

# DESTINATION DANUBE: HUNGARY NATIONAL DAY & SCENIC WACHAU VALLEY

BUDAPEST TO BUDAPEST – 9 DAYS / 8 NIGHTS



FIREWORKS OVER BUDA CASTLE

Let Riverside whisk you through the World Heritage Wachau Valley and three Danube capitals – one during a special time of year! Begin in Hungary, where the nation's independence celebration is in full swing! Visit Budapest and Esztergom amidst the flurry of flags and ribbons, parades, folk traditions, and fireworks. Hungary will soon occupy a special place in your heart! Next up: Bratislava, Slovakia, whose hilltop castle stands watch over the lovely pedestrian Old Town, and Vienna, Austria, where some of the world's greatest minds and talents lived and worked over the centuries. Finally, cruise into the scenic Wachau Valley, where delicious wines and engaging ports await!

### ITINERARY

Day 1 – Budapest	Day 7 – Dürnstein/ Wachau Valley/ Weissenkirchen
Day 2 – Budapest	
Day 3 – Esztergom	
Day 4 – Bratislava	
Day 5 – Vienna	Day 8 – Linz
Day 6 – Vienna	Day 9 – Passau

### DATES IN 2026

19 Aug



### RIVERSIDE SIGNATURE EVENT

Enhance your cruise with unforgettable experiences! In Budapest, the cityscape's nighttime beauty is further enhanced by an explosion of light and color as the country celebrates Hungary National Day. Enjoy the festivities from atop the Vista Deck, with refreshments and unhindered views of the brilliant musical fireworks display over the Danube.

## DAY 1 – BUDAPEST

Welcome to Budapest, Hungary's majestic capital city spanning both sides of the Danube. Embark the luxurious Riverside Mozart and relax as your personal Butler helps you get settled in. Meet fellow traveling companions during your first onboard dinner, then feel free to explore Budapest's nightlife on your own. Your ship remains docked overnight.

## DAY 2 – BUDAPEST

A fantastic day to explore one of the world's most beautiful cities! With a RIVERSIDE CHOICE selection of excursions, relax and see the highlights by comfortable coach, or visit the double U-shaped Gödöllo, Austrian Empress Sisi's favorite palace. To see the excursions available throughout your cruise, visit our website. Tonight, head up to the ship's Vista Deck for a very special RIVERSIDE SIGNATURE EVENT. To celebrate Hungarian independence, join our Hungary National Day festivities, complete with champagne, refreshments, and outstanding views of Budapest's brilliant musical fireworks show over the river.

## DAY 3 – ESZTERGOM

A leisurely morning of cruising gives you time for a relaxed breakfast or to take advantage of your ship's amenities. How about a workout in the ship's Fitness Center? After lunch, disembark in Esztergom, capital of Hungary from the 10th until the mid-13th centuries. RIVERSIDE CHOICE provides a visit to Esztergom Basilica to see its opulent Treasury, a guided e-bike tour along both sides of the Danube, and other options.

## DAY 4 – BRATISLAVA

Morning arrival in the capital of Slovakia, Bratislava, historically known as Pressburg. Bordering both Austria and Hungary, this is the only national capital to border two sovereign states. RIVERSIDE CHOICE can help you get the most out of your time here, including time surrounded by artistic masterpieces at the Danubiana Museum, or a Slovakian wine discovery and tasting. If you prefer, head out on your own to explore the Old Town and search for Napoleon's wall-lodged cannonballs, or maybe try a delicious Slovakian beer at an atmospheric sidewalk pub!

## DAY 5 – VIENNA

Welcome to Vienna, former home of history's powerful Habsburg rulers as well as composers Mozart, Strauss, Beethoven, Brahms, Schubert, and others. You'll quickly see what attracted

them to this City of Music! Join us for an exciting half-day tour through the Hofburg, the city's must-see imperial palace that was center of the Holy Roman Empire. See the former royal family's lavish, Rococo-style living quarters, then step into the dazzling Treasury to marvel at its vault of royal riches. Other excursion possibilities are listed on our website.

## DAY 6 – VIENNA

What will you do with your second day in Vienna? How about another great RIVERSIDE CHOICE excursion, like a visit to the Habsburgs' mighty Schönbrunn Palace or e-biking through historic Prater Park? 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 7 – DÜRNSTEIN / WACHAU VALLEY SCENIC CRUISING / WEISSENKIRCHEN

Arrive in Dürnstein early and hear about King Richard the Lionheart's imprisonment here on his way home from the Crusades. Join a guide and hike up to the town's clifftop castle ruin for great views over the river, or join a wine experience to learn what makes Wachau wines so amazing – and to taste them for yourself! Reboard your ship for lunch, then dock in Weissenkirchen for a peaceful vineyard hike, wonderful wine-tasting cruise, or chance to sample authentic Wachau Valley apricot schnapps. Then, a special treat awaits tonight! As you pass through the castle-filled Wachau Valley, savor a delightful al fresco dinner up on the Vista Deck.

## DAY 8 – LINZ

A Grand Finale-type of day includes fantastic options. You might enjoy a visit to the Baroque jewel of St. Florian Monastery, "Sound of Music" Salzburg, or medieval Český Krumlov in the Czech Republic. Tonight, a final gourmet dinner on board celebrates your fantastic journey along the Austrian Danube.

## DAY 9 – PASSAU

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