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AVALON IMAGERY II CHRISTENING

New Zealanders Gather in Germany for Avalon Waterways Launch

More than 70 media and travel industry guests from around New Zealand and Australia gathered in Germany this week ahead of the launch of the latest Suite Ship to join the Avalon Waterways fleet of river cruise ships, Avalon Imagery II.

The ship will be the first Avalon vessel launched by a New Zealander, with respected broadcaster Judy Bailey to christen the ship at a ceremony on the banks of the Rhine at Engers.

Ahead of celebrations, industry guests hosted by Avalon's New Zealand office sailed through the Rhine Gorge and joined expeditions to scenic locations including the medieval Castle Marksburg and the city of Wiesbaden near the confluence of the Rhine and Main rivers.



Above: The latest Suite Ship to join the Avalon Waterways fleet, Avalon Imagery II sailing on the Rhine ahead of its launch by Judy Bailey.

Below: Part of the New Zealand group hosted by Avalon Waterways at Castle Marksburg in Germany.



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1 Globus Family of Brands National Marketing Manager Australia Chris Fundell and Marketing Manager New Zealand Letitia Eyes.

2 Enjoying the views of the Rhine from Castle Marksburg, Karen Jelas (Flight Centre Coastlands) and Robert Jelas.

3 Among suits of armour in Castle Marksburg: Kate Flynn (Helloworld Timaru) and Kate Imrie (Globus Family of Brands).

4 Among the vines overlooking Wiesbaden: Peter Ho (Globus Family of Brands) and Winnie Ho.

5 Globus Family of Brands Managing Director Australasia Stewart Williams, Mandy and Donal O'Sullivan (Travel Marketing), and Helen Opperman.

6 Overlooking the Rhine from Castle Marksburg: Tim Holden (Flight Centre Auckland HQ) and Jono Norton (Flight Centre Auckland HQ).

7 Enjoying a wine tasting among the vines overlooking the city of Wiesbaden in Germany: Bryce Read (Travel Managers) and Michelle Rowe (STA Travel).

8 Exploring Castle Marksburg on an excursion from Avalon's new ship Avalon Imagery II: Tim Holden (Flight Centre Auckland HQ) and Prue Dunbar (HoT Upper Riccarton).



AVALON IMAGERY II CHRISTENING

Judy Bailey Launches Avalon Waterways' Latest Suite Ship



It was a very proud day for the Kiwi travel industry in Germany on Tuesday when Avalon Waterways dedicated its newest ship in celebration of its success in the New Zealand market.

Respected broadcaster Judy Bailey launched Avalon Waterways' newest river cruise ship Avalon Imagery II at a ceremony on the Rhine in Germany, becoming the first New Zealander to christen an Avalon vessel.

The event was hosted by Avalon's Auckland office and involved more than 70 travel industry guests from around New Zealand and Australia, as well as international guests and

dignitaries.

Representing the thousands of New Zealanders who have cruised the rivers of Europe with Avalon, Judy christened the new Avalon Imagery II and gave a blessing in Maori at the scenic town of Engers.

"May your journey be safe from launch to landing," Judy said, translating the Maori. "I bless you with the breath of life."



1 The crew of Avalon Imagery II celebrate. **2** At the launch of Avalon Imagery II: Avalon Waterways President Patrick Clark, the ship's godmother Judy Bailey, Captain Nico van den Boom, Globus family of brands General Manager New Zealand Troy Ackerman and Globus family of brands Managing Director Australasia Stewart Williams. **3** Judy Bailey prepares to launch Avalon Imagery II with a pair of scissors presented by the Captain Nico van den Boom. **4** The New Zealand and Avalon Waterways flags fly from the mast of Avalon Imagery II. **5** A gift to Avalon Imagery II from the New Zealand office of the Globus family of brands - a framed pounamu hei hatau (fish hook carving) representing determination, strength, peace, prosperity and safe journey over water. **6** Judy Bailey and Avalon Waterways President Patrick Clark. **7** Donal and Mandy O'Sullivan (Travel Marketing) at the launch of Avalon Imagery II. **8** Celebrating after the launch of Avalon Imagery II: David Libeau (General Manager Marketing, Helloworld NZ), Kate Flynn (Helloworld Timaru), Captain Nico van den Boom, Judy Bailey and Globus family of brands General Manager New Zealand Troy Ackerman. **9** The champagne smashes against the hull of Avalon Imagery II. **10** Judy Bailey addressing guests at the launch of Avalon Imagery II. **11** Jonathan Prager (House of Travel Rangiora), Dennis and Yvonne Payne (House of Travel Orewa), Mark and Prue Dunbar (House of Travel Upper Riccarton). **12** Judy Bailey at the launch of Avalon Imagery II in Germany. **13** Part of the New Zealand contingent with Judy Bailey at the launch of Avalon Imagery II.



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AVALON IMAGERY II CHRISTENING

Spectacular Rhine Scenery for Avalon's New Zealand Guests

The castles and villages of Germany's celebrated Rhine Gorge were on show in spectacular fashion last week as travel industry guests from across New Zealand sailed upstream aboard the newly christened Avalon Imagery II.

