

# ***DANUBE RIVER CRUISE & FLIGHTS***



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1300 168 910



## Danube River Cruise with Budapest & Prague

Duration: 14 days

Stay: 7 nights outside cabin, 5 nights hotels

Travel style: Escorted river cruise with city stays & flights from Australia

Booking code: DRCG14M

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# 14 Days Danube River Cruise with Budapest & Prague

## About the holiday

Discover the magic of Europe in this extraordinary river cruise with extended city stays!

River cruising offers the unique opportunity to visit Europe's historic cities and charming villages as you sail the world's most beautiful waterways. Cruise aboard a sleek, modern floating hotel, equipped with features and amenities to make your voyage comfortable and carefree.

Enjoy the elegant courtyards and cathedrals in Prague. Marvel at the medieval city of Regensburg and explore the 2500-year-old Passau. Choose to join the optional tour to picturesque Salzburg. Tour the historic Benedictine Abbey in Melk, take in the stunning palaces of Vienna, experience the young and colourful city of Bratislava and view the medieval architecture of Budapest. Plus, with additional nights in both Budapest and Prague, you'll be able to explore all these great cities have to offer.

## Why you'll love this trip...

It's an ideal way to explore Europe & see places that coach tours don't include.

Enjoy the comfort of the river ship facilities & a room with an ever-changing view.

Includes shore excursions, meals, drinks with dinner & expert guides.

This special offer includes a French Balcony Cabin upgrade and flights!

## Travel dates

2023 - lowest price departures on Mondays from 24 July to 11 September

*Departures are subject to confirmation at time of booking. Price may vary depending on your travel date and please ask us for rates on other dates or cruise itineraries.*

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### **Escorted River Cruise includes:**

- Flights - return economy airfare to Prague & from Budapest
  - Fly from Australian capital cities
- 12 nights accommodations
  - 3 nights Prague
  - 7 nights French Balcony cabin aboard Monarch Governess
  - 2 nights Budapest
- River port charges of US\$190 per person
- Cruise & hotel portorage
- 25 meals: 12 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 7 dinners
- Cruise director & activities host throughout cruise
- Local host in Budapest & Prague
- Services of local guides in all major cities
- Shore excursions per itinerary
- Entrance fees per itinerary
- Comfortable wireless earphones for enhanced touring during excursions

### **Package excludes:**

Airport & cruise port transfers - arrival transfer can be pre-purchased on request

Meals & sightseeing not specified in the inclusions or itinerary

Optional tours & activities

Personal items, such as drinks, snacks, laundry etc.

Gratuities for tour manager, guides & drivers

Travel insurance is essential

Prices are based on twin share, please contact us for single rates

***Subject to confirmation by airlines, hotels, river cruise company & local operators.  
Cancellation fees & booking conditions apply.***

## Experiences on tour & special features:

- During your Budapest City Tour, see the Parliament, Heroes Square, Royal Palace and Matthias Church
- Tour romantic Vienna with its legendary opulence and elegance
- Stop in Durnstein, one of the prettiest towns on the Danube
- In Melk, join a guided tour of the historic Benedictine Abbey
- Visit Pilsen's medieval Republic Square and the onion domes of the Great Synagogue
- City tour of Prague "The City of a Thousand Spires"

## River cruise features & amenities:

- Welcome Dinner and Farewell Dinner
- Wine and beer with dinners
- Locally inspired recipes
- Early riser breakfast in addition to buffet breakfast
- Complimentary basic Wi-Fi access
- Self-serve coffee and tea station
- Lounge serving premium spirits
- Fitness centre
- Non-smoking ship interior
- Shore excursions conducted exclusively in English by licensed guides

## Itinerary:

### **DAY 1, Monday - Depart for the Czech Republic**

### **DAY 2, Tuesday - Arrive in Prague**

Arrive in the "Golden" city of Prague and make your way to the hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure in Prague, considered one of Europe's most attractive cities; its historic city center has been designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This evening, enjoy a Welcome Drink and orientation meeting with your local host at the hotel at approximately 6 PM, followed by a briefing about the journey. We recommend that you select flights which arrive in your destination no later than 4 PM on Day 2 or earlier, if possible

**Overnight:** Prague

### **DAY 3, Wednesday - Prague City Tour**

Your morning tour of Prague includes a visit to the 1000-year-old Hradcany Castle grounds, former residence of the Bohemian Kings. Enjoy magnificent views of the Charles Bridge and Lesser Town below and see the elegant courtyards, St. George Basilica and the St. Vitus Cathedral.

