# *ULTIMATE TRIPLE EUROPE RIVER CRUISES*



www.mytravelxp.com hello@mytravelxp.com 1300 168 910



Cruise the Seine, Danube & Douro Rivers, includes Flights

Duration: 34 days

Stay: 28 nights outside cabins, 4 nights hotels, 1 overnight flight

Travel style: Escorted river cruises with flights

Booking code: ERULG34M

Call 1300 168 910 to speak to experts at My Travel Experience Email hello@mytravelxp.com

# 34 Days European River Cruises & Escorted Touring

## About the holiday

Discover the magic of Europe on this extraordinary journey along the continent's greatest rivers. Travel through France, the Netherlands, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Portugal and Spain in magnificent style!

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.

Begin with the panoramic views of the Seine River in Paris and explore the 'City of Light'. Cruise the winding canals of Amsterdam. Sail the legendary Rhine to Cologne. Marvel at the visible history of Nuremberg, the medieval city of Regensburg and explore 2500-year-old Passau. Choose to join the optional tour to picturesque Salzburg. Take in the stunning palaces of Vienna, experience the young and colourful city of Bratislava and view the medieval architecture of Budapest.

Continue to Lisbon, where your love affair with the Douro River begins. Discover the hilltop village of Castelo Rodrigo and wander through the World Heritage-listed city of Salamanca. Embark on a tour of Porto and more, as you embrace this once-in-a-lifetime experience.

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

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

Enjoy your rooms with an ever-changing view & upgrades to French Balcony cabins.

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

Combine three of the most iconic river cruises in one worry-free journey!

## **Travel dates**

#### 2024 - Departs 29 April or 12 September

Departures are subject to confirmation at time of booking. Price may vary depending on your travel date. Contact us for current prices and cruises at other times of the year.

Email hello@mytravelxp.com for more information or call 1300 168 910

## Escorted River Cruise package includes:

## International Flights:

- Return economy airfare to Paris & from Lisbon
- Fly from Australian capital cities with baggage included
- One-way economy airfare from Paris to Amsterdam
- One-way economy airfare from Budapest to Lisbon

## Seine River Cruise:

- 9 nights accommodation
  - o 7 nights French Balcony cabin aboard deluxe Monarch Countess
  - 2 nights Paris
- River port charges of \$190 per person
- Cruise & hotel porterage
- 22 meals: 9 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 7 dinners
- Cruise director & activities host throughout cruise
- Services of local guides in all major cities
- Local Host in Paris
- Shore excursions & entrance fees as per itinerary

## Rhine, Main & Danube Rivers Cruise:

- 14 nights French Balcony cabin aboard Monarch Queen or Monarch Baroness
- River port charges of US\$380 per person included
- Cruise porterage
- 41 meals: 14 breakfasts, 13 lunches, 14 dinners
- Wine & beer with dinners
- Cruise director & activities host throughout cruise
- Services of local guides in all major cities
- Shore excursions & entrance fees per itinerary

## Douro River Cruise:

- 9 nights accommodation
  - 2 nights Lisbon
  - o 7 nights French Balcony cabin aboard MS Douro Cruiser
- Cruise porterage
- 21 meals: 9 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 7 dinners
- Cruise director & activity host throughout cruise
- Shore excursions & entrance fees as per itinerary

## Subject to confirmation by airline, hotels, river cruise companies & local operators. Cancellation fees & booking conditions apply.

Package excludes:

Airport & cruise port transfers - 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 - please let us know if you'd like an insurance quote Prices are based on twin share, please contact us for single rates

