

# DANUBE 8-COUNTRY SPECTACULAR WITH MAIN-DANUBE CANAL

BUCHAREST TO NUREMBERG – 16 DAYS / 15 NIGHTS

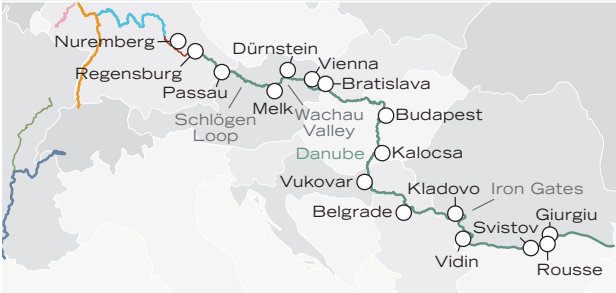


FISHERMEN'S BASTION, BUDAPEST

Spend two weeks cruising through eight countries along the Lower and Upper Danube. You'll visit five capitals; experience incomparable local wines, orchard fruits, and the world's best paprika; and make scenic passages you'll never forget ...the rugged Iron Gates, celebrated Wachau Valley, and fascinating Main-Danube Canal. Begin in Romania, where settlement dates to the Stone Age, followed by Bulgaria, Serbia, and Croatia. In Hungary, Budapest will make an impression, while Bratislava, Slovakia, is an unexpected gem. In Austria, waltz your way through Vienna and enjoy the Old World vibe of Dürnstein. Finally, enter Germany, where Regensburg, Nuremberg, and more await your acquaintance!

### ITINERARY

- |                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Day 1 – Bucharest/<br>Giurgiu  | Day 8 – Budapest            |
| Day 2 – Rousse/<br>Svistov     | Day 9 – Budapest            |
| Day 3 – Vidin                  | Day 10 – Bratislava         |
| Day 4 – Kladovo/<br>Iron Gates | Day 11 – Vienna             |
| Day 5 – Belgrade               | Day 12 – Dürnstein/<br>Melk |
| Day 6 – Vukovar                | Day 13 – Passau             |
| Day 7 – Kalocsa                | Day 14 – Regensburg         |
|                                | Day 15 – Nuremberg          |
|                                | Day 16 – Nuremberg          |



DATES IN 2026  
26 May, 22 Sep



### 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 – BUCHAREST / GIURGIU

Welcome to Bucharest, Romania's capital and a graceful center of belle époque architecture. Transfer to Giurgiu on the Lower Danube to embark the luxurious Riverside Debussy. If you look across the river, you'll see Rousse, Bulgaria, Giurgiu's sister city, which can be accessed via the Danube Bridge, at one time the only bridge connecting the two countries. Relax as you settle in, then tonight, meet fellow cruisemates at your first gourmet dinner on board.

## DAY 2 – ROUSSE / SVISTOV

Your day begins in Rousse with an exciting RIVERSIDE CHOICE selection of excursions, including a visit to an ancient cave monastery. A full list of the excursions available throughout your cruise is on our website. Afterward, meet up with the ship in Svistov, a cultural center that was severely damaged during the Russo-Turkish War, sacked by the Russians in 1878, and nearly destroyed by an earthquake in 1977. Since then, it has recovered as a hub of agriculture, fishing, and higher learning. Enjoy lunch on board, followed by a relaxed afternoon of scenic cruising.

## DAY 3 – VIDIN

Early arrival this morning in the Bulgarian port city of Vidin. This fertile hinterland is known for its tradition of wine production, which dates back to the time of the Thracians in 3500 BC. A great menu of excursions offers wine tasting, a baking demonstration in a traditional Bulgarian home, and a guided tour of Vidin and the medieval Belogradchik Fortress on the northern slopes of the Balkan Mountains. Learn about the many cultures that contributed to the creation of Vidin over the centuries, including the Romans, Serbians, Hungarians, Ottomans, and Austrians.

## DAY 4 – KLADOVO / IRON GATES SCENIC CRUISING

Dobro jutro (good morning) – welcome to Serbia! The site of Kladovo has been inhabited since the Early Bronze Age. Today, it's popular for its beaches, wine trails, cuisine, and adventure, yet the allure of the ancient past endures. This is where Roman Emperor Trajan built his legendary bridge across the Danube, and where the Romans also constructed Diana Fortress, part of a vast defensive system along the empire's border. Investigate the wonders of this fascinating port, then find a traditional pub and try a glass of the outstanding local wine. Later, reboard your ship for a UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE al fresco bar-becue up on the Vista Deck as you cruise through

the rugged Iron Gates gorges – a travel highlight you'll remember forever!

