

2024 EUROPE RIVER CRUISE WITH FLIGHTS



MY TRAVEL EXPERIENCE

www.mytravelxp.com

hello@mytravelxp.com

1300 168 910



European Luxe River Cruise with Flights

Stay: 14 nights outside cabin

Travel style: Escorted river cruise with flights

Booking code: ERCGV16M

Call 1300 168 910 to speak to experts at My Travel Experience

Email hello@mytravelxp.com

16 Days European River Cruise, Budapest to Amsterdam

About the holiday

Discover the magic of Europe on this stunning river cruise that ticks all the boxes. The iconic itinerary traces the Rhine, Main and Danube Rivers between the stunning landscapes of Hungary and windmill-dotted waterways of Holland (or vice versa), with engaging encounters at every bend.

Admire Rhine Valley vistas from a 900-year-old castle. Sample the food and wine of Austria's Wachau Valley. Learn the Viennese waltz and linger in Budapest's Café Gerbeaud.

Indulge all your senses on this two-week journey spanning the best of Europe. River cruising offers the unique opportunity to visit 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 all the more comfortable and carefree.

Why you'll love this trip...

It's an ideal way to explore Europe & see places that coach tours can't include. Enjoy the comfort of the river ship facilities & a room with an ever-changing view. Includes a complimentary shore excursion in each port & free WiFi on the ship. Beer, wine & soft drinks are included onboard with lunch & dinner.

Travel dates

2024 - Select dates from May to October

Departures are subject to confirmation at time of booking. Price will vary depending on your travel date. Contact us for current prices and cruises options.

Want to stay longer & see more of Europe?

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



Escorted River Cruise includes:

- Return economy airfare to Budapest & from Amsterdam, or vice versa
 - Fly from Australian capital cities with luggage included
- 14 nights Grand European Viking River Cruise
 - Standard Stateroom, category E or F
- All meals & non-chargeable entertainment on board the ship
- One complimentary shore excursion in every port of call
- Free WiFi (connection speed may vary)
- Beer, wine & soft drinks with onboard lunch & dinner
- 24-hour specialty coffees, teas & bottled water
- Visits to UNESCO sites
- Enrichment lectures & destination performances
- River port fees & taxes
- Onboard gratuities

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.

Travel insurance is essential - please contact us for a quote

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

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

Call 1300 168 910 or email hello@mytravelxp.com to ask about upgrading your cabin or flights



River cruise cabin features & amenities:

- River-view stateroom
- Bottled water replenished daily
- 110/220 volt outlets
- Queen-size Viking Explorer Bed (optional twin-bed configuration) with luxury linens & pillows
- Private bathroom with shower, heated floor & anti-fog mirror
- Premium Freyja® toiletries
- Plush robes & slippers (upon request)
- 40" or 42" flat-screen Sony® TV with infotainment system featuring Movies On Demand, plus CNBC, CNN, FOX & more
- Telephone, safe, refrigerator
- Individual climate control
- *All amenities on board Viking Longships; amenities vary on other ships.*

Itinerary:

DAY 1 - Fly to Europe

DAY 2 - Arrive Budapest, Hungary

On Arrival at the airport, make your own way to the port to board your magnificent river cruise. Embark your ship and settle into your stateroom. Riverside beauty and a vibrant cultural scene blend together in Budapest to form one of Europe's most rewarding cities.

Hungary's enchanting capital straddles the banks of the Danube, with traditional hillside Buda on one side and modern Pest on the other. By day, astounding art nouveau buildings, stalwart castles and glittering palaces set the stage for awe-inspiring strolls and long soaks in thermal spas. By night, a nostalgic glow settles in as the city's lights dance on Danube waters, the Chain Bridge uniting it all as a dramatic centerpiece.

DAY 3 - Budapest

Budapest's Old Town is a fascinating medieval patchwork of narrow streets and colorful houses. In the Castle District, the Matthias Church soars in gleaming Gothic glory. Adjacent, the expansive wall and seven turrets of Fisherman's Bastion overlook the Danube, the graceful Chain Bridge and the Pest side of the river. The centerpiece of the district is the sprawling Buda Castle. Constructed in the 13th century and expanded to its current baroque splendor in the 18th century, this edifice was home to Hungary's kings for almost 700 years.

DAY 4 - Vienna, Austria

Renowned as the "City of Waltzes," Austria's capital city of Vienna is Europe's center of classical music. Strauss and Mozart composed many of their finest pieces here. Vienna's musical history is matched by the elegant, graceful architecture that lines the Ringstrasse, the wide boulevard encircling the Inner City. Baroque, neo-Renaissance, Gothic-Romanesque and other splendidly styled structures, from the Hofburg Palace to the Vienna State Opera, take the breath away with their grand facades. Vienna has a more intimate side too: inviting footpaths lead through green parks and its famed Viennese cafés sweeten any stay with coffee and the city's delectable Sachertorte.

DAY 5 - Vienna

In Vienna, coffee is at once an art and a long-embraced tradition that has changed the face of one of Europe's most beloved cities. UNESCO includes the Viennese coffeehouse culture on its list of Intangible Cultural Heritages, describing the establishments as places "where time and space are consumed, but only the coffee is found on the bill." It is considered one of life's simple pleasures to while away an afternoon over an Einspänner coffee and a delectable pastry.

