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# 2025 GOURMET TUSCANY, LAKE COMO & LUCERNE PLUS ROMANTIC RHINE RIVER CRUISE

*Enjoy a 7-Night Gourmet Tuscan Land Tour, followed by a 3-Night Pre-Cruise Hotel Stay in Lake Como & 1-Night Pre-Cruise Hotel Stay in Lucerne, and a 7-Night River Cruise from Basel to Amsterdam*

**18 Nights / 21 Days • Escorted from Honolulu**

**Travel to Montecatini, Italy & Return from Amsterdam, Netherlands**

**Avalon Panorama • Featuring 200 sq. ft. Panorama Suites**

**October 05 – 25, 2025 • Tour Managers: Steven & Naomi Lee**

**COUNTRIES:** Italy, Switzerland, Germany, France & the Netherlands

**RIVERS:** Rhine River

**VACATION OVERVIEW:** On this affordable Italy discovery package, the town of Montecatini serves as your home base from which to venture out to explore the surrounding landscapes of breathtaking Tuscany and getting to know its culinary and wine traditions. You'll indulge in picturesque scenery, world-class local wines, traditional cuisine, and cultural discoveries. From the rolling hills of Montalbano to Vinci and beyond, we'll take you through bountiful vineyards, olive groves, and chestnut trees. You'll even visit the birthplace of Leonardo da Vinci to experience the Renaissance master's life and art. Traveling through some of the most stunning and lush natural landscapes in Italy, you'll embark to visit idyllic spots, including the gorgeous Chianti Valley and the Etruscan Coast. As you visit quaint wine shops, cafés, historic estates, and museums, you'll feel immersed in the history and traditions of each destination. In addition to sampling the local gourmet Tuscan fare, you'll also be treated to an Italian cooking lesson. You'll prepare an authentic Italian dish inside a rustic Tuscan farmhouse where you and your travel companions will enjoy your culinary creations-complete with master-chef prizes. You'll also learn the art of Italian dessert making at your hotel and get to taste some of the celebrated Chianti and Super Tuscan wines right where they are produced. You'll revel in the beauty of becoming familiar with a single destination of Montecatini while making priceless discoveries of locales that are off the beaten path-perfect for the smart, creative, and budget-minded travel lover.

Our European vacation continues with a 3-night stay in Lake Como and 1-night stay in Lucerne, with a special excursion up Mount Pilatus (or Mount Stanserhorn per seasonal accessibility) for spectacular Swiss Alpine panoramas. In Como, an included guided walking tour features the charming historic district, the Gothic Town Hall, the impressive Duomo, and a boat ride on the lake. In Lucerne, your guided walking tour includes the Lion Monument, the Chapel Bridge and a special highlight excursion to Swiss Alps.

Embark on your Rhine River cruise through France, Germany, and the Netherlands. Board your Avalon Suite Ship® in Basel, Switzerland, then head for Breisach, Germany, at the foot of the Kaiserstuhl Mountain on the French-German border. Here you'll find the gateway to Germany's Black Forest, an area of unrivaled natural beauty, best known for Black Forest ham, cherry cake, and the cuckoo clock. Continue your river cruise to Strasbourg, France, and marvel at the red-sandstone Gothic-style cathedral with ancient murals and the fascinating astronomical clock. Stroll through the lovely La Petite France district with its quaint shops, delightful bistros, and peaceful waterfront promenade. Visit the ruins of Heidelberg Castle, towering magnificently over the city, or stop in Mainz for a guided walk and a visit to the captivating Gutenberg Museum. Sail to the charming wine town of Rudesheim, and a visit to the unique Siegfried's Mechanical Musical Instrument Museum, then pass through the dramatic Rhine Gorge — the most beautiful view of the Rhine River where ancient castles stand on cliffs 400 feet above the water. Last stop in Germany is Cologne — a 2,000-year-old city known for its Gothic-style architecture and famous twin-spired cathedral.

