

DANUBE LEGENDS WITH BUDAPEST & VIENNA IN DEPTH

BUDAPEST TO BUDAPEST – 15 DAYS / 14 NIGHTS



WACHAU VALLEY

The echoes of empires are calling. Stop in powerful cities and quaint villages alike, discovering the cultural and historical marks left behind. Highlights include Budapest's monumental Parliament, Bratislava's formidable hilltop castle, Vienna's fascinating Ringstrasse lined with palatial architecture, Melk's stately Benedictine abbey, the charms and legends of Dürnstein, and more. Mother Nature has a few brag-worthy masterpieces, too: the stunning Wachau Valley and dramatic Schlägen Loop, a horseshoe-shaped bend of the river crafted by time itself.

ITINERARY

Day 1 – Budapest	Day 9 – Passau
Day 2 – Budapest	Day 10 – Grein/Melk
Day 3 – Bratislava	Day 11 – Melk/Krems Wachau Valley
Day 4 – Tulln/Wachau Valley	Day 12 – Vienna
Day 5 – Vienna	Day 13 – Vienna
Day 6 – Vienna	Day 14 – Esztergom/ Visegrád/ Budapest
Day 7 – Dürnstein/ Weissenkirchen	Day 15 – Budapest
Day 8 – Mautausen/ Linz	



DATES IN 2027

2 Jun, 16 Jun, 30 Jun, 5 Aug, 19 Aug*

* Please note this itinerary is in Budapest for the Hungarian National Day firework celebrations and will not visit Tulln.



RIVERSIDE SIGNATURE EVENT

Further enhance your cruise with unforgettable experiences—like a VIP, after-hours entrance to breathtaking Belvedere Palace. Bask in the ornate Baroque atmosphere as you are treated to a private musical performance and the opportunity for a crowd-free viewing of Klimt's masterful "The Kiss".

DAY 1 – BUDAPEST

Welcome to Budapest, one of the Danube's four exciting capitals. Inhabited since prehistoric times, the city straddles the river, with Buda on one side and Pest on the other. Embark the Riverside Mozart and relax as your personal Butler helps you settle into your luxurious Suite.

DAY 2 – BUDAPEST

Breakfast first, then Budapest! RIVERSIDE CHOICE offers great ways to explore, like a tour inside the 691-room Hungarian Parliament Building, a walk around the incredible Castle District, or a hands-on flatbread workshop in the neighboring artist's village of Szentendre. You'll find a full list of available excursions on our website. Back on board later, prepare to be impressed up on the Vista Deck as your ship moves slowly through the grand cityscape on the way out of Budapest.

DAY 3 – BRATISLAVA

A leisurely morning, then an after-lunch stop in Bratislava, enchanting capital of Slovakia. Get a true taste of the culture during exclusive wine or beer tastings, visit Pálffy Castle, or stroll with a guide through the lovely Old Town for encounters with Michael's Gate, the Old Opera House, Primate's Palace—and the special "calling card" Napoleon's army left behind in 1809.

DAY 4 – TULLN / WACHAU VALLEY SCENIC CRUISING

Settled in pre-Roman times, the 2,000-year-old city of Tulln survived centuries of tumult: Turkish invasions, floods, and the Thirty Years War. Somehow, it endured, emerging as the pretty City of Gardens you find today. Why not hop on an e-bike for a fun ride through the Austrian countryside, or explore one of Europe's most unique organic gardening showcases? Alternatively, join our UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE tasting at Gobelsburg Castle, where wine production began in 1171. Later, your ship cruises into the photogenic Wachau Valley.

DAY 5 – VIENNA

Vienna greets you today, and you'll quickly see what attracted world-class composers to the splendid, Baroque Austrian capital. Join us for an exciting half-day tour through the Hofburg, the imperial palace that was the Habsburg rulers' primary residence and center of the Holy Roman Empire. See the former royal family's lavish living quarters and dazzling Treasury.