## Subject to confirmation by service providers & booking conditions apply.

# Experiences & highlights:

- See magnificent panoramic views of Seine River
- In Auvers-sur-Oise, view Ravoux Inn where Van Gogh spent his final days
- Explore Chateau Gaillard, built by Richard the Lionheart
- Visit the historic city of Rouen with its beautiful medieval quarter
- Tour the home of Claude Monet in Giverny and view the tranquil gardens that inspired his masterpieces
- Tour Paris, the historic City of Light and view the Eiffel Tower, Les Invalides and the Latin Quarter
- Take a guided visit to the treasure-filled Louvre Museum, home of the Mona Lisa and other celebrated masterpieces
- See magnificent panoramic views of Budapest from atop Fisherman's Bastion
- Tour romantic Vienna with its legendary opulence and elegance
- In Melk, join a guided tour of the historic Benedictine Abbey
- Marvel at the beautiful churches and ancient stone bridges in Regensburg
- Cruise the Main-Danube Canal, considered a marvel of modern engineering
- Walk in Bamberg's medieval center with its 11th century Romanesque cathedral
- View Lorelei Rock named for the siren "Lorelei" rising vertically from the waters
- Sail on the legendary Rhine to Cologne, capital of Rhineland
- In Amsterdam, board a glass-top boat and cruise the winding canals
- View the treasured 16th century Belem Tower, a monument to Portugal's Age of Discovery
- Stop at the medieval town of Obidos, encircled by fortified walls
- See magnificent panoramic views of Douro River
- Tour the Douro Museum, and learn about the wine making industry of the area
- Discover the medieval village of Castelo Rodrigo, perched on a hilltop and surrounded by imposing walls
- Visit Salamanca with its ancient sandstone buildings, a UNESCO World Heritage City
- Embark on a tour of Porto and view the Cathedral, S. Bento Train Station, famous for its azulejos tiles, and the Stock Exchange

## River cruise features & amenities:

- Welcome dinners and Farewell dinners
- Wine and beer with dinners
- Locally inspired recipes
- Early riser breakfast in addition to buffet breakfast
- Complimentary Wi-Fi in public areas (may not be available on all cruises)
- Self-serve coffee and tea station
- Lounge serving premium spirits
- Non-smoking ship interior
- Shore excursions conducted exclusively in English by licensed guides

## **Itinerary:**

DAY 1, Thursday - Fly to France

## DAY 2, Friday - Cruise Embarkation in Paris

Arrive in Paris and make your own way to the ship. Embarkation begins at 2 PM. After arrival formalities, time to relax on board. Tonight, meet your Cruise Director and enjoy dinner, as it sets the mood for your delightful river cruise **Overnight:** River Cruise **Meals:** Dinner

#### DAY 3, Saturday - Arrive in Conflans, Auvers-Sur-Oise

This morning, arrive in Conflans. Embark on a tour of the quaint town of Auvers-sur-Oise, and learn about Van Gogh's troubled life. View Ravoux Inn, where he rented a room, and spent the final months of his life. During his time in Auvers-sur-Oise, Van Gogh was very prolific and painted over 70 works. View the cemetery where he is buried and return to the ship for lunch. This afternoon perhaps, join the *optional* tour to magnificent Versailles to witness the grandeur of French classical architecture **Optional:** Palace of Versailles (PM) **Overnight:** River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### DAY 4, Sunday - Les Andelys

Enjoy an informative presentation on Château Gaillard this morning, as the ship sails towards Les Andelys. Disembark and head up to Château Gaillard, built by Richard the Lionheart. Explore the grounds and admire the panoramic views of the Seine and of the charming town at the foot of the hill before returning to the ship. On board, attend a lecture on the life of Joan of Arc **Overnight:** River Cruise **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## DAY 5, Monday - Caudebec

Spend the day at leisure in the quaint town of Caudebec. Take a stroll along the riverfront promenade and continue to the historic centre. Admire the intricate carvings in the entranceway and the ornate bell tower of the 15th century Gothic church of Notre-Dame. Perhaps, join the *optional* full day tour to Normandy Beaches. Immerse yourself into World War II history during this tour. View Utah Beach, and then make a stop at the Ranger Memorial at Pointe du Hoc. Continue east to visit Omaha Beach and the site of the Normandy American Cemetery and memorial. The cemetery covers 172.5 acres and contains the graves of 9,387 American soldiers **Optional:** Full Day Normandy Beaches with Lunch **Overnight:** River Cruise **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### DAY 6, Tuesday - Rouen

