

DANUBE SERENADE: GRAND VIENNA LOOP WITH WACHAU VALLEY

VIENNA TO VIENNA – 15 DAYS / 14 NIGHTS



LANDMARKS OF BUDAPEST

Travel from Vienna to Vienna through some of the Danube’s most unforgettable ports on this 2-week luxury cruise. Plenty of time in three capitals starts your journey properly: Vienna, the remarkable City of Music; warm and welcoming Bratislava, Slovakia; and Budapest, Hungary’s exquisite Queen of the Danube. Smaller ports make an equally powerful statement, like Esztergom, Hungary’s capital during the Middle Ages; Germany’s Passau, where three rivers converge; and Melk with its legendary Benedictine abbey. Finally, pay an extended visit to the Wachau Valley, Austria’s wonderland of nature, wine, culture, and historical monuments.

ITINERARY

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|---|---------------------------------|
| Day 1 – Vienna | Day 9 – Vienna |
| Day 2 – Vienna | Day 10 – Dürnstein/
Melk |
| Day 3 – Esztergom/
Visegrád/
Budapest | Day 11 – Mauthausen/
Linz |
| Day 4 – Budapest | Day 12 – Passau |
| Day 5 – Budapest | Day 13 – Grein |
| Day 6 – Budapest | Day 14 – Wachau
Valley/Krems |
| Day 7 – Bratislava | Day 15 – Vienna |
| Day 8 – Vienna | |



DATES IN 2026

31 May



RIVERSIDE SIGNATURE EVENT

Enhance your cruise with unforgettable experiences – like a private concert at Budapest’s remarkable Horse Railway Cultural Center. Situated in the reconstructed Zugliget Horse Railway terminal, you’ll sip champagne surrounded by period decor and ambiance from 150 years ago and will lose yourself in the heart and soul of the Danube as it is revealed through the music.

DAY 1 – VIENNA

Welcome to Vienna, Austria's capital and expression of all things Baroque! Embark the Riverside Mozart and relax as your personal Butler helps you settle in. Tonight, meet fellow shipmates during your first gourmet dinner on board.

DAY 2 – VIENNA

Your entire day is dedicated to Vienna, and a RIVERSIDE CHOICE selection of excursions helps you make the most of your time! How about a relaxed panoramic city tour aboard a comfortable coach; a visit to an impressive Habsburg palace at Schönbrunn, their vast summer estate; or an e-bike ride around historic Prater Park, site of the 1873 World Fair? You can see a list of available activities for your entire cruise on the Riverside website.

DAY 3 – ESZTERGOM / VISEGRÁD / BUDAPEST

As you slept, your ship entered Hungary. Disembark in Esztergom, capital of Hungary from the 10th until the mid-13th century. 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 4 – BUDAPEST

A great day for exploring! Join us for a special tour through City Park, one of the world's first public parks. Spanning 302 acres (122 hectares), this Budapest gem is home to a zoo, circus, thermal baths, museums, and more. Visit the Hungarian House of Music for a unique sound dome experience and Vajdahunyad Castle, built to represent different parts of the Kingdom of Hungary. Afterward, participate in a tasting of Hungarian wines.

DAY 5 – BUDAPEST

After breakfast, your day is devoted to the wonders of Budapest. With RIVERSIDE CHOICE, explore the monumental Hungarian Parliament Building, Austrian Empress Sisi's beloved Gödöllo Palace, or Fishermen's Bastion and the Castle District on the Buda side of the river. Tonight,

enjoy music, champagne, and more during a private RIVERSIDE SIGNATURE concert at the historic Horse Railway Cultural Center.

DAY 6 – BUDAPEST

One last day to discover the heart and soul of this amazing city. Perhaps take a boat ride to the neighboring artists' village of Szentendre, or see the sights from the seat of an electric bicycle. Back on the ship later, head up to the Vista Deck for a final look at this grand cityscape on the way out of Budapest.

DAY 7 – BRATISLAVA

A relaxed morning of scenic cruising is followed by after-lunch arrival in Bratislava, the enchanting capital of Slovakia. Wine enthusiasts can get an introduction to the area's excellent wines. Meanwhile, you can't go wrong with a guided walking tour through the lovely, pedestrian-only Old Town – don't miss Napoleon's cannonballs lodged in the ancient walls or the "Peeping Tom" statue of Čumil peering up from the city sewer. If you prefer, hike up to the hilltop castle or pop into a pub for a refreshing Slovakian beer.



NAPOLEON STATUE, BRATISLAVA

DAYS 8 & 9 – VIENNA

Enjoy two more days in Vienna to take advantage of additional excursions. Spend free time at one of the city's world-class museums or famous coffee houses, part of UNESCO'S cultural heritage list – and join 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 10 – DÜRNSTEIN / WACHAU VALLEY SCENIC CRUISING / MELK

Arrive in Dürnstein this morning and hear about King Richard the Lionheart's imprisonment here on his way home from the Crusades. With RIVERSIDE CHOICE, hike up to the castle ruin above town for great views over the Danube; discover what makes Wachau Valley wines so special during a tasting; or ride an e-bike along the river and meet up with your ship at its next port. Lunch on board is on the Vista Deck so you won't miss a moment of the Wachau Valley's castle-laden scenery. The afternoon is in Melk, whose Benedictine abbey was founded in the 11th century and is one of the world's most exquisite Baroque structures. Other options? Visit 13th-century Artstetten Castle, or a traditional Austrian pastry workshop and bee farm for a palate-pleasing baking and honey experience!

