MAJESTIC WATERS OF EUROPE: DANUBE, MAIN & RHINE

BUDAPEST TO AMSTERDAM - 15 DAYS / 14 NIGHTS



WÜRZBURG

During two splendid weeks, cruise all the way from Hungary to the Netherlands! Embark on the mighty Danube, visiting three amazing capitals: Budapest, Bratislava, and Vienna! Heading upriver, true wonders await, like Europe's largest pipe organ in Passau, the world's oldest restaurant in Regensburg, and Bamberg's unusual "smoked beer". Travel along the Main River, which seamlessly leads you onto the Romantic Rhine. Here, world-class wines and fairytale charm await in Rüdesheim before Mother Nature takes center stage in the awe-inspiring Rhine Gorge. The journey concludes with time in elegant Cologne and Amsterdam, the stunning Venice of the North!

ITINERARY

Day 1 - Budapest Day 9 - Bamberg

Day 2 - Bratislava Day 10 - Würzburg

Day 3 - Vienna Day 11 - Miltenberg

Day 4 - Dürnstein/ Day 12 - Rüdesheim/ Melk Rhine Gorge/

Koblenz

Day 5 - Passau

Day 6 - Regensburg Day 13 - Cologne

Day 7 - Nuremberg Day 14 - Amsterdam

Day 8 - Nuremberg Day 15 - Amsterdam





RIVERSIDE SIGNATURE EVENT

Further enhance your cruise with unforgettable experiences – like a VIP, after-hours entrance to enchanting Belvedere Palace. You'll feel like an aristocrat as you bask in the ornate Baroque ambiance; are treated to a private orchestral performance; and enjoy a rare opportunity for a crowd-free viewing of Klimt's masterful The Kiss.

DAY 1 - BUDAPEST

Welcome to Budapest, proud capital of Hungary. Embark the luxurious Riverside Debussy and relax as you settle in – or, if you arrive early, join us to explore the Buda side of the Danube with its fairytale Castle District. Tonight, meet your crew and fellow traveling companions during your first onboard dinner. Also enjoy a UNIQUELY RIVER-SIDE twilight departure from Budapest on the Vista Deck, complete with twinkling lights, the city's stunning landmarks, canapés, and a glass of champagne to toast it all!

DAY 2 – BRATISLAVA

Enjoy a leisurely morning to do as you like on board. Then, after lunch, arrive in Bratislava, capital of Slovakia. With RIVERSIDE CHOICE, spend time at the impressive Danubiana Art Museum or bike to Devín Castle, one of the country's oldest castles and a key fortress in the wars against the Ottoman Empire. If you prefer, stroll up to Bratislava Castle overlooking the Old Town and river, do some shopping, or try a pint of Slovakian beer at a local pub!

DAY 3 - VIENNA

Welcome to Vienna, Austria's inimitable capital that was influenced heavily over the centuries by monarchs and musicians alike! RIVER-SIDE CHOICE offers a panoramic city tour and walk through the historical district, a visit to the Habsburgs' mighty Schönbrunn Palace, and other exciting excursions. On offer this evening is a RIVERSIDE SIGNATURE after-hours entrance into stunning Belvedere Palace for a private orchestral performance and a crowd-free viewing of Klimt's masterful The Kiss.



JOHANN STRAUSS MONUMENT, VIENNA



DÜRNSTEIN CASTLE RUIN

DAY 4 – DÜRNSTEIN / MELK

A Danube favorite awaits in Dürnstein, known for its medieval castle ruins and Richard the Lionheart lore. RIVERSIDE CHOICE options include a brisk hike up to the town's clifftop castle ruin for great views over the Wachau Valley, or a visit to an Austrian vinotheque for a tasting of the Wachau's popular wines. Rejoin your ship for lunch and scenic cruising to Melk for an encounter with its splendid Baroque abbey or a visit to Artstetten Castle to see where descendants of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria still reside today!

DAY 5 - PASSAU

A lot of exciting possibilities today! Early risers might enjoy a day trip to Mozart's exquisite Salzburg or to the medieval walled city of Český Krumlov in the Czech Republic. If you prefer a more leisurely start to the day, enjoy scenic cruising and afternoon arrival in Passau, where the Inn, Ilz, and Danube converge. Awaiting your discovery are a RIVERSIDE CHOICE orientation of the medieval city center; a tour and tasting of one of the city's major products – beer; or an enriching hands-on art workshop.

DAY 6 - REGENSBURG

Mid-morning port of call in Regensburg, where evidence abounds of the many cultures that built the city over 2,000 years. RIVERSIDE CHOICE

excursions are a walk through the Old Town and sample of sausage at the world's oldest continuously operating restaurant, or a behind-thescenes look at the ancient craft of hat making. You can also enjoy a boat ride to Weltenburg Abbey, where monks began brewing beer in 1050 AD, or spend time shopping or exploring on your own.