DAY 6 – VIENNA

Another excitement-packed day in the City of Music. With RIVERSIDE CHOICE, step inside another Habsburg palace: their 1,441-room summer getaway at Schönbrunn. Or, pedal your way around Prater Park with its giant Ferris wheel, erected in 1897 to mark the 50th year of Emperor Franz Joseph's accession to the throne. Tonight, join our special RIVERSIDE SIGNATURE after-hours entrance into Belvedere Palace for a private orchestral performance and crowd-free viewing of Klimt's "The Kiss".

DAY 7 – DÜRNSTEIN / WEISSENKIRCHEN / WACHAU VALLEY

First on today's agenda is Dürnstein, the tiny river town that imprisoned England's King Richard the Lionheart on his way home from the Crusades. You can hike up to the clifftop castle where he was held, or attend a tasting of delicious Wachau Valley wines. Reboard your ship for lunch, then dock in Weissenkirchen for the chance to sample apricot schnapps, created from apricots grown right in the Wachau. Return to the ship in time for dinner, which is a special treat! As you pass through the castle-lined scenery of the Wachau, savor a splendid al fresco barbecue up on the Vista Deck.

DAY 8 – MAUTHAUSEN / LINZ

Early arrival in the market town of Mauthausen. You could visit the Baroque jewel of St. Florian Monastery, or maybe venture farther afield to Mozart's Salzburg or medieval Český Krumlov in the Czech Republic. After lunch on board, disembark in Linz for a guided city walk and visit to the impressive cathedral, or an invigorating hike up the 1,768-foot (539-meter) Pöstlingberg hill overlooking the city.



MOZART'S BIRTHPLACE, SALZBURG



VIENNA'S RINGSTRASSE



ESZTERGOM BASILICA

DAY 9 – PASSAU

Germany's City of Three Rivers is on today's agenda. This is where the Danube, Inn, and Ilz Rivers meet, and a guided walk through the Old Town shows off the highlights. Admire the ancient cobblestones, the work-of-art Town Hall, St. Stephen's Cathedral (home to one of the world's largest organs), and more. At the end, your efforts are rewarded with a frothy mug of refreshing Bavarian beer.

DAY 10 – GREIN / MELK

Spend the morning in the quaint village of Grein, home to Austria's oldest theater. With a RIVERSIDE CHOICE of excursions, you can hike to Gobelwarte Observation Tower for panoramic views or tour historic Clam Castle. Return to the ship for lunch as you cruise to Melk, where a guided tour of its world-famous Baroque abbey reveals opulent architecture and a library filled with rare, ancient manuscripts.

DAY 11 – MELK / KREMS / WACHAU VALLEY

More time and more adventure in Melk! How about sightseeing by e-bike, or a visit to a bee farm and pastry workshop? Return to the ship for lunch, then stop in Krems to visit the Bailoni distillery for a tasting of their apricot liqueurs.

DAYS 12 & 13 – VIENNA

Two days in the City of Music are perfect for one more palace, one more museum, one more masterful concert, or one more piece of mouthwatering strudel! RIVERSIDE CHOICE has excellent options, so make your time whatever you want it to be.

DAY 14 – ESZTERGOM / VISEGRÁD / BUDAPEST

Arrive this morning in Esztergom, capital of Hungary from the 10th until the mid-13th century. Exciting RIVERSIDE CHOICE activities include a visit to Esztergom Basilica to see its opulent Treasury; a guided e-bike tour along both sides of the Danube; a fun foodie walk to sample the local specialties; and more. Back on board for lunch as your ship continues to Visegrád, medieval gateway to the Danube. Here, enjoy a wonderful introduction to the town that was first mentioned in 1009 AD as well as to its captivating fortress. Tonight, head up to the Vista Deck for a UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE champagne return into the warm embrace of Budapest.

DAY 15 – BUDAPEST

After breakfast, disembark your ship. For Riverside transfer details, see our website.



MELK ABBEY