This morning, continue sailing towards Rouen or join the *optional* Half Day Honfleur. Discover the historic city of Honfleur. View Vieux Bassin, the old harbor with its halftimbered houses, and colourful boats, Church of Saint-Etienne, Sainte-Catherine Church, built entirely out of wood, and the Lieutenancy, an ancient medieval fortification. Conclude the tour with a tasting of local cider and fresh crepes. After lunch onboard take a walking tour of the medieval quarter of Rouen. View the Gothic Notre-Dame Cathedral that inspired Claude Monet to paint the cathedral series and the famous Gros Horloge, a 16th century astronomical clock. Walk through the cobblestone streets lined with half-timbered storybook houses and view the courthouse and the Market Square where Joan of Arc was martyred **Optional:** Half Day Honfleur (AM) **Overnight:** River Cruise **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### DAY 7, Wednesday - Vernon, Giverny

Arrive in Vernon this morning and disembark the ship for your excursion to Giverny, home of Claude Monet, one of the world's greatest impressionist painters. Walk through the famous gardens that inspired many of his masterpieces, including his famous "water lilies" series of paintings. In the afternoon, free time to discover Vernon, before you set sail for Paris **Overnight:** River Cruise **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### DAY 8, Thursday - Panoramic Tour of Paris

Begin the day in Paris, the City of Light, with a panoramic tour, including a drive along the Champs Elysées to the Arc de Triomphe. View the iconic Eiffel Tower, Les Invalides, the Latin Quarter, and the lively Opera district. Spend the afternoon at leisure or join the *optional* half day tour to Montmarte. Explore Montmartre with its bohemian vibe. View the Moulin Rouge and walk along the winding lanes to mingle with street artists selling their wares at Place du Tertre. Spectacular views of the city await you from the steps of the Sacré-Coeur Basilica. Afterward, enjoy a drink at a local bistro **Optional:** Half Day Montmartre (PM) **Overnight:** River Cruise **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### DAY 9, Friday - Louvre Museum

This morning, visit the incomparable Louvre, one of the world's most famous museums. Of the many exhibitions found therein, view the medieval fortress, Venus de Milo, Winged Victory of Samothrace and the museum's most reputed masterpiece, Leonardo da Vinci's Mona Lisa. Afternoon is at leisure to further explore this fascinating city on your own **Overnight:** Paris **Meals:** Breakfast

#### DAY 10, Saturday - Full Day in Paris

Spend the day at leisure or join the *optional* Champagne region tour. Travel to the heart of the Champagne region, which is famous for the sparkling white wine that bears its name. Drive along the elegant Avenue de Champagne, in Epernay, home to many of the world's most celebrated Champagne houses. Visit one of the wine cellars learn more about the champagne process and savour tastings of this expensive delight. Then, on to Reims with its Gothic cathedral adorned with striking stained glass windows, where many of France's kings were crowned. Return to Paris and spend the rest of the evening at leisure

Optional: Full Day Champagne Region (AM) Overnight: Paris Meals: Breakfast

#### DAY 11, Sunday - Depart France, Fly to The Netherlands

This morning, check out of the hotel and make your own way to the airport for your departure flight to Amsterdam.

Welcome to Amsterdam, Holland's sophisticated and modern capital. Catch a taxi to the port, then after arrival formalities, rest and relax on board, or begin your discovery of the many cultural sites this city has to offer. This evening, meet your Cruise Director and enjoy dinner as it sets the mood for your delightful river cruise **Overnight:** River Cruise **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

#### DAY 12, Monday - Amsterdam City Tour

Today's panoramic tour of 700-year-old Amsterdam introduces you to both the old and the new sections of this city. View the Royal Palace on Amsterdam's Dam Square, the Queen's official home-away-from-home. On to the Dutch National Monument dedicated by Queen Juliana as a memorial to the victims of WWII and to the unusual Skinny Bridge, once so narrow that pedestrians could not pass each other. Then, board a glass-top boat and cruise the winding canals for an up-close view of the stately historic homes, 16th century warehouses, and charming churches with striking bell towers **Overnight:** River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## DAY 13, Tuesday - Cologne City Tour