At the conclusion of your Rhine River cruise, you'll spend time in colorful Amsterdam. See the treasures of this 700-year-old city on an included canal cruise along the elegant grachten lined with homes dating back to the city's "Golden Age." Spend free time discovering world-famous museums, and an abundance of restaurants in the vibrant, modern capital of the Netherlands.

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**Select Sightseeing is included in tour. Additional optional tours are available for purchase through Globus and Avalon Waterways. Itinerary shown is based on Globus and Avalon's 2025 tour. Tour itinerary and inclusions are subject to change at any time with or without notice by Globus and Avalon.**

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**Day 1: Sun, Oct 05** — HONOLULU. Depart Honolulu.

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**Day 2: Mon, Oct 06** — IN TRANSIT.

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**Day 3: Tue, Oct 07** — FLORENCE — MONTECATINI, ITALY. Welcome to Italy! After completing arrival formalities, meet your Globus Representative and transfer by coach to the hotel in Montecatini. The rest of the day is free for you to explore the city on your own. Tonight, meet your Tour Director and Travel Companions for a special Welcome Dinner. SETTENTRIONALE ESPLANADE or Similar (7 Nights) (D)

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**Day 4: Wed, Oct 08** — MONTECATINI. EXCURSION TO VINCI. This morning, head out into the lush, rolling landscape of the Montalbano hills. Pass terraced grape vineyards, olive groves, and chestnut trees on your way to the quaint village of Vinci, **birthplace of Leonardo da Vinci**. Here, learn all about the Renaissance master at the **museum** dedicated to his life and many areas of interest from painting, sculpting, and inventing, to anatomy, music, and cartography! Round up the morning with the **visit of a local bakery**. Learn **how bread is made** and enjoy a light lunch with an opportunity to **sample local products** such as focaccia bread, sandwiches, wine, cheese, cold cuts, and olive oil. (B, L)

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**Day 5: Thur, Oct 09** — MONTECATINI. EXCURSION TO THE CHIANTI VALLEY. Cradled between the provinces of Florence and Siena, the Chianti Valley is the heart of Tuscany, and has been hailed for its exceptional wines since the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Your journey today takes you to Greve, with time to visit the village and to enjoy **lunch at a charming wine shop**. Complete the day with the visit of a **historic Tuscan estate** known for its **Chianti wine production**. (B, L)

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**Day 6: Fri, Oct 10** — MONTECATINI. Enjoy a leisurely morning in Montecatini. Maybe go for a walk in the Parco delle Terme with its tall shady trees. Most of the afternoon is dedicated to the **Italian cooking lesson at a rustic farmhouse** in the Tuscan countryside. Once you arrive at the farm, enjoy a Welcome Drink, explore the orchard to pick some fresh ingredients, learn about Italy's most famous delicacies, and then roll up your sleeves for a fun, hands-on cooking experience. This evening, relax with your Traveling Companions and taste the delectable dinner you prepared — maybe your team will win the Master Chef prize! (B, D)



**Day 7: Sat, Oct 11** — MONTECATINI. EXCURSION TO LUCCA. Visit Lucca, a stunning showcase of medieval architecture and layer upon layer of rich history and culture. Marvel at the beautiful art and tapestry collections at the baroque **Palazzo Mansi National Museum**, then take a guided walking tour around the **Old Town** with its fine, intact Renaissance-era wall, cobblestone streets, and café-lined piazzas. A lively café-crawl snack brunch is included, followed by a main course at a local restaurant. Then, your Local Guide will introduce you to the stunning ornamental gardens and grand arched ceilings of **Palazzo Pfanner**. (B, L)