DAY 7 - NUREMBERG

Bewitchingly beautiful yet historically damaged, few cities have suffered the split personality that Nuremberg has. Today, you'll get the backstory and with RIVERSIDE CHOICE, you have options. Join an expert guide to see the Old Town with its King's Gate, former customs house, Executioner's Bridge, and more. Or, a WWII-focused tour might be more appealing, featuring the Nazi Party Rally Grounds and the Palace of Justice where the Nuremberg trials took place. Alternatively, learn how Nuremberg protected its most important art treasures during WWII in underground rock vaults below the castle.

DAY 8 - NUREMBERG

Explore more of Nuremberg today on another RIVERSIDE CHOICE excursion. You might enjoy a peaceful forest hike through the beautiful Schwarzach Valley, or perhaps the chance to strike out on your own and sample the mouthwatering Franconian specialties, like Schäuferle (tender spiced pork), the city's namesake sausages, or the famous gingerbread that has been baked here since the 13th century.

DAY 9 - BAMBERG

One of Germany's unrivaled masterpieces awaits in the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Bamberg. Dating back to the 9th century, the city extends over seven church-capped hills, leading to its nickname of Franconian Rome. A great selection of RIVERSIDE CHOICE excursions is available, including a guided visit to the four-towered cathedral founded in 1004 AD, the quaint fishermen's huts lining the canals of Little Venice, and the unusual Old Town Hall, built right in the middle of the river in 1386! Or, you might enjoy a tour focusing on the Rauchbier (smoked beer) the city has been brewing for almost 900 years



OLD TOWN HALL, BAMBERG



BEAUTIFUL FOUNTAIN AND CHURCH OF OUR LADY, NUREMBERG

DAY 10 – WÜRZBURG

Head out today to discover the wonders of Würzburg through RIVERSIDE CHOICE. Take a walk through the resplendent Old Town and wander through the Residenz, one of Europe's most magnificent palaces, or get a taste of Würzburg's culture and cuisine on a remarkable walk featuring the cathedral, the Old Town Bridge – and the best sausages in the city! Alternatively, an outing is available along the famed Romantic Road to medieval Rothenburg, one of Germany's most amazing walled cities.

DAY 11 – MILTENBERG

A relaxed morning of scenic cruising, with afternoon arrival in the alluring Bavarian town of Miltenberg. With RIVERSIDE CHOICE, you can take a fascinating Jewish heritage tour that visits a 13th-century synagogue, a mikveh, and more; a nature hike along a 2,000-year-old Roman path, with food and beverage tastings at the city's 17th-century butcher shop or a tour focused on Miltenberg's medieval architecture and superb Bavarian food and drink.

DAY 12 – RÜDESHEIM / RHINE GORGE SCENIC CRUISING / KOBLENZ

A beautiful morning - and a beautiful place to spend it in the cozy wine village of Rüdesheim. Here, you can select the RIVERSIDE CHOICE

option that appeals most to you. For a relaxing approach to sightseeing, hop aboard the Winzer-express train to see the highlights and visit Siegfried's Mechanical Music Museum; soar over the area by cable car, followed by an authentic Rüdesheimer Coffee; or hike through the local vineyards and attend a tasting of the delicious Rhine Valley wines. Reboard your ship for lunch, then a true trip highlight as you pass through the dramatic Rhine Gorge. For more than a millennium, the riverbanks have been graced by dozens of stunning hilltop castles, and the mythical Rock of the Lorelei also awaits with its eerie legend. Evening arrival in Koblenz, where a guided walk shows off the important historic sights.

DAY 13 - COLOGNE

This morning is dedicated to the magnificence of Cologne, whose impressive skyline is shaped by 12 historical churches! The city's eternal legacy, though, stems from one in particular – its twinspired cathedral. With RIVERSIDE CHOICE, join a guided stroll through the Old Town and visit the landmark cathedral. Alternatively, treat your tastebuds during a visit to the Cologne Chocolate Museum, or take a virtual reality "timeride" to experience what Cologne was like in the distant past.

DAY 14 – AMSTERDAM

Your day starts with breakfast and a glorious entrance into Amsterdam, the awe-inspiring Venice of the North. RIVERSIDE CHOICE offers time at the world-famous Rijksmuseum to see some of the world's most famous works of art; a visit to the unique Street Art & Graffiti Museum; a tour utilizing virtual reality technology that follows in the footsteps of Anne Frank; or our RIVERSIDE SIGNATURE dessert cruise through the city's romantic canals.

DAY 15 – AMSTERDAM

After breakfast, disembark the Riverside Debussy and enjoy complimentary transfers to the airport, train station, or central hotel.