DAY 6 - Scenic Sailing: Wachau Valley

Sail through a serene tapestry of terraced vineyards, forested slopes, charming towns and castle ruins in Austria's Wachau Valley, celebrated as perhaps the most scenic stretch of the Danube. Journey 18 miles through this vast UNESCO World Heritage Site, where the river courses through picturesque hillsides. Gaze upon the prolific grapevines and quaint wine-producing villages hugging the shores—the legacy of vintners that stretch as far back as Celtic and Roman times and an echo of the more than 30 monasteries that served as vineyards in Renaissance days.

Set amid an important wine-growing region of picturesque villages and fairy-tale castles, the charming city of Melk lies at the base of the Wachau Valley. An imposing 900-year-old Benedictine abbey, a stunning example of baroque architecture, overlooks the town from its dramatic hilltop location. This architectural treasure has 365 windows, one for each day of the year, and the views from its expansive balcony are stunning. Its beautiful library houses priceless medieval manuscripts and marvelous frescoes by Paul Troger, and its meticulously kept grounds are inviting and picturesque.

DAY 7 - Passau, Germany

Founded by the Celts more than 2,000 years ago, Passau is one of Bavaria's oldest cities. Known as the "City of Three Rivers," it rests at the confluence of the Inn, Ilz and Danube Rivers. The city has long enjoyed its strategic position and grew to great economic and political power because of it. The legacy of its past prosperity lives on in graceful arcades, colorful houses with rococo facades and the glorious baroque St. Stephen's Cathedral, home to one of Europe's largest pipe organs. Passau is also where two nations meet; it is here that the German-Austrian border begins.

DAY 8 - Regensburg, Germany

Having escaped major damage during World War II, the picturesque town of Regensburg is one of Europe's best-preserved medieval cities, the oldest city along the Danube and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Old Stone Bridge, constructed in the 12th century, is a masterpiece of medieval engineering with its 16 arches. St. Peter's Cathedral is widely considered Bavaria's best Gothic architectural work. The Old Town's Neupfarrplatz square is a cross section of history—it was once a thriving Jewish quarter, a bustling marketplace and the site of Nazi book burnings.

DAY 9 - Scenic Sailing: Main-Danube Canal, Germany

As far back as 1,200 years ago, visionary Frankish Emperor Charlemagne contemplated connecting the Rhine, Main and Danube Rivers so ships could travel the length of Europe. Today, his dream dramatically comes to life. The Main-Danube Canal employs 16 stair-step river locks that allow vessels to travel 2,200 miles through 10 countries, from the North Sea coast of Holland to the Black Sea shores of Romania.

The second-largest city in Bavaria, Nuremberg is filled with traditional half-timbered houses and Gothic churches with intricate spires. Although nearly destroyed during World War II, the remaining medieval city walls stretch some three miles and feature original gateways and 80 original watchtowers. Nuremberg is well known historically for its metal and toy craftsmanship. But it is infamous for its role in World War II, first as the site of Zeppelin Field's Nazi rallies and later as the site of the war crimes trials at the Palace of Justice that captured the attention of a generation.

DAY 10 - Bamberg, Germany

Founded in 902, Bamberg remains a medieval-looking city known for its symphony orchestra and *rauchbier*, specialty smoked beer. The city's winding streets are filled with baroque patrician houses and are home to the stunning 11th-century Cathedral of Holy Roman Emperor Heinrich II, housing his tomb and that of Pope Clement II. Bamberg is especially noted for its Altes Rathaus, or Old Town Hall, situated on a twin-arched bridge over the Regnitz River, and for the old bishop's houses: the 16th-century Alte Hofhaltung (Old Court) and 17th-century Neue Residenz (New Residence).

DAY 11 - Würzburg, Germany

Surrounded by Franconian vineyards, Würzburg was heavily damaged during World War II, but has since been completely restored. This prestigious university city is a jewel of baroque architecture. Its most pristine example of pomp and glory is the great Bishops' Residenz palace, built in 1744 for the prince-bishop; his unwavering support of artists is evidenced by the sweeping staircase and magnificent ceiling frescoes by Tiepolo. Other landmarks include the medieval, statue-lined Old Main Bridge and Marienberg Fortress, originally a Celtic hill fort and later residence of the bishops. The city remains a major wine-making center, hosting Germany's oldest and largest vineyard.

DAY 12 - Wertheim, Germany & Scenic Sailing: Main River, Spessart

Situated at the confluence of the Main and Tauber Rivers, Wertheim is a charming town brimming with history. The dukes of Wertheim built a castle at this strategic spot in the 12th century. It was captured and destroyed during the Thirty Years' War, but it is still impressive today, peering down upon the medieval town center and half-timbered houses from its perch. Its Pointed Tower has guarded the junction of the Main and Tauber Rivers for 800 years. Known as a successful merchants' town during the Middle Ages, today Wertheim is famous for its Franconian wines.

