

# DANUBE LEGENDS WITH THE WONDROUS WACHAU & MELK ABBEY

BUDAPEST TO BUDAPEST – 15 DAYS / 14 NIGHTS



WACHAU VALLEY NEAR DÜRNSTEIN

Celebrate summer with the perfect Danube getaway! Begin with three glorious days in Budapest with its Castle District, Fishermen’s Bastion, and vast Parliament. Slovakia’s alluring capital, Bratislava, is next with its hilltop castle and pedestrian-only Old Town. In Vienna, Austria’s lavish City of Music, “world class” is everywhere – palaces, museums, cathedrals, concert halls, even coffee houses! Finally, cruise through the scenic Wachau Valley for visits to charming Dürnstein and Linz, stately Melk Abbey, Mauthausen with its tragic WWII past, and Passau, Germany’s City of Three Rivers!

### ITINERARY

- |                             |                                      |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Day 1 – Budapest            | Day 9 – Passau                       |
| Day 2 – Budapest            | Day 10 – Grein                       |
| Day 3 – Bratislava          | Day 11 – Wachau Valley/Krems         |
| 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/Melk      | Day 15 – Budapest                    |
| Day 8 – Mauthausen/Linz     |                                      |



### DATES IN 2026

22 Apr, 6 May, 20 May, 2 Sep, 16 Sep, 30 Sep, 14 Oct, 28 Oct



### 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”.



CASTLE DISTRICT, BUDAPEST

### DAY 1 – BUDAPEST

Welcome to Budapest, Hungary's elegant cultural, economic, and political hub. Embark the Riverside Mozart and relax as your personal Butler helps you get settled into your luxurious Suite.

### DAY 2 – BUDAPEST

After breakfast, we'll help you get acquainted with the Queen of the Danube. RIVERSIDE CHOICE offers some great ways to explore, like a tour inside the 691-room Hungarian Parliament Building to see its impressive Golden Staircase, Crown of St. Stephen, and other treasures. If you prefer an active approach to your sight-seeing, join us for a guided electric bicycle tour, or a walk around the Buda side of the Danube to explore the magnificent Castle District. You'll find a full list of the excursions available on your cruise at our website. Back on the ship later, head up to the Vista Deck for sheer magic as your ship moves slowly past the grand cityscape on the way out of Budapest.

### DAY 3 – BRATISLAVA

A leisurely morning – perfect for a relaxed breakfast and plenty of refills on your coffee or tea. After lunch, arrive in Bratislava, the enchanting capital of Slovakia, for a full menu of RIVERSIDE CHOICE options. Oenophiles can get an introduction to the area's excellent wines. You also can't go wrong with a guided walk through the pedestrian-only Old Town – watch for Napoleon's cannonballs lodged in the ancient walls and the cheeky statue peering up from the city sewer. If you prefer, hike up to the hilltop castle or pop into a pub for a refreshing Slovakian beer.

### DAY 4 – TULLN / WACHAU VALLEY SCENIC CRUISING

Arrive today in the 2,000-year-old "Garden City" of Tulln. Settled in pre-Roman times, Tulln was marked over the centuries by Turkish invasions, floods, and the Thirty Years War. Things are certainly less dire today, so hop on an e-bike for a ride through the Austrian countryside, or join a UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE wine tasting event at Gobelsburg Castle, where wine production began in 1171! Later, rejoin your ship and cruise into the legendary Wachau Valley.