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**Day 8: Sun, Oct 12** — MONTECATINI. EXCURSION TO BOLGHERI. Travel through the vineyard-dotted countryside and along cypress tree-lined Viale dei Cipressi for your grand entrance into enchanting Bolgheri. With its red-brick castle and atmospheric Old Town, it's not hard to imagine that Bolgheri jumped right off the pages of a storybook. There's time here to **visit one of the wine cellars** and **taste Bolgheri's celebrated Super Tuscan reds**. First created in the 1980s, many wine experts believe these now rival French Bordeaux. Later, stop at nearby **Castagneto Carducci**, known for its splendid panoramic views of the Etruscan Coast. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant and the chance to sample the **local liqueur**. (B, L)

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**Day 9: Mon, Oct 13** — MONTECATINI. This morning is yours to do as you please. You could choose to explore more of the city on your own, to relax and shop for souvenirs, or to join an exciting optional excursion. This afternoon is dedicated to a **baking class** at your hotel, focusing on the **creation of cakes and desserts**. (B, D)

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**Day 10: Tue, Oct 14** — MONTECATINI — LAKE COMO. Transfer from Montecatini to Lake Como. Exploring this delightful town on the Lake Como. This gorgeous city offers you plenty of opportunities to get the most out of your three nights stay. BARCHETTA EXCELSIOR or Similar (3 Nights) (B)

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**Day 11: Wed, Oct 15** — LAKE COMO.

**📺 CLASSIC EXCURSION:** Join a guided walking tour which includes the charming historic center, the Broletto (Town Hall) with its fascinating gothic façade, and the imposing, marble-clad Duomo.

Embark on a boat ride on Lake Como which includes a stop in beautiful Bellagio. (B)

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**Day 12: Thur, Oct 16** — LAKE COMO. Enjoy the day at leisure to relax, recharge or explore the lakeshores. Como offers you every kind of solutions for your spare time. Choose a boat trip on the lake, a relaxing walk on the riverbanks or shopping in the city centre. And be sure to taste the authentic Italian specialties in a local restaurant! (B)





**Day 13: Fri, Oct 17** — LAKE COMO — LUCERNE, SWITZERLAND. Travel to Lucerne.

**📹 CLASSIC EXCURSION:** Enjoy a **guided walking tour** to explore beautiful Lucerne which includes Thorvaldsen's poignant **Lion Monument** and the famous **Chapel Bridge**. ASTORIA or Similar (1 Night) (B)

**Day 14: Sat, Oct 18** — LUCERNE — MOUNT PILATUS — BASEL — EMBARK AVALON PANORAMA.

**📹 CLASSIC EXCURSION:** This morning enjoy a **special highlight excursion to Mount Pilatus**. Journey almost 7,000 feet (2,132 meters) up for spectacular views over central Switzerland (in case of bad weather, visit the Swiss Transport Museum instead). Transfer to Basel to board the Avalon Panorama. The ship will cruise this evening to Breisach. (B, D)

**Day 15: Sun, Oct 19** — BREISACH, GERMANY. EXCURSION TO BLACK FOREST. Visit the Adventure Center for today's activities with your Adventure Host.

**🚴 ACTIVE EXCURSION:** Enjoy the view on a relaxing **bike ride along the Rhine** with your Adventure Host, OR:

**🚲 DISCOVERY EXCURSION:** Join a full-day guided tour to the magical **Black Forest** to experience the **Vogtsbauernhof open-air-museum**, visit an authentic **water mill**, and see a **traditional butter-making demonstration**, OR:

**📹 CLASSIC EXCURSION:** Join a guided tour to explore Freiburg's medieval city center, sheltered by the Black Forest amid vineyards and gardens of the Upper Rhine Valley. You may choose to join a guided optional excursion to visit the charming village of Colmar in the morning, with its half-timbered medieval and early renaissance buildings. The ship will cruise this evening to Strasbourg. (B, L, D)