Today join a walking tour of Cologne, highlighted by the soaring twin-steeple Gothic cathedral that is the geographical and spiritual heart of the city. Known for its vibrant art scene, Cologne abounds with cafes, galleries, shops and taverns. After dinner on board, time to explore Cologne's vibrant nightlife before setting sail **Overnight:** River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## DAY 14, Wednesday - Morning in Koblenz & Afternoon Cruising

The ship docks this morning in Koblenz, located at the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle Rivers. Join an orientation walk this morning and free time to explore the Romanesque architecture and imposing defensive towers of this 2000-year-old city. Or, join the *optional* tour to the dramatic Marksburg Castle, the only hill castle on the Rhine that's never been destroyed and has been continuously occupied for over 700 years. During lunch, set sail and spend a relaxing afternoon on board, taking in the spectacular vistas as the ship sails past castles perched on lofty cliffs, terraced vineyards and tiny villages. Pass the mighty Lorelei Rock on the eastern bank of the Rhine rising vertically from the waters, named for the siren "Lorelei" who bewitched sailors passing by **Optional:** Marksburg Castle Tour (AM)

**Overnight:** River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## DAY 15, Thursday - Miltenberg Walking Tour

After a leisurely morning on board, arrive in the picturesque Bavarian village of Miltenberg, a jewel on the banks of the Main River. Discover the Market Square with its Renaissance-era fountain, the Merchant Hall with its stunning Gothic architecture and the unique 14th and 15th century half-timbered houses. Re-join the ship just before dinner and set sail for Wurzburg **Overnight:** River Cruise **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## DAY 16, Friday- Wurzburg City Tour

Discover Wurzburg, named the "Pearl of the Romantic Road," with its dramatic Marienberg fortress, 15th century bridge and lush vineyards.

Your tour takes you to the ornate Bishops' Residenz Palace, a stunning example of Baroque architecture, home to the largest ceiling fresco ever painted, named a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This afternoon, explore the town on your own or relax on board

**Overnight:** River Cruise **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## DAY 17, Saturday - Bamberg City Tour

Today, dock in historic Bamberg, former residence of one of Germany's most powerful imperial dynasties and today a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Begin your walk in the medieval city centre with its impressive 11th century Romanesque cathedral and gorgeous Rose Garden. After, view the very unusual City Hall built on a tiny island in the middle of the Regnitz River and Little Venice, an area of colourful fishermen's houses. This afternoon is free to explore Bamberg independently, before setting sail this evening while you dine on board

Overnight: River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## DAY 18, Sunday - Nuremberg City Tour

Today explore Nuremberg, an energetic city with a visible history of almost one thousand years. The guided excursion visits the historic Palace of Justice where the War Crimes Tribunal met in 1946 and continues to the vibrant Market Square. After lunch on board the ship, the afternoon is free to further discover this wonderful city on your own. Stroll through the shops that fill the Old Town or walk along the fortified walls of Nuremberg Castle. In late afternoon set sail for Regensburg **Overnight:** River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## DAY 19, Monday - Regensburg City Tour

This morning relax on board as the ship cruises the Danube River. Arrive to Regensburg in the early afternoon, 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 or spend the afternoon at leisure discovering the delights of Regensburg on your own. Tonight, after dinner, set sail for Passau **Overnight:** River Cruise **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## DAY 20, Tuesday - 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 on a guided walking tour 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 early evening, all passengers will rejoin the ship and continue sailing for Melk **Optional:** Tour of Salzburg

**Overnight:** River Cruise **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### DAY 21, Wednesday - 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 22, Thursday - 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 palaces, parks and monuments, as well as the Opera House and the Austrian Parliament. Walk through the lavish Hofburg Palace on the way to St. Stephen's Cathedral. Spend the afternoon at leisure, or, join the *optional* tour to the magnificent Schonbrunn Palace, once summer residence of the Habsburgs. Visit the gorgeous 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* recital performance of the classical masterpieces of Mozart and Strauss **Optional:** Schonbrunn Palace Tour (PM) **Optional:** Classical Viennese Recital (PM) **Overnight:** River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## DAY 23, Friday - 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 centre; 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 colourful 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 24, Saturday - 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 25, Sunday - Depart Hungary, Fly to Portugal

This morning, disembark and catch a taxi to the airport for your departure flight. Disembarkation will end at 9:30 AM.

