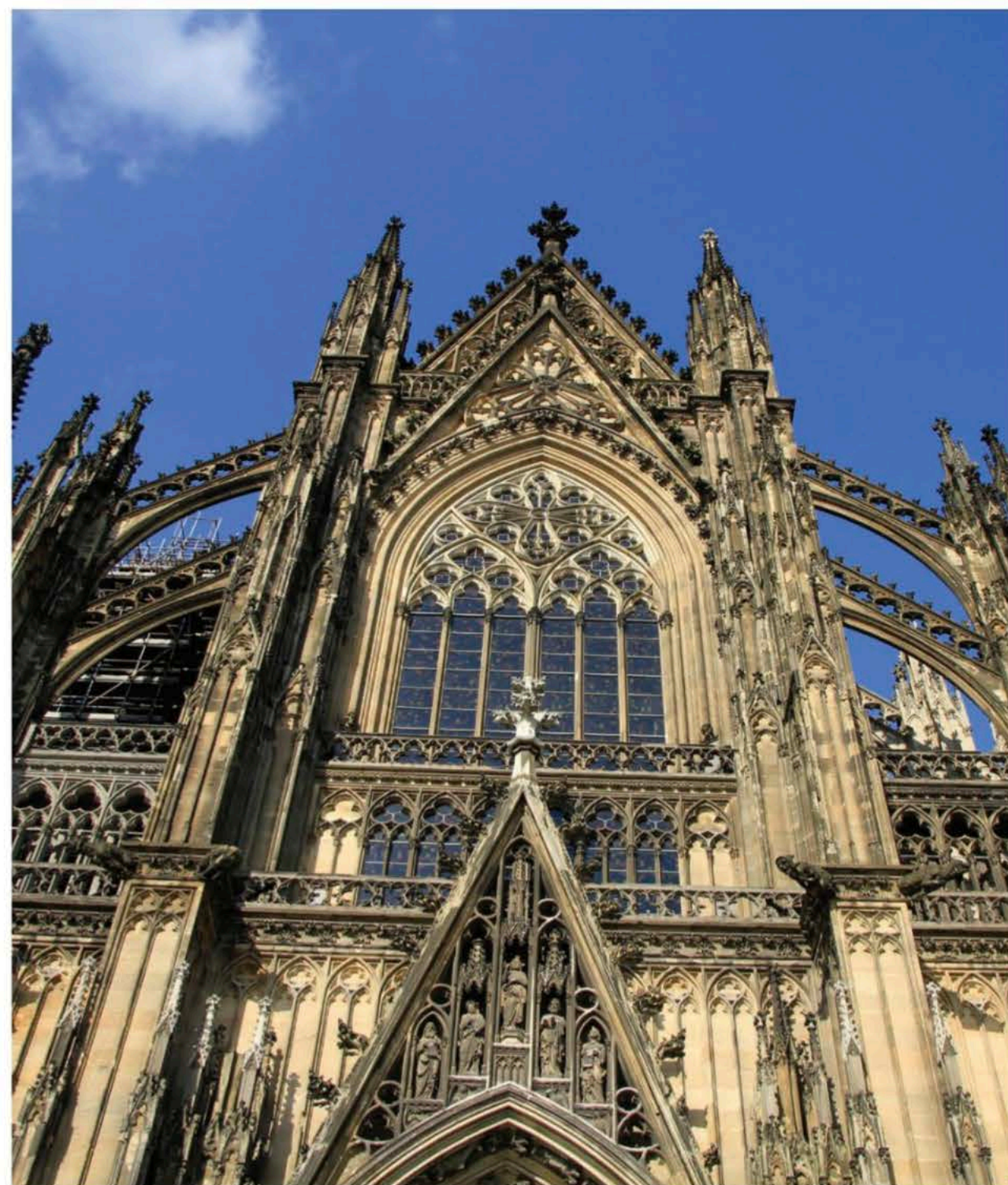


# THE VIP TREATMENT

**Viking** elevates shore excursions with exclusive  
Privileged Access experiences.







**DESIGNED** to bring guests closer, The Viking Way® of shore excursions provides deeper exploration opportunities, resulting in a richer and more immersive experience. For more than 25 years, Viking has brought travelers beyond the expected, offering intimate shore journeys that provide in-depth insight into the people, cuisine, history, and cultures of a destination. On Viking's European river cruises, these Privileged Access experiences open doors to exclusive performances, behind-the-scenes tours, and once-in-a-lifetime adventures.

#### ICONS OF DUTCH CULTURE

One of the Netherlands' most recognizable sites, Kinderdijk is known for its collection of 19 remarkably preserved 18th-century windmills. A 125-year-old cargo vessel carries guests to the oldest windmill, which dates back to 1630. Here, you'll meet the miller, tour the property, and learn everything there is to know about these historic examples of Dutch engineering.

#### AN EVENING OF MUSIC

Hailed as one of the greatest musical talents today, 20-year-old Alma Deutscher has captivated the classical world. In an exclusive performance at Vienna's Wiener Konzerthaus, the composer, violinist, pianist, and conductor leads the historic Strauss Capelle Vienna orchestra in stirring renditions of works by Mozart, waltzes by Strauss, and her own compositions.

#### WORLD-RENOWNED HARMONIES

One of the most famous choirs in the world, the Vienna Boys' Choir has regaled audiences for more than 500 years. Tour the living and rehearsal spaces of Palais Augarten, the boys' baroque-style boarding school in Vienna. Afterward, retire to the salon for an exclusive performance followed by an opportunity to meet with the young choristers.

#### CHARMING CASTLE ESTATES

A scenic forest drive brings you to the picturesque Schloss Mespelbrunn, a 16th-century moated fairytale fortress, where Countess Hedwig Margarete shares the castle's legendary past. Then head to Schloss Löwenstein, the ancestral home of Princess Stephanie Löwenstein-Wertheim-Rosenberg (godmother of the Longship *Viking Hild*), where you'll sample the estate's fine wines and signature wild boar.

#### AUSTRIA'S SPIRITUAL TREASURE

For more than 900 years, Benedictine monks have worshiped at Göttweig Abbey, a stunning baroque monastery overlooking Austria's Wachau Valley. Climb its grand imperial staircase, crowned by one of the largest frescoes in the world, and marvel at the esteemed art collection that dates back to the 17th century. You'll also enjoy wine and dumplings made with the famed Wachauer Marille, a specialty apricot grown in the abbey's orchards.

#### GERMANY'S GOTHIC MASTERPIECE

The tallest twin-spired cathedral in the world is a renowned monument of Gothic architecture, and this visit takes you into its hidden areas otherwise inaccessible to the public. Get up-close with ceiling restoration efforts, then venture onto the roof for views of the filigreed buttresses and ornate carvings. A 104-step spiral staircase brings the adventurous to the top of the crossing tower for unparalleled city views. — REBECCA L. RHOADES

➞ **Shore Thing.** For a deep-dive into local history, enter **OFFER M28322** on the website found on the back page, or call or email us for new adventures.

*Opposite: Viking Lif glides past Johannisburg Palace along Germany's River Main. Above, from left: A ceiling fresco at Göttweig Abbey in Austria; a grand cathedral in Cologne, Germany.*