



THE BLUE DANUBE DISCOVERY WITH 2 NIGHTS IN BUDAPEST & 2 NIGHTS IN PRAGUE

August 24-September 5, 2023

Thursday, Aug. 24: Overnight flight from Washington Dulles (or home city) to Budapest.

Friday, Aug. 25: Arrive in Budapest and transfer to hotel. Remainder of the day at your leisure. Overnight at hotel in Budapest.

Saturday, Aug. 26: BUDAPEST HUNGARY

The Pearl of the Danube in the Heart of Europe.

Enjoy a Guided City Sightseeing tour, including the iconic Heroes' Square. Take in the beauty of Budapest while enjoying a free afternoon exploring such famous sights as the Chain Bridge. Get to know the city's cafes and pubs or take a hike through the hills above the Danube. Overnight at hotel in Budapest. (Breakfast)

Sunday, Aug. 27: BUDAPEST, HUNGARY (EMBARKATION)

Time for Coffee and Confections

With a free day to explore before your cruise, take time to take photographs on the Royal Palace grounds in this treasure trove of historical architecture. Try Budapest's famous thermal bath spas, then lunch in a garden or rooftop eatery before boarding our Suite Ship.

OVERNIGHT CRUISE TO VIENNA. (Breakfast, Dinner)

Monday, Aug. 28: VIENNA, AUSTRIA

Vienna Waltzes on the Beautiful Blue Danube

Visit the Adventure Center for today's activities with your Adventure Host. Enjoy sailing the Danube, which shares dozens of miles with Hungary and Slovakia. Relax on the Sky Deck to see the rolling landscape and red-rooftops of the Slovakian capital of Bratislava come into view. Arrive in Vienna in late

afternoon. This evening in Vienna, you may choose to join an Optional Excursion to attend a Royal Waltz Concert for an unforgettable evening of music in an elegant hall.

OVERNIGHT DOCKING IN VIENNA. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Tuesday, Aug. 29: VIENNA, AUSTRIA

Royal Collections and Amusing Attractions

CLASSIC Excursion: Explore the Habsburg empire this morning on a Guided City Tour of Vienna's gilded landmarks. See the Imperial Palace complex- the winter residence of the Imperial Family, the iconic Vienna Opera House and stunning St. Stephen's Cathedral.

Join a Guided Optional Excursion to Schönbrunn Palace-summer home of the Habsburg Empire.

Enjoy free time this afternoon to take a tram to visit Vienna's Prater amusement park or one of the many museums nearby. You may also borrow a bike from the ship to explore Vienna's square or the banks of the Danube. Later, enjoy live entertainment on board.

OVERNIGHT CRUISE TO DÜRNSTEIN (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Wednesday, Aug. 30: DÜRNSTEIN, AUSTRIA

A King's Ransom and Castle Ruins

Classic Excursion: Join a Guided Walk and hear the legendary tale of King Richard the Lionheart-who was imprisoned in the castle above the village during the Crusades.

OR:

Active Excursion: Join a Hike up to the castle ruins with your Adventure Host for a spectacular view of the village, Danube and the Wachau Valley below.

Enjoy coffee or a cocktail on the Sky Deck as you sail through the picturesque Wachau Valley to Melk.

MELK, AUSTRIA

Frescoes Above and Vineyards Below

Classic Excursion: Take a Guided Tour of Melk's magnificent Benedictine Abbey to marvel at its frescoed ceilings, statues, incredible library and ornate pipe organ

Discovery Excursion: Enjoy the flavors of the Wachau Valley with a Wine Tasting on board.

EVENING/OVERNIGHT CRUISE TO PASSAU. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Thursday, August 31: PASSAU, GERMANY

Where the Danube, Inn and Ilz Rivers Meet

CLASSIC Excursion: Join a Guided City Walk to learn more about this beautiful "City of Three Rivers."

Alternatively, join a full-day Guided Optional Excursion to Salzburg-the city of Mozart-or to the picturesque Bohemian town of Cesky Krumlov.

Meet your ship back in Passau after your full-day selected activity for sailing.

EVENING/OVERNIGHT CRUISE TO REGENSBURG. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Friday, Sept. 1: REGENSBURG, GERMANY

Bavaria's Medieval Miracle

Ask about today's energizing or relaxing Adventure Host activities.

