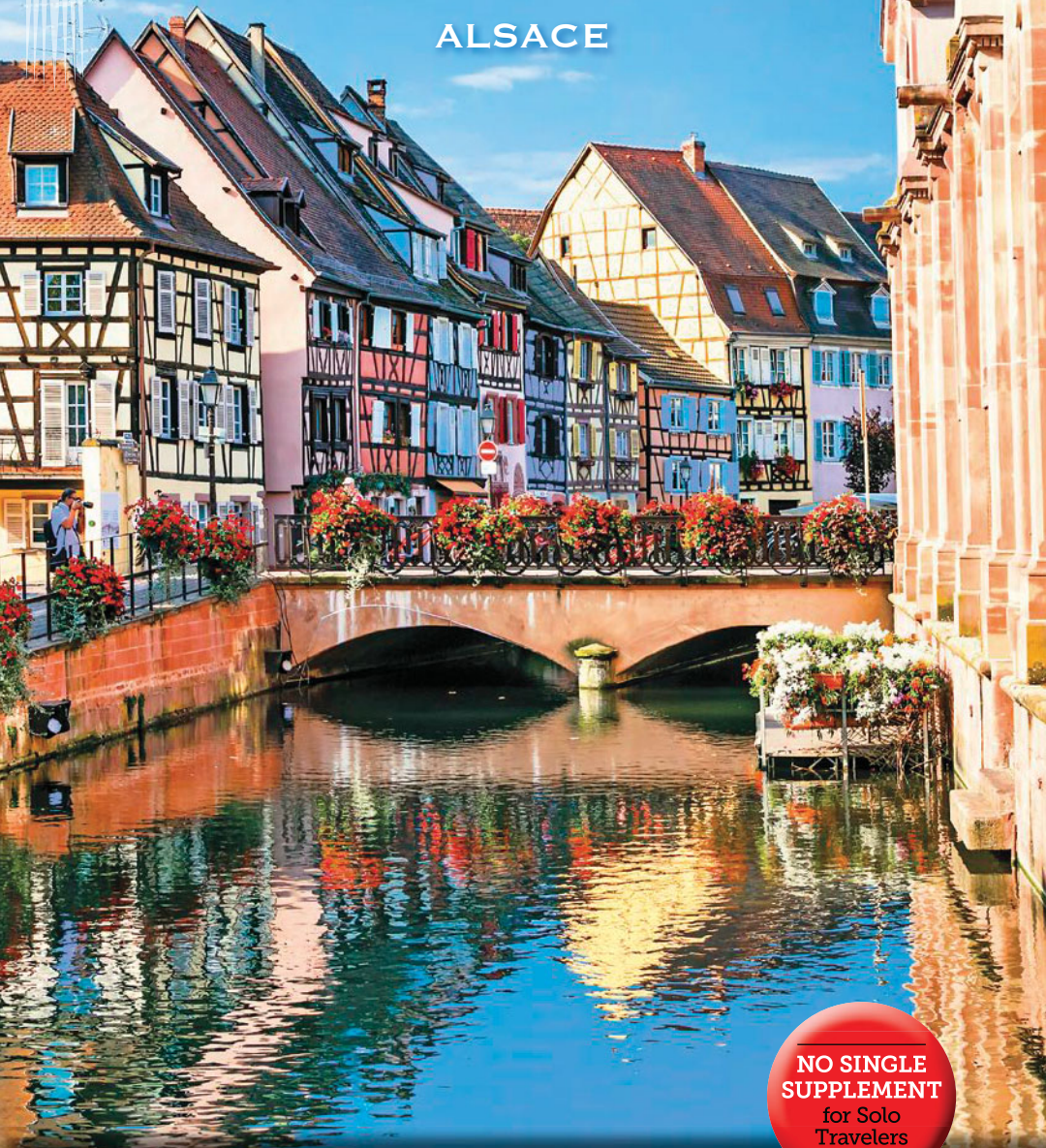


# Fairytale France

ALSACE



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COLLEGES

**May 19-27, 2024**





# A World of Discovery



On this marvelous, seven-night discovery of France's unique Alsace region, uncover the best aspects of French and Germanic culture. Enjoy days filled with gently rolling vineyards and inviting cities, cozy Alsatian villages and candy-colored architecture. Spend free time strolling along romantic canals, hanging out in bustling squares and sipping locally made prestigious wines. The enduring beauty of this lauded region awaits you!