### DAY 5 – VIENNA

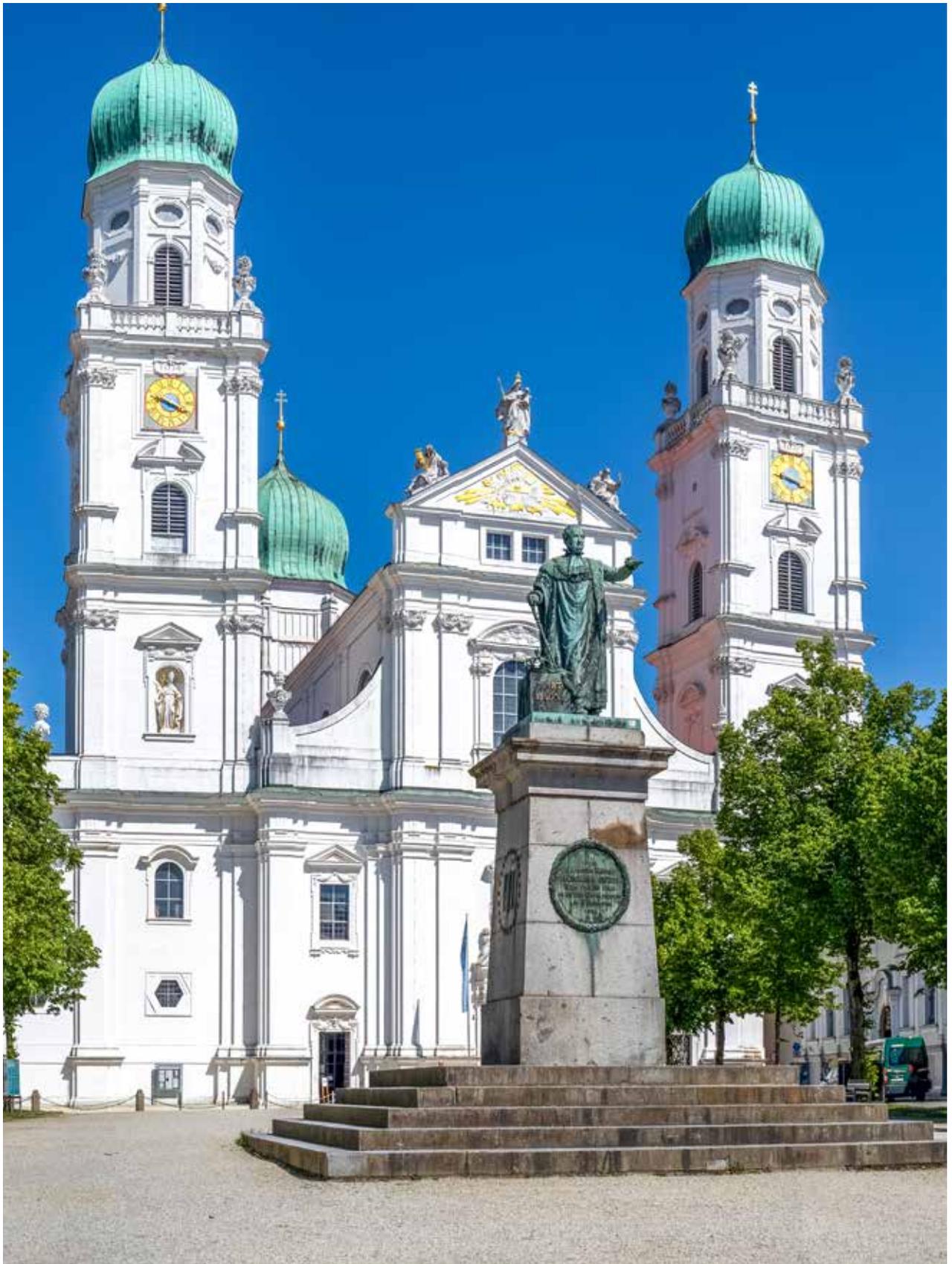
Austria's capital greets you today with all of its Baroque splendor. You'll quickly see what attracted world-class composers like Mozart, Strauss, Beethoven, and Schubert. Join us for an exciting half-day tour through the Hofburg, the imperial palace that was the Habsburg rulers' primary residence and center of the Holy Roman Empire. See the former royals' lavish living quarters and dazzling Treasury.

### DAY 6 – VIENNA

A day of wonder in the City of Music. With RIVERSIDE CHOICE, explore the Habsburgs' Schönbrunn summer palace, or Prater Park by electric bicycle. If you like, get a bird's-eye view of the city from atop the park's giant Ferris wheel. 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".



SCHÖNBRUNN PALACE, VIENNA



ST. STEPHEN'S CATHEDRAL, PASSAU

## DAY 7 – DÜRNSTEIN / WACHAU VALLEY SCENIC CRUISING / MELK

Arrive in storybook Dürnstein with its distinctive blue and white Stiftskirche tower and cliff-top castle ruin. With RIVERSIDE CHOICE, enjoy a tasting of Wachau Valley wines, or ride an e-bike along the river and meet up with your ship at its next port. Lunch on board is up on the Vista Deck, where an enjoyable al fresco barbecue is prepared and served – surrounded by the valley’s intoxicating scenery. The afternoon is in Melk, with a tour of its famous Benedictine abbey; Artstetten Castle, where descendants of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria still reside; or an Austrian pastry workshop and bee farm for a palate-pleasing baking and honey experience!

## DAY 8 – MAUTHAUSEN / LINZ

Today can be as busy or relaxed as you like! RIVERSIDE CHOICE can whisk you off to “Sound of Music” Salzburg, medieval 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. You could also hike up Pöstlingberg overlooking Linz, or head to a konditorei (pastry shop) for a slice of Linzer Torte, the world’s first cake!

## DAY 9 – PASSAU

Arrive today in Germany’s lovely City of Three Rivers. Let RIVERSIDE CHOICE show you the highlights during a guided walk through the Old Town. Admire the ancient cobblestones, the work-of-art Town Hall, and St. Stephen’s Cathedral (home to one of the world’s largest organs). Then, rest and recharge over a frothy mug of refreshing Bavarian beer!

## DAY 10 – GREIN

Enjoy your morning coffee on the Vista Deck, with plenty of scenic wonders. After lunch, disembark in tiny Grein to commune with nature during a pleasant e-bike tour, visit 500-year-old Greinburg Castle, and other amazing excursions.

## DAY 11 – WACHAU VALLEY / KREMS

An incredible start to the day 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 12 & 13 – VIENNA

A return to Vienna helps you really get to know this legendary city – and RIVERSIDE CHOICE is ready with a full menu of options. If you’d like more time in Bratislava, we have an outing to get you there and back. You could also head out on your own. Maybe head to the famed Ringstrasse, home to the Kunsthistorisches Museum, one of the most important museums in the world; do some shopping; or indulge in a coffee mélange at a cozy Viennese coffee house.

## DAY 14 – ESZTERGOM / VISEGRÁD / BUDAPEST

Arrive this morning in Esztergom, capital of Hungary from the 10th until the mid-13th century. Visit Esztergom Basilica to see its opulent Treasury; take a guided e-bike tour along both sides of the Danube; see the sights as you sample the local specialties during a fun foodie walk; 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 return to Budapest – complete with twinkling lights, stunning panoramic views, and champagne to toast it all!

## DAY 15 – BUDAPEST

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



MARIENDOM, LINZ