

VIKING NEWS

YOUR PROGRAM FOR TODAY

Sunday, August 2nd 2009

11:00 AM – 3:00 PM **Light Lunch:** Enjoy a sandwich or a cup of soup from the buffet in the Viking Lounge.

3:30-4:15 PM **Tea Time:** Have a cup of tea or coffee and enjoy a variety of cakes or pastries in the Viking Lounge.

6:00 PM **Cocktail Hour:** Start your evening with one of our special cocktails of the day.

6:00 PM **Embarkation and Safety Briefing:** Join fellow travellers, Hotelmanager Thomas Brossmer and Program Director Lucia Petrasova in the Viking Lounge, where they will provide you with important information about life on board and your cruise program. Embarkation briefing for Spanish speaking guests will be in the library with Program Manager Alex.

7:00 PM **Swiss Dinner:** Chef de Cuisine André Rogowski and Maître d'hôtel Janos Olah invite you for dinner in the restaurant. Should you have any special dietary requirements, please let the Maître d' know. Bon appétit!

9:00 PM **Live Music:** Mingle with fellow passengers for an after dinner drink while enjoying soft musical entertainment. Try one of our cocktail specials!

SHIP'S CONTACTS

Reception: +49 174 346 34 47
Program Director: +49 174 347 44 23

COCKTAILS OF THE DAY

With Alcohol:
Blue Lady 5.00 €
Without Alcohol:
Canaria 3.00 €

TODAY'S WEATHER

sunny

Sunrise:	06:07 AM	Sunset:	11 - 28 °C / 51 - 82°F
Temperature:	09:06 PM	Chance of Rain:	5% morning 0% afternoon 5% evening

WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF RIVER CRUISES

Basel

This city, located at a site where the Rhine makes an abrupt turn to the north after flowing practically due west for most of its course from lake Constance, looks back on 2,000 years of eventful history. Nearby Augusta Raurica preserves extensive Roman ruins, and the city's churches and gates tell the story of Basel as an important medieval transportation hub and religious center. Today, Basel's main claim to fame is that it has been, throughout the last hundreds of years a center of the pharmaceutical industry.

Basel is still a popular location for conventions – its central location in Europe and its excellent facilities and infrastructure make it a natural choice for many trade fairs, exhibits etc. The oldest fair, the Fall Fair, has been held here since 1471.

As an important stronghold of humanistic thought, Basel was the residence of

Erasmus of Rotterdam. He is buried in the Minster, the great cathedral, perched on a promontory overlooking the Rhine's great bend.

The city features the oldest university in Switzerland (est. 1460), about 30 museums, the country's first musical stage, an internationally famous theatre and countless small theatres. Basel is also famous for its musical and Jazz festivals with high-calibre performers and the small but excellent music clubs.

The alternative art scene is located to the right of the Rhine, in multi-cultural 'Minor Basel'. To the left of the river, in 'Big Basel', you'll find the city centre grouped around the market square. The well-preserved old town with its small shops and elegant boutiques invites you for a leisurely stroll.