

# DANUBE RIVER DANCE: CAPITALS, CASTLES & CULTURE

VIENNA TO BUDAPEST – 11 DAYS / 10 NIGHTS

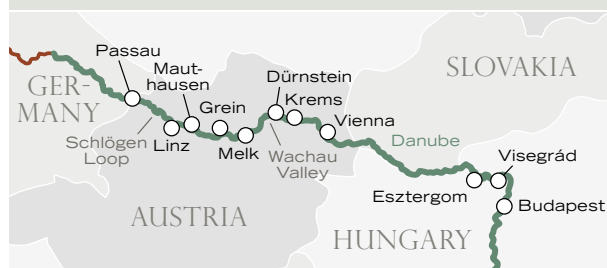


MELK ABBEY

If you're scouring the web for your next big travel adventure, look no farther! This luxury cruise begins in Vienna with its Baroque palaces and famous Ringstrasse, and ends in Budapest, whose cityscape looks like it jumped right off a postcard! Other memorable stops feature Dürnstein with its legendary castle ruin; Melk, home to the Baroque Benedictine abbey; Linz; Mauthausen at the crossroads of two trade routes during Roman times; Germany's Passau; and Esztergom, capital of Hungary during the Middle Ages. The scenic Schlägen Loop and Wachau Valley add awe-inspiring natural beauty to this wondrous journey.

## ITINERARY

|                         |                                      |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Day 1 – Vienna          | Day 7 – Wachau Valley/Krems          |
| Day 2 – Vienna          |                                      |
| Day 3 – Dürnstein/Melk  | Day 8 – Vienna                       |
|                         | Day 9 – Vienna                       |
| Day 3 – Mauthausen/Linz | Day 10 – Esztergom/Visegrád/Budapest |
| Day 4 – Passau          |                                      |
| Day 6 – Grein           | Day 11 – Budapest                    |



## DATES IN 2027

25 Apr, 9 May, 23 May, 15 Sep, 29 Sep,  
13 Oct, 27 Oct, 10 Nov



## 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".



PRATER PARK FERRIS WHEEL, VIENNA

#### DAY 1 – VIENNA

Welcome to Vienna, Austria's capital and wonderland of all things Habsburgs, music, and Baroque! Embark the Riverside Mozart and relax as you settle in. Tonight, meet your fellow traveling companions during your first onboard dinner.

#### DAY 2 – VIENNA

If you wake up this morning and feel like waltzing, it's no surprise. Vienna, the grand City of Music, greets you with all of its unique splendor. A RIVERSIDE CHOICE selection of excursions shows off the city's highlights during a panoramic tour around the Ringstrasse, or you can see the sights in an active way during an e-bike tour through Prater Park, site of the 1873 World Fair. A full list of cruise excursions is available on our website. Tonight, don't miss our RIVERSIDE SIGNATURE after-hours entrance into Belvedere Palace for a private orchestral performance and crowd-free viewing of Klimt's masterful "The Kiss".

#### DAY 3 – DÜRNSTEIN / WACHAU VALLEY SCENIC CRUISING / MELK

Compared to the grandiose architecture of Vienna, quaint Dürnstein is a stark contrast. With RIVERSIDE CHOICE, hike up to the town's castle ruin, where England's King Richard the Lionheart was imprisoned on his way home from the Crusades, or attend a tasting of the Wachau's famous wines. If you're feeling ambitious, ride an e-bike along the river to your next port at Melk. Otherwise, reboard the ship for an al fresco barbecue, prepared and served up on the Vista

Deck as you pass through the stunning scenery of the Wachau Valley. The afternoon is in Melk, whose ochre-colored Benedictine abbey is utterly amazing. A sweet tour is also available to an Austrian pastry workshop and bee farm.

#### DAY 4 – MAUTHAUSEN / LINZ

Today can be as busy or relaxed as you like! RIVERSIDE CHOICE can whisk you off to "Sound of Music" Salzburg, the medieval walled village of Český Krumlov in the Czech Republic, or the Mauthausen Concentration Camp Memorial to learn about the area's tragic past during WWII. If you'd rather relax on board, this is a scenic day to do it. Arrive after lunch in Linz, a 2009 European Capital of Culture, where a tour through the Old Town shows off the massive, neo-Gothic Mariendom, or you can hike up Pöstlingberg hill overlooking Linz. Whatever you choose, be sure you also try a slice of Linzer Torte, the world's first cake.

#### DAY 5 – PASSAU

Port of call is in Passau, perched along the Route of Emperors and Kings. With RIVERSIDE CHOICE, you might enjoy a guided walk through the Old Town to admire the ancient cobblestones, the work-of-art Town Hall, and St. Stephen's Cathedral (home to one of the world's largest organs). At the end, your efforts are rewarded with a frothy mug of refreshing Bavarian beer.



OLD TOWN PASSAU



MOZART STATUE, VIENNA

## DAY 6 – GREIN

Enjoy a free and easy start to your day. Then, after lunch, step off the ship in Grein for a wonderful choice of excursions. You might enjoy communing with nature as you ride an e-bike, or visiting 500-year-old Greinburg Castle, the oldest residential castle in Austria. After a warm welcome and refreshments, embark on a guided tour through this former hunting castle and enjoy a delightful private musical performance.

## DAY 7 – WACHAU VALLEY / KREMS

Scenic beauty surrounds you this morning as your ship passes back through the UNESCO World Heritage Wachau Valley. The terraced vineyards, apricot orchards, and peaceful atmosphere make it easy to see why this stretch of the Danube has been inhabited since Neolithic times. After lunch, reach the far end of the valley and dock in Krems for a tasting at the Bailoni apricot schnapps distillery, or other activities.

## DAYS 8 & 9 – VIENNA

Two more days in the vibrant City of Music allows time for an exciting tour through Hofburg Palace, the one-time center of the Holy Roman Empire. See the former royal family's lavish, Rococo-style living quarters, then step into the Treasury to marvel at its vault of royal riches. The Habsburgs' mighty Schönbrunn Palace is another possibility, or even a dazzling equine performance at the famed Spanish Riding School.



OLD TOWN GREIN



BUDAPEST

## DAY 10 – ESZTERGOM / VISEGRÁD / BUDAPEST

The gems of Hungary are on full display today. Begin in Esztergom, the country's capital from the 10th until the mid-13th centuries. Exciting RIVERSIDE CHOICE activities include a visit to Esztergom Basilica to see its ornate Treasury; a guided e-bike tour along the riverbank; a fun foodie walk to sample the local specialties; and more. Back on board for lunch on the way 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 entrance into Budapest, the incomparable Queen of the Danube!

## DAY 11 – BUDAPEST

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

This cruise has extensions available, see our website for details.