DAY 11 – 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 great (and scenic) day to do it. Arrive after lunch in Linz, where a tour through the Old Town shows off the massive, neo-Gothic Mariendom, or you can hike up Pöstlingberg, a hill rising above Linz on the left bank of the Danube. Whatever you choose, be sure your day includes a big slice of Linzer Torte, the world's first cake.

DAY 12 – PASSAU

Germany's City of Three Rivers is on today's agenda. This is where the Danube, Inn, and Ilz Rivers meet, and a guided walk through the Old Town shows off the highlights. Admire the ancient cobblestones, the work-of-art Town Hall, St. Stephen's Cathedral (home to one of the world's largest organs), and more. At the end, your efforts are rewarded with a frothy mug of refreshing Bavarian beer.



HIKE THROUGH THE VINEYARDS

DAY 13 – GREIN

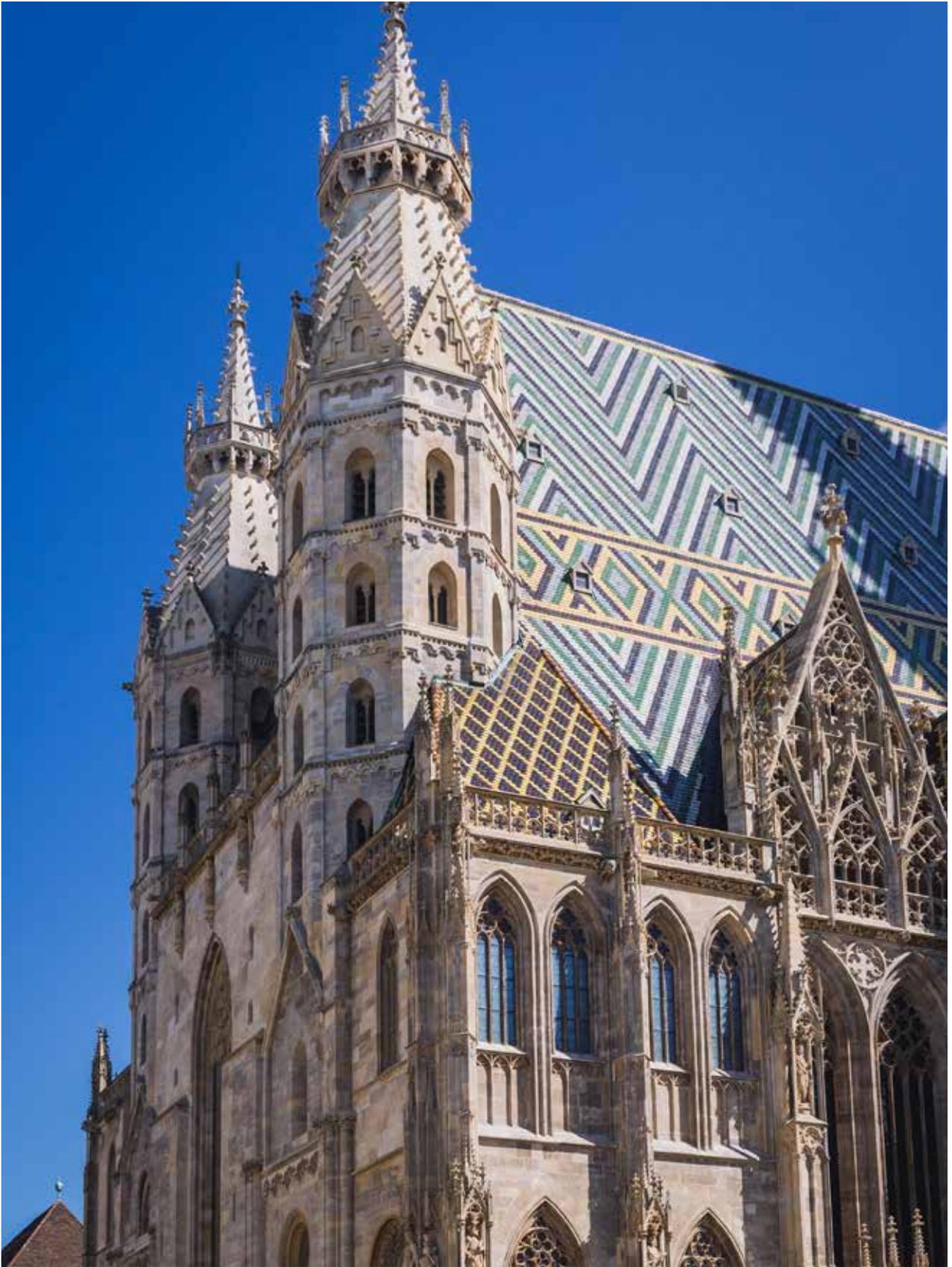
A leisurely start to your day can include steaming mugs of coffee or tea on the Vista Deck with plenty of outstanding scenery to capture your attention. After lunch, disembark in Grein, home to Austria's oldest theater, where even town prisoners could watch the performances from their jail cell. You might enjoy communing with nature during a pleasant e-bike tour or hiking up to 500-year-old Greinburg Castle.

DAY 14 – WACHAU VALLEY / KREMS

An incredible start to the day with morning cruising through the UNESCO World Heritage Wachau Valley. The castles, vineyards, and peaceful atmosphere make it easy to see why this stretch of the Danube has been inhabited since Neolithic times. To accent the experience, head up to the Vista Deck for al fresco barbecue in one of Nature's most exquisite restaurants! Then, as you reach the far end of the Wachau, disembark in Krems for a tasting at the Bailoni apricot schnapps distillery; a hike from Old Town Krems up into the vineyards; and other great options.

DAY 15 – VIENNA

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



ST. STEPHEN'S CATHEDRAL, VIENNA