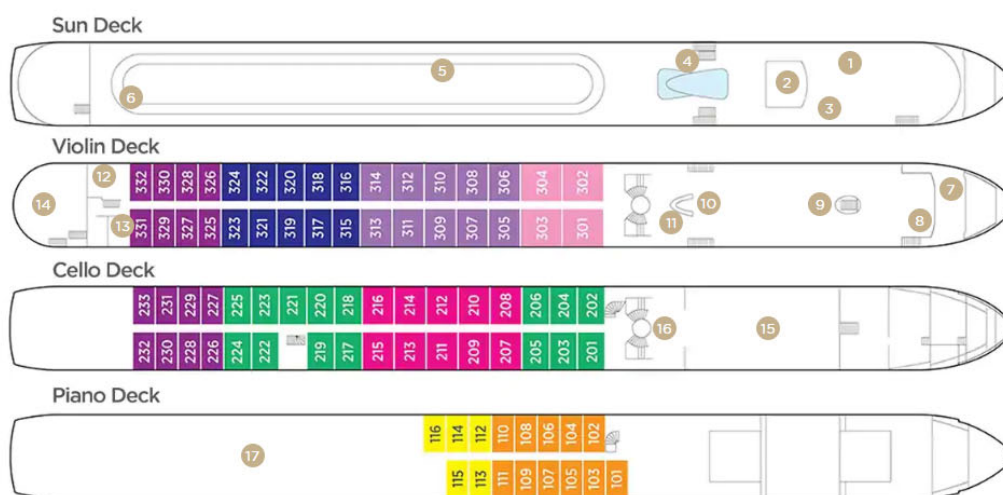
MORE INCLUDED EXCURSIONS

We realize that our guests have different tastes, so we’ve developed a diverse menu of shore excursions to accommodate all travelers with a personalized experience in every port of call. In many destinations, you’ll be free to choose from one of several options — all of which are included in your cruise fare. There’s always a city tour designed to show you the renowned highlights and landmarks in grand capitals and charming villages alike.

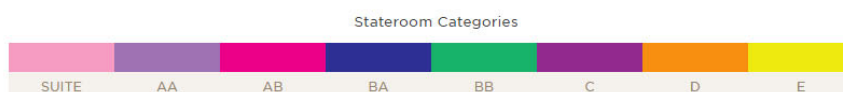
MORE ROOM

Our ships are your floating sanctuary. That’s why we chose to carry fewer guests (at most 164), so that we could make your staterooms larger and provide more amenities. With fewer people on board, public spaces like restaurants and lounges are never crowded, and accommodations range from 155 square feet all the way up to 350 square feet.

1	Lower Sun Deck
2	Navigation Bridge
3	Bicycles
4	Heated Pool
5	Sun Deck
6	Walking Track
7	Al Fresco Dining Terrace
8	Observation Lounge
9	Main Lounge & Bar
10	Gift Shop
11	Reception
12	Fitness Room
13	Massage & Hair Salon
14	The Chef’s Table Restaurant
15	Main Restaurant
16	Elevator
17	Crew Cabins



Note: Elevator reaches the Violin and Cello Deck (does not reach Piano Deck or Sun Deck).



