



# Castles, Capitals & Enchanting Danube Discovery



**Journey along the Danube and see firsthand why this storied river has inspired generations of artists, poets and musicians. Indulge your passion for timeless architecture and art in three magnificent capitals: Budapest, Bratislava & Vienna. Let the hills come alive with the sounds of music in Salzburg. Cruise through the enchanting Strudengau Valley and let the melodies of the Danube carry you from one gem to another on a regal journey through time.**

### **Day 1: Budapest**

Arrive in Budapest and board your luxurious river cruise ship. (D)

### **Day 2: Budapest**

Today you have the opportunity to visit both the Buda (hilly) and Pest (flat) sides of the Danube River. Start on the Buda side, following your guide through the city's Castle District where you will marvel at the fairytale turrets of Fisherman's Bastion, gaze upon the breathtaking panorama below and see Matthias Church, renowned for its striking tower and colourful mosaic roof. For a more active tour, hike to Budapest's Castle Hill. In the afternoon, explore the treasures of Pest, admiring the colossal Hungarian Parliament Building, Heroes' Square and the moving "Shoes on the Danube Bank" memorial. (B,L,D)



#### Available Excursions

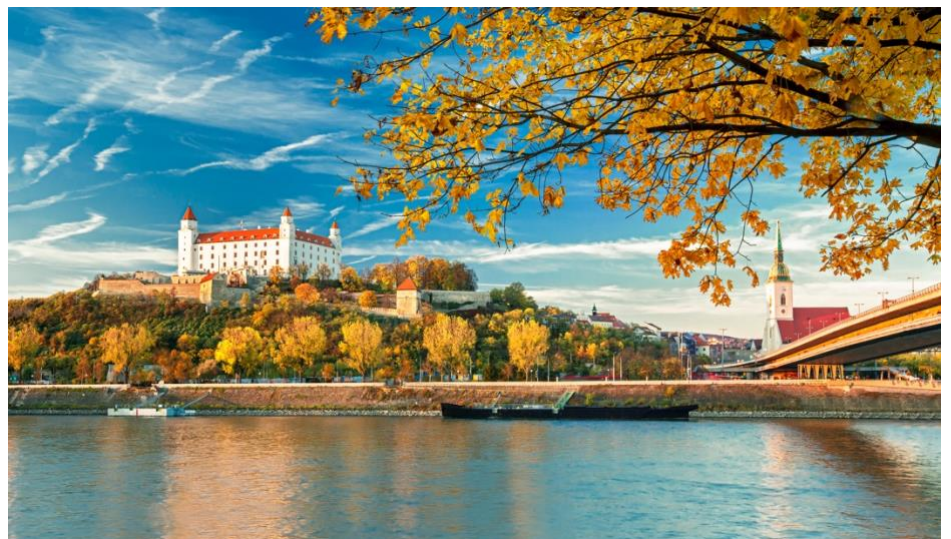
- Buda City Tour
- Castle Hill hike
- Pest City Tour

### **Day 3: Bratislava**

Host to the crowning ceremonies of 11 Hungarian kings and queens between 1536 and 1830, Bratislava certainly has earned the title "Coronation City of Kings," as you'll discover during your walking tour. Or join a special "Tastes of Slovakia" tour. For a more active adventure, hike up to Bratislava Castle, offering magnificent views of the city. (B,L,D)

#### Available Excursions

- "Coronation City" walking tour
- Tastes of Slovakia
- Bratislava Castle hike
- "Imperial Vienna" tour
- Vienna city tour by bike
- Free time



#### Day 4: Vienna

The “City of Waltzes” offers a wealth of gems and your city tour showcases its regal splendours, including the majestic Opera House and the former Imperial Palace of the Habsburgs. Conclude your tour in Vienna’s historic city centre and then visit St. Stephen’s Cathedral, or discover Vienna by bike. During the afternoon, enjoy leisure time to further explore this iconic city. (B,L,D)

##### Available Excursions

- “Imperial Vienna” tour
- Vienna city tour by bike
- Free time



#### Day 5: Weissenkirchen

Enjoy some scenic cruising of Grein in the morning. After reaching Weissenkirchen, you’ll be treated to several choices of excursions. Take a walking tour of Dürnstein before visiting the UNESCO designated Melk Abbey. For a more culinary focused experience, join a walking tour in Dürnstein, then enjoy a wine tasting hosted by a local vintner and sample special apricot treats from a local boutique. If you prefer a more active adventure, hike up to the fortress where Richard the Lionheart was once held or join a guided bike tour to Melk. Later in the day, sail through the Strudengau and Wachau valleys to medieval Grein for an exclusive visit to the more than 500 year old Greinburg Castle, looming regally from above. (B,L,D)

##### Available Excursions

- Highlights of Durnstein and Melk Abbey visit
- Durnstein with wine and apricots
- Durnstein fortress hike
- Weissenkirchen to Melk bike tour
- Strudengau Valley and UNESCO Wachau Valley
- Exclusive Greinburg Castle Visit



#### Day 6: Linz

The ship arrives in Linz where you’ll have several choices of excursions. Opt for a full day excursion to Salzburg where you’ll tour the historic center, Mirabell Gardens, Residenz Square and the Old Market. En route to Salzburg, stop at Mondsee, home of the Basilica St. Michael. You may also choose to join a full day excursion to the charming Czech mountain town of Český Krumlov, where you can stroll its cobblestone streets; marvel at the city’s picturesque Baroque and Renaissance style buildings; and tour Krumlov Castle, one of Europe’s largest castle complexes. Upon your return to Linz, you may choose to take a brief walking tour in the city. Or join a morning walking tour through the old city centre of Linz and by the Mozart House; or go on a bike tour of the city’s famed “Cultural Mile” and the Danube.

##### Available Excursions

- Full-day Salzburg excursion
- Full-day Cesky Krumlov excursion with Linz tour
- “UNESCO City of Media Arts” walking tour
- “Cultural Mile” bike tour



### **Day 7: Passau**

Discover the city of Passau in one of three ways. Enjoy a walking tour and marvel at Gothic and Italian Baroque architecture and St. Stephen's Cathedral. Alternately, choose between a guided hike up to the Veste Oberhaus fortress or a guided bike tour along the River Inn. Later, cruise to Vilshofen, where you will be treated to a festive Oktoberfest celebration— an AmaWaterways exclusive. (B,L,D)

#### Available Excursions

- “City of Three Rivers” walking tour
- Passau Castle hike
- Passau River Inn bike tour
- Exclusive Oktoberfest celebration

### **Day 8: Vilshofen**

Bid farewell to Vilshofen and prepare for your flight home.  
(B)

