

Germersheim, Rhineland-Palatinate, Germany

Most Rhine ports give you a castle on a hill. Germersheim gives you something stranger: a town built entirely inside a massive 19th-century military fortress, where moats are now parks and underground mine tunnels run beneath the streets. Expect brickwork on a grand scale, zero tourist crowds, and excellent Palatinate wine.

🚢 Pier (river pontoon) 🕒 Typical call: 6-8 hrs 💰 Currency: Euro (€) 🗣️ Language: German 🍷 Palatinate wine country

🚢 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Pier — ships dock at riverside pontoon, no tender

Walk to center: ~1.2 km / 15-20 min flat walk to Weißenburger Tor

Best For: History buffs, cyclists, wine lovers, off-the-beaten-path Rhine

Don't Miss: Fortress tunnel (candlelit underground guided tour)

🚗 Getting around: 🚗 Taxi ✓ €5–€10 · 📱 Rideshare ✓ Uber

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Fortress Tunnel Tour (Minengänge)** — The undisputed highlight of Germersheim.
- **Festungsweg — Fortress Town Walk** — A self-guided trail through the heart of one of Germany's best-preserved star fortress towns.
- **German Road Museum (Deutsches Straßenmuseum)** — Germany's only museum dedicated to road-building history, housed in the former fortress arsenal.
- **Palatinate Wine & Saumagen Tasting** — Germersheim sits in the Pfalz, one of Germany's top wine regions.
- **Rhine Valley Cycling** — The area around Germersheim is pancake flat and threaded with the Rheintal-Radweg (Rhine Valley Cycle Path).

BEST WALKS

- **Festungsweg Fortress Loop** 3 km | 45-60 min | Easy | Free — The classic loop: from the Weißenburger Tor, follow the trail markers through the Stadtpark Fronte Lamotte (the moat-turned-park), past the Ludwigstor, along the inner...
- **Riverfront Stroll to Ship & Back** 2.4 km return | 30 min | Flat | Scenic — A simple out-and-back along the Rhine riverbank path between the ship and the town gate.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

🌤️ CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				🇩🇪 DAYLIGHT & 💰 MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain	Apr 6:35AM–8:18PM · Jun 5:21AM–9:33PM · Aug 6:18AM–8:42PM · Sep 7:03AM–7:39PM · Oct 7:47AM–6:35PM	
Apr	61°	42°	10d	Currency: Euro (€)	
Jun	77°	59°	11d		
Aug	79°	61°	10d		
Sep	72°	54°	8d		
Oct	62°	48°	12d		