Continue to the Jewish Quarter, and the Old Town Square to view the world-famous Astronomical Clock and the Town Hall. The rest of the day is at leisure to visit the museums, galleries or wander along the banks of the Vltava River. Or, join the *optional* afternoon tour to Terezin, the infamous Nazi WWII concentration camp, now a memorial to those who perished

**Optional:** Terezin (PM)

**Overnight:** Prague

**Meals:** Breakfast

#### **DAY 4, Thursday - Full Day in Prague**

Today is free to further explore this beautiful city independently. Visit the museums, galleries or stroll along Parizska Street, the city's famous shopping district, or perhaps join the *optional* tour of Malá Strana, also known as Lesser Town, one of Prague's most historic districts. Explore this enchanting part of Prague, filled with important cultural landmarks such as the Charles Bridge with its 30 Baroque statues of various saints, and beautiful Kampa Island which is full of restaurants and a lovely park. This evening, perhaps try traditional Czech cuisine at a popular restaurant. Remember to sample Prague's national treasure - its world-renowned beer

**Optional:** Mala Strana Tour (AM)

**Overnight:** Prague

**Meals:** Breakfast

#### **DAY 5, Friday - Pilsen & Cruise Embarkation in Regensburg**

This morning, bid farewell to Prague as you depart your hotel and begin a lovely drive to port in Regensburg. On your way, stop in the city of Pilsen for a delightful city tour of where you will visit Republic Square, one of the largest medieval squares in the Czech Republic, and gaze upon the gothic style of St. Bartholomew's Cathedral & Old Town Hall. View the onion domes of the Great Synagogue before your free time to explore Pilsen on your own. After arrival formalities, time to relax on board. Tonight, meet your Cruise Director and enjoy a gala welcome dinner as it sets the mood for your delightful river cruise

**Overnight:** River Cruise

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

#### **DAY 6, Saturday - Regensburg City Tour**

This morning, explore Regensburg, one of Germany's largest and best preserved medieval cities, designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The guided walking tour highlights the city's stunning architecture as you view the Old Town Hall, Dom St. Peter and the Porta Praetoria, gateway to an ancient Roman fort built in 179 AD. Marvel at beautiful churches and one of the oldest stone bridges crossing the Danube. Return to the ship for lunch or spend the afternoon discovering the delights of Regensburg on your own. In the afternoon the ship will set sail for Passau

**Overnight:** River Cruise

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

### **DAY 7, Sunday - Morning in Passau**

Dock this morning in 2500-year-old Passau, known for its pastel patrician houses, cafes, cobblestone lanes and riverfront promenade. Passau is a Bavarian town with a mix of Roman, Italian Baroque and Gothic architecture. Explore Passau independently in the morning, or, join the *optional* full day tour to picturesque Salzburg, birthplace of Mozart and setting for the *Sound of Music*. The walking tour will include some of Salzburg's most historic sites including the Mirabell Palace, the Abbey, Salzburg Cathedral, and St. Peter's Cemetery. After lunch at a local restaurant, there will be time to discover Salzburg on your own before returning to the ship. If you choose to remain onboard the ship, continue sailing during lunch and relax this afternoon. In the early evening, all passengers will rejoin the ship and continue sailing for Melk

**Optional:** Full Day Tour of Salzburg

**Overnight:** River Cruise

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

### **DAY 8, Monday - Melk Abbey**

Disembark in Melk this morning for a guided tour of the historic Benedictine Abbey, considered one of the finest examples of Baroque architecture in Europe. View the Abbot's chambers, the Kaiser's walk and the lavish library. Then, return to the ship and continue cruising through the scenic Wachau Valley. This Afternoon, arrive in the village of Durnstein, one of the prettiest towns on the Danube. Free time to stroll this quintessential village in the heart of the Wachau wine district. Walk along medieval cobblestone streets revealing 16th-century town houses and wine taverns