**Day 16: Mon, Oct 20** — STRASBOURG, FRANCE.

**🚴 ACTIVE EXCURSION:** Discover **Strasbourg by bike** with your Adventure Host, OR:

**📹 CLASSIC EXCURSION:** Join a city sightseeing tour, including Strasbourg's Gothic, **stained-glass cathedral** with its celebrated ancient murals and **astronomical clock**, as well as the magical La Petite France District. You may also choose to join a guided optional excursion to the historic Maginot Line—the pre-WWII fortifications designed to protect the eastern border of France, or visit Alsace's wine country today. Alternatively, take some free time in Strasbourg to visit a museum, or stroll across the city center. The ship will cruise this evening to Mainz. (B, L, D)

**Day 17: Tue, Oct 21** — MAINZ, GERMANY. EXCURSION TO HEIDELBERG.

**🚴 ACTIVE EXCURSION:** Join your Avalon Adventure Host for an inspiring **walk in Heidelberg**, the Philosophers' way, OR:

**📹 CLASSIC EXCURSION:** Enjoy a guided tour to **Heidelberg Castle** to see the ruins of the magnificent renaissance treasure towering above the city, and its famed **Great Vat**, the "World's Largest Wine Barrel," OR:



**📹 CLASSIC EXCURSION:** Enjoy a guided city walk in Mainz, including a visit to the **Gutenberg Museum** to see the captivating history of printing.

Enjoy live entertainment on board your ship this evening. The ship will dock overnight in Rudesheim. (B, L, D)

**Day 18: Wed, Oct 22** — RÜDESHEIM-RHINE GORGE — KOBLENZ.

**🚴 ACTIVE EXCURSION:** Enjoy a **hike** with your Avalon Adventure Host through the picturesque vineyards of Rudesheim, OR:

**🚲 DISCOVERY EXCURSION:** Take a guided tour of the incredible **Mechanical Music Museum** for a one-of-a-kind instrumental experience; enjoy a tasting of the **authentic Rudesheimer coffee**.

En route to Koblenz, sail through the **Rhine Gorge** (a UNESCO World Heritage site). Take in the breathtaking views of ancient castles perched on cliffs 400 feet above the water, and pass the legendary **Rock of the Lorelei** — where the mythological siren's songs lured ill-fated sailors. Enjoy free time in Koblenz before a relaxing evening on board with dinner and live entertainment. The ship will dock overnight in Koblenz. (B, L, D)

**Day 19: Thur, Oct 23** — COLOGNE. Join your Adventure Host for today's special activities

**🚴 ACTIVE EXCURSION:** Enjoy a **bike ride like the locals** in Cologne with your Adventure Host, OR:

**🚲 DISCOVERY EXCURSION:** Choose a guided walking tour of Cologne's **important Jewish heritage sites**, OR:

**📹 CLASSIC EXCURSION:** Take a guided city walk of Cologne—with its soaring twin-steepled **gothic cathedral**.

Spend free time over a glass of Kölsch pale lager—locally brewed for over 100 years! Cruise to Amsterdam. (B, L, D)

**Day 20: Fri, Oct 24** — AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS.

**🚴 ACTIVE EXCURSION:** Start your day joining your Adventure Host on an **early morning walk** in Amsterdam, OR:

**📹 CLASSIC EXCURSION:** Explore the iconic waterways of Amsterdam on a **guided canal cruise** past stately homes of Amsterdam's "Golden Age."

You may take a guided optional excursion to Zaanse Schans to see historic windmills and charming Dutch houses. You may also choose an optional biking tour to discover the countryside. Take some free time to explore Amsterdam's colorful streets and canal houses, galleries, and shops. The ship will be docked in Amsterdam overnight. (B, L, D)

**Day 21: Sat, Oct 25** — AMSTERDAM — DISEMBARK AVALON PANORAMA — HONOLULU. Bid farewell to the Netherlands as you prepare for your homeward flight. Arrive Honolulu. Aloha and welcome home!