## DAY 5 – BELGRADE

Your ship arrives this morning in the "White Fortress" of Belgrade, capital of Serbia. How about a heritage tour that reveals what the country was like as the former Yugoslavia, or an e-bike tour to see the highlights in an active way?

## DAY 6 – VUKOVAR

Today, discover the tenacity and fortitude of Vukovar, which was almost completely destroyed during the Croatian War of Independence in the 1990s. With RIVERSIDE CHOICE, you can view the city's murals during a refreshing e-bike tour; embark on a fun beer-brewing experience; or visit the 5,000-year-old Vučedol archaeological site, followed by a unique wine tasting that quickly reveals why this region has been known since Roman times for its wine culture.

## DAY 7 – KALOCSA

A leisurely morning for breakfast and to enjoy your ship's outstanding amenities. Around midday, disembark in Kalocsa, one of Hungary's oldest towns. Here, a RIVERSIDE SIGNATURE excursion whisks you out onto the Hungarian Puszta (Great Plain) for a remarkable display of expert horsemanship, lively folk dancing, and delicious local food.

## DAY 8 – BUDAPEST

After breakfast, your ship makes its grand arrival into Budapest, Hungary's amazing capital spanning both banks of the Danube. Disembark and see the highlights by comfortable coach; visit Austrian Empress Sisi's beloved Gödöllő Palace, or join an outing to Szentendre, a historic town



RUINS OF VIDIN SYNAGOGUE



DÜRNSTEIN CASTLE

that was reduced to a single family and their service staff during the Ottomans' rule of the 17th century. Today, its lovely cobblestone streets radiate a Mediterranean atmosphere.

#### DAY 9 – BUDAPEST

With your second day in Budapest, a visit to the expansive Hungarian Parliament Building would be worth your while. Completed in 1902, this is the city's most famous landmark and the largest building in Hungary. See the ornate halls, hand-painted frescoes, grand staircase, the Holy Crown of Hungary, and more.

#### DAY 10 – BRATISLAVA

Enjoy a leisurely morning to relax on board. Then, after lunch, arrive in Bratislava, capital of Slovakia. Spend time at the impressive Danubiana Art Museum, e-bike through the area wetlands, or discover the country's delicious wines or beers. If you prefer exploring independently, stroll up to Bratislava Castle or shop in the pedestrian-only Old Town.

#### DAY 11 – VIENNA

Welcome to Vienna, Austria's inimitable capital that was influenced heavily over the centuries by monarchs and musicians alike! Visit the Habsburg rulers' primary residence at Hofburg Palace, or the Spanish Riding School, where the famed Lipizzaner stallions train. Tonight, join our 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".

#### DAY 12 – DÜRNSTEIN / MELK

Discover a Danube favorite today. If you're feeling active, lace up your hiking shoes and trek up to Dürnstein Castle or enjoy the scenery from atop an e-bike. A tasting of the Wachau's popular wines is also available. Then, rejoin your ship for lunch and scenic cruising to Melk for a tour through its splendid Baroque abbey or a visit to Artstetten Castle to see where descendants of Archduke Franz Ferdinand still reside today.

#### DAY 13 – PASSAU

A lot of exciting possibilities today! Early risers might enjoy a day trip to Mozart's Salzburg or to medieval Český Krumlov in the Czech Republic. If you prefer a more leisurely start to the day, arrive this afternoon in Passau, Germany's City of Three Rivers, for a guided tour of the medieval city center or a visit to an artists' workshop.



MICHAELS GATE, BRATISLAVA

#### DAY 14 – REGENSBURG

Mid-morning stop in Regensburg, which was influenced and built by many cultures over its 2,000 years. Join a walk through the Old Town and sample sausage at the world's oldest continuously operating restaurant, or enjoy a boat ride through the Danube Gorge and a visit to Weltenburg Abbey, where monks began brewing beer in 1050 AD.

#### DAY 15 – NUREMBERG

Bewitchingly beautiful yet historically damaged, few cities have suffered the split personality that Nuremberg has. Today, you'll get the backstory during a selection of excursions. 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 of interest, featuring the Nazi Party Rally Grounds and the Palace of Justice where the Nuremberg trials took place.

#### DAY 16 – NUREMBERG

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