**Overnight:** River Cruise

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

### **DAY 9, Tuesday - Vienna City Tour**

Your morning tour of romantic Vienna introduces you to this Imperial city with its legendary opulence and elegance. Drive along the famed Ringstrasse, Vienna's main boulevard lined with magnificent Baroque palaces, parks and monuments. View the lavish Hofburg Palace, and the impressive Vienna Opera House. Continue to majestic St. Stephen's Cathedral and the Parliament building. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure, or, join the *optional* tour to the magnificent Schonbrunn Palace, once summer residence of the Habsburgs. Visit the gorgeous baroque apartments and stroll through the world-famous manicured gardens. Tonight, perhaps take the opportunity to attend an evening of Viennese culture in the "City of Music" at an *optional* concert performance of the classical masterpieces of Mozart and Strauss, two of Vienna's most famous citizens

**Optional:** Schonbrunn Palace Tour (PM)

**Optional:** Classical Viennese Recital (PM)

**Overnight:** River Cruise

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

### **DAY 10, Wednesday - Bratislava City Tour**

This morning, enjoy the tranquil scenery as you sail along the scenic Danube. At noon, arrive in Bratislava, capital of Slovakia, a mix of modern and Baroque architecture. This capital city is among the youngest in Europe, yet retains a rich history dating back more than 2000 years. Walk along the cobblestone lanes of the historic town center; view St. Martin's Cathedral, coronation site of the kings of Hungary, the 13th century Old Town Hall and the Franciscan church. Time to explore this colorful city on your own before returning to the ship for dinner as you sail for stunning Budapest

**Overnight:** River Cruise

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

### **DAY 11, Thursday - Budapest City Tour**

Your morning tour begins on the Pest side of the city; view the Parliament, City Park and Heroes Square. Admire the Buda side with beautiful views of the Royal Palace, Matthias Church and the graceful medieval architecture. Explore the city's wonderful shops and cafes this afternoon on your own. Tonight, enjoy a lavish dinner on board

**Overnight:** River Cruise

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

### **DAY 12, Friday - Budapest Castle District Tour**

This morning, bid farewell to your Cruise Director and meet your local host. Explore the Budapest Castle District. Stroll around cobble streets of the Castle Hill quarter and learn about its fascinating history. View the Royal Palace and visit the 13th century Matthias Church, the coronation site of Hungarian kings. From Fisherman's Bastion, enjoy panoramic views of the city. Free time to explore the area on your own before heading to Philosophers' Garden, featuring bronze statues of philosophers and religious figures. Walk around the garden, offering beautiful views of the city. Afterward, check into your hotel. Tonight perhaps, join the *optional* dinner and show in Budapest. Travel to the outskirts of Budapest for a traditional Hungarian dinner in a scenic forested location. While dining, you'll be entertained by colorfully dressed dancers performing a variety of spirited folk dances accompanied by a group playing live music

**Optional:** Dinner & Show in Budapest (PM)

**Overnight:** Budapest

**Meals:** Breakfast

### **DAY 13, Saturday - Full Day in Budapest**

Today, enjoy the delights of Budapest independently. Immerse yourself in the heritage of the "City of Baths" and visit a traditional Turkish bath house with its thermal pools and spas or, stroll along the Danube Promenade, a walkway along the Danube that goes from the Elisabeth Bridge to Chain Bridge, offering stunning views of the capital.

Another option is to head to Margaret Island, a quite getaway within the city, that serves as a recreational park, located in the middle of the Danube River. Perhaps, join the *optional* half day Taste of Budapest. Explore the local food scene, while getting introduced to the history of the Hungarian cuisine. Sample local delicacies from Hungarian meats to local Budapest pastries

**Optional:** Half Day Taste of Budapest (AM)

**Overnight:** Budapest

**Meals:** Breakfast

## **DAY 14, Sunday - Depart Hungary**

This morning, make your way to the airport for your departure flight

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Please note:** The day by day descriptions are intended as an indicative guide only. Travel by nature is unpredictable. Weather patterns, river levels, road conditions, public holidays, travel restrictions and many other factors may necessitate itinerary changes that are ultimately for the client's benefit. It is essential that clients are flexible in this regard.