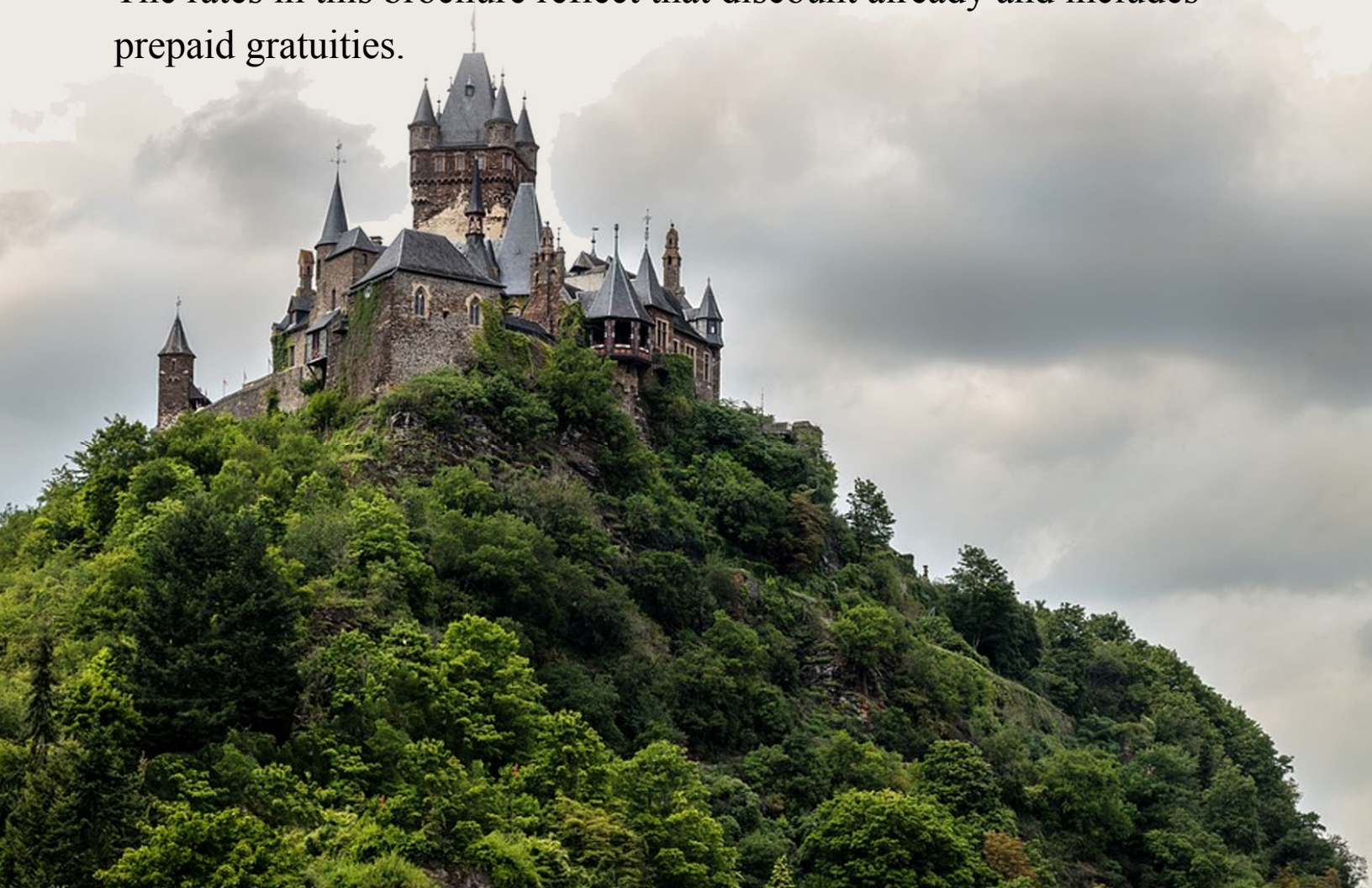
Limited Time Offer

SAVE \$500.00

The first 44 people to book this cruise will save \$500.00 per person when they book by April 30, 2021. After we have sold that many or after the deadline the price will go up by \$500 in each category so we encourage you to book early.

Direct Travel's price on this sailing is \$1,000.00 less than the prevailing public rate. You will not find a better price with any other agency or website not even if you were to book direct with AmaWaterways.

The rates in this brochure reflect that discount already and includes prepaid gratuities.



Discounted Cruise Package Rates

The difference in cabin categories has to do with features such as windows, type of balcony and location on the ship. All staterooms have Egyptian linen, down pillows and duvet, spacious bathrooms, full-length mirror, hair dryer, safe and direct-dial telephone, flat-screen TV that also works as a computer, Entertainment on Demand system providing complimentary TV, movies and music library, Complimentary internet and Wi-Fi. All rates are per person based on double occupancy. Rates for single cabins and suites are very limited rates are available on request.



Category D - Window Piano Deck

\$3,999.00

Travel Protection \$392.00



Category C - French Balcony Violin & Cello Deck

\$4,599.00

Travel Protection \$451.00



***Category BB - French Balcony & Outside
Balcony Cello Deck***

\$4,999.00

Travel Protection \$499.00



***Category AA - French Balcony
& Outside Balcony Violin Deck***

\$5,599.00

Travel Protection \$549.00

Terms & Conditions

Beverages Included Onboard: Sparkling wine and juices at breakfast; beer, soft drinks and unlimited wines at lunch and dinner (new selections daily); a Sip & Sail cocktail hour with complimentary wine, beer and spirits; plus, gourmet coffee, tea and bottled water 24/7.