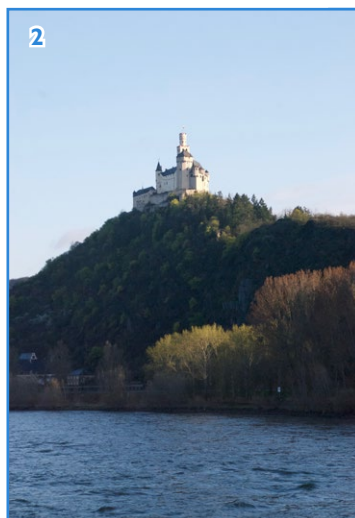


The brand new Avalon Waterways Suite Ship made its maiden voyage with more than 70 travel industry guests and media on board in an event dedicated especially to New Zealand.

Television presenter Judy Bailey became the first New Zealander to christen a European river cruise ship at a ceremony on the banks of the Rhine, before joining guests on a five-

day journey through Germany, France and Switzerland.

Guests lined the decks as Avalon Imagery II sailed through the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Rhine Gorge, famous for its succession of medieval villages and hillside castles, before arriving in the scenic town of Rüdesheim where the group set out to explore with a choice of walking and cycling tours.



1 Avalon Imagery II sailing past Maus Castle in the Rhine Gorge. **2** Sailing past Castle Marksburg on the Rhine. **3** Inside one of Imagery II's Royal Suites. **4** The New Zealand flag flies beside those of Germany and Avalon Waterways atop the new Avalon Imagery II. **5** Donal and Mandy O'Sullivan (Travel Marketing). **6** Avalon Imagery II's godmother Judy Bailey and husband Chris Bailey. **7** David Marriott and Wendy van Lieshout (World Travellers). **8** Letitia Eyes (Globus family of brands Marketing Manager New Zealand) and Cian Harvey (Globus family of brands Customer Services Representative). **9** The new Avalon Imagery II sailing by the landmark Lorelei Rock in the Rhine Gorge. **10** Dennis Payne (House of Travel Orewa) on a cycling tour among the vineyards of Rüdesheim. **11** Kate Imrie (Globus family of brands) on a cycling tour among the vineyards of Rüdesheim. **12** The group stop for a wine tasting during a walking tour at Rüdesheim.

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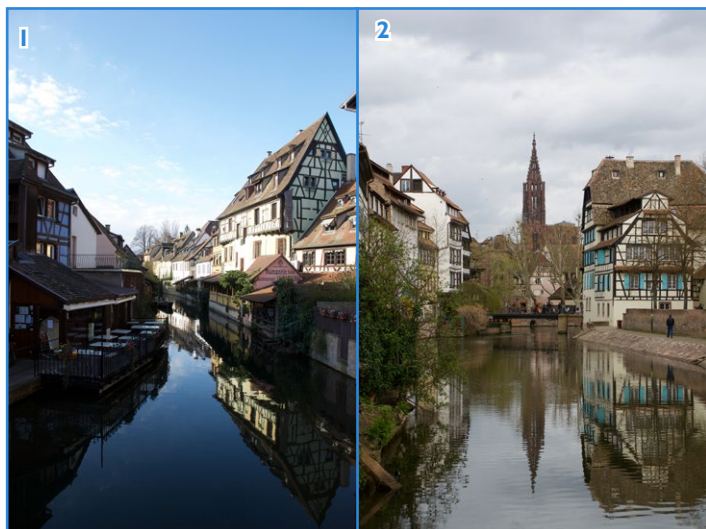
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AVALON IMAGERY II CHRISTENING

Kiwis Sail into the Alsace with Avalon Waterways

Avalon Waterways took its launch celebrations into the French region of Alsace last week with dozens of New Zealand guests helping to mark the christening of its brand new ship Avalon Imagery II.



Having sailed up the Rhine from a launch ceremony in the German town of Engers, the group cruised onwards into France to explore the spectacular city of Strasbourg and the postcard-perfect town of Colmar,

both brimming with colourful medieval buildings and canals.

They were joined by broadcaster Judy Bailey, who had christened the Avalon Imagery II in an event dedicated especially to the New Zealand market.



1 The 'Little Venice' district of Colmar. **2** The picturesque canals of Strasbourg. **3** Some of the 70 guests aboard Avalon Waterway's New Zealand christening cruise, in the town square of Colmar.



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4 Exploring the canals of Strasbourg, Helen Opperman and husband Stewart Williams (Globus family of brands Managing Director Australasia), with Karen Jones (Andrew Jones Travel, Tasmania). **5** Cian Harvey (Globus family of brands Customer Service Representative) and Letitia Eyes (Globus family of brands Marketing Manager New Zealand). **6** Stewart Williams (Globus family of brands Managing Director Australasia) with broadcaster and Avalon Imagery II godmother Judy Bailey, his wife Helen Opperman and Judy's husband Chris Bailey. **7** Boating on the canals of Strasbourg, Michelle Rowe (STA Travel Auckland) and Bryce Read (Travel Managers). **8** The silver fern flies on Avalon Waterways banners. **9** Exploring the Easter Markets in the town of Colmar, Leah Ackerman, Jono Norton (Flight Centre HQ Auckland), Wendy van Lieshout (World Travellers), and David Marriott. **10** On a boating excursion around the waterways of Strasbourg - Leah Ackerman and husband Troy Ackerman (Globus family of brands General Manager New Zealand). **11** Richard Baker (Singapore Airlines), Cian Harvey (Globus family of brands), Tim Holden (Flight Centre HQ) and Jay Gulde. **12** Karen Jelas (Flight Centre Coastlands) and Robert Jelas. **13** The medieval buildings of Colmar.