

# DANUBE RIVER DANCE: CAPITALS, CASTLES & CULTURE

VIENNA TO BUDAPEST – 11 DAYS / 10 NIGHTS



MELK ABBEY

If you're scouring the web for your next big travel adventure, look no farther! This luxury cruise begins in Vienna with its Baroque palaces and famous Ringstrasse, and end in Budapest, whose cityscape looks like it jumped right off a postcard! Other memorable stops feature Dürnstein with its legendary castle ruin; Melk, home to the Baroque Benedictine abbey; Linz; Mauthausen at the crossroads of two trade routes during Roman times; Germany's Passau; and Esztergom, capital of Hungary during the Middle Ages. The scenic Schlägen Loop and Wachau Valley add awe-inspiring natural beauty to this wondrous journey.

### ITINERARY

- |                         |                                      |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Day 1 - Vienna          | Day 7 - Wachau Valley/Krems          |
| Day 2 - Vienna          | Day 8 - Vienna                       |
| Day 3 - Dürnstein/Melk  | Day 9 - Vienna                       |
| Day 3 - Mauthausen/Linz | Day 10 - Esztergom/Visegrád/Budapest |
| Day 4 - Passau          | Day 11 - Budapest                    |
| Day 6 - Grein           |                                      |



### DATES IN 2026

26 Apr, 10 May, 24 May, 7 Jun, 6 Sep, 20 Sep, 4 Oct, 18 Oct, 1 Nov



### 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".



PRATER PARK FERRIS WHEEL, VIENNA

#### DAY 1 – VIENNA

Welcome to Vienna, Austria's capital and wonderland of all things Habsburgs, music, and Baroque! Embark the Riverside Mozart and relax as you settle in. Tonight, meet your fellow traveling companions during your first onboard dinner.

#### DAY 2 – VIENNA

Your entire day is dedicated to the exquisite City of Music (not to mention the city of museums, palaces, culture, and so much more). A RIVERSIDE CHOICE selection of excursions shows off the Habsburg rulers' stately Schönbrunn Palace or Prater Park by electric bicycle, with the chance to take a spin on its famous giant Ferris wheel. You can see a full listing of available excursions on our website. 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 3 – DÜRNSTEIN / WACHAU VALLEY SCENIC CRUISING / MELK

Compared to the grandiose architecture of Vienna, quaint Dürnstein is a stark contrast. With RIVERSIDE CHOICE, hike up to the town's castle ruin, where England's King Richard the Lionheart was imprisoned on his way home from the Crusades, or attend a tasting of the Wachau's famous wines. If you're feeling ambitious, ride an e-bike along the river to your next port at Melk. Otherwise, reboard the ship for al fresco barbecue, prepared and served up on the Vista Deck

as you pass through the stunning scenery of the Wachau Valley. The afternoon is in Melk, whose ochre-colored Benedictine abbey is utterly amazing. A sweet tour is also available to an Austrian pastry workshop and bee farm.