Rate does not include: Certain beverages like soda, beer, wine or cocktails. Use of the telephone in each cabin for ship to shore. Items of a personal nature such as laundry, spa or gift shop. Optional shore excursions that might be offered in addition to our daily included shore excursion program. Travel protection insurance. Airline fees for excess baggage, upgrades or seat assignments. Please note that deviations such as pre or post extensions are subject to additional fees such as air, transfers, accommodations and insurance.

A \$500.00 per person deposit is required in order to guarantee space for this cruise. The deadline for booking this cruise package is April 30, 2021 and final payment is January 7, 2022.

Once paid, monies are non-refundable unless you have purchased travel protection and are canceling for a covered reason. No exceptions. Early sign up is suggested. Direct Travel Escort participation requires a minimum of 40 passengers.

Cancel For Any Reason Travel Protection is highly recommended. Direct Travel highly recommends travel insurance which provides reimbursement coverage for trip cancellation for covered medical reasons, and other benefits including Bankruptcy/Default, Trip Delay, Missed Cruise Departure, Accident Medical Expense, Sickness Medical Expense, Common Carrier AD&D, 24-hour AD&D, Baggage & Personal Effects, Baggage Delay. **Our cancel for any reason policy will allow for you to cancel your vacation up to 24 hours (business day) before your trip departure and you would receive 80% of your money deposited with Direct Travel back less the cost of the policy. If you are canceling for a covered reason then you will receive 100% of your money back less the cost of the policy.**





For Reservations or Information Contact:

309-834-3739 or 866-592-0455

2412 E. Washington Suite 4A
Bloomington, IL 61704

Direct Travel
personalized experiences

RHINE CASTLES & SWISS ALPS requires an initial deposit of \$500.00 per person . Booking Deadline is March 31, 2021.

All monies that are paid are non-refundable thus Direct Travel recommends trip cancellation insurance .

Mail form to Direct Travel 2412 East Washington Street, Suite 4A | Bloomington, IL 61704

Please print names *exactly* as they appear on your passport. Passports must be valid through January 24, 2022.

PASSENGER 1: _____

Passport #: _____ Passport Expiration: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Known Traveler # if Applicable: _____

PASSENGER 2: _____

Passport #: _____ Passport Expiration: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Known Traveler # if Applicable: _____

☐ **I certify that my name written above and dates of birth are EXACTLY as they appear on my passport. Errors or omissions are subject to fee for correction.**

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Credit Card #: _____ ☐ VI ☐ MC ☐ AX ☐ DS

Expiration Date: _____ Security Code: _____

Please select your cabin category. (Rate is per person based on double occupancy)

☐ Category D - \$3,999.00 + Insurance \$392.00 = \$4,391.00 X 2 People = \$TOTAL \$8,782.00

☐ Category C - \$4,599.00 + Insurance \$451.00 = \$5,050.00 X 2 People = \$TOTAL \$10,100.00

☐ Category BB \$4,999.00 + Insurance \$490.00 = \$5,489.00 X 2 People = \$TOTAL \$10,978.00

☐ Category AA \$5,599.00 + Insurance \$549.00 = \$6,148.00 X 2 People = \$TOTAL \$12,296.00

☐ Lake Como Extension \$1500.00 + Insurance \$147.00 = \$1,647.00 X 2 People = \$TOTAL \$3,294.00

☐ **No, I do not want Travel Protection. Direct Travel has recommended that I purchase travel protection insurance. I have been made aware of the cancellation fees associated with my trip, and I understand that if any unforeseen circumstance (including medical emergencies) should occur and I do not have insurance, I would not be covered which will result in a 100% penalty and forfeiture of deposit held by Direct Travel.**

Responsibility/Information: This tour is arranged and operated by Direct Travel in common with other agents. Direct Travel acts only as an agent for other parties, firms or corporations providing services herein. By issuance of tour credentials Direct Travel is not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned by reason of defect in any vehicle, or for failure to carry out such arrangements as mentioned; nor for the misconduct of such other parties, terrorist activities, war or natural disasters. Direct Travel reserves the right to withdraw or make any changes and alterations as may be found necessary for the proper handling of said tours.