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52 4831 | 01-14 14x01 min.







Along the Rhine

The Rhine is one of Europe's great rivers, and has long been bound up with myth and mystery. Majestic and romantic, scenic and legendary are just some of the adjectives used to describe it. The French writer Victor Hugo called it a "noble river". And the English landscape painter William Turner captured the essence of the romantic Rhine.

No other river in Germany is so steeped in legend. For example, it is said that the Nibelung treasure lies on the riverbed near the town of Worms. Further north, the beautiful Lorelei would bewitch hapless sailors with her song and cause them to capsize their boats. The rock that bear her name is visited by tourists from all over the world.

The Rhine not only has its place in myths and legends, songs and poems, it also plays a political and economic role. Whereas it used to serve as a dividing line between "arch enemies" Germany and France, today it unites the two neighbors now perceived as the motor driving European unity. The river serves as a key transport route between the industrial cities along its course and the North Sea. Its banks are strewn with romantic towns and villages drawing tourists with their quaint alleys, picturesque half-timbered houses and countless pubs selling local wines and beers. Another attraction are the region's many castles, formerly customs posts that brought their owners great wealth and now elegant restaurants and hotels.

52 4830 | 01-03

O1 Upper Rhine From Neuenburg via Breisach to Neuf Brisach

O2 Middle Rhine From Rüdesheim via Bacharach to Sankt Goar

O3 Lower Rhine From Düsseldorf via Duisburg to Emmerich

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01 Konstanz

02	Basel
03	Strasbourg
04	Speyer
05	Mannheim
06	Worms
07	Mainz
08	Rüdesheim
09	Koblenz
10	Bonn
11	Cologne
12	Düsseldorf
13	Duisburg
14	Rotterdam