

DANUBE RIVER DANCE: VIENNA & THE WACHAU

VIENNA TO VIENNA – 8 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS



DANUBE AT SUNSET

Austria's relationship with the Danube is special – and the focus of this exceptional week-long cruise. Begin and end in Vienna with its ostentatious palaces, world-class museums, historical buildings lining the Ringstrasse, and rich coffee house culture that is often imitated but never duplicated. Other unforgettable ports include Dürnstein with its legendary ties to England's King Richard the Lionheart; Melk, home to the impressive, ochre-colored abbey with its library of ancient manuscripts and gorgeous spiral staircase; Linz, birthplace of the world's first cake; and Passau, the bustling City of Three Rivers. The Schlägen Loop and UNESCO World Heritage Wachau Valley are the icing on the cake with incredible scenery, riverbank castles, terraced orchards and vineyards, and more!

ITINERARY

Day 1 – Vienna	Day 4 – Passau
Day 2 – Dürnstein/ Wachau Valley/Melk	Day 5 – Linz
Day 3 – Schlägen Loop/ Passau	Day 6 – Grein/ Dürnstein
	Day 7 – Vienna
	Day 8 – Vienna



DATES IN 2025

15 May, 8 Jun, 27 Aug, 22 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 Habsburgs, music, and Baroque! Embark the luxurious Riverside Mozart and relax as you settle in – or, if you arrive early, join us for a Highlights of Vienna tour. Tonight, meet your crew and fellow traveling companions during your first onboard dinner as your ship departs Vienna.

DAY 2 – DÜRNSTEIN / WACHAU VALLEY SCENIC CRUISING / MELK

The quaint village of Dürnstein is on the agenda early! Hear why England's King Richard the Lionheart was imprisoned here – and how his faithful minstrel helped get him free. With a RIVERSIDE CHOICE selection of excursions, hike up to the town's castle ruin for panoramic views; visit a vinothèque for a tasting of Wachau Valley wines; or bike along the river between Dürnstein and Melk. Reboard your ship for a gourmet lunch on the Vista Deck as you pass through the Wachau Valley. Then, arrive later in Melk for a tour of its world-famous Baroque abbey, followed by a UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE concert on the abbey's famous organ. Another option: visit Artstetten Castle, where descendants of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria still reside today.

DAY 3 – SCHLÖGEN LOOP SCENIC CRUISING / PASSAU

Today can be as busy or relaxed as you like! RIVERSIDE CHOICE outings are available this morning to "Sound of Music" Salzburg and to the medieval walled village of Český Krumlov in the Czech Republic. If you'd rather relax on board, this is a great day to do just that as your ship passes through more photo-worthy landscapes. Head up to the Vista Deck to socialize and gaze at the dramatic horseshoe-shaped bend of the river called the Schlögen Loop – absolutely stunning. Arrive in Passau for a pre-dinner evening walk through Germany's City of Three Rivers. A final dinner on your ship celebrates your journey.

DAY 4 – PASSAU

A wonderful day in Passau, with plenty to see and do. RIVERSIDE CHOICE excursions include a leisurely stroll through Old Town Passau with a short organ performance at splendid St. Stephan's Cathedral; a Taste of Bavaria tour to sample the local specialties; or a guided tour to try some of Bavaria's tastiest beers!

DAY 5 – LINZ

Early arrival gives you the whole day in Linz, a

well-deserved European Capital of Culture. With RIVERSIDE CHOICE, you can join a guided walk through the Old Town to hear about the city's rich history 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! Alternatively, burn some energy with a challenging hike up Pöstlingberg Hill for amazing panoramas over the river valley, or join an exciting outing to "Sound of Music" Salzburg or the medieval, fairytale village of Český Krumlov in the Czech Republic. Ship departs late and cruises overnight.

DAY 6 – GREIN / DÜRNSTEIN

An up-and-at-'em morning awaits in the quaint village of Grein. This is home to Austria's oldest theater, where reserved seats came with an actual lock and key! Meanwhile, with RIVERSIDE CHOICE, enjoy a brisk hike or bike ride, or a guided walk up to 500-year-old Greinburg Castle. Back on board in time for a relaxing al fresco lunch up on the Vista Deck as your ship passes through the UNESCO World Heritage Wachau Valley – be sure to bring your camera! Then, return to Dürnstein for more time to explore this popular Wachau Valley village.

DAY 7 – VIENNA

This morning returns you to Vienna for an entire day of possibilities! RIVERSIDE CHOICE offers a panoramic city tour and walk through the historical district; time at the world-famous Museum of Fine Arts; a visit to the Habsburgs' mighty Schönbrunn Palace; or a fun guided bike ride around Danube Island with an ascent up the soaring Danube Tower. Alternatively, you can head out on your own to spend time in a world-class museum, atmospheric Viennese coffee house, or the acclaimed Spanish Riding School, training center of the world-famous Lipizzaner Stallions. 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 8 – VIENNA

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