

Gary C Worrell

From: Worrell, Gary C.
Sent: 09 October, 2005 10:40
To: gcw@igx.net
Subject: Postcard
Attachments: HeidelbergCastle.jpg

In spite of the fact that...

- there was a strike in Paris when we flew to Amsterdam through Charles Degaulle Airport on 1 OCT and we didn't receive any of our luggage until 21 hours before we started back home. Even then we only received 2 of three pieces (the Pelican Case full of cameras and various electronics is still missing in action). We had to make a 2 hour emergency clothing shopping trip in Amsterdam, and consequently missed seeing most of the city. \$600+ later we each had two additional outfits. The only camera I had was Denise's Cybershot (I carried it in my backpack). I had to be frugal with the pictures, because once the batteries ran out I wouldn't be able to recharge it. I did get some pictures every day, and when we left the camera indicated there were 2 minutes of battery usage left -

- when we returned via Charles Degaulle Airport on 8 OCT, there was a bomb scare in the area where our gate was. Everyone was evacuated for about an hour, which made our return flight to Newark slightly late. But that didn't really matter because...

- when we got to Newark, we found our flight to Baltimore had been cancelled due to the torrential rains. Faced with the prospect of trying to find some accommodations overnight until our rescheduled flight the next day, we decided to rent a car and drive back. We walked in our front door about an hour later than we would have if the flight hadn't been cancelled -

...in spite of all that we had an absolutely wonderful time. The crew on the ship was extremely accommodating and helped us through our luggageless ordeal by keeping in contact with the airlines to track down our bags, and provided us with free laundry service to regularly wash our few items of clothing. We can't say enough good things about the crew, the ship, the passengers and the cruise.

On our first day underway, Denise & I were invited to the Captains Table for dinner. It happened to be Denise's Birthday, and it was one she won't soon forget.

Attached is a photo of some of what's left of Heidelberg Castle. It was built and expanded during the 15th to 17th centuries, and was a target during WWII. Note the sundial on the wall. It's also worthy to mention that the largest wooden barrel ever built to hold wine is in the castle cellar. It was constructed in 1751 and holds 58,000 gallons of wine. It was big.

Cheers,
D & G

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