Journey along one of Germany's most important waterways today, passing landscapes that embody the country's scenic beauty and storybook charm. You will sail by quaint riverside villages, undulating farm country and the sylvan forests of the Spessart woodlands. Along the way, you just may lose yourself in the dreamy canvases of half-timbered houses, historic castles and splendid palaces. This is the Germany once ruled by dukes and brought to magical life by the imagination of the Brothers Grimm, who grew up in the town of Hanau and wove fantastic tales from these banks.

DAY 13 - Scenic Sailing: Middle Rhine

The Rhine River flows through one of Germany's most scenic regions. As you sail its most picturesque stretch, the UNESCO World Heritage Site of the Middle Rhine, you will pass vineyard-blanketed hills whose steep slopes require vintners to pick grapes by hand, keeping a centuries-old tradition alive.

Splendid castles line the banks, all of which have stories to share, and the Lorelei Rock presides at a dramatic curve in the river. This infamous river maiden mesmerized sailors with her song and lured them to their demise at her feet.

Koblenz is a traditional German city, founded more than 2,000 years ago. This former trading settlement rests on a massif of the Middle Rhine Highlands. Its cobblestone streets, wood-beamed houses adorned with flowers, ancient market square and medieval churches recall the fairy-tale Germany of old. At the “German Corner,” a massive equestrian statue of Prince William I observes the lovely riverside scene. The famed Teutonic Knights set up their first base here in 1216. The Romanesque Basilica of St. Castor, Koblenz’s oldest building, dates to 836.

DAY 14 - Cologne, Germany

Cologne reveals its Roman heritage in its city layout and the ancient ruins that lie scattered through the town. Cologne’s modern plazas and Hohe Strasse host welcoming shops, enticing restaurants and cologne boutiques. Of note is the city’s 14th-century cathedral, a stunning example of Gothic artistry and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Having survived Allied bombs during World War II, the cathedral’s imposing twin spires are visible for miles and its stained glass windows fill the interior with brilliant coloured light. Its steps lead to a platform with astounding views.

DAY 15 - Scenic Sailing: Waal & Merwede

Sail the bucolic waters of the Rhine, deep into the Rhine-Meuse-Scheldt Delta, as classic Dutch landscapes unfurl all around. Flat farmland, charming windmills and svelte poplar trees line the shores, and vast tracts of land stretch in all directions, growing all manner of bounty, from tomatoes to tulips. Gaze upon Friesian cows and tidy villages with their neatly laid farmhouses and marvel at how much of this land was reclaimed from the sea, with the aid of traditional windmills and the construction of dikes.

Kinderdijk is a village community in the Alblasserwaard province. This corner of South Holland, part of the scenic Waal and Merwede regions, has long been shaped by Rhine Delta waters. Kinderdijk is most known for its 19 remarkably preserved 18th-century windmills. The charming hamlet is located amid low-lying polders, tracts of land reclaimed from the sea by the power of the windmills and enclosed by embankments, or dikes. This legendary place calls to mind the 1865 novel *Hans Brinker*, in which a heroic boy plugs his finger into a ruptured dike.

DAY 16 - Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Fly to Australia

A city of charming canals, elegant gabled houses, splendid museums and abundant bicycles, the Dutch capital of Amsterdam is a delight to explore. Its patchwork of waterways forms about 90 islands connected by 1,500 bridges.

The legacy of the Dutch Golden Age lives on in gilded manses and in the lush paintings of Rembrandt and other Dutch masters that adorn the Rijksmuseum, The Netherlands' grand repository of art and cultural history. Discovering Amsterdam is a pleasure best pursued on foot; visitors line the tranquil canals and linger over Dutch pancakes, or take a *stroopwafel* to go.

After breakfast, disembark your ship and make your own way to the airport to begin your journey home.

Please note: The day-by-day descriptions are intended as an indicative guide only. Itinerary and shore excursions are subject to change and may vary by departure. Travel by nature is unpredictable. Weather patterns, river levels, road conditions, public holidays, travel restrictions and other factors may necessitate itinerary changes that are ultimately for the benefit of clients. It is essential that clients are flexible in this regard.

My Travel Experience is a full-service travel company

Want flights, car hire, escorted tours, airport transfers, travel insurance & more? My Travel Experience has over 35 years industry experience and offers personalised, expert service. Unlike online booking companies, we are not a one-size-fits-all travel agency. Our experienced travel consultants can design an itinerary or provide a quote for wherever you want to travel and include whatever travel services that you want to pre-book.

Plus, we are with you all the way - from your first enquiry, to your departure and until you safely return home. You will always be able to reach us. Email us today on with your preferences for any of our travel packages!

If you have any queries, please
email hello@mytravelxp.com or phone 1300 168 910

Travel On Demand Pty Ltd Trading As My Travel Experience



MY TRAVEL EXPERIENCE BOOKING CONDITIONS

Please read the following information prior to making your reservation

Our full set of terms and conditions can be [viewed and downloaded on our website](#), 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 (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.

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.

Phone 1300 168 910
Kew VIC 3101, Australia
Email hello@mytravelxp.com
www.mytravelxp.com