CLASSIC Excursion: Join a Guided City Walk and Altes Rathaus (Old Town Hall) and Porta Pretoria-built in 179AD as the entrance to Castra Regina fortress.

You may choose to join a Guided Optional Excursion to visit the Benedictine Monastery in Weltenburg.

Alternatively spend a free afternoon exploring Regensburg on foot or by bike through its charming streets.

This evening, enjoy live entertainment after dinner as you cruise toward Roth.

EVENING/OVERNIGHT CRUISE TO ROTH. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Saturday, Sept. 2: ROTH. EXCURSION TO NUREMBERG, GERMANY

Legends and History Lessons

DISCOVERY Excursion: Enjoy an Onboard Lecture about the Main-Danube Canal-linking these two rivers to make a vital connection enabling navigation between the North and Black Seas.

CLASSIC Excursion: Enjoy a Guided Sightseeing Tour of the Bavarian town of Roth-with its half-timbered houses, market square and 1535 hunting lodge Schloss Ratibor

OR:

CLASSIC Excursion: Choose a Guided Sightseeing Tour of Nuremberg-with its medieval architecture, gilded fountain, Gothic cathedral and Kaiserburg Castle

OR:

CLASSIC Excursion: Take a Guided Tour of the historic Nuremberg Rally Grounds-used by the Third Reich

DISCOVERY: Later, indulge in a Beer Tasting on board

EVENING/OVERNIGHT CRUISE TO NUREMBERG. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Sunday, Sept. 3: NUREMBERG, GERMANY (DISEMBARKATION)-PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

Disembark the ship and take a 3 hour motorcoach ride to Prague. Welcome to Prague! Explore the City of 100 Spires.

Enjoy free time to explore the Golden City of Prague and its surrounding countryside. Consider sampling delicious plum dumplings and traditional Pilsner lager beside the Vltava River. (Breakfast)

Monday, Sept. 4: PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

Gothic Cathedrals, Grand Castles and Great Cuisine

CLASSIC Excursion: Take a Guided City Walk and visit the Hradcany Castle Grounds: see St. Vitus Cathedral and Old Town's Astronomical Clock.

Spend free time hiking the nearby hillsides or stay in town to stroll the city of Prague to photograph its stunning city scape. You might catch the entertaining street performers, visit the market stalls at Charles Bridge and sample Prague's famous beer varieties in a local restaurant. (Breakfast)

Tuesday, Sept. 5: PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

Your vacation ends with breakfast this morning. You will be transferred to the airport for your flight home to Washington Dulles or home city. (Breakfast)

Prices per person, based on double occupancy:

Category D (Deluxe stateroom, no balcony): \$6935 per person

Category B (Panorama Suite, rear of ship, Deck 2): \$8035 per person

Category A (Panorama Suite, mid-ship, Deck 2): \$8085 per person

Category P (Panorama Suite, mid-ship, Deck 3): \$8185 per person

*****EARLY BOOKING DISCOUNT!!! Book by 12/31/22 and receive a \$1000 per person discount!*****

Prices include round trip motorcoach transportation from York to Washington Dulles, driver gratuities, *approximate* airfare from Washington to Budapest and return from Prague (prices will be confirmed in late 2022), transportation from airport to hotel, hotel to ship, ship to hotel in Prague, hotel to airport, 2 nights in Budapest, 7 nights on the Avalon Waterways Suite Ship, 2 nights Prague, port charges, gratuities to Cruise Director, local guides and onboard staff, excursions as outlined in the itinerary, beer and wine at lunch and dinner on the ship, all meals on the ship with locally sourced foods from the region, Breakfast daily in Budapest and Prague, *Krouse Travel Escort*.

Travel Protection is highly recommended at \$379 per person. Details of the policy can be found at: <https://www.avalonwaterways.ca/avalon-cruise-vacations/travel-insurance/>

Deposit amount \$250 per person plus travel protection of \$379 due at the time of the reservation. Final payment due by May 19, 2023.

Ask about monthly payment plans!

Optional and included excursions should be booked in advance. These can be done on the web site May 27, 2023 or later.

Note: In the event of technical or water level issues, it may be necessary to operate the itinerary by motorcoach or alter the program, including hotel overnight when necessary.



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