

# DANUBE ADVENT DELIGHTS WITH CHRISTMAS IN GERMANY

BUDAPEST TO VIENNA – 9 DAYS / 8 NIGHTS



PASSAU, CITY OF THREE RIVERS

This luxury cruise will put the Ho-Ho-Ho into your holidays as the sounds, sights, and flavors of the season envelop you! Embark in Vienna with its lavish palaces and incredible museums! Then, on to Bratislava, Slovakia’s warm and welcoming capital, whose hilltop castle is sure to impress; Melk and its golden-colored Benedictine abbey; and Engelhartszell, home to Austria’s only Trappist monastery. An unforgettable Christmas in Germany’s Passau is followed by Linz, a charming Capital of Culture, and Krems, a major producer of apricot brandy. Even Mother Nature is in the gift-giving spirit as you pass through the photogenic Wachau Valley.

### ITINERARY

- Day 1 – Vienna
- Day 2 – Vienna
- Day 3 – Bratislava
- Day 4 – Melk
- Day 5 – Linz/Engelhartszell/Passau
- Day 6 – Passau
- Day 7 – Linz
- Day 8 – Krems
- Day 9 – Vienna



DATES IN 2026  
20 Dec



### 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”.

## 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. Tonight, meet fellow shipmates during your first gourmet dinner on board. Then, this evening, head into the city to experience the dazzling atmosphere of Vienna's best Christmas Markets at night.

## DAY 2 – VIENNA

Get ready for plenty of excitement today! Your RIVERSIDE CHOICE selection of excursions offers a panoramic city tour and walk through the festively decorated historical district with time at one of the local Christmas Markets. You could also visit one of the Habsburg rulers' breathtaking palaces at Schönbrunn or Hofburg. A full list of excursions, with descriptions, is available on our website. Tonight is an incredible 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 – BRATISLAVA

Start the day with a hearty breakfast – cooked to order! We'll also keep the piping-hot coffee or tea flowing, so refill your cup, settle in, and relax. Around lunchtime, arrive in Bratislava, the warm and welcoming capital of Slovakia. With a RIVERSIDE CHOICE selection of excursions, wander among the masterpieces at the Danubiana Art Museum, built to resemble a Roman galley in the river; explore the pedestrian-only Old Town and its enticing Christmas Market; or discover what everyday life is like here during a visit to a traditional Slovakian home.

## DAY 4 – MELK

Cruise to Melk today for a guided tour of its resplendent Benedictine abbey and time at the traditional Christmas Market, or you might enjoy an outing to Artstetten Castle, where descendants of Archduke Franz Ferdinand still reside.

## DAY 5 – LINZ / ENGELHARTSZELL / PASSAU

An exciting Christmas Eve Day awaits with a full-day excursion to magnificent Salzburg, birthplace of Mozart and film site for "The Sound of Music" movie. Begin with a guided walk through the history-steeped Getreidegasse with its Old World wrought-iron guild symbols and bustling shops. Then, free time at one of Europe's prettiest Christmas Markets! Afterward, rejoin the ship in Engelhartzell and cruise on to Passau, where

if you like you can attend Heiligabend (Christmas Eve) Mass at the 17th-century Italian Baroque St. Stephen's Cathedral, home to the world's largest cathedral organ. Tonight's onboard dinner features delectable German-style Christmas dishes!

## DAY 6 – PASSAU

Fröhliche Weihnachten (Merry Christmas)! Your time in the beautiful City of Three Rivers will be a Christmas Day to remember. Begin with a leisurely guided walk through Passau's Old Town with food tastings. Then, this afternoon, stroll out of town to a traditional German farm, where a blazing bonfire awaits. Pull up a log and warm yourself, surrounded by the inviting sounds and aromas of the flames. There'll be plenty of mulled wine and local food to enjoy, tales about Germany's most famous and unusual holiday traditions, and a visit from a special VIP to wish you the merriest Christmas ever. Return to your ship for a dinner of delicious Anglo-Saxon Christmas recipes!

## DAY 7 – LINZ

A leisurely day of scenic cruising is followed by time in Linz, Austria's third-largest city. Join a local expert for an evening walk to experience this charming port in its most atmospheric light.

## DAY 8 – KREMS

Ease into your day with breakfast and the beauty of the Danube riverscapes on the way to Krems at the eastern end of the legendary Wachau Valley. The RIVERSIDE CHOICE menu of excursions offers an introduction to neighboring Stein, followed by a tasting at the Bailoni apricot schnapps distillery; or an amazing Wachau Wine Experience with wine tasting!

## DAY 9 – VIENNA

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