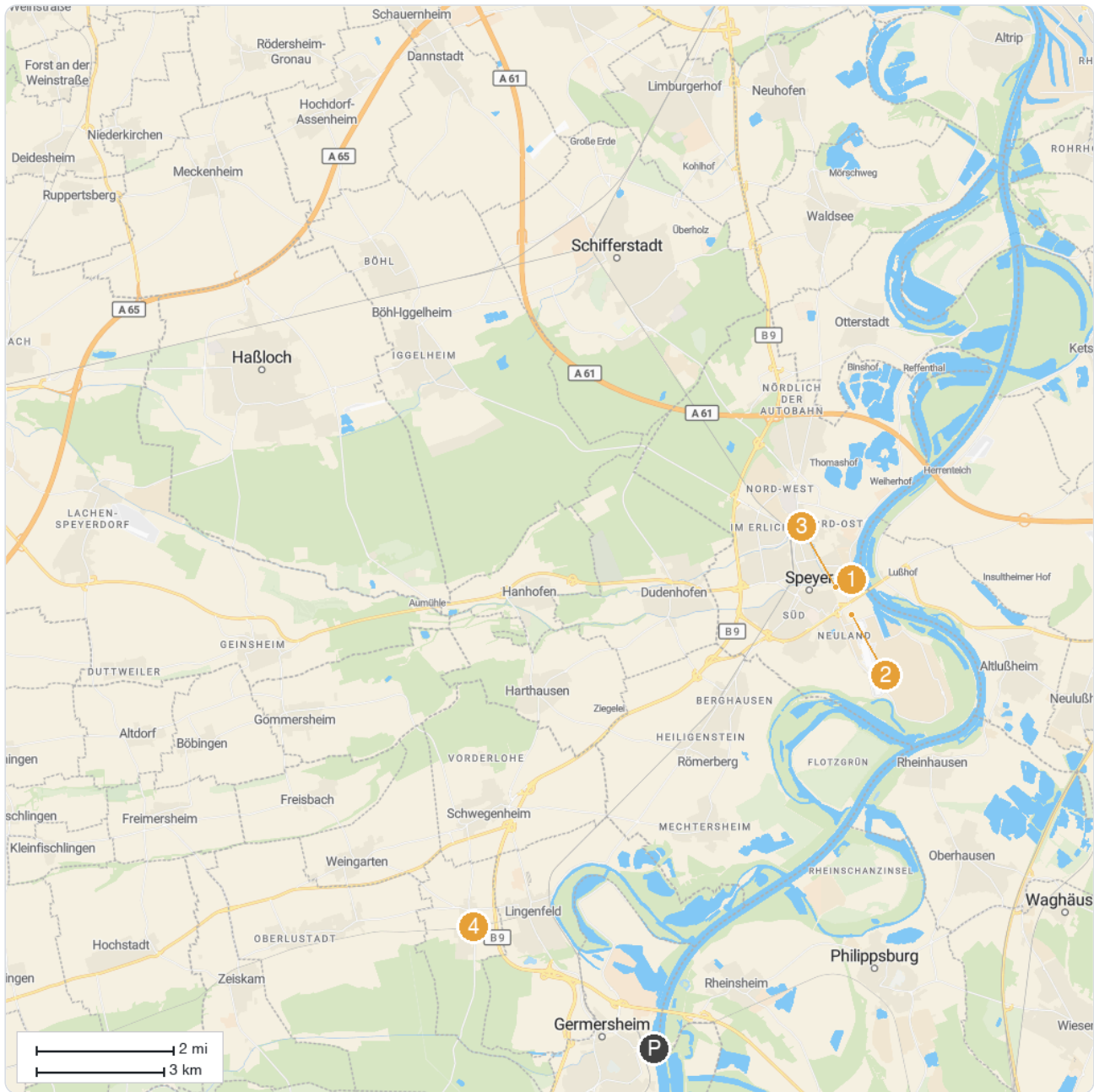
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Book the tunnel tour early. The underground fortress mine tour is the must-do — check departure times at the tourist office inside Weißenburger Tor as soon as you arrive. Groups are small and tours can fill.
- Carry cash. Smaller cafes, bakeries, and the fortress museum ticket windows may not accept cards. Keep €15-20 on hand.
- Bring or rent a bike. The Rhine cycle path from Germersheim is one of the flattest, most enjoyable stretches on the river. If your ship doesn't offer bikes, ask the tourist office about local rentals.
- Order a Schorle. The Palatinate local is wine mixed with sparkling water, served in a giant 0.5L Dubbeglas. It's refreshing, cheap, and very local — you won't find it on bigger Rhine ports.
- Sunday = shops closed. All retail shops and supermarkets are shut on Sundays. Restaurants, museums, and cafes remain open. Plan purchases accordingly.
- English is limited. Germersheim is genuinely off the mass-tourism trail. Tourist spots speak English, but smaller bakeries and shops may not. A translation app is handy.

Germersheim, Rhineland-Palatinate, Germany — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



- 1** **SEA LIFE Speyer** Explore diverse marine life at this large aquarium.
- 3** **Speyerer Dom** Visit the magnificent UNESCO World Heritage Imperial Cathedral of Speyer.
- P** **Cruise port / terminal**

- 2** **Technik Museum Speyer** Discover planes, cars, and space exhibits at this technology museum.
- 4** **Südpfalz-Draisinenbahn | Bornheim-Westheim** Pedal a rail bike through scenic Südpfalz landscapes.