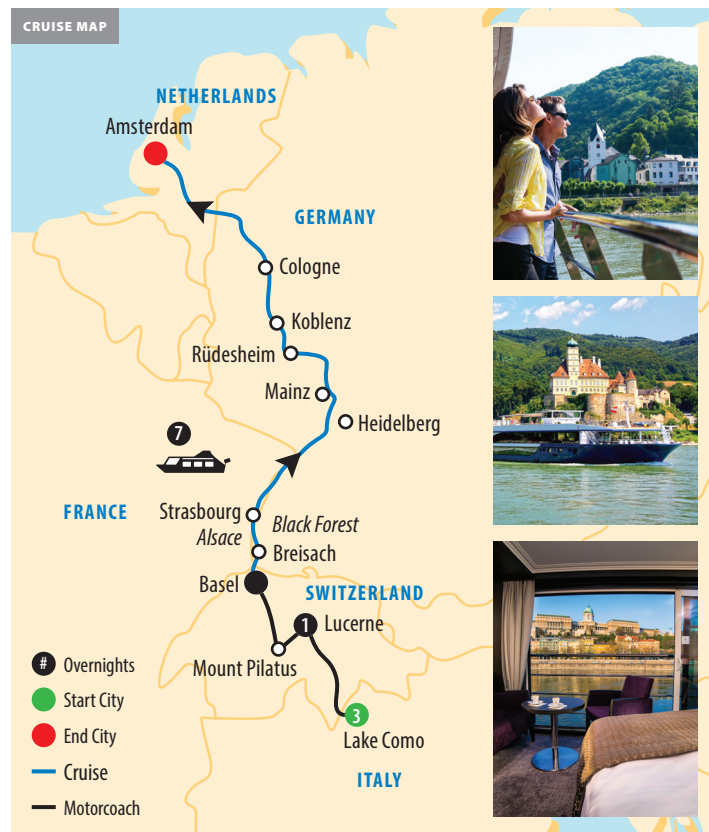
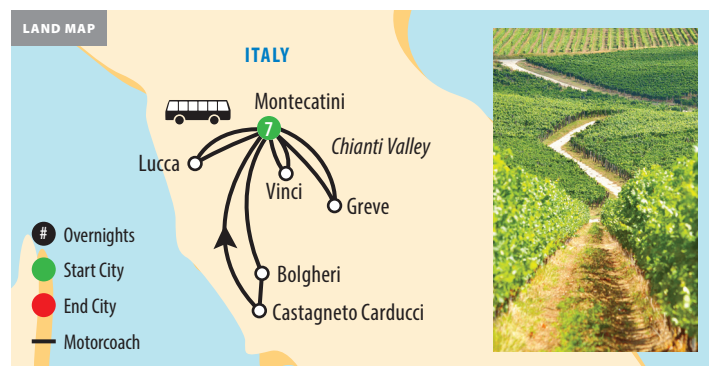
## INCLUDED FEATURES:

- 11 nights hotel accommodations.
- 7 nights deluxe cruise accommodations.
- Open-air balconies and wall-to-wall panoramic windows in all Panorama Suites.
- Large bathroom featuring shower with glass door.
- Individual climate control and in-room safe.
- Well-stocked mini-bar.
- Included sightseeing with expert Local Guides with personal headset Included.
- Choice of **CLASSIC**, **ACTIVE**, or **DISCOVERY** excursions so that you can experience your cruise your way.
- Onboard lectures, activities, and entertainment.
- Complimentary Starlink Wi-Fi throughout the ship.
- Non-smoking staterooms and ship interior.
- Wide selection of free movie channels and English-speaking TV.
- Happy Hour every evening featuring house beer, wine, cocktails, and a drink of the day.
- Welcome and Farewell Cocktails with sparkling wine, and canapés.
- Daily breakfast buffet with full range of classic breakfast items, healthy Avalon Fresh® options and daily à la carte specials.
- Complimentary room service for continental breakfast, lunch, and dinner.
- Daily lunch buffet featuring regional specialties, classic dishes, healthy Avalon Fresh® options and rotating chef's features including carving, and pasta stations. Alternatively, you may dine al fresco at our Sky Grill on the Sky Deck (weather and itinerary permitting) or enjoy a light lunch in the Panorama Lounge.
- Afternoon Tea featuring tea, coffee, and sweet treats.
- Four-course dinners with choice of appetizers, soups, salads, entrées, and desserts or cheese.
- Linger over several selections from the Panorama Bistro's tasting menu for a less formal "sit-down" atmosphere.
- Complimentary wine, beer, or soft drinks with lunch and dinner.
- Avalon FlexDining® flexible dining times with menu and venue options.
- Vegetarian options at every meal, as well as vegan, low calorie, low fat, high fiber, low cholesterol, high energy, and allergy-free selections.
- Specialty coffees, espresso drinks, and beWell Essence flavored and infused water available throughout each day.
- Club Lounge with 24-hour self-serve beverage station with complimentary cappuccinos, lattes, tea, hot chocolate, and premium coffees, as well as treats throughout the day.
- AvalonGo App for your mobile device keeps you informed and on course before and during your cruise.

