CALL OF THE DANUBE: BUDAPEST TO VIENNA & THE WACHAU VALLEY

BUDAPEST TO VIENNA - 9 DAYS / 8 NIGHTS



DÜRNSTEIN

When the Danube is calling, this luxury cruise answers with the important sights and rich cultures of Hungary, Slovakia, and Austria. Beginning in Budapest, experience the highlights and maybe try a hearty bowl of Hungarian gulyáshús (goulash) and glass of Tokaji aszú (wine). You'll also be captivated by the big personality of Bratislava – and the even bigger Baroque architecture of Vienna! Stops in smaller towns are equally fascinating as your ship moves in parallel to part of the scenic Route of Emperors and Kings. Entering the famous Wachau Valley, marvel at the 20-mile stretch of hillside castles, terraced vineyards and orchards, and some of the world's most popular wines! See Austria's oldest theater in Grein; Linz, a European Capital of Culture; Melk's stunning 11th-century abbey; and more!





RIVERSIDE SIGNATURE EVENT

Further enhance your cruise with unforgettable experiences – like an exclusive visit to 12th-century Castle Clam, featuring a special courtyard welcome reception, guided tour, refreshments, and a dazzling knights' battle to whisk you back in time.

DAY 1 - BUDAPEST

Welcome to Budapest, impressive capital of Hungary! Embark the luxurious Riverside Mozart and relax as you settle in – or, if you arrive early, join us for a Snapshot of Budapest tour. Tonight, meet your crew and fellow traveling companions during your first onboard dinner. The ship remains in port overnight.

DAY 2 – BUDAPEST

Today, the spotlight is fully on Budapest! With a RIVERSIDE CHOICE selection of excursions, see the highlights by comfortable coach; tour the vast Parliament Building; or do your sightseeing from the seat of a bike. After lunch, Gödöllő Castle, Dohány Synagogue (Europe's largest synagogue), and the stunning Castle District are good options. Then, back on the ship later, admire epic views of Budapest from the Vista Deck as your ship makes its stately departure.

DAY 3 – BRATISLAVA

This morning is ideal for sleeping in, a relaxed breakfast, or even a spa treatment. After lunch, arrive in Bratislava, capital of Slovakia, for plenty of RIVERSIDE CHOICE options! How about time at the Danubiana Art Museum, an introduction and tasting of Slovakia's wines, an active bike ride to Devín Castle, or a visit to a traditional Slovak family home?

DAY 4 – TULLN / WACHAU VALLEY SCENIC CRUISING

Settled in pre-Roman times, Tulln's history is marked by Turkish invasions, floods, and the Thirty Years War. Don't miss the Old Town fountain commemorating Attila the Hun's proposal to Kriemhild (which legend says took place in Tulln). Through RIVERSIDE CHOICE, embark on a fun bike tour through the countryside; discover one of Europe's most unique organic gardening showcases at Tulln Gardens; or visit 12th-century Klosterneuburg Abbey for a tour and wine tasting. A UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE wine tasting is also available at Gobelsburg Castle, where wine production began in 1171! Later, cruise into a world of castles and terraced vineyards in the awe-inspiring Wachau Valley.

DAY 5 - VIENNA

Welcome to Vienna, Austria's inimitable capital where the Habsburgs ruled and Baroque reigned. RIVERSIDE CHOICE helps you make the most of your time in the City of Music. How about a panoramic city tour and walk through the historical district; a visit to lavish Schönbrunn Palace;

or time on your own at one of the world-famous museums?

DAY 6 - GREIN

An easy start to the day is followed by after-lunch arrival in Grein, home to Austria's oldest theater, where even town prisoners could watch the performances from their jail cell! With RIVERSIDE CHOICE, get active and commune with nature during a bike ride or hike up to Greinburg Castle. Or, join a RIVERSIDE SIGNATURE experience at stately Clam Castle that includes a VIP tour of its rooms filled with precious furnishings, refreshments, and an entertaining knights' battle – huzzah!

DAY 7 - LINZ

There's so much to see in Linz - and you have a whole day to do it! With RIVERSIDE CHOICE, join a guided walk through the Old Town and visit the Neo-Gothic Mariendom with its impressive stained-glass windows and 20,000-person seating capacity. Hear why it was allowed to be the largest (but not the tallest) church in Austria when it was built! Or, burn some energy during a vigorous hike up Pöstlingberg Hill; visit "Sound of Music" Salzburg; or travel into the Czech Republic to the medieval, walled village of Český Krumlov. Ship cruises overnight.

DAY 8 – MELK / WACHAU VALLEY SCENIC CRUISING / DÜRNSTEIN

Today's stop in Melk will leave you with indelible memories. RIVERSIDE CHOICE offers a visit to the town's legendary Baroque abbey; the chance to see where descendants of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria still reside today at Artstetten Castle; or a bike tour from Melk to the ship's next stop in Dürnstein. Otherwise, allow the ship to transport you through the stunning scenery of the Wachau Valley, arriving in Dürnstein after lunch. Here, the fascinating tale unfolds about why England's King Richard the Lionheart was imprisoned here - and how his faithful minstrel was instrumental in his release! A hike up to the castle ruin provides amazing views, or visit an Austrian vinotheque for a tasting of Wachau Valley wines.

DAY 9 - VIENNA

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