A MERRY DANUBE CHRISTMAS ADVENTURE

BUDAPEST TO PASSAU – 9 DAYS / 8 NIGHTS

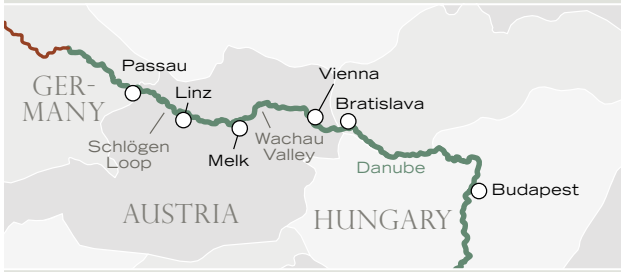


BRATISLAVA

This luxury cruise will put the Ho-Ho-Ho into your holidays! Begin in Budapest with its picturesque Castle District and impressive Parliament lining the river. Then, explore Bratislava, where amusing sculptures rise unexpectedly from the sewers; and Vienna, the historic domain of monarchs and music. Also visit Melk and its regal Benedictine abbey; the tiny market town of Mauthausen; and Linz. Along the way, visit Christmas Markets to sample the warm mulled wine and gingerbread, and to shop for holiday gifts at the festively decorated wooden huts. Even Mother Nature is in the gift-giving spirit as you pass by the riverbank castles and terraced vineyards of the Wachau Valley.

ITINERARY

Day 1 – Budapest
Day 2 – Budapest
Day 3 – Bratislava
Day 4 – Vienna
Day 5 – Vienna
Day 6 – Vienna
Day 7 – Melk
Day 8 – Mauthausen/ Linz
Day 9 – Passau



DATES IN 2027

4 Dec



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".

ROUTE ID: 27-X-BV4XVP4

DAY 1 – BUDAPEST

Welcome to Budapest, Hungary's gorgeous capital city. Embark the luxurious Riverside Mozart and relax as your personal Butler helps you settle in. Then, tonight, meet fellow shipmates during your first gourmet dinner on board.

DAY 2 – BUDAPEST

After breakfast, your day is devoted to Budapest. With RIVERSIDE CHOICE, a full menu of great excursions is lined up and ready to go! You could ride in comfort by coach to see the highlights; tour the monumental Hungarian Parliament Building; or bask in the holiday ambiance at one of the city's many Christmas Markets. Dive right into the jolly crowd and sample traditional Hungarian dishes, mulled wine, and mouthwatering Kürtőskalács (chimney cakes). Be sure to check out our website for a full list of excursions for your cruise. Return to the ship for lunch, but first, head up to the Vista Deck. With champagne in hand, bid Viszontlátásra (goodbye) to the Queen of the Danube as your ship makes its majestic departure through the cityscape.

DAY 3 – BRATISLAVA

A leisurely morning, followed by after-lunch arrival in Bratislava, capital of Slovakia and a city that just may surprise you with its warmth and character. With RIVERSIDE CHOICE, get an introduction to the area's excellent wines during a tasting, hike up to the hilltop castle for impressive views, or explore the festively decorated Old Town with its traditional Christmas Market. Be sure to try the local specialties, like topping-drenched placky (potato pancakes) and lángos (fried bread), grilled sausages, and warm mead.



CHRISTMAS IN VIENNA

DAY 4 – VIENNA

Your ship arrives early in Vienna, Austria's one-of-a-kind Baroque capital. RIVERSIDE CHOICE can show you the highlights during a panoramic tour along the Ringstrasse, followed by time in the festively decorated historical district and at the Christmas Market near St. Stephen's Cathedral. You could also go royal with a visit to the former Habsburg rulers' primary residence, Hofburg Palace, with its awe-inspiring Treasure, or to their summer getaway at Schönbrunn, which has its very own Christmas Market! This evening is an incredible RIVERSIDE SIGNATURE after-hours entrance into Belvedere Palace for a private musical performance and a crowd-free viewing of Klimt's evocative work, "The Kiss".

DAYS 5 & 6 – VIENNA

A second and third day in the City of Music are perfect for RIVERSIDE CHOICE excursions, shopping, ducking into a cozy coffee house for a mélange coffee and tantalizing piece of apfelstrudel, or spending time perusing the masterpieces at one of the many world-class museums.

DAY 7 – MELK

Get a leisurely start to your day with breakfast, a steaming mug (or two!) of coffee or tea, and the chance to relax and appreciate the gorgeous passing scenery of the UNESCO World Heritage Wachau Valley. Have your camera on hand as the ship cruises by countless castles, fortresses, and monasteries. Arrive in Melk after lunch and embark on a RIVERSIDE CHOICE excursion. How about a tour of resplendent Melk Abbey with a gingerbread, wine, or coffee experience? Or, maybe visit Artstetten Castle, where descendants of Archduke Franz Ferdinand still reside today.

DAY 8 – MAUTHAUSEN / LINZ

Early arrival in the market town of Mauthausen for a highlight tour through St. Florian Monastery, a true Baroque gem. Alternatively, consider a day trip to Austria's picture-perfect Salzburg, birthplace of Mozart, or to lakeside St. Wolfgang in the Salzkammergut region. Regardless of your choice, wonderful highlights and Christmas Markets in scenic settings await! The ship continues to Linz, Austria's third-largest city, for a guided walking tour through the Old Town that concludes at the merry Christmas Market.

DAY 9 – PASSAU

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