Top: Alsace Wine Route | Above: Harvesting grapes, Alsace region

Cover: Colorful Colmar | Mail panel: Historic Strasbourg

## Inspiring Moments



- Experience the Franco-Germanic culture, incredible gastronomy and welcoming communities of the **Alsace region**.
- Visit old-world villages and taste fine wines along the **Alsace Wine Route**.
- Glide through **Colmar's "Little Venice."**
- Stroll through the sun-bathed Münsterplatz in **Freiburg**.
- Gaze at the awe-inspiring **Strasbourg Cathedral**, a Gothic treasure.
- Enjoy delicious **Alsatian cuisine**, a blend of French and German traditions.
- Explore the storied **Chateau du Haut-Koenigsbourg**.
- Connect with **Basel's** historical heritage while strolling through its old town.
- Experience two **UNESCO World Heritage Sites**.

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## Dear Alums, Parents and Friends,

Tucked between the magnificent Vosges mountains and the Black Forest is the enchanting Alsace region, known for its timeless Franco-German heritage, wonderful wines and gracious communities. Here, enriching experiences show you the true essence of the region and visitors celebrate the *art de vivre* like locals.

You'll stay for seven nights in beloved Colmar, an intimate town painted with scores of impressive landmarks. Spend sunny days visiting wineries and exploring Alsatian hamlets dressed with rustic fountains and exquisite floral displays. Cross neighboring borders to visit Basel and Freiburg, and admire the architectural gems and photogenic "Petite France" of Strasbourg. The sumptuous gastronomy and unique traditions of this one-of-a-kind destination will steal your heart!

You'll also enjoy comfortable accommodations, ample meals, engaging insights from expert local guides and speakers, plus worry-free travel, thanks to a dedicated Travel Director. With all these fantastic elements, this trip is sure to be popular. Reserve your spot today!

Sincerely,

Katharine Strouse Canada '98  
President, William Smith Alumnae Association

Paul Wasmund '07, President  
Hobart Alumni Association

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### UNESCO World Heritage

1. **Fortifications of Vauban,**  
Neuf-Brisach, France
2. **Strasbourg, Grand Ile**  
and the Neustadt, France



*Kammerzell House, Strasbourg*



*Neuf-Brisach*





Colmar

### Day 1 | In Transit

Depart your gateway city for Zürich, Switzerland. 🚗

### Day 2 | Zürich, Switzerland | Colmar, France

Upon arrival in Zürich, transfer 🚗 to Colmar and check in to the Grand Hôtel Bristol.

This evening, join your fellow travelers for a Welcome Reception and Dinner at the hotel.

### Day 3 | Colmar

**Enrichment: History of Alsace.**

**Colmar, the Alsatian Wine Capital.** With its interlocking waterways, flower-filled window boxes, decorative shopfronts and tucked-away cellar restaurants, Colmar is host to indisputable charms. On a walking tour, gain insight into Colmar's history and view architecture that reflects centuries of French and German co-existence. See the eye-catching Fisherman's Quay, the Pfister House with its octagonal turret, the 15th-century Customs House, a façade adorned with 111 head sculptures and the Unterlinden Museum, home to the celebrated Isenheim Altarpiece.

After a lunch of hearty Alsatian cuisine, enjoy a canal cruise through "Little Venice," passing houses in shades of blue, lemon and apricot and adorned with geraniums.