Arrive in Portugal's capital city, Lisbon, and make your own way to the hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure. Your tour will begin with an orientation meeting with your Tour Manager at the hotel at approximately 6 PM. We recommend that you select flights which arrive no later than 4 PM **Overnight:** Lisbon **Meals:** Breakfast

## DAY 26, Monday - Lisbon City Tour

Begin the tour of Lisbon with a stop at the top of Edward VII's Park to enjoy panoramic views over the hills of Lisbon and the River Tagus. Next, view the treasured 16th century Belem Tower, a monument to Portugal's Age of Discovery and UNESCO World Heritage Site. Spend the rest of the day at leisure. Tonight, attend the *optional* Fado Dinner. While dining, listen to the popular performances of local songs accompanied by guitar playing Portuguese melodies. Savor dinner with wine before a brief drive through the illuminated city **Optional:** Fado Dinner **Overnight:** Lisbon **Meals:** Breakfast

#### DAY 27, Tuesday - Obidos en route to Porto/Afurada, Cruise Embarkation This morning, depart Lisbon and begin a lovely drive to Porto; you will embark the ship in Afurada, a charming place outside Porto. Along the way, stop at the medieval town of Obidos, encircled by fortified walls for lunch on your own. Spend free time to explore the town with its many Gothic and Renaissance churches, before continuing to Porto.

Arrive at the port for embarkation. After arrival formalities, time to relax on board. Tonight, meet your Cruise Director and enjoy dinner, as it sets the mood for your lovely Douro River cruise **Overnight:** River Cruise **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

#### DAY 28, Wednesday - Sail to Regua, Douro Museum

This morning, sail along the Douro towards Regua. This historic town in the heart of Portugal's most famous wine region, has been the centre of port wine industry for centuries. After a light lunch, disembark and visit the Douro Museum, housed in a restored former wine warehouse, learn about the wine making industry of the area. Stroll through the exhibits providing information on the history of the Douro region, including the geography, climate and people. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure or participate in the *optional* tour to a renowned wine estate. Visit the vineyard and learn about Porto and red wine production, aging, and bottling. The ship docks overnight in Regua

**Optional:** Half Day Winery Tour & Tasting **Overnight:** River Cruise **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## DAY 29, Thursday - Castelo Rodrigo

This morning sail towards Pocinho. After lunch, disembark in Pocinho and transfer to the medieval village of Castelo Rodrigo, perched on a hilltop and surrounded by imposing walls. Stroll along the steep narrow cobblestone alleys and learn about its fascinating history. You may also choose to stay onboard and continue cruising. Rejoin the ship late this afternoon in Vega de Terrón, where it overnights **Overnight:** River Cruise **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### DAY 30, Friday - Explore Salamanca

After an early breakfast, embark on a full day excursion to Salamanca, Spain. Travel through the Spanish countryside to Salamanca, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Visit the prestigious university, founded in the early 1200s. View ancient sandstone buildings, Plaza Mayor, the Clergy, the striking 12th century old Cathedral with its mysterious carvings, Casa de las Conchas, and the historic centre of the city. Spend free time for lunch on your own, before transferring to the ship **Overnight:** River Cruise **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

#### DAY 31, Saturday - Cruise to Pinhao

Continue your scenic cruise, admiring the region's beautiful landscapes of terraced vineyards and lush valleys. This afternoon, stop in Pinhao, where passengers may depart for the *optional* Mateus Palace and dinner at Quinta da Avessada.