## **Optional tours:**

**Book your Optional Tours before you travel. See more, save time, save money.**

- Tours purchased while travelling may cost an extra 10% or more
- Tours often sell out. Avoid disappointment
- Save your cash. Credit card processing may not be possible locally
- Travel insurance may only cover services purchased prior to departure
- Call our office to book these tours up to 1 week before your departure
- The day the optionals operate varies by the day of the week

## **Dinner & Show in Budapest**

Travel this evening to the outskirts of Budapest for a traditional Hungarian dinner in a scenic forested location. While dining, you'll be energetically entertained by colorfully dressed dancers performing a variety of spirited folk dances accompanied by a group playing live gypsy music.

Approximate tour duration is 3 hours.

## **Half Day Taste of Budapest**

Begin your tour at St. Stephen's Basilica. From here, walk to the Hold Street Market Hall, passing by the American Embassy and the statue of Ronald Reagan. At the market, explore the local food scene, while getting introduced to the history of the Hungarian cuisine. Next, taste local cheeses from family farms around Budapest and

salami delicacies. After this, continue with a tasting of different Hungarian meats and sausages served with fresh bread and mustard. The last stop is at a pastry shop. Indulge in a sweet Budapest pastry - local strudel and a cup of coffee.

*\*Advance purchase is highly recommended for this tour. Tickets are limited and will not be available for purchase locally.*

Approximate tour duration is 2 hours.

### **Schonbrunn Palace Tour**

Enjoy an afternoon guided tour of the magnificent Schonbrunn Palace, once the summer residence of the Habsburg emperors. Visit the gorgeous apartments and stroll through the world-famous manicured and aromatic gardens.

Approximate tour duration is 3 hours.

### **Classical Viennese Concert**

Experience a delightful evening of Viennese culture in the "City of Music." Attend a concert featuring the classical masterpieces of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Johann Strauss, two of Vienna's most famous citizens. The musicians will bring to life the passionate strains of Mozart, a child prodigy who blossomed into one of history's greatest composers and Strauss, the Waltz King, who composed the Blue Danube, the world's most famous waltz. The chamber orchestra is accompanied by a professional dance performance, recalling the golden age of the 19th-century Viennese ballrooms.

Approximate tour duration is 2.5 hours.

### **Tour of Salzburg**

Enjoy a full-day excursion to beautiful Salzburg, birthplace of Mozart and inspiration for the Sound of Music. The walking tour will include some of Salzburg's most historic sites including Mirabell Gardens and a stop outside the house where Mozart lived. Lunch is included at a local restaurant, and then there will be time to explore the streets of Salzburg on your own before returning to the boat.

Approximate tour duration is 9 hours.

### **Half Day Terezin Tour**

Visit the site of the Nazi concentration camp at Terezin, a place of suffering and inhumanity for over 150,000 prisoners. Upon arrival, walk to the camp's ghettos where more than 35,000 Jews lost their lives. The tour includes visits to the Memorial of National Martyrdom, the Small Fortress and the Museum of the Ghetto.

Approximate tour duration is 4.5 hours.

If you have any questions, we're here to help

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## **MY TRAVEL EXPERIENCE BOOKING CONDITIONS**

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This is a summary in brief for our customers:

1. Upon making a reservation with My Travel Experience you will receive a booking form, which needs to be filled out and signed to confirm that you agree to the terms and conditions.
2. Your booking will then be confirmed to you in writing and you will be required to pay a deposit to hold your reservation.
3. At this time, you must take out travel insurance for your holiday to protect you against any unforeseen circumstances.
4. 120 days prior to departure you will be asked to pay the balance for your trip (the exact due date for your travel supplier will be advised at the time of booking).
5. 10 days prior to departure you will be sent your travel documents electronically via email.

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If you wish to cancel you must notify us of your cancellation in writing. We will then write to the Suppliers to cancel your booking and request a refund (if applicable) for any elements of your holiday that are refundable. You will need to make an insurance claim for any travel arrangements that are non-refundable. If you have any issues during the refund or cancellation process, you have 30 days to contact our office in writing to lodge a complaint so an immediate resolution can be found for you.

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