\* Fares are per person, USD based on double occupancy and include all airline taxes and fees. Prices shown include cruise in Category E Stateroom on the Indigo Deck. Airline fuel supplements, taxes and fees are subject to change and tour member is responsible for any increases. Some airline-imposed personal charges, including but not limited to baggage, priority boarding and special seating, may apply. For details visit [www.tripadvisor.com/AirlineFees](http://www.tripadvisor.com/AirlineFees). After initial deposit, a \$75 per person Non-Stop Travel (NST) cancellation fee may apply. Group departures may be cancelled, if there is less than 20 Tour Members. NST does not guarantee that all Tour Members will fly together with Tour Manager. Tour Manager assignments, number of meals offered on tour, tour price, discount, and the "final" cruise or tour itinerary are subject to change with/without notice. Deposit: \$750 per person (\$500 is non-refundable). Final payment to NST for air/transfer portion must be made by cash, check, or money order only. Final payment for land portion may be made by credit card. Travel to Europe in 2025 will require a Visa or Visa Waiver – price of this Visa or Visa Waiver is not included in the price of this tour. Select Sightseeing is included in tour. Additional optional tours are available for purchase through Globus and Avalon Waterways. Itinerary shown is based on Globus and Avalon's 2025 tour. Tour itinerary and inclusions are subject to change at any time with or without notice by Globus and Avalon. In the event of technical or water level issues, it may be necessary to operate the itinerary by motorcoach or alter the program, including hotel overnight when necessary. Guided Tours, Optional Excursions, activities, sailing and docking schedules may be contingent on weather conditions or other issues outside of Avalon's control and therefore be subject to change at any time. **NST reserves the right to correct errors or omissions including but not limited to, fares, fees and surcharges at any time.** NST at its discretion, may use group and individual photos on its website, print, television, and various social media. †† Earn rewards every time you refer a friend. For each "new-to-NST" customer you refer, both you and your referral can receive a \$25 discount off your next NST escorted group. **Special Assistance:** You must notify NST, at time of reservation, of any disability requiring special attention. NST reserves the right to cancel your booking or terminate your vacation if your special needs or disabilities are not suitable for the vacation or if you are not traveling with a companion who will provide all the assistance you require. **Wheelchair and electric scooter access outside of the USA is severely restricted.**



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Cat D – Fixed Windows / Indigo Deck Aft, 172 sq. ft.	<del>\$10,796</del> \$9,796
Cat B – French Balcony / Sapphire Deck Aft, 200 sq. ft.	<del>\$12,046</del> \$11,046
Cat A – French Balcony / Sapphire Deck Forward, 200 sq. ft.	<del>\$12,146</del> \$11,146
Cat P – French Balcony / Royal Deck, 200 sq. ft.	<del>\$12,196</del> \$11,196
Royal Suite – French Balcony / Royal Deck, 300 sq. ft.	CALL
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