Embark on a tour of Mateus Palace, located in the city of Vila Real. Explore the beautiful Baroque palace with its elaborate carved ceilings and stroll through the manicured gardens. Afterward, savour dinner at Quinta da Avessada. Re-join the ship later in the evening in Pinhao where it remains overnight **Optional:** Mateus Palace & dinner at Quinta da Avessada **Overnight:** River Cruise **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### DAY 32, Sunday - Sail to Porto/Afurada & City Tour of Porto

Spend the morning at leisure, taking in the beautiful scenery. In the afternoon, enjoy the views of Porto as the ship enters the city. Disembark and transfer for a city tour of Porto. Take a panoramic drive to the city centre to Clerigos Tower, next to the former Jewish Quarter. Then, embark on a walking tour. View Porto Cathedral, Bento Train Station, famous for its azulejos tiles, the Stock Exchange, and the medieval S. Francisco Church. The tour ends at Ribeira Quarter with free time to shop for souvenirs. Afterward head back to the ship **Overnight:** River Cruise **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### DAY 33, Monday - Porto/Afurada

Spend the morning and the afternoon at leisure in Porto/Afurada or perhaps participate in the *optional* Medieval city of Guimarães. Explore the city, a UNESCO World Heritage Site with its wealth of architectural treasures. Walk by the Guimarães Castle where Alfonso Henriques, the first king of Portugal was born. View and learn about the Palace of the Dukes of Braganza. End the tour at the historical main square Oliveira and enjoy some free time before returning to the ship **Optional:** Medieval City of Guimarães **Overnight:** River Cruise **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### DAY 34, Tuesday - Depart Portugal

This morning, disembarkation will end at 8:30am. Then it's time to catch a taxi to the airport for your departure flight to Australia. As this incredible journey ends, the precious memories begin! 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 optional tours up to 1 week before your departure
- Optional tour options vary by the day of operation and cruise direction

## Know before you book - High & low water levels

European river cruising has gained in popularity for very good reason. It's a relaxing and convenient way to experience Europe while enjoying the comfort of a deluxe ship. However, before making the decision to reserve your vacation, please be aware of potential conditions which may impact your cruise.

While most of the time river cruises operate exactly as planned, weather conditions may result in high or low water levels which impact a ship's itinerary and, on occasion, render a ship unable to sail at all. On very rare occasions, other events such as heavy fog, a damaged lock, or an incapacitated vessel blocking the river, may impact a sailing. These events typically occur with little or no notice. In the event that a cruise is partially or completely impacted, the itinerary will be operated by deluxe motor coach, accompanied by a Tour Manager, with overnights in hotels. When the option exists, the operator will "swap ships" with another vessel sailing in the opposite direction, retaining the sailing experience. Crew, ship and cabin configuration may differ. The itinerary will include as many of the originally scheduled sightseeing features as possible, considering the travel time and distances required, as well as meals.

While it is not possible to recreate the more leisurely comforts of sailings, the tour operator will endeavour to provide a comparable itinerary. These alternative services will be provided at no additional charge.

## Affordable Holidays - How do we do it?

With over 30 years' in the business, we know the travel industry better than anyone and have tracked down the best experiences around the world. We go directly to local suppliers to source the best price and holiday for you. Dealing directly with local operators is why our holidays are more affordable. We work with reputable travel professionals that offer exceptional service and safe travel policies. If you think you are paying too much for your travel arrangements, please give us a call, we will work hard to find the ideal holiday for you - that's My Travel Experience!

## My Travel Experience is a full-service travel company

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Talk to us about your ideal Europe itinerary Would you like to extend your stay & see more of the Continent? For more information & a personal quote, please call 1300 168 910



## Travel On Demand Pty Ltd Trading As My Travel Experience

## **BOOKING CONDITIONS**

## Please read the following information prior to making your reservation

Our full set of terms and conditions can be <u>viewed and downloaded on our website</u>, or supplied on request from our office. We highly recommend you read My Travel Experience booking conditions prior to making your holiday reservations. This is the contract under which both parties enter, therefore we request that you only make a booking if you agree with these conditions.

#### 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 make the balance payment for your trip.
- 5. 10 days prior to departure you will be sent your travel documents electronically via email.

My Travel Experience manages a professional client operating account. All booking payments are held securely to pay for your travel services. We do not retain your money and funds are distributed promptly to travel service providers, including but not limited to, airlines, tour operators, cruise lines and hotels. We are required to pay the providers deposits and final payments and in some instances these items are non-refundable.

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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