#### DAY 4 – MAUTHAUSEN / LINZ

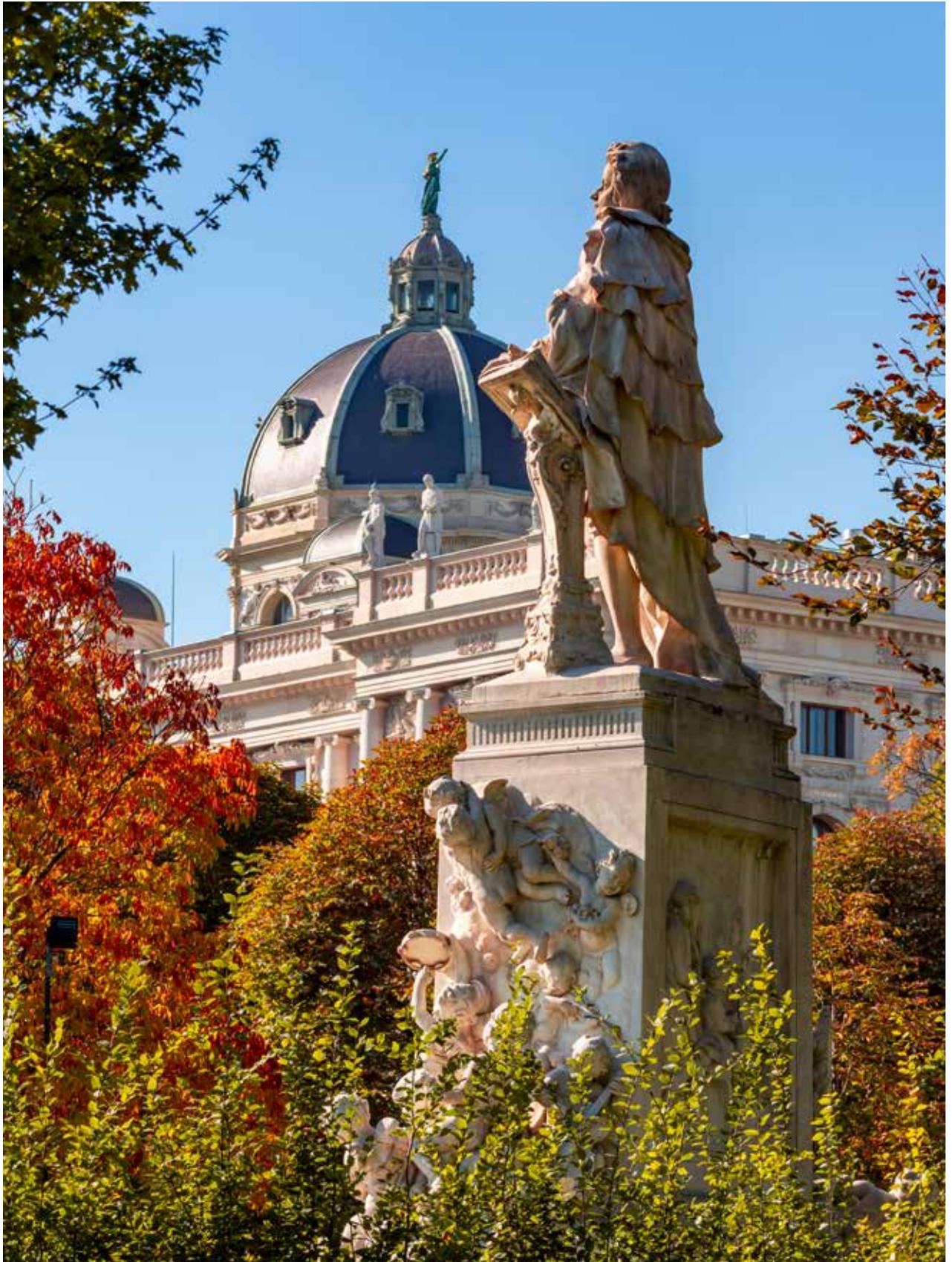
Today can be as busy or relaxed as you like! RIVERSIDE CHOICE can whisk you off to "Sound of Music" Salzburg, the medieval walled village of Český Krumlov in the Czech Republic, or the Mauthausen Concentration Camp Memorial to learn about the area's tragic past during WWII. If you'd rather relax on board, 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, or you can hike up Pöstlingberg hill overlooking Linz. Whatever you choose, be sure you also try a slice of Linzer Torte, the world's first cake.

#### DAY 5 – PASSAU

Port of call is in Passau, perched along the Route of Emperors and Kings. With RIVERSIDE CHOICE, you might enjoy a guided walk through the Old Town to admire the ancient cobblestones, the work-of-art Town Hall, and St. Stephen's Cathedral (home to one of the world's largest organs). At the end, your efforts are rewarded with a frothy mug of refreshing Bavarian beer.



OLD TOWN PASSAU



MOZART STATUE, VIENNA



OLD TOWN GREIN

### DAY 6 – GREIN

Enjoy a free and easy start to your day. After lunch, step off the ship in Grein for a wonderful RIVERSIDE CHOICE excursion. You might enjoy a pleasant electric bicycle tour, or visiting Clam Castle's well-preserved rooms. A RIVERSIDE SIGNATURE experience is also on offer to 500-year-old Greinburg Castle, the oldest residential castle in Austria. After a warm welcome and champagne, see rooms decorated with priceless historical art and furnishings, an entertaining knights' battle, and a private concert fit for royalty!

### DAY 7 – WACHAU VALLEY / KREMS

An incredible morning as you cruise back through the UNESCO World Heritage Wachau Valley. The peaceful ambiance makes it easy to see why this stretch of the Danube has been inhabited since Neolithic times. To accent the experience, step up onto the Vista Deck, where a special al fresco barbecue is prepared and served among the scenic beauty. Afterward, a stop in Krems offers the chance to learn about one of the valley's special crops—apricots! Visit the Bailoni distillery for a tasting of their famous apricot liqueurs and brandies, or join a Wachau Wine Experience.

### DAY 8 – VIENNA

A return to Vienna is perfect for an exciting day trip to another neighboring Danube capital: charming Bratislava. See the highlights of the beautiful Old Town during a guided walk, followed by a tasting of authentic Slovak beer at a local brewery. Alternatively, you might enjoy an inside visit to the Habsburgs' Hofburg Palace with its priceless Treasury.

### DAY 9 – VIENNA

Take advantage of a final day in the City of Music to explore independently or enjoy another edifying RIVERSIDE CHOICE excursion. How about a tour of the world-famous Spanish Riding School, where the Lipizzaner Stallions are trained in classical dressage, stylized jumps, and breathtaking airs-above-the-ground movements.

### DAY 10 – ESZTERGOM / VISEGRÁD / BUDAPEST

The gems of Hungary are on full display today. Begin in Esztergom, the country's capital from the 10th until the mid-13th centuries. Exciting RIVERSIDE CHOICE activities include a visit to Esztergom Basilica to see its ornate Treasury; a guided electric bike tour along the riverbank; a fun foodie walk to sample the local specialties; and more. Back on board for lunch on the way 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 champagne entrance into Budapest, the incomparable Queen of the Danube!

### DAY 11 – BUDAPEST

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



BUDAPEST