**Free Time:** Craft your own path through Colmar. Walk to the Place de l'Ancienne Douane to see the Schwendi Fountain or stroll Colmar's maze of cobblestones to find a quaint café.

### Day 4 | Kaysersberg | Riquewihr | Eguisheim

**Alsace Wine Route.** Venture into the undulating *terre de fête*, France's wine-tourism area, and visit the endearing villages of Kaysersberg, Riquewihr and Eguisheim. Continue to a winery to sip fine vintages, such as Riesling and Pinot Gris. Engage with a local wine producer who discusses Alsace's biodynamic viticulture, a form of organic agriculture when grapes are grown in a manner that respects the Earth's magnetic fields and the rhythms of the sun, moon and planets. Settle in for lunch on the pretty property.

### Day 5 | Strasbourg

**Strasbourg, a European Capital.** Few cities match Strasbourg for its rich architectural heritage. On a walking tour, witness the inspiring Cathédrale Notre-Dame de Strasbourg with its towering spire and intricate rose window, and

Wine vats, Alsace





Place Keber, Strasbourg

see Kammerzell House, known for its wooden sculptures depicting secular and sacred scenes. Your guide shares details about the city's history and culture, including background into "La Petite France." Originally home to tanners, fishermen and millers, this district brims with cobbled streets and waterfront gathering spaces. See a different side of Strasbourg during a panoramic canal tour. Cruise by the UNESCO-listed Neustadt district, the tanners' quarter, the European Quarter and more.

Unwind over a lunch of regional dishes, such as *tartes flambees*, a traditional flatbread.

**Enrichment:** *Alsace's Franco-Germanic Culture.*

**Day 6 | Basel, Switzerland | Freiburg, Germany | Neuf-Brisach, France**

**Basel, Freiburg & Neuf-Brisach.** Delight in a full day visiting some of the region's most atmospheric cities! Begin in Basel,

*Eguisheim*



a multicultural city that boasts over 40 museums, a thriving arts scene and landmarks like the Tinguely Fountain and the red sandstone Basel Minster. Learn how the city's unique history and heritage have shaped the Basel of today. Next, visit Freiburg, viewing its ancient gates, lively square and distinctive minster. Take note of the iconic *Bächle*, tiny waterways lining the streets that were once used to provide water and fight fires. You may see children pulling brightly painted boats along the streams. On your return to Colmar, pass by the fortified village of Neuf-Brisach, constructed by order of King Louis XIV.

**Day 7 | Orshwiller | Chateau du Haut-Koenigsbourg**

**A Mighty Chateau.** Travel to the Chateau du Haut-Koenigsbourg, constructed during the 12th century. The castle occupied a strategic

*Basel Minster*





## Included Features



### Accommodations (with baggage handling)

- 7 nights in Colmar, France, at the first-class Grand Hôtel Bristol.

### Extensive Meal Program

- 7 breakfasts, 4 lunches and 3 dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.

### Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- **Small group:** Sized just right at 28 guests.
- **AHI Travel Assurance plan** covers Accident and Sickness Medical Expense, Trip Delay and Emergency Evacuation for U.S. residents.
- **Enrichment by expert speakers** enhances your insight into the region.
- **Engaging excursions** showcase the local culture, heritage and history.
- **AHI Sustainability Promise:** We strive to make a positive impact wherever we travel.
- Free time to pursue your individual interests.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.



position controlling the wine and wheat routes to the north and the salt route from the east. Today, it's a popular attraction of the Alsace-Lorraine region. Admire the architecture and massive defensive ramparts, and cross the drawbridge to enter the castle. Learn about the people who once lived here and take in views across the valley.

**Free Time:** Back in Colmar, spend leisure time uncovering more landmarks and local life.



### Day 8 | Colmar

**Enrichment:** *Contemporary Alsace.*



**Colmar's History, Culture & Cuisine.** Gain insight into Colmar's Jewish community and the region's poignant history during a guided walk along Rue Berthe Molly, one of France's oldest streets. Your guide points out the prime spots for photographing Colmar's scenic panoramas and typical street scenes. Cap off the excursion with a delicious wine and cheese tasting in the city center.

