

# DARLINGS OF THE DANUBE: VIENNA TO BUDAPEST WITH WACHAU VALLEY

VIENNA TO BUDAPEST – 7 DAYS / 6 NIGHTS

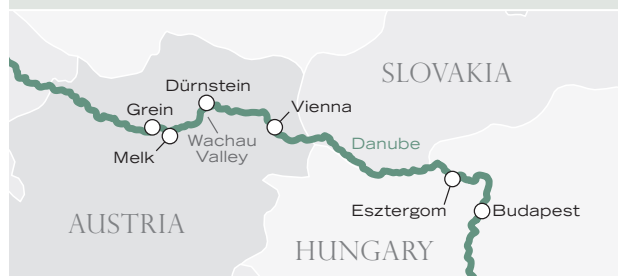


MELK AT SUNRISE

This remarkable week-long adventure features Vienna and Budapest, two of the most celebrated darlings of the Danube! Vienna puts its best foot forward with a grand welcome to the much-adored City of Music. Then, you're off and cruising in pampered luxury, passing through the world-famous Wachau Valley to see its castles, terraced vineyards, and orchards – you won't want to miss sampling some of Europe's most delectable wines and apricot treats! In Melk, explore the library of ancient manuscripts in the 11th-century Benedictine abbey, and visit tiny (but impressive) Dürnstein, where Richard the Lionheart was imprisoned in 1192 as he returned home from the Crusades. Return to Vienna for more time in the exquisite capital before crossing into Hungary. As your ship glides into Budapest, raise a glass of Tokaji aszú (Hungarian wine) and toast the city's legendary beauty and many highlights on both sides of the Danube.

## ITINERARY

Day 1 – Vienna	Day 4 – Vienna
Day 2 – Melk/Grein	Day 5 – Esztergom
Day 3 – Dürnstein/ Vienna	Day 6 – Budapest
	Day 7 – Budapest



## DATES IN 2025

22 Jun, 13 Jul, 7 Aug, 21 Sep, 12 Oct



## 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 – VIENNA

Welcome to Vienna, Austria's capital and wonderland of all things Habsburg, music, and Baroque! Embark the luxurious Riverside Mozart and relax as you settle in – or, if you arrive early, join us for an enriching Highlights of Vienna tour. Tonight, meet your crew and fellow traveling companions during your first onboard dinner as your ship departs Vienna.

## DAY 2 – MELK / GREIN

Today the fun begins in Melk! A RIVERSIDE CHOICE selection of excursions offers a visit to the town's legendary Baroque abbey, home to an important collection of ancient manuscripts and enviable views over the Danube; a guided bike tour; or the chance to see where descendants of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria still reside today during a tour of Artstetten Castle. Back on the ship, head up to the Vista Deck for a delicious barbecue lunch as you cruise on to your next port. Disembark in the quaint village of Grein for a guided walking tour that visits the oldest theater in Austria – complete with a “jail seat” where prisoners could watch the performances! Ship remains in port overnight.

## DAY 3 – DÜRNSTEIN / VIENNA

Early risers this morning will appreciate the breathtaking scenery of the Wachau Valley as your ship makes its way to the next port. After breakfast, arrive in Dürnstein, where an expert guide will regale you with tales about King Richard the Lionheart's imprisonment here. RIVERSIDE CHOICE options include a brisk hike up to the town's clifftop castle ruin for great views over the Wachau Valley; a visit to an Austrian vinothèque for a tasting of the Wachau's popular wines; and a guided visit along the celebrat-



STATE OPERA, VIENNA

ed Krems Art Mile for time at the State Gallery of Lower Austria. Rejoin your ship for lunch and scenic cruising back to Vienna. This evening is an incredible RIVERSIDE SIGNATURE experience: VIP, after-hours entrance into stunning Belvedere Palace, a private orchestral performance, and a crowd-free viewing of Klimt's masterful The Kiss.

## DAY 4 – VIENNA

A full day devoted to Vienna! A RIVERSIDE CHOICE of excursions offers a panoramic city tour and walk through the historical district, a visit to the Habsburgs' mighty Schönbrunn Palace, and other exciting possibilities. You can also head out on your own to spend time at one of the many world-class museums, soak up the atmosphere in an authentic Viennese coffee house, or join a day trip to nearby Bratislava, capital of Slovakia!

## DAY 5 – ESZTERGOM

A leisurely morning – perfect for a relaxed breakfast and the chance to appreciate the scenery as you cross into Hungary. After lunch, arrive in Esztergom, Hungarian capital from the 10th until the mid-13th centuries. Exciting RIVERSIDE CHOICE excursions include a visit to Esztergom Basilica to see its opulent Treasury, including a 12-pound gold and gemstone-encrusted cross; a guided bike ride through Hungary and Slovakia; a fun foodie walk to sample the local specialties; or a visit to nearby Visegrád to see its impressive fortress. Ship remains in port until late.

## DAY 6 – BUDAPEST

As you enjoy a hot, fresh cup of coffee or tea up on the Vista Deck this morning, you'll be impressed by your ship's grand entrance into Budapest – like something out of a movie! A fantastic day awaits and with RIVERSIDE CHOICE, you can see the highlights by comfortable coach; visit the monumental Parliament Building or fairytale Fishermen's Bastion; or see the sights with the breeze in your hair during an exhilarating bike tour. After lunch, you could visit the Royal Palace of Gödöllő, an important example of Hungarian palace architecture; Your ship remains in port tonight, so feel free to head back out after dinner to experience Budapest nightlife – or join our wonderful UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE concert at a beautiful local venue.

## DAY 7 – BUDAPEST

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