Raise a toast to your Alsatian adventure during a Farewell Reception and Dinner.

### Day 9 | In Transit

Transfer  to Zürich airport for the return flight  to your gateway city.

Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions.

 Flights and  transfers included for AHI FlexAir participants.

#### Note About Activity Levels

We have designated activity levels for all excursions on this program. For more details, please call or visit our website.

#### Excursions on this itinerary require:

- walking on cobblestones, unpaved paths and/or uneven surfaces
- getting on/off motor coaches and boats

*Minster and Munsterplatz, Freiburg*



## Accommodations



### Grand Hôtel Bristol | Colmar



Enjoy Alsatian hospitality, well-appointed guest rooms, delicious local cuisine and typical Alsatian style during your stay in Colmar. If you are looking to unwind, visit the hotel's fitness room, sauna and steam room. Massages also are available. At the day's end, visit the hotel's fifth-floor terrace and soak up spectacular city views backed by the splendid Vosges mountains. Wi-Fi is complimentary.



Canal cruise, Colmar



# Reserve your trip today!

To book your journey,  
please call our AHI Travel Experts  
at **800-323-7373** or  
visit **hws.ahitravel.com**.

## Program Dates

### Travel dates †

**May 19-27, 2024**

† Travel dates include any overnights required for international travel. These dates may vary depending on air schedules.

### Tour dates\*

**May 20-27, 2024**

\* Tour dates begin on the scheduled arrival date at your destination and end on the scheduled departure date from your destination.

## Land Program

<b>Full Price</b>	<b>\$4,045</b>
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<b>Special Savings</b>	<b>\$250</b>
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<b>Special Price*</b>	<b>\$3,795</b>
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\*Special Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel.  
VAT is an additional \$295 per person.

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).

Special offers, promotions and discounts cannot be combined.

**Single supplement waived for solo travelers!** This offer is limited, capacity-controlled and tends to sell out quickly.

**Please note:** Program-specific terms and conditions are available at <https://hws.ahitravel.com/destinations/1795A?schoold=662>. You can also request a copy from our travel experts. Any payment to AHI Travel constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out therein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.

## AHI FlexAir

### Let us arrange your flights

**Our experts are ready to assist you in booking flights. Our personalized air program offers the following advantages:**

- **price guarantee** to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase
- arrival and departure **transfers** on group dates
- **flexibility** to change or cancel your reservation without penalty up to 60 days before departure on most flights
- **assistance** in the event of schedule changes or delays





Chateau du Haut-Koenigsbourg



Notre-Dame Cathedral, Strasbourg



Wine and cheese, Alsace

## AHI Travel Expertise



From your reservation to your return home, we are here to ensure you have the adventure of a lifetime.

### *Before you go:*

**Travel Consultants** stand ready to answer your questions as they guide you through the reservation process.

**Passenger Service Representative** offers personalized assistance with flights, electives and special requests.

**Travel Information** provides pre-departure details and enrichment about your destination.

### *Once you arrive:*

**Your Travel Director**, a seasoned, multilingual professional, manages daily logistics so you enjoy a seamless experience.

**Handpicked Expert Guides** offer fascinating insights and share their passion for their country with you.

**Knowledgeable Lecturers** deepen your appreciation for the region and its history, culture and current events.



Riquewihr



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**Discover the allure of the Alsace region!**

**AHI Travel's** mission is to deliver inspirational, educational and cultural programs that delight travelers.

**With AHI you can rely on:**

- Experienced Travel Directors who attend to every detail of your journey.
- An exceptional travel value.
- Unique access to local sites.
- Flexibility and customization.
- Safety and security.



**Please call or refer to our website for the most current program information, discounts and price.**

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